



**By Sipilisiwe Ncube**  
PF Secretary General Davies Mwila has fired Malole member of parliament Christopher Yaluma from the Central Committee as well as from his position as party chairperson for Mines. And Mwila has dissolved the Mungwi District and Malole Constituency Committees for failing to file in nominations for the Msinshe Ward by-election. He has further given Northern Province PF

# Mwila fires Yaluma for shunning PF meetings

chairman Lazarus Chungu on why his committee should not be dissolved after failure to supervise activities. In his letter dated March 18, 2019, Mwila stated that the Central Committee had ordered the removal of Yaluma for failure to attend Central Committee Meetings for three consecutive times. **To page 5**



Judges and lawyers pose for a photo after a colourful valedictory court session in honour of Deputy Chief Justice Marvin Mwanambwa who retired on his birthday yesterday

# Lungu among richest African Presidents, but has stolen wealth - CK

**By Sipilisiwe Ncube**  
Edgar Lungu has made so much money for himself and his family through dubious means, and is now among the richest Presidents on the continent, says NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili. And Kambwili says President Lungu should stop taking poor Zambians for fools because he cannot explain his ill-gotten wealth. The former Roan member of parliament was reacting to President Lungu's statement in Kabwe, Saturday, where he told a Provincial ruling party conference that it was not a crime to be rich, as that was what everyone longed for. **To page 5**

# Lungu appoints Tutwa deputy Chief Whip, taking over from Chanda Mutale

*Story page 5*

# Zambia's debt has caused turbulence, but remains manageable, says Siliya

**By Mirriam Chabala**  
Chief Government Spokesperson Dora Siliya says it is true that Zambia's public debt situation has spurred turbulence in the economy, but insists that the country's debt is still manageable and will eventually be paid back. **To page 3**

# PS DUCKS UNZA, CBU QUESTIONS

# Higher Education doesn't pay lecturers' salaries, ask Finance

**By Thomas Mulenga**  
Higher Education PS Mabvuto Sakala says his ministry is only a conduit of resources from the Ministry of Finance to universities, while the running of higher learning institutions is the responsibility of management who should explain the delayed salaries to lecturers. **To page 7**

By Thomas Mulenga

Veteran politician and former diplomat Vernon Mwaanga has warned that abandoning the national dialogue process would be dangerous as many critical issues will remain unresolved. In a statement, Mwaanga expressed disappointment at the stalled dialogue process after President Edgar Lungu and his UPND counterpart Hakainde Hichilema met under the auspices of the Church, to discuss the road map process. Mwaanga insisted that dialogue remained important for a growing democracy like Zambia. "It would be a horrendous mistake for our political leaders to abandon dialogue! In this 21st Century, there has been recourse to dialogue among nations, leaders and people all over the world. I have been a passionate advocate of dialogue throughout my life and even during the struggle for Independence, when I was regional secretary of UNIP for Choma and Namwala districts, I advocated dialogue (between) UNIP and ANC, which was the dominant party in Southern Province at the time. Because of my dialogue approach, there was very little violence between UNIP and the ANC in areas of my involvement," Mwaanga recalled. "My involvement in the peace and dialogue processes on behalf of Zambia in Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, Guinea Bissau, Zimbabwe, the DRC and South Africa,

# Abandoning dialogue would be grave mistake, warns VJ

has convinced me that the only alternative to dialogue is dialogue. Those who do not accept dialogue do so at their own peril and that of their countries. It is beyond dispute that many areas of conflict in Zambia and Africa have to do with disputed elections, which lead to tensions, violence, conflicts and other open hostilities between and among participants. In 1990, when we formed the MMD with Arthur Wina, Fredrick Chiluba, Akashambatwa Mbikusita Lewanika, Andrew Kashita, Edith Nawakwi, Levy Mwanawasa, Katele Kalumba, Princess Nakatindi and others, we recognised that dialogue between us and the then powerful ruling party, UNIP, would be necessary and indispensable." He expressed his disappointment to see the dialogue process had stalled after President Lungu and Hichilema met to discuss the road map for the process. "The importance of dialogue among political party leaders cannot be and should not be over-emphasised, particularly in a country like ours whose democracy is still relatively young and evolving. President Edgar Lungu and UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema

met not so long ago under the watchful eye of our Church leaders and agreed, among other things, that political dialogue must commence as soon as possible, which would be inclusive, for the sake of mother Zambia. I was excited about this development, but my excitement soon turned into disappointment and despair when I started seeing and hearing some flip-flopping," he stated. "The net result is that the promised dialogue on many of our national issues, such as amendments to the notorious Public Order Act; amendments to the Electoral Act; commitment by all political players to zero

tolerance to political violence; commitment by all to the rule of law; how to improve the economy; education and healthcare systems; acceptance that power is not permanent, that it is necessary for political parties to make a commitment that politics and elections are not war and how to improve space for the media, particularly the private media, to operate freely and without interference, the impartiality of the private media so that they give equal and fair access to all political players as it happens in new countries like South Africa." He urged President Lungu and Hichilema to emulate Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta

and veteran opposition leader Raila Odinga who successfully reconciled in national interest following disputed presidential elections in that country. "It is folly to sugar-coat the failure of dialogue and the leaders of Kenya, President Uhuru Kenyatta and opposition leader Raila Odinga, have set a very good example of dialogue and national reconciliation. They meet regularly, eat and drink together, even attend each other's birthdays. Wouldn't it be nice to see our political leaders follow suit? I would like to earnestly appeal to our political leaders not to abandon dialogue. These are

not partisan issues, they are national issues. They should embrace it, for the sake of the country and the generations yet unborn. History will judge them harshly if they do not do so. My generation of leaders is slowly disappearing and soon rather than later, we shall not be around to provide advice and institutional memory," he cautioned. Meanwhile, Mwaanga lamented that the current leadership had failed to take care of freedom fighters. "This new generation of leaders has not done much, if anything, to look after freedom fighters, unlike in many other countries, but so be it. I will leave that for history to pass judgement. There are younger politicians who regard my generation of former leaders as an inconvenient nuisance! It is my hope that history will record and conclude that we deeply cared for our country and its people and I mean all people," stated Mwaanga.

# Pilgrim praises Lungu for "brilliant" Parley speech

By Mirriam Chabala

Former UPND vice-president Dr Canisius Banda has called for peace and patriotism among all Zambians by focusing on working towards the things that unite the nation as opposed to those that divide citizens. Commenting on President Edgar Lungu's speech during his national address last Friday, Dr Banda concurred with the Head of State that there was need to end political violence, among other immoral activities, which he said erode the country's values and principles. "We must remain peaceful and

we must be patriotic. Let us not speak ill of this country, both within Zambia and outside. Let us focus on the challenges that we face: giving people safe and clean water; affordable housing; education and health care, things like that. The President's speech was very brief, full of figures and very clear. It was a very good speech! The President started by quoting [John] Maynard Keynes, Maynard Keynes is a historical figure, he's an economist. Much of economics is based on him and he did say that: 'the fuel that moves any community is what they believe in,' so we must have belief, national belief," Dr Banda advised.

"And he illustrated the values and principles that we have and he did say that these [things] must be on our minds all the time and in our hearts. The President talked about the need for ethics and morality; he cited the case of the Zambia Police Service, and the Immigration Department as some of the government departments that have undergone training and have developed ethical codes to ensure that their execution of work in keeping with the expectation of national ethics and values." He also applauded President Lungu and his government for prioritising women in the acquisition of land. "Interestingly, the President

said 40 per cent of all land in Zambia is reserved for women. Then he said the remaining 60 per cent will be competed for between men and women. So, you can see the affirmative action towards women. I think this is exemplary, not only in Southern Africa, but the whole continent. So, for those that are interested to know the number of women that got title deeds, he did mention that they are thousands of them that were given title deeds. Other countries don't give land to women, but Zambia is able to do that," observed Dr Banda. "He mentioned also that the fight against Gender-Based Violence is yielding fruit because the number of GBV cases has dropped and he was glad to inform the nation that these fast track courts... we used to have them only [in] Lusaka and Kabwe, but now, we've got them in Ndola, Mongu and Chipata, so that's progress made. Then the 'Keeping the Girl Child in School' programme is also working and yielding fruit. All girls need education as a matter of fact because the survival of human kind hinges on girls. So, an educated girl is what humanity needs. And those girls that cannot afford to pay school fees, the State comes in and helps. This is worth noting."

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# Giving women 40% land ownership right not fair, we deserve 50-50, says Engwase

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

NGOCC executive director Engwase Mwale says the “considerable progress” that government is claiming to have made in the 40 per cent land ownership for women is still paltry. Last Friday, President Edgar Lungu told Parliament during his address on the application of national values that government had made steady progress in the 40 per cent land allocation to women as evidenced by the 3,010 certificates of title that had been processed for women in 2018 alone. “Government has continued with the deliberate policy to allocate 40 per cent of available land to women, whilst the remaining 60 per cent is competed for by both men and women. For instance, in 2018, 3,010 certificates were processed



for women compared to 7,063 for men in an effort to reach the 40 per cent target. This, Mr Speaker, clearly demonstrates that we are making considerable progress towards empowering our women,” President Lungu said.

But in an interview, Mwale said this achievement was paltry, adding that the country needed to strive to attain an equal ownership of land for both men and women. “This is still paltry. We must be striving to attain 50-

50, already this just goes to confirm that women still remain marginalised from land ownership. And what that means is that women do not have access to a critical means of production. A recent study by NGOCC and other

partners in three countries shows that women remain discriminated from owning both statutory and customary land,” Mwale said. “The equal ownership of land for men and women should not be a benevolent gesture by those in power. Our laws should clearly stipulate on the need for equal ownership of land for both men and women. Because of the entrenched patriarchy, women have over the years been discriminated from owning land. The study undertaken by NGOCC showed that in most customary settings, very few women own land in their own right,” she narrated. And Mwale observed that the 40 per cent land ownership for women had not helped much as it had

been ignored by most land agencies and councils. She, therefore, called for an urgent legal framework to help in actualising the policy. “The 40 per cent policy pronouncement has not helped much as it is ignored by most land agencies, the councils. NGOCC urges for a clear legal framework that will promote the ownership of land for both men and women. Land is a critical empowerment tool that can uplift the lives of women not only in rural areas. Apart from using the land for productive purposes like agriculture, it can be used as collateral by women to access productive ventures. Therefore, NGOCC calls upon the government to put in place a legal framework that will promote equal ownership by both men and women,” said Mwale.

By Mirriam Chabala

Chief Government Spokesperson Dora Siliya says it is true that Zambia’s public debt situation has spurred turbulence in the economy, but insists that the country’s debt is still manageable and will eventually be paid back. And Siliya says the 30-day suspension of Prime TV’s broadcasting license has been a revelation on the need for journalists in Zambia to be protected from bad media owners who force them to practice unethical journalism for a salary. Speaking when she featured on ZNBC’s Sunday Interview programme, Siliya acknowledged that the country had a number of financial challenges, which had exacerbated timely payment of public sector workers. She, however, insisted that the country’s rising public debt would not cause a financial crisis because the situation was under control. Zambia’s external debt has increased to an unprecedented US \$10.05 billion as at December 31, 2018,

# Zambia’s debt has caused turbulence, but is still manageable - Siliya

compared to US \$8.74 billion by the end of 2017, according to the Ministry of Finance. “The debt that we have is manageable. Zambia has never been on record to fail to meet its obligations. We have always been such a responsible country that we cannot borrow and then run a risk of saying ‘we are not going to pay back or that we can’t afford to pay back.’ It is why the Minister of Finance (Margaret Mwanakatwe) is saying ‘let us prioritise debt financing so that we can continue to expect the support needed for our economy from those who are our partners’ and this is very important. We might have debt and turbulence in the economy, but the levels at which its being projected has been as a result of a very well perpetrated smear campaign

both by Zambians and some international people to ensure that our relationship even with like China is only seen in bad eyes and that people begin to tell fake stories and equate debt issues to institutions such as ZNBC, the National Airport (Zambia Airports Corporation Limited) and Zesco. This has an impact on the way the international money market perceives our country. It is in our interest all of us to ensure that we put out a positive image of our country because we are not in a crisis as people would like to believe. We do acknowledge that we have some turbulence, but it is not as a crisis as people would like to believe,” Siliya explained. She urged Zambians to desist portraying Zambia in the negative. “Let’s do our politics, let’s

have our disagreements but when it comes to Zambia, let us all defend Zambia because in the world, there is a competition for resources so we if we paint ourselves black, money will not follow us. Government does note the turbulence in the economy and we are not oblivious. The Ministry of Finance has said that even though we are going through some rough patch, this does not mean that this is forever. What is preoccupying the Minister of Finance at this moment first of all is to ensure that we meet our international obligations as far as debt repayment is concerned. If we don’t do that, then the turbulence in the economy will be worse. So, first, we must ensure that we do not suffer such problems. So, as we are meeting our debt obligations, what are

the hanging fruits that can then generate resources for us very quickly so that we address these issues, whether it’s salaries; it is supporting youths with economic empowerment and women; the Minister of Finance did propose that this year from 1st of April, the tax regime for the mines should change and that this Sales Tax in the mines is part of domestic resource mobilisation. And we are quite hopeful that come April, we shall see a change that government would have expanded its purse and we can be able to share those resources with the citizens,” Siliya said. “But first, we continue to repay our debt, then begin to look for domestic resource mobilisation wherever we can get it...we need to get all this money so that we can meet all the government obligations, including paying salaries, building social infrastructure like schools and hospitals. Even the allowing of exports in terms of mealie-meal, all this is government continuing to say: ‘let’s look for new avenues where we can add value and get more revenue’ so that we generate sufficient domestic resources and meet our obligations.” And Siliya alleged that Prime TV’s 30-day suspension had uncovered how media owners were exploiting journalists by subjecting them to unethical practices in order to earn salaries. “I think the case of Prime TV has been quite a revelation on the need for journalists in Zambia to be protected from bad media owners because journalists work in an institution and sometimes they are being forced to be unethical because they need that salary and there is

nowhere they can go! There is no professional organisation that can protect them from bad media owners across the board and this is what other countries have done to protect journalists from bad media owners, who are only out there for the bottom line and can sometimes compromise the practice of those journalists. I think it has been quite revealing,” she said. Asked if her Ministry had received the appeal from TV management over the suspension, Siliya claimed that she still had not yet seen it in her office. “Well, clearly, I have received a report from IBA itself and I have taken sight online of some sort of appeal. But as of Friday [last week], I hadn’t seen one in my office. But I think the important issue for me is not to lose sight of the job of IBA. IBA has been given the responsibility in this country to say a media house shall [act] according to these guidelines. That is very important and none of us should want to believe that those guidelines will be bent for us because we believe that we have some special place in society. Nobody is above the law, and the onus is on the owners of media houses to demonstrate in their appeal to the Minister that they did not break the law. So, there is nothing special about Prime TV, let me repeat, absolutely nothing special! What IBA does is to deal with all media houses in this country. In fact, while Prime TV got one month suspension, others got two months and others, their licenses were revoked! So, let us allow IBA to do its job and not to bring politics in this,” said Siliya.

# It’s alarming to see women competing in beer consumption with us - Chief Mukumbi

By John Chola

Senior Chief Mukumbi of the Kaonde-speaking people of North-Western Province has bemoaned the increasing heavy beer drinking among many women in Zambia. And Senior Chief Mukumbi has further counselled wives against husband battering. The traditional ruler addressed hundreds of women from around Kalumbila, Friday, with an appeal to them to drop the beer drinking culture, which he said was sudenning. Speaking at Manyama Day Secondary School in Kalumbila, the chief said he and his two counterparts, Senior Chief Mumena and Senior Chief Musele, were concerned that instead of women being the source of inspiration for cultural preservation, many were championing

bad practices, such as beer drinking. “To all you, the women, the bad culture you have adopted today, such as beer drinking must come to an end! I am aware and it’s embarrassing to see in all our bars young girls and women competing for beer with all of us! If only we can change this trend, positively, then we will build a better Zambia,” Senior Chief Mukumbi lamented. He also expressed concern that women had not taken advantage of the availability of easily accessible arable land in his chieftom to engage in large-scale farming for their personal as well as national development. The traditional leader challenged women in his chieftom to own land and venture into serious farming. “I am appealing to women present here today; this is your day, and we will support

you in every good endeavour. It’s, however, unfortunate that I have never come across a woman in Chief Mukumbi accessing land to put up a big farm. We have vast land waiting for you to access; come and get it!” the traditional leader appealed. Chief Mukumbi hailed men who turned up in numbers to show solidarity to the womenfolk as they marked the International Women’s Day. “On a lighter note let me appeal also to the women folk not to beat up your men,” he added. Senior Chief Mukumbi, a father of eight children, with five of them being women, boasted of having placed a high premium on women. The event was heavily supported by Canadian mining giant Barrick’s Lumwana Mine. – Story courtesy of SUMA SYSTEMS.

By Mirriam Chabala

National Democratic Congress (NDC) Copperbelt Province Chairman Chipoka Mulenga has accused the ruling Patriotic Front of engaging in a smear campaign against its adopted Roan Constituency candidate Joseph Chishala ahead of next month's parliamentary by-elections. Last week, a group of youths led by suspended Kitwe NDC district Chairman Stephen Chewe stormed ZNBC Kitwe studios, complaining that the adopted NDC aspiring candidate for Roan was not the party's preferred candidate, and that he was not a resident of Luanshya. The group of youths, who alleged

# PF is on a smear campaign against NDC's Chishala in Roan - Chairman

that Chishala's adoption had left the party divided, also said that they would not campaign for Chishala or even vote for him because he was single-handedly appointed by NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili without consulting the party. But in an interview with News Diggers! Mulenga said Chewe and the people that accompanied him to ZNBC

were being used by PF to destabilise the NDC and make people believe that Chishala was despised by Roan constituents. "The position of the party is that, none of those people that went to ZNBC are residents in Luanshya. That woman who was calling herself Mutale Mutale, she said she was constituency secretary, but it's not true! The constituency secretary is on the ground as I am

talking to you with the leadership of Luanshya, fully campaigning for our candidate. The man that led that team [to ZNBC] is Stephen Chewe, he's the suspended district chairperson for Kitwe. That was his second time to use ZNBC to disparage Dr Kambwili and bring the name of the party in disrepute. But ZNBC has never at any one time covered NDC, all they do

is carry negative statements regarding the NDC. So, this Chewe, since Dr Kambwili started working with NDC, they have been using him to fight Dr Kambwili in the courts, but they have failed because NDC keeps getting stronger," Mulenga said. "So, what they have done now is to go inside our inner-circles. Chewe is a resident of Kitwe, not Luanshya. In politics, a

district chairperson is concerned of the affairs of his district. Chewe is based in Kitwe and his jurisdiction ends in Kitwe, not Luanshya. Unfortunately, he has fallen prey to the works of the enemy that have started to use him to destabilise the party. But the more he does that... people are alive to the fact that there is an invisible hand using him and we are getting stronger by the day. That's why they (PF) even got people staged and got them to Kitwe studios to purport that they are constituent leaders." Mulenga explained how the decision to adopt Chishala was arrived at unanimously. "To address the candidate they are saying was imposed on the people of Roan by Dr Kambwili, I am the one that was even chairing the panel of the interviews. We had the constituency to interview them, the district to interview them...my interest as provincial chair was to make sure that we selected a viable candidate and Joseph Chishala emerged to be the best candidate among them all that we interviewed. Joseph Chishala is a miner who has lived all his life in Luanshya until he lost his job as a unionist that never agreed with the Chinese on the way they were treating miners. Among those that were fired, Joseph Chishala was a unionist. Joseph Chishala only went to Solwezi for work, his family is still in Luanshya. Even when we went to investigate, which person we thought was best, the people of Luanshya said 'we need a person who is a replica of Chishimba Kambwili' and Chishala was kicked out of employment because of the people, among other good attributes that he brought to us," explained Mulenga.

## Deputy Chief Justice Mwanamwambwa retires with birthday sendoff

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Deputy Chief Justice Marvin Mwanamwambwa has retired at the age of 65 years after serving in the legal fraternity for 38 years. And Justice Mwanamwambwa has dispelled allegations on the Zambia Watchdog website that he had been retired in national interest, describing the remarks on the online publication as 'foolish'. Yesterday, the Judiciary held a colourful valedictory Court Session to mark the retirement of Justice Mwanamwambwa who has been practising for 38 years and was also celebrating his 65th birthday on the same day. Those in attendance included among others; Speaker of the National Assembly Dr Patrick Matibini; Minister of Justice Given Lubinda, former Speaker of the National Assembly Amusa Mwanamwambwa, former Chief Justice Ernest Sakala, some members of parliament, judges and lawyers. And during the session, Chief Justice Irene Mambilima, Attorney General Likando Kalaluka, Director of Public Prosecutions Lilian Siyunyi, Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) president Eddie Mwitwa and Justice Mwila Chitabo gave their tributes. Journalists were also allowed to take photographs and to record in court.

Justice Mwanamwambwa was born on March 18, 1954, in Kalabo District. He married his wife Catherine in 1985, and the duo have four children together. Justice Mwanamwambwa obtained his bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Zambia in 1979 and was admitted to the Bar on December 23, 1981. He joined the bench as High Court Judge on November 14, 1999. Justice Mwanamwambwa rose through the ranks and became acting Chief Justice on March 4, 2014, and on July 24, 2015, he was confirmed as deputy Chief Justice, the office he held till Monday, March 18. The valedictory started with Justice Mwanamwambwa sharing one of his memorable judgements during his years of practice, which was delivered on June 23, 2016, involving the Post Newspaper Limited. In this matter, Justice Mwanamwambwa had ruled in favour of the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) in the case where the High Court granted the Post Newspapers a stay, which prevented ZRA from levying distress on the Post. Justice Mwanamwambwa urged judges to uphold integrity and always base their judgements on the law. He had further urged the courts not to be swayed by sympathy

into making moral judgements. "Even the government loses cases, we should not look at who is who. It is the duty of the Judiciary to protect its integrity through delivery of judgement in an independent and fair manner," Justice Mwanamwambwa said. And giving his retirement remarks, Justice Mwanamwambwa reiterated that corruption allegations against the Judiciary had the potential to erode investors' confidence and weaken the economy of the country. He made the gathering laugh after he disclosed to them that he joined law as a joke because he initially wanted to either do teaching or join the Zambia Army. He added that to his surprise, his name appeared under the School of Law. He insisted that he wilfully chose to retire at 65 years although the Constitution allowed him to retire at 70. Justice Mwanamwambwa said allegations that President Edgar Lungu refused to renew his contract were fake and 'foolish' remarks, adding that he had written to the President in December, 2017, informing of his intentions to retire this year. "I have not been retired in national interest. I have reached 65 years and I am retiring out of my own will. I do not have intentions

to go up to 70 years," he explained. Chief Justice Irene Mambilima described Justice Mwanamwambwa as a gallant pillar of the Judiciary and a remarkable asset who would be remembered for his impartial work. She said Justice Mwanamwambwa exhibited high order of personal integrity and was willing to serve the nation. Attorney General Likando Kalaluka wished Justice Mwanamwambwa well as he retired, on behalf of the President and government. Solicitor General Abraham Mwansa read the speech on behalf of the Attorney General. Justice Mwanamwambwa's classmate of 1979, High Court Judge Mwila Chitabo, recounted their memorable days at UNZA. The courtroom erupted in laughter after he told a story of how Justice Mwanamwambwa met his 'human being' (wife). Judge Chitabo added that Justice Mwanamwambwa was a fearless judge and focused person. LAZ president Mweetwa said Justice Mwanamwambwa brought out the best of legal practice. DPP Siyunyi described the retired Justice as a pillar of the Judiciary. She added that Justice Mwanamwambwa was supportive and contributed immensely to the history of the Zambian Judiciary.

## We've peaceful campaigns in Kafue, but PF is buying voters' cards - Mwaliteta

By Thomas Mulenga

UPND campaign manager in the Kafue Council Chairperson by-election Obvious Mwaliteta has accused PF agents of collecting voters' cards from people in exchange for mealie meal. According to Mwaliteta, the PF are panicking ahead of this month's by-election because they had an unpopular candidate who was rejected by people in the area, hence resorting to buying voters' cards in order to create voter apathy and disadvantage the opposition party. In an interview, Monday, Mwaliteta however, claimed that some PF members were working with the UPND after they rejected their own candidate. "So far, the campaigns in Kafue are very peaceful, no violence has been reported yet and we hope this will continue until election day. However, the only disturbing report is that due to the high poverty levels that has been perpetuated by the PF, now they are going around with mealie

meal in exchange with voters' cards. We don't know what they are going to do with those voters' cards they are collecting from the voters, what they want is to create voter apathy so that it can give them a chance to win, but what I know about people of Kafue is that when they are fed up, they cannot vote for PF anymore! There is a lot of vote buying, a lot of electoral malpractices and right now, we have sent some people to go and report to the police about the individuals who have been buying voters' cards in compounds like Zambia Compound, Shikoswe, they are giving a bag of mealie meal and that's corruption," Mwaliteta said. "And it is worrying that such is being done by the ruling party, I thought the ruling party has got an upper-hand since they are already in government and they claim that they have developed this country. Why can't they just go with the message than buying people? It's very surprising! It's supposed to be the opposition who are buying



people, but it's the opposite, it's the ruling party that is buying people, meaning that they have difficulties. I don't know what will happen in 2021 if they will manage to buy the whole Zambia!" Mwaliteta alleged that some PF members were working with the UPND and that they had rejected their own candidate, vowing to vote for the opposition contender.

"Our candidate is very popular; she has been a Kafue resident; she was born in Kafue; she has been a business lady in Kafue; she has been a business lady in Kafue; she is known by everyone compared to the PF candidate who lost an election as a councillor, now after losing an election as councillor, they have elevated him to stand as a council chairperson.

I don't know how he is going to make it if he failed to make it as a councillor. So, they are really under pressure and they don't know what to do," Mwaliteta said. "But the beauty about it is that in their own camp, as PF, they are also working with us, they are working hand in hand with us, they are saying they have rejected their candidate. So, they will be

shocked what will happen on the 27th (of March). We are very confident of scooping the seat despite all these manoeuvres of the PF. If there will be 10 people voting in Kafue, we are going to carry the day because the people have rejected their candidate and this is why they are panicking! They have really pumped in a lot of money in this campaign, there are more than 100 (Toyota) Land Cruisers moving around every corner of Kafue! But the beauty is that we are getting feedback from their own people that they are going to vote with us because they don't want that candidate. They are scared of a brigadier general, that position of council chairperson is very simple and requires someone who can easily be approached by people and not a military general." Attempts to reach the PF's campaign manager in Kafue Given Lubinda and his deputy Japhen Mwakalombe were futile by press time as their phones went unanswered.

# Mwila fires Yaluma from Central Committee, dissolves N/P committees

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

PF Secretary General Davies Mwila has fired Malole member of parliament Christopher Yaluma from the Central Committee as well as from his position as party chairperson for Mines. And Mwila has dissolved the Mungwi District and Malole Constituency Committees for failing to file in nominations for the Msinshe Ward by-election.

He has further given Northern Province PF chairman Lazarus Chungu a seven day ultimatum in which to exculpate himself on why his committee should not be dissolved after failure to supervise activities.

In his letter dated March 18, 2019, addressed to Yaluma, Mwila stated that the Central Committee had ordered the removal of Yaluma for failure to attend Central Committee Meetings for three consecutive times.

"I wish to inform you that the Central Committee meeting held on 9th March, 2019, directed to remove you as a member of the Central Committee and chairperson Mines for failure to attend meetings for three consecutive times. As you are aware, a member of the Central Committee who misses three consecutive meetings without notice automatically ceases to be a member of the committee. In light of the above, you are advised to hand in any party property in your custody. I wish to thank you for the services you rendered to the party as chairperson Mines," Mwila stated.

And in another letter addressed to Chungu, Mwila gave the Northern provincial committee seven days in which to exculpate themselves in writing on why the committee should not be dissolved.

"The party has noticed with dismay the action by your committee's failure to supervise and file-in the nominations for the ward by-election in Mungwi District. This action has been found not in line with the responsibilities of the Provincial Executive and violates regulation 29 of the party constitution on (a) breach of the rules of the party; (c) acting in a manner likely to bring the name of the party into public ridicule, contempt or disrepute; (d) refusing to obey any rule, direction, order or instruction of any organ or official of the party; (p) Committing any act which in the opinion of the Central Committee is not in the interest of the party. Accordingly, you are given seven (07) days in which to exculpate yourself in writing to my office. Also note that failure to give convincing reasons; I will have no choice but to dissolve your committee," Mwila warned.

He further announced the dissolution of the Mungwi District and Malole Constituency PF Committees for failure to file in nominations for the upcoming local government by-elections in the respective areas.

"I write to inform you that Mungwi District and Malole Constituency Committees have been dissolved with immediate effect for failure to file in nominations on 14th March, 2019, for the Msinshe Ward by-election of Malole Constituency. Kindly be advised that interim committees shall be constituted in due course and your committee shall make arrangements. In view of the above development, the vice council chairperson [for] Mungwi District, Mr. Kelvin Chafilwa will act as district chairman until when the interim committee is put in place. By copy of this letter, the elections committee is hereby informed accordingly," stated Mwila in his letter addressed to Chungu.

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Edgar Lungu has made so much money for himself and his family through dubious means, and is now among the richest Presidents on the continent, says NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili.

And Kambwili says President Lungu should stop taking poor Zambians for fools because he cannot explain his ill-gotten wealth.

The former Roan member of parliament was reacting to President Lungu's statement in Kabwe, Saturday, where he told a Provincial ruling party conference that it was not a crime to be rich, as that was what everyone longed for.

"It is not being a satanist to be wealthy, it is not being corrupt to be wealthy. Te sambu ukwila bwino, te bu satanist ukwila bwino. Bonse efyo tu kabila (it is not satanism or a sin to eat well and live in luxury, that is what we all long for). So what I am saying is that we must

# Lungu among richest African Presidents, but he has stolen wealth, says Kambwili

give jobs and opportunities for people to make money decently and in a lawful manner," said President Lungu. But Kambwili advised President Lungu to stop mocking Zambians over his wealth, saying as long as it cannot be explained, then it is stolen.

"I am appealing to my brother President Edgar Lungu [that] let him watch what he says. People are suffering in this country but he has made much money so easily with his friends and people who are close to him, his family [and] then he wants to tell people that being rich is not a crime. It is a crime if you have ill-gotten wealth, wealth that you cannot explain; you are a criminal.

# Lungu appoints Tutwa as Deputy Whip

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

President Edgar Lungu has appointed Kabwe Central PF member of parliament Tutwa Ngulube as deputy parliamentary chief whip of the ruling party, taking over from his Chitambo counterpart, Remember Mutale.

President Lungu has asked Ngulube to use his diligence to effectively support the ruling party's business in the House. According to a statement issued by State House Press Aide Amos Chanda, President Lungu also encouraged Ngulube to use the portfolio in providing necessary coordination with the opposition in the House in order to enhance smooth conduct of parliamentary business.

"This is a very important portfolio and you are therefore required to apply yourself diligently as you deputise the chief whip in marshalling the necessary support for the PF Business in the House including the onerous task of reaching out across the floor to ensure smooth and efficient transaction of parliamentary business," said President Lungu.

# Daewoo halts Kazungula Bridge construction after Zambia fails to pay

By Stuart Lisulo

Korean Multinational Corporation Daewoo Engineering and Construction has announced that has ceased its construction of the Kazungula Bridge on Monday due to lack of funds paid by the Zambian government.

In an internal memo issued by the company's administration manager Hong Seouk Park, Saturday, Daewoo announced that they have closed the site on the Zambian side of the border owing to financial constraints that have prevented the firm from completing the construction of the bridge and approach ramps.

The construction of Kazungula Bridge and approach ramps constituted package 1 and was contract number: KBP/SP/002/2013.

"The assured amount by the Employer's representative to offset the overdue amount by the assured date has not been fulfilled,

and as such, Daewoo is still experiencing financial constraints and will not be able to continue this project until the foregoing constraint is resolved," stated HongSeouk.

"In this regard, please be informed that the site will be closed from Monday the 18th of March, 2019, till further notice. Your consideration and understanding on the above matter is highly appreciated. Please take this as official notification."

Kazungula Bridge had been designed to connect both Zambia and Botswana in the south-western part of the country, but Zambia has not paid it's agreed contribution to the undertaking, Botswana authorities revealed last week.

Works on the actual bridge followed a ground-breaking ceremony in September, 2014.

In March 2018, President Edgar Lungu and his Botswana counterpart Ian

Khama as well as Zimbabwe's Emmerson Mnangagwa visited the site where they all renewed their commitments towards the undertaking.

South Korea's Daewoo Engineering was awarded the construction contract which was heavily contested and competed for among several other construction conglomerates, including South Africa's Stefanutti Stock.

According to official Road Development Agency (RDA) tender bid documents for the project, three bidders including, Daewoo of South Korea, China Major of China and Shimizu Corporations/Stefanutti Stock of Japan and South Africa, respectively, bid for the construction of the bridge.

At the time, Daewoo had bid a total of US \$160,622,718.00 to construct the project – the highest amount out of all three.

# ACC arrests Choma 'Magistrate' for corruption

By Mirriam Chabala

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) in Choma has arrested two judicial officers and a veterinary surgeon for corrupt practices involving K30,000 and over K29,000 in two separate incidences.

In a statement, ACC corporate affairs officer Christopher Chibanku explained that a Subordinate Court Magistrate, Jacob Matate Mbolela, 60, had been charged with one count

of corrupt acquisition of public property and revenue, contrary to the laws of Zambia.

Particulars of the offence are that on dates unknown, but between 1st April, 2014, and 1st April, 2015, in Choma, Mbolela being a public officer namely a Subordinate Court Magistrate employed by the Judiciary in Choma, did unlawfully divert K10,000 property of the Government of the Republic of Zambia.

Chibanku further stated that Winter Lupani, a 34-year-old Court Marshal at Choma Subordinate Court was charged with two counts of corrupt acquisition of public property and revenue, contrary to Section 34 (1) (b) of the Anti-Corruption Act No. 3 of 2012.

"Particulars of the offence are that on dates unknown, but between 1st April, 2014, and 1st April, 2015 in Choma, Jacob Matate Mbolela being a public

officer namely a Subordinate Court Magistrate employed by the Judiciary in Choma, did unlawfully divert K10,000 property of the Government of the Republic of Zambia. [And] on dates unknown but between 1st April, 2014, and 1st April, 2015, in Choma, Winter Lupani being a public officer namely Court Marshal employed by the Judiciary did unlawfully divert a total sum of K20,000 property of the Government of the Republic of Zambia," Chibanku stated.

In another development, the Commission arrested Victor Chainda, a 42-year-old veterinary surgeon for corrupt practices involving over K29,000 and charged him with 33 counts of theft by public servant, contrary to section 277 as read together with section 265 of the Penal Code, Chapter 87 of the laws of Zambia.

"Particulars of the offences are that, on dates unknown but between 1st January, 2015, and 1st December, 2015, in Choma, Victor Chainda being a public officer, namely a Sesheke District Veterinary Officer, did steal a total sum of K29,220 property of the Livestock Department Trust, which came into his possession by virtue of employment," stated Chibanku.

Meanwhile, Chainda and the two judicial officers from Choma were released on bond and would appear in court soon.



## UPND WILL REFORM ELECTORAL LAWS TO ENTRECH DEMOCRACY

The Zambian electoral process is lopsided in favour of the ruling party. This negates democracy and stifles the ability of the people to elect a government that genuinely reflects their will and is accountable to them. The UNPD government will overhaul the electoral laws to ensure that they provide for an even playing field and that the will of the people in elections shall always prevail. More specifically, UPND will amend the following Laws;

### REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

- **Article 45(1)(c)** requires that the electoral system that is provided under Article 47 for the election of the President, Member of Parliament or Councilor shall ensure fair representation of the various interest groups in society while Article 45(1)(d) requires the electoral system to ensure gender equity in the National Assembly or Council. This is also in line with the SADC Optional Protocol, which provides for the 50/50 gender representation in politics and Zambia is a party to that Protocol. Furthermore, the Zambia Gender Policy also emphasizes the issue of 50/50 gender representation in politics and in governance institutions at all levels. The UPND will, therefore, recommend to amend the Constitution to provide for an electoral system which would facilitate more equitable representation of gender and other special interest groups.
- **The Article 47(2)** states that elections to the National Assembly shall be conducted under the first-past-the-post (FPP) electoral system. As noted by the *Final Report of the Electoral Reforms Technical Committee (August 2005)*, the FPP system is the most unlikely system to ensure gender parity and representation of special interest groups in the electoral process. As a result, the aspirations of Article 45(1)(c) and (d) are unlikely to be realized because of the system prescribed under Article 47(2). As earlier stated in order for the nation to implement its regional obligations in SADC and its own National Gender Policy, the Constitution requires to be amended to provide for an electoral system which would facilitate gender parity and also representation of other special interest groups.
- **Article 72(2)(h)** provides for a vacancy in the office of a Member of Parliament occasioned by one being disqualified by the Constitutional Court. This creates ambiguity as the Constitutional Court only hears electoral disputes relating to Members of Parliament on appeal. There is no mechanism for the Constitutional Court to disqualify a Member of Parliament outside of the framework of an appeal to an election petition.
- **Articles 101 to 105** relate to the election of the President and resolution of disputed presidential election and are drafted in a manner that lacks chronological coherence and logic and lead to needless confusion. The Articles should be amended and drafted in a chronological manner that will clearly define what should happen at each stage of the electoral process. Further, all the provisions under these Articles which empower

the Constitutional Court to “hear” matters should be amended to read “hear and determine.”

- **Article 104(3)** states that where a petition is filed against an incumbent presidential candidate pursuant to Article 103(1), the Speaker shall perform the executive functions. However, if the petition is pursuant to Article 101(4), there is no requirement for the Speaker to assume executive office. To ensure an even playing field, the Speaker should take over the running of government during the pendance of a petition.
- **Under Article 129(2)** this provision, the Constitutional Court shall be constituted by a single judge when hearing interlocutory matters. However, considering the gravity of the nature of interlocutory matters that may be involved in a presidential election petition, it is recommended that when hearing interlocutory matters in a presidential election petition, the Constitutional Court shall be constituted by not less than three judges.

### THE ELECTORAL PROCESS ACT

- **Section 9(1)(f)**: The section disqualifies from registering as a voter a person who is under a sentence of death, or serving a custodial sentence. The provision is in conflict with Article 46 of the Constitution and should, therefore, be deleted.
- **Section 67(1)**: Under this section votes are to be counted at the polling station at which those votes were cast. However, where there are multiple voting streams at a polling station, the provision does not indicate whether the counting should be within each individual stream or not. UPND shall amend the provision to indicate that where there are multiple streams at a polling station, each stream should be counted as a polling stream. This will reduce the need to move around ballot boxes and reduce suspicion.
- **Section 110(2)**: The section allows the ECZ to disqualify a political party or candidate for breach of the Electoral Code of Conduct. The provision lacks specific details to enable parties and candidates to advise themselves as to the nature of infractions of the Code that may cause their disqualification. It is recommended that the section should be amended to provide for further guidance. It is further recommended that disqualification should be a sanction of last resort. The Provision should instead provide for a system of graduated sanctions where violations of the Code are ranked whereby the least significant violations only attract censure to severe warning, followed by a category that attracts banning of campaigns to imposing a fine and ultimately for the most serious violations to attract disqualification. The provision should also specify an appeal process within seven days and that the decision of the first instance court shall be final.

### THE ELECTORAL COMMISSION ACT

- **Section 5(1)(2)**: This provides for the composition of the Commission. Apart from the chairperson and the deputy, there are no

qualifications indicated for Commissioners. It is recommended that the provision should provide for minimum professional, ethical and academic qualifications of Commissioners. The members of the commission should also be chosen by a more representative body and not just the president, who has a partisan interest in the outcome of an election.

- **Section 5(5)(f)**: The section assigns reasons for which the President can remove a Commissioner from office. It is recommended that in order to insulate Commissioners, the President should only remove Commissioners for gross misconduct. Therefore, the section 2 of the Electoral Commission Act should be amended to include the definition of “gross misconduct” found in Article 266 of the Constitution. Further, the removal of a commissioner should be after an independent tribunal has investigated and found merit in the need to remove a commissioner.
- **Section 6(4)**: The quorum for the Commission is set out as five (5) members. Section 5(1) of the Act, however, indicates that the total Commission membership is five. The Commission, therefore, can never be quorate where even just one member is missing. This should be amended to set the quorum at three members.
- **Section 6(7)**: The section allows Commissioners who are unable to attend the Commission meetings to send proxies from the same organization. The provision is anomalous considering that Commissioners are currently appointed in their individual right and, therefore, do not represent any organization. The provision should be amended to remove reference to proxies.
- **Section 11**: The section prohibits publication or disclosure of information to unauthorized persons. The provision should be repealed. Elections should be transparent and the whole electoral process should be open to scrutiny.
- **Section 12(1)**: The section requires Commissioners to take an oath of office stipulated in the Official Oaths Act. The oath in that Act requires Commissioners to bear allegiance to the President. Considering that the Constitution creates the Commission as an autonomous entity, it is suggested that the Electoral Commission Act should have its own specific oath that only require commissioners to bear allegiance to the Constitution and the law.
- **Section 13**: The section provides immunity to members of the Commission and officers against proceedings for actions done or omitted to be done in good faith in the performance of duty. This provision should be repealed as the ECZ should be accountable as required by Article 45(2) of the Constitution.
- **Section 14(4)**: The section requires the Commission to invest funds with approval of the President. As an independent entity, ECZ should not have to seek the permission of the President.
- **Section 17(1)**: Under this section the Commission’s Annual Reports are submitted to the President. To enhance its autonomy

**Talking Business with Chibamba Kanyama**  
 Chibamba Kanyama is founding partner of Bridges Limited; Corporate Leader; public speaker; communication specialist and strategist  
 ...Only in **Diggers!** Ear to the ground

# Well mentored staff can produce miracles!

When we launched as Bridges Limited mid-2017, and taking on board a number of young mostly untrained professionals, it was energy sucking. First, when you start a new business, it is unlikely you will attract the most experienced. Not many highly experienced professionals want to join a business whose future is unknown, viability uncertain, financial flows still dependent on shareholder contributions and the brand itself not big enough to associate with.

People who join you at inception are those that are also just starting their own careers and have nothing to lose in terms of incomes and comfort of well-paying and stable jobs. You can easily afford these individuals because they are demanding reasonably manageable packages but you will not get the most out of them because they have no experience. First, they have to understand what the business offers and this orientation alone takes thrice longer than planned. Second, they will not hit the road running; they are generally graduates with little understanding of business processes. For the boss of the organization, you have two battles facing you: On one hand, focusing on how to run the business. You are new in the market and have to spend endless hours executing the business plan. It means every minute counts in terms of executing your tasks. On the other hand, those working with you want a lot of your mentorship time: they want to understand the business and also their own roles. This is the least you expect because while you are expecting your staff to be walking alongside you executing the strategy, they want you to make them part of the strategy. Hardly any entrepreneur has time to school employees

about what to do. You will not want the mentorship programme to slow you down; mentoring may never have been part of your business plan.

The reality is that once you bring people on board as employees, you have no choice but to groom them into effective workers. It is a painful process. However, if you have a great strategy, the rewards will be significant and you will pat yourself on the back once the results begin to show. How do you do it?

First, consider mentorship of staff as one of the initial investments of

the business. This means you should water down your profit expectations during the period of mentorship. This does not only apply to start-up businesses, but to established businesses as well, particularly those with robust 'graduate trainee programmes'. I realise some of the large banks and institutions have in-house training programmes that help onboard new staff very quickly.

It costs money and time but there is no better option to business success than aligning all employees to their roles.

Second, dedicate apprentice time as the vision career to ensure employees understand what they are supposed to do. It takes at least two years to groom a new employee into a highly effective and productive worker. Design a clear mentorship programme from which staff will learn specific

issues from time to time. From my experience, it works better when you have a strategy: Who needs what support and in what specific areas and what issue do I start with; how will I provide the mentorship – allowing specified staff to accompany me to meetings? At what point will I allow them to start flying with little or minimal hand-holding? Who are the fast burning charcoal among them (those employees who quickly catch the fire) so that they start mentoring others?

*"In*

*recent*

*months, I have*

*observed that my PA is*

*not only managing my*

*schedules, she writes*

*simple business*

*proposals"*

Third, let them fly and applaud them! This is where it gets

sweeter. In recent months,

I have observed that my PA is not only managing my schedules, she

writes simple business proposals. She has been able to learn how it's done. She also managed a team building session for one of our clients.

Another graduate is now able to work on high profile tender documents, something

I never imagined we would

have capacity in a short time. He has mastered the art of the business in

this area and he loves it. There was a time a sat on my laptop simply reviewing various documents coming from every corner of the office. It was an excellent feeling for me: I told myself, 'Finally, we have arrived! Now we can start the real game'. Well mentored staff can surely produce miracles!

*By Thomas Mulenga*

Higher Education Permanent Secretary Mabvuto Sakala says his ministry is only a conduit of resources from the Ministry of Finance to public universities, adding that the running of higher learning institutions is the responsibility of management who should explain the delayed salaries to lecturers.

And University of Zambia Students Union (UNZASU) president Warran Hamusunga says government is waiting for students to erupt into protests so that authorities can find an excuse to close the institution after failing to pay lecturers salaries.

Meanwhile UNZALARU president Dr Evance Lampi says Lecturers, who are yet to get their February salaries, would continue with their go-slow until their money is paid. When contacted for an update on the UNZA and Copperbelt University situation, the Higher Education Permanent Secretary said the ministry was not directly involved in the running of the public universities, and referred questions to the Ministry of Finance and

# Higher Education not responsible for UNZA, CBU impasse, ask Finance - PS

university management.

"Why are you talking on behalf of the students? If the students want a word from me they should contact me. And the Universities are run by the university management, why do you want to get a word from the ministry? Do we run the universities honestly? There is a vice chancellor, there is the registrar, there are deans there, now how do you want a comment from the ministry? We have how many public universities? We have got maybe 9 public universities, we don't run them, we have put managers to run them, so those are the people who will give you a comment, contact them," said Sakala.

"So if they have told you that they are waiting for funds from the Ministry of Finance, what other answer can I give apart from what they have said?"

You can talk to the Ministry of Finance because us we are just a conduit, we only get money from the Ministry of Finance, we give it to the institutions. Because I can say yes then the Ministry of Finance maybe has got a different position, maybe they have already released the money. So if you want a comment, get it from the Ministry of Finance or the university management, that is why we pay them money to manage those universities on behalf of the ministry. Now if they are going to be referring every query to our ministry that would be very unfair."

And the UNZASU leader said he had guided his students to remain calm as any disturbance of peace would be used as an excuse by government to close the institution.

"Students are crying for meal allowances which they have

not yet been paid and now the issue of lecturers on goes slow, it's a double impact. It's like government is forcing the students to make noise so that whatever will happen on campus, the ministry of higher education can say we are closing the institution indefinitely because students have rioted. When in the actual sense they know that it is them who are supposed to pay the lecturers. If they want to close the institution they should just close because there are no funds to pay the lecturers, than waiting for students to make noise so that it can be a scapegoat for them to close the institution," said Hamusunga.

"We have told the students that stay calm so that we see the how the situation will be with this matter. We have been told by the Vice chancellor that maybe the funds might

be ready before the end of today (Monday). And we told them that we don't want this institution at this particular time to be closed with an excuse that students have rioted, no! We are not going to support riotous behaviour, we have told the students to remain calm so that if they close the institution it should be based on the fact that the ministry of Higher Education or whosoever is responsible to pay lecturers and students' meal allowances, have failed to do that."

UNZALARU Dr Lampi said lecturers would continue with the go-slow until they are paid their money.

"The situation is becoming worse because they did not pay the salaries they promised on Friday. Government promised that they would pay on Friday last week but they have not been paid. As I am

talking now, people are just dispersing, there was another protest. People have gone to look for money to survive. And as workers, they have told us that they will report as and when they have money, it's not business as usual. We also want to advise government, can you please prioritise education in the country! You are wasting money on all these things including by-elections but failing to honour your obligation of paying workers who are training the country's workforce," Dr. Lampi said.

"This is a clear indication of the values of this government. If it's the external debt that you are transferring to us as workers then it's very unfortunate. You cannot be subjecting workers to pay the external debt by not paying them that is very dangerous for the country's development."

“It is not being a satanist to be wealthy, it is not being corrupt to be wealthy. Te sambu ukulya bwino, te bu satanist ukwikala bwino. Bonse efyo tu kabila (it is not satanism or a sin to eat well and live in luxury, that is what we all long for). So, what I am saying is that we must give jobs and opportunities for people to make money decently and in a lawful manner,” this is what President Edgar Lungu said to Kabwe residents last weekend.

But is it really right and fair to become so rich while your country gets poorer? Unless you are President Lungu or one of his like-thinking cohorts, the answer is no. When he was poor like the rest of us, the hunger-stricken aspiring Chawama member of parliament did not think this way, but tables have turned now so he has come up with cunning words to justify his new social status. In fact, we interpreted President Lungu’s message as saying: “Now that I am wealthy, it is not a crime to be rich.”

We, the poor Zambians, are saying to President Lungu and those who seek to govern us that we would rather remain poor, but in a rich country. That would be better than a few of us who have links to State House becoming rich in a country that remains poor. We believe that our standards of living will be higher if we live in a rich country, no matter where we fall on the income distribution scale.

Sadly, our suffering population is in such

# It is a crime to be rich by making your country poor

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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a precarious dilemma because President Lungu’s justification of being so rich in a poor country is quietly shared by some heavyweights in the opposition. They, too, see nothing awkward about being filthy rich in a poor country, and we can make this conclusion judging by how they keep those who live around them. That is why they flash their luxury lifestyles of expensive family celebrations on social media before going to address the poor in the compounds. In our opinion, that is not how affluent leaders who are concerned about the poor are supposed to live.

Without accusing Michael Sata of having committed a crime by under-declaring his asset worth, we do not think that the PF founder was as poor as he portrayed himself. Those who worked with him during his life in opposition will tell you that he could

afford a very luxurious life if he wanted. But he considered it a form of injustice to flaunt your riches in a poor country. It is for this reason that at the time of elections, Sata declared nothing huge of striking significance in his net worth, save for seven guns and a non-runner Toyota Cressida kept at his house.

Even during his Presidency. We recall that when Sata went to church and his wife lured him onto her iPad for Bible referencing, the pictures we took of this couple’s use of technology were a contradictory depiction because some of his followers thought it was a luxury he could not afford. Linking Sata to wealth appeared to be a stark contrast because he was considered to be poor.

We also remember that at the second memorial of Sata’s death, his widow Dr Christine Kaseba told

a very touching story about the late president’s old ‘rubber-strapped’ cell phone, which he refused to let go.

DR KASEBA: “Many of you would agree with me that Michael Sata remained true to himself. He even refused to change his cell phone number because he believed that it was the same number that propelled him to the Presidency and he needed his people to get hold of him easily. He even refused to change a ka Nokia 3310. He believed that what he needed to do was adequate using a 3310 and he died while using that same phone, which was actually faded. It was a bit embarrassing when we went outside the country and he took out his ringing phone and everyone was looking at how faded it was.”

On the contrary, we still have the Airtel number that President Lungu used before becoming Head of

State, but it has never been reachable since January 25, 2015. Anyway, that is not a crime at all. Mr Lungu has the right to choose new friends now whose bank accounts speak the same language as his. But what we find wrong is widening the gap between the poor and the rich, which we feel our Head of State is doing.

We note that President Lungu qualified his statement by calling for decent and lawful wealth creation opportunities. Unfortunately, it cannot be said to be creating decent and lawful employment opportunities if e m p o w e r m e n t programmes are targeted at only PF cadres – in fact, a few lucky PF cadres.

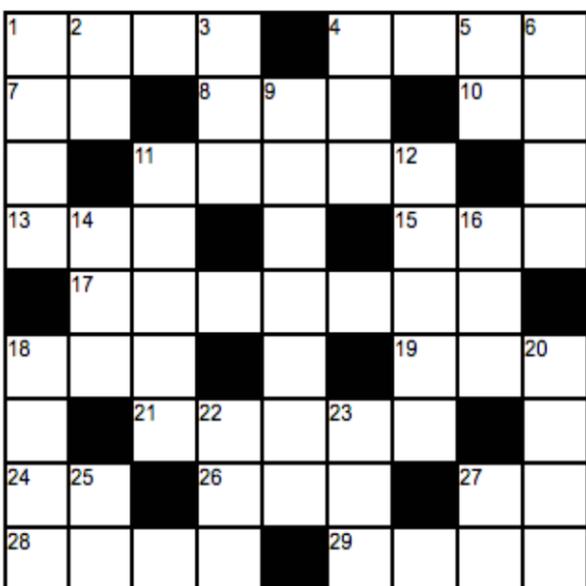
Giving the black mountain to PF structures in Kitwe, Chingola and Luanshya is not creating decent and lawful employment opportunities. Giving Higer Bus empowerment

loans to PF youths is not creating decent and lawful employment opportunities. Leaving the revenue collection at council markets and bus stations in the hands of PF cadres across the country is not creating decent and lawful employment opportunities.

The fact that there is no youth empowerment programme that our President can point at, which is not under PF control, means that he is not working for Zambians, but for himself and his cohorts. It is easy for him to think Zambian youths are being empowered because the only youths he sees are those around him who can afford steroids.

It is on this basis that we tell Mr Lungu; Sir, it is a serious crime to be a super-rich President, as you have become, when civil servants are not paid and universities are shut down owing to no money in the Treasury. It is a serious crime for ministers to be filthy rich when villagers in their constituencies are surviving on wild fruits! Above all, it is a very unforgivable crime for a President to protect a rich minister who is arrested for accruing unlawful and indecent wealth!

## Crossword puzzle 316



*“Don’t waste your time in anger, regrets, worries, and grudges. Life is too short to be unhappy.”*  
- Roy T. Bennett

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Across</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dryer traps it</li> <li>4. Lunch or Supper</li> <li>7. Advertisement</li> <li>8. Frozen water</li> <li>10. __, myself, and I</li> <li>11. Alarm bell sound</li> <li>13. Poseidon’s domain</li> <li>15. Color of blood</li> <li>17. Fitness guru</li> <li>18. Shake, as a tail</li> <li>19. Hearing organ</li> <li>21. Large body of water</li> <li>24. Sound of surprise</li> <li>26. Estimated Time of Arrival</li> <li>27. Present tense of be</li> <li>28. The Tonight Show’s Jay</li> <li>29. Slangy negative</li> </ul> | <p><b>Down</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Young lady</li> <li>2. Identification (abbr.)</li> <li>3. ___ death do us part</li> <li>4. Adult males</li> <li>5. I __, you are, he is</li> <li>6. Starring role</li> <li>9. Cupboard</li> <li>11. Freighter’s filler</li> <li>12. Eco-friendly</li> <li>14. Seventh Greek letter</li> <li>16. Baseball stat.</li> <li>18. Made from sheep fur</li> <li>20. Take a break</li> <li>22. Chief executive officer</li> <li>23. Battery size</li> <li>25. That male person</li> <li>27. Within</li> </ul> |
|---|--|

## Solutions to puzzle 315



# Reader's feedback

## Lusambo on Lungu not having a competitor in 2021

Editor,

Lusambo in 2021 or 2022." - John Kapalu

"Don't be too desperate, Mr Lusambo. You can still survive not being in power. If people whose salaries you are delaying denying are still alive, what more you who've accumulated a lot of wealth to yourselves? Govt or no govt, life continues." - Janet Mundando

"This type of obsession with elections and clinging on to power by all means is the reason why we are not developing. Leaders need to be sober-minded and do their work because they are there to serve the public and it should be the people pleading for them not to retire instead of them boasting that they are not going anywhere!" - Mukumba Mulele

"He has no competitor? Maybe it's because he won't stand. Who knows, maybe Hon. Lusambo is dropping a hint..." - Mo Ze

"Why is he always scared? Naimwe, ba Lusambo! Do you even have a Grade 9 certificate?" - Chanda Marcus

"Just wait, 2021 is just around the corner; you will receive the shock of your party!" - Howard Chishya

"I will only blame any opposition political party, which will welcome



## Police's denial of NAREP permit to protest over Prime TV 'closure'

Editor,

"Please, please can the media stop

perpetuating the myth that the police are empowered to issue permits for public assemblies. Anyone organizing a public assembly has to notify the police 7 days in advance. Not apply for a permit. Just notify. The police can reply, latest 5 days before the assembly, to advise that manpower constraints will impede their ability to police the event, but must propose an alternative date. They cannot ban an assembly. They can only propose an alternative date. Read the Public Order Act!" - Sue Clayton

"As usual, no alternative date was given to those who wanted to protest and that gives them an opportunity to disregard such nonsense and go ahead. It is by law that if police find it not suitable on the proposed date, an alternative date must be given to would-be protesters. So, if protesters were serious, just go ahead as you are protected by law." - Wachila Kazundulu

"But when police were engaged elsewhere, PF cadres went to Parliament without notice to protest! Officer, are you saying PF are more peaceful than any other organization in this country?" - Keith Moono

"Banana republic!" - Collins Bishop Mwansa

## KCM's cutting of operations

Editor,

"When HH predicted this, you were saying he's bitter!" - Samuel Kertis Sikalongo

"You thought by rejecting HH he will suffer? Now look at you; where are the PF jobs you were promised? Only retrenchments, pruning, slave wages, pick & shovel jobs on the roads, influx of foreigners doing works which Zambians can do etc." - Michelo D. Sialubala

"Vedanta CEO was recently at State House assuring the President that KCM has pumped in millions of dollars to revamp KCM operations." - Jason Mwanza

"This is not even a tip of the iceberg, there seems to be no recovery plan by this government. So, very soon, we shall be placed deeper in a hole." - Dennis Wei Mulenga

## Kabwe Council's 3 months' salary arrears

Dear Editor,

"I know the challenges of a local authority. Paying division 4 employees is a challenge, especially councils without multinationals like mines. Property rates from residents and small business are difficult to collect and grants from central government are only available when they are made available. Councils should become market-oriented and jump on growing sectors like tourism and use marketing tools to drive revenue sales for their assets like land, market, bus stations, bars and grocery shops." - Innocent Daka

"Sometimes, the 'brokenness' of the council is dependent on how they expenditure priorities are set." - Jones Mulunga

"Meanwhile, somebody was in Parliament preaching morals and principles; he ignored

the economy, national debt..." - Noah Chizinga

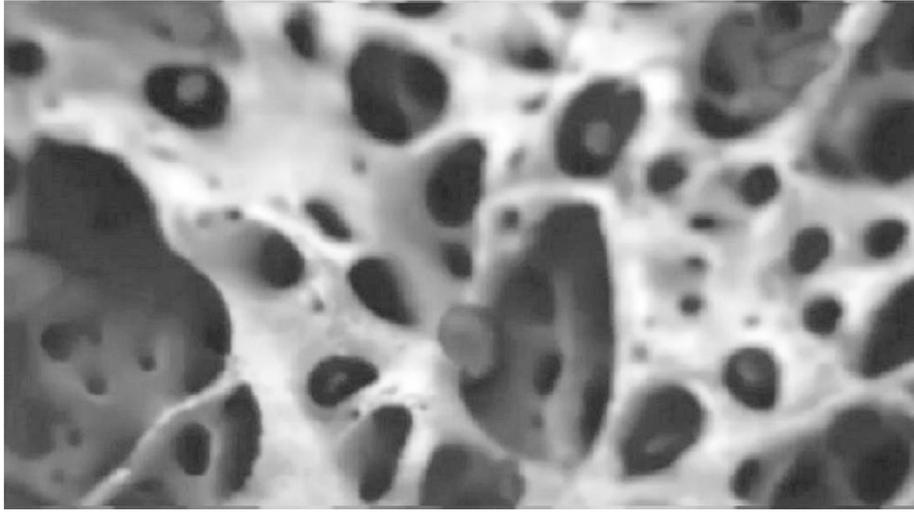
"The PF government should just resign now!" - Samuel Kertis Sikalongo

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

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

Note that we block Facebook users who use abusive language.

# Scientists edge closer to 'cure' for sickle cell



Scientists in the U.S. have unveiled results of a small clinical trial that could mean an effective "cure" for sickle cell anemia, the painful and debilitating disease that inflicts many millions of people across the globe, mostly of African heritage and including some 100,000 African Americans in the U.S.

Researchers at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) say they have used gene therapy techniques to add a "corrected" gene for healthy red blood cells into the bodies of nine test patients, replacing their diseased red blood cells caused by sickle

cell anemia and effectively ridding them of signs of the disease.

NIH Director Francis Collins described the trial results as seemingly "spectacular".

"When you look at their blood counts and their blood smears, it looks like they don't have it anymore," Collins told Reuters on Monday (March 11) from his office at the NIH in Bethesda, Maryland, just outside Washington, D.C.

"Now, it's early days. We've only followed these patients for a year at the most but it looks like it would be fair to say this could be a cure," he continued.

Sickle cell disease is an inherited blood disorder that causes protein crystals to form inside red blood cells, changing their shape from a flat disk into a crescent or sickle shape that then clogs up the small blood vessels and results in terrible episodes of pain and organ damage.

Collins says the disorder comes essentially from a "misspelling" in the gene for one of the proteins. In the clinical trial, a normal copy of the gene with the "correct spelling" for healthy red blood cells was placed inside a virus that allowed the good gene to multiply many times over.

The virus was then introduced into the patient's bodies via bone marrow transplants, but only after toxic chemotherapy to "wipe out" their normal bone marrow in order to create "space" for the corrected genes to go, Collins told Reuters.

Within two or three months, the nine patients showed signs of remission and were starting to discover normal health for the first time in their lives, the researchers said.

"We're simply adding the gene. We leave the defective gene intact. This is what is called gene addition therapy," Dr. John Tisdale, the molecular hematologist behind the clinical trial, told Reuters from the NIH's Cellular and Molecular Therapeutics lab where the testing for the trial was conducted.

The virus in this case was HIV but it that lacked the harmful elements that could cause AIDS, the researchers said. Tisdale called the HIV virus a "Trojan horse" that won't cause AIDS but was very good at delivering the corrected gene into the body.

For Tisdale, the most remarkable moment of the trial was when he noticed the normalizing hemoglobin levels in his patients. **Reuters**

## Study reveals the wolf within your pet dog

Wolves lead and dogs follow - but both are equally capable of working with humans, according to research that adds a new twist in the tale of how one was domesticated from the other.

Dogs owe their cooperative nature to "the wolf within", the study, of cubs raised alongside people, suggests. But in the course of domestication, those

that were submissive to humans were selected for breeding, which makes them the better pet today. Scientific Reports published the study.

Grey wolves, at the Wolf Science Center in Vienna, were just as good as dogs at working with their trainers to drag a tray of food towards them by each taking one end of a rope.

But, unlike the dogs in the study, they were willing to try their own tactics as well - such as stealing the rope from the trainer.

Friederike Range, from the Konrad Lorenz Institute, at Vetmeduni Vienna university, said: "It shows that, while wolves tend to initiate behaviour and take the lead, dogs are more likely to wait and see what the human partner does

and follow that behaviour."

About 30,000 years ago, wolves moved to the edges of human camps to scavenge for leftovers.

The subsequent "taming" process of domestication and selective breeding then slowly began to alter their behaviour and genes and they eventually evolved into the dogs that we know today. **BBC**



**A woman puts soil on her face as she mourns at the scene of the Ethiopian Airlines Flight ET 302 plane crash, near the town of Bishoftu. The plane was en route from Addis Ababa to the Kenyan capital, Nairobi, when it crashed six minutes after take-off, killing all 157 people on board.**

## 'Horrorifying' damage from Cyclone Idai



"The scale of damage caused by Cyclone Idai that hit the Mozambican city of Beira is massive and horrifying," this is according to the International Federation of Red Cross and Red

Crescent Societies, IFRC.

Beira was the first major casualty of the cyclone which struck the country late last week. The city was cut off from due to the effect of strong winds and rains that continued across the week according to reports.

Most communities were submerged with all communication lines cut off. Deaths have been reported along with massive human displacement and destruction of buildings in Beira.

Jamie LeSueur who led the IFRC team on an aerial assessment said: "The situation is terrible. The scale of devastation is enormous. It seems that 90 per cent of the area is completely destroyed.

"Almost everything is destroyed. Communication lines have been completely cut and roads have been destroyed. Some affected communities are not accessible. "Beira has been severely battered. But we are also hearing that the situation outside the city could be even worse. Yesterday, a large dam burst and cut off the last road to the city," he stressed.

The Red Cross team were only able to tour the affected areas on Sunday. Their statement of March 18 said in part: "While the physical impact of Idai is beginning to emerge, the human

impact is unclear."

Following its landfall in Mozambique Cyclone Idai continued west to Zimbabwe as a Tropical Storm, wreaking havoc in several districts in the eastern part of the country, with Chimanimani and Chipinge districts in Manicaland Province being the hardest-hit.

At least 31 deaths have been reported and over 100 people are missing in Zimbabwe. Zimbabwe is the latest country in Southern Africa to be hit by heavy rains and violent winds, after Malawi and Mozambique.

The death toll in the three countries is currently estimated at 150. But this number is likely to change as the full extent of the damage becomes clear. More heavy rain is also anticipated and this may lead to further devastation.

IFRC has already released about 340,000 Swiss francs from its Disaster Relief Emergency Fund which will go towards an initial response effort for about 7,500 people.

However, given the scale of the disaster, more resources may be needed to support Mozambique Red Cross efforts on the ground. Already, the team in Beira has identified shelter, health, and water, sanitation and hygiene as priorities. **African News**

## Dead whale 'ate 40kg of plastic'

A dead whale that washed up in the Philippines had 40kg (88lbs) of plastic bags inside its stomach, researchers have said.

Workers at D'Bone Collector Museum recovered the Cuvier's beaked whale east of Davao City earlier in March.

In a Facebook post, the museum said the animal was filled with "the most plastic we have ever seen in a whale".

There were 16 rice sacks in its stomach, as well as "multiple shopping bags".

The museum will post a full list of the items found in the whale over the next few days.

"I was not prepared for the amount of plastic," the museum's founder and president, Darrell Blatchley, told broadcaster CNN. "It was so big, the plastic was beginning calcification."

The use of throwaway plastic is

a particular problem in some South East Asian countries, including the Philippines.

Five Asian nations - China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam and Thailand - accounted for up to 60% of the plastic waste that ends

up in oceans, according to a 2015 report by environmental campaigner Ocean Conservancy and the McKinsey Center for Business and Environment.

In June last year, a pilot whale died in Thailand after

swallowing 80 plastic bags.

Its death came shortly after a report for the UK government revealed the level of plastic in the ocean could triple in a decade unless steps are taken to curb litter. **BBC**



# Canadian teen Andreescu topples Kerber to win Indian Wells WTA title



Canadian sensation Bianca Andreescu became the first wild card to win the WTA title at Indian Wells on Sunday with a gritty 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 victory over Wimbledon champion Angelique Kerber.

Andreescu, 18, shook off fatigue and rallied from a break down in the third set to topple the eighth-ranked German, who hasn't won a title since she beat Serena Williams in last year's Wimbledon final for her third Grand Slam crown.

Ranked 60th coming into the tournament, Andreescu will rise to 24th in the world with her first WTA title.

When she finally converted her fourth match point she kissed the sun-baked court and flopped spread-eagled on her back.

- 'It's crazy' -  
"If you believe in yourself, anything is possible," Andreescu said as she hoisted the crystal trophy as the youngest player ever to win one of the WTA's prestigious Premier Mandatory tournaments.

"It's crazy. Crazy is the word of the tournament for me. Just crazy."

It's another giant step in a breakout season for Andreescu, who finished 2018 ranked 178th in the world.

She has racked up 28 match wins in 2019 across all levels, including qualifying and challenger circuit wins -- but Sunday's triumph was a cut above.

She had held for 2-1 in the third

when she received treatment on her right arm and shoulder and looked to be flagging when she was broken in the fifth game.

Urged by her coach at the change over to push through, Andreescu dug deep.

"After I spoke to my coach I just let it all out there," she said. "I

was really tired, so I went for my shots more, and that obviously worked.

"The next couple games I did the same thing. And I just fought till the end, because physically I wasn't feeling too well. I fought till the end. I managed to pull through."

She broke Kerber in the next game, taking a 15-30 lead with a lovely drop shot-lob combination, and giving herself a break point with an overhead winner before converting with another forehand winner to launch a run of three straight games for a 5-3 lead. *AFP*

# Thiem rallies to deny Federer 6th Indian Wells Masters title

Dominic Thiem denied Roger Federer a record sixth Indian Wells title, beating the Swiss great 3-6, 6-3, 7-5 on Sunday to claim his first ATP Masters 1000 crown.

The 25-year-old Austrian, ranked eighth in the world, had fallen in two prior Masters finals, both in Madrid.

But he rallied for a third career win over Federer in five meetings, his first over the Swiss on hard courts.

Thiem earned the crucial break in the 11th game of the final set, connecting on two sharply angled passing winners to give himself a break point which he converted with a stinging forehand winner.

He sealed the match after two hours and two minutes when Federer's backhand found the net and will now return to a career-high ranking of fourth in the world.

It was the second year in a row that Federer was denied in the Indian Wells final. In 2018 he missed out on three championship points as he fell to Argentina's Juan Martin del Potro in the title match.

Federer, fresh off a remarkable 100th career title in Dubai, remains tied with Novak Djokovic for the most Indian Wells victories with five.

"I think it's not my right to congratulate you, you have 88 more titles than me," Thiem told Federer as he accepted the trophy.

He's the first Austrian to win a Masters 1000 title since Thomas Muster in Miami in 1997.

But he was under attack early, saving three break points before succumbing on a fourth in the second game as Federer raced to a 3-0 lead.

Federer led 4-1 before Thiem clawed a break back, but Federer responded with another hard-won break for a 5-3 lead and captured the set with a service winner. *AFP*

# I have forgiven those who insulted my late wife - Numba

By Abraham Kalito

ZANACO FC coach Mumamba Numba says he will not lodge a complaint against Mufulira Wonderers FC supporters who vented nasty disparaging remarks directed at his late wife during the match played at Sunset stadium, Sunday.

From the onset of the match, Mufulira Wonderers supporters insulted Numba, calling him all sorts of names and later switched to include his wife.

The remarks forced Numba to leave the pitch just minutes into the first half before the former Chipolopolo player was seen walking back.

Speaking to Goal Diggers! in an interview, the ZANACO coach said he decided to leave the pitch to cool down

and move on with life.

He said he would not lodge in a complaint with FAZ against the club as he had already forgiven the perpetrators saying they did not know what they were doing.

"Those [Mufulira Wonderers] supporters were insulting my wife. Which is not good because you know losing a life partner is not something easy. And they don't have to bring it up especially at the pitch, you know. It is better somebody is insulting me, why should they bring somebody who is not even there? They bring up that person into this. They were insulting me and then they started also to insult my late wife. If they were insulting me alone, I wouldn't have even minded

but they included my late wife, that's when I decided, no, let me just go to the dressing room so that I cool down then I come back," he said.

"But I think for me I have already forgiven them because I think they didn't know what they were doing. I think if such a thing happens to you, then one will understand how difficult it is to lose their partner. But anyway, I have put that incident behind and I will leave everything to God. God is the only one who knows the mystery of death. Because my wife she was not even sick. She just collapsed and died. So, it is something that I cannot even explain. One minute I was talking to her the next she collapses and

dies, just a few minutes after talking to her. So, the only thing I can ask supporters is not to include someone who has passed on, it's better they insult me I won't mind. So, for me I will not even lodge in a complaint to the Football Association because I have put that behind. I have moved on. In fact, that is why I decided to go to the dressing room to cool down, I wanted to move on."

He said this in an interview

with Goal Diggers. "The Football Association of Zambia wishes to remind club administrators and fans that conduct during matches should remain civil. The association expects members to educate their fans on the fact that sanctions can be taken against a club that can lead to fines or loss of points. FAZ also wishes to remind members of the public that a complaint procedure must be followed for FAZ to take action and so actual video footage of voice recordings can be submitted to Football House to assist in investigations. FAZ general secretary Adrian Kashala says issues around unruly fan behaviour, unprofessional match officials conduct, and suspicions of match fixing are aspects of football that should be rooted out of Zambian football. Mr Kashala says developmental programmes such as the recent Governance Workshop conducted by Ashford Mamelodi are aimed at keeping football clean." And Mufulira Wonderers Supporters Society apologised to Numba in a statement saying they regretted the incident.

# Foreign based stars link up with Chipolopolo

By Abraham Kalito

Foreign based Chipolopolo stars have started arriving ahead of 2019 AfCON and U23 Olympics qualifiers scheduled for 23 March.

Polokwane City midfielder Salulani Phiri was seen alongside in-form Black Leopards striker Mwape Musonda about to board an aircraft schedule for Zambia.

The final group Match for the qualifies will be played at the National Heroes stadium in Lusaka.

Interim and first assistant coach Aggrey Chiyangi summoned seven foreign based players for the final group K match.

Chiyangi who is also Green Eagles coach clarified that players called for the U23 side will not be included in the national team that will play Namibia.

Former U20 foreign based players including Fashion Sakala, Enock Mwepu and Patson Daka have been called for the U23 squad in a bid to

qualify for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.

Zambia will play the 2019 Afcon qualifier for formality as the country has already been knocked out of the competition despite having been favourites to qualify.

The Under 23 matches will be played on the 20th of March in Blantyre Malawi and the 23rd of March in Lusaka against the same opponent whilst the AfCON qualifying match against Namibia will be played on 23rd March.



UNIVERSITY  
of LUSAKA

**DATE:** 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>  
March, 2019

**VENUE:**

University of Lusaka  
Leopards Hill Campus

**ACCOMMODATION:**

Participants are responsible for their own accommodation and transport.

**APPROACH TO TRAINING & DELIVERY**

The workshop will be delivered by renowned and experienced International and Local academicians who are seasoned practitioners and researchers. The programme has been designed to deliver lectures, discussions and individual presentations by participants.

**Contents**

- o Overview of research methodology (How to formulate a good research proposal - grounded theory in research )
- o Identification of various research methodologies
- o Designing Research

**Registration**

Pre - Workshop registration can be made either via email at [hodpostgraduate@ictar.ac.zm](mailto:hodpostgraduate@ictar.ac.zm) or the postgraduate office on +260 977377430 by 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2019.

**Charge (Includes lunch and snacks)**

- University of Lusaka PhD/DBA Students – **Free**
- PhD/DBA Students from other Universities – **K1500** (per participant)
- Masters students from UNILUS & other universities - **K1500** (per participant)

**CONTACT DETAILS**

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**TRAINING  
WORKSHOP**

**ON RESEARCH  
PROPOSAL WRITING  
& RESEARCH  
DESIGN**

**WORKSHOP OVERVIEW**

Research methodology is key in every field of study at Masters and Doctoral levels; Fields such as governance, economics, health, management, environmental management, climate change and business related studies require in depth analysis of theories, practice and a discussion of contemporary issues to improve research. The University of Lusaka wishes to be part of the advancement of scholars in these fields by offering a 3 day training workshop to enhance research skills at these high levels.

**TARGET AUDIENCE**

- Masters Students
- Doctoral Students
- Academicians
- Employees involved in project proposal writing and research work

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