



I've been donating millions before being minister MALANJI EXPLAINS



HIS WEALTH ...I don't even use my salary for anything

By Julia Malunga
MINISTER of Foreign Affairs Joe Malanji says he does not have time to

respond to time wasters questioning his source of wealth because he generates his income from several legitimate sources.

Last Sunday, Malanji donated a Higer Bus worth US \$270,000 to youths in his constituency in Kitwe District.

Malanji, who is also Foreign Affairs Minister, last month donated K140,000 to St. Peter's Parish in Ipusukilo

Compound in Kitwe for the construction and completion of various infrastructure at the Church.

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Police summon Nevers over rigging claim

By Julia Malunga
POLICE in Lusaka have summoned MMD leader Nevers Mumba for questioning.

In a summon dated September 23, 2020, Mumba was expected to be at the Zambia Police Headquarters at 14:30 on Wednesday.

But in an interview, MMD vice-president Reuben Sambo said Mumba would only be available on Monday as he was engaged in some mobilisation activities.

"Yes, I can confirm that he has been asked to go to the police but he has indicated that he will only be available

on Monday because he has got mobilization programmes. They have just said 'interviews at force headquarters' so we

have no clue. We suspect that obviously it is about this noise going on that 'arrest him.' And we have our own..."

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Makebi disagrees with Mundubile on Lungu's eligibility

Story page 10

Govt's appeal for Eurobond suspension an embarrassment - HH

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
UPND president Hakainde Hichilema says government's request for a suspension on interest payments on all three of Zambia's Eurobonds for a period of six months is an embarrassment and compromises the country's investor attractiveness.

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By Natasha Sakala

THE Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition Alliance (CSO-SUN) has warned of increased food insecurity in the country if care is not taken on how the 2020/2021 farming season is handled given the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy.

And the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit (DMMU) says it is currently carrying out a COVID-19 impact assessment on households to determine the utmost effect of the pandemic on the citizenry.

There has been growing concern on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on access to sustainable diets for many Zambians, with the rising cost of living leading many to mono diets that were maize based.

In an interview, CSO-SUN country coordinator Mathews Mhuru expressed concern over the continued distribution of maize seed even in drought prone areas which could be used to grow other diverse types of food.

"So this is a period, especially with COVID-19 affecting us, which we expect Zambia to seriously consider producing a lot of foods which are diverse, foods that would reduce the pressure of just the food importation itself that we have been heavily dependent on but that is not coming through. So we really need to do better because COVID-19 will really leave a lot of Zambians in a food insecure situation," Mhuru said.

"So among the things that we would like to see, we have seen that the government is preparing for food production, the rainy season is about to just come through but again, we are becoming disappointed to see

CSO-SUN fears increased food insecurity owing to COVID-19

that the Minister of Agriculture would go to different parts of the country, taking maize seed and fertilisers, forgetting that in the 2018/2019 farming season, this was the major danger that put other regions like the southern half of the country which did not receive good rain in very difficult conditions, so without really understanding how the rainfall pattern will be, you are seeing the Minister of Agriculture already preparing and taking maize seed and fertilizers to all corners of the country."

He added that the high cost of food has also had an impact on food diversity due to the effect the pandemic on peoples incomes.

"So you know COVID-19 is affecting a lot of households in a very difficult way. We have had reports already, even before COVID-19 was impacting the

sub-Saharan region negatively, that indicated that the food security is going to be a very big issue and you know the same reports that the food and agriculture organisation had warned that about over 10 million people would be affected in sub-Saharan Africa with serious hunger situations and food insecurity situations. So for Zambia, some of the things that we have started seeing as the Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition (CSO-SUN) Alliance is the fact that food prices are going up. If you went to Shoprite today, you would realise that certain fruits like grapes which would fetch like K40 two weeks ago are now fetching K84 to K94 this particular week," Mhuru added.

"So just the fact that we have to import most of the foods, especially the fruits, is adding a lot of stress and it means that a

lot of households, especially the low income households, will not have access to some of the fruits and some of the vegetables that we expect them to consume. So COVID-19 is really affecting food consumption when it comes to food diversity because food prices have gone up and pushing people to consume mono-diets and these will be maize based diets mostly."

He further wondered why relief support had been withdrawn in many areas despite the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on the population.

"And also, we have noticed that just the government focus, especially in areas that were negatively affected that needed support, that kind of support has been withdrawn or put on hold. We have seen cases where places which were affected by floods that were supposed to

be receiving relief food, that food is not going there not until the President probably gives instructions to the DMMU, that's the only time that you would see them respond and take relief food to those areas. So a number of areas have been affected and COVID-19 is not really helping the situation. So for a country that is coming from a very food insecure season where food production was bad, this is a very difficult situation," said Mhuru.

But DMMU communications officer Racheal Chama said the role of DMMU was to support and not take away the coping capacity of households, saying it was impossible for government to completely take care of everyone.

"What DMMU does is humanitarian work, humanitarian support. The

way humanitarian support is done is not to completely take care of those people. We have identified vulnerables so what we do is just to supplement what they already should have as households, we are not supposed to take care of them completely, it's not possible," said Chama. "The little effort that they make, then we top up. I am sure you have noticed that in some areas, we give cooking oil, we give beans, we give kapenta; others, we just give mealie meal, it's the levels of vulnerability. Where we see a greater need, we go a step further and procure more but that's not supposed to be the case, it's not supposed to be for everyone. I mean it's not general that we are supposed to give kapenta, beans and all. We supplement according to the need. So humanitarian support is not supposed to take away the coping capacity of the households, we just supplement what they already should have."

Police summon Nevers over rigging claim

By Julia Malunga

POLICE in Lusaka have summoned MMD leader Nevers Mumba for questioning.

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But in an interview, MMD vice-president Reuben Sambo said Mumba would only be available on Monday as he was engaged in some mobilisation activities.

"Yes, I can confirm that he has been asked to go to the police but he has indicated that he will only be available on Monday because he has got mobilization programmes. They

have just said 'interviews at force headquarters' so we have no clue. We suspect that obviously it is about this noise going on that 'arrest him.' And we have our own issues that the police can act on at the instigation of cadres. He will only be available on Monday. We have communicated that position to the police," said Sambo.

Addressing the media at the MMD secretariat, Monday, Mumba alleged that the Lukashya by-election was rigged through pre-marked ballot papers.

"How can we end up with 114 votes when in one ward we had hit 1,050, how? They over rigged, they over did it, they should have measured a little bit to

make sure they don't go overboard. It's for this reason that the MMD cannot congratulate our colleagues in the PF on their presumed victory in the last election and either do we agree that the number of votes allocated to MMD are genuine. How can our candidate get two votes at his polling station where he voted for himself, his wife was there, his children and he is a pastor of a church and church members went with him to vote but when they counted the votes, there were two votes...what kind of miracle is this? I believe in miracles but that kind of miracle is not the miracle that the Zambian people should entertain," said Mumba.

"Two PF cadres were nabbed by

the police for being in possession of pre-marked ballot papers. When this information reached the senior leaders of the PF, the duo was released privately. A PF cadre was arrested by the police for taking a picture of his ballot paper before casting his vote. When interrogated by the police, he stated that the PF leaders were suspecting him that he would vote for another candidate and therefore was not going to be given promised money if he did not provide proof. A vote is a secret matter in a democracy. To intimidate members of the public to vote a certain way based on financial gratification is illegal and enough ground to nullify the election."

By Ulande Nkomesha and Sipilisiwe Ncube

NATIONAL Democratic Congress (NDC) president Chishimba Kambwili says it is shocking that government is restoring the Constitution Amendment Bill Number 10 of 2019 in Parliament when the country is engulfed in an economic crisis.

And Kambwili says the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) wants to use the online voter registration exercise to reduce the number of people who will register and make it easy to rig the 2021 elections.

Meanwhile, Kambwili says DMMU national coordinator Chanda Kabwe must resign and join politics because he conducts himself as a politician.

In an interview, Kambwili argued that the current sitting of Parliament should be used to debate the 2021 national budget and not Bill 10, which had lapsed in June, this year.

"I really don't understand the priorities of this government. The kwacha is K20 to a dollar and this period is a budget sitting, and despite being a budget period, the hours of Parliament have been reduced to only three hours. They are sitting from 14:30hrs to 17hrs, what time do they have to slot in these Bills? The concentration from this limited time that they have should have been the budget because it is only the budget that can have an effect on our ailing economy, which is in ICU (Intensive Care Unit). I really don't understand them, President Lungu, wherever he goes...even now, he continues telling people, 'we are coming to build this,' [yet] we are sitting on a debt of US \$18 billion and from his own mouth, he said, '90 per cent of the budget is spent on salaries and paying debt, we don't have the money,' Kambwili said.

"The prices of commodities are going up because of the rate of the kwacha to the dollar, and the fact that we don't have industries of our own, then you go and prioritise Bill 10, what are you telling the people? Are you serious? President Lungu has told us, 'the economy will rebound next year.' How is it going to rebound when they have three hours of the budget

Prioritise 2021 budget to fix economy, not Bill 10, Kambwili urges govt

and these three hours, they slot in Bills? This sitting should have been dedicated 100 per cent to the budget so that we can save our economy."

Kambwili said the PF's persistence to enact Bill 10 into law was a sign that the proposed piece of legislation was a gimmick to perpetuate their stay in power.

"More often than not, Parliament has very little time, even when they are sitting normal hours to do the budget. Why would they prioritise Bill 10? Surely, this is where the Zambians must know that Bill 10 is nothing, but a gimmick by the PF to perpetuate their stay in power. There are hidden things in there. For me, I am convinced beyond reasonable doubt that this thing they have said that they have rejected coalition government, they are just pretending...once the Bill goes on the floor of the House, MPs will vote for it because they know it is a survivor. The

government will just come and say, 'we instructed our MPs, but we can't tell them what to do,' Kambwili said.

"So, my conviction, and I am saying this without malice, I would rather the government concentrate on the economic aspect, which is the budget. We want to see proper debates on the budget, if you limit the debate on the budget, issues will not come out because more time will now be spent on Bill 10. You can even see the PF's concentration; they are not even talking about the budget! When you hear my young brother, Honourable (Tutwa) Ngulube, he talks about Bill 10; when you hear Mundubile, he talks about Bill 10; when you hear the Vice-President (Inonge Wina), she talks about Bill 10; you listen to the President, he talks about

Bill 10. If you listen to any of these Ministers, it is Bill 10, meaning, therefore, that is what they have prioritised in an ailing economy that is in an ICU. God help Zambia!"

The former Roan PF member of parliament, however, proposed that Bill 10 be suspended and only restored in Parliament after the 2021 general election.

And at a media briefing, Tuesday, Kambwili said ECZ wanted to make it easy to rig the 2021 elections by disadvantaging voters with the online voter pre-registration exercise.

"This Government of PF has failed to take ICT lessons to primary and secondary schools in the rural areas because there is no internet connectivity and there are no computers. Now, you cannot

go on TV and address people to say only those who will do online voter registration will be attended to exclusively during the mobile voter registration, meaning therefore that those that do not preregister online will not be considered to be on the voter register. My dear brother, just ask yourself where you come from in Eastern Province, does your mother have the internet? Does your mother have a smartphone? If your own mother Mr Chulu or Mrs Emily Sikazwe doesn't have a smartphone and internet connectivity, how then do you expect those people in the rural areas to participate in the online voter registration?" Kambwili asked.

Kambwili charged that the ECZ wanted to disenfranchise people.

"Since the last elections,

you knew that there would be an election in August this year. So what are you telling us? That 'we don't have time and there will be no extension.' Why did you have to wait all this time so that at the last minute you say there is no time and do it haphazardly so that you disenfranchise people? My dear brothers and sisters in the commission, you issue NRCs in Northern Province which is perceived to be a stronghold of the PF and then before you issue NRCs in other areas, you have started voter registration. What happens to those who haven't gotten registration numbers in these areas? You have disenfranchised them. All you want to do is to reduce the number of people who are going to vote because you know that when a lot of people register to vote, it will be very difficult to rig. So, you want to deal with a small number that you can manipulate," Kambwili said.

He appealed to the commission to revert to the physical registration and give it a minimum of three months for people to register.

Meanwhile, Kambwili said Kabwe should resign and join politics if he wants to conduct himself like a politician.

"Disasters now are only in areas where there are elections. That is where we are seeing the coordinator spend time distributing things during by-elections. Chanda Kabwe mwaiche (young man), if you want to join politics, resign from that position and follow President Edgar Lungu and the PF when they go to campaign and we will have no problem with you. But if you are earning a salary from tax payers money, listen to what we are telling you. I have nothing against you but as your relative, I am getting worried about your conduct and how you are being used. And when the time comes for you to answer, all those people who are using you will not be there. You are a controlling officer and you are the ones who signs and approves that this mealie meal should go to Lukashya or to Mwansabombwe," said Kambwili.

"Chanda Kabwe, stay out of politics and do your job. Stick to your lane. At the rate you are going, I feel sorry for you as my younger brother. And the problem is that you love TV, everywhere you go, you carry reporters with you so that they can film you. That will be the evidence to be used against you. Which by-election Chanda Kabwe haven't you been to? We had Mr Patrick Kangwa as coordinator and who knew him? But for you, even the chickens have known you. You will be in trouble. And please President Edgar Lungu, let's follow the right procedure of declaring disasters and let's do it at the right time. And when these disasters happen, let's not wait for by-elections to happen for us to take support to areas where there are by-elections."

HH's claim against me lacks sufficient particulars - Nawakwi

By Zondiwe Mbewe

FDD president Edith Nawakwi has submitted to the Lusaka High Court that UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema's statement of claim, in which he is seeking damages for libel against her, lacks sufficient particulars to enable her to settle a meaningful defence.

In this matter, Hichilema has sued Nawakwi over claims that he sold to himself a house which belonged to Lima Bank in Kabulonga during the privatization process.

Hichilema is also seeking aggravated and exemplary damages and an order directing Nawakwi to retract the defamatory words.

He also wants an order of injunction to restrain Nawakwi, her agents, servants and whomsoever from further defaming him or publishing similar defamatory words of him.

Hichilema is also claiming reimbursement of the sums expended by him in mitigating the effect of Nawakwi's

conduct towards him and arising from the publication of the defamatory words.

However, according to an affidavit in support of summons for an order for further and better particulars filed recently, Nawakwi through her defence lawyer, Chifumu Banda, stated that a perusal of Hichilema's statement of claim revealed that the same lacked sufficient particulars to enable her to settle meaningful defence.

"I have read a letter of demand from the plaintiff's (Hichilema) advocates and I have had opportunity to peruse the writ of summons and statement of claim issued hereto. The perusal of the statement of claim reveals that the same lacks sufficient particulars to enable the defendant to settle meaningful defence," read the affidavit.

"I have authored a letter

to the plaintiff's advocates requesting for further and better particulars."

Hichilema had stated in his statement of claim that on August 27, 2020, during the course of a programme on Hot FM, dubbed "the Hot Seat" hosted by Zachariah Chavula and on Kwithu FM, Nawakwi caused to be published defamatory words against him in relation to his acquisition of the property known as 14/3/A/F488a Serval Road, Kabulonga in Lusaka.

"Particulars of the defamatory words: 'if he has been lucky not to have been booked by the Anti-Corruption Commission, he should just keep quiet because he should just say he is lucky. As a former Minister of Agriculture, you ask him for my role, we wanted to restructure Lima Bank and we gave Grant Thornton the opportunity to advise government on receivership. They went ahead and did a liquidation for Lima Bank. Now I just want Hakainde to answer one question, is he able to produce the bid and price which gave him the house in Serval Road where he has been residing until he moved to Muka Muya in Lusaka east?...' read the claim.

"...This is a Lima Bank House under our current laws and even previous laws, that is theft and that is corruption. You are not a public officer just because you are in government. He was advisor to government. So to the extent that Grant Thornton was a receiver for Lima Bank and Hakainde alienated a house to himself, that is theft, he is lucky if he has not gone to Katombora. He is lucky if the law has not visited him."

Hichilema stated that the defamatory words by Nawakwi in their natural and ordinary meaning were meant to be

understood that he was a thief, a corrupt person, a person of questionable character and that he was guilty of numerous offences relating to the dissolution of Lima Bank and the sale of its assets when in fact not.

He added that the defamatory words were false and published maliciously as he (Hichilema) had never acted as receiver, manager or liquidator of Lima Bank contrary to what Nawakwi alleged.

Hichilema further stated that Subdivision 14/3/A/F488a, Serval Road, Kabulonga, Lusaka never belonged to Lima Bank prior to him acquiring it as alleged by Nawakwi.

"Contrary to the innuendo created by the defendant when she uttered the defamatory words, the plaintiff acquired the subject house in an arm's length transaction two years prior to the commencement of the process of winding up of Lima Bank," he stated.

Hichilema lamented that his reputation had been lowered in the estimation of the right thinking members of the global community given his international repute as an astute businessman, a leader of the largest political party in Zambia and as aspiring candidate of the presidency.

"As a consequence of the defendant's actions, the plaintiff has incurred costs and expenses in an effort to mitigate the effects thereof to his reputation and business interests in the approximate total sum of US\$3,000,000. Despite the plaintiff demanding formally that the defendant retracts the said words and renders an unreserved apology to the plaintiff, the defendant has failed, neglected and refused to do so," stated Hichilema.

Kasama MP in court over unpaid K2m shoe bill

By Zondiwe Mbewe

RL Extrem Investment Limited has sued Kasama PF member of parliament Kelvin Sampa in the Lusaka High Court for allegedly failing to pay over K2 million after supplying him with security boots.

The company is claiming payment of K2,014,300, interest and costs.

According to a statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court, September 21, RL Extrem Investment Limited stated that it was involved in general supply of goods in Lusaka and elsewhere in Zambia.

It stated that by contracts in writing dated November, 2019, it supplied Sampa 226 security boots at K550 per pair totalling K124,300 on one hand and 4,200 security and safety boots at K430 per pair totalling K1,890,000 altogether coming to K2,014,300.

RL Extrem Investment stated that it was

a term of the contract that upon delivery of the goods, Sampa would pay 50 percent of the total amount.

It added that it delivered the goods during the course of November, 2019, which were duly received and acknowledged by Sampa.

The company, however, stated that Sampa failed to pay the 50 per cent or any other sum, as agreed.

"By a demand letter dated June 23, 2020, addressed to Sampa's advocates, the company, through its advocates, made its first demand in writing for the payment of K2,014,300. The defendant has either failed, refused or otherwise neglected to settle the claimed amounts," read the claim.

The company stated that it was entitled to claim the said sum of K2,014,300, together with interest and costs.

By Natasha Sakala
PF DEPUTY secretary general Mumbi Phiri says Zambian lawyers are confusing the nation because they are always arguing and contradicting each other over interpretation of President Edgar Lungu's eligibility to re-contest next year's general election.

And Phiri says she hopes UPND will accept defeat after the 2021 general election as they did in last Thursday's by-elections.

Speaking when she featured on Radio Phoenix's "Let the People Talk", Tuesday, Phiri wondered why lawyers had several interpretations over President Lungu's eligibility issue, creating unnecessary confusion, saying if lawyers were doctors during the COVID-19 pandemic, "a lot of people would have died."

She was commenting on Patriotic Front legal affairs chairperson Brian Mundubile's remarks where he said the ruling party concurred with the Law Association of Zambia's (LAZ) position that the Constitutional Court did not

Lawyers are confusing us over Lungu's eligibility, complains Mumbi

deal with President Lungu's eligibility for the 2021 general election.

"I am sorry to say, you have really degraded yourselves when we are so much relying on you, but the confusion! Can you imagine nga waya kuli yuyu (when you go to this) doctor, they will tell you that you have malaria, bakupela (they give you) chloroquine. Uyu umbi ati (this other one says) 'no, it's typhoid.' How many people are going to die, so many interpretations, how? Why should it be like that? You have gone to an extent of insulting your fellow lawyers who are judges. They are also lawyers then they become judges. You insult them, you degrade them, is that the way it should be?" Phiri wondered.

"He (Mundubile) can say whatever, and you know, lawyers in Zambia, they are really confusing us and I have always given an example to say, if lawyers were doctors in this pandemic of COVID-19, I think a lot of people could have died because the lawyers we have in Zambia, ni vina mwamene wainvelela (dance however you feel like). Look at the confusion they are causing, they are the ones who are supposed

to be educating us on how a law should be. I can go back to the time when we had the NDC when I was a member of parliament, when we didn't go, you remember we had the rebel MPs? If you saw the signatures, which the lawyers, the so-called lawyers, they are called learned, you know, it leaves much to be desired the way they are arguing. The way the judges are arguing in the ConCourt, the way the Magistrate courts, who are in the Supreme courts, they went to the same schools with these lawyers who are arguing. So, there is total confusion! Anything you hear on the presidential eligibility, others will say, 'no, it was passed,' others will say, 'no'"

She lamented that the confusion within the legal fraternity was uninspiring.

"Where you are coming from, Luchi (Radio Phoenix host), you have your children, who, when they are listening to you on radio, they feel good, they have passion; they also want to be journalists when they grow...Now, when you have this profession, which is total confusion, are you inspiring anybody? There is confusion, baka yamba kuyambana (when they start fighting), and because you are learned, you

even want to hide in English. To the outside, you are looking confused!" Phiri added.

But when asked what the PF's position on President Lungu's eligibility was, Phiri admitted that the ruling party had not yet sat to discuss the controversial issue following LAZ's statement.

She, however, added that the PF would state its final position once the Central Committee had convened over the matter.

And Phiri hailed the UPND's acceptance of their electoral defeat in last Thursday's polls in Lukashya and Mwanabombwe constituencies and hoped they will do the same after next August.

"I think the positive is that for the first time, the UPND has conceded defeat and I hope in 2021, they will do the same," she said.

Meanwhile, Phiri charged that the reason why the UPND were losing elections was because they were insulting voters by telling them that they were cheap enough to sell their rights in exchange for mealie meal.

"You know, people might not realise that is what makes our colleagues lose because if somebody came and told me, I

know my rights, I know I should go and vote and then somebody thinks I am so cheap I can sell my vote for a bag of mealie meal, telling me that I am so poor, I am vulnerable, I can sell my vote for a K20? That is what is making them lose. These accusations have been there, even calling the councillors, I have always said, I have never engaged these defecting councillors and given them money. I have never witnessed that, but because when you lose, you want to make people look like they are so desperate, they are cheap, they are useless! Because if you can sell your vote, it means you are useless, that's what they (UPND) are telling them in their faces; demeaning people as if it's me who feeds them. Let them continue at that and see because people feel

insulted," she charged. She further condemned the violence that rocked Kasama ahead of the polls last week and urged the police to deal with criminals hiding in the name of the ruling party.

"And police, ba Kanganja, ba Kapeso put your foot down! The President has made it clear, all of us have made it clear, people shouldn't shield in the name of the party. Deal with them, nobody will protect a criminal, nobody," said Phiri.

"I commend the police in Kasama for arresting the PF youths, who went [to break the UPND vehicle] does a car talk? Even if you are provoked, can you reach to such an extent? And for me, I tell our colleagues in the PF to say, 'when we behave, if these other opposition political parties they misbehave, they will be dealt with because we are behaving and people will see that good behaviour is starting from us.' And why should you spill your brother's blood, for what? Wasting blood because it was only the blood of Jesus Christ, which was spilt for our salvation."

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BOOKING FOR NOVEMBER, 2020

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

UPND national chairperson Mutale Nalumango says President Edgar Lungu is scheming to arrest her party leader Hakainde Hichilema because he fears to face him on the ballot next year.

And Mazabuka Central UPND member of parliament Gary Nkombo has asked all UPND supporters to stay away from reacting to statements from chiefs “who survive on people’s pockets”.

Meanwhile, UPND Lusaka Province chairperson Obvious Mwaliteta says UPND members will put their heads on the chopping board to protect Hichilema until 2021.

Speaking at a joint press briefing which was held at Hichilema’s residence

Lungu scheming to arrest HH – Nalumango

in Lusaka, Wednesday, Nalumango said the PF, led by Bizwell Mutale and Brave Mweetwa, had hatched a scheme to embarrass President Lungu in Southern Province and blame it on UPND.

“Our concern is what we hear that in fact, the PF and President Lungu have arranged PF thugs to be present in Monze, Maala or anywhere along the route of President Edgar Lungu and his entourage for them to disrupt his tour of the province. They want to do this so that they can blame it on the UPND and president Hakainde Hichilema. They

have also arranged some of our members in UPND to be part of this scheme. We are have names of people that have been lined up, names like Bizwell Mutale who probably will be meeting some of the chiefs in Southern Province, names like Brave Mweetwa former DC for Siavonga, we are aware that there is a man commonly known as America 2 who is actually Mozambican by origin. Those are some of the people that we have learned are part of this scheme to cause confusion, disrupt and then blame it on president Hakainde and the UPND,” Nalumango said.

Nalumango charged that President Lungu wanted to arrest Hichilema because he feared competing against him in 2021.

“Why should this happen? It is because at the end of the day, President Edgar Lungu wants to arrest president Hakainde Hichilema all because of fear, and because he doesn’t want to see his name on the ballot paper come 2021. He also intends to buy some councilors, if he will manage, so as to perpetuate by-elections that are generally violent which he also wants to blame on UPND and president Hakainde

Hichilema. We are aware of this scheme,” said Nalumango.

“We therefore warn them that such a scheme is evil and criminal in nature and should not be allowed at all. For us as a party, we want to advise our people to stay away from any of the activities that President Edgar Lungu will be carrying out. He can go there but let our people completely stay away so that we have no room for him to create the impression that he wants to create in order to arrest our president. We are aware that some of our members may be used to testify against the president.”

And Nkombo said police had allowed PF to hibernate under their operations to commit atrocities.

“There has been a general belief and some of us have seen it for ourselves, the issue of Zambia Police collaborating with PF. I think it’s no longer a secret that the Zambia Police under the leadership of Kakoma Kanganja and a few senior members have been allowing PF to hibernate while committing atrocities. I would like the country to remember that the last visit which President Lungu made in Monze East where PF cadres indiscriminately attacked villages in Bweengwa and the police did not record any single arrest. The plan that the PF have associated with the President’s visit, we would like to address the police to ensure that they exclude PF from their operations. They must exclude themselves from PF intentions because the truth has no disguise. Should it be the case that the police are going to allow PF to hibernate under their operations in order to cause disruptions on the President’s visit which is supposed to be well meaning and the President is supposed to be welcome, posterity is going to judge them harshly,” Nkombo said.

“The nation will hear most likely statements from the host chiefs Chona, Hamaundu, and maybe chief Mwanza, remarks that appear to be disparaging the UPND and its leader. We would like to pre-empt those statements by stating that it is

very clear what the chiefs that I have mentioned stand for. And because they are our parents, we will not shy away from talking with them and also about them...So, even before they make their statements that we know have been coined by Bizwell Mutale and his group, we would like them to do some introspection. They must not put themselves in a mortgage cage because the visit of the President is only going to last for one day and after that one day, they will continue to commingle and associate with the people who they lead.”

Nkombo also urged his party members to stay away from commenting on statements that would be made by chiefs during President Lungu’s scheduled visit to the province.

“It is our wish that the chiefs remain with the respect, the decorum that comes along with that responsibility. However, we cannot control their thinking. It will be wise for people to know that you can fool people sometimes but you cannot fool them all the time. We have been down this road before where chiefs have been asked to make statements and they don’t even believe in themselves because of the envelopes and money. So, we would like to tell our supporters countrywide that when you hear statements coming from chiefs who may be operating from people’s pockets, just take them on face-value. Continue respecting them as chiefs because it is their inherent inheritance and we cannot go in that domain,” said Nkombo.

Meanwhile, Mwaliteta said he was ready to put his head on the chopping board to protect Hichilema from any harm until 2021.

“We are going to protect HH from today up to 2021. HH will be protected and we are going to put our heads on the chopping board. If it means biting the bullet for him, we will bite the bullet. Whoever is planning to touch HH will touch us all. And this is not just talking. If you want, try it and see, I want to die as a person who ready to fight for this country,” said Mwaliteta.

No normal person can vote for HH in

2021 – Lusambo

By Ulande Nkomesha

LUSAKA Province Minister Bowman Lusambo says no normal person can vote for UPND president Hakainde Hichilema in the 2021 general election because the party has nothing to offer Zambians.

Commenting on UPND secretary general Stephen Katuka’s statement that Hichilema was still the most “happening man in the country” and that the party would not replace him ahead of the 2021 election, Lusambo argued that the UPND, under Hichilema, had nothing to offer Zambians.

He insisted that the signs were clear that President Edgar Lungu would win next year’s general election with a landslide.

“The UPND is not a political party, it is a cult. When you have a cult, you believe in one person and that person is the alpha and omega. The UPND is just a grouping for failures. Leadership, especially political leadership, is very unique because you can’t find political leadership anywhere. Mr Hakainde Hichilema, the way he came on the political scene, you can see that this man has nothing to offer the people of Zambia. I can assure you that the UPND with Hakainde Hichilema has no future in the political scene in this country. There is no normal person who can vote for Hakainde Hichilema,” Lusambo said.

“In 2021, they have no chance of coming near the mighty Edgar Chagwa Lungu because Edgar Chagwa Lungu is winning 2021 with a landslide! The signs are there... Look at Lukashya and Mwansabombwe, Copperbelt – Lufwanyama! Ask UPND, those councilors, we grabbed three of them and the margin was wide. Ask them the margin; they managed to get in wards that we lost, there was no significant margins. I can assure that the UPND, this is in their end with this failure called Hakainde Hichilema, this is their end. If I was in UPND, Hakainde cannot not even talk about standing in 2021. Hakainde Hichilema is not a factor in politics, he is one of the worst opposition we have ever seen in this country.”

He added that Hichilema lacked the national character,

which was possessed by other previous UPND leaders.

“The last president UPND had, Mr Mazoka, he had a national character; Mazoka had votes from Northern Province; Mazoka had votes from Luapula Province; Mazoka had votes from Copperbelt Province; Mazoka was a national leader, he was talking about unity, he was not talking about tribe. Mazoka was Tonga, but look at his structure! His structure was a national structure. Hichilema just wants to use people for his convenience, look at the way he misused GBM and many others! Are you aware that for a long time, we had powerful politicians in the UPND like Sakwiba Sikota, Patrick Chisanga, Bob Sichinga and they were pushing a national agenda,” Lusambo recalled.

He charged that both the UPND MPs and their leadership were “doormats” for Hichilema’s personal use.

“All those MPs for UPND, the UPND leadership, all of them are just doormats to Hakainde Hichilema! They don’t think! When you come to Parliament that is where you can see that these guys are just dunder-heads! You can know them when you are debating real issues, they go to New Kasama...if that gentleman just says, ‘no.’ When they come to Parliament with proper

Bills on the table, they will just say, ‘no.’ Why have you said no? Because these are proper issues, which we need to debate and give the people of Zambia what they want, but to them it is ‘no!’ Hakainde Hichilema is UPND and UPND is Hakainde Hichilema that is why they can’t move,” Lusambo argued.

“We have young people, who can be presidents in that party. We have Gary (Nkombo); we have (Cornelius) Mweetwa... don’t talk about Jack Mwiimbu! Jack Mwiimbu is a fossil! We have people, who can push a national agenda and that is what we want to see in our country. I sympathise with my colleagues in UPND. You know that I have a lot of friends in UPND.”

And Lusambo, who is also Kabushi PF member of parliament, alleged that Hichilema was capable of selling public assets to foreigners once elected Republican President because the opposition leader had borrowed money for his political activities.

“Today, Hakainde Hichilema has borrowed millions of dollars. Hakainde Hichilema has never used his money to do campaigns, to do political party activities. Hichilema strikes deals with

other people outside Zambia so that if he wins, they will come for our public assets! When Hakainde Hichilema is doing politics, don’t just see that he is refusing to sit on that seat. I sympathise with him because he has borrowed heavily, he can’t move from that seat,” alleged Lusambo.

“Hichilema is not just refusing to come out from that seat because he wants to be President of that particular party because he has failed, even himself, he knows that he has failed. But there is something, which is forcing him to be there, the money he has borrowed. That political party is a party which is being funded by people outside Zambia and the agenda is to come and take public assets when UPND ascends to power. I don’t know where and I don’t know which country. If we have three crooks in Zambia, Hakainde Hichilema is one of them!”

Following defeats in several by-elections, including last Thursday’s polls in Mwansabombwe and Lukashya constituencies, Katuka maintained that despite the UPND’s setbacks, the party will maintain Hichilema as president ahead of next year’s polls and beyond.

Govt’s appeal for Eurobond suspension an embarrassment – HH

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

UPND president Hakainde Hichilema says government’s request for a suspension on interest payments on all three of Zambia’s Eurobonds for a period of six months is an embarrassment and compromises the country’s investor attractiveness.

In a Tweet, Tuesday, Hichilema disputed government’s assertion that the failure to repay Zambia’s sovereign debt was down to COVID-19 challenges and insisted that there was need for citizens to kick out the PF government and pave way for prudent, competent and visionary economic managers to tackle the country’s debt crisis.

“We in the UPND are deeply concerned by the news coming out of the Ministry of Finance over the requested suspension of debt servicing. We have time and time again told this incompetent government not to borrow, but they did so recklessly

and with nothing to show for it. The Ministry of Finance alludes to COVID-19 as the primary cause of their inability to service the country’s debts, but we all know the truth. It is, indeed, the maladministration, corruption, fiscal indiscipline and economic incompetence that can be summed up as a disease called the ‘Dununa Reverse Virus.’ We had this affliction long before COVID-19,” tweeted Hichilema.

“The Ministry of Finance notes engaging with the IMF for a ball-out package, but not long ago, Mr (Edgar) Lungu told them to ‘go to hell!’ This is deeply embarrassing as not only does it compromise our investor attractiveness as a country, but it is a stain on our nation’s pride. Zambia must do away with this ill-equipped team currently governing our country and pave way for prudent, competent and visionary economic managers. It was a grave

mistake to have a government of this nature, presiding over our country’s affairs. We have a mammoth task when we assume office in 11 months and we shall, indeed, fix this mess.”

According to the statement issued by Secretary to the Treasury Fredson Yamba, Tuesday, government has formally requested for a debt suspension on all the three Eurobonds due in 2022, 2024 and 2027, effective October 14, 2020, in response to the challenging fiscal situation.

“The Ministry of Finance has announced a Consent Solicitation to holders of its (i) US \$750 million, 5.375 per cent; notes due 2022; (ii) US \$1,000,000,000, 8.500 per cent; notes due 2024 and (iii) US \$1,250,000,000, 8.970 per cent; notes due 2027 to request the suspension of debt service payments for a period of six months from October 14, 2020, effectively covering the upcoming three coupon

payments due on on 14 October, 2020, 30 January, 2021, and 20 March, 2021 on the respective notes. The Republic of Zambia is confronted with a very challenging macroeconomic and fiscal situation aggravated by the COVID-19 crisis that has severely affected the country’s public finances,” said Yamba in the statement.

“A combination of declining revenues and increased unbudgeted costs caused by the COVID-19 pandemic have resulted in a material impact on the government’s available resources to make timely payments on its indebtedness leading to increasing debt servicing difficulties. This is the reason why the Republic of Zambia has taken the decision to apply for the G20 Debt Service Suspension initiative in August, 2020, and is requesting similar debt service suspension from its commercial creditors, including noteholders.”

By Ulande Nkomesha

CRACKS have deepened in the Forum for Democracy and Development (FDD), as the opposition party has suspended spokesperson Yotam Mtayachalo from all party activities.

In a letter dated September 16 written by party national secretary Nathan Mulonga, Mtayachalo was suspended for mobilising party leaders to hold an unauthorised meeting in an effort to expel embattled party president Edith Nawakwi.

"I have received a complaint letter from the provincial chairman Central Province alleging that you are interfering in the disciplinary matter involving Mr Jerry Simpemba. There are allegations that you are mobilising party leaders to

FDD wrangles deepen, as party suspends spokesperson

hold an unauthorised meeting in which you intend to expel Miss Nawakwi as party president. The action you are being accused of are tantamount to: flouting the party constitution and the disciplinary regulations as per provisions of the party constitution article 54 (4), read in conjunction with disciplinary regulations five, which states as follows: contravention of the party constitution, including regulations, rules, orders or

decisions made thereunder; conduct likely to bring the party into ridicule, contempt, disrepute or public domain; failure to obey lawful orders, instructions and directives of the party organ or leader authorised to give the same," stated Mulonga.

"Therefore, with the foregoing above, you are hereby suspended from all party activities. Your matter will be reported to the national policy committee for ratification and further directives.

You are, therefore, given 14 days to exculpate yourself of the allegations levelled against you."

But in a statement issued by FDD Chama North constituency chairman Solomon Mbuli and Chama South constituency chairman Fredson Lungu, the party in Chama District expressed disappointment with the decision to suspend Mtayachalo over frivolous reasons.

"We party officials from Chama District in Muchinga

Province are concerned and disappointed with the decision by the party to suspend Yotam Mtayachalo, the party spokesperson and chairperson for labour, on the reasons advanced to suspend him, are frivolous and not legitimate. This is not the first time the party is taking such action as it is not long ago that Mr Mtayachalo and Mr Chifumu Banda, the party vice president and several others, were suspended from the party

for exercising their democratic rights ,but had to seek court intervention," they stated.

"Further, we are disappointed with the decision to suspend Mr Simpemba, the provincial secretary for Central Province, for calling for the holding of the national policy committee to discuss the national convention and party mobilisation as the party is behind time, but nothing is happening on the ground as other serious parties are busy mobilising in readiness for the 2021 for general election. As such, FDD members are concerned about these happenings in the party as not even a single senior party leader has ever visited the district since 2016 to check on party activities."

The party members warned that all party members in Chama District would resign if the decision was not reversed.

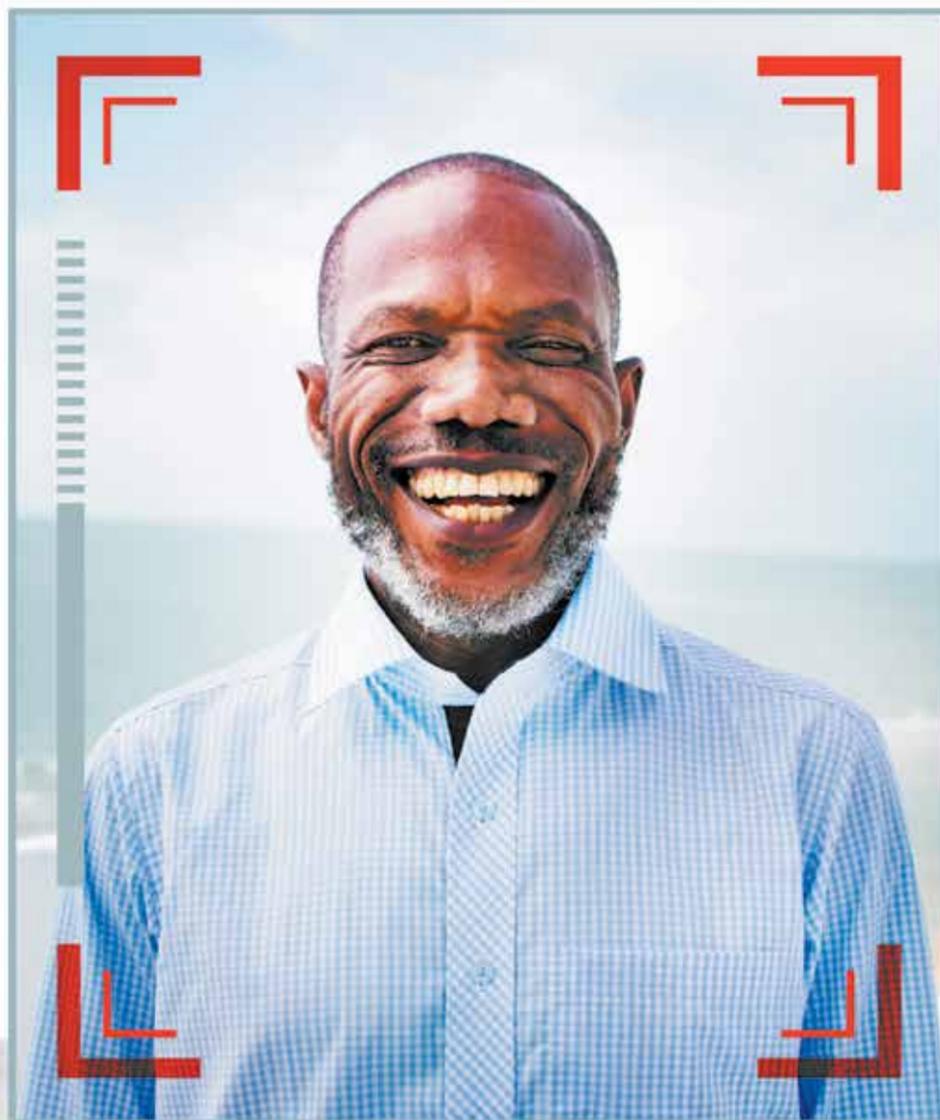
"Furthermore, if the party does not rescind the decision to suspend Mr Mtayachalo, the party shall miss an opportunity to register its first MP in Muchinga because the people of Chama North have already decided. Mr Mtayachalo has mobilised the party single-handedly and any measures meant to frustrate him shall spell doom for the party in Chama District. We demand the immediate withdrawal of the suspension of the two suspension letters of the leaders. Failure to which, all members from Chama North, Chama South and ward officials, including other party officials, shall resign to join either the PF or the UPND," read the statement.

And in an interview, Mtayachalo said no amount of intimidation would deter him from demanding what was enshrined in the party constitution.

"No amount of intimidation whatsoever shall deter myself and the members from demanding for what is enshrined in the party constitution. Further, I am happy with the support we are getting from nine provinces, which is extremely overwhelming and encouraging because whatever members are demanding for such as the holding of the long-awaited party convention, party mobilisation activities and holding of regular national policy committee meetings to plan and review party activities, is constitutional. Therefore, one wonders where they are drawing these powers from to suspend members, who are exercising their democratic and constitutional rights, which in itself is a gross violation of article 8 (5) of the party constitution and I quote, 'Any member of the party who by his/her actions undermines the rights of members to freely express themselves shall be subject to disciplinary action...' and as such, people must be mindful about some of these illegal, unconstitutional and desperate decisions they are making as there are most likely going to backfire!" cautioned Mtayachalo.

"Meanwhile, I want to appeal to the general membership and the leadership and the party countrywide to remain calm and united, but never allow themselves to be intimidated. The battle to liberate FDD from authoritarian type of leadership has just been born, and I want to assure them that victory is coming our way. Our struggle is not a selfish one, but a genuine cause, which is meant to protect the ideals and values the party was founded on."

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#VotingSquad

NRC issuance delay in Mazabuka angers deputy Registrar

By Ulande Nkomesha
DEPUTY Chief Registrar Siphon Banda says she is upset with the delay in the commencement of the mobile issuance of National Registration Cards (NRCs) in Mazabuka District because it is inconveniencing local residents.

But Mazabuka Central UPND member of parliament Gary Nkombo has charged that the delay was a deliberate ploy to disadvantage residents who want to get NRCs.

On Monday, Mazabuka residents were left stranded at various centres as they gathered to collect their NRCs, but many centres were found closed due to non-availability of materials for printing the cards.

In an interview, Banda explained that she only received information about the incident on Monday night, and was yet to receive a full report.

“To be honest with you, I was not aware of that incident, I was just informed about it very late. So, today (Tuesday), I have just actually communicated

with the officer that they give me a report. So, I can't say much until I am told by the officer what exactly happened. I don't want to misinform you. I am just waiting for the officers to give me a report as to why. I am waiting for a report because, actually, it upset me a lot, so I am just waiting for a report,” said Banda.

However, Nkombo has charged that the delay was a deliberate ploy to disadvantage Mazabuka residents.

“I am fully aware and I have done a letter after talking to the Registrar-General to register my disappointment at what we call, as a matter of fact, a deliberate ploy to eat into the time of Mazabuka. So, my surprise was that the Registrar-General expressed ignorance about the shortage of materials for the first two days in Mazabuka. As at 22:00hrs yesterday (Monday) when I was having a conversation with her, she promised that somebody would be in Mazabuka by now, around nine o' clock, to deliver

all the required materials. What I have told her is that I am going to write a letter to the effect that the three days, including today, that we have lost must be recovered. Basically, I am

delivering that today,” said Nkombo.

“The country must know that this is deliberate. PF is working again with the Office of the Registrar-General,

the Office of the District Commissioner to disadvantage people and create a stampede on an exercise that is supposed to be free from all these negative occurrences. So, we are waiting

and we will check if the situation has normalised and then I am delivering a letter to complain to the Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Home Affairs to actually stop fooling people!”

Luapula Hydropower seeks order to issue committal proceedings against WARMA

By Zondiwe Mbewe
LUAPULA Hydropower Corporation Limited (LHCL) has applied before the Kabwe High Court for an order for leave to issue committal proceedings against Water Resources Management Authority (WARMA) for disregarding a court's order.

LHCL has submitted that WARMA, through its board of directors, disobeyed the consent order of court with impunity by cancelling its (LHCL's) substantive water permits, contrary to the direction of the

said consent order. It adds that it is excessively clear that WARMA's board and its employees are willfully acting in contempt of court.

According to a statement supporting an application for leave to apply for an order for committal filed in the Kabwe High Court recently, LHCL submitted that WARMA, through its board of directors, were in contempt and ridicule of the Court by flagrantly and with impunity, disobeying the order of the Court dated November 28, 2018.

It stated that the said order, ordered among others, that, “WARMA shall grant LHCL conditional temporal water rights over the Kundabwika and Kabwelume waterfalls for purposes of conducting and submitting the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and upon the EIA being approved by the Zambia Environmental Management Agency (ZEMA) and submitted to WARMA the conditional temporal rights aforesaid shall be converted to substantive rights.”

LHCL stated that after it satisfied the command of the order, WARMA, by its board, granted it substantive water permits for Kundabwika and Kabwelume falls, respectively.

It, however, stated that WARMA by and through its board willfully and deliberately disobeyed and disregarded the said court order when by its letter dated August 6, 2020, it stated that, “(i) At the time you applied for the permits with WARMA, they were subsisting rights over the waters to which the two permits attach; and (ii) the permits in question were not granted by WARMA board of directors, which is the only entity mandated by the Act to grant water permits. The board of directors was not in place at the time of the grant.”

LHCL stated that by the said decision and letter of the

WARMA board, the board had deliberately and wantonly subverted and disregarded the court order and, therefore, acted in a manner contemptuous of the authority of the order and the Court.

“In furtherance of the contemptuous conduct aforesaid, the Board has issued a criminal complaint against LHCL and two of its employees (Brian Chisala and Katambi Bulawayo) for allegedly refusing to surrender the water permits as demanded in the contemptuous letter. By the above said actions, WARMA board members by themselves or the servants have deliberately and actively failed or neglected to abide by the court order and have continued to ignore and disobey it,” it stated.

LHCL added that in the premises, it was entitled to be granted an order for leave to issue contempt proceedings.

WARMA has lodged a complaint against Luapula Hydropower Corporation Limited and its two directors Brian Chisala and Katambi Bulawayo in the Lusaka Magistrates' Court for allegedly failing to surrender water permits, contrary to the provisions of section 86 (2) of the Water Resources Management Act No. 21 of 2011.

LHCL and its two directors, however, pleaded not guilty to the charge, Monday.

I've been making big donations even before I became minister - Malanji

By Julia Malunga
KWACHA PF member of parliament Joe Malanji says he does not have time to respond to time wasters questioning his source of wealth because he generates his income from several legitimate sources.

Last Sunday, Malanji donated a Higer Bus worth US \$270,000 to youths in his constituency in Kitwe District.

Malanji, who is also Foreign Affairs Minister, last month donated K140,000 to St. Peter's Parish in Ipusukilo Compound in Kitwe for the construction and completion of various infrastructure at

the Church. He equally handed over a brand new luxury Rosa Bus to traders under the National Traders and Marketers' Association of Zambia (NATMAZ) in the same area.

Some members of the public, however, expressed concern and wanted to know where Malanji got the funds to make donations of that magnitude.

But Malanji said he used to make donations even before he was appointed as Cabinet Minister.

“Do you think I have time to respond

to time wasters like those? People must be serious for once! Those who want to know must go to that constituency or Kitwe in general they will find that I was doing the same to help the community way back. Let them go to churches. Do you know that I bought a bus for the community in 2010, a big 70-seater bus? I was not a minister, I only became a minister in 2017. So, to start wasting time to answer such questions, I would be wasting my time because this is not something new. I can tell you that I have so many sources; business, and well-wishers...” **To page 10**

Shame on MoH, ZAMRA and ZPPA over HoneyBee scandal

THEY defended the US\$17 million medical supply tender with all their might. When irregularities surrounding the award of the contract were brought to the fore, the entire Ministry of Health sided with the private company and condemned tax payers who warned about this procurement.

We warned about everything that is happening in relation to this drug supply tender. We revealed that HoneyBee Pharmacy Limited was not a registered company at PACRA. The company that was awarded the tender was registered four months later. We warned that government was taking a huge risk giving a US \$17 million contract to a sole trader, a simple pharmacist in the name of Imram Lunat. We questioned the capacity of this individual to supply 22,500 Health Centre Kits. We raised the alarm and told the whole Republic that HoneyBee had failed ZAMRA inspection and the wholesale license was awarded illegally. But no one cared.

Those in government were in the forefront of defending the illegality. They claimed that the tender procedure was flawlessly followed and that if there were

any problems with the name of the company that was awarded the contract, it was just a typographical error!

Today, shame is written all over their faces. The Minister of Health, his Permanent Secretary and the procurement committee cannot walk with their heads high because of the HoneyBee scandal. The company they vouched for has delivered toxic drugs and now they wish the ground could swallow them during this embarrassing episode. They have nothing sensible to say.

"We cannot get a product that we cannot use. That means that the supplier will have to replace the drugs. We cannot receive drugs that are not fit for our people to use. Our officers are really trained in what we call

pharmacovigilance, who are always alert and ensure that the drugs that we give to our people are safe."

Nonsense! What vigilance can the Ministry of Health talk about? Where was that vigilance when HoneyBee was robbing Zambian taxpayers in broad-daylight through this drug procurement tender? Where were they when HoneyBee was submitting falsified documents to the procurement committee to win this tender? What due diligence was done to ascertain the capacity of HoneyBee Pharmacy to deliver the 22,500 Health Centre Kits?

Of all the companies that are duly registered and experienced with a clean track record for manufacturing and delivering drugs to the Zambian government,

why did they solicit for this particular bogus entity to get the tender? Zambians must be reminded that this tender was not open, bidders were handpicked and asked to apply. Who, at the Ministry of Health, went to pick on this sole trader, leaving reputable suppliers? This is what we call collusion to commit a crime. The definition of corruption does not get better than this stinking deal!

What is painful is that the people behind this dirty deal even have the audacity to lie instead of showing remorse for subjecting the lives of innocent citizens to such danger with toxic drugs. HoneyBee is even confidently telling the government that: "we are also concerned with the colour of the drugs, maybe they were

exposed to water." Huh! What a banana republic we are! US \$17 million worth of drugs were exposed to water? When? Where? How? Were the drugs transported by canoe from India? Even our Lozi brothers manage to move their king from Lealui to Limulunga without a splash of water on his garment. So, what is HoneyBee talking about? How did the previous suppliers manage to deliver drug consignments with the right specifications without excuses?

It is also annoying to hear ZAMRA pretend to be innocent from this scandal and begin to demand that HoneyBee must recall the substandard drugs from circulation. Shame on you, ba ZAMRA! You are the ones who issued the wholesale license, knowing too

well that HoneyBee had failed your inspection. You were fully aware that you were issuing a license illegally to a company that had no capacity to supply drugs. What motivated you to do that? In whose interest were you acting? Why are you pretending to be surprised? Insoni ebuntu.

Naimwe ba ZPPA, shame on you too. This criminality happened under your watch. We have written press queries demanding your explanation and position on this matter, you are failing to respond, why? You don't even have anything to say because you know that you watched a crime develop at the Ministry of Health and you failed to stop it. This is why Zambians have very little confidence in regulatory authorities in this country because they are headed by cowards who can't stand on principle to fight bad governance.

Posterity will judge you harshly!

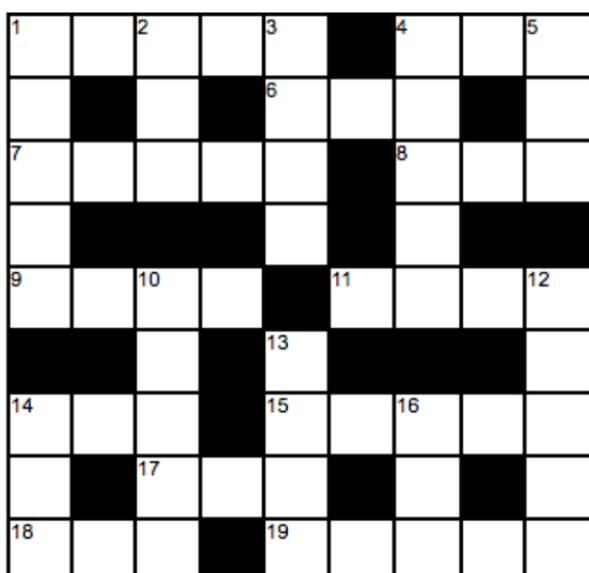
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Crossword puzzle No 697



"Law is made by the winner to preserve victory over the loser."
- Toba Beta

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Across</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Locations 4. Unhappy 6. Haul 7. Extremely overweight 8. Furniture wood 9. Happily ___ after 11. Goblet part 14. A hot drink 15. Take the blame 17. Male child 18. Round baked dessert 19. Name of a book | <p>Down</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Boutique 2. Casual top 3. Dance movement 4. Kindly 5. Water obstruction 10. Wipe out 12. Kind of syrup 13. Times New Roman, e.g. 14. Spigot 16. Denial |
|---|---|

Crossword puzzle No 696



Readers' Feedback

UPND's explanation as to why the party refused HH to appear on ZNBC's Sunday Interview

Editor,

"I initially condemned the UPND, now I see that they made a right decision. If they want questions on Privatisation to be answered, why not call people like Francis Kaunda, Valentine Chitalu, Alexander Chikwanda or better still exhume Chiluba (MHSRIP) from the dead?" - Maureen S Zimba

"If he featured as chairman for privatization, they

would not have allowed him to go political... So if they want privatization, let them read or wait for court determination!" - Gift Chamulimba

"HH did good to turn it down. They were going to twist things up if he was interviewed". - Dean Sisc

"Poor timing, when you were advising him to appear on that interview you knew that such questions

would take centre stage, advising him not to appear just brought about embarrassment and exposed your incompetence". - Caristo Mwango

"ZNBC has become the mouthpiece of the PF. This country is in need of major surgery". - Kelvin Pumulo

"The court is the best response". - Wanosha Wanosha

"The SG is a liability. That was a golden opportunity for HH to hammer those political incompetents by giving the Zambian people the rightful information... How I wish it was King Cobra the man of no nonsense!" - Gabriel Bangah Mususwa

"Had he appeared the same people would have cited him for contempt of court as the matter is in court". - Rogers Kapila



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.

Government's request for suspension of Eurobond interest payment

Editor,

"There's no shame in conceding that you have no plan in getting us out of this mess. Let our government just come clear on how grave the situation is and we can all chip in with solutions.." - Katai Kachasa II

"Where are the proceeds of the same? Why not use it to repay the Loan? You told the nation you didn't get the eurobond for plunder or consumption, let it service itself". - Isaac Sulwe

"When professional Advice was given, the one that gave it was called a bitter person". - David Simbayi

"We have set up a sinking fund'. This is what PF said when people raised concerns about borrowing without having tangible plans of repaying. How can we trust PF any more? they put us in a very messy situation financially. May the Almighty God see the suffering of his people and deliver our nation". - Lassie Kakuta

'Simusamba wants Kambwili jailed before he is sacked by the Judiciary'

Dear editor,

"He wants to make sure Kambwili is jailed before he is sacked by the judiciary". - Mutinta Mulonda

"He has already eaten PF money and he is about to be kicked out of the bench so he is in a hurry to fulfill the agreement which SEERI told us that they agreed to jail C.K by October". - Rich Banda

"Simusamba must go!" - Travis Chingah Desiigner

"This magistrate is a disgrace to the judiciary, to

think that the chief justice has not reprimanded him is shocking". - Maimbolwa Kamanga

UPND on replacing HH a non-starter

Editor,

"Mwanza Tembo Makopa Exactly HH should carry on as UPND party #president then put in place vibrant #VEEP & #SG. The two plus other leaders at national level should ensure that in all provinces, districts, constituencies, wards and branches, there are hardworking leaders to represent the party. This will enable #Bally to unseat #ECL in #2021.

Hikakuta Hamz Remove HH and the opposition is dead in Zambia...it PF propoganda.

Andrew Simate Sitali When your unfair opponent is telling you how you can win, just take the opposite advice you are being given, for they honestly don't want you to beat them, so why take their advice. Same in this case of opponents saying who should be replaced as the leader and contestant.

Richard Waga Only UPND's enemies want HH replaced. It is like man city supporters asking Liverpool to fire Klopp!

Steven M Mwalusi When your political opponents spend 90% of their time talking about the man just know they fear him. Why replace him with someone they will like who is weaker? Watch zNBC news to get an idea of the extent to which they fear the man

Cephas M Kunda The UPND should keep their eye on the ball and avoid even looking at stupid statements meant to distract them. The agenda of removing HH from the party presidency in an election year is a silly PF project borne out of fear for the man and should not be worthy of any attention from the UPND. The PF should be left to suffer continuous nightmares of HH in State House.



By Natasha Sakala

ACTIONAID global tax advisor Mtswalo Msoni says there is need for government to create a 'wealth tax' where the country's high-income earners can contribute towards funding development and narrow the huge inequality gap.

And Msoni says government should do away with borrowing money to finance development, but fund it with locally-mobilised resources.

Speaking ahead of the 2021 national budget presentation, Msoni urged government to explore implementing higher tax bands for high-income earners, while cushioning low-income earners in addition to creating a wealth registry that could help finance the country's huge developmental needs.

"So, even as we look at broadening the tax base, we need to have a critical analysis of how much revenues are actually being generated in these other sectors that we want to broaden versus

Zambia needs 'wealth tax' to narrow inequality gap, ActionAid tips govt

what is there out there from the wealthier to the poor. So, that is to say that we might be looking at taxing the informal economy, a woman trader very high rates, but if you look at the redistributive effects of tax she might be bearing a higher burden than what will actually be accrued to her in form of public services, which at some point, will not be gender responsive. So, we need to look at where the money is, and like I made mentioned, we have very wealthy individuals in the country, we have very high inequality levels; why don't we explore ways in which we can have higher tax bands for high-income earners, while cushioning the low-income earners, relieving them from the

tax? And why don't we look at exploring ways in which we can have a registry for wealth taxes. We have a registry for those who are wealthy and they are subject to paying a form of wealth tax," Msoni said, when he featured on a special interview on Radio Phoenix, Monday.

"There have been efforts by the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) in the recent past with the digitalisation of tax payments trying to make tax payments easy for people in different sectors. There have been conversations about tapping into the informal economy, the traders across the country, in terms of increasing the tax base, but I think something that is of importance and something we need to be cautious about is the aspect of progressive taxation. As ActionAid, we call for progressive taxation because this is a fair form of tax. Progressive taxes means that low income earners pay less. Extremely low income earners don't pay anything, the ones that earn higher should bear the higher tax burden. Remember, that one of the uses of tax revenue is to redistribute the wealth from the wealthy to the less wealthy."

He added that a higher tax for the rich was not designed to milk the rich, but that they ought to pay their fair share so that everyone can have access to fundamental human rights.

"By virtue of you being born as a human being, by virtue of being born in Zambia, I have the right to access fundamental public services; I have the right to education; I have the right to wealth so me not having the resources, considering that probably resources have been distributed unequally, and you had access to land, you had access to building material and you now own a shopping mall should mean that I should live as less of a human being, I should not go to school and get that education and this is where government comes in. The fundamental role of government is to ensure that you are okay, you are well off to do and myself, considering that I do not have these resources, and eventually going to have to beg, it's

about you paying your fair share. We are not saying we want to leave you poorer or are blaming you for the inequality that's happening, but what we are saying is that you, just like everyone else, should have access to fundamental basic services and we should be looking at reducing the inequality gap," he said.

"We can't have you have K1 billion in your account when there are people who are going hungry, that's against the fundamental human rights and the fundamental principles of redistribution of taxation. So, this is something that we need to explore as an avenue in terms of generating revenue to finance development."

And Msoni said government should do away with borrowing money to finance development,

but fund it with locally-mobilised resources.

"If you look at our previous budget, we plan to spend about one in every K5 to service the debt and because of devaluation of the currency, we probably are going higher. I think that is something that we cannot run away from, it's something that we need to budget for going forward, and for us, I think what is important for us is to try to stay within the target for our budget, which was 5.45 per cent of the GDP in 2020. That requires us to raise more domestic revenues to finance development so that we can do away with more borrowing. Prudent management of resources will also be important if we are to access the IMF bailout package, which would help us with some of the aspects of the import cover

and balance of payment deficits. So going forward, of course, we will need to budget a good amount towards debt servicing. This is something that we can't run away from and we need to do it well. We can't keep borrowing to finance our development, we need to look at financing our development more with domestic resources. So the 22 per cent target for domestic resource mobilisation as a percentage of GDP, leading into 2020, and we do not expect less in terms of us being at level where we are comfortable enough to finance our own expenditure prudently, of course, and finance our own development and doing away with debt," said Msoni.

A wealth tax is a levy on a percentage of people's net wealth designed to reduce income inequality.

The tax policy is usually applied in advanced or more developed economies where it could be applicable to citizens' financial investments, property, art and valuables, among other revenue-generating assets.

I've been making big donations even before I became minister - Malanji

From page 7

"...I have a lot of work to do [rather] than respond to arm-chair criticism. Let them write a letter to me and ask me. Do you know that I am Minister of Foreign Affairs? I don't use my salary for anything, even when I was working before COVID-19 when you go out, you have US \$5,000 for your per diem, and when I go out there, I look after myself and when I come back if I change it, how much is that? So, some people came to Parliament for a salary, which is not the same for everyone," said Malanji in an interview.

"You must know that even when I came to Parliament, I had my own hotel, I had other businesses. Others come to Parliament with completely nothing! You can ask the people from Kitwe...I bought a converted Pajero in 2009. You will find that there was a big bus moving in Kitwe donated by me. When you go to my golf background, you go to Chainama and ask them, 'who bought all the chairs at Chainama Golf Club?' In 2008, I bought them chairs worth K63 million. You go to Kasama, I bought all the chairs. Why were they not asking me that time? I was not a minister, but I bought for all the clubs that needed such. Even at the Nkana Golf Club in 2006, I bought all the chairs there, which cost me US \$11,000. The only order you can have at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is to sell stationary, there is no contract you can get from that Ministry."

Recently, several PF Ministers have been donating huge sums of cash to their constituents as gifts ahead of next year's general election.

Aside from Malanji's donations, Nkana PF member of parliament Alexander Chiteme donated K50,000 cash to freedom fighters in his constituency.

In June, this year, Lusaka Province Minister Bowman Lusambo also splashed out K400,000 to taxi drivers in Kabushi constituency in Ndola District, among other donations, despite not having any known source of income prior to being elected as area member of parliament in 2016.

Some members of the public have, however, repeatedly questioned where government officials had found such huge sums of cash to afford to give away.

ConCourt dealt with Lungu's eligibility, insists Makebi

By Julia Malunga

MALAMBO Patriotic Front member of parliament Makebi Zulu has insisted that the Constitutional Court settled President Edgar Lungu's eligibility case.

Last week, the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) said the ConCourt did not deal with the eligibility case of President Lungu.

And PF chairperson for legal affairs Brian Mundubile said the ruling party agreed with the LAZ position that the ConCourt did not deal with President Lungu's eligibility for the 2021 election, but insisted that President Lungu was eligible to stand as he would only have served one term in office by then.

But in an interview, Zulu said the ConCourt specifically dealt with the issue of President Lungu's eligibility in the case which was before them.

"I do not want to be seen to be contradicting what my colleagues are saying but when the question

of eligibility was brought before the ConCourt, it was specifically relating to Edgar Chagwa Lungu. Then the court said; 'you have phrased the questions in this manner; this is a very important issue we do not want to personalize what is going to come out of this because this is going to bind everyone. In that case, we are going to depersonalize the question and take out the name Edgar Lungu but still deal with the questions anyway.' So in dealing with that question, they dealt with the circumstances which relate to President Edgar Chagwa Lungu. They went to define a term and went to define what eligibility in those circumstances was. Of course, they did not deal with the issue of citizenship, there are other criteria of eligibility that are there," Zulu said.

"In so far as the court is concerned, in that particular judgment, is that a person who has served less than three years, [it] cannot be deemed to be a term. Now, if you get that

judgment and apply it to the person of President Lungu, does he qualify in those circumstances? The answer is yes, he does qualify in those circumstances. So if you are going to look at this in terms of whether the court named President Lungu in their discussions, I would say they did not name him because they chose to depersonalize him because that judgment was not only binding on President Lungu, it is supposed to bind everyone. So they looked at the general circumstances of the case. And if you are going to apply those circumstances to President Lungu, it fits. So in this particular case, President Lungu's issue of eligibility in so far as the judgment is concerned and application to his circumstances, he does qualify."

Zulu said there was no need to go back to court because President Lungu's eligibility case was settled.

"We are not going back to court. What I have said is that the court set out what the circumstances are and the issue is when we apply those issues to President Lungu, he does qualify. There is no need to go back to court. That is why I keep insisting that this issue of eligibility of any person for that matter who falls in those circumstances, does that person qualify? The answer is yes. And the only person to whom those circumstances currently can be applied is President Lungu, there is no other person whose circumstances fit in that position. Maybe there will be in future, we anticipate that such a situation would arise," said Zulu.

"And what the ConCourt was saying is that 'let us not deal with this issue as it relates to President Lungu, let us deal with it conclusively to set the law straight so that the next person who comes does not need to go back to court to say, do I qualify?' In this particular case, the court has settled this issue in relation to President Lungu, in relation to any other person in the Future whose circumstances may be similar to those that are currently prevailing in relation to President Lungu."

2 foreign nationals in jail for attempting to get NRCs in Mwense – Kampyongo

By Ulande Nkomesha

HOME Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo says government will deploy more police officers to protect equipment and officials involved in the mobile issuance of national registration cards during phase two.

And Kampyongo has refuted opposition claims that some foreign nationals are obtaining NRCs, saying that in fact, two foreigners are serving jail sentences for attempting to do so in Mwense district.

In a ministerial statement to Parliament, Wednesday, Kampyongo said government was aware of incidences where officials were attacked and some equipment was stolen and destroyed.

He said disrupting the exercise was a criminal offence, warning that law enforcers would be at hand to arrest perpetrators.

"Some unfortunate incidences were recorded in some villages in North Western Province; some sub chiefs wanted their subjects to register on their NRCs their chiefdoms even when they were not gazetted. In other parts, our officers faced challenges of language barriers at the

start of the exercise. However this issue was quickly resolved as the Ministry was able to engage local interpreters. In other incidents, officers were attacked and some equipment and materials were stolen and destroyed. To that effect some suspects were arrested and charged accordingly and we will appear in the courts of law. This is not only unfortunate but also illegal because officers are citizens who are sent on national duty," Kampyongo said.

"Let me make it clear that disrupting is a criminal offence and law enforcement agencies will always be on hand to arrest the perpetrators. The Ministry will ensure that in the second phase of the exercise, more security officers will be deployed to ensure the safety of officers and government equipment. There were also reported cases of some organisations disrupting smooth operations of the registration exercise in the name of monitoring. I wish to clarify that monitoring of mobile registration exercise is a function of government. If stakeholders want to observe the mobile registration exercise, they can do so in consultation with the district commissioners and without interfering

the registration process."

Kampyongo said police were investigating pictures which were circulated of children holding NRCs because it was clear that the children were paraded to discredit the exercise.

"We have also seen some unscrupulous characters, unpatriotic Zambians, if they are, who have been parading young children and they have circulated these images. You can tell the innocence of these children they have been parading and give them NRCs belonging to elderly people to portray a picture that government is giving NRCs to these young children. Police are on this case and they are pursuing these culprits and we shall make sure that they are brought to book because doing so is not only an attempt to discredit a very important exercise but an act of lawlessness. We are not going to stop at nothing until we zero in on these culprits," Kampyongo said.

And Kampyongo said it was disheartening that some political parties were insinuating that non eligible persons were obtaining registration cards.

"It is however disheartening to note that some sections of society particularly

political parties have been insinuating that non eligible persons were obtaining national registration cards. The law is very clear regarding persons who are eligible to obtain NRCs and anyone who contravenes the law has to be dealt with accordingly. I urge all those with information on the non eligible persons who have fraudulently obtained NRCs to report such individuals to law enforcement agencies immediately. Government will not allow non eligible persons to take advantage of the ongoing mobile issuance of NRCs exercise to get NRCs. Two persons of foreign origin who attempted to obtain NRCs in Mwense district were arrested and prosecuted and are now serving short sentences after which they will be deported to their countries of origin," Kampyongo said.

And Kampyongo said he had waived the fee for obtaining a police report for those intending to replace their NRCs.

"Using the powers vested in me, I have waived the requirement for a police report which attracts a fee of K84 for those who would want to replace their NRCs which have been lost during this exercise especially for our people in the far flung areas," said Kampyongo.

By Abraham Kalito and Ngosa Chalwe

COACH George Lwandamina's surprise departure from Zesco United has split supporters at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium in Ndola, while some soccer analysts have described his exodus as unfair.

On Tuesday, the eight-time Super Division champions announced that they had mutually agreed to part ways with the coach after two seasons together.

This was Lwandamina's second stint at the club since he joined Tanzanian side Young Africans, replacing Tenant Chembo in 2018 after signing a three-year deal.

In 2018, he won the league with the club before defending it during the transition season in 2019.

However, this season, Zesco failed to live to the billing after failing to defend the title which ended up at Nkana Stadium.

The club further failed to make it for CAF inter-club competitions after they finished outside the top four, despite having started the season in good form.

Soccer analyst and Chipolopolo Soccer Fans chairperson Yotham Mwanza said in an interview that Zesco's move to fire Lwandamina was surprising and unfair as he had delivered according to people expectations during

Lwandamina's firing was unfair - Mwanza

his stints.

"It is very surprising, much more because when you look at 'Chicken George', he has given Zesco United two titles and one Barclays Cup. He has also sent them to the semi-finals in the CAF champions league against Mamelodi Sundowns and he could have gone, if he had won that game, he could have gone all the way to the finals," Mwanza said.

"So, he is one person that has done great for Zesco United and for me, I believe that 'Chicken George' should have continued, especially that the team wasn't performing badly or wasn't performing below the expectations of the people in the previous season. We all know that things change but look at the successes that he has done so, in a way I want to believe that it is a bit unfair for Zesco United to part ways with 'Chicken George', it is."

And reacting to the announcement of his departure, some fans appeared to have celebrated the news, stating that they had grown tired of his tactics which were oftentimes defensive.

Others, however, hoped that the club settles for a world class replacement.

Below is how some Zesco fans reacted to

the announcement of Lwandamina's departure on social media:

Daniel Mwaba: "This decision should have been made a long time before last season was over, this time we would even be part of CAF Champions League, anyway this is the decision I have been waiting for."

Noel: "Good Move Zega, he was a useless coach... we need a world class coach who knows what he is doing not try and error."

Pelvis Mako: "We thank God, I was bored watching his style of football playing defensive at home."

Sebe Mulumbwa: "Best decision so far. Thanks a lot. Finally we shall stop using one formation: two defensive midfielder's formations."

Douglas Kashinshinte: "It was long overdue; the Chicken's tactics were obsolete in today's game. Zesco should have signed Tenant."

However, there were those who were sympathetic towards the former Red Arrows and Chipolopolo coach as they believed his sacking was a wrong move.

Kamfwa Kamfwa: "The departure of coach Lwandamina will have a damaging [effect] on the team ukuchila Covid-19 efyoyachita Pachalo."

Abraham London:

"Thanks for the efforts for Zega Mambo...all the best in your future endeavours."

Whatson Musonda: "Thank you for your

memorable experiences and trophies, we wish you all the best in your future endorsements."

Gordon Chabala: "All

good stories come to an end. Go well coach."

McDonald Mwamba: "I will miss you Chicken, you were my best coach."

FIFA lifts Nkana transfer ban

By Abraham Kalito

THE Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA) has lifted the transfer ban imposed on Nkana two weeks ago.

The Zambian champions were handed a transfer ban by FIFA after failing to pay Ghanaian goalkeeper Steven Adams his remunerations.

FIFA's Dispute Resolution Chamber ordered Nkana last year to pay the Ghanaian international US\$27, plus 5% interest dating back to August 2018 as the players entitlements.

But Nkana had failed to meet the obligation, prompting FIFA to ban the super league side early August this year.

However, FIFA head of players status committee' Erikas Montemor Ferreira stated, Wednesday, that the federation had lifted the ban after the players representative confirmed that the two parties had settled the matter.

"We refer to the above-mentioned matter and, in particular, the decision passed by the Dispute Resolution Chamber (DRC). In this respect, we acknowledge receipt of the communication of the legal representative of the player, by means of which he confirmed that the parties settled the matter. Consequently, we will now proceed to the closure of the present matter. Furthermore, we kindly inform your club that the ban imposed on it in line with the aforementioned decision is now lifted. We thank you for your kind attention to the above," Ferreira stated.

Adams joined Nkana as a free agent in 2018 after signing a three year deal.

Nkana has in recent times been embroiled in club and player conflict regarding settling of remuneration.

In April this year, the

12-time champions were ordered to pay former striker Walter Bwalya \$32,

000 USD in salary arrears after the Club defaulted on the sign-on fee.

No Messi, Ronaldo in UEFA Men's Player of the Year nominations for first time in 10 yrs

LIONEL Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo have been left off the final shortlist for the UEFA Men's Player of the Year award for first time in 10 years, with Kevin De Bruyne and Robert Lewandowski set to battle it out for the individual prize.

Ronaldo, who currently plies his trade in Italy with Juventus, has picked up the accolade on three occasions and also has a total of nine nominations to his name, while Barcelona superstar Messi has won it two times and made the final shortlist in six of the last 10 seasons.

Both men have stood out as the best players of their generation for well over a decade, but as they continue to advance into their thirties, an inevitable changing of the guard is beginning to take shape.

Juventus exited the Champions League at the last 16 last season after a surprise defeat to Lyon, while Barca were knocked out in humiliating fashion in the last eight by eventual winners Bayern.

Ronaldo only managed three goals in eight appearances and Messi recorded three strikes in the same number of matches, with Lewandowski ultimately finishing as the competition's top scorer with 15 to his name.

The Bayern striker is now in line to win the coveted Player of the Year award alongside Manchester City's De Bruyne and Allianz Arena team-mate Manuel Neuer, who recorded a clean sheet in the final victory over Paris Saint-Germain on August 23.

Virgil van Dijk won the award in 2019 after helping Liverpool win the European Cup for the sixth time in their history, but was not in the running this time around due to the Reds' defeat to Atletico Madrid in the first knockout phase.

De Bruyne could become the second Premier League player to get the nod in as many years when the final announcement is made before the draw for the 2020-21 Champions League group stages on October 1, having inspired City's run to the quarter-finals.

UEFA have also announced the final nominees for the Women's Player of the Year award and Men's Coach of the Year, with Lucy Bronze, Pernille Harder and Wendie Renard shortlisted for the former, and Jurgen Klopp, Hansi Flick and Julian Nagelsmann in contention for the latter.

Meanwhile, Lluís Cortes, Stephan Lurch and Jean-Luc Vasseur make up the final candidates for the Women's Coach of the Year, as the managerial awards are set to be presented for the first time in the competition's history. **GOAL**

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GEORGE'S DISMISSAL

By Abraham Kalito and Ngosa Chalwe

COACH George Lwandamina's surprise departure from Zesco United has split supporters at Levy Mwanawasa Stadium in Ndola, while some soccer analysts have described his exodus as unfair.

UNFAIR - MWANZA

On Tuesday, the eight-time Super Division champions announced that they had mutually agreed to part ways with the coach after two seasons together.

This was Lwandamina's second stint at the club since he joined Tanzanian side Young Africans, replacing Tenant Chembo in 2018 after signing a three-year deal.

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However, this season, Zesco failed to live to the

billing after failing to defend the title which ended up at Nkana Stadium.

The club further failed to make it for CAF inter-club competitions after they finished outside the top four, despite having started the season in good form.

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"It is very surprising, much more because when you look at 'Chicken George', he has given Zesco United two titles and one Barclays Cup. He has also sent..."

FIFA lifts Nkana transfer ban

Story page 11

FM TRAVELLERS /MAGODI LODGE LTD

Just arrived is a 32 seater luxury business class coach that includes a coffee making machine and a toilet inside with an excellent aircon facility. The business bus has been scheduled to depart from both Lusaka and Livingstone at 08:00 from Monday to Friday and Saturday Sunday it will be scheduled at the same time from Lusaka to Kitwe.

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