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Police drag Alliance for Community Action director Laura Miti and singer Pilato (l) as they attempted to demonstrate against the purchase of 42 fire tenders at \$42m - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

POLICE ARREST LAURA



Finance minister Felix Mutati and wife arrive at Parliament to present the 2018 budget - Picture by Tenson Mkhala. Story P4

Mutati unveils 2018 budget, increases TV levy

MPs gang up against Kambwili in Parliament

By Mukosha Funga and Mirriam Chabala

Several ministers on Thursday overwhelmed Speaker of the National Assembly Dr Patrick Matibini when they took the opportunity to debate President Edgar Lungu's speech as a chance to take jabs at Chishimba Kambwili for branding them thieves. Copperbelt Minister Bowman Lusambo was first to take on

Kambwili on the floor of the house, saying the former government spokesperson was among the criminals who were vandalising infrastructure in his province.

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Cops raid Chibolya

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By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Minister of Home Affairs Stephen Kampyongo says he will not spare any criminals regardless of who they are.

And Kampyongo has described Chishimba Kambwili as a drowning man trying to hang-on to others for survival.

Police last night combined forces with the Drug Enforcement Commission, Immigration and other security wings to raid Chibolya compound in a continued crack down on illicit drugs in Lusaka.

The officers recovered drums, bags and safes filled with all sorts of narcotic drugs and apprehended the suspects among them, an ex-convict popularly known as Seven Spirits.

Speaking to journalists after he inspected the narcotic drugs which were confiscated today, Kamyongo said his officers would continue raiding areas which were notorious for drug trafficking because narcotic substances are what triggered unrest in the country.

“To us this is an ongoing, its work in progress and you are going to see a little bit of more. It’s like I said in Parliament the other day that we are going to pursue criminals where ever they are and regardless of what they are doing. And this is in the quest to bring this nation to order and ensure that peace prevails because these are the substances that trigger the breakdown of law and order. So am proud of my officers on what they have done and like I said to them, I was with them throughout their operations and I want to make sure that we do everything possible to make sure that their work is made easier,” Kampyongo said.

He said government would continue revising some of the rehabilitation programs for traffickers.

“It’s unfortunate that again this one, Seven Spirits, has been caught up when the drug enforcement had tried to rehabilitate [him]. You know he was convicted, he served and then he was put on rehabilitation program

Police raid Chibolya again



Home Affairs minister Stephen Kampyongo inspects drugs that were confiscated by a combined team of police, immigration and drug enforcement commission officers in Chibolya Township on September 29, 2017 – Picture by Tenson Mkhala

which we thought was going to help him but it wasn’t to be. And so I think we shall continue revising some of these programs but again we also have to look at the source, where is this chamba coming from? You remember sometime back we used to have programs of going through these provinces to sensitize the people that are cultivating these substances so that we deal with the source as well as the market,” Kampyongo said.

The Minister said government would expedite the process of upgrading slums.

“I know that slum upgrade is a program of government and I think that Chibolya has been one of those areas but even when I was at Local government and collectively as government, we want to do the slum upgrade

which will be inclusive of everybody without leaving anyone behind. What we have seen of late is commercial interest, people going to buy-off those that are in those areas where they are interested in and they don’t care, pay them off, they don’t care about where they go and end up starting other slams. But we would want slum upgrade that takes care of existing interests. In this case, those that are domicile in those slums must be catered for so that the development is shared,” Kampyongo said.

“I think now looking at what we have discovered; we need to just maintain our presence in this area and many other areas, not only Chibolya and its not only Lusaka, Copperbelt is equally the same. And so we are just going to holistically plan for these areas and

ensure that our presence is felt and we don’t leave a gap for these criminal activities to take route and regroup.” He also said he would tighten security at the border posts to stop the inflow of illicit drugs.

“First of all you must know that Chibolya has been a notorious place and I think this is the second time we have undertaken a joint operation there. And am sure you are able to see for yourself the armed staff that has been recovered during the operation and there is still more in addition to what you have seen and that is a concern to us and it’s a concern to the nation. You can’t have these substances in huge quantities being out there on the market. What is it doing to our children?” Kampyongo said.

“We know that Drug Enforcement Commission

for example has had limitations in terms of manpower and their presence in boarder areas. So we have to ensure that we plan the manpower aspect under the Drug Enforcement Commission so that their presence can also be equally felt. And like you have put it, most of these substances are coming from across the borders, so we have to make sure that we are alert at the ports of entry.

He said the three security wings would give a joint statement to give details of how much substance had been confiscated as well as those apprehended.

And Kampyongo described Kambwili as a drowning person trying to hang on to others for survival.

“You know if you have done swimming lessons, they tell you of survival skills when you are swimming. If someone is drowning, you don’t help them when they are still energetic, you let them settle. Mr Kambwili is like a drowning person, you know what it feels to be fired for corruption and so you want to hang-on on anyone you can hang-on [to]. Ask him to show you the proof, that is what I can say, I don’t want to engage in strantums, am beyond that, av got a lot of work to do just as you can see,” said Kampyongo.

The Minister was accompanied by Home Affairs Permanent Secretary Dr Chileshe Mulenga, Drug Enforcement Commission Commissioner Alita

Mbahwe, Lusaka province police Commissioner Nelson Phiri and Police Spokesperson Esther Mwaata Katongo among others.

Police spokesperson Esther Mwaata Katongo later issued a statement saying 134 people had been arrested.

“During the operation, 134 persons were apprehended out of which 42 were for drug related offences, 87 were for immigration related offences while four (04) were for general crimes such as possession of property suspected to be stolen.

All the suspects are detained in Police custody. However, the quantity of the seized drugs is yet to be established,” stated Katongo.

Meanwhile, just before the Minister’s arrival for the inspection of the confiscated drugs, one of the suspects kept complaining to journalists that he was arrested despite helping police with their operation.

“Ninebo nachilabalanga ati umu nomu, but b a n c h i n k a k i l a k o newakayele, abene ba fyamba aba uku (I was just helping the officers to show them where the chamba was but they decided to arrest me an innocent man. The owners of the drugs are here). Nshishibe nga ukusunga dread ekundetelele, katwishi (I don’t know if keeping dreads has caused this),” the suspect complained.

29 sue Kabwe Council over land

By Diggers Reporter

Bernard Chisanga and 28 others have sued the Kabwe Municipal Council for repossessing their plots without notice.

The plaintiffs claim that in 2014, Chisanga who by then held the position of area councilor advertised commercial plots situated along the prime location of Great North Road. The plaintiffs state that they applied for the plots and were offered the said piece of land to which they paid offer and development charges.

In a statement of claim dated September 27, Chisanga and 28 others stated that despite the land acquisition being recorded at the council, the

authority has started developing the plots without following procedure for compensation and repossession.

The 29 claim that when they asked why their slabs were erased with a grader, the council told them that it was developing the area into a bus station.

They complained that no notification was served on them or any correspondents about the council’s intention to repossess the plots.

The plaintiffs stated that the council had no authority to reenter the said land because such power vested in the Commissioner of Lands.

The 29 accused the Mayor and the Town Clerk of using the land to

“borrow heavily” for what they term PPP project.

The Plaintiffs therefore want the Lusaka High Court to order that the reentry of the 26 commercial plots by the council is illegal null and void.

They also want an injunction to restrain the council, its servants or agents from commenting on the matter or issuing misleading statements in the media.

The say the court should stop the council from advertising, selling and developing the land into a transit bus station until the determination of the matter.

The plaintiffs are further demanding for damages of unlawful occupation.



President Edgar Lungu salutes his supporters who escorted him at Lusaka's Kenneth Kaunda International Airport shortly before departure for Botswana today - PICTURE BY SALIM HENRY/STATE HOUSE

MPs gang up against Kambwili in Parliament

From front page

"Yesterday Mr Speaker I was trying to share with the House how the working government of His Excellency Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu has been performing to the expectations of the people on the Copperbelt Province where infrastructure is concerned. Mr Speaker, the government of His Excellency Edgar Chagwa Lungu has been putting up infrastructure on the Copperbelt despite some criminals who are vandalising this infrastructure. If you go to the Copperbelt today between Ndola and Luanshya, the rail line has been stripped off and the people Mr Speaker who stripped off this rail line, the money which they raised from this vandalism they have told us that they go to London to have coffee in the morning and come back in the afternoon to come and continue living on the Copperbelt," Lusambo said.

"These people Mr Speaker are the people who are bringing the development on the Copperbelt down. Mr Speaker we in the government of His Excellency Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu want to put up infrastructure where those visionless criminals who want to sabotage rail lines. Mr Speaker people wanted to turn the Copperbelt Province into an Animal Farm. Mr Speaker when His Excellency the President appointed me Minister of Copperbelt, we have changed things. It's a no go area Mr Speaker and it's a different ball game, it's not business as usual even the authority which they were using to go and bulldoze the companies to get contracts Mr Speaker even yourself can come freely to the Copperbelt with your business proposal, the companies will receive you as one of the Zambian citizens and you will get business on merit."

Despite Speaker Matibini guiding Lusambo to stop debating individuals, the minister continued; "Mr Speaker, we have heard people mentioning about corruption in here. Mr Speaker this government is fighting corruption and those people who are speaking louder in this House, I want Mr Speaker for you and your other members to advise me because even putting up houses in golf course and allowing your animals to graze there is corruption. But when you come to the Copperbelt today Mr Speaker, the Copperbelt is now a Province for all and you can come and move there freely as a Zambian and as a resident of the Copperbelt

Province."

When it was lands minister Jean Kapata's turn to debate, she dedicated a section to the expelled PF member of parliament.

"My debate is going to be in two parts. The first part I will cover the issues that were raised concerning my ministry, the second one Mr Speaker, I am going to call it 'Chimbwi no plan' which means a hyena without ideas and I hope that Mr Speaker, you will accept my debate divided into two," Kapata said.

"Some people have chosen to have amnesia, some people, I think I will take honorable Minister of Luapula's words that boogymen has chosen Mr Speaker, to ignore..."

But Speaker Matibini interjected; "Honorable minister, you were present yesterday, that is why you have referred to that phrase and if you recall, I ruled the minister out of order. So it would not be appropriate for you to adopt a phrase that I ruled out of order."

Kapata then went on to charge that whilst he was still in government, Kambwili got numerous contracts which he did not fulfill.

"Thank you Mr Speaker for your guidance. There is an adage Mr Speaker which says when you live in a glass house, don't throw stones. Mr Speaker, Chimbwi no plan stands and condemns government that government is so corrupt, we want him to tell this August House to come and explain, he used to get contracts when he was in government, he got a contract to build a market in Mwese and he never built that but he got the money," she said.

Again, Speaker Matibini ordered her to focus on policy issues.

"The Speaker is speaking. Order! I am alive to the politics that are going on but the rules of the House do not allow to debate ourselves, I was guiding earlier on, there are other platforms elsewhere where these debates can be prosecuted, many many outlets. In fact, for the press men, they will jump to all these opportunities to engage you but here, what we are doing, a point of reminder, even the motion itself says we are looking at exposition of public policy by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Zambia. Yesterday I noted that he has left a very loaded speech, this is the speech we should interrogate and not the politics. But I will not allow you to go that way," Speaker Matibini said.

But Kapata repeated her allegations; "Thank you Mr Speaker, the President also talked about corruption Mr Speaker and Chimbwi no plan Mr Speaker got a contract of building Nakonde Market, that's corruption, you get a contract and you don't go to build, that is corruption in itself. He got Mr Speaker 25 per cent local contraction on Mansa Luwingu road up to date it has never been built."

Speaker Matibini: Honorable member!

Kapata: He did not stop at that Mr Speaker, he also got a...

Speaker Matibini: I am speaking! Honorable minister, I would like you to debate. I know you have already structured this so maybe you are having difficulties to steer off but I am not permitting you. The only other option I will have is to curtail the debate and I am very slow, extremely slow to do that. I believe there are many other issues you can raise. But if you persist, I will cut the debates...I know the politics at hand...

Kapata then went on to discuss land issues but could not resist taking a last jab at Kambwili in her conclusion.

"Mr Speaker in my preamble I did talk about ministers who were dealing in the government and I want to correct the impression that the President actually fired the only minister who was corrupt. Others that were not corrupt are still there. So the issue of calling people that they are corrupt Mr Speaker, it must be reported to the Anti Corruption that's why it is there. Any minister you think is corrupt and you have enough information, go and report to the anti corruption...and for me Mr Speaker I think I will be reporting the same minister so that he pays back the money that he got through the contracts which he didn't execute. Thank you Mr Speaker, Chimbwi no plan, thank you," said Kapata.

After Kapata, Agriculture Minister Dora Siliya, National Development Minister Lucky Mulusa and National Guidance Minister Reverend Godfridah Sumaili focused on policy issues, in their debates.

However, Minister of Labour Joyce Nonde-Simukoko reignited the flame against Kambwili when it was her turn to speak.

"Let's not always occupy ourselves with hate, jealousy, envy and hatred because this is a waste of time. If God has given you a position, no

man can destroy it. And I would also want to comment that those who leave, or after they have been relieved of their positions and then they start to disclose some secrets in Cabinet or whatever position they may hold is definitely not a decent way to go. Leadership does not tolerate that kind of behavior. Those who don't agree with the current leadership or don't agree with issues in Cabinet, if they have lost interest, the best thing they can do is to resign and then people will respect you," said Nonde-Simukoko. "But when you come out and then start saying things that are not supposed to be said, that is not leadership, it is simply bad mouthing...I urge our people to stop making false accusations and unsubstantiated claims of corruption but assist the law enforcement agencies with real evidence that may be useful in securing conviction... Some people are so jealous that they even look ugly, because of jealousy, hatred and envy, they look older than their age, so stop it!"

When it was Minister of Higher Education Professor Nkandu Luo's turn to debate, Speaker Matibini asked her to be brief as time had run out.

Prof Luo begun by asking her health counterpart Dr Chitalu Chilufya to set up a clinic to treat those who were consumed by jealousy.

"Mr Speaker, I want to reiterate that Dr Chilufya, the Minister of Health needs to help us in this country to be able to set up a clinic where people who are suffering from a disease called CCJ must be treated. And in my own self, I need to set up research Mr Speaker, to try and research on this disease. CCJ stands for Complaining, Criticism and Jealousy. So Mr Speaker, when I listen to the debate in this House, what came to mind is that while there are people in this House who are supposed to put checks and balances on us, they are so sick that they actually did not use this opportunity to give us checks and balances but they used this opportunity to expose their hate, which the President referred to as hate speech," said Prof Luo.

"They also exposed the fact that they are not part of the team that wants to uphold national values and principles... It is sad to find young people insulting the President. Do they reflect to say 'if one day I become a father, or a mother or by accident a president, because some of them it has to be an accident and I am going to be insulted how will I feel?'"

131. Sir, I now present the 2018 National Budget, which lays out the various expenditure and revenue measures aimed at achieving Government policy objectives.

132. Mr. Speaker, the Government proposes to spend a total of K71.6 billion in 2018 or 25.9 percent of GDP. Of this amount, K49.1 billion or 68.5 percent of the total budget will be financed by domestic revenues and K2.4 billion or 3.4 percent by grants from various Cooperating Partners. The balance of K20.1 billion or 28.1 percent of the budget will be financed through domestic and external borrowing.

133. Sir, in line with the Seventh National Development Plan, the allocations in this budget are targeted at addressing the five strategic areas of economic diversification and job creation, poverty and vulnerability reduction, reducing developmental inequalities, enhancing human development and creating a conducive governance environment for a diversified and inclusive economy.

134. Mr. Speaker, I now present the 2018 budget by functions of Government.

General Public Services

135. Sir, I propose to spend K25.9 billion on General Public Services. Significant outlays under this category include K7.3 billion and K7.0 billion for external and domestic debt payments, respectively.

136. Mr. Speaker, in our resolve to fiscally empower our Local Authorities and ensure equitable distribution of resources, I have allocated K1.1 billion to the Local Government Equalisation Fund. This represents an increase of 21.5 percent from 2017 levels.

137. Sir, in the same vein, I have allocated to the Constituency Development Fund a total of K218.4 million to support projects at the community level.

Economic Affairs

138. Mr. Speaker, the Economic Affairs function plays a major role in our quest to achieve a diversified economy that delivers more jobs for our citizenry.

Accordingly, I propose to spend a total of K17.3 billion or 24.1 percent of the budget on the Economic Affairs function.

139. Sir, a significant allocation under this function is K8.7 billion for road infrastructure. This will include the continuation of the Link Zambia 8,000, the C400 and L400 projects. To complement

The 2018 budget

these efforts, the Government will further undertake significant works to rehabilitate and upgrade feeder roads across the country through the Rural Roads

Connectivity Programme.

140. Mr. Speaker, in order to improve airport infrastructure in the country, a total of K940.5 million has been allocated for the construction of the Kenneth Kaunda and Copperbelt International Airports. Once completed, these investments will reposition Zambia into a regional air transport hub.

141. Sir, to facilitate the provision of agricultural inputs to one million beneficiaries, I have allocated K1.8 billion to the Farmer Input Support Programme, which will be implemented through the voucher system. I have also allocated K1.1 billion to facilitate maintenance of our country's strategic food reserves at 500,000 metric tonnes.

142. Mr. Speaker, in order to make rural areas attractive for investment and promote rural industrialisation, Government will continue with its Rural Electrification Programme to ensure access to electricity for rural areas. Accordingly, K251.3 million has been allocated for rural electrification. Education and Skills Development

143. Sir, I propose to spend K11.6 billion on education and skills development. This will facilitate spending on, among others, infrastructure development, student loans, teacher recruitment and procurement of school requisites.

Health

144. Mr. Speaker, I propose to spend K6.8 billion on health. Of this amount, K1.2 billion is for procurement of essential drugs and medical supplies representing a 56 percent increase over the 2017 allocation. The balance will be used to finance health infrastructure, medical equipment and staff costs including the recruitment of medical personnel.

Housing and Community Amenities

145. Sir, I propose to spend a total of K816.3 million on housing and

community amenities. Of this amount, K564.5 million is for water supply and sanitation. This allocation will supplement the expenditure by commercial water utilities.

Public Order and Safety

146. Mr. Speaker, I have allocated K2.1 billion towards the maintenance of public order and safety. Key interventions will include the recruitment of security personnel, continued rehabilitation and construction of infrastructure and the modernisation of operations of law enforcement agencies.

Social Protection

147. Sir, to reduce vulnerability and inequalities among our people, I have allocated K2.3 billion for social protection related expenditures. Significant provisions under this function include K1.1 billion for the Public Service Pension Fund and K721.2 million for the Social Cash Transfer Scheme. The allocation to the Food Security Pack has doubled to K140 million.

Other Functions

148. Mr. Speaker, the remaining functions of Defence, Environmental Protection and Recreation, Culture and Religion have a combined allocation of K4.9 billion.

REVENUE ESTIMATES AND MEASURES

149. Sir, resource mobilization to support the 2018 Budget, is anchored on enhancing tax administration through improved taxpayer services, risk management, enforcement and compliance. This is necessary to ensure that resources are mobilized in a cost effective and non-distortive manner.

150. Mr. Speaker, taking various demands into account, the Government had to find a balance that would provide fair taxation and at the same time garner sufficient resources to deliver public services and spearhead development.

151. The details of revenue and borrowing estimates are as follows: (See table on page 5)

REVENUE MEASURES Rationalization of Tax Reliefs

152. Sir, I propose to discontinue the 5-year income tax holidays that is facilitated through the Zambia Development Agency. In place of the tax holiday, I propose to grant accelerated depreciation for capital expenditures by qualifying investments in priority sectors.

153. Mr. Speaker, I also propose to remove the allowable deduction for contribution to approved pension funds of K255 per month as there is already relief given at the time one gets their lump sum payment and annuities.

Strengthening the Tax Base

154. Sir, intellectual property such as trademarks, patents and brands are assets that can be traded. However, such trades are currently not taxed unlike the case is with other properties such as shares, mining rights and land. I, therefore, propose to introduce property transfer tax at 5 percent on the transfer of intellectual property.

155. Mr. Speaker, to cast our tax net wider, I propose to impose a property transfer tax at a rate of 5 percent on the value attributable to a Zambian asset in cases where indirect ownership or control of a Zambian asset changes outside the Republic.

156. Sir, the record of the Patriotic Front Government in delivering infrastructure to the people is unmatched. To assist in mobilizing funds for the Infrastructure Development Fund, I propose to introduce an excise duty of K2 per 50 Kg of cement.

157. Mr. Speaker, the Government in 2004 introduced a presumptive tax for individuals operating public service vehicles based on vehicle sitting capacity.

However, these amounts have not been adjusted since 2004. I therefore propose to adjust the presumptive tax rates upwards by 50 percent.

158. Sir, the Commissioner General can charge a base tax where there is insufficient information on which to estimate tax payable by a business.

Currently, the base tax is K150 per annum and has remained so since 2008. I, therefore, propose to adjust upwards the base tax rate from K150 to K365 per year.

159. Mr. Speaker, it is international practice that related parties are treated the same under certain rules such as transfer pricing. Accordingly, I propose to mandate all businesses to disclose their related parties for income tax and property transfer tax purposes.

160. Sir, in order to provide further clarity, I propose to revise the definition of residence for persons other than individuals as well as the definition for management or consultant fee.

161. Mr. Speaker, in order to prevent revenue leakages through misclassification, I propose to:

i) Align the excise duty at 125 percent on methylated spirits, denatured alcohol and undenatured alcohol of heading 2207; and
ii) Introduce registration of all importers of methylated spirit and denatured alcohol.

162. Sir, I propose to increase the customs duty on unmanufactured tobacco and tobacco refuse to 25 percent from 15 percent. This will harmonise the tax treatment with all other types of tobacco which are currently attracting a customs duty of 25 percent.

163. Mr. Speaker, I further propose to introduce specific excise duty on manufactured tobacco and provide for a separate tariff classification for other manufactured tobacco which are currently classified together with cigarettes.

Support to Business Growth and Diversification

164. Sir, diversification away from dependence on mining is key to attaining economic resilience. I therefore propose to:

i) Remove customs duty on various inputs that are used in the manufacture of stock feed and fish feed.
ii) Exempt unprocessed and semi-processed tobacco from VAT.

165. Mr. Speaker, in my last address, I introduced a surtax on selected imported products that are locally produced in order to support the growth of the domestic industry. In line with this policy, I propose to extend the number of items on which the surtax applies and also to remove raw materials that were erroneously put on the surtax schedule.

166. Sir, I propose to reduce the customs duty on bricks that are used in the formation of furnaces from 15 percent to 5 percent to reduce the cost of manufacturing.

167. Mr. Speaker, risk management is a crucial part of any business. As such, any undertaking to cover risk of the insured and the insurer must be cost effective. To reduce the cost of insurance, I propose to remove the insurance premium levy on reinsurance.

168. Sir, to discourage the use of inefficient electrical appliances and encourage the use of alternative sources such as solar and gas, I propose to increase customs duty on electric geysers and stoves to 40 percent from 25 percent.

169. Mr. Speaker, to promote the use of electronic payment devices and make it easier to collect and monitor taxes, I propose to remove the customs duty on point of sale machines and SIM cards.

Streamlining of the penalty regime

170. Sir, I propose to introduce penalties in the VAT Act, and the Customs and Excise Act for taxpayers that fail to furnish records upon request and similarly for those who fail to issue tax invoices. Submission of tax returns and payments.

171. Mr. Speaker, I propose to change the due dates for submission of the VAT returns from the 16th to the 18th of every month. This will differentiate this date from the date for submitting withholding VAT returns, which also falls on the 16th of every month.

172. Sir, I also propose to provide for the same due date of the 14th of every month, for submission and payment of withholding tax, to ease compliance and improve tax administration.

Housekeeping Measures

173. Mr. Speaker, I propose to make amendments to the Income Tax, the Property Transfer Tax, the Value Added Tax, the Customs and Excise, and the Skills Development Levy Acts. This is intended to update, strengthen and remove ambiguities in certain provisions of tax legislation to make tax administration more effective. These measures are revenue neutral.

Non – Tax Revenue Measures 174. Sir, in order to improve service delivery of public broadcasting and promote growth of the media industry, I propose to:

i) Introduce a landing rights charge at the rate of K3, 150 per television channel which has less than 35 percent local content except for educational and scientific channels.
ii) Increase the TV levy to K5 per month. I further propose to change the current collection through electricity bills to subscriber management service licensing system.

175. Mr. Speaker, in line with the strategy of moving towards a prosperous smart Zambia, I propose to migrate all motor vehicles to the electronic number plate system at a reduced fee of K500 from the current reregistration fee of K975. The system will enhance security, enable easy payment of various road user charges such as road tolls as well as the renewal of driver's licences online.

176. Sir, in order to ensure that Government collects the much needed revenue on a cost reflective basis, I propose to revise upward fees and charges collected by various Government institutions that have not been revised in a long time.

177. Mr. Speaker, the total net revenue gain from the various measures I have proposed above is K2.9 billion.

178. Sir, the tax and non-tax revenue measures I have announced today will take effect from 1st January, 2018.

PART IV CONCLUSION

179. Mr. Speaker, with the launch of Seventh National Development Plan, our country has renewed its commitment to the attainment of the Vision 2030 to be a prosperous middle income country. We must learn from our past challenges if we have to charter the desired path to our destination. We must strive to foster unity of purpose in advancing our nation's interests and the well-being of our people. We must remain resolute and patriotic, never allowing our sight to slip from the development goals we have set for ourselves.

180. Sir, let me assure this House that our future is bright and secure under the able leadership of His Excellency, Mr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu the President of the Republic of Zambia. With His Excellency's visionary and determined guidance, we are on the path to making our great nation a prosperous and more inclusive society.

181. Mr. Speaker, the Patriotic Front Government is however, cognizant of the fact that this is not an easy path. There are risks and challenges at every turn. We must therefore remain fiscally disciplined for us to achieve the desired fiscal fitness. We must sacrifice and raise more of our own resources to finance our development. We must borrow less and where we need to borrow, it should be for projects that will generate growth and enable us to repay. We must ground our aspirations on a realistic understanding of our current financial position.

182. Sir, this is what the 2018 Budget delivers. It provides a realistic platform for the attainment of our development goals under the Seventh National Development Plan. It gives hope and practical support to our youth who are the key to our prosperous future. It protects the vulnerable within our midst so that no one is left behind.

183. Mr. Speaker, a new Zambia is possible where we can all adopt a broad-based development agenda. A Zambia where everyone is accountable for their actions; where the leadership governs justly, invests in its citizens and creates opportunities for all; and citizens rise to the occasion to perform their civic duties and responsibilities.

184. Sir, the Patriotic Front Government has always placed national interest at the centre of its development agenda. The 2018 Budget provides practical measures to diversify the economy, create jobs, reduce poverty, protect the vulnerable and reduce inequalities among our people. The 2018 Budget is therefore, for all Zambians and I commend it to this august House.

185. Mr. Speaker, I beg to move.

2018 Expenditure by Function

Function	2018 Budget	
	Amount (K)	Share of Budget
General Public Services	25,898,031,580	36.1%
External Debt Payment	7,268,795,020	
Domestic Debt Payment	6,972,268,260	
Local Government Equalization Fund	1,078,428,000	
Zambia Revenue Authority	848,664,000	
Compensation and Awards	303,363,990	
Public Affairs and Summit Meetings	235,305,460	
Constituency Development Fund	218,400,000	
Defence	3,498,217,240	4.9%
Public Order and Safety	2,144,570,440	3.0%
National Identity Documents	37,249,430	
Economic Affairs	17,258,329,480	24.1%
Roads Infrastructure	8,660,314,680	
Farmer Input Support Programme (e-voucher)	1,785,000,000	
Strategic Food Reserves	1,051,200,000	
International Airports	940,500,000	
Arrears for FISP & FRA	441,000,000	
Rural Electrification Fund	251,331,670	
Environmental Protection	951,352,080	1.3%
Climate Change Resilience	457,574,620	
Housing and Community Amenities	816,262,640	1.1%
Water Supply and Sanitation	564,508,860	
<i>o/w Lusaka Sanitation Project (Millenium Challenge)</i>	239,000,000	
Markets and Bus Stations	17,822,620	
Health	6,781,558,820	9.5%
Drugs and Medical Supplies	1,200,227,400	
Health Infrastructure	274,580,400	
Medical Equipment	51,561,610	
Recreation, Culture and Religion	451,160,740	0.6%
Education	11,561,643,204	16.1%
School Infrastructure	740,060,456	
Student Loans and Scholarships	557,000,000	
University and College Infrastructure	321,865,420	
Skills Development Fund	176,698,000	
Social Protection	2,301,259,752	3.2%
Public Service Pension Fund	1,060,550,000	
Social Cash Transfer	721,180,000	
Food Security Pack	140,000,000	
TOTAL	71,662,385,976	100.0%

Lusambo, CK exchange bitter words on radio

By Mirriam Chabala

Copperbelt Province minister Bowman Lusambo says Roan member of parliament Chishimba Kambwili is behaving like a mad dog. And Lusambo threatens to release a dossier on Kambwili's corrupt activities. But Kambwili calls Lusambo a lunatic whom he cannot greet. Speaking when he featured on Radio Phoenix's Let the People Talk today, Lusambo said Kambwili had become desperate and bitter after being fired. "Imbwa nga yapena iyafye ilesumaula bantu (when a dog goes mad, it goes around biting people) so the only way to stop that dog from biting people is by asking the veterinary officers to come and cripple it. There is nothing like what honourable Kambwili is talking about because if there anything like it, Kambwili was in government just yesterday sitting in Cabinet next to the President, he had access to the President 24/7 and if he wanted to advise the President, he should have advised him then. If he wanted to talk about the corruption which he is talking about today, he would have talked about it when he was in government. And the people of Zambia could have taken him seriously but what is happening now is that Kambwili is desperate and bitter because he was fired from a position that he was using to bulldoze in a lot of works on the Copeprbelt," Lusambo said. Lusambo advised Zambians not waste their time listening to Kambwili saying if the Roan parliamentarian was serious about corruption, he could have exposed it while in government. "Kambwili has even moved that he wants to be President, I don't even know where that will be because Zambia cannot have a mad President. But I can assure you that Kambwili is just frustrated and I want to appeal to the people of Zambia not to waste their time to start listening to Kambwili's issues because if he really knew that there was corruption in Edgar Lungu's government, he would have pointed out all those issues when he was still in government but he wants to show the people as if he the most intelligent person now that out of government? No, Kambwili should not even be claiming that he is as clean as Dr [Kenneth] Kaunda's handkerchief, we

know that he has been court concerning bad activities on the Copperbelt and I can assure him that I know a lot about Kambwili and he is just a human being like any other person, he can't boast that he is as clean as Dr Kaunda's handkerchief, he is just fooling himself and he is an embarrassment to himself, his soul and to his family," Lusambo said. And Lusambo said he would soon release a dossier to expose Kambwili's corrupt activities. "I don't have to ask other people about Kambwili because I know him within myself and very soon I am going to release a dossier about him which I want him to come and deny because he can't be behaving like a mad dog and the people of Zambia should differentiate between leaders and jokers. Kambwili is joking and there is nothing that Zambians should take serious about him. Luchi (Let the People Talk host) just go to Luanshya, I was just coming from there and for a person who has claimed that he has a lot of money to enable him go to London to have tea and come back, go and see how the people who voted for him are suffering. He has failed to give even women empowerment to the women in his constituency, and he wants people to start worshipping him. There is nothing he has done in Luanshya, there is no development," said Lusambo. Meanwhile, when Kambwili called the station to defend himself, he called Lusambo a lunatic. "I don't greet lunatics excuse me, that chap (Lusambo) on the radio is a lunatic. Let me say this Luchi, where I come from they say 'uwawa tabula kabepesho (one who has fallen will always find an excuse). If that chap Bowman Lusambo has got a dossier of what I have done, I can challenge him that I can pay for a radio programme for him this afternoon to bring all the things that he thinks I have done and for him to go to the police and Anti corruption commission to report me. Me I am raising specific issues, Bowman went and lied to the people of Chingola that Mwanawasa gave him an open pit mine in the area that he was working with Edgar Lungu so that he can get close to Lungu and they got \$1million from those poor people of which Bowman got \$250 from that amount and I have got the file with me about that information," said Kambwili.

Resource Envelope for the 2018 Budget			
	(K'million)	(K'million)	% share of GDP
TOTAL DOMESTIC REVENUE, GRANTS & FINANCING		71,662.39	25.9%
A. Total Domestic Revenue and Domestic Financing		60,240.31	21.8%
I. Total Domestic Revenues		49,087.02	17.7%
Total Tax Revenue		41,139.78	14.9%
Income Tax		20,337.61	7.3%
<i>Company Income Tax</i>	6,115.94		
<i>Personal Income Tax (incl. PAYE)</i>	10,264.02		
<i>Withholding and other</i>	3,957.64		
Value Added Tax		12,369.47	4.5%
Customs and Excise Duties		8,098.70	2.9%
<i>Customs Duty</i>	3,302.25		
<i>Excise Duty</i>	4,744.83		
<i>Export Duty</i>	51.62		
Other Revenues		334.00	0.1%
Non Tax Revenues		7,947.24	2.9%
<i>Mineral Royalty</i>	3,527.74		
<i>Other Non-Tax</i>	4,419.50		
II. Domestic Financing		11,153.29	4.0%
B. Total Foreign Grants and Financing		11,422.08	4.1%
<i>Project Grants</i>	2,438.30		
<i>Programme Loans</i>	1,425.00		
<i>Project Loans</i>	7,558.78		

Resource Envelope for the 2018 Budget

Police arrest, detain Laura



By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Police in Lusaka have arrested Alliance for Community Action executive director Laura Miti, PeP president Sean Tembo, singer Chama Fumba (Pilato) and several other protesters who marched to Parliament to demonstrate against the purchase of 42 fire tenders at a cost of US\$42 million. The protesters gathered at Puma Filling Station at Arcades around 12:30 led by Tembo, singer Pilato and ZCSD executive director Lewis Mwape and were later joined by Miti who had been summoned by police. Miti and her fellow protesters carried placards inscribed "The President doesn't know, the Minister doesn't know, who knows?" Other banners were written, "wake up Zambia, it's our money." As they approached the National Assembly entrance, police officers grabbed and destroyed their placards, but resolved to go ahead with their protest, Miti and her colleagues went

to sit peacefully on a pavement near the entrance to Parliament building. However, a horde of PF cadres arrived a few minutes later chanting, "let the police do their work, get out of here", among other rantings. Police then moved on to arrest Miti, Pilato, Tembo and others. As they were being led to a police van, Miti was heard shouting, "Let us protest, it is our money! Why are you arresting us when you have left the PF cadres just standing there?" Earlier police summoned Miti to Force Headquarters to warn her against protesting. "Mrs Katongo, Esther Katongo (Police Spokesperson) called me and said I was invited for a meeting with the Deputy IG before 12," said Miti. Earlier, Police delivered a letter to Miti's office in which they requested her to schedule the protest for another time saying they did not have adequate manpower to facilitate. But in her reply, Miti stated that the protests could not be postponed

because they were strategically scheduled for today when Minister of Finance would present the national budget. After the arrest of the protesters, Police issued a statement saying they would keep Miti and other protesters in detention until they were charged. "Six persons were today arrested at Parliament by Police. Those arrested are: Laura Miti aged 52 of PHI in Lusaka who is Director of Alliance for Community Action, Female Mika Mwambazi aged 30 of NRDC and a freelance consultant, male Sean Tembo aged 37 of Lusaka's Avondale who is party president for Patriots for Economic Progress (PeP), Male Fumba Chama aged 33 of Kansenshi in Ndola, Lewis Mwape aged 44 of Balastone Villa who is Executive Director for Zambia Council for Social Development (ZCSD) and Male Bonwell Mwewa aged 43 of PHI in Lusaka. They are detained in custody and will soon be charged," stated Katongo.

By Diggers Reporter

Tanzanian High Commissioner to Zambia has sued a Zambian company for defaulting on remitting rentals from their property. High Commissioner Grace Mujuma of 5200 United Nations Avenue is demanding for payment of U\$12,600.00 being the outstanding rentals and service charges.

High Commissioner Mujuma sued Macdonald Liveline Technology Zambia Limited and Donald George Mwakamela for abrogating the lease agreement which they entered into for stand number 131, Mwambula road in Jesmondine.

The respondents agreed to pay rent in the sum U\$600.00 per month but have defaulted and refused to vacate the house.

High Commissioner Mujuma stated that all efforts to have the said rentals and service charges settled had failed hence seeking the courts indulgence.

Tanzanian envoy sues company over rentals



Tanzania's High Commissioner to Zambia Grace Mujima

Kamanga's abuse of authority case withdrawn on technicalities

By William Chileshe

FAZ president Andrew Kamanga's abuse of authority case has been withdrawn on technicalities.

In this matter, it was alleged that Kamanga between January 1, 2016 and December 2016 did pay or directed to be paid from funds belonging to FAZ and in abuse of office of the president of FAZ the sum of K24,552.00 to Savoy Hotel.

In the said sum is in respect to bills incurred by James Mpombo, Hamalabi Nyirenda and Zebon Nkhoma who at the time were non executive members of FAZ.

The complainant in this case are Kelvin Chipili and Damiano Mutale.

When the matter came up before Ndola magistrate John Mbuji,



Kitwe lawyer Ivan Mulenga informed court that they were still waiting for instructions from the DPP.

"The matter was scheduled for plea, however, we still await the consent of the DPP to private prosecute this matter in the meantime there are some technicalities that we have noted and feel that for now it will be best that the matter be withdrawn and we will

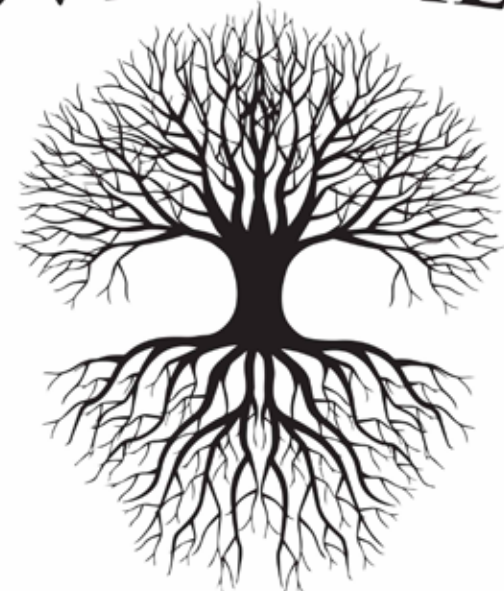
pre-institute," Mulenga said.

Kamanga's lawyer David Chakoleka did not object to the application.

"This is a matter that came as a way of complaint and in that respect it is within the prerogative of the complainant to withdraw the matter. We have no objection," said Chakoleka.

Magistrate Mbuji granted the application and discharged the accused.

GOVERNMENT



MONEY DOES NOT

GROW ON TREES

Alliance for
community
action ▶▶

Youth unemployment is at 16.3% - CSO

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Central Statistical Office Director of Census and Statistics John Kalumbi says youth unemployment in the first quarter of 2017 stood at 16.3 per cent.

And Kalumbi says the annual inflation rate for September 2017 has increased to 6.6 per cent from 6.3 per cent recorded last month.

During the CSO monthly briefing today, Kalumbi said youth unemployment was estimated at 16.3 per cent.

"Youth (15-35 years) unemployment rate is the number of unemployed youths expressed as a percentage of the youth labour force. Youth unemployment rate in the first quarter of 2017 was estimated at 16.3 per cent. In urban areas, youth unemployment rate stood at 17.0 per cent while rural areas recorded a rate of 15.5 per cent," Kalumbi said.

He also revealed that unemployment stood at 11.9 per cent.

"According to a strict definition of unemployment, the unemployment rate in Zambia remains relatively low. It is worth noting that most countries often use strict definition of unemployment for international comparison purposes as opposed to a relaxed or broad definition of unemployment which is used to achieve national targets. Further, note that consensus among stakeholders is being built to measure the relaxed definition of unemployment. Using strict definition of unemployment, the unemployment rate was

estimated at 11.9 per cent. In rural areas, the unemployment rate was slightly higher at 12 per cent than urban areas," Kalumbi said.

He also highlighted that of 9,034,435 citizens who were in the 'working age', only 3,481,964 were in the labour force while 5,552,471 were outside the labour force.

"58 per cent of the labour force were in urban areas and 42 per cent were in rural areas. It is worth noting that 40 per cent, about 2.1 million persons, were males and 60 per cent were females," Kalumbi said.

"The employed population was estimated at 3,066,470 persons of which 33.3 per cent, 1,021,889, were in the formal sector, 36.1 per cent, 1,107,712, were in the informal sector while 30.6 per cent, 936,869, were in the households sector." And Kalumbi attributed the slight rise in inflation to the upward adjustment of electricity tariffs.

"The year on year inflation rate as measured by all items Consumer Price Index (CPI) for September 2017 has increased to 6.6 per cent compared to 6.3 per cent recorded in August 2017. This means that on average, prices increased by 6.6 per cent between September 2016 and September 2017. The increase in the annual inflation rate was mainly attributed to price increase in electricity tariffs. Of the total 6.6 per cent annual inflation rate recorded in September 2017, Food and Non-alcoholic beverages accounted for 2.7 percentage points while non-food items accounted for a total of 3.9



Central Statistics Office Director of Census John Kalumbi addresses journalists during a monthly bulletin update on September 28, 2017

percentage points," Kalumbi said.

Kalumbi said that the price movements in Lusaka and Copperbelt provinces had the greatest influence on the overall annual rate of inflation. "Lusaka and Copperbelt provinces had the highest provincial contribution of 1.6

percentage points each to the overall annual inflation rate of 6.6 per cent recorded in September 2017. This implies that the price movements in Lusaka and Copperbelt provinces had the greatest influence overall annual inflation. Eastern province had the second largest provincial

contribution of 0.9 percentage points. Luapula province had the lowest contribution of 0.2 percentage point," he said. Kalumbi further revealed that the country imported more in the month of August 2017 than it exported in nominal terms.

"In August 2017, Zambia

recorded a trade deficit valued at K484.3 million from a trade surplus of K410.6 million recorded in July 2017. This represents a 218.0 per cent decrease in the trade balance. This means that the country imported more in August 2017 than it exported in nominal terms," said Kalumbi.

It's illegal for KCM to transfer employees - Minister

By Mukosha Funga

Minister of Labour Joyce Nonde-Simukoko says the employee transfers at Konkola Copper Mines are illegal.

And Chief Government

Spokesperson Kampamba Mulenga says as far as government is concerned, KCM agreed to reverse all transfers. KCM has gone ahead to outsource its operations

and outplace workers to contractors, defying opposition from unions and Minister of Mines Christopher Yaluma.

The mine says President Edgar Lungu and Vedanta Resources chairman Anil Argawal discussed the matter.

But at a media briefing in Lusaka today, Nonde-Simukoko said the transfers were illegal.

"I think the issue here is that as far as the Ministry of Labour is concerned, the negotiations are still ongoing and no conclusions have been made. Because if any agreements have been made, I expect management and the unions to send me a signed copy of the collective agreement or dispute. None of those documents have reached my office so as far as the Ministry of Labour is concerned; the negotiations are on-going. That is what is on the ground. However, I still emphasise, if what we are hearing is correct that KCM has already made these transfers is correct, those transfers are illegal. If what we are hearing, because I haven't gotten official notification, that transfer is illegal," she said.

She also said any outsourcing without a certificate which adheres to the Employment Act was illegal.

"They (KCM) came for consultation and we guided; I was with my labour commissioner [Chanda Kaziya]. So, KCM must respect the law; I urge the two parties to go back on the table, agree or agree to disagree. If there is outsourcing anywhere, we'll be going round and where the agency has no certificate attested by the Ministry of Labour, any kind of that outsourcing is also illegal and I don't think we have

any agencies in the Ministry of Labour who have brought to be agents. Ministry of Labour has to have the names of where they (KCM) are outsourcing and we'll see whether those people have certificates. So, we expect KCM to follow the law and do what is correct; there is no jungle law here! We don't even know as Ministry of Labour who they are outsourcing to. So, whatever they are doing is illegal and they are educated people; I don't expect them to give us problems," said Nonde-Simukoko.

And at the same briefing, Mulenga said as far as government was concerned, KCM had reversed all transfers. "However, as the Minister of Mines, Hon. Christopher Yaluma put it, KCM were told to reverse the transfer of 4,000 employees before concluding negotiations with the unions. As far as Government is concerned, KCM agreed to abide by the directive to reverse all the transfers that it had already made before discussions with the unions.

Of course outsourcing is not illegal but KCM can only outsource if the contractor has an employment licence and abides by the provisions of section 56 of the Employment Amendment Act No. 15 of 2015 which deals with employment agency permits and this can only be done after negotiations between management and the unions. So KCM are hereby reminded again to stop those transfers if they have started effecting them before conclusion of discussions and we urge both parties to sit and negotiate matters that relate to outsourcing," said Mulenga.



Agro dealers at government complex in Lusaka during a meeting with officials from the Ministry of Agriculture on September 27, 2017 - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

Govt improves farmer registration process

By Tenson Mkhala

Agriculture minister Dora Siliya says government has developed an integrated system for accurate farmer registration, capturing of farmer deposits and activation of farmer cards for quick transaction.

In a speech read on her behalf by acting permanent secretary Peter Lungu in Lusaka during an agro dealers meeting yesterday, Siliya said the new system would allow farmers to know what inputs to buy from agro dealers.

"This new system is the only solution

that will address the past challenges of inaccurate farmer identification details leading to delays in card creation activation and redeeming, unavailability of inputs stocks to operation areas, capacity of agro dealers to procure inputs and transport to farmers cost effectively and poor targeting of beneficiaries," Siliya said.

Siliya said government expected agro dealers to deliver all required inputs to farmers at profitable but reasonable prices that would enable farmers make profit.

"Our expectation as government from

you agro dealers is that you should participate actively on the market side in order to develop the sector through contract farming and value addition, stock all inputs that will encourage crop diversification in line with government policy," said Siliya.

The meeting was meant to share with agro dealers the road map government set up to improve their participation as partners in the delivery of various agro inputs to the business oriented small scale farmers country wide.

Hakainde Hichilema, president of the opposition UPND strikes us as a man who can restore order if he went into State House. In many respects, he is a decent politician; too decent in fact because he embraces dignity, which is not a necessary prerequisite for Zambian politics. We strongly feel that given a chance, Mr Hichilema can bring back law and order in Zambia.

In saying this, we are not insinuating that the UPND leader would create paradise in this country if elected President. There is no one who will get into State House and turn Zambia around, away from the rampant abuse of office and public resources – for as long as we remain with the current ill-given Constitution. The amount of power that a Head of State wields under the Constitution of Zambia is too dangerous. It makes it impossible for anyone who takes over office to manifest self-discipline and respect the separation of powers. They will all be the same.

We recall that in 2010 during president Rupiah Banda's reign, Inonge Wina who is now Republican Vice-President condemned the MMD regime for being corrupt. Under the armpits of Michael Sata, Wina vigorously took on Banda for abusing the Public Order Act and for threatening to shut down private media. Today, we don't even know what Wina has to say about what her own government has done and continues to do.

So therefore, under a Constitution that gives power to a sitting President to decide who leads the electoral body, the judiciary, the Auditor

HH must stop flaunting his wealth and join the struggle

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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General's office and the Anti Corruption Commission, there is nothing that can change. To fix Zambia's governance problems, we need a one-term head of state to go in and remove all the unnecessary powers from the presidency, at the expense of re-election. That way, any person who goes into State House would find a considerably weak presidency, but an exceptionally strong governance system.

Our point is that, bad as our Constitution is, we need a leadership that can uphold it. It's sad enough that our laws are designed to benefit those who are in control of political power, but to see a government oppress its own citizens in the manner that the PF has been doing is unacceptable. That is why we feel Zambia needs a leader who can, at least, uphold the rule of law; a president who can uphold the constitution in its current state and

restrict their actions to what is permissible under the law. Our view is that Mr Hichilema might be that leader.

The problem however, is that much as he might make a better president, Mr Hichilema seems to be struggling to weather the storm as an opposition leader. His diplomacy is good for a sitting President, but his lack of aggression is bad for a person seeking power in a Zambian political setup.

We say this because, just like many Zambians, we thought after leaving prison, Mr Hichilema was going to turn the tables and capitalise on the overwhelming public sympathy that prevailed while he was in incarceration. As a matter of fact, he promised that he would do so when he held his first press briefing following his release from jail.

"It is not correct for our people to continue living in the manner they do.

We have to do something and we are committed to doing something. Just watch what we are going to do in a couple of days and months, just watch. There are many people who were saying 'oh, azachoka mu jele obeba (he will come out of prison a tired man)', Hakainde oyembela ng'ombe angabebe? [Hakainde who herds cattle can get tired]? I want to assure you that we are stronger now than before, we are 10 times stronger than before we were incarcerated," said Hichilema.

It has been a month and half now, Zambians are still waiting to "watch" what he will do. They are still wondering ngati sanachoke mu jele obeba. So far, it is clear that he has not come out of prison 10 times stronger. And that is where the problem lies. Unless there is a secret strategy that he is scheming with other UPND leaders, prison seems to have sucked out the little

political venom that our biggest opposition leader had.

Prison gave HH what he was lacking in politics – simplicity. It transformed him from a boardroom politician to a common hustler on the street. Those who viewed Mr Hichilema as a rich elitist started considering him as one of their own. But what has happened? The rich man has continued to flaunt his wealth, posing at his cattle ranches on Facebook, holding press briefings from his billionaire mansion. Of course there is nothing wrong with that, expect it does not portray a man who understands the sufferings of the Zambians he seeks to serve.

We expected that after leaving prison, Mr Hichilema would gather everyone in the opposition, including Chishimba Kambwili, and demand accountability from the PF with double the

aggression. We expected that when the controversial fire-tender story was brought out, Mr Hichilema and his MPs would be in the forefront demonstrating. But according to the latest statement from his office, the opposition leader asked the police to allow those who wanted to demonstrate – not interested enough to join the protests himself.

We urge Mr Hichilema to watch the Roan PF member of parliament very closely and learn one or two things from him. Kambwili is not likely to win the election in 2021, but no one can deny the fact that he is already such a force to reckon. He is already a fierce factor in Zambian politics and at the pace he is going, Kambwili may be the kingmaker. Those who have remained in PF know that Kambwili has gone away with a lot of their votes, but the UPND should not make the mistake of thinking their support base will remain intact, because Lusaka and Copperbelt are politically fluid provinces where voters are not loyal.

It will be really unfortunate if Mr Hichilema will gain nothing out of his 127 days illegal imprisonment. We know he would be a better man in State House, given the limited options we have, but the mountain seems a little too tall for him to climb.

The ruining down of Kabulonga Boys Secondary School

Dear Editor

We are teachers from Kabulonga Boys secondary school who are tired and frustrated of the current administration. First and foremost, the Head of the school has only been here for 3.5 years and already he has;

i. He has brought division in the school amongst workers as there are his favorites and others are considered as useless, which has in turn led to,
ii. Hate and Anger amongst teachers
iii. He has brought nepotism, has he only gives key positions to only his friends and distant relations (of course descending from the same region/village)
iv. He has only given housing units only to his friends and friends' friend.
v. He has given very vital and key position to his friend and bootlicker specifically the coordinator for the afternoon classes who surprisingly isn't even

qualified for the position as he is just a degree holder in Physical Education (P.E) suspected not to have graduated as yet he also is Heading a Department which is centrally to what he has/is pursuing and equally in-charge of pupils ID's because of the money obtained from the said ID's.

This man has ruined the school to an extent that the A.P.U otherwise known as Afternoon classes are not being taught due to a number of us that have withdrawn our labor because we are not being paid as we are being told

that there is no money in the coffers and yet pupils are paying and some of them are even asked to stay away from classes for nonpayment. Yet we see the said cartel drawing unknown and unexplained allowances from the funds raised from A.P.U, DODE as well as the Night School classes.

Former Kabulonga Boys Secondary School pupils and different cooperate entities including various banks donated huge amounts of money towards the maintenance of the school which till now has not been explained

on how it was allocated as the school is still in a pathetic state and has become unfavorable for both teachers and pupils as there also has been a number of things that have not been accommodated for by the Head and the Deputy for this school. The Head has reached an extent of removing some of teachers namely Kapinda (of course his friend) from the timetable and gave him an indefinite leave and he has engaged himself in different businesses.

The Head has gone as far as telling the general workers

that "you will not be paid your wages because of your useless Government' pronouncement of not chasing pupils". Other schools including our twin school Kabulonga Girls Secondary (which we must commend) are running smoothly with capital projects yet our school is drastically going down as it is now a family business kind of arrangement. This man in question is a true definition of a failure, children are even planning to riot as this was evident to the almost burning down of the school in the first week of this term. We as teachers are foreseeing bad results being produced by this school as pupils are not learning neither are they taking any practical for sciences. We are also worried because both the Head and his Deputy take out teachers off the timetable but still get paid by the Government for almost a year, furthermore, use repulsive

language towards teachers in front of pupils at their own will.

Please I urge all sectors and other people in higher offices to intervene in this matter and we challenge all of you concerned to come forth and investigate on this matter scrupulously as these people have given themselves loans yet not indicated anywhere. The trend now is that money finishes before the year ends and this has never been experienced in the history of Kabulonga Boys.

Help saving the school before the administration which is money hungry completely destroys it.

Yours faithfully
Kabulonga Boys
Secondary School
Teachers

Cc: PS Education
Cc: Director Education
Cc: P.E.O Lusaka
Cc: P.E.SO Lusaka
Cc: DEBS Lusaka
Cc: DESO Lusaka

Land developer poluting Silverest Gardens

Dear editor

I would love to invite you to Silverest Gardens which is located on the great East road.

We have an on going similar problem for three years now. ZEMA has

proved to be toothless in dealing with the land developers who have been discharging raw sewer around the environment and into the open stream. This is getting out of

hand now and there seems to be no one with enough courage to stop this rot.

We have reported this matter to ZEMA but there is no action. Please help us!

UN failures on Rohingya revealed

The UN leadership in Myanmar tried to stop the Rohingya rights issue being raised with the government, sources in the UN and aid community told the BBC.

One former UN official said the head of the UN in Myanmar (Burma) tried to prevent human rights advocates from visiting sensitive Rohingya areas.

More than 500,000 Rohingya have fled an offensive by the military, with many now sheltering in camps in Bangladesh.

The UN in Myanmar "strongly disagreed" with the BBC findings.

In the month since Rohingya Muslims began flowing into Bangladesh, the UN has been at the forefront of the response. It has delivered aid and made robust statements condemning the Burmese authorities.

But sources within the UN and the aid community both in Myanmar and outside have told the BBC that, in the four years before the current crisis, the head of the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), a Canadian called Renata Lok-Dessallien: tried to stop human rights activists travelling to Rohingya areas

attempted to shut down public advocacy on the subject isolated staff who tried to warn that ethnic cleansing might be on the way.

One aid worker, Caroline Vandenaabee, had seen the warning signs before. She worked in Rwanda in the run-up to the genocide in late 1993 and early 1994 and says when she first arrived in Myanmar she noticed worrying similarities.

"I was with a group of expats and Burmese business people talking about Rakhine and Rohingya and one of the Burmese people just said 'we should kill them all as if they are just dogs'. For me, this level of dehumanisation of humans is one sign that you have reached a level of acceptance in society that this is normal."

For more than a year I have been corresponding with Ms Vandenaabee, who has served in conflict areas such as Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Rwanda and Nepal.

Between 2013 and 2015 she had a crucial job in the UNCT in Myanmar. She was head of office for what is known as the resident co-ordinator, the top UN official in the country, currently Ms Dessallien.

The job gave Ms Vandenaabee a front-row seat as the UN grappled with how to respond to rising tensions in Rakhine state.

Back in 2012, clashes between Rohingya Muslims and Rakhine Buddhists left more than 100 dead and more than 100,000 Rohingya Muslims in camps around the state capital, Sittwe.

Since then, there have been periodic flare-ups and, in the past year, the emergence of



Many Rohingya fled by night into Bangladesh leaving everything behind

a Rohingya militant group. Attempts to deliver aid to the Rohingya have been complicated by Rakhine Buddhists who resent the supply of aid for the Rohingya, at times blocking it and even attacking aid vehicles.

It presented a complex emergency for the UN and aid agencies, who needed the co-operation of the government and the Buddhist community to get basic aid to the Rohingya.

At the same time they knew that speaking up about the human rights and statelessness of the Rohingya would upset many Buddhists. So the decision was made to focus on a long-term strategy. The UN and the international community prioritised long-term development in Rakhine in the hope that eventually increased prosperity would lead to reduced tensions between the Rohingya and the Buddhists.

For UN staff it meant that publicly talking about the Rohingya became almost taboo. Many UN press releases about Rakhine avoided using the word completely. The Burmese government does not even use the word Rohingya or recognise them as a distinct group, preferring to call them "Bengalis".

During my years reporting from Myanmar, very few UN staff were willing to speak frankly on the record about the Rohingya. Now an investigation into the internal workings of the UN in Myanmar has revealed that even behind closed doors the Rohingyas' problems were put to one side.

Multiple sources in Myanmar's aid community have told the BBC that at high-level UN meetings in Myanmar any question of asking the Burmese authorities to respect the Rohingyas' human rights became almost impossible.

Who will help Myanmar's Rohingya?

Ms Vandenaabee said it soon became clear to everyone that raising the Rohingyas' problems, or warning of ethnic cleansing in senior UN meetings, was simply not acceptable.

"Well you could do it but it had consequences," she said. "And it had negative consequences, like you were no longer invited to meetings and your travel authorisations were not cleared. Other staff were taken off jobs - and being humiliated in meetings. An atmosphere was created that talking about these issues was simply not on."

Repeat offenders, like the head of the UN's Office for the Co-ordination for Humanitarian Assistance (UNOCHA) were deliberately excluded from discussions.

Ms Vandenaabee told me she was often instructed to find out when the UNOCHA representative was out of town so meetings could be held at those times. The head of UNOCHA declined to speak to the BBC but it has been confirmed by several other UN sources inside Myanmar. Ms Vandenaabee said she was labelled a troublemaker and frozen out of her job for repeatedly warning about the possibility of Rohingya ethnic cleansing. This version of events has not been challenged by the UN.

Attempts to restrict those talking about the Rohingya extended to UN officials visiting Myanmar. Tomas Quintana is now the UN special rapporteur for human rights in North Korea but for six years, until 2014, held that same role for Myanmar.

Speaking from Argentina, he told me about being met at Yangon airport by Ms Dessallien.

"I received this advice from her - saying you should not go to northern Rakhine state - please don't go there.

So I asked why and there was not an answer in any respect, there was just the stance of not trying to bring trouble with the authorities, basically," he said.

"This is just one story, but it demonstrates what was the strategy of the UN Country Team in regards to the issue of the Rohingya."

Mr Quintana still went to northern Rakhine but said Ms Dessallien "disassociated" herself from his mission and he didn't see her again.

One senior UN staffer told me: "We've been pandering to the Rakhine community at the expense of the Rohingya. "The government knows how to use us and to manipulate us and they keep on doing it - we never learn. And we can never stand up to them because we can't upset the government."

The UN's priorities in Rakhine were examined in a report commissioned by the UN in 2015 entitled "Slippery Slope: Helping Victims or Supporting Systems of Abuse". Leaked to the BBC, it is damning of the UNCT approach.

"The UNCT strategy with respect to human rights focuses too heavily on the over-simplified hope that development investment itself will reduce tensions, failing to take into account that investing in a discriminatory structure run by discriminatory state actors is more likely to reinforce discrimination than change it."

There have been other documents with similar conclusions. With António Guterres as the new secretary general in New York, a former senior member of the UN was asked to write a memo for his team in April.

Titled "Repositioning the UN" the two-page document was damning in its assessment, calling the UN in Myanmar "glaringly dysfunctional".

In the weeks that followed

the memo, the UN confirmed that Ms Dessallien was being "rotated" but stressed it was nothing to do with her performance. Three months on Ms Dessallien is still the UN's top official there after the Burmese government rejected her proposed successor.

"She has a fair view and is not biased," Shwe Mann, a former senior general and close ally of Myanmar's de facto leader Aung San Suu Kyi, told me. "Whoever is biased towards the Rohingyas, they won't like her and they will criticise her."

Ms Dessallien declined to give an interview to the BBC to respond to this article.

The UN in Myanmar said its approach was to be "fully inclusive" and ensure the participation of all relevant experts.

"We strongly disagree with the accusations that the resident co-ordinator 'prevented' internal discussions. The resident co-ordinator regularly convenes all UN agencies in Myanmar to discuss how to support peace and security, human rights, development and humanitarian assistance in Rakhine state," a statement from a UN spokesperson in Yangon said.

On Tomas Quintana's visits to Rakhine, the spokesperson said Ms Dessallien had "provided full support" in terms of personnel, logistics and security.

Ten ambassadors, including from Britain and the United States, wrote unsolicited emails to the BBC when they heard we were working on this report, expressing their support for Ms Dessallien.

There are those who see similarities between the UN's much-criticised role in Sri Lanka and what has happened in Myanmar. Charles Petrie wrote a damning report into the UN and Sri Lanka, and also served as the UN's top official in Myanmar (before

being expelled in 2007).

He said the UN's response to the Rohingya over the past few years had been confused and that Ms Dessallien hadn't been given the mandate to bring all of the key areas together.

"I think the key lesson for Myanmar from Sri Lanka is the lack of a focal point. A senior level focal point addressing the situation in Myanmar in its totality - the political, the human rights, the humanitarian and the development. It remains diffuse. And that means over the last few years there have been almost competing agendas."

So might a different approach from the UN and the international community have averted the humanitarian disaster we are seeing now? It's hard to see how it might have deterred the Burmese army's massive response following the 25 August Rohingya militant attack.

Ms Vandenaabee said she at least believed an early warning system she proposed might have provided some indications of what was about to unfold.

"It's hard to say which action would have been able to prevent this," she told me. "But what I know for sure is that the way it was done was never going to prevent it. The way it was done was simply ignoring the issue."

Mr Quintana said he wished the international community had pushed harder for some sort of transitional justice system as part of the move to a hybrid democratic government.

One source said the UN now appeared to be preparing itself for an inquiry into its response to Rakhine, and this could be similar to the inquiry that came after the controversial end to Sri Lanka's civil war - and which found it wanting. *BBC News*

5 'fat' women are 'unapologetically' embracing their beauty



These five strong women are gaining momentum on social media for a powerful body-positive photo shoot that celebrates all the things society has said is wrong about them.

Although the photos alone are beautiful, it's the caption that makes the powerful statement that much stronger. It reads, "We are everything the world hates. Fat. Black. Woman. And yet, we exist. Unapologetically and without shame. F*** you. We love on ourselves." In the series of photos, the five women look fierce and are wearing monochromatic white outfits — they stand proud, embracing one another against a natural green background.

Professional photographer Anthony Gebrehiwot was contacted by one of the models, TiKa, who wanted to do a body-positive photoshoot.

Gebrehiwot shares with Yahoo Lifestyle, "TiKa is a friend of mine and we've been meaning to collaborate on a project together. She reached out to me and I proposed doing a group photoshoot with women that resembled her shape and figure as a body-positivity shoot."

The team of creatives decided to execute the photo shoot in Edwards Gardens in Toronto.

TiKa, who is a musician, tells Yahoo Lifestyle the photo shoot's vision will accompany one of her next music videos. She says, "I had a vision of black

women around me singing alongside me, but I wanted them to look like me as I've never seen fat black bodies together dressed in all white. It's so angelic and beautiful and soft. So I asked my beautiful fat femme sisters to join me."

One of TiKa's "fat femme sisters" is Sashagai (Sasha) Ruddock, who joined her for this special shoot. She tells Yahoo Lifestyle she decided to participate in the shoot because she has always believed in TiKa's effort to uplift women no matter their race, age, size, or orientation.

Ruddock explains, "Being a black woman who is also a fat woman, I relate heavily to the struggles that women of the same community deal with. I wanted to be a part of anything that spoke to those women and encouraged those women. Representation still lacks in the media for fat black women."

On what inspired her controversial caption TiKa says, "I'm black. I'm a woman. I also happen to identify as queer and I'm fat. We're living in a very political time, and I just so happen to be all of the things that the world devalues or hates." She adds, "This photo shoot was a major 'f*** you' to anyone and everyone who has ever tried to invalidate me. I'm a human being and I matter just like everyone else. I was grateful to have friends who were brave enough to stand with me."

The magic between the

models and photographer can definitely be felt and seen in the resulting images, and many are praising the unique shoot on Instagram. One commenter wrote, "Everything about this oh, wow." Another commenter added, "this also brought me to tears. this looks like a painting, so beautiful."

On the successful reception

of the photoshoot, Gebrehiwot says, "It took me by surprise but I'm supergrateful to have the work recognized by so many people in such a unique community."

Ruddock adds, "I'm so grateful and proud to have been able to bring that imagery to the world. Making room for women

who aren't where I am yet is my life goal. I hold room for them until they can hold room for themselves."

TiKa, for her part, offers some advice to people who might struggle to find themselves beautiful.

"Take long breaks from social media, as it makes you question yourself, your abilities, and whether or not

you're special — you are. Comparison kills. Affirm yourself in a way you feel comfortable," she says.

"Make it a point to change the language that you use to describe yourself and take back words like 'fat' and use them in positive references. Love on yourself because the world won't do it for you." *Yahoo News*

Kim Kardashian confirms third baby on the way



Kim Kardashian has confirmed reports that she and husband Kanye West are having a third baby, with the couple expected to use a surrogate for the birth.

Kardashian's confirmation, in a trailer released on Thursday for the new series of reality show "Keeping Up With the Kardashians," means that

three of the Kardashian siblings are expecting children around the same time.

Multiple media reports in the past week have said that Khloe Kardashian, 33, and Kylie Jenner, at 20 the youngest member of the celebrity family, are pregnant for the first time. The women and their representatives

have neither confirmed nor denied the reports.

Kim Kardashian and West were rumored in June to have hired a surrogate because of serious health complications with Kardashian's first two pregnancies and the birth of children North, 4, and one-year-old Saint. *Reuters*

The Premier League side will check over the forward amid reports that he could be missing for two months following the accident in the Netherlands

Manchester City have confirmed that striker Sergio Aguero was involved in a car crash on Thursday. Goal can confirm that Aguero has suffered a broken rib as a result of the accident that happened in the Netherlands, with the Argentine to be assessed by City medical staff on Friday. Reports have suggested that the striker could be out for as much as eight weeks after the accident in Amsterdam, but the club have said they need to assess the state of the forward.

Aguero was in Holland attending a concert put on by Colombian singer Maluma, and posted on Instagram before the accident happened.

A statement from the club reads: "Sergio Aguero will be assessed by Club doctors today after being involved in a road accident on Thursday.

"The City forward was in Holland on his day off and has sustained injuries.

"He will return to Manchester this morning and his status will be checked ahead of tomorrow's Premier League clash at Chelsea."

Aguero's former club



Aguero suffers broken rib after car accident

Independiente have since sent a tweet wishing the forward well, saying: "Strength and quick

recovery. All Independiente is with you in this difficult time". The 29-year-old is currently

chasing City's all-time scoring record, lying just one strike behind the mark set by Eric Brook, who

netted 177 times for the club between 1927 and 1940. Aguero has made an

impressive start to the 2017-18 campaign, scoring seven goals in eight games for Pep Guardiola's men.

FAZ approves Ghana camp for Chipolopolo



By Diggers Reporter

Chipolopolo will hold a three-day training camp in Ghana before heading to Nigeria for next weekend's 2018 FIFA World Cup Group B qualifier against the Super Eagles.

Zambia will camp in West Africa

after their earlier plans to set up camp in Spain en route to Nigeria fell through due to operational reasons. The Football Association of Zambia said in a statement on Thursday that the home-based call-ups' will fly out to Accra this Sunday from Lusaka where as they wrap-up the first week

of training camp on Thursday.

"The local players summoned for duty will leave for Ghana on Sunday and set up base in Accra where foreign based players will join them there," FAZmedia stated.

"On Wednesday the team will head to Nigeria ahead of Saturday's

showdown in Uyo where the match will be staged at Akwa Ibom Stadium."

Meanwhile, Zambia coach Wedson Miranda is set to announce his list of foreign based players on Friday at briefing at Football House in Lusaka.

WADA PICKS FINAL SQUAD

Fashion, Patson, Mwepu, Chilufya, Mwila listed against Nigeria

By Diggers Reporter
Zambia Under-20 midfielder Edward Chilufya is finally set for his senior debut after missing last month's dates against Algeria due to administrative reasons following his move to Swedish club Djurgårdens. And Under-20 striker Fashion Sakala is back from suspension to face Nigeria after picking a red card against Algeria earlier this month. Chipolopolo coach Wedson Nyirenda has also maintained brace hero Brian Mwila and another Under-20 star striker

Patson Daka in his final 23-member squad. Meanwhile, Nyirenda has snubbed captain and midfielder Rainford Kalaba for a second successive date, while insisting that the TP Mazembe playmaker is still part of his plans. Kalaba was ignored for the September 5 Group B away date against Algeria after missing the September 2 first leg match against The North Africans due to a one-match suspension. Also not picked for the trip to Nigeria is Kalaba's club mate and fellow midfielder

Nathan Sinkala who was also overlooked for September's Group B doubleheader. "They are Zambian players and the door has always been open for every other player," Nyirenda said. "But for this encounter, we have chosen these 23 that we feel we will use. They will be called in the future." Zambia head in to their must-win clash in 2nd in Group B on 7 points, three points behind Nigeria. Third placed Cameroon and bottom of the log Algeria are out of the race on 3 and 1 point respectively.

The manager's reign with the Bavarian giants became "impossible" once five players turned against him, according to the club's president Bayern Munich president Uli Hoeness revealed Carlo Ancelotti's position at the club became untenable after a group of players turned against the Italian.

Ancelotti was sacked on Thursday following a comprehensive 3-0 defeat to former club Paris Saint-Germain in the Champions League, the latest chapter in an underwhelming start to the campaign at home and abroad.

In announcing the decision, Bayern CEO Karl-Heinz Rummenigge claimed Ancelotti's dismissal was due to the team's performances failing to meet expectations.

But Hoeness indicated that dressing-room factions played a key part in the manager's downfall.

"There were five players against Ancelotti," Hoeness told Westfalenpost.

"It was impossible to get out of that." Star trio Robert Lewandowski, Thomas Muller and Arjen Robben have all voiced their discontent at various stages of the season, with the latter refusing to back Ancelotti after the defeat in Paris.

When questioned on Thursday, the 58-year-old former AC Milan, Real Madrid and Chelsea boss told reporters: "I don't want to speak but I will be writing a statement."

Former France defender Willy Sagnol has been installed as manager on an interim basis. *Goal.com*



5 players turned against Ancelotti - Bayern President

Meanwhile, Zambia departs for Ghana this Sunday where they will set up a four-day training camp while in transit to Nigeria.

All the 11 foreign based call-ups will link-up with their 12 domestic counterparts in Accra starting on Sunday.

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

DEFENDERS: Simon Silwimba, Fackson Kapumbu (both Zesco United), Adrian Chama (Green Buffaloes), Stoppilla Sunzu (Arsenal Tula, Russia), Ziyo Tembo (Zanaco), Isaac Shamujo (Power Dynamos)

MIDFIELDERS: Chisamba Lungu (Alanyaspor, Turkey), Edward Chilufya (Djurgårdens, Sweden), Donashano Malama (Nkana), Kondwani Mtonga, Misheck Chaila (both Zesco United), Augustine Mulenga (Zanaco), Enock Mwepu (FC Liefering, Austria), Emmanuel Banda (KV Oostende, Belgium), Roderick Kabwe (Ajax Cape Town, South Africa), Ernest Mbewe (Zanaco)

STRIKERS: Justin Shonga (Orlando Pirates, South Africa), Fashion Sakala (Spartak Moscow, Russia), Brian Mwila (Platinum Stars, South Africa), Patson Daka (Red Bull Salzburg, Austria)

