



Energy Permanent Secretary Brig Gen Emelda Chola answers to questions from parliamentary Public Accounts Committee (PAC) chairperson Howard Kunda

Let Zesco come so that we can be grilled together, Energy PS asks Public Accounts Committee

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
Energy and Water Development Permanent Secretary Brig Gen Emelda Chola today asked the parliamentary Public Accounts Committee (PAC) to grill her together with a representative from Zesco, as

she was finding it difficult to answer some audit queries on behalf of the utility. And PAC Committee member

Mbulakulima threatened to surcharge Chola through monthly salary deductions in order to recover the license fees which Zesco was failing to pay the Energy Regulation Board (ERB).

Meanwhile Auditor General Ron Mwambwa noted that the Ministry of Energy repeatedly committed to a payment plan for the ERB debts, which was never honoured.

Brig Gen Chola, who had a tough time responding to questions, made MPs laugh when she suggested that Zesco should be taken to court for not adhering to the law. *To page 5*

'Wife' sues Muvi proprietor over matrimonial house

By Mukosha Fungai

Muvi TV proprietor Stephen Nyirenda has been dragged to court by his recently divorced wife, Lesa Kasoma over a house which they reside in.

According to a statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court principal registry on November 17, 2017, the duo made a verbal agreement in 2012 to renovate the house and turn it into a jointly owned property.

Lesa, who is being represented by lawyers from Simeza Sangwa and Associates, stated that they also agreed that she would contribute K160,000 towards renovations, which she did apart from being instrumental to the planning and designing. *To page 6*

Socialist Party hits back at Kabimba

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Wynter Kabimba comes from a violent PF no wonder he thinks that the Socialist Party symbol (a pick and shovel) can only be used to kill, says party spokesperson Fr Richard Luonde.

Reacting to Kabimba's mockery following the launch of their party last week, Fr Luonde, who also resigned from the Rainbow Party, said the party symbol depicted hard work.

"To begin with, there is a difference between Rainbow Party and Socialist Party. In our name, we don't want to hide under any umbrella, we are simply coming out to say we are socialists and the pick as he puts it to say 'the kama pick and kama shovel as they put on their symbol, who do they want to kill?' a Socialist Party is not about killing, a Socialist Party is about hard work for every Zambian *To page 2*

Ex-ministers must pay, says Kampamba

By Mirriam Chabala

The court ruling is very clear that former ministers who stayed in office after dissolution of parliament must pay, says Chief Government Spokesperson Kampamba Mulenga.

And Mulenga says if Chishimba Kambwili did not want to remain in office, he should have disagreed with President Edgar Lungu. *To page 5*

Mosho, PF set to remove Financial Intelligence boss



TSHUMA TO GO

By Joseph Mwenda

Renowned Lusaka lawyer Lewis Mosho has picked on Mary Chirwa Tshuma

with the aim of removing her from the position of director Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC).

But some State House officials have expressed concern that the trend of removing and replacing heads of key

investigative wings in the country, will weaken President Edgar Lungu's control of state institutions. *To page 7*

K4bn debts owed to contractors worries minister

Story page 2

K4bn debt owed to contractors worries Ronald Chitotela

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Housing and Infrastructure Development Minister Ronald Chitotela says the road sector has a huge debt of \$4 billion owed both to the contractors and the public.

Speaking at a press briefing in Lusaka when he unveiled the new Road Development Agency (RDA) board today, Chitotela said government was determined to liquidate the debt.

Chitotela urged the new board to start identifying continuous road maintenance contractors. "Currently what we owe the contractors is K4 billion which is almost \$400 million dollar and we are determined. The assurance I want to give to the Road contractors out there is that commitment from this government is to make sure that the total debt which is owed to them both to contractors and consultants is fully liquidated. Its a serious commitment, by the time I was appointed, I found it somewhere above K7 billion, we have been paying contractors as they are working. So the K4 billion it actually includes the new interim payment certificates. So we can safely say we have shown serious commitment of liquidating the debt that we owe to our contractors," Chitotela disclosed.

"That is why I was calling upon the board to join hands with the government in making sure that we clear this debt because once we pay, also the majority of the

consultants are Zambians, we will be assured that money will stay in Zambia and money will be spent in Zambia. As to when we are releasing money as government, there is a continuous flow of money. So maybe by the end of next week, we will be releasing more money for the contractors so that we keep the

flow of economic activities in Zambia."

He also warned the new board to be careful in making decisions as some of the decisions made might make it (board) unpopular.

"I want to encourage you to perform to the best of your expectation and the expectation of the major

stakeholders who are the Zambian people. I wish to state that government expect you to settle immediately and start performing the functions for which you have been appointed. I believe that all of you are joining the RDA board for effective and efficient delivery of key infrastructure development

agenda as enshrined in the Patriotic Front manifesto and the 7th National Development plan. I must emphasise that you can be effective but if you are not efficient, you will not give us the desired outcome," said Chitotela.

The 16 member board is comprised of Samuel Mukupa who is the Chairperson,

Ministry of Finance Permanent Secretary Pamela Kabamba, Local Government Permanent Secretary Amos Malupenga, Attorney General Likando Kalaluka, Former Transport Minister Yamfwa Mukanga, RTSA Chief Executive Officer Zindaba Soko, and Elias Mwape who will also be the board Secretary among others.

Mismanagement of national resources exacerbating inequality - Oxfam

Miriam Chabala

Oxfam Zambia has observed that government's failure to take action against individuals cited to have mismanaged the country's resources is the cause of sustained inequality and an obstacle to poverty reduction. Commenting on the revelations in the Paradise Papers, Oxfam media and communications liaison office Malama Mwila complained in a statement that there was seldom any legal action taken against corporations and individuals who are accused of evading tax. "The Paradise Papers like the Panama Papers have yet again exposed the iniquities of tax havens. Zambia like several other African countries, has

not been spared the injustices and harmful impacts of tax dodging. A media sweep on broader issues of transparency and accountability in Zambia shows that mismanagement and corruption are hardwired in the country's financial and procurement systems. This is in addition to the shocking annual Auditor General's revelations of a wasteful and inefficient public service. These malpractices are compounded by a lack of prioritisation in how the country's meagre public resources are used," Mwila stated.

"A case in point is the procurement of fire tenders, ambulances and the construction of the Lusaka-

Ndola dual carriageway. Citizens are frustrated that recurrent scandals and abuses fizzle out with little repercussions for perpetrators. Seldom has there been any kind of legal consequences for most of these corporations and politically exposed individuals in and outside government responsible for mismanagement of the nation's resources. The iniquities and implications of such a damaging and rogue system are widespread and immense. These abuses are both the root of sustained inequality and an important obstacle to poverty reduction. For instance, a staggering 30 per cent of rich Africans' wealth - a total

of US\$500 billion - is held offshore in tax havens. These rich Africans are using the global network of tax havens to hide about US\$14 billion a year in taxes. At the same time, corporations have been estimated to prejudice Africa of US\$38 billion annually in lost tax revenues."

Mwila regretted that high net worth individuals and corporates were taking advantage of the porous taxations systems to deprive government of due taxes which left the poor people to pay the price.

"These figures when taken together with other resources lost illicitly, dwarf the annual aid flows to Africa. Such

revenue losses compound problems of mounting and unsustainable debt, tightened spending on health, education and social protection. The implications this has on the poorest in society especially on women and girls who are often left to pick up the pieces own their own are significant. When the public financial and procurement systems are dysfunctional; high net worth individuals and corporates take advantage of porous taxations systems to deprive government of due taxes, public resources are lost to corruption and it is the poorest people that pay the price. Poor people's tax bill rises as government tries to bolster tax revenues, and with little public support the poor must dip into their own pockets to access essential services like health and education," he stated.

Mwila called on government to close up all tax leakages by revising reforms especially those dealing with tax havens and offshore jurisdictions

"The sense of impunity is dramatically affecting citizens' trust in the rule of law and role of the State. It is also in the country's interest to safeguard some economic gains recorded over the years. Government needs to close tax leakages. This could be done by ensuring tax reforms that make tax systems more watertight and by re-considering tax incentives, double taxation agreements (DTAs) with tax havens and offshore jurisdictions. Prevention of wasteful and irregular public expenditure should be a top priority for government as part of its strategies for poverty and inequality reduction," stated Malama

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"To begin with, there is a difference between Rainbow Party and Socialist Party. In our name, we don't want to hide under any umbrella, we are simply coming out to say we are socialists and the pick as he puts it to say 'the kama pick and kama shovel as they put on their symbol, who do they want to kill?' a Socialist Party is not about killing, a Socialist Party is about hard work for every Zambian, without excluding anybody. A pick and a shovel are ancestral tools of hard work. If you went in a home, be it in town or in a village, if you find a pick and a shovel, you will simply know that these people are hard working," Fr Luonde said.

"Maybe he is extracting it from a concept of having belonged to the criminal PF where a pick and a shovel are tools of distraction, dismembering other people. But ours, that's a symbol of workers. When we talk about workers, we are talking about the majority

Zambians who are suppose to engage in something and when they realise their profit, that profit must be shared equally. That is by improving the education facilities, health facilities, water supply facilities, name it. That is supposed to be transparent and appreciated by every Zambian."

Asked what the Socialist Party would do which the Rainbow Party had not done, Fr Luonde said Kabimba's belonged to the archives.

"You see, when we were in the Rainbow Party, the beginning was excellent and as we journeyed on, some people wanted to become dominant and do whatever they wanted to do without consulting others. And the best thing that you do if you love your brother is simply surrender and say 'I am moving on'. Our ideologies, built on socialism, is that of Max going back to the time of Karl Marx and others who said we should live as it was. So without Rainbow, we agreed to do what we wanted to do but we don't want to compare ourselves with Rainbow because to us, Rainbow is now on the shelves. It belongs to the archives, so we don't want to engage so much in arguing with comrade Kabimba and his party," he said.

And Fr Luonde said the party leader would be revealed at the official party launch.

"Our party as he rightly asks to say who is the president,

who are the leaders, we don't want to turn down our leaders by simply bringing along our relatives and those people we know that they will ever support us, our party is a mass party, a party for the people. As we speak right now, the only people who were announced at a press briefing were simply the general secretary Cosmas Musumali and the national spokesperson comrade Fr Richard Scott Luonde," Fr Luonde explained.

"The rest we said these are going to be announced at the launch meaning there is a lot of consultations going around in each and every province of Zambia because once that is announced, it will not be about Bembas, it will not be about Tongas, it will not be about any tribe in Zambia, it will be about a balanced formation and leadership of

a Socialist Party which will operate for every Zambian. From the poorest to the richest and when we talk about the rich, it is those who are rich but poor at heart. And that launch of the party will not be the end because in two years time, we are now going to go for a convention because those who will be announced leaders at the launch will be there in the interim."

Meanwhile, Fr Luonde dispelled Kabimba's claim that Dr Musumali and his team had attempted to hijack the Rainbow party.

"I think that is a false accusation, Dr Cosmas Musumali resigned out of principal and we cannot go back to the vomit of what happened. The formation of the Socialist Party is simply to enhance and to promote the Zambian human being

in the manner that humans should be looked at through socialism. No one wanted to take over Rainbow Party unconstitutionally, if he has facts, let him prove it. I will give an example of myself. Wynter is a good person that I respect so much and I wouldn't want to indulge in arguments with him because the Socialist Party was not formed for the Rainbow Party or to come and start picking up unnecessary quarrels and arguments with the Rainbow Party no. the Socialist Party was formed by the masses for the masses. And therefore the president for the Socialist Party is not for now, the president will be elected at our convention in two years time. And all the leaders there can only be confirmed at the convention either through by the ratification or by election," said Fr Luonde.

Kaunda has not yet traveled to meet Mugabe - Spokesperson

Mukosha Funga

Dr Kenneth Kaunda is still in Lusaka and receiving regular updates on the Zimbabwe crisis from President Edgar Lungu, says his personal assistant Rodrick Ngolo.

Reuters reported that President Lungu had sent the First Republican President to convince his friend to step down.

"Dr Kaunda used the presidential jet and has already arrived in Harare," Reuters quoted a senior government source. But in an interview with News Diggers! today, Ngolo said Dr Kaunda had not yet been sent.

"Those are just rumours which have been circulating. His Excellency Dr Kaunda is still around, he is still in Lusaka. He

hasn't travelled to Zimbabwe," said Ngolo.

"Asked if he was expected to travel Ngolo said; it depends on the Republican President if he will be able to send him. Otherwise what has been happening is that he has just been updating him on the unfolding events in Zimbabwe. Right now he is still at home."



Army worms are back: a farmer displays the damage to maize crops - Pictures by Cephas Mkandawire

By Joseph Mwenda

Unless I die and I don't get to lead this country, but if God blesses me and I get there, mukanya nokunya ba pompwe! Chishimba Kambwili warned the PF leadership today.

And former vice-president Dr Guy Scott who was unveiled as the Godfather for the National Democratic Congress said President Edgar Lungu was leading a gong'a PF while the respected faction of the PF had moved to NDC.

At a 'consultative' gathering held at Mumana Pleasure Resort in Lusaka, Kambwili hinted that he would officially lead the NDC as its president, heading into 2021.

"When Musenge said we have a vacancy for the president, you even know that the saviour is coming. First John should do the evangelism then when we are about to launch the party, in January, that's when you will see that the saviour has come. It is just a month away. Even when I am saying this, you know who the saviour is... When we started PF with Sata and Guy Scott, that man who is in charge of PF today was in Chawama. And we all know what he was doing in Chawama and how he was living," Kambwili told a cheering crowd of approximately 500 to 700 people.

Speaking in vernacular in a speech laced with deep Bemba proverbs, Kambwili said before becoming Head of State, President Lungu looked like a marasmus patient.

He went further to display a framed picture of President Lungu as a PF candidate, clad in a hat, sitting next to First Lady Esther.

"I was against this man taking over the party because he stole someone's K36,000 and he likes Jameson. And not only that he likes

When we takeover govt mukanya ba pompwe, Kambwili warns PF

Jameson but he also has long hands. Even Dr Guy can bear me witness. You people in Lusaka should be the most upset because starting from Chawama, Ndozo Lodge they have bought, they have also bought York Farm, they are building their houses, in State Lodge the land they left as a forest reserve, they have grabbed it. When you go to Memorial Park, they are building houses, everywhere in Lusaka, even as you enter Kafue, those houses on the hills, they are building. Nomba balya abalenwafye Jameson ba fumya kwisa impiya ishafula ifi apapene?" he asked.

"Mwe bamunyina, nga tulelanda ukutila ati aba abanensu bang'o, baleiba, nibapompwe! Bambi muleima muleti 'ba Kambwili bale landa landa fy' but I am not speaking for myself, I am feeling sorry for you people, your children and your grandchildren. Because if you let these thieves steal, they will leave this country in debt. They will steal and they will go and they will be living luxurious lives because they have built houses, flats and shopping malls. When he just became a presidential candidate, he used to look he had marasmus. Today, because of public funds, he has gained weight and even his cheeks are puffy. He has even become light."

And Kambwili said when he forms government, he will form a tax force consisting of former chief justices which would be in charge of repossessing property built from stolen public funds.

He said this was because

the courts were acquitting criminals.

"The ones who are encouraging them to do this are those who were acquitted. But for me I am saying tukesa imbana inama mumeno! You should continue building those houses you are building, civil servants will be staying there. Those shopping malls you are building will be hospitals so continue building, you are just building for the people," Kambwili said.

Unless I die and I don't get to lead this country but if God blesses me and I get there, mukanya nokunya! Lesa nga alempala nkafike palya bafikile ba Sata, mukeshiba ati nikolwe piteni nembwa. Ukufuma fye mukulapa, mukatampa ukufuma muno chalo kwati nibakapanga bakabolala imwe. Ba Pompwe! We made PF so that poor people could have better lives, it is not to say that Jameson and his people should be the ones to have money. Some of us started business in 1993, but today I can't even match the wealth of Kaizer [Zulu]. I can't match

Jameson. They have money which can blow your mind." He said he would remain PF until January 2018 when "things would change".

"What we need is to work together. At this time, I am PF but come January, things are going to change. Ni kolwe piteni nembwa... Someone gives you the presidency on a silver platter, you didn't suffer for it but you destroy the party. It was ba Scott, ba Kambwili, bana Mulenga, Menyani, ba Musenge who suffered for PF. Twalelala mumpanga ukusumwa naba mosquito. Sir do you remember where we went, where the toilets were very small and we were failing to enter, we were going in the bush. We suffered to make PF! We couldn't even access decent toilets. Ena ninshi nalala ku Chawama elo aisa tutamfya kwati tuli fipuba. And he is telling you that this one who has come today Lusambo and Dora, you are the same, can you accept that?" asked Kambwili.

"This is what God does when he wants to remove someone or when he is rejecting him,

alamulowa ichilafi then you go and say senseless things which make people become fed up of you."

And Scott said the existing PF was fake because the founders had left the party.

"I have come to find part of PF, the respectable part of PF. That other one is gong'a PF. Thank you very much for welcoming me here, I want to make it very clear that I am a consultant like him. Or the godfather, yes, I am the godfather. In Bemba they say umuchinshi tabalomba. These people who are in power at the moment, they can't force us to respect them because the only thing which will bring respect is when you are correct and when you are God fearing and hard working to bring development to your country," Scott said in faint English, as Kambwili interpreted to the crowd that could hardly hear the former-president.

He said it was important for the NDC to work towards one goal with the UPND as opposition political parties.

"Myself, I am not against UPND because it is not

UPND which chased us, it is not UPND which bought the famous \$1 million fire trucks, it is not them. Between us, the PF and UPND, we should have worked harder because you cannot have a country which has Tongas in the opposition, Bemba in government, we have to come together as Zambians and work together. Can you identify a Tonga just by looking at him?" asked Scott. "You can say Tongas have a lot of cattle so they must be fat, what about Kambwili with his tummy? Is he Tonga? So let us work together, I don't want to see people fighting because I know where it leads, we have seen where it leads."

Others who attended the gathering were party general secretary Mwenya Musenge, deputy secretary general Christopher Mwale, National chairlady Mary Banda, national you chairperson Charles Kabwita, Lusaka province chairman Goodson Banda, members of the central committee Ackson Simwiza, Menyani Zulu and Kunda Kakombo.

Lungu to attend SADC meeting on Zim crisis

By Diggers Reporter

President Edgar Lungu will tomorrow attend an extraordinary organ troika SADC summit on the political situation in Zimbabwe.

Foreign Affairs Minister Harry Kalaba told journalists yesterday that the summit had been called following an emergency meeting of the SADC organ Troika plus

council chairperson ministerial meeting on the political situation in Zimbabwe held in Botswana on November 16, 2017.

Kalaba said the ministerial meeting reaffirmed SADC's commitment to its principles regarding the unconstitutional removal of democratically elected Heads of State and condemned the current

situation in Zimbabwe.

President Lungu left for Angola around 15:00 hours today saying the meeting was essential because if the Zimbabwe crisis was not addressed, it would have a spiral effect in the region. Meanwhile, President Mugabe has resisted calls to step down, instead announcing that he will preside over a Zanu-PF congress in the next few weeks.

PF will waste millions in compensation over illegally terminated contracts - TIZ

By Mukosha Funga

TIZ says the Patriotic Front government will spend millions to compensate companies whose contracts were illegally terminated since they came into office in 2011. And TIZ has challenged government to present a clear plan of how they will settle the debt owed to LAP GreenN without compromising the economy. Responding to a press query following LAP GreenN's demand letter, TIZ president Rueben Lifuka observed that there were a number of companies which had won cases against the Zambian government in similar circumstances.

"This LAP GreenN episode raises a number of questions on the efficacy of some of the decisions made both by the MMD and the PF governments and in fact, this points to weaknesses in the public procurement process, especially when this is driven by political interests and private considerations. What is surprising is that the penchant for single sourcing of major projects has not stopped under this government. Clearly, PF came into government and did what MMD did to UNIP – namely, distance itself from most of the MMD government contracts, in the name of fighting corruption. Admittedly, some of the contracts signed by the MMD government were questionable and the PF should have systematically worked to deal with the specific fraudulent agreements. We do recall that the PF under the late President Michael Sata terminated the contract which the Zambia Revenue Authority signed with Bradwell International for supply of scanners to the Nakonde border and the PF Government alleged corruption in the whole deal. As far as we know, this decision was subsequently reversed and the question is how much did the government pay to Bradwell International?" Lifuka asked.

"Secondly, we recall another case of the Zambia Border Crossing company run Kasumbalesa border- another concession agreement signed under the MMD government,

which the PF government later tried to terminate. Again, this seems to have been a futile exercise. LAP GreenN is the latest company which has a judgment against the Zambian government. What is puzzling is that in 2014, the Zambian government agreed to repay the US\$103 million loan that LAP Green Networks obtained from China's ZTE in 2011 for the expansion of Zamtel network. The loan was obtained by Lap Green Networks in 2011 from ZTE in order to implement Zambia's Global System for Mobile Communication (GSM) phase IV and Universal Mobile Telecommunication System (UMTS) projects. All these are the debts that the Zambian taxpayers and the Zambian people have to shoulder for the next number of years. What is unfortunate is that the people who led us to this situation, continue to live at large without suffering any consequences for their actions. Surely, in the last 6-7 years, the Zambian government will pay a lot of money in different forms of compensation for judgments or court orders obtained against it by these companies."

He recalled that government had instituted a Commission of Inquiry into the sale of Zamtel, wondering if the recommendations made were used.

"Added to that the PF government instituted Commissions of Inquiry and one of them was on the sale of ZAMTEL as well as the sale of ZANACO to Rabo Bank

of the Netherlands. One asks the question, what happened to the recommendations of this Commission? Did government ever implement these recommendations? We do recall media statements quoting sources who were privy to the Commission's report highlighting that the commission of inquiry concluded that the Zamtel sale was a clear case of economic sabotage which pervaded and compromised key government institutions to the extent that the government decisions and policy were being managed by a foreign consultant. It further states that the full extent and continuing effect of these actions can only be determined if a full scale and thorough comprehensive forensic audit of the Zamtel privatisation process is instituted. If this was the conclusion of the Commission of Inquiry, how come the Zambian government failed to defend this position in court? And did the Zambian government ever institute a forensic audit of the Zamtel privatisation process?" Lifuka asked.

He hoped future leaders would learn not to politicize contracts.

"Transparency International Zambia finds it unfortunate that the Zambian government under the Patriotic Front leadership, are defaulting in meeting the terms of the Consent Compensation Order obtained by LAP GreenN. The whole handling of the privatisation of ZAMTEL – from the appointment

of RP Capital as financial advisors, the awarding of 75% shareholding to LAP GreenN by the MMD Government and the subsequent repossession of the ZAMTEL by the PF Government, has been chaotic and extremely costly to the Zambian taxpayer. And despite all this money that will be spent settling this Compensation order, ZAMTEL remains in dire need of capitalisation. We have no doubt that the Zambian Government is fully aware of the Consent Compensation Order and it should therefore meet these obligations before it attracts further costs which may arise from any other additional legal steps that LapGreenN may take. It is our sincere hope that the PF government and any parties that may assume power, have learnt important lessons not to unnecessarily politicise issues without taking time to chart a well thought way forward," Lifuka stated.

"We challenge the Minister of Finance or indeed the Vice-President as leader of government business in the House, to give a full account of the monies that have been spent on these costly public decisions taken by the PF government. It will be important for government to categorically state the compensation paid not just to LAP GreenN but other companies whose contracts were terminated. We equally urge government to highlight what has happened to the allegations that it made of corruption in these

transactions. Did the ACC ever investigate these cases and was there any credence in the allegations made of corruption? It is evident that from the US\$257 million transaction – highlighted below, the Zambian people are the real losers in this transaction and now we have to pay back this amount with interest at 8%."

Lifuka went further to list LAP GreenN's initial investment.

"ZAMTEL STAFF PENSIONS LIABILITY: US\$20,000,000
CHINESE BANK LOANS: US\$32,700,000
ZAMTEL WORKERS REDUNDANCIES: US\$97,700,000
LAPGREEN NETWORKS EQUITY INVESTMENT: US\$64,000,000
GRZ PROCEEDS: US\$42,600,000
TOTAL PAID BY LAP GREEN N: US\$257,000,000."

Lifuka also lamented that government would have to absorb so many costs from expenditure made during the transaction with LAP GreenN. "The information provided by the Commission of Inquiry in fact demonstrates that from the GRZ proceeds, the only balance of funds due to government was USD13million and now we have to repay back LAP GreenN and government has to absorb of these other expenditure which it made during this transaction. Surely, someone has to pay of this decision made on LAP GreenN. We cannot continue to lose colossal sums of monies in this manner," Lifuka

stated, going further to list the specifics.

"Expenditure Breakdown of Govt Proceeds of \$42,600,000
RP Capital Advisors \$12,689,759.03
Net Cash GRZ Proceeds to date (MoFNP) \$15,000,000.00
Legal Fees \$702,296.33
Zamtel Staff Incentives \$85,926.59
ZDA/Zamtel Staff Incentives and Overtime \$307,462.73
ZDA Negotiating Team \$65,797.25
Zamtel Staff Training \$192,907.51
Adverts \$87,468.98
Grant Thornton Consultants – Financial \$94,859.14
ZDA (Zamtel sale) Assets \$46,388.08
Bank Charges \$8,304.28
Other Zamtel Related Payments \$19,473.60
Total Disbursed \$29,300,643.52
Balance of Funds due to GRZ \$13,299,356.48"

And Lifuka challenged government to explain how it would clear the LAP GreenN debt without affecting the economy.

"Lastly, we would like to know what the PF government is doing differently to ensure that such contracts are handled in the best interest of the country and not to benefit a few individuals? And we would like to request that government presents a clear undertaking on how it is intending to settle this claim from LAP GreenN without compromising the socio-economic development of the ordinary people," stated Lifuka.

ZCSD defends NGOs cited for fraud

By Mirriam Chabala

The Zambia Council for Social Development has challenged the British Council to hold the Zambia Accountability Project (ZAP) responsible for the reported financial fraud, saying the recipient NGOs were not directly linked to the fund.

In a statement yesterday, ZCSD executive director Lewis Mwape said most regional and international organisations were in the habit

of resolving their internal problems relating to financial frauds administratively, while portraying local organisations as unaccountable.

"Over the past three weeks, ZCSD has received numerous press queries on the alleged abuse of financial resources by some local Non-Governmental Organisation; namely FODED, SACCORD and YALI. We note that this was first speculated in the social media but all

named investigative wings of government issued official statements declining having received any such complaints from the Department for International Development (DFID). However, few days later, the Zambia Police Service confirmed that police had finally received a formal report from the British Council on the suspected fraud on one of the UKAid Funded project, the Zambia Accountability Project

(ZAP). We have carefully followed the debate and appreciated those that have made their own observations and demands. However, ZCSD has always chosen to be objective and upholds the value of fairness," Mwape stated.

"As the public may be aware, ZCSD had written to the British High Commission on the 22nd February, 2016, expressing our concerns and the letter was shared to the media recently. We note with regret that regional and international organisations are in the habit of resolving their internal problems that relate to financial frauds administratively but portray that local organisations are not accountable. In this particular case, the public may wish know that the British Council through ZAP did not entrust the Zambian Local organisations with their funds as most of those mentioned in the Social Media either to have been cleared or to have been linked to Financial Fraud were only sub-granted by Electoral Institute of Southern Africa (EISA) which was directly funded by the British Council through ZAP to monitor the 2016 General Elections. In

this regard, ZCSD is of the view that the British Council must hold EISA accountable for any financial misconduct." Mwape further advised the British Council to desist from taking up responsibilities that were not assigned to it adding that following up on the NGOs that misapplied funds was not the responsibility of the British Council but that of ZAP.

"It is also our considered view that, if indeed our Local organisations mentioned in various social media platforms did not account for resources received from EISA, it must be the responsibility of EISA and not British Council to report those organisations to relevant investigative wing of government. Given the funding web explained above, ZCSD cogitates that the named Zambian Civil Society organisations may be mere actors in the 'Theatre of the Ghosts' and as such we earnestly appeal to the ZAP through the British Council to disclose the extent of malpractice to avoid social media speculations and ensure that all those involved are followed by the law without any form of selectivity," stated Mwape.

NGOCC condemns cop for taking nude images of female detainees

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

NGOCC Executive Director Engwase Mwale says it is barbaric for a police officer to take naked pictures of female detainees.

Last week, Police in North Western Province arrested their fellow officer, Constable Kalebwe for making made obscene materials after convincing suspects that the Zambia Police Command in Lusaka wanted to use the nude pictures as part of police procedure.

"On 7th November, 2017 at around 21:30 hours at Kasempa police station, officer No 43948 Constable Kalebwe, was alone

at the inquiries office due to the fact that most officers were out for special duties. The officer decided to take nude pictures of two female suspects namely Grace Sitampa (mother) and Dyness Sitampa (daughter) detained in police custody for the offence of murder. He took them out of the cell to a private room where he told them that as per procedure, he needed to photograph them whilst naked," stated North Western police Commissioner Auxensio Daka.

But Mwale said all detainees' rights were supposed to be respected.

"Without doubt we condemn that barbaric conduct by the police officer

and I think that the law must take its course against him. I think that's the highest level of indignity that anyone can be exposed to, to be paraded naked especially a woman, I think that's very very unfortunate and the law must take its course. While people are in detention, they have the right that they enjoy and those rights must be respected. It is very unfortunate that there are police officers who can engage in such illegal acts going to an extent of making people parade themselves naked. As an organization we will take keen interest in the matter to ensure that the officer who was involved faces the law," said Mwale.

Summon Zesco so that we can be grilled together, Energy PS asks Public Accounts Committee

From front page

"I am very much aware chair that this has been going on for some time where Zesco has not been paying the license fees to ERB. Some of the challenges that Zesco has been going through is the financial turnover. The turnover had been going down due to the low tariffs. You may be aware that we recently adjusted the tariffs for Zesco, and we hope that their income will improve. The issue of explaining to the auditors concerning the non-payment of license fees by ERB, I think that is done but I think what the auditors are looking for is for Zesco to pay the money but not the explanation. And I think this is why this has been brought out. Otherwise the explanation is normally done to say the payment plan is there, they have assure us that they are going to pay. But unfortunately we have not been getting the payments from Zesco as agreed between ERB and them," Brig Gen Chola said.

Chairperson Howard Kunda then asked Brig Gen Chola to prove to the committee that she was a working PS by providing evidence of the payment plan made by Zesco to the ERB.

"PS we would like you to show us that you are doing something, not to come and tell us stories here. The honorable member wants correspondence that will indicate that there is something that you are doing to resolve this issue which is very serious because it is sky rocketing [for it] to increase by over 50 percent. I think to me we would suggest that as a controlling officer, you are not doing your job properly," Kunda said.

And Mwambwa noted that the Ministry had continuously talked about the payment plan which it never produced.

"Chair, you noticed that this payment plan I think they talked about it even last year during the last seating. I think what they should be talking about now is the payment of the money because this payment plan doesn't seem to be working anyway. The fees are skyrocketing, Mwambwa noted. Kunda also chipped in, wondering why Zesco had continued paying seating allowances to board members, when the company had failed to pay license fees to ERB.

"And PS as you are answering that, how is it that Zesco is paying seating allowance when you are on those board meetings and they are failing to pay amounts that are very important to ERB to operate effectively? Kunda asked.

In her response, Brig Gen Chola requested that she be grilled together with Zesco.

"Chair the only way now maybe is litigation, taking them to court maybe if that is allowed. I don't know because we have tried to sit with Zesco and ERB and how we can sort out this problem which has been going on for some time. Now that we see that we are not getting the results that we want, maybe the next stage is to take them to court but am not sure whether there is that provision. We will try and continue engaging with Zesco. But I think the honorable members also need to know that Zesco is a sub-warranted, they operate independent in terms of finances away from the Ministry. And that as a controlling officer, I am playing a supervisory role to Zesco. And Zesco will also be appearing before this committee and maybe that is where we can be grilled together with Zesco and ERB to see why Zesco is not paying because its a sub-warrant. Sorry chair maybe I am using military language, I withdraw that," Brig Gen Chola said.

But Committee member Teddy Kasonso warned that the committee would extract what was due to the government just like what Zesco did to non compliant customers.

"PS, Zesco is a parastatal company, all of us know that and of course we also know that there has been two increases which Zesco has received in terms of the tariffs. Now the most important thing in this debate this morning is that you are a board member and as a board member, you are a Director on the Zesco board. You must be able to start directing Zesco to



do the right thing. You know what Zesco does to the Zambian people when they don't have the money? They switch off. So for this committee, we will also extract what is due to the government of the republic of Zambia just as Zesco. Don't sit there and say oh, because Zesco is a parastatal therefore they can have an easy way, no ways!" Kasonso said.

Kasonso further warned that government would recover from any controlling officer who failed to perform his or her duties.

"PS you are a director on the Zesco board, here you are as

a director and now you are saying you are even suggesting that oh no, you will take your own company to court, you play a dual role. Now in playing that role, you must ensure that Zesco pays. Are you aware that this committee can resolve to surcharge you? We begin deducting this amount in order to motivate you to ensure that Zesco pays. We can recommend that we start deducting from your salary, you get nothing. Here is a director chair who is saying we take Zesco to court, we expect a better answer than that. And take it from me, it is no longer business as usual. Any

controlling officer who does not perform, government will recover from them," warned Kasonso.

And in supporting the PS, ERB Executive Director Langiwe Lungu said it was difficult to withdraw Zesco's operating license for failure to pay license fees because doing so was not for the benefit of the nation.

"I think the challenges with Zesco is that its a strategic institution, normally as a regulator what we would do is withdraw the license and stop and entity from operating but for Zesco that becomes difficult. All this time we have tried to

negotiate with them and reason with them, we have evidence of the numerous letters that we have written to them. We have had plans that they have changed or not have adhered to. So I believe as PS said, we need to look at other enforcement action. For example, if today we say we will withdraw the license from Zesco and it has to stop operating, it wouldn't be to the benefit of this nation so what we need to do is to explore what we need within our regulatory framework and the laws we can do to compel Zesco to pay because everything else has failed," said Lungu.

Ex-ministers must pay - Kampamba

From front page

On Saturday, Kambwili told News Diggers! in an interview that ministers did not choose to remain in office after the dissolution of Parliament in 2016, but were ordered to do so by President Edgar Lungu. Mulenga's predecessor said the President used his presidential powers to instruct ministers to break the law and as such he should be the one to pay back

all the salaries and allowances they accrued during the illegal stay in office.

"We respect the decision of the court, who are we to refuse the judgement of the court? But the only thing that Zambians must know is that ministers did not remain in office by their own accord. They were instructed by the Head of State. So the person who must pay the monies that ministers

got, is President Edgar Lungu. Because he was boasting, I know the law you ministers have to be in office," said Kambwili.

"I didn't, as Chishimba Kambwili, says I will remain in office. There was a press conference which was addressed by the President and the whole world heard when he directed us to remain in office. So the President must be

the one to pay back the money, but we respect the decision of the court."

But in an interview today, Mulenga said the ConCourt's ruling was very clear that "all former ministers must pay back" to the Treasury.

"The judgment is very clear and it is not up to me to interpret the judgment, the judgment has been made by the ConCourt that former ministers should pay back the money," Kampamba said.

"As government, we respect the Judiciary and we respect the judgment, we respect the rule of the land and we cannot go against the ruling of the ConCourt. The judgment is in public domain for everyone to interpret. That is the ruling of the ConCourt and I think it should end there because it is not even amenable to appeal whether somebody had a divergent view, it cannot be appealed because that is the highest [court]."

And Mulenga said Kambwili shouldn't have withdrawn the salaries he received if he felt it

was wrong to stay in office.

"You know, I don't think it is just in order that we should be answering back to Honourable Kambwili all the time. Government has got things to do and you know the court has made a ruling and I don't think His Excellency the President of this Republic can force an adult to do things that are not at his will, an adult cannot be forced. I think earlier on somebody asked me over the same question [but] surely we know that when we are getting our pay and when we are drawing our monies from our pay it is not the President that draws on behalf of an individual, a minister or a member of parliament of a particular party but it is the individuals themselves," said Mulenga.

"So if at all in his right, Honourable Kambwili felt that those things were wrong, he should not have gone ahead and drawn the money but then again we as government say we respect the Judiciary and the ruling has been made."

Quarry flying stone kills nearby juvenile

Mukosha Funga

An 11-year-old boy yesterday died on the spot while three other juveniles sustained injuries after being hit by flying stones from a quarry in Katombola, Southern Province.

In a statement today, police spokesperson Esther Mwaata Katongo stated that the juveniles were passing 50 meters away from the blasting point.

"A male juvenile aged 11 years died on the spot while three others sustained serious injuries after they were hit by flying stones from a stone blasting quarry at AJM/SHP quarry in Katombola area of Kazungula

District. The quarry belongs to a retired Colonel Adam Jansen Mwandila operating in partnership with Mr Shi-Hai-Feng, a Chinese national. The incident happened yesterday 19th November 2017 at 09:00 hours when the juveniles were passing, 50 meters from the blasting point," Katongo stated.

"The deceased had a ripped stomach, a cut on the head and broken ribs, while the survivors aged, four and seven years sustained multiple injuries and were rushed to Livingstone Central Hospital for treatment. Two of the three boys were treated and discharged while

one is still admitted in hospital due to serious injuries sustained. The body of the deceased person is lying in Batoka Hospital mortuary awaiting postmortem." She stated that irate villagers broke some company machinery after the incident.

"After the incident irate villagers ran amok and started throwing stones breaking wind screens to company machinery and window panes to offices. The value of damage caused is not yet established. Calm was only restored after Police Officers were deployed to the area. Police have opened an inquiry in the matter," stated Katongo.

From front page

"Since the completion of the said works in or about 2012, the Plaintiff, the Defendant as a couple, together with the children of the family have been residing at the said property. Sometime in the year 2014, the Plaintiff who was concerned that the Defendant would not honour the oral agreement of 2012, had the Defendant sign a document acknowledging that he had received the sum of K160,000 from the Plaintiff for the purposes of renovating the property," read the statement of claim in part.

"Following the divorce granted by the Chelstone Local Court on 11th November, 2017, the Defendant has in breach of the terms of the agreement made it quite clear by his words and conduct that he refuses to recognize or acknowledge that the Plaintiff has any interest in the property and in spite of requests made both orally and in writing, he has refused to discuss the matter at all with either the Plaintiff or her legal advisers."

She went further to state that Nyirenda had threatened to evict her from the house after the divorce was granted.

Lesa is now seeking an order that the house is jointly owned or that the house must be sold and the proceedings be shared according to the trust.

She also wants compensation for breach of contract.

'Wife' sues Muvi TV owner over matrimonial house



Govt gets excess drugs which expire in storage because they don't consult pharmacists - Banda

By Mukosha Funga

The Pharmaceutical Society of Zambia says government does not consult to understand the nature of medicines which are in short supply before making

orders, hence the expiration of excess drugs in storage.

The latest Auditor General's report revealed that ARVs and malaria drugs worth K66 million expired in storage in 2016.

"During the period under review, various drugs such as anti-retroviral drugs (ARVs), laboratory reagents, Tuberculosis (TB) and Malaria drugs worth K66,801,022 involving one

thousand seven hundred and sixty three (1,763) transactions which were kept at a rented warehouse in Makeni, Lusaka had expired. The expiry of the drugs was mainly attributed to change of treatment regime and failure to enroll targeted children. The expired drugs had not been disposed of as 31st June 2017," read the report.

Reacting to the revelations in a statement sent to News Diggers!, Pharmaceutical Society of Zambia president David Banda observed that government needed to streamline donor support in order to avoid duplications.

"On behalf of Pharmaceutical Society of Zambia, time and again we have warned government on abrupt change of treatment regimens. The biggest problem is being pushed by donors who don't take care of what was already planned for. At many occasions, they change treatment regimens in mid year when the procurement plan has already been approved. Change also should be gradual than being hurried which has resulted in overestimation. In logistics supply cycle, we depend on issue data, morbidity data and consumption data, however, mostly they just assume without looking what other factors maybe at

implementation time. There is also little involvement of the pharmacist in their planning of new programs hence resulting in over procurement. We need also to streamline donor support to avoid duplications," Banda stated.

"Every donor has their interest and government just accepts without taking stock to see who else is doing that. This end up of overstocking of certain products and under utilisation of available stock which end up expiring," He stated that there was need to involve pharmacists in the supply chain management.

"Going forward, the revelation by AG report make sad reading as from time and again, we have cried for more allocation to medicines however they end to waste. We give credit to system strengthening taking place at MSL now so that the products can be tracked at all levels. We also urge our membership handling these medicines to be diligent in their work and follow the laid down guidelines in handling of stocks. The government should consult widely and involve all the players in supply management chain especially the pharmacist who have been ignored for some time now. Expiry can be avoided and commodity security can be guaranteed," stated Banda.

Witch hunt leads Chipili brothers into fierce battle

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

A 59-year-old man of Chipili district is seeking refuge in Mansa after an angry mob led by his two younger brothers descended on him and demolished his house for suspected witchcraft.

Darius Chungu Mwenda fled from his home in Chipili after his brothers suspected him to have bewitched Chieftainess Mwenda who is also his mother.

Mwenda complained to News Diggers that the attack on him by his relatives who are close to PF secretary General Davies Mwila, was politically motivated because last year he supported an independent candidate who scooped the Chipili parliamentary seat.

He said his two younger brothers had called a witch doctor to remove suspected charms from his house which he refused. He said after refusing, the brothers went and brought with them a mob which burnt and demolished his six roomed house.

"They suspected me of witchcraft and accused me of having bewitched Chieftainess Mwenda. Then they took me to a witch doctor but I didn't agree, even

today I still don't agree. After that, the witchdoctor came and wanted to remove some charms in my house, we asked him for a permit but he instead produced a book which he gave to me to sign so that he can enter my house to remove charms. We refused to sign in that book. So that is how they went back and brought a lot of people, over 3 000 people. There was chaos. It started at 14:00 hours up to 18: 00 hrs. unfortunately we reported to police last Sunday and the police told us that they didn't have transport and asked us to go back home. They only gave us a number on which to call them in case anything else happens," Mwenda explained.

"We then tried to call those numbers which the police gave us but there was no response until all the children who were supporting me got tired and left me alone. So I also left and they got in the house and demolished my entire six roomed house and burnt it. That is how we ran away and scattered. The police came around between 19:00 hours and 20:00 hours and got two victims, the chief retainer and my two brothers. They took them and locked them in police cells until the following

day when they released them."

he said there was political motivation in his harassment.

"I know it's politically motivated because I supported Jewis Chabi. Because the police are not doing anything about these people who attacked me. Instead they are asking me to reconcile with them. Now I wonder what interest the police have on this case, because I want the matter to be taken to court. I am their elder brother and I am 59 years. The said Chieftainess is my mother. Our mother has been sick for quiet some time. She has been moved from one hospital to another and my brothers suspect that I am behind her sickness," said Mwenda.

"I left home after all what happened to me. Right now am just suffering in Mansa with my wife and children. Even if you want to tame someone for suspected witchcraft, you can't do that to your fellow human being. That is why I suspect its politically motivated because I simply supported Chabi who won the parliamentary seat in last year's election on an independent ticket. Them they wanted Mwila of PF. That is what really hurt them so much."

By Mukosha Funga

Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) Commissioner General Kingsley Chanda says the country's revenue collection will be greatly affected if the political crisis in Zimbabwe degenerate into chaos because most of Zambia's imports and exports transit through that country. And Chanda says government, through ZRA, has paid K6.4 billion as VAT refunds this year; 51 per cent of which went to mining companies. Responding to questions from journalists at a media briefing today, Chanda said although business had not been affected since the Zimbabwean army took over on Tuesday, there was cause to worry if the situation degenerated. "Towards the end of my written statement, I did speak about some concerns at some borders but what is interesting is that the volume of traffic at Chirundu, Victoria Falls and Kariba have not been affected. So far it has been business as usual and so at this particular point in time, we feel that this might not be a risk if the situation continues as it is. But if it changes, you are right. We are likely to have some negative impact because Chirundu is our major entry point into Zambia from South and over 60 per cent of our

Zim crisis may affect revenue collection - ZRA

imports come from South Africa so that can take a very serious toll on our revenues but so far the situation appears to be normal," said Chanda.

And Chanda dispelled speculation that government was not refunding VAT.

"There has been speculation on refunds, that ZRA is not refunding VAT in order to boost their performance and appear as though they are performing when in fact they are sitting on refunds. We have tried as much as possible to ignore these statements but we have reached a stage where we have to respond and provide details. Under normal circumstances, we hesitate to discuss tax matters of our tax payers because this is confidential information but when we are faced with a situation like this, the authority has no option but to provide the details to the

public," he said.

"As at today, 18th November 2017, ZRA has paid a total of K6.4 billion in VAT refunds, out of which, 51.2 per cent is for the mining sector. The total outstanding VAT refunds payable to the sector currently stands at K1.2 billion. What this means is that we have refunded K6.4 billion from 1st January 2017 to end of October 2017 but we still owe the mining companies K1.2 billion in verified refund claims. We also have a further K4.8 billion in unverified refunds."

He explained that some of the VAT refund claims were not genuine.

"It is important however to note that before refund claims are paid, the Zambia Revenue Authority always carries out credibility checks so that the authenticity of these claims is ascertained," Chanda said.

Meanwhile, Chanda revealed

that mining companies owed government K14.6 billion.

"Let me also indicate here that apart from the amounts of VAT that ZRA is owing mining companies, mining companies are also owing the Zambian government through Zambia Revenue Authority assessments to the tune of K14.6 billion. These assessments are on account of VAT Rule 18. I know most of you have been asking me about what is happening to withheld VAT on account of withheld VAT Rule 18 which are basically 2013 and 2014 transactions. So on account of VAT Rule 18, the mining companies are owing the Zambian government through Zambia Revenue Authority assessments to the tune of K14.6 billion. Further, the mining companies have assessments worth K3 billion. These assessments have arisen from invalid claims and

unfortunately in some cases fraudulent claims," he said.

"The net position therefore, if you take out what we are owing the mining companies and what the mining companies are owing the Zambian government, is that the mining companies are owing K11.8 billion in unsettled tax assessments. We continue to engage individual mining companies on these assessments and we are optimistic that we will resolve all the outstanding issues including some of the objections that they have raised. And we will do this on a company to company basis. We do not believe that tax matters must be dealt with at an industrial level. All our actions are intended to protect government revenue and eradicate fraudulent refund claims and associated revenue leakages. We would also want to assure the business

community that with the new system of collecting VAT at source, the Zambia Revenue Authority is generating adequate revenues to service all legitimate refund claims." He boasted that owing to the tax collection reforms, the authority had implemented, revenue collection has exponentially increased.

"With the reforms that we did in the collections of VAT in this country, you will be amazed to learn that the collections of VAT on goods and services has increased by 6913% for the period January to October 2016, the total collections for VAT was K61.2 million. For the same period, January to October 2017, we have collected K4.2 billion. This is largely because of the changes that we did to the collection of this tax. At the moment we collect it at source and therefore compliance has increased," Chanda said.

"But at the same time we are also committing to ensure that those that are in the refund position, because you can see that our liquidity position has increased significantly, so therefore we should have no problems to refund legitimate claims. However, only tax payers with no outstanding tax assessments will be paid. All tax payers that are owing ZRA must ensure they pay what they are owing or agree on some payment arrangements whether it is time to pay agreement or offset agreement before we consider them for any refund. If there are any objections, and I mean legitimate objections, my commissioner is here to resolve those objections. Let me emphasise again that the liquidity we have talked about is not just supposed to give government additional tax revenue. It is also supposed to refund those that are due for refund."

He said ZRA was paying an average of K644 million in VAT refunds per month.

"In terms of figures, we are refunding in 2017, an average of K644 million per month, that is just the average, it fluctuates. This is about \$64.4 million per month. In some months, however, we have refunded up to K800 million, this year alone. For example, in the month of November, this month in the first week of this month, we have refunded K731 million. Over 50% of this money goes to the mining sector. We expect to refund an additional K300 million before the end of this month which will bring the total to over K1 billion (US\$100 million). The Authority however, despite all this revenue refunds, to legitimate claimants, is very optimistic that we shall meet our 2017 target. We are just worried about a few negative activities at some of our boarders which we hope will not affect the flow of traffic into Zambia I thank you," said Chanda.

PF to remove Financial Intelligence boss

From front page

Speaking to News Diggers in an interview, the officials who sought anonymity disclosed that Moshosho was working with some "ill motivated individual" in the ruling party to remove Tshuma from her position so that someone "more submissive" could take over.

"Late last month (October), a plan was mooted to remove the Head of the Financial Intelligence Centre. Apparently, they picked on Moshosho to handle the matter and he has already started building a case against her. Some of the people who are involved in the scheme proposed that Moshosho finds something he can use against Tshuma. If they can't find anything in her current position, they will use her previous job at the Drug Enforcement Commission, until they find something," the sources narrated.

"The idea is to get her suspended from her positions so that she can face criminal charges, but in the meantime, someone else who is more submissive will be appointed to the position. But these are ill motivated people in the party, they don't mean well for the President. If they truly love ECL, they would be advising him that this trend will eventually weaken his control of key State institutions. This trend of removing people will leave ECL 'naked' in the end, because people who are loyal to the system are being removed and replaced by those who are loyal to the people around the President," said the sources."

The sources said Moshosho and those who were involved in the scheme to remove



Tshuma were uncomfortable with the eyes of the FIC over their financial transactions.

"They have had challenges evading the eyes of the FIC. If you remember earlier this year, the FIC announced that there were serious illicit financial transactions during election campaigns. Now money has continued to move in people's accounts with all these government contracts being awarded. So there is fear now that if they don't put someone who can protect them, these transactions will be exposed," the sources explained.

"But it doesn't work like that. What they don't understand is that they are creating a silent uprising within the civil service. These civil servants have now started keeping dossiers against their bosses. Sooner or later, they will start

releasing these dossiers and everything will fall back on the President. Obviously, the civil servants want to protect their jobs so they are watching everything that is happening and keeping evidence. They are recording all these illegal orders and deals. Why do you think [Chishimba] Kambwili is talking with that kind of confidence?"

The sources said a compromised head of the Financial Intelligence Centre would not render 100 per cent loyalty to the Head of State.

"The problem that we have is that some people have become so powerful around ECL that they do things without fully understanding the eventual implications on the President. We are only telling you this pantu imwe namukwatako tu credibility and we want the President to realise that the

people who are behind this move don't mean well; they don't love him. Very soon, you will hear what Moshosho is trying to do at the Financial Intelligence Centre. But once they remove Tshuma, the person who will come will be loyal to the President and also to those who will claim responsibility for creating the vacancy. This is not good for ECL," the sources lamented.

And the sources said the PF was using the same technique that was used to remove Anti Corruption Commission acting director Irene Lamba from office.

"You see what they are doing is the same thing they did to Lamba when she was acting at ACC. They engineered some charges and found a complainant against her, that Robert Chabinga who is a friend to Moshosho. Eventually

the charges fell off, but they achieved what they wanted, which was to remove Lamba and appoint someone else whom they think they can control. They also dropped [Stella] Libongani as Inspector General for the same reason, and you heard in that audio that was going round where someone was telling the IG that 'be firm, don't be lenient like the woman who was there before you,'" said the sources.

"They also removed Mutembo using the same strategy. They just found a complainant and then arrested him before throwing him out of office. But look at the damage caused to the President and judiciary on just that one move. You people, the media must be following the real news of what is happening in these institutions; you will be shocked!"

Last week, police in North Western Province announced that they were investigating several cases in which fellow police officers were arrested for various offences. In Chavuma district, a sergeant was arrested for drinking on duty and losing his gun after getting intoxicated. In Ikelenge, another officer was arrested for losing a firearm magazine with 30 rounds of ammunition, while a Constable in Kabompo was charged for slapping a 13-year-old schoolgirl.

But what shocked the public is a case where an officer at Kasempa Police Station took nude pictures of female detainees who were in custody for murder. We are told that the nude photograph victims, a mother and her daughter, were moved in the night and taken into a private room, one by one where they were ordered to undress before the pornographic material was made.

According to Provincial Police Commissioner Auxensio Daka, the officer identified as Constable Kalebwe convinced the suspects by telling them that the Zambia Police Service Headquarters in Lusaka requested for the nude photos as part of police procedure; and they obeyed his orders.

"On 7th November, 2017 at around 21:30 hours at Kasempa Police Station, officer No. 43948 Constable Kalebwe, was alone at the inquiries office due to the fact that most officers were out for special duties. The officer decided to take nude pictures of two female suspects namely Grace Sitampa (mother) and Dyness Sitampa (daughter). He took them out of the cell to a private room where he told them that as per procedure, he needed to photograph them whilst naked. He told them the pictures were needed at the Police Service Headquarters and the suspects believed him and removed clothes. Then he

Auxensio is a good cop working with bad cops

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Ear to the ground

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proceeded to get pictures using his mobile phone," Commissioner Daka narrated.

Despite the fact that this story is heartbreaking, there is a positive development within it. The public has been made to learn about these crimes because the police command in North Western Province is working. Not just working, but working very hard! We know how hard it is to expose the crimes committed by people you work with. In many cases, workmates always try to cover up for the wrong deeds of their colleagues until the matter dies a natural death.

This also happens at the highest level among the most influential and powerful people in society. That is why you will never hear that a judge has been reported to police by another judge for taking a bribe. It never occurs; but these crimes happen all the time.

In the Zambia Police, we know

for a fact that such crimes are common among officers. Previous investigations have revealed shocking facts about the conduct of some senior police officers. We can speak with confidence that some police officers are involved in drug dealing. These high-ranking police officers operate as though they are undercover operatives; so they use police vans and visibly marked police cars in their illegal operations. Sometimes our officers professionally come across crimes which they were not initially involved in, but once they seize exhibits in form of drugs or money, they kill the case by deliberately letting the suspect escape while they hold on to the evidence which they either use or sell on the black market.

This practice is well known among senior police officers and there is a wide network of criminals who use state facilities to commit crimes. That is why you

see a rise in cases such as Mukula smuggling, but the police are not eager to arrest the perpetrators. They know that these smugglers are not operating alone – smooth criminals in police uniforms are involved, working closely with bandits who drive big cars with the national flag.

It is not only senior police officers who are in the habit of benefiting from crimes; we have received numerous reports from citizens who complain that police officers steal money and personal effects belonging to suspects whom they detain in holding cells. They say officers don't always record everything that you leave outside as they place you in cells.

This and many similar crimes that we have outlined above don't get reported because police officers protect one another. The police command believes that publicizing such cases against

their own, dents the image if the service.

But Commissioner Daka has demonstrated good workmanship and deserves the praise of all patriotic Zambians. Daka had the power to sweep these cases under the carpet because they involve his fellow police officers in North Western Province, but he knew that a crime is a crime regardless of the person who commits it.

It seems the Police Commissioners who are based in remote provinces are working harder than our sulking Police Commissioner in Lusaka, who doesn't even enjoy taking questions from journalists. If it were a police officer in Lusaka who had been reported for taking naked pictures of female detainees, this case would never have been heard of. That is why we are very proud of the work that Commissioner Daka is doing in his area. Those who follow

Daka's statements will attest to the fact that a day hardly passes minus hearing from him making announcements of Mukula seizures, accidents, thefts, warnings about water pollutions, suicides, name it. Daka and his officers are busy dealing with land wrangles and many other non-political cases, which our police officers here in Lusaka are preoccupied with at the expense of combating real crimes.

By issuing a statement and naming the officers who were arrested for committing crimes, Commissioner Daka has won the hearts of many citizens who he is serving. There is a high likelihood that Constable Kalebwe (and others perhaps) had been doing this for a long time – ordering female suspects to undress while they take photos, and God knows what else they were doing with these vulnerable women. But following Daka's statement, the people of North Western Province will not allow to be photographed naked when they are in police detention. They will not be duped into believing that the Zambia Police Headquarters in Lusaka uses naked photos of suspects to investigate cases.

Our appeal therefore, is that the public must be kept informed about how this case of Constable Kalebwe will be dealt with because it paints a very bad picture of our police service. We know that obscene material can be rousing to watch, but we don't believe that our Inspector General, even if he wanted to, can use inmates' pornography for his entertainment.

As he was driven back to his opulent palace in Harare on Tuesday, surrounded by bodyguards in military fatigues and wearing motorcycle helmets, Robert Mugabe had no reason to suspect that his 37-year rule was about to end.

Having been in power since 1980, Mugabe — not to mention Grace, his high-handed, grasping second wife — thought he was invincible. Just days earlier, he beamed with satisfaction at a ceremony to change the name of Zimbabwe's main airport to the Robert Mugabe International Airport.

He believed he would be president of the former British colony until he died, and had once proclaimed 'not even God' wanted his murderous reign to end. His wife, meanwhile, had called for a Mugabe family 'dynasty' to run the country for ever. But what neither knew that sunny afternoon was that Mugabe's loyal presidential guard had been swapped for military personnel who were in league with his enemies — the very generals who had previously been loyal to the despot since he came to power after the bush war against white rule.

The first sign of any trouble was when Mugabe's convoy arrived at his home in a suburb of the capital city, and the men accompanying him arrested the security officers on duty there. The 93-year-old president was then hustled into the house and, a short time later, the man in charge of Zimbabwe's armed forces arrived to break some rather bad news to Mugabe.

A fearsome individual known for his volcanic temper, General Constantino Chiwenga is one of the so-called 'Dirty Half Dozen' — six sinister military and intelligence chiefs whose junta has kept Mugabe in office for decades, terrorising opponents and rigging elections. Bluntly, Chiwenga told Mugabe he was under arrest. Without uttering a

How China helped depose 'dozing despot' Mugabe

word, Mugabe promptly collapsed to the floor.

'He was in shock, and collapsed when he realised what was happening,' one coup plotter told me. 'He had to be resuscitated and revived. He could not believe what was happening at first.'

Grace — with whom the president had begun an affair after spotting her in his typing pool when he was still married to his first wife — was terrified. She was hysterical and burst into tears.

According to one who was told about the unfolding events: 'She's been in a mess ever since — in tears and mentally gone. She begged to be allowed to fly out to Malaysia [where she has millions in investments]. She thought she would be killed.'

After being revived — Mugabe has a history of fainting fits and falling asleep at Cabinet meetings — the president and the general began a tense discussion. By then, dozens of other senior army personnel had arrived at the presidential palace.

Realising how perilous his position was, Mugabe made an astonishing bid to save his own political skin — and possibly his life.

Incredibly, he promised General Chiwenga he would anoint him the next president if he called off the coup and stood down as the head of the armed forces.

In a last desperate throw of the dice to cling to power, he told Chiwenga that he would immediately be appointed Mugabe's vice-president and that he would take over as Zimbabwe's leader when Mugabe eventually dies.

Even then, Mugabe, a sly old fox who has long played factions off each other to remain in power, had one condition: that Grace should have a prominent role in a future government. General Chiwenga flatly turned down the offer.

Apart from anything else, it was too late by then. More than 30 army personnel carriers and 21 tanks had earlier in the day moved into key strategic locations. Mugabe loyalists, in the police and military, had been ordered back to barracks 24 hours earlier and prevented from leaving.

The truth is that Mugabe had sealed his own fate. His mistake was to bow to pressure from Grace — who wanted to take over as president after his death — to purge her rivals for the crown.

Those on her list of enemies in particular included a man called Emmerson Mnangagwa, a veteran of the bush war and the man who believed it was his destiny to take power.

Known as 'Ngwenya' — or The Crocodile — Mnangagwa was for decades one of Mugabe's closest allies, running his fearsome intelligence wing as well as being in charge of defence, before being appointed vice-president in 2014.

Grace believed Mnangagwa was her only rival for power — and made a decisive move against him last week, stripping him of his vice-presidency, and calling for her rival's demise.

'A snake is better dealt with by crushing the head,' Grace told a political rally less than two weeks ago. Mnangagwa's 'head must be

crushed. I will personally make sure Mnangagwa is dealt with even if everyone else in the party is scared. I will not be intimidated.'

Mugabe and Grace also accused Mnangagwa of using 'witchcraft' against them.

But Mrs Mugabe chose the wrong man to fight. An architect of the so-called Gukurahundi massacres in the Eighties, in which more than 20,000 from the Ndebele tribe were brutally slaughtered because of their allegiance to an opposition party, Mnangagwa commands huge support in the army and among war veterans. After his summary sacking a few days ago, fearing he would be arrested or killed by Mugabe loyalists, The Crocodile tried to flee Zimbabwe.

He and his security detail were denied entry to Harare airport, so he could not fly out from there. Mnangagwa and his allies then tried to charter a private jet to arrive from South Africa to pick him up — but Mugabe's authorities denied the craft permission to enter Zimbabwean airspace.

So The Crocodile and his men were forced to drive east and cross into neighbouring Mozambique via old smuggling routes used by bush fighters. From there, he headed to South Africa.

In secret conversations with his army comrades, Mnangagwa decided to activate a plan they had mapped out to remove the ageing Mugabe from power.

The coup would be carried out in Zimbabwe — but it was made in China.

For I can reveal that, after secret telephone discussions with his ally General Chiwenga back in Zimbabwe, Mnangagwa boarded another aircraft — this time headed for Beijing. He was to be a guest of the Chinese government.

Around the same time, General Chiwenga informed Mugabe he had routine business in China, which has supported Mugabe's regime for years with cash and weapons in return for access to its lucrative diamond mines and other minerals.

He also flew out to Beijing. So it was that Mnangagwa and Chiwenga discussed their plans with Chinese officials. It's instructive to learn that both men had been trained at China's Nanjing Military School.

The two Zimbabweans had also been the architects of many of the lucrative deals struck between China and Harare, including a multi-billion-pound diamond mining deal, which could have made the country rich, but instead was riddled with rampant corruption, with some £15 billion believed to have been pilfered in one year alone.

In truth, the Chinese do not really care who is in charge of Zimbabwe — as long as their business and strategic interests are taken care of.

It is part of China's African-wide strategy of propping up corrupt regimes in return for access to the minerals and oil the Chinese need to supply their vastly expanding economy.

Beijing had long feared that Mugabe's refusal to anoint his successor would mean there could be chaos once he

died, threatening their investments which, significantly, include a £100 million new spy college in Harare for Zimbabwe's ruling party.

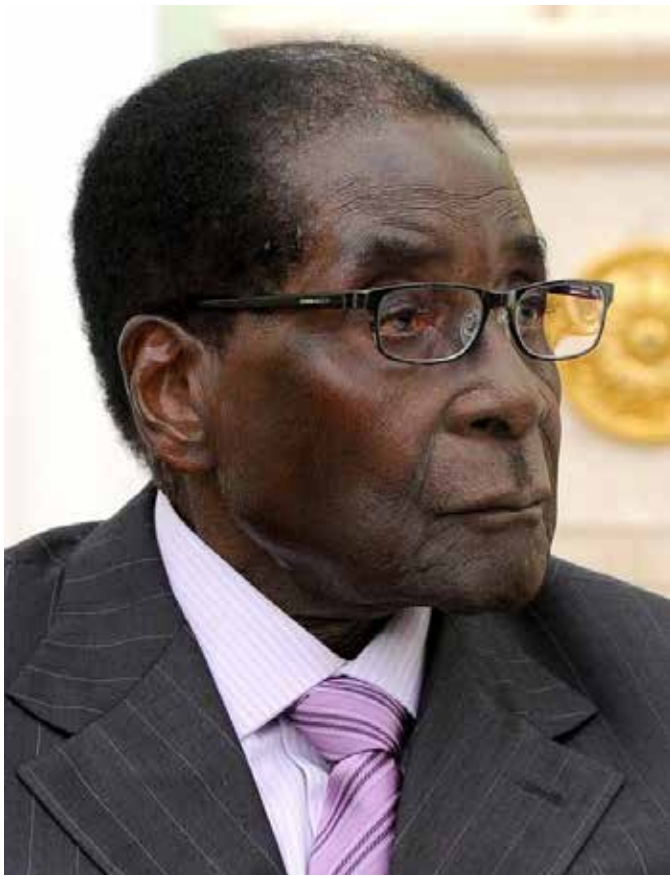
So began a global power play against Mugabe, known as 'the Old Man' throughout Zimbabwe. With the Chinese pledging to back the new regime after the coup, both American and Russian intelligence were also told of the plans.

Diplomatic sources claim the Americans were happy for Mugabe to be replaced as long as there was no bloodshed, and a smooth transition to the new regime. (Britain, scandalously, had helped prop up Mugabe for years over fears of instability if he was ousted, having helped to install him in 1980.)

With key global players in agreement, the secret strategy to deal with Mugabe — which The Crocodile was told must appear to the world not to be a coup — was activated. Military forces were recalled to barracks; a list of prominent Mugabe cronies and their whereabouts was produced.

Meanwhile, General Chiwenga flew back from China and held a meeting with Mugabe on Monday night — 24 hours before the military action began. He warned the president that the 'purges' against his wife's rivals must end.

Not realising the scale of the threat, Grace, who was present at the meeting, was furious. She told the general that she and her husband would have him fired and replaced as head of the army by the leader of the presidential guard...



Mugabe ignores deadline to quit

The deadline was set by Mr Mugabe's own party, Zanu-PF. The embattled leader surprised Zimbabweans on Sunday, declaring on TV that he planned to remain as president. Zanu-PF says it backs impeachment, and proceedings could begin as soon as Tuesday when parliament meets.

In a draft motion, seen by Reuters, the party blamed the president for what it called an "unprecedented economic tailspin".

The public has poured on to the streets in protest in recent days, calling for the end of Mr Mugabe's 37-year presidency. His grip on power has weakened considerably since the country's army intervened on Wednesday in a row over who should succeed him.

The crisis began two weeks ago when the 93-year-old leader sacked his deputy Emmerson Mnangagwa, angering army commanders who saw it as an attempt to position his wife Grace as next president.

Zimbabwe has since then seen huge street rallies demanding his immediate resignation.

The protests have been backed by the influential war veterans - who fought in the conflict that led to independence from Britain in 1980.

The group's leader, Chris Mutsvangwa, on Monday called for more demonstrations

against the president's attempt to cling on to power.

"We want to see his back now," Mr Mutsvangwa said. "Mugabe, your rule is over. The emperor has no clothes. Thank you very much."

The city is swirling with rumours that Mr Mugabe is planning his resignation and that he may go back on

television to announce it at any stage, and that Sunday's speech was simply about giving carte blanche to the military for what they've done.

But we just don't know at this stage if he will give in to the pressure from the war veterans, his own party, and the public. Mr Mugabe said in his speech that he planned to preside over

the Zanu-PF congress next month, a statement people here found baffling after the party voted to strip him of his leadership and kick out his wife.

What is clear is that everyone here believes that the Mugabe era is over. Saturday's protests unleashed something and people believe that a line has

been crossed. Now it is really about negotiating the time, the process, the choreography of Mr Mugabe's departure.

The fear of Zanu-PF and of the security services will not go away overnight. People here grew up with that fear. In the meantime, the streets are calm, but Tuesday may bring more demonstrations. **BBC**

ANC Leadership Race: Dlamini Zuma and Ramaphosa seek support in Mpumalanga

Outside an ANC Women's League rally to launch its Molo Makhelwane ("hello neighbour") campaign to "deepen unity" in KwaMhlanga, many in attendance appeared to support ANC MP Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma for president - but a surprising number didn't. This was strange, seeing that Dlamini Zuma was the main act at the gathering. Not that she gave a rousing speech - it

was all of 15 minutes long and preceded by a raft of speeches by, among others, ANC Youth League leader Collen Maine, ANC Women's League leader Bathabile Dlamini, ANC deputy secretary general Jessie Duarte, and singer Kelly Khumalo. (Strutting around in what looked like a canary yellow swimming costume, a soft canary yellow gown and high heels, Khumalo was possibly the most exciting act

of the day.)

For the rest, the couple of thousand people that filled the stadium's pavilion, mainly women, many in green ANC Women's League uniform, were restless and hot.

Dlamini Zuma herself sat on a stage set up on the field in the Solomon Mahlangu Stadium, wrapped in thick Ndebele blankets despite the searing midday heat in the town known as the spiritual home of

the Ndebele tribe.

Saturday, the day of the rally, was her second in the province, as the day before was spent meeting - and wooing - local and traditional leaders.

Mabuza's pointsmen in the region attended the meeting, as well as three members of the party's provincial leadership: deputy chairperson Violet Siwela, secretary Mandla Ndlovu, and deputy secretary Lindiwe Ntshali.

Mabuza himself was said to have been on a trip out of the province on business.

Nkangala, in the west of Mpumalanga and bordering on Gauteng, is the region where Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa has his strongest support in the province. Ramaphosa himself, though, was in Nelspruit on the same day, where he reportedly packed the Nelspruit Rugby Stadium, saying that radical economic transformation needed corruption to be ended.

It was an SA Communist Party event - Ramaphosa has, in recent months, not been invited to the province by the ANC but by its alliance partners. Earlier this month he addressed a meeting organised by labour federation Cosatu.

A small group of his supporters wearing T-shirts with his #Siyavuma campaign slogan also gathered at what looked like a braai spot around the corner from the entrance to the Solomon Mahlangu stadium where Dlamini Zuma was campaigning. All through the rally, some dull, booming music noises came from that direction.

Outside the stadium a group of people with yellow T-shirts from the rally, rushing to get their transport back to Belfast, made their allegiance clear when asked why they wanted to see Dlamini Zuma as president. "Now, we are with CR!" one woman exclaimed. "It doesn't matter what's in the T-shirt, it matters what's in the heart," a male companion added. **Dailymaverick.co.za**

Trump puts elephant trophy imports on hold



President Donald Trump has suspended the import of elephant hunting trophies, only a day after a ban was relaxed by his administration.

Imports of trophies from elephants legally hunted in Zambia and Zimbabwe had been set to resume, reversing a 2014 Obama-era ban.

But late on Friday, President Trump tweeted the change was on hold until he could "review all conservation facts".

The move to relax the ban had sparked immediate anger from animal activists.

"Your shameful actions confirm the rumours that

you are unfit for office," said French actress and animal-rights activist Brigitte Bardot in a letter to President Trump.

Protests spread on social media with many sharing images of President Trump's sons posing with dead animals during their hunting trips in Africa. **BBC**

Tyrese Gibson gets 50/50 joint custody of daughter

Tyrese Gibson just scored a major victory in his ugly court battle with ex-wife Norma Mitchell Gibson over custody of their 10-year-old daughter, Shayla.

On Friday, a judge awarded Gibson 50/50 joint custody of his daughter beginning in January and denied his ex-wife's request for a permanent restraining order, Gibson's rep tells PEOPLE. The actor's rep also confirms that the former couple have worked out a visitation schedule for the holidays.

Norma's rep has not responded to PEOPLE's request for comment. Child services initially launched their investigation into Gibson after Norma — who was married to him from 2007 to 2009 — accused the actor of abusing their daughter on Aug. 19, alleging in court documents that the actor "pushed our daughter to the ground, pinned her face down, put his knees on her back, grabbed her hands with one arm and beat her with the other." She also alleged in court documents that her ex hit Shayla "between 12 and 16 times," leading the child to allegedly later tell her mother that she couldn't sit down due to pain.

In court documents obtained by PEOPLE in September, physical and legal custody of Shayla was temporarily granted to Norma while ordering Gibson to stay 100 yards away from both of them as well as Norma's home.

Gibson's rep previously confirmed reports to PEOPLE that child's services had closed their investigation and would not be seeking criminal charges.

The *Fast & Furious* star previously told PEOPLE in a statement that Norma's allegations were "hurtful lies."

In October, Norma filed a police report against Gibson after he hired a plane to fly a banner directed at Shayla that read "No matter what, daddy loves you Shayla" over his daughter's school — an act she claimed violated her temporary restraining order against him. Gibson later admitted to flying the banner, sharing several photos of himself and Shayla to Instagram with the caption: "I wanted the banner to be longer but it's was too expensive."

In a statement to PEOPLE, Norma's attorney, Aleen Laura Khanjian, said in response to the banner: "This disturbing behavior is a complete violation of the restraining order. It is a reflection of Mr. Gibson's erratic state of mind."

Khanjian continued, "Simply put, he doesn't respect boundaries. If he did, this restraining order would not have been necessary. At the end of the day, we simply want him to get the help he needs so that he can become a stable, solid and secure presence in his daughter's life."

"Don't take my baby. This is all I got. Don't take my baby, okay?" he said in the Facebook live clip, sobbing. "I've been away from my baby for two months. I just want my baby and no one's listening cause no one's in the courtroom."

Norma claimed in her September declaration that Gibson was diagnosed with bipolar disorder as well as manic behavior by three psychotherapists — which she said he denied. She expressed she was "deeply concerned" about the actor taking their daughter to Dubai, where he has allegedly threatened to travel in the past — and claimed the he did not return their daughter's passport to her when she requested. She also claimed the actor withheld contact between her and Shayla while their daughter stayed with him. *Yahoo*



Onstage at the 2017 American Music Award





Former Wimbledon champ Jana Novotna dies at 49

Emotional tributes poured in for former Wimbledon champion Jana Novotna after she died at the age of 49 following a long battle with cancer.

Novotna, who won the Wimbledon title in 1998 when she defeated France's Nathalie Tauziat in the final, died on Sunday in her native Czech Republic surrounded by her family, a WTA statement said.

She played in two other Wimbledon singles finals, losing to Steffi Graf in 1993

and to Martina Hingis in 1997.

The picture of a distraught Novotna being comforted by the Duchess of Kent after losing the 1993 final when she had led 4-1 in the final set is one of the memorable Wimbledon moments.

Novotna also won four Wimbledon doubles titles with compatriot Helena Sukova in 1989 and 1990, with Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario in 1995 and with Hingis in 1998.

Wearing her distinctive

headband, she won doubles titles at all four Grand Slam tournaments.

Czech-born American great Martina Navratilova led a number of players -- both past and present -- expressing deep sorrow at Novotna's death.

"The tennis world is so sad about the passing of Jana Novotna...I am gutted and beyond words- Jana was a true friend and an amazing woman..." Navratilova tweeted.

Former US player and now

tennis commentator Pam Shriver -- who along with Zina Garrison beat Novotna and Sukova to Olympic doubles gold in 1988 -- remembered her rival fondly.

"Jana was as kind as she was athletic, as smart as she was competitive. I can't believe she is gone this soon. Her smile lives forever young," Shriver tweeted.

Lucie Safarova, the 2015 French Open finalist, also paid an emotional tribute to her fallen compatriot.

"Still shocked about this terrible news..you will be always remembered as our legend amazing athlete and a great person!" Safarova wrote on her Instagram page alongside a picture of Novotna clutching the Wimbledon trophy.

Steve Simon, chief executive of the WTA, said: "Jana was an inspiration both on and off court to anyone who had the opportunity to know her. "Her star will always shine brightly in the history of the WTA. Our condolences and

our thoughts are with Jana's family."

Born on October 2, 1968, Novotna won a total of 24 singles tournaments and 76 doubles tournaments in her career that spanned from 1987 to 1999.

She reached a high of world number two and became the oldest first-time Grand Slam singles champion at 29 years and nine months -- a record since eclipsed by Francesca Schiavone and Flavia Pennetta.

Novotna also won the Fed Cup with the former Czechoslovakia in 1988, as well as two Olympic doubles silver medals, and a bronze in singles at the 1996 Games in Atlanta.

She was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 2005. **Yahoo**

Andy Murray doesn't need new coach says Henman

Andy Murray doesn't need to hire a new coach following his latest split with Ivan Lendl, according to former British number one Tim Henman.

Murray announced he was parting company with Lendl again on Friday after two spells together which yielded three Grand Slam titles and two Olympic singles golds.

But Henman, a close friend of Murray's, believes Jamie Delgado is more than capable of filling in, having served as a long-term member of the Scot's coaching team.

"With Andy's experience and knowledge of the game, I wouldn't think he needs to bring another person into the team," Henman told BBC Radio Five Live's Sportsweek on Sunday.

"He's got Jamie who played

to a decent level and did a very good coaching job with Gilles Muller first, and has been with Andy for a good couple of years and understands him as well as anyone."

Henman paid tribute to the role Lendl played in boosting Murray's career, which has been on hold since the former world number one's Wimbledon quarter-final defeat to Sam Querrey due to a hip injury.

Murray's enforced period of inactivity has seen him drop to 16th in the world rankings, but he remains focused on returning at the Australian Open in January.

"It's been well documented that Andy has been having a tough time with his hip but he had a great couple of periods with Lendl and I think it's

more about focusing on the positives and the things the whole team has learned," Henman said.

"Having seen him train

and practice at Wimbledon quite a lot, he is working unbelievably hard and making big strides.

"I think that with still six

or seven weeks before the season starts, I'm quite confident that he is going to be back ready and raring to go." **Yahoo**

Zambia face Uganda in CHAN opener

By Nyambe Lubasi

Zambia's 2018 CHAN Group B campaign in Morocco will kickoff on January 13 against Uganda.

Wedson Nyirenda's side have also been drawn against 2016 CHAN 3rd place finishers Cote d'Ivoire and their 2019 AFCON Group K qualifiers opponents Namibia in Group B who will be based in Marrakech.

This will be Zambia and Uganda's first meeting at CHAN where Chipolopolo will be making their third ever appearance.

Zambia will later play Cote d'Ivoire in

their penultimate Group B match on January 18 in Marrakech.

That match will be a repeat of the two sides 2009 group stage clash that Zambia

beat the inaugural CHAN tournament hosts 3-0 on their way to finishing third.

Nyirenda's side will then play Namibia in Casablanca on January 22 in a sneak preview of next March's Group K away meeting in Windhoek.

Winner and runners-up will advance to the quarterfinals on January 27 to face the runners-up and winners

from Group A respectively.

Interestingly, Group A consists of hosts Morocco, who are coached by Herve Renard, Mauritania and Sudan. Guinea, who eliminated Zambia in the 2016 CHAN quarterfinals in Rwanda, are the other last eight prospects from Group A.

CHAN is a second tier AFCON exclusively for domestic league players that enters its fifth edition.

Defending champions and record two-winners DR Congo including 2016 runners-up Mali failed to qualify for the Morocco tournament.

FANS WANT CHAN

TROPHY

Nyambe Lubasi

Zambia and Zesco United defender Fackson Kapumbu says expectations are high on Chipolopolo to reach the 2018 CAF African Nations Championship (CHAN) finals in Morocco.

Kapumbu is one of at least five home-based players who featured prominently in Chipolopolo's recent 2018 FIFA World Cup qualifiers that are expected to headline Zambia's campaign at January's CHAN tournament.

And the Zesco defenders' recent performances have also received international recognition from the CAF awards selectors' panel after naming Kapumbu on provisional shortlist of both the 2018 Africa Player and 2018 African-based Player awards.

"At the level the team has reached, and after the performances we produced in our last world cup qualifiers against Algeria and Nigeria, expectations are high for us from the fans to actually win the CHAN," Kapumbu said. "They don't expect us to come back from Morocco without any trophy."

Zambia are in Group B at the tournament Morocco will host from January 12 to February 4.

Uganda, Namibia and Cote d'Ivoire will be Zambia's Group B opponents.

Zambia will kick off their Group B campaign against Uganda on January 13 before playing Cote d'Ivoire on January 18 -both those matches will be played in Marrakech.

And Zambia will wrap-up their preliminary round fixtures against their 2019 AFCON Group K opponents Namibia on January 22 in Casablanca.

This will be Zambia's third CHAN outing after finishing 3rd at the inaugural tournament in Cote d'Ivoire in 2009 and later reached the quarterfinals at the 2016 tournament in Rwanda.

CHAN is a second tier AFCON tournament exclusively for domestic-based players that CAF first held in 2009.

Dimitrov comes of age to win ATP Finals title

Grigor Dimitrov claimed the biggest title of his career and sent out a huge statement of intent as the stylish Bulgarian beat David Goffin 7-5 4-6 6-3 to win the ATP Finals on Sunday.

The 26-year-old recovered from losing his opening two service games to finally get the better of the willowy Belgian player, but it was fiercely-fought two-and-a-half hour duel with Goffin saving four match points before finally succumbing.

Dimitrov's unbeaten run this week in London earned him \$2.5 million while the 1,500 ranking points have catapulted him to end an impressive year ranked third in the world -- behind only all-time greats Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer.

More significantly perhaps, landing the unofficial "fifth" grand slam appears to be proof that the former junior Wimbledon champion, once dubbed 'Baby Federer' because of his easy-on-the-eye style, has finally come of age.

"It's been an amazing week for me," Dimitrov said on court after becoming the first player to win the elite eight-man tournament on his first appearance in the event since Spaniard Alex Corretja beat countryman Carlos Moya in 1998.

"It's such an honour to be here and this week has been one of the best weeks I've ever had."

He was still on court nearly an hour after the match ended, signing autographs for the sizeable Bulgarian contingent who had roared their man to victory.

Yet it was tough on Goffin who, like Dimitrov, was his country's first qualifier for the ATP Finals.

His substantial consolation, though, was to end the year at a career-high seventh, having become only the sixth man to beat Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer in the same tournament.

He will need to recover fast from the two hour 30 minute final -- the longest since the event adopted a three-set format -- as a Davis Cup final looms in France next weekend.

Many of the capacity crowd in the O2 Arena had doubtless booked their tickets in anticipation of watching the top two seeds Federer and Nadal go head-to-head but the two newcomers provided a fitting end to an extraordinary ATP season.

Goffin managed only two games against Dimitrov when they met on Wednesday in group play but recovered to beat Dominic Thiem to reach the semis where he stunned six-times champion Federer.

For Dimitrov, he was quickly a different proposition in the final, using his pinpoint accuracy to keep his gifted opponent under control and he was way ahead on the winner count as he moved 4-3 ahead. *Yahoo*

