

**By Sipilisiwe Ncube**  
Namwala UPND Member of Parliament Moono Lubezhi has expressed shock to hear that Parliament lifted her 30 days suspension. On June 22, Speaker of National Assembly Dr Patrick Matibini reviewed Lubezhi's suspension and lifted it after realising that she did not boycott President Lungu's state of the nation address on purpose like the others did. Speaker Matibini said the lawmaker was erroneously included on the list of 48 absentee MPs. "Honourable members, I would love to confirm from the onset that the Honourable member for Namwala was expressly granted authority to be absent from the House on 16th and 17th March, 2017 by the Honorable Chief Whip to enable her attend a Court session. Therefore her inclusion on the list of

# NAMWALA MP RESURFACES ...expresses shock to hear that Parliament lifted her suspension

the 48 UPND suspended Members of Parliament was both inadvertent and regrettable. The ruling should be corrected and

it is in view of this fact that I here by amend my ruling of 13th June 2017 to reflect the fact that the Honourable Member for

Namwala Constituency was absent with permission on 17th March 2017. I further direct the Clerk to ensure that the records

are amended accordingly and remedial measures taken immediately," said Dr Matibini.

*Continues on page 3*

**Court acquits man accused of calling Lungu chi\*\*la**

**By Mukosha Funga**

The Lusaka Magistrates' Court has acquitted a 49-year-old man of Lusaka's Chawama township who was accused of defaming President Edgar Lungu after referring to him as Ch\*kala.

Peter Habasimbi, a police reserve officer who was being represented by Keith Mweemba and Shadreck Mbeve, is alleged to have defamed the President whilst on a minibus from Snow White to Chawama.

*Continues on page 6*

## PF losing numbers since 2011, while UPND is gaining - Max

**By Joseph Mwenda**  
Maxwell Chongu, a renowned PF cadre, has observed that the ruling party has continued to lose members from its support base, while the opposition UPND has been on an upward trajectory since 2011. And Chongu says facts on the ground show that "things are not good for PF on the Copperbelt" adding that those who have been downplaying the situation were misleading President Edgar Lungu. Meanwhile the PF youth who once featured in a reality TV series "Big Brother Africa" has taken a swipe at PF leaders who spend time throwing statements on Facebook

trying to appease the Head of State instead of mobilising the party.

*Continues on page 2*

## MUZ rejects retrenchments proposed by Mopani mines

**By Sipilisiwe Ncube**  
Mineworkers Union of Zambia (MUZ) president Chishimba Nkole says threats by the Mopani Copper mines to lay off 4700 employees following restriction of power supply by the Copperbelt Energy Corporation is intended to intimidate and blackmail the affected stakeholders.

*Continues on page 5*



## Lungu on holiday after Rwanda, S/Africa trips

**By Diggers Reporter**  
President Edgar Lungu has gone on vacation in Mfuwe after a round trip to Rwanda and

South Africa. President Lungu travelled to Kigali, Rwanda to attend the inauguration of Paul Kagame, then attended the SADC summit in South Africa before proceed on holiday immediately after returning. The Head of State returned from South Africa in the company of Home Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo, Health Minister Chitalu Chilufya and National Development minister Lucky

Mulusa among others, whom he gave a lift on the Presidential challenger. Upon arriving in Mfuwe, however, President Lungu asked the Cabinet ministers to proceed to Lusaka while he took some time to rest. This sparked speculation that President Lungu wanted time alone in order to make reshuffles. But a State House official Told News Diggers! that the

President's holiday was planned two weeks ago and had nothing to do with him wanting to make changes to government. "As far as I am concerned the working holiday was planned about two weeks ago. I am not aware that he wants to make reshuffles. He has powers to do that at any time because he is the President, but that is not the reason why he is on this working holiday," said the official.

## Don't sell your maize to FRA, govt is swindling farmers, ZNFU warns

**By Mirriam Chabala**  
Zambia National Farmers Union (ZNFU) president Jervis Zimba says the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) is swindling farmers by insisting on buying maize at k60 because the price is below the cost of production.

In a statement today, Zimba advised farmers to store their maize safely and not sell it to government until a better price was agreed upon adding that those who had already sold theirs, did so at their own risk.

*Continues on page 4*

## Alcohol drinking competition leaves winner dead in Kalambo

*Story on page 2*

# PF losing numbers since 2011, while UPND is gaining – Max

## From front page

In a statement to News Diggers! Chongu who is also a businessman said there was need for true reconciliation among PF members in order to stop the on-going exodus.

“The following are results obtained by the patriotic front party since 2011 up to date, my main area of interest is to educate people on why our numbers keep reducing and why we need political remedies to avoid a defeat come,” Chongu said.

2011 election  
MCS: 1,170, 966  
RB: 986, 866  
HH: 506, 763  
2015 elections  
ECL 807,925  
HH 780, 168  
EDITH 15, 321  
2016 elections  
ECL 1,860,877  
HH 1,760,347  
EDITH 24, 149

“Now you ought to understand that to go through the 50+1 per cent threshold, we only made it by minus/plus 13,000 votes. When you politically analyse the results you will agree with me that their is urgent need to start mobilizing our party from the grassroots because that’s were we seem to be having a big challenge. Let’s appreciate ones strength and use it for the benefit of the Patriotic Front party and not look at it as a threat,” he said.

Chongu said it was unfortunate that those in PF tasked to gauge the political atmosphere were misleading the party leadership.

“We understand that our hardworking Patriotic Front Secretary General

Mr. Davies Mwila, above all our distinguished humble leader President Edgar Chagwa Lungu, are sometimes fed with doctored information in terms of what is happening on the ground. This has made most PF members feel neglected, causing a silent resentment towards the PF and President Lungu,” he said.

“I can confirm that on the Copperbelt, we visited several areas in terms of grassroots and I must admit that in most cases our leaders are never given the true picture of what’s on the ground. This is strongly destroying our party. Recently agains, we were on a fact finding mission in Northern Province. I must admit that our findings are mind baffling; surely I can confirm that the picture being portrayed to our leaders showing that things are okay on the Copperbelt is fake, for what we have gathered is shocking.”

He said it was vital for party mobilisers to relay accurate information to decision makers.

“Taking lies to our leaders will not help our party or president Lungu to make well informed decisions. It will certainly destroy the party. We are ignoring the truth for temporally happiness,” Chongu observed.

He also proposed that the PF must go to intra party elections this year in order to leave room for managing the obvious fallout that would ensue from the losing candidates.

“Party elections should have been strategically made to happen this year to

give room for the party to properly reorganize itself. I know some will disagree with me on this subject since the election date was already set for next year 2018. However with what has been happening politically in our party and the pretence, we anticipate betrayers, mostly those that

will lose their positions, to try by all means to defect with a reasonable number of their supporters,” Chongu said.

He said the PF grassroots were angry with the ruling party.

“Lately, despite President Lungu relentlessly preaching to party leaders

to empower our grassroots, most of these leaders only talk the walk and never walk the talk, something that has really angered the grassroots countrywide and this is a political ticking time bomb,” Chongu said. Meanwhile, Chongu said it was sad that some PF leaders were governing via

Facebook.

“It’s disheartening to see that some of our leaders have decided to spend much of their efforts on Facebook or PF blogs, politicking, trying hard to appease President Lungu, forgetting the people that voted; thereby decreasing the numbers in our party.



PF cadre Maxwell Chongu (r)

## Mopani’s threats to prune 4,700 miners is an insult to government, Zambians – Sinkamba

### By Diggers Reporter

Green Party president Peter Sinkamba says Mopani Copper Mines (MCM)’s threat to retrench close to 5,000 miners if Copperbelt Energy Corporation (CEC) sticks to cost-reflective tariffs is an insult to the

Zambian people and the government.

In a statement, Sinkamba stated that his party found the announced plan to prune 4,700 workers, a perfect example of corporate impunity bred from protectionist policies.

“The threat is actually an insult to the Zambian government and its people. It is nauseating. If MCM proceeds to implement its threat, we urge Government to invoke its golden share to outvote all other shares in on this issue. The golden share held by Government in all mines gives the government the right of decisive vote, thus to vote all other shares, in a shareholders-meeting,” Sinkamba stated.

He stated that the golden share, which was entrenched in all vesting agreements for the privatized mines was designed to prevent stake-building above a certain percentage ownership level, and to give government veto powers over any major corporate action, such as

retrenchments or sale of a major asset or subsidiary or of the company as a whole.

“AswetheGreenshavealways stated, protectionism in the mining sector, entrenched through development agreements (Das), and other agreements, such as bulk power supply agreements, has had a negative effect on economic growth and economic welfare. This policy has hurt consumers in general, and suppliers and manufactures and workers not only in mining but other sectors as well. It is exactly for this reason that the late President Levy Mwanawasa scrapped the DA clauses in 2008 following the enactment of the Mines and Minerals Development Act of 2008. It is high time that government revisited and scrapped other protectionist legacies in the mining sector,” Sinkamba stated. He stated that MCM needed to be reminded that ZESCO, which generates power in question, was financed through Eurobond money

that would need to be repaid. “Where will the Zambian people get this money to repay this loan if MCM is going to get subsidised power? Where is the justification for subsidised power to this mining company when the price of copper on the world market has increased by 30 per cent from US\$4,200 last year to US\$6,000 at the moment? Where is the justification when CEC has proposed a meagre 10 per cent tariff increase to mining companies when the voters are paying 75 percent tariff increase? Where is the justification, when all other mines are paying the increased tariffs, some of them paying even higher than 10 per cent, despite all their challenges of dewatering? The solution to end this MCM impunity lies in the government invoking its golden share, if government is serious with national security and national economy,” stated Sinkamba.

## Alcohol drinking competition leaves winner dead in Kalambo

### By Joseph Mwenda

A man of Kambelebele village in Kalombo area of North Western Province has died after taking six bottles of Tujilijili in a drinking competition, leaving his rival who consumed five and half bottles battling for his life.

North Western Province Police Commissioner Auxencio Daka named the deceased victor of the drinking competition as Oscar Kavungu and further identified the hospitalised loser as Charles Mwiye.

“Oscar Kavungu of Kambelebele village, Kalombo area died after drinking six bottles of Tujilijili. He died around 16.00 hours at Chavuma General hospital. The

age is not known but, he is believed to be between 25 and 30 years old,” Daka told News Diggers! in a statement.

“He was with his friend Charles Mwiye, 25, of the same village who also took five and half bottles of Tujilijili. Mwiye was later rushed to the same hospital and is out of danger awaiting to be discharged.”

He said an investigation revealed that the two were competing to finish 20 bottles of the highly concentrated alcohol spirits.

“Upon following up the report it was revealed that the two were competing to finish the entire box of 20 bottles. This took place at Mr Sapato Collins’ shop of the same area,” said Daka.

# We'll keep your HIV results secret, Medical Association assures citizens

By Joseph Mwenda

Zambia Medical Association president Dr Abidana Chansa has assured patients and citizens seeking medical attention that their HIV test results will be kept confidential.

In a statement, Dr Chansa said the association was in support of government's newly announced mandatory HIV testing and treatment policy, saying it was a sure way of hedging the spread of the pandemic.

"Following the President's pronouncement declaring HIV testing mandatory, Zambia Medical Association wishes to support government's efforts to end the HIV pandemic. We would like to assure the public that the association remains committed to upholding medical ethics which ensure patients' confidentiality. Results of the HIV test will be kept confidential. As an association, we are looking strategies that will make sure the care of HIV patients more respectful and the doctor-patient relationship strengthened so that the fear of non-confidentiality is averted," Dr Chansa stated.

"We recognise that HIV/AIDS remains the number one cause of morbidity and mortality in most health facilities in Zambia. It accounts for most cases of morbidity and takes a lot of resources that are allocated to the health sector."

He said there was evidence showing that the move would help end AIDS in one generation.

"Credible research has shown that it is possible to end HIV within a generation if Universal Testing and Treatment is implemented. Universal Testing and Treatment takes a 90-90-90 strategy to achieve a generation free of HIV. Through this approach, 90 per cent of the whole population would know their HIV status, 90 per cent of the HIV positive persons should be placed on long-life Antiretroviral drugs and 90 per cent of patients on ARVs should be retained in treatment care and have their viral load suppressed," stated Dr Chansa.

"Therefore, as an association, we see this as an opportunity to expand HIV services not just to health facility level, but at community level as well. Government and partners in the health sector should invest resources to ensure that we reach 90 per cent of the population knows their status. This would include self-testing kits readily available, door-to-door testing and community testing."



Zambia Medical Association president Dr Abidana Chansa

## Former Chipata mayor commits suicide

By Mirriam Chabala

Former Chipata Mayor Jealous Phiri has committed suicide by drinking pesticides.

This is according to a statement issued by Eastern Province Police Commissioner Alex

Chilufya.

"I can confirm that a case of suicide was reported to police this morning on phone by a passer-by whose names are not known that as he was jogging today at around 05:00 hours at Chipata

Primary School football ground. He found a male person whom he suspected to be dead in a car parked in the said ground. Police rushed to the scene where the deceased was identified as Jealous Phiri aged 66

of Maliferendum and also a former Mayor of Chipata Municipality from Nyalugwe village in Nyimba District," Chilufya said.

Chilufya said that Phiri was facing several cases of pretense and that he was recently released from custody on police bond.

"He was found on the driver's seat in his car and upon inspection of the body it was observed that foam was coming out of his nostrils and an empty container of doom pesticides was found besides the body. The deceased was facing several cases of O/M/B/F pretenses. He was on Police Bond in one of the cases. His body was conveyed to Chipata General Hospital Mortuary awaiting postmortem," said Chilufya.

## Mandatory HIV testing policy marred with inconsistency – UPND

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

UPND Spokesperson Charles Kakoma says the party has noted with dismay at the level of policy inconsistencies that the PF government continues to exhibit on sensitive matter. In a statement, Kakoma said it was unfortunate that the policy statements from President Edgar Lungu and the position taken by Health Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya were not contradictory, adding that if not handled carefully, the pronouncement had the potential to backfire and derail all the achievements gained so far in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

"Recently the nation woke up to a policy pronouncement by the President who informed the nation that his cabinet sat to discuss and adopt as policy, compulsory counselling, testing and treatment for HIV in the country, a shift from existing voluntary counselling and testing (VCT). Few days later, the nation again woke up to

another policy correction by the Minister of Health who said the opposite of what the President said. We have been dismayed by this serious policy inconsistencies by this government," Kakoma said. "As UPND we strongly support efforts aimed at reducing the spread of HIV/AIDS in the country and beyond, but those efforts must be well thought through and well calculated and researched before adoption. Such efforts must also be in line with the World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations programs on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) on testing and treatment as provided in their policy statement dated 28th November, 2012 which is in agreement and respects all intricacies including the Human Rights Charter."

Kakoma said before a mandatory HIV testing policy was adopted, there was need for community and family acceptance of new policy measures

as well as ZERO stigma towards both the infected and the affected.

"On 28th November, 2012 WHO and UNAIDS policy statement which is guiding document to HIV testing and treatment says 'people being tested for HIV must give CONSENT before being tested. They must be informed of the process of HIV testing and counselling, services that will be available depending on the results and their right to refuse must equally be read out to them before

any test is conducted' in short the principles of the 5Cs which are Consent, Confidentiality, Counseling, Correct results, and Connection to HIV prevention, treatment and care services must all be adhered to," he said.

Kakoma also stressed the need for stable government support and sustainable supply of Anti Retroviral therapy (ARTs) in health facilities with no reports of shortages at any given time. "As UPND we believe that in the absence of

the above, it was ironic and irresponsible for this government to make that policy pronouncement. We commend the Minister for his quick 'NOLLE' to this seemingly irresponsible policy. We as UPND in accordance with our policy as spelt out in our revised manifesto support by the Zambia Human Rights Commission on the respect to Human Rights," said Kakoma.

"Our advise to government is that they should

## Namwala MP Moono Lubezhi resurfaces

From front page

On July 12, deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Catherine Namugala announced to the House that Parliament had failed to locate Lubezhi to inform her of the lifted suspension.

"Honourable members, with regard to Ms Moono Lubezhi, MP, I wish to inform the House that on 26th June, 2017, the office of the clerk wrote a letter notifying her that suspension had been inadvertent and requested her to return to the House. However, from that time to date, the office of the clerk has made numerous attempts to find the Honourable member and serve the letter on her, the clerk has been unable to locate her because her whereabouts have been unknown and her phones have been constantly

switched off," said Namugala.

But in an interview with News Diggers! Lubezhi said it was not possible for parliament to fail to locate her because.

"Am just hearing this for the first time from you. All I know is that I served my suspension for 30 days like any other MP, I haven't heard anything from Parliament," Lubezhi said.

She said Parliament always knew where to find members during recess.

"I don't think that is possible, I mean that is parliament and when we are on recess. They know how to get hold of us. How come this time it was not possible to get hold of me? So I don't think that is possible but I was never communicated to," said Lubezhi.

# Govt is swindling farmers - ZNFU



Zambia National Farmers Union (ZNFU) president Jervis Zimba



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## From front page

“The Food Reserve Agency (FRA) Executive Director’s insistency on maintaining the K60 maize market price clearly demonstrates how us as farmers are being swindled in the worst conceivable way, by a Government institution. The FRA is pegging the price of maize at below the cost of production when it is supposed to balance the prices, both for mealie meal and maize production.

We will borrow a saying, which states that; ‘this is totally exploitation of man by man’. We are warning farmers who have supplied maize to FRA that they have done so at owner’s risk, as the Agency this year has been classified as a briefcase buyer,” Zimba stated.

“FRA is not actually buying maize, but swindling farmers. All those farmers that have supplied maize to FRA are actually being swindled as the Agency is not even paying cash for the maize. We are aware that some farmers will be deceived with few early payments, but farmers will only get paid after four or five months. Therefore, FRA must not say they have started buying maize from farmers when in actual sense they have started swindling farmers by paying them below production cost. Since when did FRA start

buying maize for making a profit at the expense of the primary producer? Why did FRA not allow market forces to be at play when mealie meal prices were high? We feel the pain as farmers outside the FISP bracket who grew the 2.2 million metric tonnes of maize using own cash.”

Zimba encouraged farmers to find safer ways of storing their maize and only sell it later this year or sometime earlier next year instead of selling it to the FRA at a deflated price.

“We as a union feel the pain of the people who borrowed money to finance the production of this

maize. We feel the pain for those farmers who will fail to pay for the tractors and farm equipment loans. We also feel the pain for farmers who got fertilizers on credit from agro dealer companies, who will be unable to pay back those loans. We are appealing to the banks to exercise patience during this trying moment. We are also appealing to farmers to find the best possible ways of storing this maize and not sell a single grain to FRA and only start marketing our maize from November 2017 through to July 2018, when we project maize prices to become better,” he stated.

“Farmers have responded positively to the Head of

State’s call that he wants to run an agro-based economy. Therefore, farmers have been patriotic and responded to the call to feed the nation, but

should not be taken for granted. History is about to repeat itself. Current developments are reminiscent of the 1990s when farmers stopped growing maize. We do hear that the Minister of Agriculture was out of the country at the time the letter was written, but again has traveled. We are now waiting for a response from the Acting Minister as our letter still stands and government has the responsibility to hear the farmers’ cry.”

Zimba stated that the Union would have no other option but to declassify the grain business if government did not revisit its selling price.

“If nothing comes out of this maize market mess, we will have no choice but to declassify maize as a risky business, since we believe farming is a business. Therefore, the ball is in the court of the Agriculture Minister. We appeal to the Acting Minister to meet us. Both FRA and the Permanent Secretary Mr. Julius Shawa should have a humane face over this issue. The public should know that even at K85 per 50 kg bag paid to the farmer last year, this translates into a farmer living on K300 per month. So, at K60 for a 50kg bag, the farmer will be living in abject poverty.”

Meanwhile, Zimba appealed to remain calm as the Union negotiated for a better price for them. “We are disappointed with Permanent Secretary Mr. Shawa over his reaction in supporting the FRA pricing. We hope he was misquoted, otherwise we would begin to think he is a foot amiss in the Ministry. The Union is ready to sit down and meet anyone in Government to resolve these agriculture issues. As for farmers, I hear some of you have already started feeding maize to your animals. I appeal to you to hold on until we get a better price for our maize. This is a time when we need to be more united than ever,” stated Zimba.



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# MUZ rejects proposed job cuts at Mopani

**From front page**

Speaking at a press conference in Lusaka today, Nkole who is also ZCTU president called on government to conclude its negotiations of improving workers conditions of service so that they can be in tandem with the economic hardships.

“MUZ vehemently rejects these intentions by MCM to cut 4700 jobs as reported in their press statement. MUZ also calls on government to intervene on the matter so that MCM does not resort to job cuts. The move appears to be intended to intimidate and blackmail the affected stakeholders and unfortunately workers seem to be easy fix and victims of Mopani and CEC’s failure to negotiate the power supply agreement in good faith,” Nkole said.

Nkole called on government to stop MCM from issuing such threats but instead guarantee the employment of the miners.

“We also warn the nation of the consequences of the impact of the impasse between MCM and CEC on the Copperbelt province, particularly in the towns of Kitwe and Mufulira. Our memories are still fresh on the redundancies that were done by MCM in 2015 involving 4300 mine workers and therefore, the nation cannot afford to lose a further 4700 mine workers as this will push them into abject poverty and squalor,” he said.

“We call on government to stop MCM on these threats of job cuts and guarantee the employment of mine workers at Mopani.



Mines workers union of Zambia president Nkole Chishimba speaks to journalists in Lusaka August 23, 2017 picture by Tenson Mkhala

MCM could save tremendously if they cut jobs of expatriates rather than touching the local workforce thereby reversing the spirit of job creation for the locals in the mines. Government directed MCM and CEC to negotiate the power increment which is a commercial transaction and MUZ would like to warn that this should not instead translate into cutting jobs. MUZ is pleased that other mining companies have taken on board the power increment by mitigating this cost using other options than cutting on jobs.”

Meanwhile Nkole said the union was concerned with the continued poor conditions of service for workers amidst economic hardships.

“We are calling upon government to be clear and with active responsive in this matter of negotiations for public service workers. We know the options that we take whenever there is nothing coming out, but professionally speaking, government is supposed to follow the steps and

show us clearly what the direction is. They have a lot of options legally that they should take. And the effect of the 25 per cent electricity tariff adjustment which will be effected in September will be felt and that is why we are saying that workers conditions should be improved in Zambia, to

be in tandem with the economic hardship that we are facing,” said Nkole. “So we can’t be on the fence and sacrifice when other people are not sacrificing. Because if we remain on a status call and the cost of living is going up, then what are we doing as leaders, and the government and other

employers? We have to catch up. So we are very concerned as a union and I think even the public is really affected because the mining industry still remains the main drive of our economy and any turbulence that takes place in the mining industry affects the stakeholders.”

## AVAP calls for guidelines on prison campaigns

**By Sipilisiwe Ncube**  
Anti-Voter Apathy Project (AVAP) Executive Director Richwell Mulwani has called on the Electoral Commission of Zambia (ECZ) to set regulations and guidelines on how campaigns will be done in prisons following the decision by the Constitutional Court to

allow prisoners rights to vote. Mulwani told News Diggers in an interview that the decision by the ConCourt was a welcome one but that there was need to put up guidelines on the campaign system so as to avoid acrimony. “This issue of prisoners voting should just

be regulated by the regulation authority which is the Electoral Commission of Zambia because they are the ones that are supposed to provide the guidelines on how the campaigns has to be done in prisons because dont forget that those people are prisoners and if I want to go and campaign there, there must be some regulations of some kind so that there is no acrimony in the prisons. So we still feel that the law must be there, the electoral Act and the regulations and the Constitution should be able to facilitate the process where the prisoners are engaged well,” Mulwani said. He urged political parties to accept the decision of the court because it would allow them to be voted into office by prisoners. “That ruling to us as AVAP is a welcome ruling because it is going to enhance the prisoners

to also cast their votes, to make a decision on the governance of the country. Its very very important that they are also given that chance. Actually it has been a long overdue situation because when you look at what is happening in Malawi, for example the prisoners are voting. What is happening in other countries like Kenya, Namibia, prisoners are voting. Why cant we also allow prisoners to also vote in Zambia because its their rights? We cannot deny them their rights just because they are incarcerated,” said Mulwani. “We welcome the move and we are going to move in and provide the information that is required. And we want to call upon political parties to accept the decision of the Constitutional Court so that they can also be voted by prisoners because they are Zambians.”

## PAC notes increased collaboration between internal auditors and AG’s office

**By Diggers Reporter**

The Public Accounts Committee has heard that there is increased collaboration between the Internal Audit Office and the Office of the Auditor General.

And PAC has also heard that the Internal Audit Reports of Canada are public documents and can be accessed from the website.

According the Auditor General’s office public relations manager Ellen Chikale, Comptroller General of Canada Bill Matthews said this when the Zambian Public Accounts Committee called on him at his Office.

Matthews observed that as a result of this collaboration between the two offices there’s timely sharing of information for decision making.

He added that the degree of collaboration has improved to the extent that the his Internal Audit shares its work plans,

working papers and reports with the Office of the Auditor General.

Meanwhile, the Committee has been told that when heads of institutions or controlling officers begin to take keen interest in the work of Internal Audit their profile will be raised.

Matthews said his Internal Audit office has earned the respect for their work because heads of institutions are keenly participating in the work of internal audits and its outcomes.

He said in the past years their work was not respected and their reports not taken seriously.

He was responding to a question by Kasempa Member of Parliament Ms. Brenda Tambatamba who wanted to know how their Internal Audit had overcome the aspect of their work not being taken seriously.

# Safari company sues state for \$734,434 compensation

**By Diggers Reporter**  
A Safari company is demanding USD734,434 from the state over the cancellation of a hunting

concession agreement it was granted by the Zambia Wildlife Authority. In a statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court,

Maningi Safaris Limited is also demanding for costs for the cancellation of the tender. The company, which cited

the Attorney General as the defendant, stated that ZAWA had committed to compensate for all the losses occasioned but that nothing

had been paid to date despite submitting computed losses which were not denied. Maningi Safaris was awarded a Safari hunting

concession for 15 in West Zambezi upper hunting block by ZAWA which is now operating under the name of Department of National Parks and Wildlife on November 26, 2002.

The agreement was signed between the parties on February 17, 2003.

But in July 2008, ZAWA cancelled the hunting concession on account of conservation efforts by African Parks in Liuwa National Parks.

## Court orders commencement of trial against UPND members accused of obstructing police

**By Diggers Reporter**  
The Lusaka Magistrates' Court has ordered that trial should commence in a matter in which Hakainde Hichilema's deputy press secretary Brian Mwiinga and nine others are facing a charge of obstructing police officers from executing their duties. Magistrate Faides Hamaundu says the case has dragged ever since it was brought to court without progress. When the matter came up today, trial could not commence due to the

absence of the prosecutor handling the case.

One of the accused persons was equally not present, forcing the court to order the state to start prosecuting the accused persons when the matter comes up on September 4, 2017.

According to the defense counsel Zevyanji Sinkala, David Mwanza could not make it to court as he was sick and seeking medical treatment.

Sinkala promised to avail a medical report at the next court session.

This is in a matter in which

Mwiinga and nine others are accused of obstructing police officers on April 10,

2017 during the arrest of Hichilema.

Among those he is jointly

charged with are William Banda; HH's political advisor and Rashid Mumba.

## PF wants Kambwili's expulsion case dismissed

**By Mukosha Funga**  
The Patriotic Front has asked the Lusaka High Court to throw out a case in which Chishimba Kambwili is challenging his expulsion from the ruling party saying it is full of irregularities. Last month, the party central committee expelled Kambwili from PF for gross indiscipline which decision

he contested in the Lusaka High Court.

But PF Secretary General Davies Mwila wants the matter to be struck out on account of irregularities as the case comes up for interparte hearing on September 21, 2017 before High Court Petronella Ngulube.

Mwila, who is being

represented by Eric Silwamba, wants the court to determine whether a constitutional challenge such as an expulsion from a political party can competently be commenced by writ of summons and statement of claim.

According to a notice of motion to raise issues, Mwila said Kambwili's writ

of summons was irregular.

"The Writ of Summons is irregular as the Plaintiff has sued by a Country Advocate who has not added the name or firm and place of business and electronic mail address of the agent which is not more than ten kilometers from the Principal Registry at Lusaka," read the notice.

"The purported Writ of Summons is not duly endorsed with the Plaintiff's full addresses i.e. physical, postal and electronic address in terms of the amended High Court Rules as only the Plaintiff's Principal Advocate's address has been furnished."

Mwila said this was enough for the court to set aside the case as no prejudice would be occasioned to Kambwili as it would also serve the interest of justice.

In this case, Kambwili is seeking a declaration order that his expulsion was illegal, wrongful, null and void.

He also wants the court to declare that his rights under the PF constitution were infringed by not giving him a chance to be heard.

Kambwili further wants an order that the PF central committee cannot be complainant, accuser and judge in its own case against him.

## Court acquits man accused of calling Lungu 'chik\*la'

**From front page**

Lusaka magistrate Sylvia Munyinya freed Habasimbi saying the prosecution's witnesses gave different accounts of what happened on the day when he was accused of insulting the Head of State. "I note that there are too many inconsistencies by the witnesses from the state. The arresting officer said something different from what the eye witnesses said. Other witnesses were saying 'wamene uyu Lungu ndiye wamene alengesa' and another one said 'wamene uyu muna votela chik\*la ndiye alengesa'. It is difficult for me to establish who is saying the truth so I will resolve the doubt in favour of the accused," said magistrate Munyinya. Magistrate Munyinya also condemned police for keeping Habasimbi for 22 days before bringing him to court saying he was over detained.

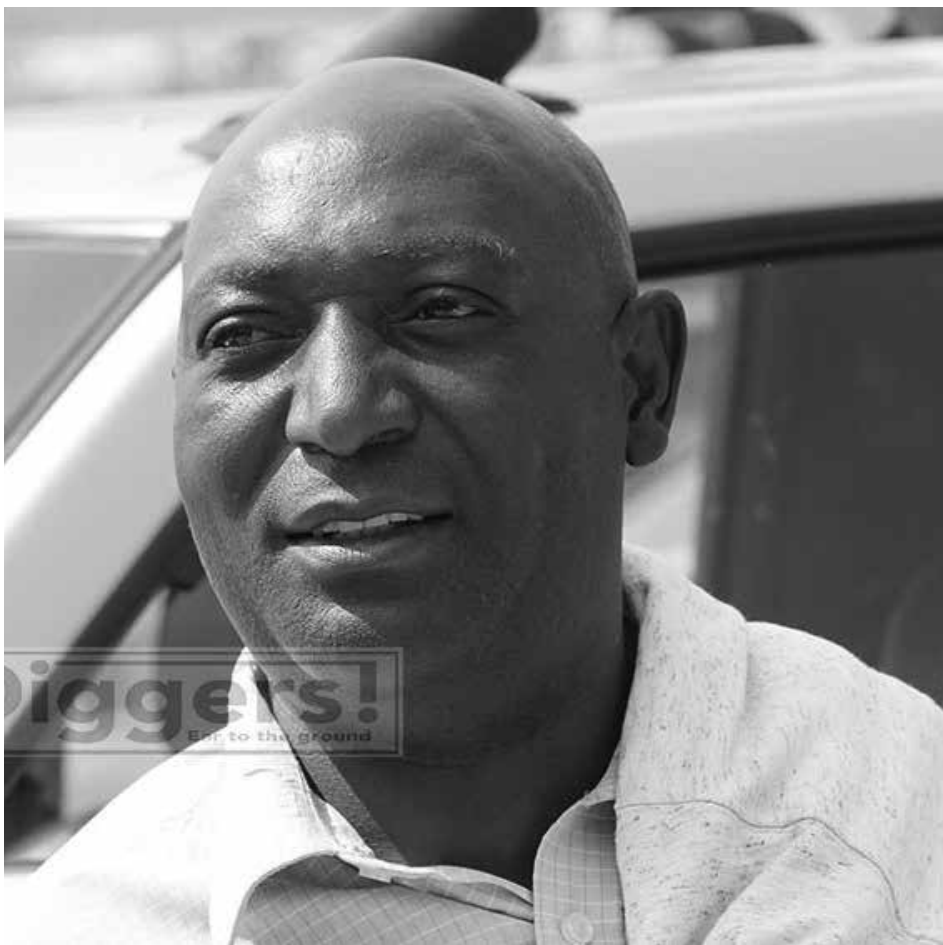
Facts before the court were that whilst on the bus, Habasimbi was greeted by the bus driver who asked him why he was not seen in the State House bus anymore to which he responded that he was now based at Chawama police station.

He further alleged that the reason why people were burning buildings after Hakainde Hichilema's arrest was because of the President.

He also said in other countries, war would have ensued following HH's arrest because he had a huge following.

Among his actual words which are before court are; "Chikala wamene muna votela President alengesa," words which the state interpreted as... "the Penis you voted for as President is the cause". But in his defense, Habasimbi denied uttering those words and said his arrest was because of a grudge one of the officers had against him.

Habasimbi told the court that he had arrested a relative to one of the officers who detained him as punishment for doing that.



## Farm sues State for criminal trespass

**By Diggers Reporter**  
A farm in Central Province has sued the state for criminal trespass over the Ministry of General Education's decision to encroach on its land in Mukonchi area.

According to a statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court, Pabuta Enterprises Limited is claiming K500,000 from the state as damages for

encroachment.

The company is also seeking damages for trespass, loss and inconvenience.

Details are that the ministry trespassed on the plaintiff's land on which they built a school known as Chamukamba Primary School thereby illegally occupying part of the company's farm to the extent of approximately 5 hectares.

The company stated that several attempts had been made to settle the matter with the ministry but to no avail. The demand letter was thus issued to the ministry on July 26, 2017 but was ignored with impunity.

The company availed that the 125 hectare piece of land, being farm number 5506, was purchased in May, 2005.

# Mopani only customer refusing to pay revised tariffs – CEC

**By Mukosha Funga**

The Copperbelt Energy Corporation says Mopani Copper Mines poses a risk to the sustainability of the energy sector as it is the only customer refusing to pay the new revised electricity tariffs.

And CEC says the Kitwe High Court has thrown out an injunction Mopani had obtained against power restriction for irregularities. Yesterday, Mopani Public Relations Manager Nerbet Mulenga announced that the mine had no choice but to retrench about 4,700 employees due to the power tariff standoff with CEC. Mulenga also accused CEC of breaching the Power Supply Agreement.

But in a statement sent to News Diggers! yesterday, CEC Senior Manager Corporate Communication Chama Nsabika said it was unfortunate the Mopani was the only customer refusing to pay the revised tariffs.

“The action to restrict supply was necessitated by MCM’s refusal to accept

the 2017 tariff increment despite negotiations that began in November 2016 involving CEC, its main supplier of power, ZESCO Limited (ZESCO), and all of CEC’s mine customers. To date, MCM remains the only CEC customer refusing to pay the 2017 industry wide tariff. CEC wishes to state that under the Power Supply Agreement (PSA) with MCM, there is provision for negotiated and industrywide tariff revisions,” Nsabika stated.

“In this process, CEC wishes to state that it fully supports the critical requirement for this country to effect a cost-reflective tariff regime to all customer categories. Tariffs to all customer categories in Zambia are being increased during 2017 as a first step to moving towards cost-reflective levels to phase out subsidies that have been provided to the sector over the years and which are not economically sustainable for the country. It is, therefore, important that all players show appreciation

for the general direction the country is taking and contribute their fair share to this process.”

She also stated that the restriction of power supply only affected the smelter and no underground operations as claimed by Mopani.

“On 11th August, 2017 the Copperbelt Energy Corporation Plc (CEC) effected a restriction of power supply to Mopani Copper Mines PLC (MCM) to 94MW from their normal uptake of 130MW. This is a reduction of up to 36MW, equating to about 28% of MCM’s normal supply. The restriction remains in place. The load reduction affected only the smelter and no underground operations, or indeed any other operation, were affected. Conscious of the need to maintain human and plant safety, all the requisite safety procedures have been observed throughout the restriction process,” Nsabika stated.

She further stated that the energy firm had been left with no other option to help

Mopani as they had rejected all solutions thus far.

“During the period of restriction, CEC has remained committed to resolving the matter amicably and to return to the normal supply situation; and has in this vein, held several discussions with MCM aimed at resolving the situation. CEC even offered MCM an option to provide them with power from alternative sources in the interim as a way of meeting their full requirements while the parties worked to resolve the current impasse. It is unfortunate that MCM still rejected this offer. Under the circumstances, CEC has been left with no other option through which it can help MCM without any constructive engagement from their side,” Nsabika stated.

“It must be pointed out that the desired resolution cannot be achieved to the detriment of the Zambian energy sector and the Company’s sustainability. Eight months after the implementation of

the new tariff, outstanding amounts due from MCM have escalated, making it unsustainable for both CEC and ZESCO to continue supplying MCM with their full power requirements. With all the other mines having agreed to paying at the new rate, MCM’s attitude, unfortunately, poses a serious threat of undoing the progress that has been nationally achieved and risks taking the country back to a position where it cannot sustain its energy sector, which would adversely impact the whole economy.”

She stated that CEC was saddened by the unfortunate situation created by Mopani. “The sustainability of the Zambian energy sector and that of the respective players in the sector is underpinned by providing services at cost-reflective levels. The Zambian energy sector has over the last 24 months experienced various challenges and in responding to these challenges, several interventions have been

undertaken; all of which have changed the cost base for the sector. This includes the cost of imported power and new generation plants in Zambia, which are significantly more expensive than power from traditional and/or legacy sources. This, among other factors, has necessitated the need to review tariffs in order to allow for a sustainable power sector. The 2017 tariffs, from a sector perceptive, impacted on all customer categories with no exception,” she said.

“CEC remains committed to a viable and sustainable power sector in Zambia. CEC further commits itself to continue discharging its obligations and to provide reliable services to all its customers. CEC wishes to reiterate that it is saddened by this very unfortunate situation created by MCM and remains hopeful that the two Management teams will work together to conclusively resolve this avoidable standoff; for the good of the mining sector, the economy and the country as a whole.”

She also announced that the Kitwe High Court yesterday threw out an injunction Mopani had obtained against the energy firm.

“CEC further wishes to state that the interim injunction obtained by MCM in the Kitwe High Court was today, Tuesday 22nd August 2017, discharged following a successful challenge by CEC and ZESCO for irregularity,” stated Nsabika.

## Mumba warns Mutati of an impending runaway national debt

**By Mirriam Chabala**

MMD leader Nevers Mumba has written to Finance Minister Felix Mutati again, warning him of the consequences of a runaway national debt that would arise from government’s lack of honest about how much it has actually borrowed.

The former vice-president regretted that Mutati did not respond to his earlier email. “On July 31st 2017, I wrote a letter to you requesting to know the actual debt stock for our country as of now. Your silence which is now entering the second month is unfortunate. We are unable to speculate why you have been unable to respond to our query despite the promise from your office that you were going to give a response within the week of our request. We can only assume that, by your silence, you have agreed with our estimated national debt, which roughly stands at US\$23.4 billion without counting the pending debt under negotiation,” Mumba stated in a letter dated August 22, 2017, copied to President Edgar Lungu and Secretary to the Treasury Fredson Yamba.

“I am sure as Minister of Finance, you are aware of the devastating effect a runaway national debt has on the delivery of services to the

citizens. It is for this reason that the MMD government, specifically under the Levy Mwanawasa regime in which both yourself and I served, aggressively decided to dismantle the debt which stood at \$7 billion. The relief we obtained from the multilateral lenders helped us to reinvest in social services like education,

health and poverty alleviation programs.”

He said having worked under Mwanawasa, Mutati was expected to guide President Lungu better on debt management.

“Our hope is that having served with us in the MMD government you would serve as a conscience to President Edgar Lungu

and the PF government. It is your responsibility honorable minister to tell the nation the truth as to the current national debt stock. Further, it is your duty to advise the PF government on the devastating effect of debt on social stability of the nation,” said Mumba.

“Since you apparently ignored our last letter, we

wish to remind you that your office is obligated to provide answers from any Zambian who seeks clarification. I am deeply disappointed that you have chosen to avoid this issue of debt in the hope that it will die a natural death and you shall not be called to account. We demand an answer from your office.”



Different types of braziers being displayed along Alick Nkhata road in Lusaka’s Kalingalinga Township - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

We have followed developments happening at Mopani Copper Mines from the time CEC restricted electricity supply to the firm. We have also taken keen interest to understand the arguments from government, those in the ruling Patriotic Front, CEC and indeed Mopani. Our observation is that stakeholders are not paying attention to the cause of this impasse.

CEC is wondering why Mopani is the only customer refusing to pay the 2017 industrywide tariff.

“The action to restrict supply was necessitated by MCM’s refusal to accept the 2017 tariff increment despite negotiations that began in November 2016. To date, MCM remains the only CEC customer refusing to pay the 2017 industry wide tariff. CEC wishes to state that under the Power Supply Agreement (PSA) with MCM, there is provision for negotiated and industrywide tariff revisions,” stated CEC.

But Mopani is saying the decision was made without notice, contrary to the provisions of the same Power Supply Agreement.

“We are operating under a Power Supply Agreement dated 31st March 2000, recently amended on 6th March 2015, and is valid until 2040. The PSA strictly sets out the agreed tariff and increases during the contract period. The contract provides that, ‘a tariff may be increased on agreement by both parties’. This was the case in 2008 when Mopani agreed to a tariff increase of 33% over and above the contractual tariff. The current proposed revision would result in a further increase of 54%. The dispute resolution steps

# Save Mopani jobs, or bigger jobs will be lost in 2021

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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have unfortunately not been followed by CEC, which instead chose to resolve the impasse by a unilateral restriction of power supply.”

Our observation is that Mopani is using the Power Supply Agreement as a scapegoat for doing what they have been intending to do for some time now. It seems the mining company has been wanting to cut its workforce for some time. This, in fact, is not the first time that Mopani is retrenching workers. The mining company pruned 4,000 workers in November 2015 under a debt reduction strategy following harsh economic times. Mopani doesn’t seem to have much left to do in Zambia, they are done with us, and they are looking for weaknesses in the government policies to justify their imminent exit. Mopani seems to have capitalized on the inconsistencies in

the manner in which the PF government is managing the mining and energy sectors.

As for CEC, they have to wash their hands clean on this matter before the blame for impending job losses is lumped on them. We challenge CEC to go back to the Power Supply Agreement and see if indeed Mopani has no valid argument. If they do, let CEC clean the mess by renegotiating the terms for a win-win situation – for the sake of the workers.

Even if other mining companies who are party to the Power Supply Agreement have accepted the new tariffs, as claimed by CEC, it should not give the supplier impetus to breach the said agreement. Mopani is raising an issue which CEC and government need to address through intimidation-free negotiations; threatening them will not save 4,700 jobs.

We cannot afford to punish

the poor miners for the ‘sins’ of the apamwambas who are fighting for capital. We say this because Mopani Copper Mines is not a charity organisation. They are not a bunch of Father Christmas clowns here to entertain jobless citizens. The owners of Mopani are in Zambia to do nothing else but make money. If they see that the cost of production is threatening their net profit, they will find every excuse in the book for exiting. When that happens, minister David Mabumba will not suffer, Victor Mundende at Zesco will not be affected and no one at the privately run CEC will lose sleep. It is the 4,700 workers who will feel the pain of losing jobs under these harsh economic times.

We strongly condemn the on-going showdown between government/CEC and Mopani because we are certain that it will end

up forcing 4,700 miners to bear the consequences of poor planning by those in decision-making positions. Zambians have been begging government to be considerate when hiking prices of commodities and utility services, but no one cares to listen. We recall President Edgar Lungu even bragging in Livingstone that he will be happy to be fired in 2021 over ‘his’ wise decision to increase electricity tariffs. We can’t doubt President Lungu’s happiness by 2021 – considering that he made over K20 million after being in power for only 18 months. Our concern, however, is the happiness of the poor miners and their extended families.

Experts warned the PF government that increasing electricity tariffs without proper planning and without consulting the consumers would lead to catastrophe; they did not listen. PF has

simply gifted Mopani a perfect excuse for creating job losses. These are the results of a government that does not listen.

We insist that we do not support the decision by Mopani to retrench workers. In fact, we encourage the 4,700 employees to do anything within the law to save their jobs; if protesting will amplify their cries for help, let them do so. But our view is that this standoff between CEC and Mopani could have been avoided. It saves as a warning to the PF government to stop playing politics with the economy. You cannot make such staggering increases in electricity tariffs at once and expect no repercussions. Mopani is just one company; we will not be surprised if another firm joins the dispute. Yes, mines are making a lot of money but lets tax them without giving them opportunities to create sufferings among citizens.

It is not long ago when there was an outcry from domestic consumers after the 75 per cent electricity tariff hike was announced. Policy makers in government listened to people’s complaints like music in their car stereos and ignored. Now, however, Mopani has fired a warning shot; if nothing is done and those 4,700 voters lose jobs, bigger jobs will be lost in 2021.

I have frequently overheard conversations about the use of “they” as a personal pronoun. Almost without fail it starts like this:

Buhle: I’m gender nonconforming, so my pronouns are “they” or “their”, not “she” or “her”.

Thomas: But that makes no grammatical sense because “they” cannot be used in the singular.

What follows is usually a back-and-forth about the linguistic or grammatical sense of Buhle’s pronouns — a casual academic topic for Thomas, but a never ending trial for Buhle, who has provided Thomas with useful information and now just wants to get on with their life without repeatedly being asked to justify their gender identity.

(If you want to learn more about the recognition of the singular “they”, type it into your search engine and read about its centuries of usage in the work of Chaucer, Shakespeare and Austen.)

Language is important; words have meaning and shape how we think,

## The words we use do matter

conceptualise ideas and communicate them. But language is nuanced. Language can be used in a way that is inclusive, but also as a tool to devalue or exclude people. Learning to navigate this nuance is tricky, but it is vital if we are to achieve an inclusive society that respects and promotes the rights, freedoms and safety of everyone in it.

We don’t need to look far for an example of language being used as a tool of oppression — the enforced use of Afrikaans or English as a medium of instruction in schools for black pupils.

Then there are the ugly slurs: the n-word, the k-word, slut, bitch, whore, hooker, moffie. Recent examples of the way slurs are used in hate speech or to incite violence are the brutal murders of David Olyn and Michael Titus, whose assailants called them “moffies”, and the xenophobic attacks

that rocked South Africa between 2008 and 2015.

There are many more subtle ways in which language is used oppressively, or just left unquestioned. Consider the different connotations between these terms used to describe the same thing: sex worker and prostitute; victim and survivor; slutty and sex positive; gardener and garden boy.

And then there are personal pronouns. A person’s pronoun, like their gender, is assumed on the basis of norms that categorise how that person dresses, speaks and behaves as either feminine or masculine. But there are those who do not subscribe to the binary categories of man or woman. Some women can be butch, some men can be femme, and somewhere between are people who do not identify as either, and who are not accommodated by the binary gender identities that we have constructed

to describe people. Most of us will probably remember a time when something about us did not “fit” social expectations and how difficult that was. There are many people who live their whole lives experiencing this discomfort, and some have been brave enough to ask us not to refer to them as he or she.

There are times when it’s important to halt the conversation and call someone on their use of specific words. And there is a time to abandon pedantry and go with the flow. How do we know which route to take? A useful rule of thumb is the following:

Has someone used a word, term or expression to refer to a group of people to support their oppression or exclusion, or in a way that is derogatory or hurtful? Halt the conversation and request that different language be used.

Are you refusing to adjust

your language and use certain terms or pronouns because you believe it’s grammatically incorrect or burdensome? The rules of language are conventions that evolve through practice. They do not trump somebody else’s humanity, so change your language.

Language use is a habit and it may take a short while to adjust, but if you are mindful and persistent, the change happens fairly quickly. If you make a mistake, it’s best just to apologise and correct yourself. Finally, don’t expect recognition for using the right term. It’s not necessary to award prizes for treating people with respect.

It is easy to argue that politically correct language stifles expression, but, to paraphrase author Toni Morrison, such an argument is usually made by someone whose identity has never been determined by anybody else, someone who hasn’t suffered from oppression

on the basis of their skin colour, sexual orientation, gender or disability. If respect for people amounts to political correctness, then political correctness should be encouraged.

As the Constitution recognises, our right to freedom of expression ends where another’s rights to dignity, freedom from discrimination and safety begin.



**Ariane Nevin is a national prisons specialist at Sonke Gender Justice**



# Rats 'chase' Buhari from office



Nigeria's president will spend three months working from home after his office was damaged by rats.

Muhammadu Buhari has just returned from three months in the UK, amid widespread concerns over his health.

But government spokesman Garba Shehu said the office required renovation after damage was done to the furniture and air conditioning in his absence.

He told the BBC the president had a "well-equipped" office at home that he could work "perfectly" from.

Mr Buhari returned to Nigeria on Saturday, but did not reference his health in his first speech.

Some Nigerians had called for him to resign during his prolonged absence, saying he was unfit to run the country.

Others were angered by officials' refusal to disclose what Mr Buhari was being treated for.

He first travelled to London in June 2016 for what his office said was a persistent ear infection. He returned in January and May this year for an undisclosed illness.

Opposition politicians have claimed he was actually receiving treatment for prostate cancer - an accusation Mr Buhari denied.

"There's nothing at all to worry about as to the condition of his own health. From everything we have seen from the president - we have a new Buhari: energetic, well focused and it is clear he is enjoying excellent health," Mr Shehu told the BBC's Focus on Africa programme.

"He has recovered, so there is nothing to talk about in any speech."

Many users of Nigerian social media have cast doubt on the reason given for Mr Buhari working from home.

Some mocked the irony of the rat story because Mr Buhari is nicknamed the "Lion President".

But others have come to the defence of the president's spokesperson's story.

One Twitter user @MandyChisholm wrote: "It is possible for rat to destroy Buhari's office, I kid you not, Nigerian rats are bloody."

"I remember the group of rats that ate my mattress, drank my bottle of olive oil, ate the whole bottle and everything else in site but not the rat poison. So imagine what political rats can do..." **BBC News**

## Uganda arrests for ritual serial killings

Uganda police say they have arrested a number of suspects over a recent spate of killings of women near the capital, Kampala.

The Inspector General of Police, Kale Kayihura, said that a suspect had confessed to killing eight women on the orders of businessmen.

The murders were for ritual sacrifices, Gen Kayihura told residents of Nansana municipality.

Local media say 17 women have been killed in a gruesome manner since May.

Africa Live: Updates on this and other stories

Police spokesman Asan Kasingye told the BBC that while the murders occurred in the same district, they were not all related.

Uganda's Inspector General of Police, Kale Kayihura (L) addresses the press outside a building where five people were arrested in Kampala following a tip-off from local residents on April 7, 2015 suspecting them of alleged terrorist activity.

He said that in the majority of cases, the victims were sex workers who had been raped and strangled in isolated places in "the wee hours of the morning".

"Two were students," he said, adding that in

five cases the women had been killed by their estranged partners.

Mr Kasingye said the municipalities were at least 60 km (40 miles) apart.

He said that Gen Kayihura was reacting

to local media reports that the police had failed to apprehend the culprits.

"In all but one of the cases the suspects have been apprehended," Mr Kasingye said. **BBC News**



People enter to Sultanahmet (Blue) mosque during a rainy day in Istanbul

## Malia Obama moves into Harvard campus

Malia Obama is officially a Harvard University freshman.

The former first daughter moved into her campus residence on Monday, officially joining Harvard's class of 2021, PEOPLE confirms. The 19-year-old and her parents, former President Barack Obama and former First Lady Michelle Obama, were seen out in the Harvard Square area on Monday. Harvard's Opening Days will continue until the start of the fall academic semester on Aug. 30.

Malia graduated from Washington, D.C.'s private Sidwell Friends School last June. She opted to take a gap year before starting at Harvard.

Before committing to the Cambridge, Massachusetts, school, Malia spent time touring multiple private colleges, including Ivy Leagues Princeton, Harvard, Brown and the University of Pennsylvania.

During her gap year, Malia did an internship with the Weinstein Co., a film and television production and distribution company founded by brothers Bob and Harvey Weinstein. She also attended the Sundance Film Festival in January, and traveled in June with her parents and sister to Bali, among other trips.

Though Malia briefly delayed the start of her college years, then-President Barack Obama told PEOPLE in December that his older daughter – and her younger sister Sasha, 16 – were “ready to get out, just out from their parents’ house.”

“The fact that their parents’ house is the White House may add to it,” he noted. “But Malia’s going off to college. She’s a grown woman.”

The former president added that the White House has a “sentimentality about” it, saying, “It is different for them than for most kids in that when they leave, they won’t be able to come back home. Malia’s spoken about how she regrets the fact that she won’t have that home base in the same way.”

Obama revealed last year the advice he gave his older daughter about higher education. “Be open to new experiences when you go to college,” he said. “Don’t go to college just to duplicate the same experience you had in high school.” *Yahoo News*



Former US President Barack Obama with his daughter Malia

## Cops called on Jon and Kate Gosselin

Don't file Kate and Jon Gosselin in the “friendly exes” category anytime soon. On Tuesday,

cops were called on the former Jon and Kate Plus 8 stars after they got into an argument at an

orthodontist's office. Police tell E! News that at 1:10 p.m., officers arrived at an office in Wyomissing,

Pa., due to a “verbal domestic dispute over child custody involving one minor (Female/13 years old).”

TMZ alleges the argument erupted over their custody order, which was settled about eight years ago. Both Jon, 40, and Kate, 42, share physical custody of their eight children, while Kate has full legal custody. One of the reality stars took one of their 13-year-old daughters to the appointment and, when both came to pick her up, that's when the heated exchange happened. Supposedly, they fought about who would take her home. Jon reportedly ended up leaving with the minor, at her request, and no arrests were made.

Jon and Kate are parents to 16-year-old twins, Cara and Madelyn, and 13-year-old sextuplets: Aaden, Alexis, Collin, Hannah, Joel, and Leah. They separated in 2009 after 10 years of marriage. Kate and Jon's relationship has been contentious since their split.

In November, Jon sat down with Entertainment Tonight and claimed that he hasn't seen all eight children together “probably in three to four years.” *Yahoo News*



Muslim Aid staff and volunteers attempt to construct and cook the world's largest samosa at the East London Mosque

**From back page**

Striker's Fashion Sakala and Patson Daka of Spartak Moscow in Russia and Liefering in Austria respectively have made the team.

The other Under-20 stars are midfielders Edward Chilufya of Djurgardens in Sweden, Emmanuel Banda from Belgian Club KV Oostende and Enock Mwepu of Liefering.

Nkana defenders Moses Nyondo and Boston Muchindu complete the Zambia Under-20 list called to senior team.

The seven were part of 2017 U20 AFCON winning team that won the title on home soil last March and went on to reach the quarterfinals of the 2017 FIFA U20 World Cup in South Korea.

But dropped is captain Rainford Kalaba of TP Mazembe in DR Congo who is also serving a Group B suspension for the home leg but still overlooked for the final leg in Algeria.

Kalaba's club mate Nathan Sinkala and clubless striker Collins Mbesuma have also been dropped.

Goalkeeper Kennedy Mweene of Mamelodi Sundowns will captain the team.

But Nyirenda has kissed and made up with the

# Coach promotes Fashion Sakala, 6 other U-20 stars to senior team



*U-20 Chipolopolo in training*

Lusaka Dynamos duo of Clatous Chama and Fwayo Tembo whom he dropped recently due to disciplinary issues.

Nyirenda has also added 17 regulars members from the team that played in all

four matches of Zambia's successful race to the 2018 CHAN finals in Kenya next January.

The team goes into camp this Sunday in Lusaka ahead of the match at National Heroes Stadium.

Zambia are 3rd in Group on 1 point, tied with Algeria and are two points behind 2nd placed Cameroon and a further five points adrift of leaders Nigeria.

GOALKEEPERS: Kennedy

Mweene (Mamelodi Sundowns, South Africa), Toaster Nsabata (Zanaco), Allan Chibwe (Power Dynamos)

DEFENDERS: Donashano Malama, Moses Nyondo, Boston Muchindu (all Nkana), Roderick Kabwe (Ajax Cape Town, South Africa), Ziyu Tembo (Zanaco), Isaac Shamujiropa, Billy Mutale (both Power Dynamos), Adrian Chama (Green Buffaloes), Webster Mulenga (Red Arrows), Stopilla Sunzu (Arsenal Tula, Russia), Fackson Kapumbu, Simon Silwimba (both Zesco United)

M I D F I E L D E R S : Kondwani Mtonga, John

Chingandu, Misheck Chaila (all Zesco United), Emmanuel Banda (KV Oostende, Belgium), Enock Mwepu (Liefering, Austria), Edward Chilufya (Djurgardens, Sweden), Ernest Mbewe (Zanaco), Augustine Mulenga (Zanaco), Fwayo Tembo, Clatous Chama (both Lusaka Dynamos), Chisamba Lungu (FC Ural, Russia), Godfrey Ngwenya (Power Dynamos)

STRIKERS: Patson Daka (Liefering, Austria), Brian Mwila (Platinum Stars, South Africa), Martin Phiri, Alex Ngonga (both Power Dynamos), Fashion Sakala (Spartak Moscow II, Russia)

# Chipolopolo coach forgives Fwayo, Chama but not Kalaba

**From back page**

Chama stormed off the pitch after he was substituted in Zambia's 3-0 home win over Swaziland in July while Fwayo and Mutale skipped camp for the 2017 Cosafa Cup including a friendly away against Bafana Bafana on June 13.

Their crimes put pressure on Nyirenda to also punish Kalaba who also walked away from the bench after he was substituted in a 2019 AFCON qualifier 1-0 home loss against Mozambique in Ndola on June 10.

"The boys showed some remorse. We should understand one thing here; we are running an institution here and a human resource and it is our job to bring the boys into line," Nyirenda said.

"They have come to their senses and life goes on."

But Kalaba has not been so fortunate despite being eligible for the final leg against Algeria on September 5 after serving a one match suspension for the first leg in Lusaka on September 2 home leg.

Kalaba is on suspended for the first leg after accruing two yellow cards in the qualifiers.

"He is not part of the team for now and I have just also learnt that he has some yellow card issues. He is

still part of the team and will come in at a later stage," Nyirenda said.

With Kalaba out, Mamelodi

Sundowns goalkeeper Kennedy Mweene will captain the team in September.



*PSG's Neymar gets a shot away as four defenders look on helplessly.*



# NYIRENDA PROMOTES 7 UNDER 20 PLAYERS

By Joseph Mwenda

Wedson Nyirenda has drafted seven Zambia Under-20 stars in his provisional 34-member Chipolopolo side for 2018 FIFA World Cup Group B qualifier doubleheader against Algeria.

Zambia will host Algeria on September 2 in Lusaka and will face the Desert Foxes in the return leg on September 5 in Blida.

*Continues on page 11*



## Rooney retires from international football

England's record goalscorer, Wayne Rooney, has announced his retirement from international football with immediate effect.

The Everton striker, who returned to his boyhood club from Manchester United earlier this summer, scored 53 goals in 119 appearances for the Three Lions.

The Football Association has confirmed that Rooney informed Gareth Southgate of his decision after being told he was set to be included in the upcoming squad to face Malta and Slovakia. *Goal.com*



## Chipolopolo coach forgives Fwayo, Chama but not Kalaba

By Diggers Reporter

Chipolopolo coach Wedson Nyirenda has explained his decision to drop Zambia captain Rainford Kalaba and

to instead recall Fwayo Tembo and Clatous Chama.

The trio were at the centre of a media storm over discipline that saw the Lusaka Dynamos duo

of Chama and Fwayo including Power Dynamos defender Billy Mutale axed from Zambia duty from June to August.

*Continues on page 11*

