



# Even if my parents come from the east, I feel more at home in Northern Province

*By Joseph Mwenda*  
President Edgar Lungu says he feels more at home in Northern Province than in Petauke District where his parents come from because the people in the Eastern Province town don't agree with him, as they are evidently voting against the Patriotic Front. *To page 11*

# PETAUKE SEEMS AGAINST PF - EL



Supporters take 2021 presidential aspirant Harry Kalaba around Chipata City on a local 'taxi'. (Right) AVIC International workers in Luanshya protest against poor conditions of service - Pictures by Tenson Mkhala and Daniel Chansa



## RB's retirement house cost \$2.5m, not K5m, explains PS Mushota

*By Sipilisiwe Ncube*  
Permanent Secretary Eng Charles Mushota says it is not true that the retirement house for former president Rupiah Banda was built at a cost of K5 million, revealing that the mansion actually gobbled US\$2.5 million (about K30 million). After President Edgar Lungu handed over the lavish abode for the ex-president, Zambians took to social media, questioning how a toll plaza would cost US\$4.3 million, while a clearly affluent mansion cost only K5 million.

**We'll now win all elections in Western Province, vows Wina**  
*Story page 4*

*To page 10*

**Hansungule condemns harsh sentencing of Chifire**  
*Story page 11*

**BRE accuses PF govt of sponsoring anarchy in Barotseland**  
*Story page 10*



President Edgar Chagwa Lungu (left) talks to Tullow Zambia Country Director Dr. Sixtus Mulenga at Kasama Lodge in Kasama, Northern Province of Zambia on Friday, November 23, 2018 - Picture by Eddie Mwanaleza

# PAC welcomes CCTV in exam storage rooms

**By Mirriam Chabala**

People’s Alliance for Change (PAC) president Andyford Banda says government’s decision to have security cameras installed in examinations store rooms across the country by next year is welcome move in curbing examination malpractices.

At a meeting with teachers in Mumbwa recently, Minister of General Education David

Mabumba explained that the installation of cameras in examination papers storage rooms would enable the Examination Council of Zambia (ECZ) to monitor safety.

Commenting on the development in an interview, Banda said the installation of cameras in schools was a welcome move, but hastened to say that the move would not make any difference if those in government did

not show leadership by being the first to adhere to examination safety rules and conduct.

“The installation of cameras in store rooms where they are keeping exam papers is a welcome move. This is one of the measures that will strengthen the monitoring of examination papers to avoid leakages. But one thing we need to understand is that systems even today have

been there but people have gone around systems because we do not have people who are committed to ensuring that those systems are adhered to. So you can put cameras but people will still find a way of by-passing them. Our advice, therefore, is that the whole system must be audited. It shouldn’t just be one place that things must be corrected, I think it’s from the time the exam is set up to the

time it’s delivered into the exam room, that whole system must be audited to ensure that there are no weaknesses along the way,” Banda said.

“Putting cameras in store rooms where exam papers are kept is just one aspect. But have we looked at each and every stage of the process to ensure that there are no leakages? We might think that it’s the final paper that is stolen and discover that

actually it’s a draft paper that is stolen. So all those things must be looked at to ensure that the whole process is strengthened.”

Banda regretted that the government had in the past instigated people to do wrongs because of the way they handled affairs in the country and failing to condemn everything that was wrong.

“One thing we have noticed as PAC is that government is lacking in the fight towards discipline. For example, in this government, it’s like each and every person is running their own Kingdom. It’s like everyone is saying ‘if the government can waste money on toll gates like this then we can also get exam papers and leak them’. So discipline has to come from the top. There has to be a greater level of commitment from the top that they want a disciplined administration, and if people who are connected to the system like ministers or those work in State House cannot be disciplined when they do wrong then don’t expect the custodians of exams to be disciplined, they will also think that it’s free for all,” said Banda.

# ZUFIAW hopes Lungu, HH meeting will restore investor confidence

**By Mirriam Chabala**

The Zambia Union of Financial Institutions and Allied Workers (ZUFIAW) is confident that the recent meeting between President Edgar Lungu and UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema will restore investor confidence into the country’s economy.

And ZUFIAW says it is optimistic that the tense political atmosphere the country has been exposed to due to various political differences between the two major political parties in the country will be normalised following the said meeting between President Lungu and Hichilema.

In a statement, General Secretary Chingati Msiska expressed confidence in a brighter future for Zambia’s

politics and also thanked the three Church mother bodies for leveraging on its high moral ground to bring the two major political figures in the country to a discussion table.

“We are extremely grateful to the church for their tireless effort in ensuring that Zambia remains a haven of peace. The first most important step in resolving conflict is to bring protagonists to start talking to each other. The Church mother bodies have diligently and without any unfair managed to secretly bring the two leaders to one place and have them start talking, which is a critical step in the dialogue process. What is even comforting to us is that the two addressed each other as ‘brother’. This is an indication that they do have mutual

respect for each other and is definitely a good start to the up-coming national dialogue and reconciliation process,” Msiska stated.

Msiska also commended the Zambia Centre for Inter-party Dialogue (ZCIDP for accepting that the Church leads the national political dialogue.

“As a union, we are further impressed that the Zambia Centre for Inter-party Dialogue (ZCID) has also accepted the Church to lead the much-anticipated political dialogue. We are alive to the fact that the question of who leads this dialogue process has been a hotly contested subject which has delayed its start. ZUFIAW is therefore calling on all political players to demonstrate commitment to

resolving the thorny issues that have nagged the political space in the country. The union also agrees with other observers that the tense political environment in the country has contributed to the weakening of economic fundamentals which have adversely affected workers and the poor,” Msiska stated.

Msiska stated that ZUFIAW was concerned that investor confidence in the country was in bad shape.

“It is therefore in this spirit that we hope that our leaders shall begin to restore the aspirations of a democratic society which would also help the economy. The country is currently in a bad shape economically largely because investors and financiers are holding back in fear of losing their capital,” stated Msiska.

“So we need to ensure that there is a political will to fight corruption, abuse of office and once that is done, it is going to trickle down to the lowest people in government.”

# Police eject Kalaba from Mambwe District

By Tenson Mkhala in Mambwe District

Police in Mambwe District of Eastern Province have stopped Bahati member of parliament Harry Kalaba from conducting meetings in the area. Meanwhile, Democratic Party president Gift Kalumba has defected to the Patriotic Front. Police officers intercepted Kalaba's motorcade within Mambwe town where people had gathered to be addressed by him, Friday. The police later asked Kalaba and his entourage to leave, saying he did not have a permit to conduct any meetings in the area. "Sir, kindly leave this place because you do not have a police permit! No one came to get a permit and so we shall not allow you to conduct any meeting in this district," one of the officers told Kalaba. But Kalaba told the officers that he only wanted to greet people. "Officer, I hear you, but my coming here was just to greet the people, I then leave. But since you said we did not get a permit, I shall leave," Kalaba said. Kalaba, who was welcomed by several pedestrians and cyclists, explained that he was touring the province to understand the challenges faced by residents in the area.

And speaking shortly after arriving at Mfuwe International Airport, Kalaba said he would only make a good Republican President once elected in 2021 if he understood people's plight in the area. "I am basically here to understand the challenges our people here face. Remember, I am standing in 2021 on the DP (Democratic Party) ticket and I can't be a good president if I don't understand the challenges people here

face," he said. Kalaba, the former Foreign Affairs Minister, observed that farmers in Eastern Province were not receiving their farming inputs on time due to poor leadership. "You see, Eastern Province is an agriculturally sensitive and so if farmers can be having their inputs late and pathetic roads, then it means something is wrong somewhere. It's time for a new awakening in this country," said

Kalaba. Meanwhile, Kalumba, who was leading the party Kalaba intends to stand on as presidential candidate in 2021, defected to the Patriotic Front. But Democratic Front spokesperson Judith Kabemba thanked Kalumba for his contribution to the party and wished him well. "For us as DP, the journey to work to liberate Zambia continues," stated Kabemba.



## PF MPs celebrate Sesheke pre-election victory as UPND MPs walk out of Parley

By Sipilisiwe Ncube  
Opposition UPND members of parliament yesterday walked out of parliament in protests during the vice president's question time after some PF members started celebrating a Sesheke pre-election victory. And after leaving the house, some UPND parliamentarians were overheard saying that they would table a motion to have the Speaker of the National Assembly censured for allowing certain conduct in the House. After the vice president's question and answer

session, the opposition MPs went back in the house. But in an interview after the protest, UPND deputy spokesperson Cornelius Mweetwa accused the speaker of curtailing the debates. "The reasons why the members of parliament of the UPND walked out of the house this morning during the vice-president's question time [is that] the members felt that the presiding officer Mr Speaker was not being fair in the way he was handling the members of the UPND and as opposed to the members of the executive. We

thought that as members of the opposition, and not just the UPND, would want to give content and context to their questions, he would not allow them but the members of the ruling patriotic front, he would allow then and in particular this was highlighted when honourable Lufuma MP asked a question and was trying to give context and was curtailed," Mweetwa explained. He said opposition MPs saw it not fair for their colleagues to be allowed to celebrate a pre-election victory of a seat whose holder had just recently died.

"A few minutes later, Honourable Mumbi Phiri nominated, was given an opportunity to bring a lot of issues to do with Mangango, politicking and even went on to begin to speak in a manner as if she was celebrating the loss of a UPND MP who passed on in Sesheke, asking the vice president to comment on PF's preparedness to win that seat. A seat which for us as UPND is still paining, we are still mourning the loss of our colleague Honourable Kufakwandi and also we know that the families are still grieving. So for the family to see that the

loss of a beloved brother is now being brought into Parliament as if it is a circus, people laughing around, cheering that they are going to Sesheke for by-election to win," Mweetwa said. He said the opposition took offence with the manner in which the ruling PF members were debating as the subject matter was so dear to them. "Now being given the latitude so to do, we felt that that was not fair and we walked out in protest against the behaviour of the Patriotic Front on the floor of the House [as] we felt that they did not respect the fact that we as UPND are still mourning with the family of the honourable member. We felt that it was time we walked out and allow them enjoy the fan as we go outside to contemplate the loss which we are still breathing," explained Mweetwa. "And that is why we left the vice-president's question time and we went back after that session was over for us to continue with the normal proceedings of the house. We are not happy at all that Patriotic Front could use that as a platform to bring politics and start dancing [over] a pre-election victory for Sesheke. So we took very serious offence of that because this is matter which is very close to our hearts," said Mweetwa.

# AfDB pledges electronic tablets for Zambia's 2020 census

By Abraham Kalito  
The African Development Bank (AfDB) has pledged to provide electronic tablets for use during Zambia's first-ever digital-based Census of Population and Housing in 2020. In a statement issued by Ministry of National Development Planning Public Relations Officer Chibaula Silwamba, AfDB intend to liaise with other African countries to assist Zambia with the 2020 census. "AfDB Country Manager for Zambia Mary Manneko Monyau announced the Bank's support during a recent roundtable Donor Meeting on the 2020 Census

of Population and Housing. Ms. Monyau said the AfDB was exploring the possibility of leasing tablets from different countries, depending on the census calendar, which would be used in Zambia's 2020 Census," the statement read. "The Bank normally provides technical assistance in censuses particularly in the preparatory activities in African countries, and Zambia was a beneficiary in 2010. Zambia has been a beneficiary of the AfDB support in terms of various techniques of data collection and the Bank pledged to support capacity-building in the area of information

technology. The Bank pledged to consider providing support in the areas of economic census, including annual business survey. The support is likely to materialise in the first quarter of 2019." "The AfDB congratulated the government of Zambia for its commitment to conduct censuses and mainstreaming of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the Seventh National Development Plan (7NDP). The engagements with the cooperating partners and the private sector are part of the Minister of National Development Planning Hon. Alexander Chiteme's continued efforts to mobilise resources for

the 2020 Census for Population and Housing," read the statement. "The estimated total budget for the 2020 Census of Population and Housing is K841,563,560 (about US \$75,139,604). Zambia will conduct the Census of Population and Housing in August, 2020. The 2020 Census will be the first of its kind in Zambia to be conducted using electronic data collection methodology - Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI). The 2020 Census will be a complete shift from the traditional Pen and Paper Interview (PAPI) to Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI)/digital Census."



Bahati MP who is also the leader of the Democratic party applauds the DP women who welcomed him in Chipata on Friday, November 23, 2018 – Picture by Tenson Mkhala

## Lubezhi questions “how the hell PF expects unpaid farmers to survive”

**By Sipilisiwe Ncube**  
Namwala UPND member of parliament Moono Lubezhi has complained that farmers in her constituency have not been supplied with their 2017 farmer inputs which they paid for. And Lubezhi has further complained that those who supplied their maize to the Food Reserve Agency (FRA)

have not been paid neither.  
In an interview, Lubezhi said it was sad that the rains have now started when her farmers have not received what they deserve.  
“I am so disappointed with this PF government. Now at least in Lusaka there is onset of rain but back in Namwala the rains are not yet there and I know they have powers to delay the payments of farmers but they have no powers to delay the rains. They haven’t paid those who paid last year, those who paid the monies last year have not been given their farming inputs, they haven’t paid those who sold maize to FRA. So how the hell do they expect them to go about this farming season?” Lubezhi asked.  
“For the people of Namwala, farming to them is their livelihood. So if you don’t give them their input even when they pay to this so-called e-voucher, then you are killing them. I am so disappointed with this PF government [because] there is nothing that PF is doing, there is nothing that PF does that’s yields good results. Everything in PF has just collapsed. It is just full of corruption, everything is just corruption,” Lubezhi said.  
And Lubezhi said she has not received any Constituency Development Funds (CDF) in 2018.  
“I have not received CDF from 2014, that was the last time I received the full CDF, then 2017 they gave me K700, 000 [but] what is K700 000 with these escalating high cost in this country? We really have to do something and put our country back to where it’s supposed to be, otherwise ordinary citizens will die under this PF,” said Lubezhi.

# We’ll now win all elections in Western Province, vows Wina

**By Mirriam Chabala**

Any other seat that will become vacant in Western Province will be won by the Patriotic Front, says Vice-president Inonge Wina, following the party’s triumphant entry into the Province through Mangango. Meanwhile, Vice-President Wina last week avoided to give a response to Mazabuka central UPND member of parliament Gary Nkombo, who wanted to know why government had constructed a simple tollgate in Kafulafuta at a huge cost of K51 million when former President Rupiah Banda’s retirement mansion only cost K5 million. During the Vice-President’s question time, nominated PF member of parliament Mumbi Phiri asked Wina to confirm if the scooping of the Mangango parliamentary seat by PF meant that the ruling party would win the Sesheke seat as well which fell vacant after the death of Frank Kufakwandi. And in her response, the Vice-President said any other parliamentary seat that would fall vacant in Western Province would be won by the PF because the people in that Province had shown willingness to work

with the ruling party.  
“Mr Speaker, the triumphant entry of PF into Western Province through Mangango is a very big achievement for the Patriotic Front because that was considered the citadel of the UPND and maybe one or two other parties. Mr Speaker let me take this opportunity to thank the people of Mangango, they have demonstrated clearly that they want to work with this government and this is the beginning of better things to come for the PF party. I want to also commend the people of Mangango for conducting a violence free election, this is the way it should be even in future elections. There is no need to fight each other over who should represent us in council or in parliament. The people of Mangango have shown maturity and adherence to the law. So we really congratulate them. And Mr Speaker, as we move forward, we are very confident that any other seat that will become vacant in Western Province will be won by the Patriotic Front,” Vice-President Wina said. Meanwhile, Mazabuka Central UPND member of parliament Gary Nkombo had earlier asked the

Vice President to bring to parliament bill of quantities to support the construction cost of the Michael Sata Toll Plaza in Kafulafuta at the cost of US\$4.3 million. “Your honour the Vice-President, your boss, the Republican President Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu on 4th November, 2018, commissioned the Michael Chilufya Sata toll gate at a total cost of US\$4.3 million, equivalent to K51 million. And just yesterday, we were told that your boss again, His Excellency the President did hand over a state-of-the-art double storey building, which is the residential property for the former President Mr Rupiah Bwezani Banda, whose cost was only K5 million. This is 10 times cheaper than that shelter at Kafulafuta called ‘Michael Chilufya Sata Tollgate’. The country has been appended, trying to find out how possible it is that you can build a shelter for K51 million and a double storey state-of-the-art residential house with a swimming pool at 10 times less the cost,” submitted Nkombo. “Are you able to come to this House with a bills of quantity, with associated costs? So that Zambians

can now stop labelling your government as a government that is inflating prices, a government that is careless, a government that has got thieves? Because they call this tool gate expenditure ‘day light robbery’. Your Honour the Vice-President, are you able to come to this House with BOQs, with associated costs for erecting this shelter at Kafulafuta? I thank you.” But in her response, the Vice-President advised the Mazabuka lawmaker to take to the House a question for oral answer, to include all elements that were considered at the time of negotiating for the said toll plaza. “Mr Speaker, first of all, let me inform the honourable member of parliament for Mazabuka that the tool gate is not a shelter. Mr Speaker, since the honourable member wants to access more information and details regarding the construction of this toll plaza, he needs to come to the House with a question that will include many other elements that were considered at the time of negotiating for this toll plaza. Otherwise, I may not satisfy his request. I thank you Sir,” said Vice-President Wina.

# Don't fund Zambia Police, they're doing a very bad job – Nkombo

**By Sipilisiwe Ncube**  
Mazabuka Central UPND member of parliament Garry Nkombo says the PF government should learn to heed to advise instead of of waiting for Zambians to rise against their decisions made without consultations. Speaking in parliament Wednesday when he debated on the policy report of the Zambia Police Service Commission, Zambia Correctional




Service Commission and the Human Rights Commission which was presented by vice President Inonge Wina, Nkombo said it was okay for the police service to be underfunded because it was not doing anything. "This commission (Zambia Police Service Commission) leave much to be desired and the behaviour of the police downstream is a clear mirror image of the

appointing authority. The way the police constables behave is a three dimension mirror of the commission and he or she who appoints that commission. I put it to you Mr chairman, Her Honour the Vice-President made reference to the ethics, the code of ethics within the Zambia police. It is just a document which is good to just read and never put into practice. The reputation that the Zambia police got today is worse

than the reputation of the Zambia police ever since Zambia became being. If you talk about imbibing alcohol, the number one are the police. If you talk about corruption, the number one are the police and there are living examples," Nkombo said. He praised the Provincial Minister for Lusaka Bowman Lusambo for exposing corruption in the police traffic section. "And at this point let me

take my hat off for one Minister of Lusaka Province Bowman Lusambo who went outside his mandate to catch thieving police officers from the traffic section putting money in the hat. That is what gives the policeman an authority. When a policeman is wearing that hat, he is representing the Zambians. I take my hat off to Lusambo for exposing the corruption in the institution of the police in Zambia today, the worst ever since Adam and Eve. Mr chairman, we have seen so many videos of policemen drunk "belegede" as they call it. And it's a good thing that PF, most of the monies borrowed for the police is to keep them confined in compounds, you've done well there so that the public cannot see how they behave," he said. He said the police service lived much to be desired because the only thing officers knew how to do well was getting drunk. "Mum Vice-President, they behave badly. One day you and I should take a walk in the compounds, you will see for yourself because most of the time you are just in your motorcade with a siren 'wee wee wee', passing going and what have you. The police are ill-behaved. But the commission employs even the spokes-people for the police because they want to declare interest. And even as they lament having less money, you are doing well, don't give them money because they are doing a bad job. When a spokesperson of the police says that 'we want to praise a constable who was almost attacked by this member of parliament at a feeling station and that he deserves a promotion with an AK47 riffle pointing it at a member of parliament. What about an ordinary person walking on the streets. We have lamented madam that this is not fairytale because some of us take these things to logical conclusions," Nkombo said. "I want you as you come to close, Your Honour


the Vice-President to tell me whether it's within the ambit of the police commission that employed Chinese people on 18th December last year in 2017. On 18th December in Kabulonga at a social place called 'Zambia Chinese Friendship Association' the IG, the deputy IG were there posing with pictures with Chinese men whose names I have here and I am going to give you these names. 'Chinese Police Reserves, Zambia Police Reserve Assistant Commissioner Zhao Ming, [all that is] under PF, Zambia Police Reserve Superintendent Mr Wen Shunfan, Zambia Police Reserve Superintendent Mr Wang Huarrong, and Zambia Assistant Superintendent Mr Xu Yudah.' It took the Zambians to rise and say 'look we need jobs, you can't give these Chinese people' and you know a police reserve Mr Chairman has got rights to arrest and detain. Look Mr Chairman, is it just possible that you or me can go in Gwangzu or Shangai and be employed as Reserve or Superintended Garry Nkombo? Un-dreamable bwana, you can't even dream about it," Nkombo further said. And Nkombo said judging from what happened after the police high command deployed some Chinese Reserves as decision which was later reversed, the PF should learn to heed to advised. "And now when we complain that you have given these Chinese too much space, you start arguing. It took the Zambians to rise and say 'no, PF, you have gone too far, step down a bit. You can't start parading Chinese people here who cannot even speak English to start arresting Zambians.' Unless you tell us that they are there to just arrest their fellow Chinese who are in conflict with the law. I am so happy that Zambians rose and a few days later, that decision was rescinded. You must learn to listen," said Nkombo.



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The content is very practical. The challenge is now on us to go back to our offices to implement the principles that have been shared here.

**RODGERS MUYANGWA, MANAGER - ECONOMIC REGULATION ELECTRICITY - ERB**

Above everything else, I highly valued the practical examples used during the training. We plan to send many other managers for John Maxwell training.

**GIFT SIKAUDI, DIRECTOR- PLANNING, INFORMATION AND RESEARCH- ZEMA.**

I thought I would be going out to attend to my office work, but once it started, I knew I could not afford to miss any of it - I had to stay right through it!

**BRENDA MWILA CHIME - HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER, KARIBA NORTH BANK EXTENSION POWER CORPORATION (KNBEPC).**

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# Reflection on PF milestones on the road to gender equality & the fight against GBV

By Mumbi Phiri

Dear reader, As the nation joins the rest of the world in observing 16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence (GBV) – a period which also coincides with the World Aids Day and Human rights day, it provides us with an opportunity to highlight the momentous achievements the Patriotic Front continues to score in addressing the interrelated issues of GBV, HIV/AIDS Human rights and Women’s Empowerment.

The PF recognizes that GBV is a Human rights issue just as it is both a Cause and Consequence of HIV/ AIDS.

Because GBV is rooted in traditional and cultural unequal power relations (social, economic, cultural, and political) between males and females, the Patriotic Front is mindful that to effectively deal with GBV, we have to deal with it from its roots.

Consequently from the time the PF came into Public Office under the leadership of our founding father the late President Michael Chilufya Sata, and up to the present day under the leadership of his faithful successor His Excellency President Edgar Chagwa Lungu, the PF Government has embarked on a sustained multi-sectored and multi-disciplinary approach that seeks to effectively address unequal power relations between the Genders.

**Addressing GBV - PF Driven Policy and Legislation on Gender Equality**

The Patriotic Front set a new standard in attaining Gender equality and fighting GBV.

Within the first six months of office, the PF Government of the late President Michael Sata upgraded Gender in Development (GIDD) from a mere department under Cabinet Office, to a full-fledged ministry- The Ministry of Gender and Child Development (MGCD).

The formation MGCD was a master stroke of the Patriotic Front as the frontier against Gender Inequality and associated evils such as GBV was pushed back.

2011 also saw the enactment of the Anti-Gender Based Violence Act which represented a major step forward in the fight against GBV in Zambia. It still remains one of the most comprehensive laws on GBV in the SADC region and beyond.

Under PF The Gender Policy has been revised and the Ministry of Gender and Child Development continues to be committed to protecting and promoting women's rights, curbing gender-based violence and reducing gender inequalities by making progressive changes to legislation to strengthen the protective environment.

As a brain child and product of the Patriotic Front, the Ministry of Gender has made tremendous strides in prioritising the advancement of women and strengthening their capacity to influence decision-making at all levels.

The portfolio functions of the Ministry include coordinating and monitoring the implementation of: The National Gender policy; The Matrimonial Causes Act; and The Anti-Gender Based Violence Act No. 1 of 2011.

Key to all of this is the Economic Empowerment of

Women as well as the Prevention of Gender Based Violence and the multidisciplinary management of survivors.

Under the leadership of President Edgar Chagwa Lungu, the PF Government paved the way for the enactment of, the Constitution of Zambia (Amendment) Act, of 2016 which, re-affirmed Government’s commitment to Gender Equality. The new constitution set out a new affirmative framework and the establishment of a Gender Equality Commission.

Under the PF Administration, Zambian women have progressed exponentially in their participation in national affairs and decision making positions. That has enabled them to have the major say on their lives.

Besides the standout appointment of Her Honor Mrs Inonge Mutukwa Wina as the first female Vice President of the Republic of Zambia, there are other women’s voices in the nation today that reverberate individually and jointly. They have hit high notes and pitches through positions of leadership and decision making across different sectors. The Patriotic Front Government has amplified women’s voices to levels they have never reached before.

**Education for Women and Girls- a major part of the PF Antidote against GBV**

It is a given that the sustainable empowerment of women is significantly enhanced by their education. Under PF, School enrolment and retention for girls continues to soar. The Government has also scaled up the construction of Technical Secondary schools for girls in all the 10 provinces of our country.

This development is targeted at stemming gender stereotyping of subjects and courses at secondary school and tertiary levels. Educational opportunities that enhance and promote the rights of the girl child, particularly in removing the impediments that inhibit their progression are thus being vigorously enhanced.

**PF Vigorous Efforts against Child Marriage (A GBV Issue)**

Girls who marry as children are particularly at risk of violence from their partners or their partners’ families. The PF Government in 2013 embarked on an unrelenting crusade against child marriage through the launch of The Campaign to End Child Marriages. Since then, Zambia has made significant progress in reinforcing efforts to end child marriages.

In recognition of the multifaceted nature of the child marriage challenge, the PF Government established a consortium of 11 Ministries to respond to the challenge.

According to The Anti-Gender Based Violence Act, Child Marriage is a form of abuse which is derived from cultural and customary rites or practices.

**PF -Driving the Socio-Economic Empowerment of Women**

Gender-Based Violence and Women’s Economic Empowerment are inter-linked.

The economic dependence of women on their spouses in many cases significantly renders them

vulnerable to abuse economically, physically and emotionally.

The PF Government through a number of government agencies such as the Ministry of Community Development has implemented various economic empowerment programmes such as the Social Cash Transfer to enable to women to have a respectable measure of control over their own finances.

Although there have been a few administrative hiccups, the Social Cash Transfer has been a huge success in alleviating poverty among women particularly in the rural areas of our nation.

It has widely been observed that an economically empowered woman is more likely than not to promote her children’s education, thereby breaking the scourge of trans-generational poverty and breaking the cycle of girl child economic dependency and GBV.

**PF Addressing GBV: Facilitating the Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) Of Women**

Sexual and reproductive health and rights or SRHR is a human right applied to sexuality and reproduction. Gender-based violence and Sexual and Reproductive Health risks share a common root -- gender inequality. It is a Health issue.

Under the Zambia National Health Strategic Plan (NHSP) 2017 – 2021 being affected by the PF Government of President Edgar Lungu, the health sector has been implementing reforms aimed at improving service delivery.

In order to enhance SRHR particularly for women, the Ministry of Health (MOH) under the guidance of the PF is creating demand for sexual and reproductive health services for women of reproductive age.

**Conclusion**

The women of Zambia, the Patriotic Front and the nation at large is blessed to have a gender sensitive Head of State in President Edgar Chagwa Lungu.

As our leader, his determination and steadfastness in matters of national development including issues of Gender Equality and the fight against GBV has attracted due recognition not only within our nation, but from many other quarters such as the African Union (AU) who has recognized his valiant efforts in empowering women in various spheres.

The United Nations (UN) women not long ago appointed him as the promoter for the He-for-She campaign, which advocates gender equality.

As we commemorate 16 Days of Activism against GBV as well as World Aids day and the International Day of Human Rights, I call upon all men to emulate the example of our Head of State in promoting Gender Equality.

As a woman and a mother, I call upon all women to take advantage of the goodwill of the Patriotic Front Government led by President Edgar Chagwa Lungu, to advance the cause of the woman and the girl child.

**Hon. Mumbi Phiri (MP)**  
**Deputy Secretary General**  
**Patriotic Front**

# Why do we blame women for rape?

By Linda Kasonde

There is always an outcry when a child gets raped, except of course in Zambia we do not call it rape. We euphemistically call it “defilement” because an innocent child’s virtue has seemingly been destroyed. No one can fathom that a child would ever want to be raped and when it happens no one blames them for it. But when it comes to women, it is a different story. It becomes about sex. In normal circumstances, sex between adults is consensual or something that women submit to. In Zambian law, rape is defined as:

“Any person who has unlawful [sex with] a woman or girl, without her consent, or with her consent, if the consent is obtained by force or by means of threats or intimidation of any kind, or by fear of bodily harm, or by means of false representations as to the nature of the act, or, in the case of a married woman, by personating her husband, is guilty of the felony termed “rape”.”

That definition does not even include marital rape. When women are raped, the immediate concern of many people is whether the woman asked for it by what she wore or the circumstances she found herself in. We find it difficult to believe that a child could have asked for it but when it comes to a woman, our default position is that she must have asked for it. Worse still, even when faced with video evidence showing that the sex was not consensual, the burden of shame rests on the woman, she becomes “damaged goods”. With her social standing and personal dignity undermined, people ask, who would want to marry her now?

A few weeks ago, the world was gripped by the sexual assault allegations raised against Judge Brett Kavanaugh in the United States Senate committee hearings over whether he should have been appointed to the United States Supreme Court bench. His accuser, Professor Christine Blasey-Ford, is a university law professor with Ivy League college credentials. As is common nowadays, the Kavanaugh issue soon became the subject of chatter on social media. A Facebook thread posted by one woman expressed the fear that the post-Kavanaugh world must be scary for “naïve career men” who are now vulnerable to be manipulated by gold-digging women. Many other women on the same thread raised the question as to why the accusations were being laid now, decades later. No one questioned Judge Kavanaugh’s behaviour. It struck me that victim-blaming of women who have experienced sexual assault is rife and not just in Zambia. Here are the facts in Zambia. According to an annual survey by the Victim Support Unit of the Zambia Police Service Zambia, the total number of GBV cases reported country wide from the first quarter to the third quarter of 2017 is 16,090 cases. Only a fraction of the reported gender-based-violence related to sexual crimes. Zambian law categorises sexual offences into rape, defilement (rape of children), and incest etc. According to the VSU third quarter report, out of the total number of reported gender-based violence cases country-wide, there were a total of 1,466 defilement (rape of children) cases, 80 cases of rape (of women), 12 cases of attempted rape, 22 indecent Assault

cases and 20 cases of incest were reported out of which 14 were women and six (6) were girls below the age of sixteen years. The study suggests that women above the age of sixteen rarely report sexual offences in Zambia. This means that the number of women who are raped annually in Zambia might be higher but many possibly opt to keep their traumatic sexual experiences to themselves because of the stigma attached to women who are raped as well as the blame culture. To illustrate how few sexual crimes are reported, an article by Innocent Makasa and Lucy Jane Heathfield in the Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine published in February 2018 states that between 2007 and 2014 a total of only 1,154 sexual crimes were even reported – that is the rape of adults and children. To put things into perspective, over a period of seven years only around 127 women reported a case of rape; that’s an average of 18 women per year in a population of around fifteen million Zambians. We know that gender-based violence is a form of misogyny. According to a statement by the Ministry of Health Permanent Secretary, Mr. Jabbin Mulwanda, in February 2018, 47% of all Zambian women say that they have experienced gender-based violence and yet the reported figures of rape against women appear astonishingly low. Someone on the Facebook thread I referenced earlier pulled out two articles of two white women who were tried for falsely accusing two black American men of rape. I pointed out that while I understood their point, such cases are extremely rare and that it was important to put context to them: the justice system in America weights heavily against black American men in terms of arrest, conviction and sentencing.

I firmly hold the belief that any person who falsely accuses another of rape or any other crime must be punished and go to jail. It is however very uncommon, especially in Zambia, for women to raise unfounded rape charges against men. Context is important to understanding why this is the case. As indicated above, only a small numbers of women actually report rape cases to the police party because of the lack of knowledge about what really constitutes rape but also because many are simply put off by the stigma associated with publicising their traumatic experiences. As a result, those who step forward to raise charges of rape against men are the exception. According to a retrospective study reported by Makasa and Heathfield, between 2007 and 2014 only 28.1% of reported cases of sexual violence were taken to court and of those only 12.4% resulted in convictions. When one considers the low numbers of reported rape cases that actually make it to court and the high threshold for proving rape in court (beyond all reasonable doubt) the chances of being falsely convicted of rape are actually miniscule. Given this background, why then are women blamed for being raped and why are they accused of making false allegations against men? There is an impression that some women do so to make money. I am sure some women do. But in the vast majority of cases why would anyone want to do that if the rapist is more than likely to go scot-free and leave you with a damaged reputation whether you win or lose? In a piece in Psychology Today entitled ‘Why Do

We Blame the Victim?’ David B. Feldman states that studies show that the human tendency towards victim-blaming in cases of sexual assault comes from “a deep need to believe that the world is a good and just place” and therefore bad things happen to people who are deserving of it. Why this tendency is fairly common in sexual assault cases is likely because being raped is equated to having a lack of virtue. Maia Szalavitz, in a more recent article entitled ‘Why We’re Psychologically Hardwired to Blame the Victim’ published in The Guardian in February 2018, suggests that one way of getting around the issue of victim blaming is by focusing on the actions of the perpetrators. Let us focus on the man for a minute. Most men are physically stronger than women. When a woman is raped, she is either overpowered in strength or in number. Rape is about power, it is about overpowering the victim. It is about humiliating the victim. It is about self-gratification. It is about domination. Even that language favours male perpetrators as it shows that they are in charge. Rape is a heinous crime. Rape is a violent crime. Criminals deserve to go to jail. Victims of rape suffer the pain, anguish and shame of it for several years, often for life.

Too often the victims of sexual violence remain faceless and voiceless. Here is the story of a brave Zambian woman who has found her voice: “My name is Seya. I am not a victim of rape, I am a survivor and a victor. I was raped at four years old and then again at eleven years old. I do not see myself as that little girl anymore thanks to counselling and a mind-set shift. The perpetrator was someone my mum and family trusted, he was basically part of our family. To me he was a monster. When you’re introduced to sex at such an early stage in life, it messes you up. I never told my mum, she died not knowing about it. I have only told a few people. The reason I have not come out publicly until now is because I don’t want to be pitied. I don’t want to be looked at as tainted or damaged because society has done that to those who have fallen prey to sexual abuse. I’m telling my story now because I believe it’s time and I believe that this will help someone. To those who want to blame the victim, if you have never been violated that way, you have no right to tell anyone to just get over it or to “woman up”. No! These things are not “normal”, they do not “just happen” and they should not be normalized or dismissed. Sexual abuse steals from your soul. It breaks you internally for the rest of your life if one doesn’t get help. Dear Survivors, you’re not alone. You’re amazing, you’re beautiful. You are smart. You are valuable. You can do this. Please seek help”. The theme for this year’s sixteen days of activism against gender-based violence is #HearMeToo, end violence against women and girls. It is time we really listened to the voices of those who have been abused. It is time we acknowledge the names, faces and voices of survivors and victors of rape. It is time we blamed the perpetrators of rape.

*The writer of this article is a lawyer, civil society activist and an Archbishop Desmond Tutu Leadership Fellow*

A week ago when he featured on Hot FM Radio, former justice minister Mr Wynter Kabimba State Counsel said he stopped buying or reading newspapers in Zambia because they have nothing to offer him. The former secretary general of the ruling Patriotic Front added that he avoids print media journalists who like to call him so that he can join those that are practising politics of insults like Mr Chishimba Kambwili.

“Everybody’s ideology is about insults and how to humiliate and demean someone else across there, and you, the press, has contributed. You also think that the only way you can sell the image of your station is by bringing someone here who is calling everybody ‘Pompwe’, ‘nibakabolala aba, ba pompwe (they are thieves, despicable thieves), they are corrupt’, and everyone is cheering ‘eee eee eee this is the message’, and you start running that as a headline throughout the day, as if it changes the price of oil in Iraq. Print media, same, if they don’t put a sensational headline, they think nobody will buy it,” observed State Counsel Kabimba.

“During Michael Sata’s time,” he continued, “when you saw the name ‘Sata’ in the headline, whatever it was they said about him, you bought The Post. That culture has continued. I have stopped buying the print media myself in this country; there is nothing that they can tell me that I can learn from them. I don’t want to be covered for insults. And you know what I tell

News

Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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# Wynter’s convenient dislike for print media

some reporters when they phone me? I tell them ‘try ba Kambwili, not me on that one.’”

We would like to start by appreciating the criticism from the learned State Counsel. We believe his message is simply that, we who produce newspapers must not be carried away by the foul language of politicians in order to sell our news. He is advising us to follow the issues and give sober debates priority space in our packaging of news. This is good counsel from a man whom we respect so much, and we embrace it.

But we will be dying inside if we pretend that we don’t take issue with the packaging of his criticism for the media that is always there to give him a platform on which he contributes to national debate. We were taken aback to hear that this is how useless and inconsequential we are as newspapers to his political career.

It would have been less

painful to hear this from a riff-raff who has no clear identity in the country and knows nothing about the importance of an independent press that exercises its freedom in news judgement. Hearing this condemnation from a man, who wants to be Republican President in less than three years’ time, was depressing. We expected that State Counsel would know that newspapers give space to as many voices as possible in order to broaden the discourse.

To be honest, this is not the Wynter Kabimba we have known for years – a man who has taught us so many valued life lessons as we developed our careers covering him as a news source. Surely, there is something very serious that we don’t know that is happening to learned State Counsel, and we can’t wait for whatever that is to be unveiled so that our minds can stop speculating.

By the way, we have

difficulties believing that comrade State Counsel Kabimba doesn’t buy or read newspapers at all, because when we make mistakes in any of our stories, he is one of those respected sources who call to say: ‘you have used a wrong word there, the correct word is this one’. So, we think he takes his time to read newspapers because that’s what intellectuals do to stay informed. But assuming that he truly finds newspapers so useless and uninformative, we don’t think it was in his best interest to go on radio and denounce the press in that manner.

We have an idea what is going on here. This dislike for print media that comrade learned State Counsel Kabimba is exhibiting is convenient for him because it suits the slow lane in which he finds himself politically. We believe that Mr Kabimba has taken his political career to the drawing board before he relaunches

himself with vigour again; and while he is in that position, he can afford to find all sorts of excuses for denouncing the free press.

His disgust for Honourable Chishimba Kambwili’s language is one such excuse that we can’t buy for his dislike of the print media. Why do we say this? Well, because there is nothing that Honourable Kambwili is saying against the Patriotic Front and President Edgar Lungu, that himself Mr Kabimba didn’t say about the MMD and former president Rupiah Banda.

In case anyone has forgotten out there, State Counsel Kabimba is the PF Secretary General who led Parliament into removing Mr Banda’s immunity from prosecution because he believed the former president was a corrupt criminal who had looted public resources with the help of his children. This information is still recorded in public domain because comrade Kabimba

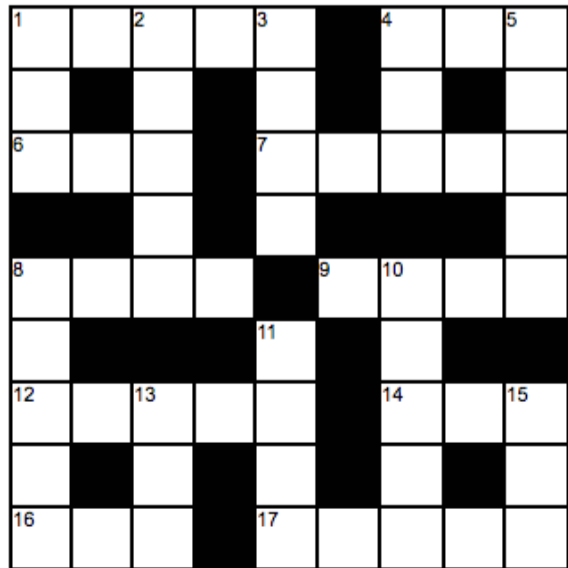
used every opportunity he got on radio, television and newspapers to talk about the “criminality of Rupiah Banda”. Yes, he used newspapers to campaign against the MMD until it was defeated and he used newspapers to expose the alleged criminality of its defeated leader.

That is not all, before he was fired by Michael Sata, the former justice minister used newspapers to wage his battle against his arch political rival in the name of Geoffrey Bwalya Mwamba who was Defence Minister at the time. The fight that these two had was worse than the battle of words that Honourable Kambwili is engaging in with the PF, because people died in those violent clashes. We are not suggesting that Mr Kabimba threw a stone at GBM’s camp, but his supporters did.

So, when we look back, we find that Mr Kabimba has been involved in more fierce and deadly political battles, and he has also gone to great lengths accusing a political rival of theft and corruption. Why then is he so disgusted that this man called Chishimba Kambwili is being given too much space to accuse President Lungu of being a pompwe, a thief? Kaya!

Once again, we have embraced the counsel from the learned comrade. But we hope that when the newspapers he dislikes today become of better use tomorrow or in 2021, he will be able to go back on radio and appreciate our small efforts in this thankless job of giving a voice to the voiceless.

## Crossword puzzle 238



*“They say a person needs just three things to be truly happy in this world: someone to love, something to do, and something to hope for.” - Tom Bodett*

- Across

1. Work force  
4. They're between sos and tis  
6. Lion's home  
7. Water Pokemon  
8. Govern  
9. Discontinue  
12. Piccolo cousin  
14. Male people  
16. Snake-like fish  
17. Be deserving of
- Down

1. Unhappy  
2. Cancel  
3. Autumn  
4. Nautical journal  
5. Postage  
8. Hunter's weapon  
10. Stopwatch or hourglass  
11. View as  
13. Web address  
15. Mesh pouch

## Solutions to puzzle 237



# Reader's feedback

## Nakacinda's appointment as member of parliament

Editor,

*"That's the reason I say Mutati was strategically dropped. It may have been an agreed agenda. The alliance entails all to benefit in MMD. We have to know who plays the cards in this alliance. I still believe Mutati when he says: 'I will rise again, but this time, much higher.' Those of us uplifting PF will cry in awe!" - Kennedy Howard Phiri*

*"MMD will just be used like a mop? Meaning they will never field a presidential candidate, even in 2021? This party should just disband! It has totally lost direction and reason for its existence!" - Legion Mwiinga*

## Vernon Mwaanga's view that millennials will rid Zambia of hatred and bitterness

Editor,

*"Don't just count on it too much! Some of our millennials are following in the footsteps of our selfish baby-boomer politicians." - Chimfwembe Lewis*

*"I don't think so because millennials are the most bitter, haters and tribalistic Zambia has ever seen! If it was up to millennials, Zambia would still be under colonial rule! They are so clueless and annoying, just going where the wind blows!" - Mutinta Mulonda*

*"How? With fools like Tayali? Criminalize tribal talk, then we can have order. As it is, nothing will change till you see an ethnic war!" - Mwange Ezy Daz Et*

*"I disagree. Millennials are probably even worse. All you need to do is look at the debates on Facebook and other social media platforms. The hatred!! Eish!" - Shimz Manchishi*

*"Millennials are fast becoming like the current crop of politicians and it will take a huge miracle to change the current political aura in Zambia." - Lawrence Chimukwaya*

*"Their love for leaked examination papers should tell what kind of generation you are leaving on earth, old man." - Alfred Ntuntu*



## Lungu: 'We have made it easier for Zambians to have money in their pockets'

Editor,

*"Yes, the enabling environment is indeed conducive for a few privileged thieves to put money into their pockets, and not the majority of the citizens!" - Donald Oscar Phiri*

*"Wow! Just wow. I am wondering whose pockets he means." - Japhet Kapanji*

*"This is incredible! I am sure we live in a different planet." - Noah Chizinga*

*"Now I understand when one of the citizens indicated that President Lungu does not know what is obtaining on the ground because he is surrounded by wrong people feeding him with information suitable for his ears. Who is having money in the pockets? Only him and his few elite!" - Rhodes Chipengu*

*"In medieval France, Queen Antoinette so aloof and not in touch with her subjects, asked the guards why the people were protesting. To which the guards replied: 'the high cost of bread, your Majesty.' The Queen asked the guards, if they can't*

*afford bread, why don't they eat cakes? Of course, we all know the Queens ending..." - Ben Kauzeni*

*"Mr President, you're reading on the wrong page of the calendar. April Fool's Day is five months away. Wake up, Mr President. You're dreaming!" - John Mufichani*

*"At times, it's wiser to keep quiet if you have nothing sensible to say!" - Oswald Muchina Simiti Sampala*

*"Maybe he is right because why are people still voting for PF? I guess those are the ones having more money in their pocket..." - Chombe Mike*

### ND's OPINION: Let ConCourt declare Lungu, too, so we get done with it already

Editor,

*"Well researched and true reflection on the ground." - Samuel Sakala*

*"Well researched!" - Nolobe Kuliye*

*"The outcome is known. One day, those who feel can do anything because they are protected by law, will be stricken by the same law!" - Mufwambi Mubita*

*"Thinking the judgement will go against Lungu is like waiting for a ship at the airport" - Naomi Tetamashimba Khumalo*

*"It's premeditated, nothing else! The handlers are serving the interest of their appointing authority." - Pious Emmanuel Sungah*

*By Mirriam Chabala*  
The Barotse Royal Establishment (BRE) has accused some political and government officials of allegedly sponsoring people to masquerade as Chiefs in order to frustrate the current traditional leadership. And the BRE says the Patriotic Front government has deliberately denied the people of Western Province and especially those in the jurisdiction

# BRE accuses PF government of sponsoring anarchy in Barotseland

of the Barotse Royal Establishment any sort of development as punishment for not voting for the party in 2011. In a statement by the acting Ngambela, Moowa Zambe, the concerns were raised after the Saa-Siikalo Kuta, which is the government seat of Barotseland monarch, deliberated on policy matters affecting Barotseland in line with its relationship with

the central government recently. “Divisions emerging in our traditional governance system is being fuelled by government and politicians outside government. This state of affairs is of grave concern to the people of Barotseland. BRE is aware that some people are sponsored to masquerade as chiefs and surprisingly enough, government officials and politicians embrace such illegal self imposed chiefs by paying courtesy calls on them. Chiefs in Barotseland, unlike elsewhere in Zambia, are installed by His Majesty the Litunga from time memorial and they hold office by strictly following our diverse traditions and customs of all the 38 ethnic groups. And where any given Chief ceases to respect our custom and tradition, then such a Chief ceases to hold office under our customary law,” Zambe stated. And Zambe also said the Barotse Royal Establishment was unhappy with the new constitution which by implication contradicts the chiefs act and does not recognise the Litunga’s

authority over chieftaincy. “We urge government to repeal this diabolic article targeted against the people of Barotseland. The BRE has had a good relationship with the central government and enjoyed their respect. However, the current general feeling of our people is that government has sidelined Barotseland in terms of development as most of developmental projects have stalled since 2011. The stalling of developmental projects in Barotseland is deliberate as confirmed by utterances by some Government Ministers and officials that Barotseland will not receive a fair share of development because our people did not vote the PF party in the general Elections. Mongu – Limulunga road is the main link between the royal palace and all the districts in Barotseland. The bad state of this road is a big obstacle in terms of communication. BRE has lobbied Government to work on the road year in year out but our requests have not received a favourable response. This has become a source of worry for the people,” he stated. Meanwhile, Zambe noted that the BRE was aware of the people promoting division in certain regions of the Province. “BRE is aware of some people fueling ethnic tension especially in Mongu, Kaoma and Lukulu with some calling for subdivision of Barotseland. We call upon such misguided people to desist from such acts. The people of Barotseland have lived together in harmony for centuries. BRE’s silence should not be taken for granted. The BRE urges government to address the raised pertinent issues in order to foster peace and harmony in our Country and to solidify the existing cordial relations between central government and the BRE for the benefit of our people,” stated Zambe.



President Lungu (r) welcomes Chief Executive Officer of Agri All Africa, Dr. Dirk Hanekom at Kasama Lodge in Kasama, Northern Province of Zambia on Friday, November 23, 2018. - Picture by Eddie Mwanaleza

## RB retirement house cost \$2.5m, not K5m - PS Mushota

*By Sipilisiwe Ncube*  
Ministry of Housing and Infrastructure Development Permanent Secretary Eng Charles Mushota says it is not true that the retirement house for former president Rupiah Banda was built at a cost of K5 million, revealing that the mansion actually gobbled US\$2.5 million (about K30 million). After President Edgar Lungu handed over the lavish abode for the ex-president, Zambians took to social media, questioning how a toll plaza named after Michael Sata would cost US\$4.3 million, while a clearly affluent mansion cosy only K5 million, as earlier reported when the former President demanded for cash from government so that he could build his own house. In an interview with News Diggers! Eng Mushota noted that people were speculating

without facts, and went further to break down the cost of construction for the said house. “Following the handover of the house to the Fourth Republican President His Excellency Rupiah Bwezani Banda, there has been quite a lot of speculations; false information in the social media. I just want to make it clear that the house does not cost K5 million. I don’t know the source of that information. That project was done in two phases [and] the first phase was to construct a fence over the 28 hectares land and also to put a gate and also the houses for the workers, and that cost was about K7 million. The second [phase] was the construction of houses and other facilities which people are talking about especially the swimming pool [while] His Excellency Mr Rupiah Bwezani Banda engaged his own architects and

his own contractor because this is what was agreed with the government. He signed the contract himself and the initial contract was US \$2 million,” Eng Mushota said. “At the time when the house was completed, the total amount in the range of US \$2.5 million was paid to the contractor and not K5 million which I have seen being circulated on social media. Again I think we have to be very responsible citizens because our offices are open to people who want to get the full information as to what happened. They need to get the scope of works. Of course when you look at the house without getting the full scope of work, you can think the scope can be anything.” He further disclosed that Banda dealt directly with the contractor and the money spent was reimbursed. “It’s a good house, it has been built on time, the specs were good [such that] the contractor managed to stick to the specifications as pointed out by His Excellency the president (Rupiah Banda) [who] worked together with the ministry and the supervision was done collectively. So let me just reaffirm that the cost of that house is not K5 million [but] it was US \$2.5 million. What transpired is that when His Excellency submitted the drawings [or] the designs of the house, the government agreed that he can go ahead and engage the contractor the government would reimburse. And the government [for sure] reimbursed that money or should I say whenever interim payment certificates were issued by the contractor, they were submitted to my ministry and my ministry resource manager, the money was paid,” explained Eng Mushota.

*Daniel Chansa*  
Roan PF Member of Parliament Chishimba Kambwili says there is no president in Zambia but a figurehead in State House. And over 250 workers from AVIC International have protested over poor conditions of service. Speaking at a press briefing at his Luanshya residence, Sunday, Kambwili said all the “nonsense” that was going on in the country was because of lack of leadership.

# Zambia has no President, just a figurehead in State House –CK

“If miners are sent out, who is to sort that out this issue? It’s the president. That is why I say that we do not have a president in this country. We only have a figurehead in State House.

This country is on autopilot, wait until I become president, you will see leadership, tested leadership. All this Chinese, Indians nonsense will end because imbwili ni mbwili,”

said Kambwili. Later over 250 AVIC International workers constructing houses for the ministry of Home Affairs and Zambia Correctional Facility in Luanshya stormed Kambwili’s house demanding that he addresses them. The workers protested, demanding better conditions of service and formal contracts. “This company called AVIC is causing a lot of problems for us here. We are working with contracts and the conditions are so poor. What is the government doing to address

this problem? If nothing is done we will not go back for work. We want decent salaries because of the work we are doing,” a worker complained. “We are building government houses and we should be happy people knowing very well that government will take care of us. But what is happening is so sad. We are subjected to harsh conditions by these Chinese guys at AVIC. So today we are not working. We want someone to speak for us.” Later, Kambwili said it was uncalled for that the local people could be abused at the expense of foreign nationals.

“We are spending a lot of money which is just going to China. If you look at the salaries of the workers its sad. People are not benefiting. But you can’t blame the people. Just a few days the PF were celebrating in solidarity of the Chinese to abuse our people. This is a warning to the Zambian people that this is the government that you have,” said Kambwili. “When you talk about these things ati xenophobia. What is so xenophobic about talking for the people. Mistreating our people, we talk ati xenophobia.”

## I feel more at home in Northern Province because Petauke is voting against PF, says Lungu

*By Joseph Mwenda*

President Edgar Lungu says he feels more at home in Northern Province than in Petauke District where his parents come from because the people in the Eastern Province town don’t agree with him, as they are evidently voting against the Patriotic Front. And 13 PF constituency officials in Petauke Central who have resigned in protest against the District Commissioner Velenasi Banda Moyo and the district executive committee have praised Secretary General Davies Mwila for dissolving the leadership in the area. The Republican President was in Kasama over the weekend where he went officiate at the launch of the Northern Province Investment Expo, and could not resist making fun of the ruling party’s loss of a ward election in Petauke District during the recent local government by election. President Lungu who is an Easterner and Nsenga by tribe from Mkwama village in Petauke District, said he felt rejected by his own people because they were voting against the political party that gave him the presidency. “It is always heartwarming to be here in Northern Province, especially that this is the stronghold for PF. PF is a political party I belong to, and that’s where I am President, so when I am here I feel very much at home, unlike Petauke District. Of course Petauke, that’s where my mother and father come from, but they don’t seem to agree with us, they are voting against us,” President Lungu said, much to the laughter of the Investment Expo delegates. The Head of State then went on to outline government’s support for the provincial tourism and investment initiative. “The theme ‘unblocking the tourism and investment potential of Northern Province’, speaks directly to our collective desire to create a diversified and resilient economy for sustainable growth and social economic transformation. The theme is in line with the government’s development agenda of accelerating development efforts towards the vision 2030 of becoming a prosperous middle-income country without leaving anyone behind. This is as outlined in the Seventh National Development Plan,” President Lungu said. “The PF government is determined to pursue economic diversification and job creation through value addition and industrialisation anchored on agriculture, mining and tourism. It is expected that private sector investment will strive to offer success in these strategic areas. On the other hand, our government will continue to play its role of creating a suitable and conducive business environment. “ The President noted that the event had been oversubscribed and hoped that the Eastern Province Expo would perform even better. “It is very gratifying to note that this

[investment] expo has attracted more than 1, 000 delegates. In fact what has happened is that we targeted 1,500 delegates but we instead got 2,500 delegates – totally oversubscribed. So, like the MC said, those who are coming after Northern Province, Eastern Province; please note that you have a long road and high mountain to climb. This platform is a good opportunity for all business entities including the private institutions to promote expansions of their domestic investments, and network building for future business engagement,” said President Lungu. “Let me conclude by thanking the provincial administration for the splendid job you have done in putting up the Expo, and indeed all the facilities you have put at our disposal. I was disappointed this morning because I wanted to see much of the Expo, but my protocol people kept saying ‘let’s move let’s move’. So next time I come, I will come alone. I haven’t seen much, but I am sure they have seen much and they will tell me.” Meanwhile, back to the politics in Petauke, Constituency chairlady Thandiwe Kamanga who resigned from her position along with 12 other officials told News Diggers in an interview that there were serious divisions in the party because the district executive had hijacked the intra-party election process – leading to the loss of Lusinde ward in Kaumbwe Constituency. “We resigned because we have been protesting against the way the district leadership is running the party. We had these intra-party elections going on, but it’s like these officials are the one who have been going to the wards and branches to conduct elections, which is not supposed to be like that. While they were doing those elections, they were ignoring the constituency officials and working with those people who stood as independent candidates in the 2016 elections,” Kamanga said. “We have not resigned from PF, we are fully behind President Edgar Lungu and the sitting member of Parliament Dora Siliya. But we have relinquished our position because of the confusion that has been brought by these officials. This is the reason why we even lost Lusinde Ward to the opposition UPND because the district officials were concentrating on causing confusion in Petauke Central instead of going to campaign in Kaumbwe Constituency. Asked if it was true that District Commissioner Moyo was working with 2016 independent candidate Jay Banda to destabilise the constituency leadership, Kamanga said: “That’s is exactly the problem that is there. So, the chairlady which is myself, the chairman, the vice chairlady, the treasurer, the youth chairperson and others. We are very much excited with the move by the Secretary General to dissolve the district committee, because this problem started in 2016 with these same independent people.”

## Prof Hansungule condemns harsh sentencing of Chifire

*By Mukosha Funga*

Professor Michelo Hansungule Chief Justice Irene Mambwilima should have engaged civil rights activist Gregory Chifire over a cup of tea instead of jailing him for merely having an opinion. And Prof Hansungule says until the country is liberated, the UPND should forget about getting justice through the courts but instead use political routes to win their battles. Meanwhile, Prof Hansungule says President Edgar Lungu is scared of any shadow that seems to eclipse his own. In an article shared, Sunday, Prof Hansungule observed that November had been a bad month for Zambia’s democracy. “This month has been extremely bad for Zambia’s nascent democracy. The past week has dealt severe blows to the bill of rights particularly freedom of expression and the right to information in Zambia. Police’s summoning of HH and slapping him with the illegal ‘warn and caution’ statement as well as the eerily unanimous Supreme Court judgment in Selected Judgment No. 47 of 2018 against Gregory Chifire blatantly undermined the little that had remained of the modicum of democracy and the rule of law in China’s African colony. At the High Court, HH and his running mate Vice President Godfrey Bwalya expectedly returned empty handed from Judge Chitabo Mwila’s court where they had gone knocking for the right to be heard after they were unceremoniously sent packing by an illegal ConCourt majority post the 2016 catastrophic

sham elections. Earlier in the month, and quite unsurprising as well, the ConCourt tossed out two high profile parliamentary election appeals from petitions challenging the 2016 elections in Lusaka Central and Munali constituencies both in the capital city Lusaka,” Prof Hansungule observed. Prof Hansungule stated that Chifire’s concerns should have been addressed through civil engagements instead of jailing him. “The Supreme Court’s over 80 pages Chifire judgment raises serious questions about justice in Zambia...The broad issue I want to raise, however, is that if you look at most of the resources used in the judgment, they mostly all predate the modern era. Most of the materials were enacted long before the modern age of good governance. Writing the Chief Justice a letter in which her attention is drawn to a matter of public importance should be appreciated as part of good governance. This is consistent with the very first article 118 of the judicature chapter which provides that: ‘... judicial authority of the Republic derives from the people of Zambia and shall be exercised in a just manner and such exercise shall promote accountability...’ This is meant to be departure from ancient history where judges were not considered human in the sense of ordinary human beings but men and women very close to God. Idea behind the statement that ‘judicial authority derives from the people of Zambia means Gregory Chifire and others are the source of judicial authority and when Chifire

or someone else writes the Chief Justice, he must be appreciated because he is merely exercising article 118,” he stated. “Instead of unleashing the law on him, the Chief Justice should have invited Chifire for discussion over a cup of tea in order to understand where he is coming from in any case he is ‘the people of Zambia’ in article 118. A person who writes even if accusations most of them unsubstantiated but who lists his or her name together with contact details deserves to be taken seriously and engaged rather than imprisoned. In modern times, people, using social media, for instance, write anything and do so anonymously using strange non existing names like ‘Satan’ or ‘Jesus’, ‘Trump’, etc. These are mostly cowards hence cannot reveal their true identity or list their contacts yet sometimes they make serious allegations. But Chifire is not in this class. He wants an engagement and he is covered by the constitution... As the Supreme Court itself says in the Chifire judgment, the Supreme Court or the judiciary is a unique. One issue which makes up this uniqueness is that its members are unelected and therefore would not fall under the same pedestal as politicians in terms of accountability threshold. However, article 18 of the constitution extends the same power in the hands of citizens to oversee the judiciary even if of unelected officials. Nevertheless, point is Supreme Court needed to have differently handled the Chifire issue than what has happened now.”

# France fuel unrest: 'Shame' on violent protesters, says Macron



French President Emmanuel Macron has lashed out at demonstrators who clashed with police in Paris during the latest protests sparked by rising fuel prices. "Shame on those who attacked" officers, he tweeted. "There is no place for violence in the [French] Republic."

There was chaos on the Champs-Élysées on Saturday as police used tear gas and water cannon to disperse protesters. The demonstrations had been billed by the "yellow vest" movement as "act two" in a campaign that began a week ago. Named after their distinctive high-visibility attire, the protests initially focused on a rise in a fuel duty on diesel. They later grew to reflect anger at rising living costs, particularly in rural areas, and other grievances against President Macron's policies.

More than 100,000 people took part in about 1,600 protests across France on Saturday, the interior ministry said. Most passed off peacefully - except in the capital, where 8,000 demonstrators gathered. What happened on the Champs-Élysées? Five thousand police had been deployed in Paris. They had set up metal barriers around the Champs-Élysées to stop protesters reaching key buildings such as the president's office and the national assembly. A spokesperson for the demonstrators insisted that they were peaceful. "We are not here to pick a fight with cops, We just want the government to listen to us," Laetitia Dewalle told AFP news agency. But in the morning some tried to break through the police cordon. They lit fires, tore down street signs, erected barricades, pulled up paving stones and hurled them at police while shouting slogans against Mr Macron. The chaos continued into the evening, when police cleared most of the area. Officials say 19 people were injured in the clashes, including four officers. Forty people were arrested. What about unrest elsewhere in France? Demonstrations were staged around in the country. Roadblocks were set up to slow down traffic. Some motorway toll booths were taken over to let vehicles through. There were a number of minor clashes. Overall 130 arrests were made. The protests and the violence were on a much smaller scale than the previous week. Last Saturday more than 280,000 people took part, two people were killed and more than 600 people injured.

## African Union hit by sexual harassment claims

Sexual harassment is a major problem for women who work at the African Union Commission (AUC), an internal investigation has found. Most of the victims are short-term staff, youth volunteers and interns looking for jobs, the report said.

Those responsible "position themselves as 'gate-keepers' and 'king-makers'", it added. The inquiry was launched in May and all staff members who had a complaint were invited for a confidential interview. The special committee was formed by the AUC Chairperson, Moussa Faki, after an anonymous letter alerted him to the abuse. The team found 44 cases of alleged sexual harassment and that young women were being "exploited for sex in exchange for jobs". The report did not name any of the alleged perpetrators. Staff behind the harassment made "believable promises to young women that they will be offered contracts," the report said. Interviewees said reporting incidents of sexual harassment was often counterproductive as there was no process internally to do so because the AUC does not have a sexual harassment policy. The team also found incidents of bribery, corruption, bullying, discrimination and intimidation. South Africa's Mail & Guardian paper says the inquiry was established after it reported on a petition signed by 37 female members of AU staff complaining about sexual harassment at the commission. The AU Commission, which has its headquarters in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, said that given the findings and serious allegations, it would establish "a comprehensive sexual harassment policy that protects the victims and takes the strongest punitive measures against any perpetrator". Mr Faki would also form an internal committee to look into all the reported cases and make recommendations, a statement said. **BBC**

How did Macron and his government react? In his tweet the president praised the security forces for "their courage and their professionalism". He added: "Shame on those who attacked them. Shame on those who assaulted other citizens and journalists." **BBC**

# Ex-Zimbabwe President Mugabe unable to walk

Zimbabwe's former President Mugabe, 94, is unable to walk because of ill health, President Emmerson Mnangagwa has said. Mr Mugabe has been in Singapore for treatment for an undisclosed illness for the past two months, he added. The former president also made several medical trips there towards the end of his time in power. Mr Mnangagwa became head of state a year ago after Mr Mugabe was ousted following the intervention of the army. Up to that point, Mr Mugabe was the only president Zimbabwe had known, having been in power for 37 years. He led the movement for Zimbabwean independence from white minority rule. President Mnangagwa was addressing a rally in his predecessor's home area when he talked about the former leader's health. "He is now old. Of course, he now is unable to walk but whatever he asks for we will provide," the AFP news agency quotes him as saying. When Mr Mugabe was in power officials said he was being treated for eye problems, denying rumours that he had cancer. Despite being unable to walk, Mr Mnangagwa said the former leader was feeling better and would be back in the country next week. "We are looking after him. He is the founding father of the nation of Zimbabwe. He is our founding father of free Zimbabwe," the president added, AFP reports. The government is paying for Mr Mugabe's treatment. After taking over from him last year, Mr Mnangagwa won a disputed presidential election in July. **BBC**



## Beyonce and Rihanna make forbes' list of highest-earning women in music

Forbes released its 2018 list of the highest-paid women in music on Monday, revealing that Beyoncé and Rihanna had made the top 10. After topping the list last year with an eye-popping \$105 million dollars pretax, Beyonce landed in third place on the 2018 list with an earning of \$60 million. She made most of her money through her iconic Coachella performance, the joint album with husband JAY-Z, Everything is Love, and the Carters' On The Run II Tour. Coming ahead of Beyonce were Katy Perry and Taylor Swift, who earned \$83 million and \$80 million respectively. Rihanna came in a respectable 7th place behind P!nk, Lady Gaga, and Jennifer Lopez. The beauty mogul earned \$37.5 million this year, despite not having released any music. Most of her money came from her cosmetics and lingerie lines.

# Gaga continues to obsess over Bayonetta: My hands hurt and I have to sleep



Lady Gaga just can't get enough of Bayonetta. The 32-year-old actress and pop star surprised the gaming world in early November after revealing that she had a thing for the cult-followed hack

and slash video game Bayonetta. Several weeks later, she is still obsessed with the game. "Still playing #Bayonetta middle of chapter XIII and my hands hurt and I have to sleep and it's 4 In the damn

morning but this damn dragon with the face that I have to kill with my weave. Smh," Gaga tweeted on Saturday (Nov. 24). "Give it another go in the morning #gamer respect to the experts I need emotional support."

Nintendo re-released the original game and its sequel on the Nintendo Switch in February. As Lady Gaga progresses further into the female-fronted action-adventure game, some fans are begging her to do a livestream. "DO A LIVESTREAM WHILE YOU'RE PLAYING THAT WOULD BE THE BEST THING EVER," one fan tweeted. Another fan jokingly suggested that Gaga should be preparing for her upcoming Las Vegas residency instead of playing video games all night. "Rehearse for Engima and make LG6 instead," they wrote. "Just kidding have fun gaming xx." See the tweets below.

## Justin Bieber celebrates Thanksgiving as a married man

Justin Bieber has posted that he's celebrated his first Thanksgiving as a married man. He told his 102 million followers: "Happy late thanksgiving to everyone. First thanksgiving as a married man, first time hosting thanksgiving." He also added, "love isn't always easy" but said he was trying, like Jesus Christ, to be more patient and selfless. It's the first time he's confirmed he's married to

Hailey Baldwin. The couple were rumoured to have married in a New York courthouse two months ago, but Hailey Baldwin denied it at the time. But it's reported they had a very secret ceremony in September. They unofficially confirmed their marriage in comments on social media last week when the Sorry singer called Baldwin "my wife" and the model changed her name to

Hailey Bieber. In his Thanksgiving post the 24-year-old also spoke about his faith. "Thank you Jesus for showing me how! Every day is a learning process, trying to be more like him, patient, kind, selfless, boy I got a long way! But gods grace is sufficient!" It's not the first time he has posted about religion. In July when he wrote about his engagement, he posted: "Gods timing really is literally perfect,

we got engaged on the seventh day of the seventh month, the number seven is the number of spiritual perfection, it's true GOOGLE IT!" He added, "he who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains FAVOR from the Lord!" This is the year of favor!!!!" She turned 22-years-old on 22 November. She posted a photo of her with cake on her face kissing Justin with the caption, "very thankful."

# Victory at last! Henry earns first win as Monaco manager

The legendary French forward's time as a manager got off to a terrible start, but he has finally pieced together a win for the struggling Ligue 1 club

Thierry Henry finally has a win on his managerial record.

A Radamel Falcao goal 54 minutes in was all Monaco needed to claim a 1-0 win over Caen in Ligue 1 play on Saturday, handing Henry his first victory as manager of the French side in seven matches at the helm.

The Arsenal, Barcelona and France legend replaced the sacked Leonardo Jardim six weeks ago with the club third from bottom, following his time as an assistant for Belgium. But the fortunes of the French side changed little with Henry calling the shots.

The club lost four and drew two of his first six matches in charge before

finally picking up a win on Saturday.

His time has seen the club knocked out of the Champions League and, even after Saturday's win, they sit two points back of safety in Ligue 1. Saturday's result followed back-to-back 4-0 thumpings, one at the hands of Ligue 1 giants PSG and the other a Champions League stinker against Club Brugge.

And the road doesn't get much easier.

Monaco are back Champions League action midweek against Atletico Madrid and follow that with a Ligue 1 clash against fourth-placed Montpellier.

The club will also face Dortmund, Lyon and Nice in early December, which will keep hopes that Saturday's victory will spark a sharp reversal of fortunes tempered.

Still, with Monaco sat



second bottom of the table and Caen, currently sitting 17th, the win could prove a vital six-pointer as the traditional

power looks to avoid relegation from the top flight.

"We are in a delicate situation, everyone is

aware. It is not because we have injured players that we must seek excuses," Henry said on Friday.

But there are were no excuses needed on Saturday as the club finally found a winner. *Goal.com*

## Mourinho's failing Man Utd stuck in an endless cycle of replace and repeat

At one stage after coming on as a substitute, Marcus Rashford won a couple of full-blooded slide tackles one after the other to set Manchester United away on the counter-attack. It was the kind of situation United had been dreaming of all afternoon. Against a well-organised and determined Crystal Palace, getting any kind of space behind their midfield line had proven to be difficult. The ball reached Alexis Sanchez – the dud signing from Arsenal who costs more in wages every week than any other Premier League player.

To his left was Anthony Martial – United's talisman this season and their creative hub. Sanchez tried to find him with what for a professional forward must count as a straightforward pass. It went behind the France forward's stride and out of play for a throw-in.

Just like that another United opportunity went up in a puff of smoke. Just like that, the fans at Old Trafford slumped back before they'd even had the chance to get out of their seats.

That kind of break is United's best chance of scoring in games like this.

They surrender territory and invite what should be lesser teams onto them in the anticipation of getting in behind quickly once the ball is won back.

It's not pretty but it should be enough to get the job done. But this is a failing team. It is quickly becoming one of the most unacceptable United teams they've seen in these parts for quite some time.

If the counter-attack doesn't work, then the high ball would have to suffice. So, Marouane Fellaini was the first substitute introduced. Remember before the international break when Jose Mourinho said that Manchester City would have been in big trouble in the derby if only he could have replaced Fellaini with...

Fellaini? He did well that day but only made a nuisance of himself here. One tackle on Luka Milivojevic should have seen him sent off. And when Alexis was summoned, it was Paul Pogba called ashore.

He spent part of the international break getting meat dropped into his mouth by Salt Bae in Dubai and it's fair to say Pogba is making more of an

impact on Instagram than he is at Old Trafford at the minute.

Another game passed him by where he came looking for the easy pass from the man in possession before attempting to shape the game in his image from there. It didn't work.

There were fitness issues to contend with, sure, as there were for plenty of other United players. But wouldn't it have been better if Pogba earned his early substitution with decisive game-defining actions rather than being subjected to it?

Anyway, they scarcely had a second-half chance to speak of. Romelu Lukaku did have the ball in the net after an Ashley Young drive was parried back into his path. But he was offside. He was unlucky with another header when Wayne Hennessey made a great save.

There are two sides to Lukaku, though, and on another occasion he dropped deep and tried to trap a ball but succeeded only in sending it 15 yards in the wrong direction and setting up a counter-attack chance for Andros Townsend. It was like a parody of a bad Lukaku first touch.

*Goal.com*

## Manchester City were lucky to score four in rout of West Ham, says Guardiola



Pep Guardiola felt Manchester City were flattered by their margin of victory in Saturday's 4-0 triumph at West Ham.

David Silva's fourth goal in as many games got City up and running before Raheem Sterling scored his seventh of the season in the top flight.

Leroy Sane's brace completed a comprehensive victory, but West Ham – playing under former Etihad Stadium boss Manuel Pellegrini – showed attacking ambition throughout and hit the post through Michail Antonio. "We give a lot of credit for victory, but it was not the best performance and we were a little lucky," Guardiola told a post-match news conference. *Goal.com*

# Pacquiao wants to show he’s not done yet

Manny Pacquiao, perhaps out of sight and out of mind to American boxing fans, wants to show he’s not done yet, and Adrien Broner aims to rejuvenate his career against a legend.

Those are the central storylines as Pacquiao and Broner, who could not keep a straight face when they were supposed to stare each other down for the cameras, met at a news conference Monday in New York to announce their fight.

Pacquiao, returning to fight in the United States for the first time in two years and for the first time since his recent signing with adviser Al Haymon’s Premier Boxing Champions, will defend his secondary welterweight world title against former four-division titlist Broner on Jan. 19 in the main event of a Showtime PPV card (9 p.m. ET) at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

“I just want to prove I’m still in boxing. Manny Pacquiao is still in boxing, and my career and my journey in boxing is continuing,” Pacquiao said. “I just want to give a good show on Jan. 19. I know my opponent is fast and he’s good. We have to work hard and train hard for this fight so the



people will be happy on Jan. 19.

“I chose Adrien Broner because I believe we can have a good fight and entertain the fans. He’s a good boxer. We cannot underestimate him. Everyone knows Adrien Broner is a good, experienced

boxer.”

Broner, who is 0-1-1 in his past two fights, promised a top-flight effort.

“There’s a lot of people who wanted this fight and God blessed me to get it and I guess I’m just he chosen one,” Broner said. “What can I say

about Pacquiao? He’s a future Hall of Famer. He do some great things. I got some things to worry about. He’s great. It’s going to be a hell of a fight. All bulls--- aside, I’m not coming just to pick up a check. F--- the money. I know when I win this fight there’s more money to

come.”

Pacquiao, a senator in the Philippines, has not boxed in the U.S. since winning a decision over Jessie Vargas to win a welterweight belt in November 2016. Pacquiao has made hundreds of millions of dollars but has been dealing

with an eight-figure IRS bill, which was the key reason he fought his past two fights overseas before deciding to come back to the U.S.

“Manny has had an ongoing payment plan with the IRS the last two years, and a fight like this I think the IRS is very happy because he is able to handle whatever needs to be done for his taxes,” Sean Gibbons, the matchmaker for Pacquiao’s MP Promotions and a Pacquiao confidant, told ESPN.

After the Vargas fight, Pacquiao fought in July 2017 but lost the belt by hugely controversial decision to Jeff Horn in Horn’s hometown of Brisbane, Australia. After a year off, Pacquiao (60-7-2, 39 KOs), who turns 40 on Dec. 17, returned in July and knocked out Lucas Matthyse in the seventh round -- Pacquiao’s first KO since his 2009 victory over Miguel Cotto to win his first welterweight title -- to win a secondary welterweight belt in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

**ESPN SPORTS**

In seasons gone by, this would have been a routine afternoon for United but not anymore. A home game against a team who have not won a league match at Old Trafford since 1989 arriving on the back of a winless run stretching back to September would have meant a comfortable 2-0 win. Not quite. Nothing is routine for United this season, and you can be sure of nothing other than it’s going to be a struggle. It’s the club’s worst start to a season in 28 years.

Jose Mourinho has targeted a place in the top four by the end of December, but it is difficult to see how that can happen if they cannot beat Palace at home. Roy Hodgson’s team are well organised, but they haven’t won a league game since Sept. 15. They will be happy with a point, but they might feel they deserved more.

Cheikhou Kouyate had a goal ruled out for offside in the first half, and David De Gea made two good saves after the break. Andros Townsend wasted one of the best chances of the game when he fired wide of the far post.

Mourinho can be happy that for a change United kept a clean sheet -- just their second in the league this season, avoiding a new Premier League club record of conceding in a ninth straight game. But this is Palace at home and a 0-0 draw is not good enough.

United had chances and Jesse Lingard and Romelu Lukaku forced Wayne Hennessey into good saves but the late winner they have relied on more than once this season never arrived.

## Man-U booed off as Mourinho flops fall further off the pace

There were boos at full-time as the struggle goes on.

Mourinho’s men do not excite United fans, for the most part, will keep coming to Old Trafford. It’s what they have always done, and anyway, things have been far worse than this.

Still, for the thousands upon thousands who troop into the stadium week after week, there is an acceptance this isn’t a

team to be excited about. Any thrill they get during a game these days is usually caused by the unpredictability of it all rather than because they’re watching a masterclass of wonderful attacking football.

If Pep Guardiola’s Manchester City are “Swan Lake,” this is like watching “Takeshi’s Castle.” Entertaining? Sometimes, because anything could happen. Beautiful?

Erm, no. Against Palace, Mourinho picked a forward line of Lukaku, Juan Mata, Jesse Lingard and Anthony Martial, but at half-time it was predictably still 0-0. They have been in front at the break in just one game since Sept. 25.

Before an hour was on the clock it was back to Plan B and time to throw on Marouane Fellaini to see if he could cause the same chaos you might

expect from an inflatable ball covered in shaving foam being thrown at a man walking across a tightrope.

It has worked plenty of times before, but this time Palace stood firm and could even have snatched a winner on the break. The disgruntled fans who streamed out of Old Trafford at the final whistle will be back for more against Young Boys on Tuesday.

## Mane puts money on Liverpool, extends stay at Anfield

After agreeing a new contract Sadio Mane has called his decision to join Liverpool as “the best of my career”.

The Senegalese forward moved to Anfield from Southampton in 2016 and agreed to extend his stay on Thursday night.

“I’ve always said, when I knew I had a chance to come here I didn’t have to think twice,” Mane told Liverpool’s official website. “The right club in the right moment and with the right coach as well.

“I came here and was very happy. For me, I have made the best decision in my career.”

Mane has scored 29 of his 50 Premier League goals for

Liverpool, and his six strikes this campaign have put him on course for his best scoring return in a season.

The 26-year-old’s contributions have also helped keep his second-placed side in title contention.

“We have a strong squad and we have everything to win,” said Mane.

“Without making ourselves pressure because it is too early to speak about trophies, but everybody knows we have to [win trophies] – and now we are going to try to give everything to win something.”

Mane will be hoping to continue his fine form when Liverpool travel to Watford on Saturday.



Mane’s team mate Mo Salah scores against Watford, Saturday

# FWAYO REPENTS

## I'm returning to Power a changed man

By Alex Chilumbwe

Former Chipolopolo winger Fwayo Tembo says his return to Power Dynamos after almost 16 months of unaccounted for absence is aimed at reviving his football career that has been characterised by salary wrangles at the Ndeke township club.

Tembo expressed regret that he could not professionally handle issues that led to his disappearance adding that he now understood the importance of dialogue and discipline for every player despite being highly celebrated.

In an interview with Goal Diggers! Tembo acknowledged that he had wasted his talent due to minor wrangles with Dynamos' management, and pledged to clear any controversy surrounding his football career.

"After months of leaving the club in a bad way, friends and family has helped me get back to my senses and rekindle my relationship with Power Dynamos and the entire football sport. By now I could have done more and better achievements but things got out of the hand and I could not handle them professionally. This is my return to football and am returning as a changed player," he said.

Tembo who has history of leaving his 2010 European club FC Basel on account of having accused his then club coach Thorsten Frank of making racist remarks towards him during training sessions, further acknowledged that it was easy for a heralded player to lose a fanbase and the talent due to failure to maintain good conduct.

"It really does not matter how big a player is but if he is not able to maintain good conduct, even fans can ditch you. There are others that will be happy to see me back on the pitch while others will still be displeased with my disappearance," said Tembo.



Son Heung-Min displays individual brilliance to score a solo goal in the 3-1 bashing of Chelsea at Wembley on Saturday

By Alex Chilumbwe

FAZ has noted that the future of women football in Zambia is promising despite failure by the women national soccer team to excel at the Women AfCON in Ghana.

Association member and Head of Delegation in Ghana Brenda Kunda said that the strides in women football would soar to new heights adding that the team comprised of young and disciplined players with great potential.

In a statement availed to the media yesterday, Kunda also said that there was need to keep the Copper Queens motivated in order for them to stay hungry for

## Future of women football is still promising – FAZ

the game.

"The results recorded in Ghana are encouraging for a team whose oldest player is 24. Our players are young but managed to give bigger teams with more professional players' tough competition. Even when it comes to goals, the last time we participated in this tournament we only scored

one goal and this time around, we have scored six. That's something," said Kunda.

Meanwhile Shepolopolo forward Rachael Kundananji applauded her teammates for showing unity and determination during the continent's prestigious tournament for women.

"I am happy for my friends that we worked together and stayed united. It was a first time for us but the two or three senior players did not make us feel any less than them. They keep us well and teach all the things we needed to learn in the tournament including showing leadership," said Kundananji.

South Africa ended Zambia's campaign to finish in the top three and consequently qualify to World Cup after a one all draw yesterday, Saturday in their last group match. The group comprised South Africa, Equatorial Guinea, Nigeria and Zambia. Nigeria and South Africa qualified to semifinals.

