

YOU'RE UNDER OATH...

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
Information and Broadcasting Minister Kampamba Mulenga says her predecessor Chishimba Kambwili is still under oath and cannot be disclosing classified government

information in the manner he is doing. And Mulenga says it is true that the Digital Migration contract was single-sourced, but with authority from ZPPA, adding that the US\$273



Govt warns Kambwili against disclosing Cabinet secrets

million loan involved had not yet been released by the lender. In an interview with News Diggers! Mulenga said although Kambwili was fired from government, he remained under oath of secrecy. **...Continues on page 3**

There's investor congestion at State House, says Lungu

By Mirriam Chabala
President Edgar Lungu says there is congestion for investors at State House, and has asked those who are struggling to have access to him to go through Amos Chanda or Freedom Sikazwe who can help them. Speaking when he commissioned the first ever Agro and Investment Luapula Expo today, President Lungu said increasing economic productivity for Luapula Province through value addition would contribute to making the region a significant place for investment and trade. "Thank you so much for finding time to come and be with us and let me also assure you all that my doors are open but if you don't know where the door are. Come through the Provincial Minister of Luapula Province if you are participating in this programme or come through Mr Amos Chanda or honourable Freedom Sikazwe, these are the people who know how to open that door. It's usually open it's only that there are so many wanting to get through so there is congestion otherwise you are

most welcome to come to State House to discuss further implementation of this programme," President Lungu said. The President expressed confidence that the Expo would contribute to turning Luapula Province into a hub of investment and also enhance women and youth participation in economic development.

Zambia's economy stabilising - World Bank

By Mukosha Funga
The World Bank says it is happy with the state of Zambia's economy because inflation has dropped and the kwacha has stabilized. At a media briefing on

government's discussions with the bank at Ministry of Finance today, World Bank Africa Group One Executive Director Andrew Bvumbe also said he was also happy with government's discussions with

the International Monetary Fund (IMF). "We are here to consult with you, to get your priorities and to understand what the government of Zambia wants from the World Bank and

we are happy with what we have discussed...The issue of rural poverty, I think it is fundamental for us to make a difference to the rural community. **...Continues on page 7**

Nakonde man shoots cheating wife, lover

By Mirriam Chabala
Police have arrested a 33-year-old Nakonde man who allegedly shot dead his wife and her lover in front of his children last evening. Police Spokesperson Esther Mwaata Katongo confirmed this in a statement. "Police in Lusaka have arrested a 33 years

old man identified as Peter Siwale, a clearing agent in Nakonde of Muchinga Province also of Lusakas Mean wood Phase 2 for allegedly shooting dead his wife identified Charity Namuko aged 30 together with another man... **...Continues on page 5**

UNZA bars over 850 students from writing exams over fees

By Mukosha Funga
Over 850 University of Zambia students with outstanding balances will not be allowed to write examinations next month. **...continues on P5**

Govt inconsistency worries FDD



reading because of two points, first of all, the Minister is contradicting his boss the President of the Republic of Zambia who dismissed the IMF and said the IMF can hang, we as a country can survive because we don't need it. He is also contradicting his counterpart Lucky Mulusa who is in charge of national planning who says Zambia does not need IMF. So you have a Cabinet which is the highest policy making body of the State seems to be in complete disarray with regards to what is going on in the country. This minister issues a contrary statement, the other one issues a contrary statement, and this had been going on," Mwanza observed.

"Mutati for instance said Zambia Revenue Authority failed to meet the target, later on that day, ZRA issued a statement contradicting Mutati and saying they even raised more money than what their target was. One morning you have the Minister of Infrastructure Development Mr Chitotela saying that there is no bid for a new State House, in the morning you have his counterpart who is in charge of Works and Supply saying a tender has already been secured and a contractor has been found and State House will be built. So first of all, for us it is very worrying when you have a government that completely seems to be in cohesive."

He wondered whether Cabinet discussed policy issues when they met.

"And one wonders when Cabinet meets or they don't meet. And if they meet, what is it that they discuss? Are they policy issues or they discuss personal issues? Because if they discuss policy matters, it should be very clear that they should be speaking from one place. All of them should give us one position. If they are discussing policy matters when they meet, there is no way that they can be giving us contradictory statements on key policy issues. It shows us that either they don't meet or when they meet, they don't discuss policy matters but personal issues," Mwanza said.

And Mwanza said Zambia did not need donor aid but a change of leadership.

"Secondly, to say Zambia is too poor to survive without aid is a misconception of fact. Zambia is too rich actually in terms of resources. Zambia has more natural resources than Japan. It has more natural resources from Rwanda which has developed despite coming from war. It has

more natural resources than Switzerland or Dubai which is a desert. The issue here is that Zambia is being mismanaged because it has got nothing to do with resources. If we were managing this country properly, we would be able to raise hundreds of millions of dollars from the mining sector alone. If they put up a windfall tax and changed up the tax regime in the mine, this country would be able to raise not more than \$800 million every year and there will be no need for us to go and start queuing up for aid at the IMF or a Eurobond from the Europeans," Mwanza said.

"If this country was properly managed, we can create hundreds and thousands of jobs from the agricultural sector alone through investments in modern ways of production, in research, agro processing and we would be able to fight unemployment. If this country was properly managed, and if this government stops stealing people's money...if you look at the Action Aid report for the 2015/2016 analysis report, it clearly stipulates that five percent of the budget was stolen by these same politicians in government who are giving each other contracts illegally, over pricing contracts and who are sub contracting even when they know they don't have the equipment to do the work."

He said the country was being mismanaged.

"So if we can fight the corruption in this government, we would be able to save millions of dollars which we can invest in the production sector on the economy. So it is not a question of the country being rich or being poor, it is a question of the country being mismanaged, it is a question of high levels of corruption, lack of priorities, lack of a vision, a question of wasteful expenditure, a question of lack of fiscal discipline on the part of the people we have given power. The solution here is not IMF. IMF is not giving us a loan for creation of wealth and jobs. They are giving us a loan for the purpose of balance of payments so that we are able to pay back the money which we have borrowed which purpose we can't even say to say this \$10 billion nkongole that we had this is how it has worked," said

"The only thing the PF can show is the number of zeros they have added to the amount of debt which they found when they came into power in 2011. So as long as we have these crop of leaders who have no vision, this crop of leaders who think that leadership is about personal aggrandizement, who think that leadership is about enjoyment, then this country will continue to be poor even when it is rich."

By Mukosha Funga

FDD Spokesperson Antonio Mwanza says the level of inconsistency among government officials suggests that they discuss personal issues instead of policy matters when they meet as Cabinet.

And Mwanza says it is incorrect for Finance Minister Felix Mutati to say Zambia is too poor to choose who to help us because the country

has an abundance of natural resources.

Recently, Mutati said Zambia was too poor to select who could help its fiscal position when he featured on a ZNBC special programme.

"You can't begin to say that we don't need it, how are you going to grow the economy? You don't need China, how are you going to grow the economy? You don't need EU,

how are you going to grow the economy? Our economy is so small, so the issue is not selecting A, B, C, D or E. It the combination of everybody for us to grow the economy, so the debate shouldn't be aimless about selecting, how can you select when you are so poor? We are not yet there," said Mutati.

"Until we get there the choices are limited so let's not have

this idle debate, do we need them? That's not the debate, the debate should be how do we grow, stabilize and grow the economy? How do we create the jobs, how do we bring in investments that should be the argument?"

But in an interview, Mwanza observed that Mutati contradicted President Edgar Lungu.

"That story makes interesting

Lungu to create more districts



Muna Hantuba welcomes President Edgar Lungu to Sinazongwe

By Mukosha Funga

President Edgar Lungu says he will not shy away from creating new districts because he wants people in rural areas to benefit from infrastructure development.

Speaking when he commissioned 10 newly built medium low cost housing units in Chembe District yesterday, President Lungu said he had directed Minister of Local Government Vincent Mwale to consider areas which could be turned into districts. "When we said we would increase the number of districts, they were mocking us. But today, everyone in Zamiba has acknowledged that creating new districts is critical to our country because it brings services closer to our people in line with our decentralization policies and

this in turn promotes to rural development and reduces rural to urban migration. We cannot talk about decentralization in the absence of decent shelter and it is for this reason that government has prioritized the provision of quality housing units as one of the key incentives to attract qualified and experienced employees to come and work in the rural areas," President Lungu said. "We will therefore not shy away from creating new districts. Going forward, I have given direction to the Minister of Local Government to see what new districts we can create to enable our people in the rural areas to benefit from the infrastructure development we intend to put in place."

And speaking at the ground breaking ceremony of the

Kawambwa-Mporokoso road project earlier, the Head of State said he expected all infrastructure projects that government was embarking on to be of high quality.

"We are all aware of the huge expenditure that Government

is making on the construction of roads and related infrastructure such as bridges. We expect a Maximum return on the investment. I do not expect substandard roads and other infrastructure," said President Lungu.

Kitwe PF youth secretary resigns

By Mukosha Funga

Kitwe Patriotic Front Youth Secretary Charles Kabwita announces his resignation from the ruling party saying he will join a party where most "old PF members are going".

Kabwita said he has carefully considered what had been happening in the party.

"After careful thought and

consideration, I have decided to resign from my position as youth secretary and from Patriotic Front with immediate effect. Although there is much to say, I believe the reason leading to this decision are known by the party. I have failed to adjust and work with the New patriotic front which have embraced the Movement for Muilt party Democracy (MMD) which we fought out of office.

The people of Zambia decided to remove MMD because of their corrupt activities," said Kabwita, who is also a former Chimwemwe PF councillor.

"I feel that it is a time for new challenges and experience as I will be joining a new party where most of the old patriotic front members are going. If you have any questions, I will be happy to discuss this decision with you further."

By Tenson Mkhala

Advocates for the declaration of Zambia as a Christian Nation chairperson Bishop Billy Mfula says if the issues Patriotic Front (PF) and the United Party for National Development (UPND) are not resolved soon enough, they will blow up.

At a media briefing in Lusaka today, Bishop Mfula observed that the longer differences remained unresolved, the harder they became to deal with.

“Our prayer is let it [forgiveness] be genuine and real. The two political parties need to truly forgive each other and reconcile. If reconciliation, forgiveness is not genuine then it is not reconciliation, it’s not forgiveness and soon or later what is in the heart will again manifest. It should be based on humbleness,” he said.

“The differences between PF and UPND comes from certain unresolved issues. Once you fail to resolve issues overtime, it will always build up and when it builds up, in the end it become big and then blow. If you remember there has been some pocket of problems in the last year’s campaign systems. There has been pockets of problems during our political race in the past and these have brought the country to this level.”

Bishop Mfula also noted that there could never be development in a country where leaders were constantly fighting.

“You can’t develop in a country where you are fighting and

Resolve Lungu, HH differences before things blow up – Mfula

things are in disarray. Where two elephant fights, it’s the grass that suffers and so the grass is now talking and the grass is saying ‘you can’t continue to fight because you are killing us down here. Keep us green and keep us healthy so that Zambia can continue to progress and prosper,’ Bishop Mfula said.

Meanwhile, Bishop Mfula hailed Catholic Bishops for their bold step of negotiating for dialogue between the two largest political parties.

“No wonder we encourage political leaders to have pastor who speaks into their lives. Pastors who are able to guide them. For instance if president HH was in my church, it was going to be my role as his spiritual leader to guide him. The same with President Lungu. So it is important to those of you who will rule tomorrow to have spiritual leaders,” said Bishop Mfula.



Kambwili is still under oath, he cannot be disclosing govt affairs like that - Mulenga

From front page

“As Minister, he swore the oath of secrecy, so for him to come and talk about internal matters in the public, a senior member of society, it makes a sad reading. Who says that the oath of secrecy expires when you are expelled? That is why you swear. The oath of secrecy does not expire even when one dies,” Mulenga said.

“And this US\$273 million is the correct figure and has a lot of components just as I mentioned. There is phase two and phase three. So let us not look at this 273 million dollars and think that this is a huge amount and think that government misuse resources. How much is one provincial studio costing? With all the equipment?”

She said there was nothing irregular about the single-sourcing of the Digital Migration tender.

“How can he say that Top Star was single sourced? You see people will just lose credibility in Honorable Chishimba Kambwili because Honorable Kambwili was Minister of information and all these things were happening right under his

nose, why did he have to wait to be fired for him to come and speak out like that?” Mulenga asked.

“The issue of the single sourcing that honorable Kambwili is talking about, there is nothing irregular about it because there is a process and the Ministry has obtained a no objection from the Zambia Public Procurement Authority (ZPPA). So for him to come and say that there was something irregular over the matter when the Ministry had no objection from ZPPA which he was very very aware.”

She further said Kambwili was involved in the digital migration deal.

“Ministers cannot be involved in the entire process because he is not a technocrat. But if he saw irregularities in the tender process, he should have spoken up, why speak now. And it is very well known, he attended digital migration seminars in China. He cannot say that he was left out and only the PS and the ZNBC DG accompanied the President, it is not true, Honorable Kambwili has been to these digital migration seminars and sponsored by Star

times, on several occasions.”

“When this digital migration was starting, Honorable Chishimba Kambwili was still Minister and he is very much aware and he was part and parcel of the process and we know that digital migration is a requirement. In the 9million he is talking about was for the phase one which entails the installation of towers, the second phase and third phase of digital migration entails that we are going to now put up transmitters, we are also going to put up provincial broadcasting studios, state of the art equipment and there is evaluation.”

Mulenga said the US\$273 million Dollars for phase two and three of digital migration was not a debt to be paid from government coffers but by Top Star and ZNBC.

“We just launched and cabinet approved it almost a month and half ago and we are trying to build the industry. The 9 million dollars which Honorable Kambwili is talking about just entails us setting up the transmitters, that is it. But this second and third phase requires



us to put up broadcasting studios in all the provincial centres plus rehabilitation of the ZANIS studios and the provincial headquarters here in Lusaka. And it will also entail that we have back-up centres and we will also have transmitters and it will also have a component of decoders,” said Mulenga.

“I just want to make it very clear over this 273 million. This is not a debt that is going to be drawn from government coffers, this is a debt that will be paid by Top Star and ZNBC. So for Honorable Kambwili to come and say why is government spending 273 million US dollars for digital migration, its uncalled for.”

Last week, Kambwili wondered why President Lungu left him behind when going to China to discuss the Digital Migration deal.

He further said he washed his hands when he heard that the contractor was going to be single sourced.

“I did not play a role in the digital migration. In fact, when a decision was made to single source, that’s the time I washed my hands, that’s the time I washed my hands. So those who think I have anything to do with digital migration, I have nothing to do with it. We spent \$9 million dollars but to migrate

the remaining six provinces, we are going to spend \$273 million. That’s all I know,” Kambwili said. “When the President is traveling, he usually travels with the Minister of Information, in the one year I was Minister of Information, I never traveled not even one trip with His Excellency the President. Not even one trip did I travel outside the borders of Zambia with the President. And to make matters worse, they went to discuss the digital migration in China and instead of taking me, he took the Director General of ZNBC and the permanent secretary and they went to discuss many other issues concerning other ministries, he took the Ministry of Works, he took the Ministry of Agriculture, he took all the ministers that were involved in the sectors that they were going to discuss, I was the only person who was left and I didn’t complain because I don’t complain usually.”

2021 candidacy talks a distraction - SACCORD

By Diggers Reporter

SACCORD Executive Director Boniface Chembe says there is need to take the country off the political path in order to focus on the national agenda of delivering development.

In an interview with News Diggers! Chembe said declaring President Edgar Lungu as the PF’s candidate in the next general election, four years prior, was not necessary.

“There’s need to depoliticise the country right now, we should focus more on the developmental agenda of the country. Our view is that the pronouncements

being made that President Edgar Lungu is the sole candidate, four years before the elections, only seeks to continue the country be in an election mood,” Chembe observed.

“When the country is in an election mood, it is a bit difficult to focus on a common vision that needs to be undertaken to achieve what is desirable for the people. We fear that the pronouncement may just be a distraction on the nation in as far as the national agenda is concerned.” Chembe advised government to focus on developmental programs unlike making statements that do not have a

developmental agenda for the nation. “As a ruling Party, they need to focus on the developmental agenda of the nation. There’s a good plan in the 7th National Development Plan which needs to be implemented and we feel if a lot more energy was focused on addressing the needs of the people. That is what will satisfy the needs of the people. As a ruling party and government they have the responsibility of ensuring that they meet the need of the people so that everybody in this country is given an opportunity to fulfill their life potential,” said Chembe.

MMD helped us win, we can't be eating alone and keep them outside like dogs - PF



By Joseph Mwenda
PF deputy Secretary General Mumbi Phiri says

it does not make sense for the ruling party to eat alone and keep its MMD partners

outside government like dogs when they helped win the last elections.

And President Edgar Lungu says preparations for the 2021 general elections must

Kambwili a pathological liar – Kampyongo



By Mirriam Chabala

Home Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo says Chishimba Kambwili is a pathological liar who is shamelessly using the same media house he closed down to spread falsehoods.

And Kampyongo says it is mischievous to blame the PF for embracing MMD members because Michael Sata also used to be a senior member of the former ruling party.

Kampyongo, who is also PF National Youth Chairman, was speaking when he featured on Hot FM's Hot Seat programme today.

"Ordinarily I would have avoided talking about him as an individual but because of the fact that now he is showing the whole nation that he has become a pathological liar, that's what I can call him. I saw him sitting at Muvi TV and you see that's how you start judging people on their inconsistencies and thinking, 'not too long ago that's the same thing he was closing and today that's where you are running to go and tell lies'. So the decision of the Central Committee was collective and when he says that there was a spirit of reconciliation which was to be tabled and it wasn't there, for heaven's sake! The first thing that he brought out

himself was the issues of party confusions on the Copperbelt," Kampyongo said.

"He went ballistic, he was accusing the Provincial leadership of being failures then again one of the accusations he was facing was that he was not respecting structures of the party so he further went on to say he doesn't recognise the district structure of Luanshya, the constituency of Roan, what he has done is to start making cooperatives, that was his presentation. And what prompted me to react as National Youth Chairman was his continuous abuse and disrespect of my provincial youth chairman Nathan Chanda who he has continued to call a boy and he describes him in so many ways because him he is waxing so much fat which he has accumulated so he thinks my youth Chairman is a nobody."

Kampyongo said the only crime Chanda, who is also Luanshya Mayor, had committed was attempting to stand as Member of Parliament for Roan Constituency in the last election.

"So he continued issuing disrespectful remarks just as he did prior to the adoption of this young man who had

also expressed interest to stand Roan. I was tasked to talk to him to stand down out of respect and I said this man is our elder brother give him chance to stand then you can go for the other slot which was for the Mayor [and] the young man understood. If he didn't, probably what happened in Chimwemwe could have happened in Roan Constituency, now why should he continue calling him a boy and insulting his parents? So as National Youth Chairman I refused to say I was not going to accept and I won't accept that even going forward because the young man is a leader respected by people and he was elected by the people with more than 25,000 votes," he said.

Kampyongo insisted expelling Kambwili from PF was the right thing to do.

"So that's where he [Kambwili] now wants to single me out because of that young man [Nathan Chanda] whom he refused to campaign for as Mayor, he opted to campaign for an independent. There are certain things that I can't go into because they are not for now but what I can tell you is that my dear brother Chishimba Kambwili is free to go and now realize his Presidential ambitions, it's his democratic right but to destabilize the party to say let me fight within and you start forming cooperatives where there are branches and wards, that's anarchy and we didn't want to experience what we experienced in the past. So for me, it was the right thing to do for the party so that we can stabilize and we have lost big people before," he said.

And Kampyongo said it was mischievous to blame the PF for embracing MMD members because Sata also came from the same party.

"There is nothing like that at all

and you know, we are a big family and we embrace ourselves very well. But did Mr Sata form the party just for founder members in order to form government? No he knew he wouldn't form government with that small clique of people that's why he grew the party. And to condemn Mr Edgar Lungu for appointing people from MMD is being mischievous because President Sata was also a senior member of MMD for a long time and Secretary General. When he formed PF he also expected to get members from MMD and if you remember in 2011 after elections, he appointed more than 10 deputy Ministers from MMD, so why didn't they resign then to protest that you are bringing people from the MMD?" Kampyongo wondered. Meanwhile, Kampyongo said PF members with ambitions were free to challenge President Lungu at the general conference in 2020.

"What the Central Committee was just saying is that we are still confident, we appreciate the leadership of Mr Chagwa Lungu and all we decided to do was just to express confidence and desire to say that our current leader continues as President and he is within the constitution that permits for two terms. So there is nothing that the Central committee has done wrong. In any case we have not said a sole candidate, we have further gone to say and I am sure you must have heard even my colleague Frank Bwalya laboring this point that for us this is what we have said but any other member of the party who wishes to come and also compete is free to contest at the convention because that decision is an expression of desire for the party to say that we feel that the man is still steering the ship properly," said Kampyongo.

start immediately among party officials because if they delay it will be difficult to win.

Mumbi said this in Luapula yesterday when she welcomed the Head of State who is in the Province to officiate at the inaugural Luapula Expo, which is spearheaded by Provincial Minister Nickson Chilangwa.

In an apparent reaction to expelled Chishimba Kambwili who has been complaining that PF has been hijacked by MMD members, Mumbi wondered how people expected the ruling party to treat those who helped it win the elections.

"Bonse mwema structures ya Patriotic Front, mwisakama ukweba ati bamo twalibatamfya. Pantu icimfulunganyo nga cachilamo, nangufye umwana nga walimutemwa sana kumulanga ati naulufyanya. (All of you in the party structures, don't worry about those who we have chased away. When there is too much disunity, even a child, you must show them that they have made a mistake)," Mumbi said.

"So let this not deter us from recruiting more members. ushe abobene ba MMD mutweba ukulandapo everyday ati ba new ba new, ushe kwena bena tabakwata amano? Baisa batwafwa, twaipaya inama elo twababika panse, kwati nifilya bacita imbwa. Fwebantu tulelya, ba MMD ebo tatulecita appreciate bali panse. Bamunyinane, mwebashilakwata ifyakucita, ala tekanyeni. (Those MMD members you keep telling us that they are new comers, do you think they are dull? They came, helped us kill the animal and then we should keep them outside like dogs, while us we are eating? We keep the MMD outside without appreciating them? Those of you who don't yet have what to do, take it easy)."

She also encouraged the PF structures to make sure that they campaign harder this time to ensure that the ruling party does not give chance to the opposition.

"Ndelanda kuli imwe mwema party structures yesu. Mwibwelela kunuma pantu ino Luapula Province e strong hold ya Patriotic Front. You saw in the last election, in other areas where our friends have their strong holds, they never gave us chance. (I am talking to you our party structures. Don't be discouraged because this Luapula Province is the PF stronghold)," said Mumbi.

"Luapula, Northern, Muchinga, Copperbelt Lusaka and Eastern Province, let us not give chance to people who are going to put a stop to the development which we are seeing in Zambia. Let us not allow anybody to do that."

And President Lungu said time to prepare for the 2021 general elections was now.

"Let us embrace one another and form those party structures... if we do not prepare now 2021 will be very difficult for us. We must prepare for what's coming and what's coming are elections in 2021, so we need to consolidate our strongholds and make them better so that we are able to gunner more votes than we did last time," President Lungu said.

"If we don't have the mandate to come back in 2021, the developments we are seeing now will be lost. The vision which we carry as a political party will die... When our leader died, very few people here gave us a chance. But God is great, He has put us together and the party is now better and greater. But that being the case, you find people who want to claim to own the party, the party is owned by all of us collectively. I am just privileged to be a leader, tomorrow when the time comes, you will have to choose a leader. So those who want to show off, leave them, we will deal with them."

President Lungu reiterated that he was not a dictator, and further told the people of Luapula to enjoy because the Threatened State of Emergency did not apply in the region as it was peaceful.

"Those who are saying Lungu is a dictator, mulebalabakofye, pantu dictator tefyo amoneka iyo (Ignore such people because this is not how a dictator looks). They just want to mislead you, me I am a product of a democratic process. The good thing is that when you listen more, you gain more, so I will listen more," said President Lungu.

"Well done Provincial Minister for inviting us to the first-ever Luapula Expo. Thank you so much, I will be here upto Saturday. Nikumwesu kuno (this is my home). Kuno Article 31 tailebomba nangu Article 30 takuli. Kuno takuli Article 31 or 30, kuno nikumwesu. Elsewhere probably you need article 31, not kuno. So lets have fun, we are here to enjoy ourselves and also the potential that we have, God bless you."

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Patriotic Front Deputy Spokesperson Frank Bwalya says if the party was a plane with President Edgar Lungu as pilot, Chishimba Kambwili would do anything to make it crash.

And Bwalya says the court cannot reinstate Kambwili as a member of the PF but only let him keep his seat as an independent candidate should it rule in his favor.

Speaking when he featured on a special edition of Muvi TV's The Assignment programme last night, Bwalya also described the expelled Roan Member of Parliament as a "chumbu munshololwa".

"He is throwing stones to the Patriotic Front because he is such a person who has seen that his contribution to the PF has gone to the worst but that is only because of his own arrogance and his misconduct. If the Patriotic Front was a plane flying with Chishimba Kambwili sitting next to Edgar Lungu as the pilot, he would do anything to make the plane crash," Bwalya said.

And Bwalya said the court could not reinstate Kambwili as a member of the PF.

"The court cannot reinstate him. The only thing he can get is a ruling that he remains member of parliament but he cannot continue to be a member of the Patriotic Front. So he is scared, and when a person is scared, when a person is desperate, you expect him to use a lot of words like 'kangaroo court,'" Bwalya said.

"It is not possible for him to remain a member of the party because we don't see him humbling himself. He is a man who has demonstrated that he is full of himself and who thinks that he can fool everyone and anyone. On that basis, I can say it is not possible for him to come back to the Patriotic Front and of course out of ignorance, he is saying he is going to challenge his membership in the courts of law, the only thing that he can get, if he can get it, is to retain his seat as an independent member of parliament."

Bwalya said Kambwili had no intention of being a PF member because he had not shown any remorse.

"If they have been expelled, one of the demands would be to show remorse and

Kambwili can kill Lungu – PF

to be repentant. You can show remorse by making a pronouncement that you admit the wrong that you did, you are sorry for the pain that you caused to the organization and that you want to be taken back. As it is, our brother honorable has no intention whatsoever to remain part of PF," Bwalya said.

"If that were not the case, we would have not expected him to just go across the road with a bag of stones and start smashing window panes in the same house where he says I belong there and I want to come back and continue to live in that house. So his behavior, the words that are coming out of his mouth after his expulsion clearly shows that he is only trying to create problems for the Patriotic Front."

He also denied the alleged threats of violence during the PF Central Committee meeting.

"I don't remember hearing any threats of violence in that meeting. If such threats were laid on the table, I would assure you that President Lungu would have ruled such a statement of such a person out of order and they would have been made to apologize there and then. All the allegations were all made in a childish manner. Kambwili's expulsion from the party is a regrettable loss just like all loses are regrettable. This decision is healthy for the body because the part of the cancer has been cut off," Bwalya said.

Bwalya said it was established beyond reasonable doubt that Kambwili was undermining the party on the Copperbelt.

"This is a man who has really shown to be a chumbu munshololwa because Mr honorable Davies Chama who is now defense Minister wrote to him after the central committee resolved that he should be sternly reprimanded through a written warning. The current SG honorable Davies Mwila did the same. It was established beyond reasonable doubt that he was undermining the party in Luanshya including Roan constituency in



the wards and at district level. He was found wanting with irrefutable evidence, decampaigning our candidate for the position of Mayor who is also our Copperbelt youth chairperson Mr Nathan Chanda and he didn't deny it," Bwalya said.

"Suddenly he describes our members as compromised, having been given brown

envelops in order for them to propagate lies against him and so on, that is an attack on the Patriotic Front and especially on the leadership because what he is actually trying to say is that our leader President Edgar Chagwa Lungu bought people to come and parrot certain causes in that meeting so that at the end of the day, he would be

expelled. It's not true. So the truth of the matter is that he is lying, he is just shooting from the hill, he is a person who is trying to chew with a loose tooth and that will not happen."

And Bwalya insisted that President Lungu was the best person to represent the party in 2021.

"The millions of Zambians would not agree with that

decision for a simple reason that the Patriotic Front is not deciding for them. The Patriotic Front is deciding for a club called the PF in terms of who they present to the people to stand as their candidate on the PF ticket and we are saying when we look amongst ourselves, we think the best person to represent us is Edgar Chagwa Lungu," said Bwalya.

Over 850 UNZA students barred from exams over tuition fees



From front page

According to an internal memo posted on several notice boards at Zambia's highest learning institution along with the complete list of affected students, lecturers have also been instructed not to allow them to attend classes.

"The Following students will not be allowed to attend classes or access any university services due to non-payment of student fees. Lecturers have been instructed not to mark assignments and tests for these students. In addition, they will not be allowed to write final examinations starting in August 2017. Ensure to settle your balances to avoid inconveniences," read the memo which was circulated by Vice Chancellor Professor Luke Mumba.

Some of the students talked to said they were scared to air their views because they could be suspended or expelled.

"This is very disheartening because some of the balances are so minimal. Even a K100 balance can cost you an exam and derail everything. And it is tense in school because no one knows how we can get management to reverse this. People have been suspended for speaking out recently so I really don't know what else to say," said one of the students.

Nakonde man shoots dead wife, lover in front of his children

From front page

...identified as Andrew Chibesa aged 27, whom he suspected to have been having an affair with his wife. This happened on 27th July, 2017 between 18:00 and 19:00 hours in Meanwood," Katongo stated.

"Brief facts of the matter are that the suspect trailed the victims who are both teachers at a

named school in Kaunda Square to some place in Meanwood using a friend's motor vehicle where he saw them in a romantic state. He then picked the two who he took to his home where he is alleged to have shot both of them dead in the presence of his children." Katongo said the man later took his kids to a neighbor's house and asked them to take him

to police. "His wife sustained a wound on the right shoulder and right side of the chest while the other victim sustained a wound on the left side of the chest. The suspect later went to the neighbor with the children and requested that he be taken to the police. A pump action shotgun has since been recovered from the

scene with three empty cartridges. The suspect is detained in Police custody while the bodies

of the deceased are in UTH mortuary awaiting postmortem," stated Katongo.

Panic in Kabwata as shop catches fire

By Joseph Mwenda

A shop at Kabwata market this evening caught fire, causing panic among residents. According to witnesses, "one of the shops was gutted, but quick action by the Fire Brigade prevented the fire from burning down the

market". "It is a tailor's shop number 70 that caught fire. It's right inside the market, the cause of the fire has not yet been known but it was stopped on time," said the witness who called News Diggers, adding that "the Fire Brigade had

arrived on time to prevent it from spreading." Shortly after the fire incident, a power outage followed, making the situation worse as some residents feared that it could have been an electrical fault that could affect their houses.

UPND want Lungu to join case regarding his eligibility to recontest presidency

By Mukosha Funga

The United Party for National Development (UPND) has asked the Constitutional Court to join President Edgar Lungu and PF Secretary General Davies Mwila to the 2021 eligibility case saying their presence is necessary to ensure that all matters in dispute are determined. This is in a case in which leaders of Christian Democratic Party, Zambia Republican Party, News Congress Party and Citizen Democratic Party; Dan Pule, Wright Musoma, Peter Chanda and Robert Mwanza respectively asked the ConCourt to determine whether President Lungu could stand in the next election. In an affidavit in support of summons for an order of joinder, the UPND, through party secretary general Stephen Katuka, said President Lungu should be joined to the case as an applicant since he had publicly proclaimed that he

qualified to stand in 2021.

Katuka also said Mwila should be equally joined to the case as he announced at a media briefing on Sunday that their party Central Committee had adopted Edgar Lungu as the PF's preferred candidate for the 2021 Presidential elections.

He submitted that it was imperative that the question of Lungu's future candidacy in Presidential elections should be conclusively determined in his presence.

Katuka added that President Lungu was likely to be affected by the decision of the court and must therefore be joined so that all questions of controversy could be determined in the presence of all parties involved.

Others who were joined as interested parties are the Law Association of Zambia and Brigadier General Geoffrey Miyanda.



Kambwili asks High Court to declare his expulsion illegal

By Mukosha Funga

Chishimba Kambwili has asked the Lusaka High Court to declare his expulsion from the Patriotic Front illegal, null and void saying the Central Committee cannot be the

complainant, accuser and judge at the same time.

In a statement of claim filed today, Kambwili cited PF Secretary General Davies Mwila as the respondent.

Kambwili told the court

that the party had not communicated his expulsion to him in person as he only got notified in the press.

"The Plaintiff avers that the decision to expel him from the Patriotic Front Party has not been communicated to the Plaintiff in person and the only notice whereof appeared in the Sunday Mail of the 23rd July 2017 and Monday 24th July 2017. The party in the Daily Mail allegedly

wrote the Speaker of the National Assembly to declare Roan constituency vacant. The decision made by the Patriotic Front Party through the Central Committee is illegal, uncautionable and without basis," read the statement of claim.

Kambwili is also seeking an order that he was not given an opportunity to face his charges or charges, costs and any other relief the court might deem fit.

LAZ opposes formation of another lawyers' association

By Mukosha Funga

The Law Association of Zambia has opposed Lusaka lawyer Robson Malipenga's application to form another lawyers' association saying he has no Constitutional right to belong to any other association.

And the Lusaka High Court has adjourned the case to February 19, 2018.

When the matter came up for hearing yesterday,

LAZ president Linda Kasonde said the law was clear that only LAZ could license and regulate legal practitioners in Zambia.

She said LAZ was established to regulate and promote the legal profession in the interest of public order through the normal and harmonious functioning of the legal profession on the basis of a coherent system of ethical values and principles.

And Malipenga's lawyer asked for an adjournment as counsel handling the matter, Diana Bunting, was unwell.

Judge Petronella Ngulube adjourned the matter to next year as there was no objection from both parties.

Mutinta Hichilema asks court to throw out libel suit for lacking merit

By Mukosha Funga

Hakaide Hichilema's wife Mutinta has asked the Lusaka High Court to throw out a case in which a Lusaka man

sued her for libel claiming K5 billion saying it is incompetently before court.

In his statement of claim, Simon Bobo had alleged that

Mutinta issued a fabricated story on April 30 that he blocked her vehicle, took pictures and insulted her at the Lusaka Central Prison after she visited her husband. But Mutinta observed that Bobo's statement of claim did not contain the words complained of verbatim neither was the context and background provided.

"That the publications in which I allegedly made the defamatory statement have not been identified by name, date or description. That the plaintiff complains of his picture being cropped and used to publish a statement in the *Zambian Eagle* online publication, *The Mast Newspaper* and *Watchdog* but does not attribute the cropping of the picture in these publications to me," Mutinta stated.

"That I am advised by counsel and verily believe the same to be true that the actual words complained of in a defamatory action must set out in the statement of claim to enable this honorable court to judge whether the words constitute a ground of action...the publication from which the words complained of were taken should be identified by name, date or description which has not been done by the plaintiff in this case."

She further stated that the claim could not be amended and therefore asked the court to dismiss Bobo's action with costs for not only being inherently defective, mischievous and unmeritorious but also for failing to disclose the cause of action as words complained had not been included.

Corrections officer admits items seized from UPND cadres were not offensive weapons

By Diggers Reporter

A correctional officer has told the Lusaka Magistrates' Court that the items he found in car belonging to UPND cadres are not offensive weapons.

In this case Remmy Mukoba and three others are facing two charges of being in possession of offensive weapons.

It is alleged that the accused persons had in their car one plastic bottle of glycerine, two plastic bottles of potassium permanganate, one bow and three arrows outside the Lusaka Central Prison where they had parked. But a correctional officer, Matongo

Mwendabai, who was manning the main camp gate of the prison admitted in cross examination led by defense lawyer Gilbert Phiri yesterday that the items were not offensive weapons.

Mwendabai said it was not unlawful to own a bow and arrow.

Initially, Mwendabai told the court that the items were offensive but failed to explain his claim saying he was not a chemist.

When probed further, Mwendabai also admitted that the accused' vehicle had a broken rear window at the scene despite not stating so in his examination in chief.

Phiri also wondered why some of the items he mentioned such as a plastic container with very little petrol content, three sacks and three rows of khaki paper were not on the charge sheet but Mwendabai told magistrate Sylvia Munyinya that the other materials were equally relevant to the case.

Mwendabai also said it was not an offense to hoot near a prison or to park around that area.

He however claimed that the behaviour of the accused made him suspicious as they attempted to flee the scene after he challenged them.

Zambia's economy impressive - World Bank



Finance Minister Felix Mutati shakes hands with World Bank delegate Andrew Ndaamunhu Bvumbe at his office in Lusaka on July 27, 2017 – picture by Tenson Mkhala

From front page

Agriculture for us is going to be important, increasing productivity

in the rural areas, moving away from subsistence farming to commercial farming in these rural

areas and connecting them to markets is going to be important for us. Also, we welcome the priority you

have put on connectivity, rural connectivity, I think this is going to be important moving forward

Energy sector crowded by foreigners - Mabumba



By Diggers Correspondent

Energy Minister David Mabumba says the majority of investors in the energy sector are foreigners, a situation he says is disadvantaging Zambians.

Speaking when he featured on Diamond TV's Night Live Programme, Mabumba said the energy sector had the potential to grow the economy if participation of local investors was allowed.

"If you look at the energy sector, the energy sector is an intensity capital sector, but the question is why should we allow foreigners to come and woo maybe even come to borrow from our local banks and tomorrow they become world billionaires?" he asked.

"We don't want Zambians to be just Directors in these companies, they need to own a stake. For example, the Batoka gorge power station which we

are yet to begin, if you own 1%, you automatically become a billionaire and that money is going to be retained, it means that you will also be able to create jobs, you will also be able to invest that money."

He expressed concern that the current energy legislation had lacunars which needs to be reviewed in order to allow local participation.

"Part of our priority in the Ministry is that we need to

review our legislation, because our legislation if you look at it has been a little bit very weak. It has lacunars that do not allow our locals to participate. Either you look at it from the petroleum point of view or whether you look at it from the energy point of view," Mabumba said.

"So we have three legislation's which is the petroleum management bill which is yet to be submitted to the Cabinet and Parliament. The electricity bill as well as the energy regulation board bill. These three bills are meant to have provisions that are going to allow Zambians to participate in terms of being investors in the energy sector." Meanwhile, Mabumba wondered why manufacturers were complaining against the hiked Zesco tariffs when they were paying the lowest tariffs.

"The manufactures are paying the lowest tariffs, they shouldn't come to the TV's and newspapers and say government has increased, yes we have increased by 75% but we took into consideration two things, they are given a rate even when in September we increase by 75% the manufactures will be buying at 4 cents per kilowatt hour," said Mabumba.

in terms of what impacts these areas," Bvumbe said. "So we are delighted and we are happy with the fundamentals, the way the economy is going, we have seen inflation is down, the kwacha is stabilized, so for us, these are key fundamentals. We are also happy with the discussions, we have been briefed on how the discussions with the IMF are going and really we are very delighted that on the policy aspect, we are converging with the IMF and this is important for us to move forward and I would like to congratulate the government on this major step of discussing and almost concluding with the IMF and we are looking forward to the conclusion with the IMF. So broadly speaking, I am happy to be here, I am happy with the update I have gotten from the minister on the economic front, the macroeconomic fundamentals are good, so I think we have a good foundation to move forward and make a difference in Zambia for the ordinary Zambian."

He said the World Bank agreed with government's priority areas like agriculture, connectivity and rural development.

"Also, we welcome the focus on energy and agri business, I think that is where we can create the jobs, and that's where we can create the growth in the economy which is led by the private sector and also taking into account the agriculture which Zambia has a huge potential. I think now we have to move from potential to delivery, we have been talking about 'Africa has potential' but I think now, my focus will be on delivery, I think this is going to be critical for us. So we are here to discuss the priorities and the initial discussions have gone very well, I think we are converging on the priorities with the minister and government and I think as we discuss the country partnership framework going forward, we are looking forward to concretising on these issues and the programming," said Bvumbe.

And Finance Minister Felix Mutati assured the World Bank that their resources would be used effectively by channeling them to specific areas of need rather than spreading them across the country.

"The resources that we are accessing from the World Bank must result in the transformation of some of our key challenges such as poverty, job creation

and creating a platform where we can have more inclusive growth. So the resources now are going to be more concentrated in areas where the incidents of poverty is highest so that all the sector resources whether it is in education, energy, in agriculture or in road infrastructure now begin to be put to deal much more specific rather than sprinkling the resources across the country. So the World Bank resource will be, for lack of a better word, designated to specific areas and we shall use our budget and support for our cooperating partners for support to the rest of the country," Mutati said. Mutati also highlighted some of government's key projects with the World Bank.

"We are very excited to host the executive director coming into Zambia at a time when the economy has begun to stabilize, when the fundamentals are cheerful, the programmes that we have got with the World Bank, perhaps one of the biggest programmes we have got, \$1.2 billion in terms of portfolio and through the executive director, we have received commitment that the support to Zambia under IDA 18 is going to be elevated and more resources will be given to Zambia to the extent of \$600 million of which approximately \$150 million will be in the form of budget support. With this volume of resource, we give you our commitment in terms of absorption capacity, in terms of ensuring that the various programmes that we are going to undertake will be as effective as possible. Three of the most critical programmes that we have undertaken with the bank is one in agriculture, we have approximately \$255 million to support among others irrigation and agri business," said Mutati.

"The second key programme is in energy approximately \$208 million, again, to support the delivery of energy in the country. we are within the context of [International Development Association] IDA 18 concluding \$200 million that will be dedicated to address the challenges that we have got in rural roads, infrastructure development that is going to support agriculture." Mutati also reminded Bvumbe about Zambia's offer to host the IDA replenishment meeting in November saying the country was the best destination.

I won't interfere with maize price – Lungu

By Mukosha Funga

President Edgar Lungu says he will not interfere with the K60 per 50Kg bag market price for maize because he does not want to politicize production.

Speaking to journalists at City Airport before departure to Luapula Province yesterday, President Lungu, however, advised the Food Reserve Agency and farmers to negotiate until they were both satisfied.

"When you go to the market, there should be a willing buyer and a willing seller. I think a consensus must be

achieved somehow. Those who produce maize know what they put in, they know what to expect. Those who are buying also know what they are offering so find a medium somehow. I don't want to politicize production, production should be economical so those who are engaged in activities should be rewarded and I think when they are giving them too much money, that's bad, too low money, that's bad so in the end at the market there should be a willing buyer, a willing seller," President Lungu said.

He said he had decided to fix the price last year because he felt that was the good thing to do at the time.

"Last year I fixed it because I thought that was good but I don't want to interfere for now, there should be a bargaining process, the buyer and the seller should be willing to exchange commodities and I don't think the buyer wants to be exploited, I don't think a seller also wants to be exploited but somehow you need to bargain, I think the negotiation process has just started," said President Lungu.

The simmering tension between the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) and the Executive is descending into frightening levels. In a democratic state where non-governmental institutions such as LAZ are charged with the responsibility of safeguarding people's constitutional liberties and freedoms, we find the political rebuttals by the Executive to every legal argument LAZ presents very disturbing. We feel it is within the mandate of LAZ to interpret the law as an instrument of social order and social justice and as an essential element in the growth of society. Therefore, it is not fair to accuse LAZ of playing politics whenever they speak.

In fact, we don't think LAZ is playing politics at all, but the President is. We say this because the incumbent Head of State has been a member of the LAZ council that did more controversial things than what the Kasonde-led executive is doing.

In March 1999, the LAZ council comprising President Lungu, and current Supreme Court and High Court judges invited United Party for National Development president Anderson Mazoka who addressed the association's annual ball held in Lusaka. This angered some ordinary LAZ members and some political players who felt it was wrong for the executive to invite a leader of the opposition party to grace its event, but the LAZ leadership remained resolute.

"Are we not fair then to invite the president of an upcoming political party? Why shouldn't we invite the opposition? Some of our members have been asking 'why invite Mazoka?' The council decided to invite president Mazoka because we feel that we can share some ideas on the

If LAZ formed a party, heads would roll

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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governance, development and future of our country." These were the words used by the men and women of honour who defended LAZ then. They protected LAZ from political attacks and posterity rewarded them handsomely – judging by where President Lungu is sitting today.

George Kunda who spoke on behalf of the executive ended up being Vice-President of this country. Other LAZ council members of 1999 are still climbing the ladder of integrity. Mumba Malila SC and Michael Musonda SC are now Supreme Court judges, Charles Kajimanga is now High Court judge together with Dr justice Winnie Sithole Mwenda

who was recently promoted by President Lungu.

These men and women knew that it was the responsibility of LAZ to not only interpret the law but also defend human rights and freedom of association. We are wondering what would happen to the current LAZ if they hosted Hakainde Hichilema, the president of the same political party that the 1999 LAZ invited to its annual ball. That is why we feel, although the rift between LAZ and the Executive is not a new phenomenon, the current LAZ is facing unique persecution by nature of its unique leadership and the prevailing political environment.

We say unique because LAZ

has never been headed by a female president until now, and we cannot completely ignore the possibility that the heightened State intolerance of this institution is a consequence of that fact. It is important to highlight the gender aspect because the unpleasant history of gender biases, stigmatisation and sexualisation of women successes is well documented in Zambia. If we are serious about gender equality as a country, we should constantly be interrogating our actions while protecting ourselves from being double-minded. Sufficient progress has been made in achieving the gender parity goals, especially under

the PF government where we have witnessed the first female Inspector General of Police and first female Vice-President, among others, but we should never lose focus and surrender the gains to the whims of political expediency. Linda Kasonde's ascendancy to the helm of the Law Association of Zambia was not without controversy and her reign thus far has been characterized by mostly male politicians casting aspersions about her competency. Not only has she survived impeachment but her executive has also been threatened with disbandment and there are efforts in motion to establish a parallel association. Therefore, these destabilising

activities against her reign are too convenient to be a coincidence. The state cannot always be giving political interpretations to every criticism from LAZ and other government stakeholders because governance is not a sole responsibility of the ruling party. In her press statement, the LAZ president made it clear that her association would seek legal recourse from the courts of law IF AND WHEN it is established that the Constitution was being flouted during the implementation of the Threatened State of Emergency. Ms Kasonde NEVER said the grounds for declaring a Threatened State of Emergency were baseless, she never said the Head of State breached the law. Instead, she encouraged those who wanted clarification on whether the basis for invoking Article 31 were sufficient to get that interpretation from court, not LAZ. How can that be termed as abusing the legal association to advance political motives?

The least the Head of State could have done was to challenge LAZ to go ahead and approach the courts of law - not to ask them to form a political party.

When President Lungu challenged LAZ to form a political party, it was left to our imagination what would happen to the Patriotic Front if that happened. We wondered if the PF would survive if all those who were being challenged to form political parties took the challenge. No doubt, heads would roll, but we are not encouraging LAZ to float a candidate at the next elections. We believe that professional institutions should be depoliticised and allowed to apply their intellectual conscience to social matters.

The deadly silence of Zambia's intelligentsia on public discourse



Sishuwa Sishuwa is the last Zambian nationalist. He is obsessed with all things Zambian, particularly politics and history which he teaches when UNZA is not closed. Sishuwa is a cadre of Nkana Football Club and has a PhD in History from Oxford.

What do Zambia's intellectuals (those trained in a particular discipline and attached to a university faculty) think about the pitiful state of our existence today, including what is happening in North-Western Province, where we, as a country, have allowed the re-creation of spatial apartheid in the new mining areas? Much like during the colonial era, mining companies in Solwezi have replicated the notorious racial colour bar: white mineworkers are paid exceptionally high wages, live in segregated estates with lavish housing and social facilities, while their black counterparts who do much of the labour are paid significantly less, housed in distinctively less lavish settings, and effectively left to fend for themselves. Where is the Zambian intelligentsia in identifying what looks very much like a new wave of colonialism?

What do our intellectuals think about the plight of the rural residents who once called this place home, but have since been dispossessed of their land and are now living in soul-less shanty compounds – their land leased, complete with surface rights to multinational corporations and ex-Rhodesians? Kalumbila, for example, is padded with staff from Zimbabwe, many with kinship ties to the mine proprietors! The issue is that places for the settlement of many whites in southern Africa, in particular

South Africa and Zimbabwe, are hostile, so there is a sense of looking somewhere new and away from the scrutiny of state regulatory authorities. It is now evident that in Zambia and North-western Province in particular, they have found that sanctuary.

Kalumbila is effectively a little apartheid outpost in independent Zambia! What's more, the dynamics in North-Western Province are not different from what is going on in Luapula, where land has been allocated for large-scale farming developments, but also for so-called energy projects, which in themselves are not a bad thing, but just that many of these projects get much more land than they need for their operations. It is clear that the interest of the new corporations is not just mining but also appropriating land for ranching, commercial farming and private wildlife reserves. Frighteningly, these plans encompass much of western Zambia (the Barotse floodplains of the Zambezi river and adjacent areas) and go all the way to Southern Province. This explains why there has been a concerted effort by multinational corporations to lobby to get this land under the so-called custodianship. i.e. preserving the place as nature reserves, masked under the rhetoric of 'greening the environment' or promoting 'sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems', whilst promoting the degazetting of protected forests and reserves in order for them to be privatised.

One cannot help but think that the West, and many white Africans, still have visions of Empire – I cannot underestimate the extent to which they will work to further these aims. Dispossession of land (much of which was already occupied by rural folk but treated as empty) and protection of these spoils via 'private property' is for them also seen as something quite noble, as it is rationalised as taming the landscape to facilitate 'development' and the 'civilising' of 'natives', whose desires to live a certain lifestyle and whose connection to the land are swept aside. Why can't our intellectuals speak out on these key matters of public concern to help our national leaders understand that we are in effect being recolonised by stealth? Are they 'captured'?

What do Zambian scholars think about

our 'independence', about who 'we' are, about the global debt mechanisms that restrict the possibility of economic independence? With the imminent return of the International Monetary Fund, for instance, what will we become? So many decades after independence, can we be wise and brave enough to advance a genuine independence? What is the public role of intellectuals in this country? Just who and where are Zambia's public intellectuals? There are the academics at our universities and many more educated Zambians working abroad, but what is their role in relation to the government today?

Below, Mahmood Mamdani, a Ugandan academic and political commentator, issues a challenge to African academics to reflect carefully on their role and how it has changed in the years since political independence was achieved. The section I have deliberately quoted at great length was part of Mamdani's address to the University of South Africa delivered on 26 May 2017 to commemorate the 8th annual Thabo Mbeki Africa Day. Mamdani, arguably Africa's leading public intellectual, demonstrates the downward slide of the public intellectual in Africa from a political partisan to an apolitical expert and calls on African scholars to both lend their voices to important public concerns and to theorise their social realities.

"The public intellectual and the scholar are not two different persons, but two distinct perspectives, even preoccupations. One draws inspiration from the world of scholarship, the other from that of public debate. The distinction between them is not hard and fast, since the boundary shifts over time and is blurred at any one point in time. Tensions between the two perspectives were evident in the early post-independence period. If the public intellectual hoped to work with local communities, as close to the ground as possible, the scholar had 'universalist' aspirations based on the claim that a universal intellectual traded a global ware, theory. The split between the two was often pregnant with political significance. If the public intellectual took sides as a proud partisan, the scholar claimed objectivity as an observer, a Hegelian witness – "the owl of Minerva" – whose wisdom came

only in the wake of events to which the disinterested intellectual must relate as a witness rather than as a partisan.

"We need to acknowledge that the gulf between the public intellectual and the scholar is minimal in the West and maximal outside the West. This is for one reason: the theory that valorises the scholar is abstracted from the Western experience. Even though theorists claim universality, a theory has a history, and that is the history of the West. This means that in spite of pretensions to universality, the scholar in the modern (African) academy is basically a Western scholar. It should not be surprising that Western theories resonate more in the Western context than outside it.

"In the half century since independence in this part of the world (Africa), the dialect between the public intellectual and the scholar has gone through a number of significant shifts. The first big shift took place with independence. Few at the time realised how radically both the perspective and role of the public intellectual would change in a post-colonial setting. The role of the public intellectual in a colonial university was relatively unambiguous. The public intellectual found a secure home in the ranks of the nationalist movement. But nationalists in power had little patience with domestic critics especially if those crossed the language barrier between the gown and the town, the town and the countryside and tried to link up with the social movements. This introduced a tension among radical intellectuals still on campus and yesterday's 'comrades' now in power. From allies in a broad camp, they turned into adversaries.

"The second big shift is taking place now, on the hills of the development of an expanded NGO movement. Most NGOs have been retooled to act as so many whistle-blowers who must ensure the 'accountability' and 'transparency' of the government in power, but without combining it with the search for an alternative order. If NGOs act as so many sentries for the neoliberal order, the new public intellectuals are expected to shed the politically partisan character of the old public intellectual and function as so many in-house advisors to governments of the day. Though advising governments, they don the cloak of expertise and claim to be untainted by politics. Yet

the consequence is to harness would-be 'scholars' to a political agenda that would quarantine the nationalist project. The underlying assumption is that politics inevitably introduces a bias, whether national or sectarian, and has thus a negative influence on the formulation and implementation of policy.

"The ground is shifting as international donors seek to reshape the African academy and its relationship to society and the state. In this new context, the public intellectual is being retooled as an advisor and a consultant. Not the university but the think tank is emerging as the new home for the refashioned public intellectual in the neo-liberal era. The effect is both to depoliticise the public intellectual and to hitch his and her labour to an official agenda.

"Unlike in the 1960s and 1970s, the public intellectual of the early 21st century cannot be presumed to be a progressive intellectual. In this era, the definition of the 'public' has changed. It is no longer just the 'people', the governed. It also includes the government, the donor and the financial institutions on which governments increasingly depend. The public intellectual based in a think tank is expected to serve the government above all as the guarantor of 'evidence-based policies'. The new type of public intellectual is recruited and funded by development partners to monitor public institutions both from within and from without, as it were round the clock in the name of 'accountability'. The combination of 'transparency' and 'accountability' in turn ensures the monitoring of this new type of the public intellectual by development partners who fund the exercise."

Mamdani is right. Intellectuals have an ethical obligation to the wider world around them within which they pursue their scholarly activities. In contexts of injustice, for instance, they should not stand aside but immerse themselves in the struggles of their communities including advancing freedom and knowledge to an audience larger than their professional colleagues and students. When performing this public role, the intellectual should rid themselves of the 'objective' workings of scholarly engagements and be unafraid to take an informed position on a range of public issues or subjects, however

controversial or political, actively disturb the status quo, aim for openness, and advance the class considerations or interests of other groups other than their own: the exploited, the marginalised, the poor and the less powerful.

It is time we heard the voice of Zambian economists, historians, political scientists, development academics, etc., on the social, political and economic implications of a post-humanist Zambia, including the almost uncritical acceptance in public discourse of neoliberalism and its rationales that so hinders the ability to reformulate an alternative. Their silence on many important national discussions is deadly and disturbing. Our literati men and women have the responsibility to find common ground between private and public interests. What do they consider to have been the implications of the drastic restructuring of the Zambian state since 1991 on how the country sees itself and works? What, in the judgement of our intelligentsia, explains our continued sub-human existence and our refusal to rebel against this status?

There must be many and complex and interrelated social, economic, political, cultural, religious and spiritual forces combining with our entire history as a people that have moulded and continue to shape the current psychology and character structure of the 'typical Zambian'. Our intelligentsia, in their diversity, have a duty to unravel these forces, understand them, and reshape them to build a different and genuinely alive Zambian. We, as a people, must understand all this as it relates to our place in the wider world. In fact, our current deep-seated systemic and structural social, economic and cultural crises are a perfect foundation to begin to build a new national consciousness, to begin to resurrect the human being in the Zambian.

If Zambia's intellectuals are to remain relevant to the country beyond their teaching and research roles, they should consider engaging with the changing issues of the world around them while at the same time remaining true to the principles of their scholarly trade. The veneer of 'neutrality' and 'objectivity' can no longer be a hiding place.

SA could give sign language official status

South Africa could soon give sign language official status, one of a few countries in Africa to do so.

This is after a recommendation from the parliamentary constitutional review committee to alter the constitution.

The country's deaf community, which has lobbied for the change, says official recognition would help "give them a voice".

Sign language would become South Africa's 12th official language.

But it must still go through a parliamentary process before the change can be made.

In arguing for the change, the Pan South African Language Board (Pan SALB) said that communicating in sign language was a "fundamental human right".

"By declaring it an official language... [it will] to ensure that this language is taught in schools and government departments at some stage need to ensure that they bring people with the necessary skills to communicate with these communities," PanSALB's Sibusiso Nkosi is quoted as saying in local media. The Centre of Constitutional Rights Phephelaphi Dube's said the move would lead to a change in how state institutions currently view sign language.

"All state institutions, schools hospitals, government departments would need to have personnel who know sign language and can communicate in it." News24 quotes her as saying.

If approved this means the private sector would also be compelled to make sure that personnel in their institutions and businesses are able to use sign language.

The first discussions on the matter started back in 2007, after a petition by the associations representing the deaf community in which they said millions were being excluded from accessing facilities and services because they were not able to communicate with service providers.

Several countries around the world do recognise sign language but that can have different implications in different places, and does not always guarantee provision.

In Africa, sign language is officially recognised in Zimbabwe's constitution. And in Kenya's constitution it says that the state should "promote" the use of sign language.

-bbc.com



More than 40 killed in battle with Boko Haram in Nigeria

More than 40 people have died in north-east Nigeria during an attempt to free people who had been ambushed in a convoy by militant Islamist group Boko Haram, sources have told the BBC.

At least five members of an oil exploration team were killed and soldiers also died.

Army chiefs have now been ordered to relocate to the

affected area.

The high number of casualties will be a blow for the government, which insists the insurgency is all but defeated. At least 20,000 people have been killed and thousands more abducted since Boko Haram launched its insurgency in the city of Maiduguri, north-east Nigeria, in 2009.

In the most notorious abduction case, it seized 276 girls from a boarding school in the north-eastern town of Chibok in 2014.

It has since freed more than 100 of the girls, in exchange for the release of its fighters detained by Nigeria's security forces.

Details of what happened on Tuesday remain unclear, with initial reports from the army suggesting the abducted geologists and surveyors, who worked at the University of Maiduguri, had been rescued. On Tuesday, the army said the bodies of nine Nigerian soldiers and a civilian had been recovered.

But now the university has said at least five members of staff, including two academics and a driver, were killed when the heavily armed convoy made its way back to Maiduguri, in north-east Nigeria.

Several others remain missing. "We got the impression our staff on the team were rescued because that was what the military spokesman said yesterday," Maiduguri University spokesman Dani Mamman said, quoted by AFP.

"But we were shocked when we were given four dead bodies. This means it wasn't a rescue. We still have other staff that are yet to be accounted for."

Sources told the BBC that more than 40 people, most of them soldiers and volunteers from a vigilante group, had been killed in total - although other sources suggest the number killed may rise further still.

"The death toll keeps mounting," a source told AFP, adding: "More bodies are coming in."

-bbc.com



Russian President Vladimir Putin speaks with Donald Trump during their bilateral meeting at the G20 summit in Hamburg, July 7, 2017

Trump to sign bill imposing fresh sanctions on Russia

US President Donald Trump will sign into law a bill imposing new sanctions on Russia, the White House says.

Both houses of Congress backed the bill, which also includes measures against Iran and North Korea, but it was thought Mr Trump might veto it.

Russia has already retaliated by ordering cuts to US diplomatic staff and barring the use of some properties.

The sanctions are over Russia's 2014 annexation of Crimea and alleged interference in the US

election.

Iran and North Korea are being penalised over their ballistic missile tests.

White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Mr Trump would sign the bill, but only after having negotiated "critical elements" of it. She did not specify what those elements were.

"He has now reviewed the final version and, based on its responsiveness to his negotiations, approves the bill and intends to sign it," she said.

The sanctions came months after the Obama

administration ordered the seizure of two Russian diplomatic compounds and expelled 35 Russian diplomats in response to alleged hacking of the US Democratic Party and Hillary Clinton's presidential campaign.

US intelligence agencies believe Russia tried to sway the election in favour of Mr Trump and several investigations are looking into whether anyone from his campaign colluded.

Russia has always denied interfering and Mr Trump insists there was no collusion.

President Trump has said he wants better relations with Russia

The president has sought closer ties with Russia but analysts say any attempt to veto the new sanctions could have fuelled suspicion that he was too supportive of the Kremlin.

Russia's foreign ministry said on Friday that the US was "stubbornly taking one crudely anti-Russian step after another, using the utterly fictitious pretext of Russian interference in its internal affairs".

-bbc.com

Italy backs force to police Libya shore

Italy's cabinet has backed sending a mission to Libya to try to stem the influx of migrants.

The mission would help Libya "reinforce their capacity to control their borders and national territory", said Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni.

It would reportedly comprise ships, planes and at least 700 sailors.

Mr Gentiloni claimed it had been requested by Libya, but the UN-backed government there vigorously denied making any such request.

In an earlier statement, Libyan Prime Minister Fayez Sarraj said his administration had agreed to receive only training and arms from Italy.

"Libya's national sovereignty is a red line that nobody must cross," he said.

Mr Sarraj, whose administration's control of Libya is limited, held a

face-to-face meeting with Mr Gentiloni in Italy on Wednesday.

Mr Sarraj did acknowledge asking Rome for border guards in southern Libya in that meeting.

More than 94,000 migrants have crossed the Mediterranean to Italy so far this year, according to the UN. But more than 2,370 people have died trying.

Migrants picked up in Libyan coastal waters - and not international waters - can be legally returned to Libya, but aid workers say that conditions in Libyan migrant reception camps are dire.

Surviving the deadliest migration route France plans asylum 'hotspots' in Libya

Jailed and ransomed in Libya The Italian mission to Libyan coastal waters would reportedly be led by a frigate.

-bbc.com



I Always Wanted Nicki My Whole Life - Meek Mill

Seven months later and Meek Mill is still getting over his break up with Nicki Minaj.

"I always wanted Nicki my whole life ... I bagged that," Mill told Philadelphia radio station Power 99 on Thursday. "Of course breaking up with anybody you love is a loss, period."

They went public with their relationship in March 2015 when Minaj, 34, posted a caption-less photo to Instagram of their hands holding. In an appearance on *The Ellen DeGeneres Show* last year, Minaj was hesitant to label her relationship with Mill, saying, "I don't know, we're still figuring each other out."

Months into her relationship with Mill, 30, the "No Frauds" singer said they had a healthy partnership in an interview with *GQ*. "I definitely think we have a normal relationship off-camera," she said. "We're growing as a couple and as people and as human beings, but we still have our careers."

Minaj told *Nylon* last April that engagement wasn't completely off the table. "We're just taking it one step at a time," she said. "And, you know, if that happens, if I get married, then I'll have a child and that'll be fun because I can't wait to hold my baby." Rumors of the hip-hop couple's separation were confirmed in January when Minaj tweeted she was single and "focusing on my work."

In the rest of his candid radio interview Thursday, Mill also called his feud with Drake a success.

"I won the whole situation — it made me into a monster," he said. "They put my back against the wall ... It helped me turn into the next level."

He added, "I was too comfortable: I had Nicki, I'm getting all this money, living in Beverly Hills, getting high — there was nothing else I wanted at that point. Now it's time to get this money. I'm [going to] show you who Meek Mill is."

Yahoo News

Garth Brooks and Trisha Buy Wedding Gifts for Fans



Married country stars Garth Brooks and Trisha Yearwood are sharing the love by handing out wedding gifts to fans.

The Lafayette Daily Jude and Jamie Blanchard attended Brooks' show in Lafayette, Louisiana, last month with a sign that read: "Best Week Ever. Garth this Friday, our wedding next Friday." Brooks took notice and serenaded them with "To Make You Feel My Love." He also asked if they wanted anything

off their wedding registry, and Jamie passed along a wedding invitation to the stage.

The Lafayette Daily Advertiser reports a pair of lounge chairs, a KitchenAid mixer, and other items from the stars showed up at the Blanchards' door.

This month, Brooks and Yearwood offered to pay for a Hawaiian honeymoon for a couple who got engaged at an Oklahoma City show.

Yahoo News

Thirsty Fan Reportedly Arrested After Spitting on Deputies at Drake's House



A woman who previously made headlines for illegally entering Drake's home and enjoying some Sprite was reportedly arrested Thursday morning. The 24-year-old individual returned to Drake's Hidden Hills estate and told

security staff that she was "on the list," TMZ reported Friday. When the list claims didn't go as she planned, the woman refused to vacate the premises. Police sources told TMZ that the woman gifted three deputies with hurled saliva

upon their arrival, resulting in the use of pepper spray. Ultimately, the woman was arrested on trespassing and assault on a police officer charges. According to the report, Drake wasn't on the property at the time of the incident.

Back in April, the same woman was busted by a member of Drake's team for a separate incident involving similarly illegal entry. She was discovered in one of the Hidden Hills home's bedrooms, wearing an article of clothing from Drake's wardrobe and claiming she had been given permission to enter the residence. According to TMZ's initial report, the woman was arrested and charged with felony burglary after confessing to

snatching up some Sprite, Pepsi, and delicious Fiji water from the home stash. Drake later contacted the authorities and reportedly told them he wasn't interested in pursuing prosecution, instead asking that they give the woman a break.

Hidden Hills was previously hit with a highly publicized break-in back in May. Noted comedy actor Scott Disick's home was "burglarized and ransacked" while he was in Las Vegas for a birthday event, according to reports. A silent burglar alarm was triggered during the incident, but no leads were pinned down. The break-in is believed to have been an inside job.

Yahoo News

Chelsea are title favourites - Conte

Chelsea boss Antonio Conte believes his side remain the team to beat ahead of the start of the 2017-18 Premier League season.

The Blues claimed a second title in three years in Conte's first season in charge, finishing seven points clear of Tottenham after winning 30 of their 38 matches.

Chelsea, Arsenal, Manchester United and Manchester City in particular have invested heavily in their squads ahead of what promises to be a fiercely-contested title race next term.

And although he has warned his players against becoming complacent, Conte feels they deserve to start the season as favourites.

"For sure; we won the Premier League title last season," he told a news conference. "This season will be tough. You know what has been happening in England. Chelsea won in 2014-15 and then Leicester City won the league. So we must be careful and not take any team lightly."

"It is normal that every big team tries to reinforce their squad by bringing in quality players. That is what they have done. For sure, next season in Premier League will be a huge challenge for us."

The first of two training sessions today is about to get underway... #CFCTour pic.twitter.com/2u0UWJBBGv

Chelsea have brought in Alvaro Morata, Tiemoue Bakayoko, Antonio Rudiger and Willy Caballero during the transfer window at a reported combined cost of close to £130 million.

Despite the significant outlay, Conte has warned

that his new signings will need time to adapt to his methods in England's top flight.

"It is very important for players to understand my football and adapt," he said. "Bakayoko needs some time to understand my football and this is the great difficulty for a coach. You need a bit of time to bring the player into your idea of football."

"It is the same for Morata. He is working very well and is putting himself into every session. I think it is very good but it is important for him to have some time to adapt to our system. But I can see the will power in the player to do so."

Conte faced criticism this week for accusing young players of being "impatient" while allowing a number of Chelsea youngsters to leave Stamford Bridge.

Dominic Solanke, Nathan Ake and Nathaniel Chalobah have all left on permanent deals, while Ruben Loftus-Cheek, Tammy Abraham, Izzy Brown, Michael Hector, Tomas Kalas and Ola Aina are among a number to have completed loan moves.

Conte has defended his policy when it comes to youngsters trying to break into the first team and suggested that Chelsea is not the ideal place for them to do so.

"It is always difficult to speak about young players. There is always a great debate around this," he said.

"I think every young player was good in this pre-season. But I have to take the right decision and see what is best for the club, players and young players when the season kicks off."

-Goal.com



Neymar clashes with Barcelona team-mate

The Brazilian forward continues to be heavily linked with a summer move away from Camp Nou and has now been seen tangling with colleague Nelson Semedo

Neymar has been caught on camera tangling with Barcelona team-mate Nelson Semedo in a heated training ground bust-up as speculation regarding his future intensifies.

Footage captured by Splash News shows the Brazilian forward becoming involved

in an angry dispute with his Portuguese colleague.

The incident occurs at Barca's American training camp in Miami, with Neymar seen scuffling with recent signing from Benfica Semedo.

The pair are forced apart, with Javier Mascherano quickly on the scene.

Semedo walks away from the fiery flashpoint, but Neymar refuses to let the issue lie.

Clearly flustered, the

Samba star shouts over to Barca's £26.8 million summer signing from Benfica as the rest of Ernesto Valverde's squad watch on.

He then looks to head back in the direction of Semedo before being restrained by Sergio Busquets.

Neymar tears off his training vest before kicking a stray ball away in frustration.

The bust-up has served to further fuel speculation suggesting that the 25-year-old could soon be heading

out of Camp Nou, with Paris Saint-Germain leading the race for his signature.

The Ligue 1 giants are reportedly willing to meet Neymar's €222 million release clause and make him the most expensive player in history.

Barca have sought to play down the rumours, with club president Josep Maria Bartomeu telling the New York Times that the club are reluctant to part with a player of such talent.

-Goal.com

Diggers ask for introduction of rugby transfer window

From back page

"I think the Union should come in over this issue. I think that clubs should be protected by the

Union," Diggers coach Lawrence Njobvu said.

"It is very frustrating for clubs to be losing players anyhow.

"We cannot have players moving from one club to the next every week. We need something to tie players to a club.

"The Union should come up with something to tie up the players probably like it is done in football when they move mid-way or at the end of the season."

Despite the flurry or unregulated transfers, Diggers are holding their own and are 3rd on the table, tied on 38 points with defending champions and 2nd placed Arrows from nine games with two matches in hand each. Diggers' arch-rivals Kitwe Playing Fields are 1st on 51 points fro 12 games played.

Zanaco feeling no pressure in catch-up race

By Diggers Reporter

Zanaco have disclosed that they are able to cope with the pressure of fulfilling their games in hand as they begin to play catch-up in the race to retain the FAZ Super Division title.

The defending champions are 10th on the log with 26 points from 13 matches with six games in hand and are ten points behind leaders Napsa Stars.

On Wednesday, Zanaco made some headway in playing catch-up when they

beat Forest Rangers 1-0 away in Ndola courtesy of a 52nd minute Ernest Mbewe goal to pick up four out of a possible 6 points in their last two games.

Assistant coach Dabid Chilufya said Zanaco were slowly adjusting to their domestic obligations following their recent elimination from the 2017 CAF Champions League group stage.

"We have no pressure because we are taking each game as it comes and we have a lot of

players we are shuffling them so that we don't have fatigue," Chilufya said.

"I know that when we play so many games, fatigue sets in, but we have players that deliver in the unplayed games so that we can catch-up with our friends."

Chilufya is standing in for Mumamba Numba who is away on Zambia Under-17 duty at the 2017 COSAFA U17 Cup in Mauritius.

Meanwhile, Zanaco return to action this

Saturday when they visit Red Arrows in a Lusaka derby clash at Nkoloma Stadium in a Week 20 fixture.

NAPSA hold Lusaka Dynamos to a 1-1 draw

From back page

"Our target will be to pick up maximum point because in the last two games we have lost four points so we need to go and pick up a maximum point," Said Chiboleka.

And Lusaka Dynamos head coach Patrick Phiri said he was

happy with a point.

"I am happy that we managed to get a point. Napsa was strong. We managed to score from nowhere. We were sleeping. Napsa played well they were very strong. They could have managed to get three points but we came back. It's good to

see that the boys had a fighting spirit and came back into the game and got a point," Said Phiri.

Napsa Stars still tops the table with 35 points while Lusaka Dynamos are second with 31 points and have two games in hand.



NAPSA HOLD DYNAMOS

By Tenson Mkhala Lusaka Dynamos to a Napsa Stars football team yesterday held by 1-0 draw in week 19 of the MTN/FAZ super



Chelsea are title favourites - Conte

The Blues were crowned Premier League champions last season but their Italian boss has warned they cannot underestimate any of their rivals

- Continues on page 11

Zanaco not feeling pressure in race

Neymar clashes with Barcelona team-mate

league. The game that was played at Lusaka's Edwin Imboela Stadium, saw Napsa Stars despite putting up a good game, conceded a goal in the last minute

of the match. Napsa Stars coach Daniel Chiboleka told journalist shortly after the match that he was disappointed with the results. "It's a fare result but

disappointed results to Napsa because we have gone two games without a win. So we just have to go back to the drawing board and start winning games," He said.

Chiboleka said his focus now is to win and pick up maximum points in the next game which is against Nchanga Rangers on Saturday.

- Continues on page 11



By Diggers Reporter Diggers Rugby Club have asked to the Zambia Rugby Union to introduce player transfer windows to curb the indiscriminate movement of players during the season.

Diggers ask for introduction of rugby transfer window

The Zambia Rugby League has been hit by a raft of unregulated

movement of players with Diggers losing 14 players alone during

the course of the 2017 season.

- Continues on page 11

