

Kampyongo mocks Kabimba for calling PF govt *chipante pante*

KA WYNTER FINSHI

By Mirriam Chabala
Home Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo mocks former Justice Minister Wynter Kabimba for calling the PF a chipante pante government. On Monday, the Rainbow Party General Secretary charged that there was no hierarchy in the PF government and further accused Kampyongo of being an irresponsible minister.

“Now this is a government that is talking as if one Minister is from Botswana and the other one is from DRC, it is like they don't sit in the same Cabinet meetings. This is a government where the Vice-President says one thing and then the Minister says another contradicting the Vice-President.

Continues on page 5

UKWETE?

Don't hide in LAZ, form a political party - Edgar Lungu

By Joseph Mwenda

President Lungu has called the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) to form a political party and stop hiding behind the curtain of a legal association.

Continues on page 7

PF Councillor escalates fight with PS Kasolo

By Joseph Mwenda
In a phone conversation, a Chipata PF councillor accuses Eastern Province Permanent Secretary Chanda Kasolo of receiving “a lot of money” from people to displace residents who voted for the ruling party.

Continues on page 7

Police, OP trailing me - Kambwili

By Mukosha Funga
Former Information Minister Chishimba Kambwili says police and officers from Office of the President have been trailing him for the past few months, making his work in his constituency difficult.

Continues on page 2

Katete teacher beheads his 'cheating' wife

Story on page 4



Linda Kasonde

LAZ doubts basis for declaring Threatened State of Emergency

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) president Linda Kasonde says neither the President nor the National Assembly have powers to extend the Threatened State of Emergency beyond the already approved three months. And Kasonde says LAZ

will consider taking action if any set regulations under the Threatened State of Emergency are not in conformity with the Constitution. At a press briefing today, Kasonde said the executive should have been slow in invoking Article 31 until a conclusive public statement regarding the outcome of police investigations on the unfortunate events leading to the invocation was issued.

Continues on page 5

UPND pleads with DPP, Judiciary to hear HH

Lungu has no power to release HH even if they hug or kiss – Makebi

By Mukosha Funga

Eastern Province Minister Makebi Zulu says President Edgar Lungu has no powers to release his political rival Hakainde Hichilema from prison even if they kissed and hugged today.

And Makebi says government has no intentions to close down certain publications but has powers under Chapter 112 of the laws of Zambia to regulate what can be published.

Speaking at a Patriotic Front interactive forum today, Makebi, who is also Malambo PF member of parliament, said President Lungu still would not have powers to release HH if the two reconciled today.

He was responding to a question from one of the journalists who wanted to know in what capacity President Lungu “allowed” Catholic Bishops to visit HH when he constantly said he was not involved with his arrest.

“The President can only release some from custody after they have been convicted through a pardon. In between, there is no other process which secures a release. A visitation of someone who is in custody is not a release, so the two cannot be equated. And in this particular case, the Catholic Bishops have said they need to go and visit him for purposes of securing dialogue or indeed seeing to it that the parties dialogue over issues that they may have between UPND and PF or indeed UPND and government to facilitate for such dialogue. But I am sure that this dialogue does not include anything to do with the release of HH because the President does not have such powers. Assuming today that HH says ‘okay, what I did was wrong. I shouldn’t have gone in the manner I went about’, we have reconciled, we kiss and hug and make up, still the President would have no power to say ‘release him’ because he has no such powers in the first place,” Makebi said.

“So whoever would want to facilitate the dialogue, as the Patriotic Front we have always been open to dialogue and we want to dialogue for purposes of having peace in the country... but in pursuit of that peace, we will not break any law. We will do everything by the book in order to achieve that peace. If today, there was a reconciliation as it is being referred to, still, the President would have no power to have him released from custody.”

He noted that the Catholic Bishops did not need to seek permission from President Lungu to visit HH saying the Head of State simply affirmed their right.

“Once HH is in custody, he is in the hands of the executive. The executive is an arm of government being led by the President and because it is being led by the president, he is in charge of all facilities... that is why when the police come to you they say ‘in the name of the president’, all that they execute they execute for and on behalf of the President. But as regards the powers to release a person out of custody without due process, the President does not have that power. In fact, the Catholics did not even need to ask for permission from the President if they needed to go and visit. The fact that they did does not in any way insinuate that they did not have that power in the first place. But the President saying you can go and visit is simply an affirmation of the right which they already have unless for security reasons it is stated by the courts as to why certain people cannot visit a person in custody, any other person will be free to visit,” Makebi said.

And Makebi said government did not intend to close down any



media houses but to regulate content.

“There are no intentions to close certain media houses. But perhaps we need to put context to certain statements. I am not aware as to who may have issued that statement to say there are intentions but I can say bluntly that there are no intentions to close certain media houses. However, under Chapter 112 of the laws of Zambia, it gives leverage under the regulations to be able to state what ought not be published,” said Makebi.

“I will give you an example, if there is an investigation that is going on as relates to whatever may happen causing apprehension, and the release of that information or if you have that information, it would lead to the perpetrators being aware of exactly what is being investigated on and is capable of disturbing the

investigations, government can say please, do not release this information because it is capable of hindering the investigations that are going on. That happens in every democratic society, that is not in any way to mean closing down. But we may regulate what ought and ought not be published and that can only be such as would threaten the security of the country or indeed threaten the integrity of the investigations that may be carried out.”

But at a media briefing yesterday, Inspector General of Police Kakoma Kanganja said certain publications would be regulated or prohibited.

Makebi also explained the Threatened State of Emergency and advised international media to contextualize the events that led to its invocation in their reporting.

Kambwili complains of police, OP trailing him

From front page

In a statement on his Facebook page today, Kambwili said he feared for his life as police could easily

kill him or plant something incriminating on him.

“I woke up this morning and found over 25 armed police officers and 6 office

of the president officers right outside my gate. From last night after I arrived in Luanshya police and op have been trailing me, trailing me as far as going into Shoprite right behind me. What is this nonsense? I am not a criminal, I am a law abiding citizen who deserves to be treated fairly. This state of emergency was not called to trail and harass Chishimba Kambwili,” he said.

“My home is private property and I am entitled to private life without police harassment, I now fear for my life because these police officers can easily kill or plant something at my home to incriminate me. I’d like to warn the police to immediately stop abusing their powers and focus on arresting arsonists and law breakers. Whoever is sending these police officers to harass me and my family should know that time is of the essence.”

Kambwili, who is also Roan PF member of parliament, complained that he had not been to his constituency for over two months because of being trailed by OP officers.

“Mind you I have not been in my constituency for over two months because of constantly being followed by OP officials, baring in mind that I am a constituency man and I make an effort to see my people every weekend, this harassment is becoming a burden on my ability to deliver my campaign promises. I am utterly appalled at the behaviour of these people, instead of them being out there chasing criminals they are following Chishimba Kambwili for reasons best known to themselves,” stated Kambwili.

“As soon as I came out of my gate the police officers began to scamper in all directions but I managed to follow one car and confronted the officers, when I asked them what crime I have committed for me to be harassed in this manner they had no answer and simply said it’s not our own doing. Whoever is behind this must know that I will not run away from my own home, I will not run away from my responsibilities because I am not a coward.”

MMD will be a strong factor in 2021 - Mumba

By Karen Mwelwa

Movement for Multi-Party Democracy (MMD)

indispensable.

Several key MMD members have taken up Cabinet positions in the ruling PF among them Dora Siliya (Agriculture), Felix Mutati (Finance), Lucky Mulusa (National Planning), Vincent Mwale (Local Government) and Victoria Kalima (Gender). Others are Dennis Wanchinga (General Education), Margaret Mwanakatwe (Commerce) and Michael Katambo.

But speaking in an interview with News Diggers! Mumba said his party was doing “very well” and that the above names were not

factors.

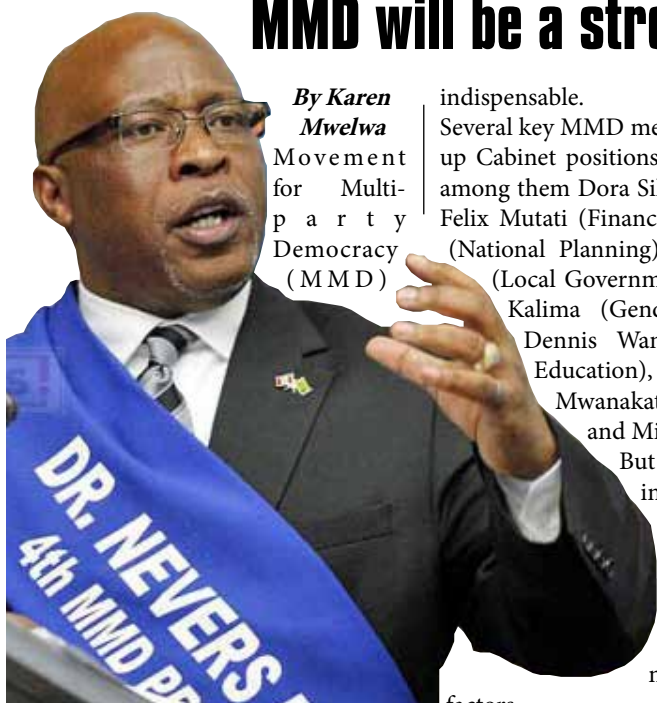
“Our case is in court and we are confident that within the next few months this thing will be disposed off and MMD will decide once they go to the convention to strengthen themselves in order to participate in the 2021 elections. We are focused and the problems we are facing are not unique, it happens in all the political parties

and we have successfully fought this misbehavior by some of those people,” Mumba said.

“Right now, MMD has gone through the challenges and you know the genesis of these problems and who is responsible. No person holds a political party and that without them a political party wont exist, that doesn’t exist in the world. We are very confident that after this process MMD will reorganize itself and become a very strong factor again by 2021.”

Mumba however said his party was currently preoccupied with strengthening its Alliance partnership with the United Party for National Development (UPND) “in order to challenge the poor PF governance with a stronger voice”.

“We are still Alliance partners with UPND and we are going to do what we are supposed to do to make sure that we strengthen the opposition front. We are in partnership with the UPND and we will continue to put up a united front. So there is no need for any of us to dissolve themselves,” said Mumba when asked if was considering dissolving the MMD in order to form one party with UPND.



leader Nevers Mumba says the former ruling party will be a strong factor by 2021 after the court disposes off the leadership dispute with Felix Mutati.

And Mumba, who is also former vice-president, says his party is still financially stable and that those members of parliament who have left to join the Patriotic Front (PF) were not

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Inspector General of Police Kakoma Kanganja says police will regulate and prohibit publications and dissemination of matters, as well as restrict and control assemblies during the Threatened State of Public Emergency period.

Speaking at a press briefing today, Kanganja also disclosed that eleven people had been arrested help police with investigations on the recent fires and acts of sabotage that the country has recorded.

“Let me clarify that we are not in a State of emergency. We have just been given extra powers to ensure that peace, public safety and order prevails in the country. During this period, police will regulate and prohibit publications and dissemination of matters pre-judicial to public safety, restriction and control of assemblies, control of movement more especially during hours of darkness, apprehension and detention of suspected criminals beyond 48 hours, search of places without a warrant, to mention but a few,” Kanganja said.

“With these powers, we have no reason to fail but instead, we will ensure that sanity, peace and order prevail in the country. However it must be noted that I will not allow any abuse of these powers entrusted in us. Any officer who abuses this Act will be disciplined accordingly.”

Kanganja also said investigations into what caused the Lusaka City Market fire revealed that it was deliberately ignited.

“I wish to inform the nation that findings of investigations undertaken so far by the team have revealed that the cause of the fire was as result of deliberate ignition by unscrupulous people with ill and pre-meditated intentions. This means that the investigations have eliminated the possibility of an electrical fault or accidental acts as the cause of the inferno. Therefore, this incident is purely an act of arson,” he said.

Police to regulate media during Threatened State of Emergency

“According to investigations, the fire started from stand number 238/239 in the yellow zone of city market. Further, the stand had no power for three days including that fateful day, no electrical appliances were connected

to the power supply on those stands. I do not want to dwell into details as this may jeopardize our investigations.” The IG further revealed that eleven people had been rounded up to help the police with investigations.

“But be informed that so far, more than eleven people have been rounded up to help police with investigations and the investigations which have reached an advanced stage and any time soon, perpetrators of this ill-act

will be taken to court. At this juncture, let me warn the perpetrators of these crimes that police will deal sternly with anyone found wanting or has intentions of being involved in acts of sabotage or indeed any form of crime,”

said Kanganja. Meanwhile Kanganja warned that any person found on the wrong side of the law would face the full wrath of the law as police would smoke them out from wherever they would be hiding.



Police officers at court during HH case-Picture by Tenson Mkhala

We'll not protect PF cadres grabbing land - Mwila

By Mukosha Funga

Patriotic Front Secretary General Davies Mwila has warned party cadres engaged in land grabbing saying no one will be protected from criminality.

But on January 16, Mwila told Kabwe party officials to share land amongst themselves before advertising the rest.

“Yalya ama plot ba mayor, nimwe mu kwete amaka.

Ama plots nga yali 500, ba councilor, nimwe mu kwete amaka kweba ati aweh, mwachita advertise 300, mwafumyapo na 200. Namu kwata amaka. 200 mwafumyapo, 300 mwatwala ku chintu bwingi and 200 mwa akanyamo naba ward chairman naba nani (Those plots Mr Mayor, you are the one with the power. If those plots are 500, you the

councilors are the ones with the powers to say ‘we shall advertise 300 and remove 200. You have the powers to remove 200 and take the rest for others to access and you can share with the ward chairmen and others),” said Mwila.

“With me, I have told you, that PWD [in reference to the Planning, Information system, Community

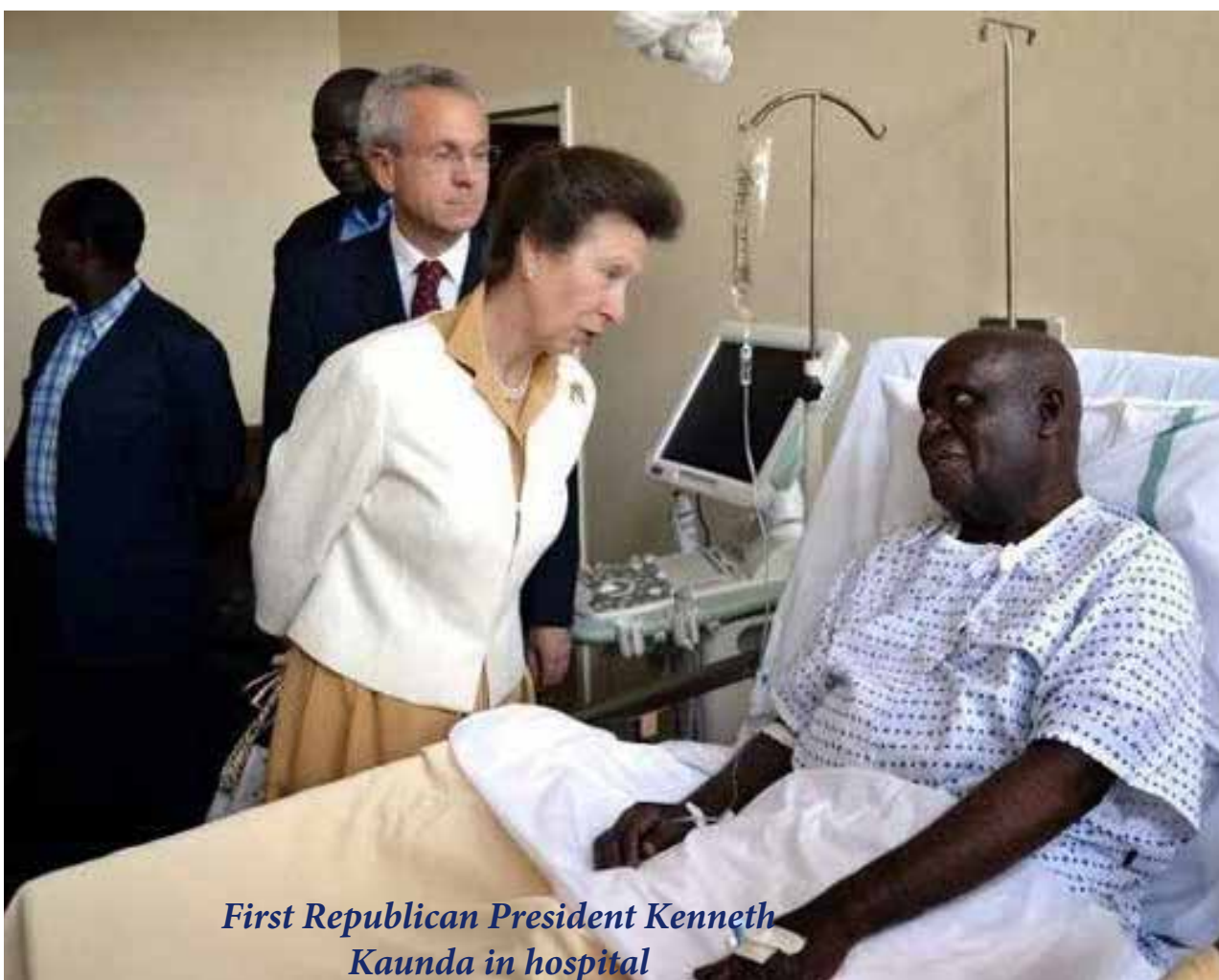
development and Social welfare committee (PISCDC)] the chairman is PF. Just in there pa pa pa, it’s mathematics, bwali bwa mbusa, [bwakulya akachenjele] [a discreet meal for the wise is only shared among the clever ones]. You throw 300 to the general public, then you know that this 200 even our people should benefit as long as you have followed the law so that tomorrow you are not arrested. Are we together? Chomba’s mother [figuratively speaking] will even be boasting to the neighbour, because the neighbour [who are] the UPND members laugh at our people, because they [figuratively speaking] that you have come back without even one plot. Now if you can have a plot, you would know because you will point at it.” Mwila did not retract his statement despite wide criticism from opposition leaders and civil society organizations but instead suspended the party’s Kabwe district chairman Mulenga Chela and his secretary Bostin Mpende who were suspected of leaking the video and audio recordings of his infamous meeting.

However, in a statement issued by PF Media Director Sunday Chanda yesterday, Mwila warned cadres to avoid using the name of the party to engage in criminality. “The Patriotic Front Secretary

General would like to warn party cadres engaging in illegal land grabbing that it will not shield anyone from criminality as the party does not and will not support criminal behaviour or anyone using the party name to engage in criminality. The party as received reports alleging that people calling themselves PF party cadres are involving themselves in illegal land grabbing in Lusaka. The Party will not promote such criminality by individuals identifying themselves as members of the Patriotic Front,” Mwila said. Mwila called on law enforcement agencies to act on such incidences.

“Political belonging does not immunize criminal offenders from prosecution. President Edgar Lungu and the Patriotic Front party is very clear that we are a party order. We do not support barbaric acts such as illegal land grabbing or illegal land allocation. The party recognises that they are civil leaders and government officials tasked with these duties and as such their offices should be left to carry out these duties without any political interference,” said Mwila.

“Let me emphasis that we shall not entertain criminals using the party name to engage in criminality, we are a party committed to serving the Zambian people and we shall serve them with honour and dignity.”



First Republican President Kenneth Kaunda in hospital



R-L Amos Chanda, President Edgar Lungu and Archbishop Telesphore Mpundu

Teacher beheads his 'cheating' wife

By Joseph Mwenda

A teacher at Omelo Mumba primary school in Katete district has beheaded his wife whom he suspected of having an extra marital affair.

Eastern Province police commissioner Alex Chilufya confirmed the incident and identified the victim as Mumba Kalaba, and the husband as Tobias Mwale, 33.

"The victim is Mumba Kalaba, 26, of Ibex Compound Katete but is from Yasakwa village chief Mabumba, Mansa, a midwifery at Kasama General Hospital. She was murdered in a marital dispute by Tobias Mwale husband, 33, of the same address; a teacher at Omelo Mumba Primary School. A blood soaked machete was found at the scene with head almost severed from the body and cuts on the neck, shoulder and left wrist. The suspect is in police custody for murder," said Chilufya.

And a Katete resident who visited the crime scene narrated that Mwale suspected the wife of cheating on him with her Ex.

"What happened is that the wife had a child before getting married to this man. We understand that this lady was sponsored to college by her husband. So it so happened that she was posted to Kasama General Hospital where she was working as a nurse. Now apparently, she had a child before getting married to this teacher; and the father to her child, we understand also works at the same hospital in Kasama. But the child was staying here in Katete," the witness narrated.

"Three days ago, she came to Katete to visit her husband and her child. Now, it seems the husband had heard stories that his wife wanted to leave him for the father of the child. So it's like when the wife said she wanted to return to Kasama with the child, the husband confirmed that she wanted to leave him. We understand the man found messages on her phone from the Ex, telling her to leave him so that they start living together in Kasama. That's how they started having an argument which led to a fight."

The witness narrated that in the course of the fight, the husband produced a knife and sliced the wife's throat.

"The whole incident took place in the bedroom. He killed her using a sharp panga to cut off her head. She was found lifeless in the bedroom wearing just an underwear," narrated the witness who sent pictures to News Diggers! too graphic to publish.

"The mother to the murdered wife has been called and told that her daughter is very sick in ICU and she needs to travel immediately."

Catholic Bishops ask Lungu, HH to humble themselves and dialogue

By Mirriam Chabala

Archbishop Telesphore Mpundu has asked President Edgar Lungu to humble himself and consider face to face dialogue with incarcerated UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema.

This is according to a statement issued by Special Assistant to the President for Press and Public Relations Amos Chanda.

"His Excellency Mr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu President of the Republic of Zambia today met with members of the Zambia Conference of Catholic Bishops (ZCCB) at State House. The church leaders were at State House to underscore their commitment to working with Government for the good of the Zambian people. ZCCB president, Archbishop Telesphore Mpundu who led a 14-member team of Catholic Bishops said: 'We are emissaries of our Church and we come to express our good wishes to you and your Government,'" Amos stated.

"The Catholic Bishops also appealed to the President to humble himself, put the country first and seriously consider engaging in a genuine face-to-face dialogue with opposition leader Mr. Hakainde Hichilema, such dialogue that will be aimed at reconciliation."

Archbishop Mpundu also asked government to facilitate the bishops' visit to HH so that they could also ask him to humble himself.

"Your Excellency is quite alive to the historic reconciliation that took place between the two late presidents Levy Mwanawasa and Michael Chilufya Sata. We would like the State to facilitate our visit to Mr Hakainde Hichilema so that we can deliver the same message to him, namely to humble himself, open the door and pursue the path towards genuine reconciliation," Archbishop Mpundu said.

"Our overriding concern is the aftermath of the election that was held in August last year, 2016. It cannot be denied that it was a divisive election which has left the people of this nation deeply divided. Following Your Excellency's appeal on 12th March, 2016 at Mpika, we

responded by drawing leaders from other church groupings to put our heads together in order to bring the political players together in view of conducting campaign peacefully and ensure peaceful elections. The meeting at the Anglican Cathedral of the Holy Cross was meant to achieve a consensus on how to conduct peaceful campaign. You are also a witness that it was not very successful."

Archbishop Mpundu also asked the Head of State to embark on a programme of national reconciliation.

"We repeat this call to Your Excellency and through you to your Government to embark upon a well spelt out and action oriented programme of National Reconciliation through genuine dialogue. We call upon you as President of the whole nation not just your political party to put in place concrete measures to reverse the worrying and very dangerous trend of doing politics through violence," said Archbishop Mpundu who hoped that the meeting would be a building block in promoting a mutually appreciated relationship between the Church and State.

"We never tire to reiterate that the constituency of the Political Authority and that of the Church is one and the same, namely the people of this great nation. That is why the State and the Church must cooperate with each other in its sphere of competence for the benefit of our people. This cooperation consists of comparing notes and exchanging experiences in view of enhanced service delivery to God's people at whose service both the State and the Church must be in order to be relevant."

The bishops also bemoaned acts of economic sabotage.

In response, President Lungu welcomed the Bishops' overtures for dialogue and their request to visit HH.

He also reassured the Church of his commitment to Constitutionalism, democracy and the rule of law.

"My Lords I wish to assure you of my full commitment to our citizens' democratic rights. They shall be safe under my

Presidency," he said.

President Lungu thanked the Church for their appeal to dialogue and reconciliation while urging them to be more vocal on actions from any quarters that threaten national peace and unity.

"I want to appeal to the Church to speak with a louder voice against violence and other acts that undermine our peace and unity," said the Head of State.

Archbishop Mpundu led 14 bishops along with Father

Cleophas Lungu who attended the hour-long meeting whilst the President was accompanied by Religious Affairs Minister Reverend Godfredah Sumaili, Presidential Affairs Minister Freedom Sikazwe and Home Affairs Permanent Secretary Dr Chileshe Mulenga.

The other 13 bishops are: ZCCB Vice-president Bishop Alick Banda, Bishop Ignatius Chama, Bishop Patrick Chisanga, Bishop Justin Mulenga, Bishop Charles Kasonde, Bishop

Clement Mulenga, Bishop Evans Chinyemba, Bishop Moses Hamungole, Bishop Valentine Kalumba, Bishop Raymond Mpezele, Bishop George Lungu, Bishop Benjamin Phiri and the ZCCB Secretary General Father Cleophas Lungu.

Meanwhile, Home Affairs Permanent Secretary Dr Chileshe Mulenga who also among those who attended said his Ministry would immediately facilitate the Bishops' request.

Katanga is lying, there were many officers at my house - CK

By Mukosha Funga

Former Information Minister Chishimba Kambwili says Copperbelt Province Police Commissioner Charity Katanga is lying that she sent only one officer to his house.

Yesterday, Katanga dismissed Kambwili's complaint that there were 25 officers at his house saying police only sent one plain-cloth officer to after they heard that he was planning to hold a press briefing.

"We can never harass him. He should not drag the name of the police to the media. It's not true that police officers were trailing him or manning his house because we don't have enough manpower to do so. Today [Sunday], we received information that the former minister wanted to have a press briefing. So, as per routine we sent a plain-cloth officer to check the situation, we didn't send armed officers," said Katanga.

But in an interview today, Kambwili wondered whether Katanga was saying those who were at his house were lunatics.

"Following media reports of what Copperbelt commander has said is that all of us who were at my house yesterday are mad people. We are lunatics where we were seeing 25 police officers when it was only one



plain police officer. And that is what Katanga is telling us that we are lunatics that we can see one police man turned into 25 police officers," Kambwili said. "But the only thing I can tell Katanga is that only the truth shall set us free. And that is why I am now getting worried that my life is at stake because if the police commissioner can lie, to mislead people with impunity, then there must be something underlying in that is going on."

Kambwili also revealed that he had lodged in a complaint with

the Luanshya commanding officer who expressed shock at the presence of police at his house.

"And for your own information, I personally lodged in a complaint with the officer commanding at Luanshya and when I called him, he totally refused that police were not even aware of anything and they did not send anybody to my home. Now if the police commissioner in Luanshya says they did not send anybody, then the commissioner (Katanga) says

they sent one police officer, that should leave you to decide who is telling the truth between us and police. I called the officer commanding and asked 'what are your officers doing at my place? What have I done?' And he told me, 'honorable I am not aware, we have not sent anybody,'" said Kambwili.

"Now Katanga says they sent one officer, where did that same officer come from? Luanshya? Ndola? Where? So us we are lunatics, they are normal people, that is all I can say."

LAZ doubts basis for declaring Threatened State of Emergency

From front page

"In this case, the declaration continues to have effect having been approved by the National Assembly (subject of course to the result of the Court action that we have referred to above). Following such approval, Article 31 (5) provides that the resolution of the National Assembly will continue in force until the expiration of a period of three months commencing with the date of its being approved or until revoked on an earlier date," Kasonde said. "Parliament cannot extend the Threatened State of Emergency based on the same set of circumstances cited. Parliament only has powers to extend under an actual State of Emergency under Article 30. We note anxieties regarding how long the declaration of threatened emergency can last. This in our view cannot extend beyond three months as there is no power of extension under Article 31 as distinct from powers to extend that are available under Article 30." She said that the question as to whether or not the circumstances cited for the invoking Article 31 were justified could only conclusively be determined by a court of law. "President Lungu had the legal discretion to invoke Article 31. However, the question as

to whether the circumstances cited for invoking Article 31 were justified can only be conclusively determined by a court of law. The government does not have full emergency powers under a Threatened State of Emergency. Any powers exercised must be used in accordance with the Constitution and in particular in accordance with the Bill of Rights. Finally, the government has no powers to extend the threatened state of emergency beyond the three months approved by parliament," Kasonde said. She also urged the public to remain calm as the courts still had authority to ensure that powers were exercised lawfully under the Threatened State of Emergency. "In the interim, we urge the public to be calm and be comforted that even during this time, the Courts have power to oversee the exercise of executive and police powers to ensure that such power is exercised lawfully. We also urge the police to speedily investigate the unfortunate events and keep the public informed so that as soon as possible, we can return to a situation where the proclamation under Article 31 ceases to exist and remove the current anxiety on implications of invoking Article 31," Kasonde

said.

"We have taken note of the reasons given in invoking Article 31. We sympathize with the victims of all these unfortunate events but also note that there is yet to be issued, a conclusive public available information, regarding the

outcome of investigations by the police with respect to the unfortunate events leading to invocation of Article 31. For this reason, we think the executive should have been reluctant to invoke Article 31 despite such power being given to the President under the

Constitution."

And Kasonde said the association would consider taking action if any of the regulations under the Threatened State of Emergency were not in conformity with the Constitution. "We will definitely consider

taking action if there comes a time that those regulations are not in conformity with the Constitution. But as I earlier mentioned in the statement that we are engaging with government to ensure that anything of that act doesn't happen," said Kasonde.

"KA WYNTER FINSHI UKWETE?"

From front page

This is a government which has no hierarchy, it's just Chipante-pante, it is Changanya for everybody," said Kabimba. "And when you have irresponsible Ministers like the Home Affairs Minister [Stephen Kampyongo] telling the police that they must shoot on sight, forget about human rights and the Judicial process of the law and you have members of parliament cheering him as being a hero, you know that you are trading in dangerous waters and what is even more disappointing is that after Kampyongo makes that statement on the floor of the House, we don't hear the President telling him that this is reprehensible, you can't make such a statement or that this is not what this situ-

ation is intended to be. The man just walks away scot free with that statement and continues quarrelling with Chief Mukuni." But speaking in Mandevu Constituency in Lusaka, where he met youths to pledge government's assistance towards youth empowerment in the area, kampyongo laughed at kabimba, saying the only time he entered Parliament was out of Michael Sata's mercy. "Bakateka baiisa leta infunde lilya kunga yamafunde atini? Nomba ndeumfwa utupuba tumo na tu lawyer twamungulu, pantu tu lawyer nato tumo tulaba...tulafumuka. Nomba kalya akalwimbo twaleimba katleti shani? (The President did bring provisions of the law under which he invoked Ar-

ticle 31 of the Constitution to declare a threatened state of emergency to Parliament so that it could be debated, not so? But now I am hearing some stupid little lawyers saying silly things... because some lawyers also are confused. Now, that song we used to sing, what did we used to say?," Kampyongo said, leading the youths into singing. "Ka Wynter iyaya..uliwaboyoy iyayaa...finshi ukwete...iyayaa.. ifyakutupela..." After the song, Kampyongo continued, saying Kabimba was a political amateur. "Twalibebele balya twebele twamipelako umucinshi mwalatolauka, nomba elo bengesa mukulanda ati iyo Lungu apilibula ifunde ili ilyakweba ukutula umutende ubewe... nicho takwete popularity...bushe mwebantu kwena tamwatemwa Lungu mwebaliapa? Natwishiba balfwaya bakwateko utumaka ukutula bacilimo ngaba politician, ala politics teyabana!(We told these people but because we gave them some respect they want to start jumping up and down now insulting us, saying that Lungu has twisted and broken the law that brings peace in this country. They are even claiming that President Lungu is doing all these things because he is no loner popular, really? Don't you people who are here love Lungu? We know that they

are making all these baseless claims just to gain political mileage, but politics is not for children)," Kabimba said. "Baliiminine bena bu Presidential candidate nomba utuma vote bakwete teti mpalanye nayakwete ba Jean [Kapata] yafulisha, ndemona na councillor fye uwamuno nama vote akwete ala yafulishapo... kuti mwafunyapo mwamupelako nembasela. Nomba lelo ebengesa mukulanda ati iyo iyo ine nomba ninebo nkweite popularity, popularity yakwisa? Eicho bambi ngaba Wynter ukusangwa mu Parliament lya-li lishuko lyaba Sata, tababalwa abasalwapo kumuntu ati iyo twakusala. So ngamuleumfwa balemilondolwela basendamofye icushi mulya. (Some of these are people that stood as Presidential candidates but the votes they got can not even compare with the ones that your councillor from here got. You can divide Wynter's Votes from him by two and still have a remainder and today they want to be telling us they are more popular than we are, which popularity? With such votes? And for some people like Wynter, it was because of Sata that they even found themselves at Parliament. Otherwise, he has never been voted for by anyone so he shouldn't lie to you because there is nothing that they know about Parliament they just got away with smoke from there," said kampyongo.

We'll never torture, harass prisoners - Chato

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Zambia Correctional Services (ZCS) Commissioner General Percy Chato says his commission is committed to embracing the Nelson Mandela Rules of ensuring that no prisoner will be subjected to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degradation treatment.

Chato said this during a breakfast meeting on the Nelson Mandela rules, which was organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), as a build up to the commemoration of the Nelson Mandela International Day which falls on 18th July, 2017. He said the commission was committed to ensuring that all prisoners were treated with the respect due to their inherent dignity and value as human beings.

"The ZCS is committed to embrace basic principles contained in the Mandela Rules, that is; All prisoners shall be treated with the respect due to their inherent dignity and value as human beings; and that no prisoner shall be subjected to, and all prisoners shall be protected from, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, for which no circumstances whatsoever may be invoked as a justification," Chato said.

Other rules which the Zambia Correctional Services committed to embrace include; to establish and improve collaborative partnerships with stakeholders in Correctional/Prisons/ Penitentiary management; Undertake to professionalize Correctional/Prisons/ Penitentiary Services as a strategic objective; Strive to transform the African Correctional/Prisons/ Penitentiary systems as a critical agenda; Embrace the media to promote the positive image for Correctional/Prisons/ Penitentiary Services; and to improve the rehabilitation and reintegration processes in Corrections/Prisons/ Penitentiary Services in order to reduce high levels of recidivism.

Meanwhile the Nelson Mandela Rules presented a minimum of 122 rules for the treatment of prisoners in African Correctional Facilities.

Other rules which were highlighted in the Mandela rules report included rights to family and friends, rights to legal representation, conjugal rights, right to embassies for foreigner prisoners, education, health, and meaningful activities among others.

"Prisoners are allowed to receive visits and to contact their family and friends through other means such as by phone or letters. Visiting restrictions must not be used as a disciplinary measure, particularly for women prisoners and their children. Prisoners have the right to inform friends or family about their imprisonment, transfer and of serious illness or injury. If a near relative or spouse/partner falls seriously ill or dies, the prisoner should be authorized to visit or attend the funeral. Conjugal visiting rights should apply without discrimination," read the report book on the Mandela rules.

"Prisoners must be given adequate opportunity, time and confidential facilities to meet with their lawyer. They should have

access to effective legal aid, in accordance with international standards. Prisoners are allowed to have access to and keep legal documents, so they are able to effectively participate in legal proceedings."

And Speaking at the same event, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, National Coordinator Sharon Nyambe disclosed that the prison population stood at 10.3 million worldwide.

"A lot of prisons are in Crisis. Many are overcrowded, others are inadequate. Across the world, prisoners face health risks, violence, high rates of recidivism, as well as emerging threats, such as violent extremism in prisons. All of these challenges have added to the complexity of combining security, safety and human dignity within prison systems. As the guardian of the Nelson Mandela Rules, UNODC is responsible for providing technical assistance and advisory services to Member States in the field of penal reform," said Nyambe.

HRC hails Lungu for meeting Catholic Bishops, expressing willingness to dialogue

By Karen Mwelwa

Human Rights Commission (HRC) Chairperson Mudford Mwandenga has commended President Edgar Lungu for expressing willingness to dialogue with Hakainde Hichilema.

In a statement today, Mwandenga said dialogue was the hallmark of good governance.

"The Human Rights Commission (HRC) wishes to commend President Edgar Lungu for demonstrating commitment to the spirit of dialogue as demonstrated by his gesture of meeting with the Zambia Conference of Catholic Bishops and expressing willingness to engage in dialogue with the United Party for National Development leader Mr Hakainde Hichilema. As the Human Rights Commission has stated before, dialogue in a multi-party democracy and plural society such as Zambia is a hallmark of good governance and must be always encouraged," Mwandenga stated.

"It is therefore encouraging that President Lungu is willing to provide the required national leadership to facilitate political

dialogue in order to bring to an end the continued hostile political environment. The Commission believes that such a landmark decision may result into a peaceful resolution of the current political conflicts and enable the country to focus its energy and resources on improving socio-economic rights of citizens."

The Commission insisted that continued political hostility was endangering the maintenance of peace, law and order in Zambia.

"The Commission is looking forward to a spirit of give and take among the political leadership and engage in a candid but mutually respectful dialogue to achieve the desired go of promoting political harmony and securing the rights and freedoms of everyone. It must be appreciated that the continued political hostility is endangering the maintenance of peace, law and order as well as grossly undermining the promotion and protection of fundamental human rights and freedoms," Mwandenga stated. "Zambia, like many other great nations, has in the past relied on political dialogue

to avoid slumping into political instability. It is therefore encouraging that President Lungu has expressed commitment to keep Zambia's long standing tradition of engaging in dialogue and recognising the befitting role of the church in brokering peace in this country. It is hoped that other stakeholders will positive respond to the Catholic Bishops' call for dialogue. There is need to put aside sectorial interests for the greater good of Zambia."

Mwandenga warned other stakeholders and the media to desist from making statements that could jeopardise the impending dialogue.

"The Commission wishes to call upon various stakeholders, including the media fraternity, to desist from making statements or publications that have the potential to jeopardise the impending dialogue. The Commission further wishes to take this opportunity to commend the church in Zambia for its continued role of uniting the country and promoting human rights through their social justice and selfless work," stated Mwandenga.

Don't belittle me, warns Chishimba Kambwili: What if I want to stand as president in 2021?



Kambwili speaking as Youth and Sports minister at the Freedom Statue in Lusaka - Picture by Joseph Mwenda

By Mirriam Chabala

Former Information minister Chishimba Kambwili says people must not belittle him by worrying about his future as PF member of parliament for Roan, because he might have bigger plans ahead of 2021.

And the outspoken Copperbelt political heavyweight says he calls his Minister Bowman Lusambo a boy because he behaves like one.

In an interview with News Diggers! this morning, Kambwili emphasised that it was not logical for people to start endorsing candidates for the 2021 elections, and recalled that although PF wanted Michael Sata to be the sole candidate for the next election, the late president never made it to 2016.

When asked how he hoped to survive in the PF if not adopted as parliamentary candidate in 2021, considering that he was considered at loggerheads with the ruling party leadership, Kambwili said the question was belittling because he might be eying the presidency by then.

"Are you sure of that?" Kambwili reacted when told that a lot of people in PF did not want him. "That is a joke of the year! Those are wrong statistics, first to begin with, those are wrong statistics unless you say a few people then I will agree with you because those statistics you have are very wrong. Those few members who don't want me will be the ones to move out because they are few, you have already said 'those few' so they will be the ones to move out because they are very few and they are paid up"

When challenged that it was a possibility that he could not be adopted again on the PF ticket, Kambwili answered: "Excuse me! Adopted where? And who tells you that in 2021 I am going to stand in Roan? Why are you belittling me, supposing I want to stand as President? So how do you know for you to say 'if you are not adopted in Roan?' Politics is dynamic my sister. So you don't know what I will opt for."

The former minister took time to explain that he was not comfortable discussing 2021 prospects, adding that it was time for those who were elected into political office to work.

"It's too early for me to talk about 2021 and I have advised so many times. This is time to work, not to talk about whether someone else will be adopted in Roan, somebody else will be adopted as President, that's too early to talk about those things. Tell all those who are talking about those things that let them work the way I am working," Kambwili said.

"I have no time to waste, to talk about 2021 because it's not my preoccupation. I have no time to waste to talk about 2021 and I will not even waste time to talk about 2021 because politics are dynamic. People were calling for Mr Sata, Mr Sata sole candidate, but Mr Sata died before 2016, so it's foolish for anybody to be talking about 2021 in my view."

And, Kambwili said he was a truthful man and he would continue to call Lusambo a boy as long as the latter does not change his behaviour to that befitting a minister.

"I don't have any differences with anybody, for me I talk the truth, what is wrong is wrong. If black is black I will call it black, I will not call it yellow. And if that is having a problem with people then so be it. I call a spade a spade and not a pick for the sake of impressions. For me if somebody is a man and he is behaving like a boy, I will call him a boy, it's simple, that's me. So if one misbehaves like that and he is called a boy and you call it differences, so be it because if you are a Minister, you are supposed to behave like a Minister...you are not supposed to behave like somebody from the streets or somebody from the station," he said.

Meanwhile, Kambwili said he was not sure if he will register his concerns in the party at the forthcoming Central Committee Meeting to be chaired by President Lungu because he had not seen the agenda. "I have not seen the agenda yet so it's very difficult for me to give any reasonable comment because I have not seen the agenda. But from the way he (President Lungu) spoke yesterday, it's like they want a reconciliatory meeting for all the people that have got issues according to them and of course we will cross the bridge when we get there," said Kambwili.

Baboon 'sabotages' Zesco machines in Livingstone

By Diggers Reporter

A baboon this morning tampered with high voltage Zesco machines, plunging about 50,000 customers in Livingstone and Western Province into darkness. Zesco Spokesperson Henry Kapata confirmed this to Byta FM adding that had the baboon been human, it would have been taken to court.

"The baboon tampered with the A station and the B3 and B5 machines in our power station cutting electricity to Western Province and

of course Livingstone town so we have about 28,000 customers in Livingstone and 22,000 customers in Western Province. So the baboon cut our power station around 06:50 hours," said Kapata.

"The lines the baboon was tampering with are extremely high voltage. You can see that it was electrocuted in so many ways but it has survived. It is an animal, we cannot prosecute it otherwise if it was a human we would have taken it to court."

There's no hierarchy in PF leadership - Wynter

From front page

And Kabimba says Inspector General of police Kakoma Kanganja's briefing on the Lusaka City Market Fire was unsatisfactory because it did not prove government's claims of sabotage.

Meanwhile, Forum for Democracy and Development (FDD) Spokesperson Antonio Mwanza says there is no connection between sabotage and wanting to limit people's rights through prohibiting assemblies and regulating the media.

The duo was speaking when they featured on Joy FM's The Platform programme this morning to discuss the Threatened State of Emergency.

Kabimba said there was "Chipante pante leadership in PF".

"When city market was gutted, we got information that it would be reconstructed within six weeks in other words, middle August the market will be up and running and all those who used to trade from there will go back there to continue with their businesses, that is coming from the Vice-President but the Minister of Local Government and Housing also comes and says it will take one year to reconstruct it. But the question is when did they find that contractor and when did they float the tenders? Because if they want to float a tender...and find the lowest bidder will take not less than one year, so who has been sitting with that contractor in the office and promising him that city market will be gutted in future so we shall give you the tender?" Kabimba asked.

"So the marketeers are right to reject that move because it is not being done in good faith. Now this is a government that is talking as if one Minister is from Botswana and the other one is from DRC, it is like they don't sit in the same Cabinet meetings. This is a government where the Vice-President says one thing and then the Minister says another contradicting the Vice-President. This is a government which has no hierarchy, it's just

Chipante-pante, it is Changanya for everybody."

And Kabimba challenged Kanganja to immediately identify the 11 people arrested in connection with arson and state their political affiliations.

"This sabotage attributed to the opposition and in fact it is zeroed in to the UPND if you listen to the statements. Now, the question is of the 11 people that have been arrested, according to the IG, we want the IG to tell this nation; out of those 11 suspects how many of them are members of the Rainbow Party? How many of them are FDD and how many of them are from UPND? We want their names and their political affiliations. We want the government to answer these questions; why are citizens being inconvenienced if you don't know who the perpetrators are because just telling us that 'we have arrested 11 suspects' means nothing, we want to know who they are and if they don't tell us who they are, they should stop using the word sabotage," Kabimba said.

"Not every act of arson can be described as sabotage and that must be made very clear. If I have a quarrel with someone and in the end I go and burn down their house, that's arson yes but it's not sabotage. So it is not every act of arson that you can describe as sabotage. For example how many times has Chisokone market in Kitwe been gutted in the last 10 years? That market has been gutted almost every year, would you describe that as sabotage? The answer is no...it means any subsequent measures that are going to be put in place are targeted at the opposition."

He also condemned Home Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo for his statement that police would kill anyone found near Zesco pylons and over his quarrels with Chief Mukuni.

"And when you have irresponsible Ministers like the Home Affairs Minister [Stephen Kampyongo] telling the police that they must shoot on sight, forget about human rights and

the judicial process of the law and you have members of parliament cheering him as being a hero, you know that you are trading in dangerous waters and what is even more disappointing is that after Kampyongo makes that statement on the floor of the House, we don't hear the President telling him that this reprehensible, you can't make such a statement or that this is not what this situation is intended to be. The man just walks away scot free with that statement and continues quarrelling with Chief Mukuni," Kabimba said.

He also observed that life would not be the same under the Threatened State of Emergency.

"That process [of declaring a Threatened State of Emergency] should be followed by a publication of regulations. Now I haven't seen a copy of the regulations, I hope the department of government publications have got copies ready for citizens to buy. But going by what the Inspector General of Police said two days ago at a media briefing, life is not going to be the same and this is what he said just to paraphrase him, firstly he said they are going to curtail assemblies. It will not be easy now for more than two people to assemble and that includes Churches, political parties unless PF has been exempted. The other thing that the IG said was that they are going to ban certain publications or they are going to actually prescribe certain publications during this period so that they can now start saying that if you say this or if you write this then you commit an offense," said Kabimba.

"So life cannot be the same. Therefore, the statement from President Lungu that don't worry everything will remain the same is not true. Life will not be the same after today, after the publication of the regulations. So we want to see that the regulations are saying."

Meanwhile, Mwanza, who is also FDD Deputy National Secretary, said there was no connection between trying to stop arson and

limiting people's rights.

"What is the connection between arsonists and myself coming to the radio station to express my views? Why should expression of views be criminalized under this semi state of emergency? What is the connection between a person who goes to City Market to light a fire and damage property with a person who is on radio talking about economic issues in this country? What is the connection between the arson at City Market and The Mast Newspaper which they want to block? What is the connection between people who want to meet for a press briefing with the people who are terrorizing the nation? There is no connection," Mwanza said.

"This clearly shows that the whole idea, if you listen to the President and even what the Inspector General of Police has been saying, the whole idea is to deprive citizens of their fundamental rights, liberties and freedoms. It has got nothing to do with the security of the State because if they want to secure property, they have a lot of mechanisms they can use without inconveniencing radio stations, blocking The Mast Newspaper, without blocking individuals like ourselves from expressing ourselves."

Mwanza also observed that once the ultra-modern City Market was built, the marketers would not afford to pay rent and they would be replaced by corrupt politicians.

"If they reconstruct it in that fashion which they want, to have underground parking and so called modern facilities which they want to put there, what will happen is that the people at City Market will not be able to trade there because the rentals will go beyond their reach and the people that will benefit are the same corrupt people that have managed to amass wealth using the poor people's taxes, the ministers are the ones that will have stands there selling," said Mwanza who also challenged Kanganja to give more details of the people allegedly behind sabotage.

ACC may be trailing Kambwili, not police – Amos Chanda

By Joseph Mwenda

State House Press aide Amos Chanda says it is highly likely that the Anti Corruption Commission (ACC) officers are following former Information Minister Chishimba Kambwili at his house, since they have now concluded a corruption probe on him.

President Edgar Lungu's spokesperson told a Patriotic Front press group, following questions from members on whether it was true that Police and Intelligence officers were trailing the Roan member of parliament, as claimed. Chanda said he contacted the police command immediately Kambwili made the claim on Sunday, and he was assured that no police officers were sent to Kambwili's house.

"If any wing of the state would turn up at his home, it would probably be ACC because they are the only ones for now who have confirmed having concluded a probe on him and were now analyzing whether they have a case against him," said Chanda.

"If police turn up at your house in those numbers it is because they have made their mind they will pick you up. 25 cops cannot run away from anyone no matter how big or small they may be! He (Kambwili) says he ran after one of them and stopped their car and confronted him; I called police immediately the Facebook post was brought to my attention and I was told by both local and provincial police chiefs, nothing of the sort was happening."

Copperbelt police commissioner Charity Katanga, however, confirmed that her office sent, but only one, police officer to check if it was true that the member of parliament was having a press briefing.

On Sunday Kambwili complained that officers from the police and Office of the President were trailing him and invading his privacy.

"I woke up this morning and found over 25 armed police officers and 6 office of the president officers right outside my gate. From last night after I arrived in Luanshya police and op have been trailing me, trailing me as far as going into Shoprite right behind me. What is this nonsense? I am not a criminal, I am a law abiding citizen who deserves to be treated fairly. This State of Emergency was not called to trail and harass Chishimba Kambwili," said Kambwili.

"As soon as I came out of my gate the police officers began to scamper in all directions but I managed to follow one car and confronted the officers, when I asked them what crime I have committed for me to be harassed in this

manner they had no answer and simply said it's not our own doing. Whoever is behind this must know that I will not run away from my own home, I will not run away from my responsibilities because I am not a coward."



UPND pleads with DPP, judiciary to hear HH

By Mirriam Chabala and Mukosha Funga

UPND Secretary General Stephen Katuka has complained to the Judiciary and the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) over the delay in setting up the trial date for Hakainde Hichilema's treason case.

In a statement today, Katuka said it was against public interest to treat the biggest opposition leader in the manner the PF government was treating HH, adding that his continued detention without hearing his case was tantamount denying him justice.

"As UPND, we believe that when there is a conflict between public interest and the law, public interest takes precedence. It has been over 90 days since the imprisonment of the leader of the largest opposition party in Zambia on treason charges that threaten to divide the nation. Despite a lot having been said by the PF and its leaders, including allegations that Hakainde Hichilema's lawyers are to blame for his continued incarceration, the reality of the matter is that in Zambia an accused person (and his lawyers) have little or no say as to when such a person is brought to Court, it is all in the hands of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) and the Judiciary," Katuka stated.

"It has now been over 30 days since HHs committal and yet nothing has been heard from the DPP or indeed from the Judiciary as to when he and other accused persons

will be brought to trial to face his accusers. While it is understood that the DPP and the Judiciary are very busy, it must equally be understood that they have a duty to mother Zambia because justice delayed is justice denied."

Katuka appealed to the offices of the DPP and the Judiciary to rise above partisan politics and ensure justice in the case of Hichilema's trial.

"A speedy conclusion to this case is a very important step towards healing our divided nation and the onus lies squarely with those two offices to simply do the right thing. Zambians want to believe that our Judiciary and the DPP are above partisan politics and each of them now has the best opportunity to prove that, not for the sake of HH and his co accused but for mother Zambia and all of us, her citizens and future citizens. We wait with prayer on our lips," stated Katuka.

PF Councillor escalates fight with PS Kasolo

From front page

Yesterday, Kasolo called for the arrest of Kanjala Ward councillor William Phiri, whom he accused of illegally selling land in an area called Referendum, along the Great East Road. Kasolo said the land in question belonged to Contract Haulage retiree and that he had therefore instructed provincial police commissioner Alex Chilufya to arrest Phiri for the illegal acts. "This councillor, William Phiri, thinks that he can sell the land as he wishes. You heard what the secretary general for PF Davies Mwila said. He wants the party structures to provide names of all those in PF who are flouting the law. I have instructed the commissioner of police, Chilufya, to arrest this man. The land doesn't belong to him and nobody is above the law. Only the council can allocate land in council areas, so how can William Phiri, a mere councillor, think that he can allocate land that belongs to others?" wondered Ksaolo.

But Phiri warned that if President Edgar Lungu heard the amount of money Kasolo received to reverse the land allocation, the Permanent Secretary would be in serious trouble.

In the audio, Phiri urges the Mayor of Chipata City Sinoya Mwale, to reason with Kasolo before the President hears of his corruption.

"I was trying to dialogue with PS but he is not willing to dialogue. What he is saying in the newspaper is defamation of character. I know what he is doing and I know how much money he has received on that land. He is getting his powers from the amount of money he has gotten, but if the boss, the President hears what he is doing, he is going to be in trouble. He can be the PS, but me I am an elected councillor with a five-year mandate," said Phiri.

"So what I am just doing is to stand for my people. Those are the people who voted for us. I cannot allow for the people that voted for us as PF to be removed and remain destitute. I know PS is acting under duress, but he he must be very careful when issuing statement like he is going to arrest me, arrest me for what? Please advise him, I know you are close to him and you talk to him, so talk to him because you don't know the amount

of money he has received..."

But Mayor Mwale disowned Phiri, saying the fight was between himself and the permanent secretary, adding that he should not drag that City Council in the mud.

"A Willy, I know you have issues is that area and I don't want to be involved. And I don't want the council to be involved. We are being accused as a council that we gave you authority to do whatever is happening there, but I have said no, we are not part of it. As far as we know councillors are not there to give land. I contacted your MP to sit down with you and he has not come back to me," said Mwale.

"I cannot advise Kasolo, if you have powers to sue him, sue him. You are saying he has defamed you, so it's you and him who know how to go about it, me I am not involved.

Lungu warns LAZ: don't hide, form a party we face you

From front page

LAZ president Linda Kasonde yesterday wondered whether the circumstances that led to President Lungu declaring a Threatened State of Emergency could be justified, and further said neither the Head of State nor National Assembly had the powers to extend the declaration beyond the already approved three months.

She added that LAZ will consider taking action if any set regulations under the Threatened State of Emergency will not in conformity with the Constitution.

"President Lungu had the legal discretion to invoke Article 31. However, the question as to whether the circumstances cited for invoking Article 31 were justified can only be

conclusively determined by a court of law. The government does not have full emergency powers under a Threatened State of Emergency. Any powers exercised must be used in accordance with the Constitution and in particular in accordance with the Bill of Rights," said Kasonde

But speaking at Kenneth Kaunda International Airport before departure for Swaziland this morning, President Lungu took great exception to the questions raised by LAZ, and challenged the association which he is also a member of, to form a political party.

"Where are the lawyers in this country?" asked President Lungu who was in the company of Press aide Amos Chanda.

"If the lawyers want to form a political party, let them go ahead and form a political party," he continued "Let them not abuse the profession; because what they are saying is politics, you can see it's politics. For me I challenge them to form a political party, but let them not abuse the profession."

He said he was ready to face LAZ if the Association wanted to challenge him.

"If they want to take me on on that one, they can take me on, we will meet them; but the truth is that there is too much politics in the Law Association of Zambia. So let them form a political party, but to abuse the law, the legal profession I belong to is totally unacceptable. Bye bye!" said President Lungu.



Lusaka Artisans
Market

'State of Emergency' will negatively impact businesses – Nalumango



By Karen Mwelwa

United Party for National Development (UPND) National Chairperson

Mutale Nalumango says the implementation of the Threatened State of Emergency will have a negative impact on businesses.

Speaking when she featured on Prime

Television's Oxygen of Democracy programme,

Nalumango said the declared state of emergency had become chaotic, creating an environment where criminals were going on rampage.

"This threatened state of emergency implementation has become even more chaotic, creating an environment where more criminals can be on rampage because people don't know when to stop, when to go home, when to

lock themselves up and if they do that then they have an impact, there is an impact on business, the shops are closing earlier than normal," Nalumango said.

Nalumango said there was no need for the declaration of the Threatened State of Emergency because it would have an impact on the country's economy.

"There is no need for a Threatened State of

Emergency, it has an implication whether you like it or not on the economy. These people who sell on the streets, maybe in the evening that's how they survive. I don't know whether they are able to do that properly, so this was done without much thought, to be sincere," she said.

Meanwhile Nalumango said her party would remain strong despite the declaration of the Threatened State of

Emergency, which she said was targeted at the UPND.

"UPND is strong, God fearing, law abiding. We have no intentions of evil for Zambia and because of that you will not cower us. We will not be intimidated in our own country we will do what is right for Zambia. We are a free people, we just want to be included in the governance of this country," said Nalumango.

Kwacha down to 8.8 per dollar

By Charles Mafa

The kwacha has continued with its positive performance against the US dollar and other major convertible currencies, breaking the 8 kwacha psychological barrier to an average high of K8.9 to the green paper.

Today, the local unit is trading at an average K8.8 and K8.9 from last week's K9.2 against the US dollar, according to

Bank of Zambia and Cavmont Capital Bank rates.

Experts say the main driver of the improved performance of the kwacha is the continued mismatch in demand and supply, with market fundamentals playing a minor role. On Wednesday, the Kwacha closed at K8.850 / K8.900 – K0.1 stronger than the day's opening levels of K8.950 / K9.000.

Last month during the launch of the ninth Zambia economic brief, the World Bank said that improved macroeconomic stability, especially a more stable exchange rate had improved conditions for the economic recovery. Other factors include single-digit inflation, the subsequent loosening of monetary policy and a gradual clearance of government expenditure and VAT arrears.

The World Bank also said a longer and heavier 2016-17 rainy season improved overall crop production and power generation, but temporarily disrupted some economic activity in early 2017 (for example in the construction and mining sectors). Given that crop production contributes over 87% to the output of the agriculture sector, these crop production gains are expected to lift the growth of the sector in 2017.

Improved power generation is expected to stimulate economy-wide growth, reversing the impact of two years of persistent power outages, said the World Bank.

ZRA says it collected K384m during Amnesty period

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) Corporate Communications Manager Topsy Sikalinda says the Authority has collected K384 Million and has received 267,707 in applications during the Amnesty Initiative.

And Sikalinda says businesses that will sign an extension agreement with the Authority after the expiry of the Amnesty, will be granted a grace period of up to December for them to clear their tax obligations. "After the amnesty, people still have a grace period of up to December

to clear their taxes and the grace period is only applicable to those who will sign the extension agreement. But in January, we shall start enforcement on any one who is defaulting, whether parastatal or private," Sikalinda said.

"The exceptional program aimed at helping taxpayers put their liabilities behind them has collected 384 million kwacha and received 267, 707 applications as at 30th June 2017. The Amnesty initiative gives individuals and businesses the opportunity to have 100 percent interests and penalties

waived off by simply paying the principal taxes."

Sikalinda said taxpayers had a great opportunity to start afresh and be compliant with the tax authority by applying for the tax amnesty.

"It is very important to reminisce that back taxes do not go away and that burden will continue to follow you and grow as long as you do not comply. Monday 31st July 2017 is the final opportunity for taxpayers to settle their tax debt and take advantage of tax amnesty which started on 24th April 2017. ZRA is cognizant that the liquidity

of most taxpayers is not very good and those who are unable to settle the principal taxes immediately have an opportunity to enter into time-to-pay agreements (TPA) and spread the payments up to December 2017," said Sikalinda.

"In order to ensure that more people are helped, ZRA will conduct a National Tax Amnesty Week from 17th to 21st July, 2017 in 12 different towns namely: Chingola, Chinsali, Chipata, Choma, Kabwe, Kasama, Kitwe, Livingstone, Lusaka, Mongu, Ndola and Solwezi."

UPND lawyers to cross examine IG in Tayali case

By Mukosha Funga

Chilufya Tayali has retained six lawyers to defend him in his Libel case against Inspector General of Police Kakoma Kanganja.

Tayali is alleged to have defamed Kanganja through a Facebook posting that the Inspector General was "covering up his inefficiency to charge UPND president Hakainde Hichilema with treason because he was supposed to be an accomplice as he planned to kill the President or fix Hichilema for not clearing the way for the Presidential motorcade".

When the matter came up on June 2, 2017 Tayali failed to cross examine Kanganja who denied being responsible for the motorcade saga.

Lusaka magistrate Felix Kaoma guided Tayali to be asking questions relevant to the case to prove his Facebook posting if at all he was the one who authored it.

Tayali has now engaged six lawyers namely Mulambo Haimbe, Keith Mweemba, Gilbert Phiri, Christopher Mundia, Zevyanji Sinkala and Nchimunya Mwangwe. However, the case did not take off due to Kanganja's absence, who was reportedly out of the country on national duty.

The matter was scheduled for cross examination and Tayali's six member defense team was eager to despite the court's decision to adjourn the case.

The defense vehemently objected to the adjournment of the case as there was no documentation to prove that Kanganja had travelled

abroad.

Tayali's lawyers applied to have the charge dismissed due to the absence of the witness as there was no proof to show that he had travelled out of the country. Gilbert Phiri and Keith Mweemba objected to the adjournment as there was

no reasonable ground for adjourning the case.

Magistrate Kaoma, however, refused to dismiss the charge against Tayali and instead adjourned the case saying the defense's application was misconceived.

But Haimbe wondered why

the state was dragging its feet after state prosecutors suggested that the matter comes up on August 8 and not on earlier dates.

In his testimony, Kanganja distanced himself from the Presidential motorcade incident in Mongu which led to the arrest of

UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema for treason, saying Provincial Police Commissioners work independently.

And Kanganja also warned social media abusers saying Tayali's case is a perfect example of how the law will catch up with them.

Court acquits Sylvia Masebo in ZAWA case

By Diggers Reporter

Former Tourism and Arts minister Sylvia Masebo has been acquitted by the Lusaka Magistrate Court on allegations of abuse of authority of office when she cancelled the tender for the hunting concessions.

Speaking to journalists after the judgement, Masebo said she was dragged to court as punishment for supporting Hakainde Hichilema during the 2015 presidential elections.

In her judgement, Magistrate Ireen Wishimanga said Masebo did not cancel the tender as purported by the state but directed the Zambia Wildlife Authority to cancel and nullify the tender and publication of successful bidders.

Magistrate Wishimanga said the prosecution had failed to prove the case beyond reasonable doubt saying they could have brought witnesses to testify on how Masebo benefited from the action she took of directing ZAWA to cancel the tender.

She said the state should have also demonstrated how the action of directing the cancellation was prejudicial to the government.

Magistrate Wishimanga said Masebo never benefitted from the action she took on behalf of government and that was why the tribunal that was constituted cleared her.

It was alleged that Masebo between Dec 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013 did abuse the authority of her office by cancelling the tender for hunting concessions without following the laid down procedure, an act which was prejudicial to the interest of the Zambian government.



Pick n Pay admit selling expired food, fined K18,500

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

The Lusaka City Council (LCC) Fast Track Court has fined pick n Pay Supermarket K18, 500 for selling expired beverages.

According to a ruling by Judge Brian Simachela, Pick N' Pay was found guilty of selling 13 x 2 litres of red apple flavored soft drinks, and 8 x 2 litres of ginger beer flavored soft drinks 8.

After pleading guilty to the charge, Pick n Pay was ordered to pay K18, 500

within 48 hours.

And in a statement today, Lusaka City Council Assistant Public Relations Manager Brenda

Katongola warned food and retail outlets to adhere to the relevant Acts of the Laws of Zambia, which among them included the

Local Government Act Cap 281; and the Food and Drugs Act (Cap. 303) Legislation 2006 (1972).

Chipalo sues ZAAA over travel allowances

By Diggers Reporter

Former Zambia Amateur Athletics Association national coach Jonathan Chipalo has sued the association general secretary Davison Mung'ambata for non-

payment of \$32,321 overseas allowances.

In a statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court, Chipalo is demanding lunch allowance at the rate of K85 per day from the

period of his secondment to ZAAA.

Chipalo says despite Mung'ambata promising to pay him the outstanding overseas allowances from June 1998 to February 2001, he had failed to do so.

He stated that even after Minister of Youth and Sports Moses Mawere directed to ZAAA resolve the issue out of court, the association had neglected to do so despite acknowledging that they owe him.

Chipalo claimed he accumulated travel allowances from trips to France, Senegal, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Japan and China among others.

He is also claiming for local transport and civil allowance as well as damages.

UPND wants ConCourt to quash Threatened State of Emergency extension

By Mukosha Funga

United Party for National Development (UPND) Secretary General Stephen Katuka says it is unconstitutional for the National Assembly to vote on extending the Threatened State of Public Emergency in the absence of the opposition party's members of parliament.

In originating summons filed in the Constitutional Court today, Katuka cited the Attorney General and Speaker as respondents.

"That I also verily believe that the decision by the Speaker of the National Assembly to convene National Assembly as aforesaid

on the 11th July 2017 was an ill-conceived chicanery scheme calculated to disenfranchise the said UPND members of parliament and their respective constituencies from participating in matters of national importance such as the approval of the precursor for a State of Emergency," Katuka stated.

"That by reason of the foregoing I have filed an Originating Summons to call for the interpretation of Article 31 2) of the Constitution of Zambia and impugn the decision of the Speaker and or National Assembly to approve the declaration mentioned in paragraph three."

Katuka wants the ConCourt to interpret whether the use of the words "by the majority of all members thereof" in Article 31 is so ambiguous, vague or absurd that it warrants for departing from the Liberal and Purposive rules of Interpretation and whether or not the Speaker can convene National Assembly in the absence of 46 suspended MPs.

Katuka also wants the ConCourt to interpret whether the remaining members of the House who comprise mostly of PF MPs can vote to extend the Threatened State of Public Emergency.

"If not, whether this is not a

suitable matter for the ConCourt to quash any decision, action or measure whatsoever by the Speaker of the National Assembly to approve by a resolution, the proclamation by the President of the Republic of Zambia as promulgated in Gazette Notice No. 448 of 2017 under Statutory Instrument number 53 of 2017 on the 5th July 2017 and declare that such was unconstitutional for being done in contravention of Article 31(2) of the Constitution of Zambia (Amendment) Act No 2 of 2017. Further, or other relief the court may deem fit or necessary," stated Katuka.

The Inspector General of Police Mr Kakoma Kanganja says "During this period of Threatened State of Emergency, police will regulate and prohibit publications and dissemination of matters which are prejudicial to public safety". We are very curious about how the police will implement this call.

How will the police regulate the media during this period? Does the Inspector General intend to deploy police officers into newsrooms? We are curious to understand how the IG and his police officers will judge what is newsworthy for newspapers to publish. We are eager to know how police officers will regulate what radio stations and television stations broadcast.

We wonder whether the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA), which is mandated to do that job, will be suspended during this period, or the Police command will form its own "hostile media" taskforce. We would have thought the IBA officers were better positioned to help the police achieve their objective because they are journalists and they understand what is news and what is unethical reporting. Of course, the IBA is also just a tool in the hands of the 'almighty' President, but at least they don't use guns to regulate TVs and Radio Stations.

If the Inspector General wants to send police officers to various newsrooms to scrutinise news before it is disseminated, they might as well take over the role of conducting interviews so that they educate and warn our news sources about what they can and cannot say.

This would make our work a lot easier. But of course we know that the police do not have the capacity to do this. To us, this sounded like a threat.

Don't gag media, let Lungu hear criticism

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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This sounded like the Inspector General was issuing an arrest warrant on any journalist who publishes or airs voices of those criticising the President. This message seemed to be targeting journalists from perceived hostile private media.

But the Inspector General is being unfair on the President of the Republic of Zambia. By issuing this threat on the media, Mr Kanganja is blocking the ears of the President; leaving him to only see things as they appear to him without the benefit of hearing what the people he is governing are actually saying. This is a dangerous way of governing and it will only fuel more and more

tension. The Inspector General must allow the President to hear criticism through the media, not only through intelligence briefings and police reports.

Before declaring a Threatened State of Emergency, the President knew that doing so would label him a dictator; and he asked Zambians in advance, to pardon him for acting like one. If the IG stops the media from reporting freely, how will the President know whether or not citizens have pardoned him for acting like a dictator?

We would like to remind the Inspector General of Police that the media in Zambia is already stretched, it is already regulated

beyond what one would imagine under a democracy. It is important for Mr Kanganja to realise that the private media in Zambia is not a political rival of the PF government. What should worry Mr Kanganja is not what Mike Mulongoti says in the newspaper or what GBM says on TV, because those he can arrest any time and throw them in prison without question, like he has already demonstrated on Hakainde Hichilema. The IG, however, must be worried about those within the system who don't agree with his deeds and those of the Head of State.

An example of what must concern the IG is the leaked audio of a

phone conversation between himself and Mr Amos Chanda, the President's Spokesperson – where the State House official was instructing the Police commander to use force and to be brutal on the opposition. We waited to hear Mr Chanda or Mr Kanganja call a press conference to rubbish that recording as fake, but it never happened. It's probably too late to argue about the immorality contained in that recording, but we urge the IG to focus on investigating that matter and announcing his findings to the public instead of regulating the already threatened media.

It does not help the Inspector General in any way to fool people

by claiming, through word of mouth, that police officers under his charge are professional when everyone in the country knows it is not true. Police under Mr Kanganja are a sham and they apply the law selectively according to political affiliation of offenders and one's standing in society.

On June 16, Lusaka Archbishop Telesphore Mpundu held a press conference where the Catholic Bishops demanded the immediate release of UPND leader HH. On June 23, police arrested UPND officials in Mongu at their secretariat for ATTEMPTING to demand the release of their leader. We immediately contacted Mr Kanganja's spokesperson, Esther Katongo, and asked her to explain why Archbishop Mpundu was not arrested or if police were investigating him. Katongo responded by saying "I don't have that information".

But the truth is that Archbishop Mpundu is a very powerful leader of the Catholic Church and police know that arresting him would be like shooting the President in the foot. In this case, the law applied only on the poor UPND officials in Mongu because they are political rivals of the ruling party. So where is the Professionalism among police that Mr Kanganja is preaching about?

That is why citizens are worried that police officers will abuse the extra powers that have been given to them. There is no guarantee that the police will not target PF political enemies under the Threatened State of Emergency. For us as journalists, there is nothing we can do to stop the IG, but we would like to remind him that the root of all evil is power; and the greater the power, the more dangerous the abuse.

Zambia's war on cannabis is insane, immoral



David Julian Wightman is a Zambian-Canadian journalist and human rights activist.

The headline is no exaggeration: the war on cannabis currently being waged by the Drug Enforcement Commission and Zambian judges and magistrates is completely insane and deeply immoral. Consider the sad case of Shakapeter Mzumala, a 52-year-old security guard in Chipata. Mr Mzumala was caged by DEC in September 2016 for "trafficking in 2.5 grams of psychotropic substances contrary to the laws of Zambia", according to a report in New Vision newspaper posted to the DEC Facebook page.

Just days ago, Mr Mzumala was sentenced to 18 years imprisonment with hard labour by Lusaka High Court judge Mwila Kombe. Mr Mzumala had a previous conviction for cannabis and served 10 years in prison, so the judge threw the book at him.

In defending the draconian sentence, Justice Kombe stated: "It shows that you have not been remorseful

and have no regard for the courts as you were previously sentenced to ten years for a similar offence but you did not learn your lesson. Therefore, I sentence you to a longer jail term of 18 years".

Cannabis has been criminalized in Zambia for almost 100 years, since the British colonial government instituted the Opium and Habit-Forming Drugs Act in 1924. Since then, every government of the post-colonial era has maintained the laws against cannabis and other drugs, despite the plant having a long history of cultivation and use in Zambia. One might even say that cannabis is a "traditional" crop in this country.

Since it was criminalized by the federal government in the United States in 1937, more than 20 million Americans have been caged for cannabis, while at least half of all current prisoners in the US are being held for the drug. Meanwhile, here in Zambia, since the US Drug Enforcement Administration began funding and training DEC in the 1990s, an estimated 100,000 people have been caged for cannabis, mostly poor and marginalized Zambians such as peasant farmers, unemployed youth, Rastafari, and children as young as 10 years old. These are poor and defenseless people who generally cannot afford expensive lawyers to plead their cases.

There is currently a major crisis of prison overcrowding

in this country, a fact confirmed by the Zambia Correctional Services. Zambia currently has a record number of more than 20,000 inmates against an official capacity of just over 8000. It is now estimated that half of all Zambian prisoners are being held not for violent offenses or serious crimes but for cannabis "trafficking", a non-bailable offense that guarantees prison overcrowding.

While most Zambians turn a blind eye, DEC has caging an average of 16 Zambians every single day for non-violent drug offenses, and have increased the pace at which they make arrests by 7% over last year.

Instead of making this country safer, DEC is fueling the deeply immoral crisis of prison overcrowding, which leads to violence, disease, and shame for those caged and their families.

Recently, Chief Justice Ireen Mambilima revealed that the Zambian judiciary is being let down by certain individuals within the courts. "Their work is characterized by laziness, practices such as corruption, misappropriation of funds, dishonesty and poor attitude towards members of the public – mistreating, pretending to be adjudicators, thus complaints from majority of Zambians," the Chief Justice decried. "It is such corrupt and dishonest individuals that are letting down the judiciary."

While it may not be "corruption" per se to

sentence someone to 18 years for "trafficking" 2.5 grams of cannabis, it certainly is laziness on the part of the justice to not challenge the efficacy of such a harsh sentence. Two minutes of research online will reveal plenty of scientific evidence that harsh and draconian punishments do not deter "criminality".

Justice Kombe and others would do well to consider their "attitudes to members of the public", particularly those who cannot afford legal defense. Perhaps Justice Kombe could take some time to consider the growing body of scientific evidence that cannabis is not nearly as dangerous to public health and safety as alcohol or tobacco.

Or perhaps she could have taken a moment to consider the repeated complaints that the Rastafari community has made in Chipata against local DEC officials. The Rastas were literally laughed in their faces when they complained that their prayer grounds were destroyed in a raid last year in which officers fired their weapons, burned the altar, destroyed sacred drums, and confiscated Bibles.

DEC is literally breaking the law by caging children and ignoring the Juvenile Act, yet justices such as Madam Kombe seem to be in lock step to carry on business as usual.

Far from protecting average Zambians from harmful substances, DEC is itself addicted to hunting and

caging poor people. In fact, DEC is totally out of control, a cancerous and non-transparent "security wing" agency that is doing serious damage to our society with its cruel and unusual punishment against non-violent poor and vulnerable citizens.

In sentencing Mr Mzumala to 18 years hard labour, Justice Kombe not only undermines the human rights and well-being of the defendant (and future defendants), she is also "letting down the judiciary" at a time when we need fair rulings in the interests of all Zambians.

At the age of 56, Mr Mzumala has been crushed by the law and will be lucky to survive his sentence. If he does, Mr Mzumala will have served a longer sentence than Nelson Mandela, and for what? Using a plant? Is that what passes for "justice" in Zambia?

While Justice Kombe has essentially sentenced Mr Mzumala to that long sentence, judges and law enforcement authorities in the United States are actually calling for cannabis to be legalized, chiefly because the law is being used to criminalize people and violate their human rights.

"The time has come for new thinking," stated Ohio Supreme Court Justice William O'Neill recently. "We regulate and tax alcohol and tobacco and imprison people for smoking grass... Treat addiction like the disease it is in the name of compassion." Unlike Zambian judges, Justice O'Neill and others

understand the benefits of legalization in terms of cannabis being controlled, regulated, and taxed like alcohol. He also believes that cannabis offenders should be pardoned and released. O'Neill is not alone, as dozens of former judges and even former drug prosecutors and police officials have come out against cannabis prohibition. A new study shows that as many as two-thirds of American police officers feel that laws against cannabis should be relaxed.

If only we had such courageous and forward-thinking people in our judiciary and law enforcement. Those who are aiding and abetting DEC's immoral, unsustainable, and unChristian war on cannabis should consider for a moment their involvement in perpetuating this mass violation of the human rights of tens of thousands of poor and marginalized Zambians. Sentencing poor, non-violent, and defenseless people like Shakapeter Mzumala to decades in prison does nothing to protect our society, in fact it accomplishes the opposite. It is no way to serve the public with "high levels of integrity", as judges were urged to do when raised to the bench. Failure by the judiciary or government to act on the crisis of prison overcrowding and police overreach will only deepen the problem, and continue to erode any remaining confidence and trust that Zambians have in our courts of law.

Federer plans to defend Wimbledon title in 2018

The 35-year-old, who defeated Marin Cilic in straight sets this past weekend to win his record eighth Wimbledon title and 19th major, plans to defend his trophy at the All England Club in 2018.

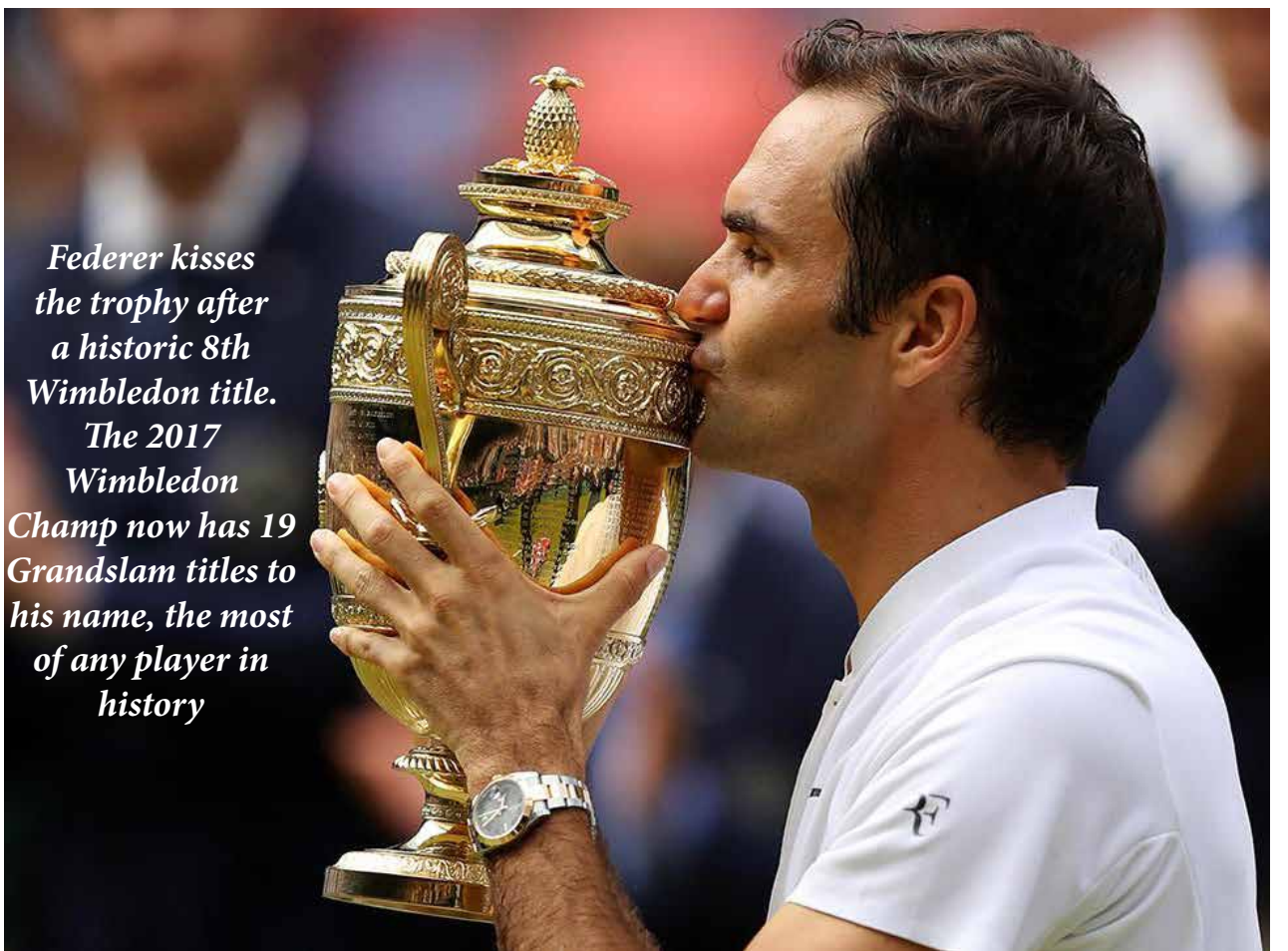
In winning the grass-court Championships, the Swiss legend became the oldest man to win a Grand Slam title in the Open era. After the decisive victory in the final on Sunday, he told fans on Centre Court that he'd be back on the grass the following year. But Federer, as realistic and pragmatic as he is dominant, knows that he'll have to maintain his health and manage his schedule properly if he wants to remain at this level.

"At 25, when you win you're like, 'I'll be back next year. It's normal. The body's going to be fine, most likely,'" Federer, who will turn 36 on August 8, told the Associated Press.

"But I can't really think years ahead now. Let's be honest."

After missing much of the 2016 season to recover from a knee injury, the world No. 3 is a remarkable 31-2 on the season with titles in Melbourne, Indian Wells, Miami, Halle and now Wimbledon.

Federer fully plans to play the final major of the season, the U.S. Open, at the end of August. A title there would give him 20 Slams overall and six in Flushing Meadows. - Tennis.com



Federer kisses the trophy after a historic 8th Wimbledon title. The 2017 Wimbledon Champ now has 19 Grand Slam titles to his name, the most of any player in history

From back page

Reports suggest the Premier League champions will pay £70 million for the Spain international, who is yet to agree personal terms or undergo a medical.

Manchester United had previously held an interest in the forward, but instead opted for Romelu Lukaku.

Morata will arrive at Stamford Bridge and will be tasked with replacing Diego Costa, who is set to join Atletico Madrid after

Chelsea agree £70m deal to sign Morata

being told he is surplus to requirements by Antonio Conte.

He will become the Blues's fourth signing of the summer, with Willy Caballero, Antonio Rudiger and Tiemoue Bakayoko already secured.

The 24-year-old leaves Santiago Bernabeu just a year after returning to the Spanish capital from

Juventus. He scored 20 goals in all competitions for Zinedine Zidane's side, but struggled to hold down a regular starting berth with Karim Benzema and Cristiano Ronaldo acting as competition.

Morata has made 21 appearances for Spain, scoring nine goals in the process. - Goal.com



Numba names 2017 COSAFA U17 squad

By Diggers Reporter

Mumamba Numba has named his final 20-member team for this weekend's outing at the 2017 COSAFA Under-17 Cup in Mauritius. Numba selected his team over the weekend after Friday's friendly game against defending FAZ Super Division champions Zanaco that the Under-17 lost 2-0 at Sunset Stadium in Lusaka. "The team underwent MRI tests over the weekend with the technical bench picking their final squad thereafter," FAZ spokesperson Desmond Katongo said. Zambia are due to depart for Mauritius on July 18 who will be hosting the tournament for a second successive year. The will run on the Indian Ocean Island from July 21-31.

Zambia are in Group B where

they have been drawn against Mozambique, Madagascar including record two-time champions and 2016 runners-up South Africa.

Team: GOALKEEPERS: Emmanuel Mphasi (Chizongwe Technical School), Bruce Kayuni (Bauleni United).

DEFENDERS: Reuben Kailo (Choma Secondary School), Christopher Katongo (Kasama Boys), Michael Mumba (Young Napsa), Kingsley Hakwiya (Kansenshi High), Victor Kasokolo (Mitondo), Jonathan Kapelembe (Romeki Football Club), Andrew Phiri (Morning Stars Academy)

MIDFIELDER: Michael Kafusha (Milungu Day Secondary), Clinton Lubula (Kabwata Dynamos), Lameck Banda (Nkwazi

Prince Mumba (Kabwe Warriors), Muma Mumba (Maamba High), John Mulalangabo (Kasama Boys), Niza Simutenda (Mpande Youth Academy), Jimmy Hamanzuka (National

Assembly), STRIKERS: Martin Njobvu (Nchanga Rangers), Christopher Phiri (Morning Stars Academy), Moses Mwanza (Bauleni United Academy)

In-form Alex Ng'onga impresses Power Dynamos coach



By Diggers Reporter

Power Dynamos coach Danny Kabwe is pleased with what he has seen so far from striker Alex Ngonga in his first two games since rejoining them this month. Ngonga officially returned to Power this month just two seasons after he left the Kitwe side to join Gabonese champions CS Mounana.

The striker has however been training with Power since January while pursuing his release from Mounana. Last Saturday, Ngonga scored his first goal back in Power's 3-1 home win over Lumwana Radiants at Arthur Davies Stadium in Kitwe and created one for Luka Lungu's brace.

"It is quite positive, he showed good character and he wants to show people that he is back and that is what we need," Kabwe said. Ngonga was a live-wire for most of the 85 minute minutes he was on the pitch, before he was replaced by Martin Kuyewa, and kept Lumwana's defence and goalkeeper Charles

Mweemba busy. "Because If he is taking things personal, with individual brilliance, then we have a striker," Kabwe added. Ngonga return could also ease 4th placed Power's attacking headache with uncertainty over Fwayo Tembo's future who went AWOL last Friday on the eve of the Lumwana match.

The striker was Power's 2014 player of the year when he scored 10 goals that season when they finished second in the league and three in their 2015 CAF Confederation Cup outing before moving to Gabon.

Meanwhile, Kabwe had very little say about Fwayo's imminent departure. "To be honest with you I don't know what has led his absence. He has been training very well with the team, he is senior player, he is a professional and he knows the repercussions of such actions," Kabwe said. "He knows what he wants to achieve in life, but again, he is a professional player."

Nyirenda promises more fire from Chipolopolo

By Diggers Reporter

Zambia coach Wedson Nyirenda says they will not go to sleep in Saturday's 2018 CHAN 1st round, final leg home game against Swaziland despite enjoying a healthy advantage. Chipolopolo trounced Swaziland 4-0 in the first round, first leg away qualifier at Lombanda on July 16 to take a comfortable scoreline into the July 22 final leg at home at National Heroes Stadium in Lusaka.

The victory was also Zambia biggest

competitive win under Nyirenda since his appointment last September.

"I think we are going to take the game seriously, we will be very cautious, we will respect Swaziland," Nyirenda said. A header and a penalty from Lusaka Dynamos midfielder Clatous Chama in the 17th and 47th minutes respectively sparked Zambia's surge.

Green Buffaloes striker Brian Mwila scored Zambia's second in the 26th minute to see them go 2-0 into the break before Zesco United defender Fackson

Kapumbu put the result beyond doubt with an 81st minute free-kick.

Meanwhile, winner over both legs will play South Africa or Botswana in August's final leg for a place in next January's tournament to be hosted by Kenya.

South Africa are strong favourites to advance and enjoy a 2-0 away win over Botswana from Saturday's match in Francistown.

The two sides meet in the final leg at Moruleng Stadium on July 22.



ZAMBIA WALLOPS SWAZILAND 4-0

By Diggers Reporter

Zambia's 2018 CAF African Nations Championship (CHAN) qualifying hopes got off to the best possible start after a 4-0 away win over Swaziland on Sunday.

Lusaka Dynamos midfielder Cletus Chama scored a brace while Green Buffaloes striker Brian Mwila recorded his fourth competitive goal for Zambia from five matches so far this year.

Zesco United defender Fackson Kapumbu scored his debut Zambia goal as Chipolopolo took a comfortable first round, first leg lead into their final leg qualifier on July 22 in Lusaka.

Chama headed-in the first off a cross from Mwila before the latter made it 2-0 in the 26th minute when he turned in an assist from Augustine Mulenga.

Chama completed his brace from the penalty spot in the 47th minute when Power Dynamos striker Martin Phiri was brought down in the box by Machawe Dlamini.

Kapumbu then whipped in a trademark freekick past Swaziland goalkeeper Sandile Ginindza in the 81st minute.

Meanwhile, Nyirenda made 8 changes to the team that lost to Zimbabwe on July 9 in the 2017 COSAFA Cup final across the border in South Africa that included Power goalkeeper Allan Chibwe who was on the bench and Toaster Nsabata of Zanaco instead started.

Nchanga Rangers defender Isaac Shamujiompa and Mwila were the only starters today from that COSAFA Cup losing team in Rustenburg.

Meanwhile, Zambia need a home draw to take into the final round qualifiers in August where South Africa the strong potential opponents.

Bafana Bafana won their first leg away match 2-0 in Francistown on Saturday against hosts Botswana.

Winner in the August tie will qualify to the CHAN finals in Kenya next January.

CHAN is a second tier AFCON exclusively for home-based players.



Morata to Chelsea for €70m

The Spain international is yet to agree terms with the Premier League champions but is set to replace the departing Diego Costa at Stamford

Bridge Chelsea have agreed a deal to sign Real Madrid striker Alvaro Morata, the club have announced. *Continues on page 11*

Numba names 2017 COSAFA U17 squad P11

Federer plans to defend Wimbledon title in 2018 P11

