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**Inflation rises from 7.9 to 8.3%**

By Stuart Lisulo

The annual rate of inflation has leaped to 8.3 per cent, up from 7.9 per cent recorded in September, the highest on record this year so far. Announcing Zambia's annual rate of inflation for the month of October, CSO acting director Goodson Sinyenga said the rise in inflation was largely attributable to price movements in fuel, lubricants and motor vehicles.

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President Edgar Lungu and his Zimbabwean counterpart Emmerson Mnangagwa admire pictures in a photo album when the visiting Head of State graced Zambia's 54th Independence celebrations - Picture by Salim Henry

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First secretary for press at Zambia's Embassy in Ethiopia Inutu's Mwanza's son Jayden presents a welcoming bouquet to First Lady Esther Lungu at Bole International Airport as she was transiting to Burundi - picture by Thoma Nsama

# Police nab Kanene for indecent assault

By Sipilisiwe Ncube  
Police in Lusaka have arrested musician Clifford Dimba alias General Kanene for touching a woman's breast without her consent.

In a statement, Thursday, Police Spokesperson Esther Mwaata Katongo disclosed that the incident happened around 20:00 hours on October 16.

"We received a report of Indecent Assault from a 26 year old female of old Kanyama Compound in Lusaka that she was indecently assaulted by Clifford Dimba popularly known as general Kanene. This is reported to have happened at a bar in Makeni Villa on 16th October, 2018 around 20:00 hours. It is alleged that the suspect repeatedly touched the victims breasts against her will as she was waiting for her food. The suspect was arrested yesterday and is detained in Police custody," stated Katongo.

Kanene, 32 of Misisi Compound, is notorious for perpetrating gender based violence. In 2015, President Edgar Lungu appointed him ambassador against the vice, sparking outrage from both International and local bodies. In 2016, the Head of State yielded to public outcry and revoked Kanene's appointment.

# Lungu is a tyrant, maybe that's a slim trait slim people have - Kambwili

By Sipilisiwe Ncube  
President Edgar Lungu is a tyrant, I don't know if that's how heartless slim people are because that is how Pau Kagame is, says Former Chief Government Spokesperson Chishimba Kambwili. Speaking on Live Issues programme on Live radio, Thursday, Kambwili observed that the PF was blocking the opposition from holding public meetings. He charged that the Head of State was a tyrant. "Today this government doesn't give permits to the opposition or anybody to have meetings, they are misusing the Public Order Act (POA) with impunity. For instance I am a member of parliament for Roan, for the past one year, police have refused me to have meetings in my constituency. Every time I tell them that I am having meetings in my constituency, they will tell me 'no, we have to find out from the commissioner of

police in Ndola' and the answer that we get [is that] 'no he cannot go ahead for security reasons.' Now I don't know what security reasons they talk about [because] in the meantime, my colleague from Luanshya constituency Steve Chungu gets permits to hold meetings in my constituency. For him it's not for security reasons. So democracy under Lungu is not as it was under Sata. Lungu is a tyrant. I don't know if that's how heartless slim people are because that is how [Paul] Kagame is and Lungu is imitating what Kagame is doing," Kambwili charged. And Kambwili said it was important for the media to recognize government's good works. "The second caller says 'you called The Post as always being negative against government' yes I did. Even up to now, I am calling the Daily Nation as being negative towards the opposition. You see, I am a very straight forward

person, what I meant was [that] as much as The Post can criticize the government, you cannot write headlines on one individual for six months in the negative. I remember that time The Post as a newspaper were writing negatives about Lungu from the time he became president to about six months and I condemned it on principle just like I am condemning the Daily Nation that every day, they are just writing negative things about the opposition and those who are not in good books with the PF government. That is a mistake [and] even in my grave, I will say that it was

a mistake because what we expect from the newspaper is to balance. When the government does something good, you say 'well done' [and] when they do something wrong, you say 'this is wrong.' You cannot carry one headline two years over an individual," said Kambwili.

"But when you say I went on to close the newspaper, you are lying. I never closed The Post newspaper. The Post newspaper was closed by the PF government through ZRA and you know that when The Post newspaper was closed, the court had ruled that ministers must

be out of office, and that's the time when the ZRA pounced on The Post. I was not Minister of Information [then]. And even if I was Minister of Information, I did not close The Post. You know decisions that are made are not made by an individual. Look at the way [News] Diggers carry their reporting, they are so balanced. If I make a mistake as Chishimba Kambwili, they write about me that 'no, that is not right' and they condemn me [and] if the government does good, they say the government has done a very good job. That is what reporting should be."

# Lift exam suspension, demands HH

By Mukosha Funga  
UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema has demanded that government should lift the suspension on Grade 7, 9 and 12 examinations before it negatively impacts the school calendar.

In a statement yesterday, Hichilema observed that leakages were a manifestation of a failed education system. "We have noted with sadness, the suspension of Grades 7, 9 and 12 examinations by the Ministry of General

Education which affects over one million pupils. These leakages are a manifestation of a failed education system. The leakages would have been avoided had we invested in the education sector per SADC standard. The education budget has been shrinking. Corruption which starts from the very top has permeated society including our education system, this is the price we are now paying. While we do not condone children involving themselves in malpractices, in turn resulting in a country full of citizens with no skills other than papers, we call on the Ministry of General Education to hasten investigations and lift the examinations suspension," Hichilema stated.

"This suspension should not have occurred if we had serious people running the affairs of our country with a heart for an educated population. They however do not value education and that is a known fact. In the UPND, we value quality and

not quantity, when it comes to education, this is why we say this failure to manage our education sector must not affect the innocent ones who have spent many months diligently revising for these important examination. This government must take responsibility and immediately lift this suspension. The longer this suspension is in effect, the more it negatively impacts the academic calendar."

He promised that once the UPND came into office, the education system would be strengthened.

"We are aware that our country has of late not been producing credible leaders because of the failing education system but we would like to assure the Nation of an educated population once in government whose quality will contribute to the economic development. If Liberia can have free education, Zambia could also do the same," stated Hichilema.

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By Zondiwe Mbewe

The Immigration Department between Monday and Wednesday this week arrested 63 people countrywide for various immigration offences. And the Department says among those arrested include 50 people who were apprehended in a clean-up operation in Lusaka's Chibolya, Matero, Chelston, Ngombe, Makeni, Lilanda and Waterfalls areas.

This according to a statement issued by Department of Immigration public relations officer Namati Nshinka yesterday. "The Department of Immigration between October 22 and 24, 2018, arrested 63 persons for various immigration offences countrywide, including 50 (who were) apprehended in a clean-up operation conducted by the Lusaka Regional Immigration Office on October 22 and 23, 2018. The operation covered selected parts of Lusaka, including Chibolya, Matero, Chelston, Ngombe, Makeni, Lilanda and Waterfalls," Nshinka stated.

He stated that those nabbed during the operation in Lusaka included; 18 Tanzanians, eight Congolese, seven Chinese, six Rwandese, five Burundese, two Zimbabweans and one Indian.

He added that three others claiming Zambian citizenship were also apprehended in the operation after they failed to produce proof of citizenship. Nshinka stated that the 50 were currently in detention pending further screening and possible prosecution. Meanwhile, Nshinka stated that nine Congolese in

# Immigration Dept arrests 50 in clean-up operation

Chingola and one Angolan in Choma were arrested for unlawful entry. He stated that those arrested for unlawful stay included;

one Liberian in Lusaka and one Congolese in Lukwesa. Nshinka further stated that the Department also arrested a 44-year-

old Zambian registered immigration consultant identified as Roy Chomba Kunda for forgery. "Mr. Roy Chomba Kunda,

resident of house number 10423/84 Kambwili Road, Chainama, was apprehended on Wednesday. Particulars of the offences are that Mr.

Roy Chomba Kunda, a Zambian national, jointly and acting together with Mr. Vijay Kumar Agarwal and Mr. Chawla Vineet, both Indian nationals, and other persons unknown, between March 1, 2018, and July 1, 2018, did forge and utter to a public officer, two forged bank statements purporting that money for investment was brought into the country, when in fact not," stated Nshinka.



L-r: Agriculture Minister Michael Katambo, Chiefs Affairs Minister Lawrence Sicalwe, Gender Minister Elizabeth Phiri, Transport and Communications Minister Brian Mushimba and Minister in the office of the vice president Sylvia Chalikosa at Lusaka's Freedom Statue during the commemoration of the 54th Zambia's Independence Day on October 24, 2018 Picture by Tenson Mkhala

## Challenging Lungu for the Presidency does not mean I hate him, says KBF

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Lusaka lawyer Kelvin Bwalya Fube says having presidential ambitions does

not mean that he hates the guy who is ruling now, but that the person may have reached his thinking limits

and needs to be challenged. Speaking when he appeared on a radio programme, Tuesday, Fube said PF must

be thankful that they have a person like him who is there to correct the party when it does wrong things.

"If I am trying to correct my own party, my own party must be thankful that, 'we have got somebody there who is like a watch guard.' So, for me, having an ambition to rule does not necessarily mean you hate the guy who is ruling now, no, but that person may reach his limit in the way he thinks [and] the way he does things. So, you need someone else to takeover, whoever will be there will be challenged," Fube said.

He said if the PF fails to manage the country's affairs properly, time will come when Zambians will kick them out of government. "MMD came into power, they brought multi-party [democracy], they opened up [and] all the shortages disappeared. MMD ran its course up to 20 years [but] people said 'no, MMD we are tired of you, your theft is too much, corruption has escalated, you have to go,' which is what ba Sata

fought for. So, today, PF is in office. If we don't manage the affairs of the country and people say, 'it's time to go', we will go. So, we must be careful even when you say KBF is an enemy, enemy of what? wondered Fube. "I do have ambitions [to] lead the party, yes, and [to] even lead the country. If you have no ambitions as a man, then what are you living for? There is nothing wrong with ambition. Let's get this out of the way. Some people think that when you speak of your personal ambition, then it means [that] you don't like the current leadership, no. When ba Kaunda and his people came into power, they kicked out the colonial masters, their [ambition] was to fight for our independence. They led us up to a certain point, but we began lining up for cooking oil, for matches, for candles. Their economic policies couldn't tie up with the way the economy was running [and] their time was up."

## Cops, Chinese nationals in court for abduction

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Two police officers and two Chinese nationals have been dragged to court for allegedly abducting a Chinese national with intent to confine him. But appearing in the Lusaka Magistrates' Court yesterday, were only one police officer and two Chinese nationals when the matter came up for plea as the first accused was reportedly sick.

The four are expected to take plea before Magistrate Silvia Munyinya, Friday.

In this matter, Lufwendo Bataba, a 45-year-old police officer of Bauleni; Malulu Christopher Chanda, a 40-year-old police officer of Kalingalinga; Zhuang Youjun, 32-year-old translator and Wang Qighai, a 50-year-old businessman are charged with one count of abducting with intent to

confine a person contrary to section 256 of the penal code chapter 87 of the laws of Zambia.

Particulars of the offence allege that the accused persons on August 30, 2018, in Lusaka jointly and whilst acting together did abduct Wang Shunxue with intent to secretly and wrongfully confine him.

When the matter came up for plea before Magistrate Munyinya, Thursday, the defence lawyer Phil Muya asked for an adjournment, saying accused number one, Lufwendo Bataba, was not present in court as they were only informed about the matter in the morning.

He added that the accused was also unwell.

Bataba's sureties were also not present in court.

"I expected the sureties to be here because the accused is not here. For today, I will take it that the accused is absent and the sureties are absent," Magistrate Munyinya said.

The matter comes up, Friday, for plea. Meanwhile, a 26-year-old bricklayer of Chawama has been dragged to court for stealing four goats and two sheep valued at K2,900.

In this matter, Martin Mwachi is charged with stock theft contrary to section 275 (1) of the penal code chapter 87 of the laws of Zambia.

It is alleged that Mwachi on September 20, 2018, in Lusaka stole four goats and two sheep valued at K2,900 belonging to Fresh Farm.

The matter has since been allocated to Magistrate Felix Kaoma and is scheduled to take plea.

# ZRA targets to capture more tax payers via Zamtel Kwacha

By Stuart Lisulo

Zamtel Plc has partnered with the Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) to launch a mobile tax payment system using Zamtel Kwacha to help its customers remit all their domestic taxes on the platform.

In a statement jointly-issued by Zamtel acting Corporate Communications Manager Changwe Kabwe and ZRA Corporate Communications Manager Topsy Sikalinda, Thursday, the move will see Zamtel customers remit all their domestic taxes, such as Turnover Tax and Withholding Tax, among others, via the Zamtel Kwacha platform.

Announcing the partnership, Zamtel chief executive officer Sydney Mupeta stated that the new tax electronic payment system, which will go live in the next few days, will enhance customer convenience and promote tax compliance by a vast majority of taxpayers.

"We are excited about this partnership with ZRA as it again demonstrates that Zamtel has the capacity and necessary platforms that can drive economic transformation. We are confident that our customers will enjoy paying their taxes as this will now be done conveniently from their devices using Zamtel Kwacha," Mupeta said.

"Our Zamtel Kwacha platform is a rapidly growing channel, which many of our customers are now using to make payments for services and utilities and being able to remit base tax through this unique platform will surely be a game-changer."

And ZRA Commissioner General Kingsley Chanda hoped that the partnership would help the Authority capture more tax payers.

"We are happy to partner with Zamtel on this initiative, which will go a long way in boosting revenue collection. We are in the process of announcing similar initiatives with other market players in order to strengthen efforts to improve tax compliance and collection," said Chanda.

According to the statement, all taxpayers will be required to use the Zamtel Kwacha short code \*344# and insert their TPIN to use the service.

The mobile tax payment platform will also be used to capture millions of informal sector players, such as marketeers and small-scale traders by the Zambia National Marketeers Credit Association (ZANAMACA) who were engaged by the ZRA to act as a tax agent in the collection of base tax.



Diplomats accredited to Zambia go to lay wreaths at Lusaka's Freedom Statue during the commemoration of the 54th Zambia's Independence Day on October 24, 2018 - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

# Ignore politicians spreading lies, Siliya tells Zambians

By Mirriam Chabala

Information and Broadcasting Services Minister Dora Siliya has asked Zambians to ignore politicians who are misleading the country by purporting that institutions like the Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (ZNBC) have been sold.

Siliya said ZNBC, Star Times had not become one company but were merely collaborating in a joint venture which had resulted in the creation of Topstar.

"Indeed ZNBC has got shares in DSTV and also in GoTV, as well as Topstar now. For the

record, ZNBC is a statutory body which was created by this House and any change of shareholding in that institution would have to be made by this House. So it's not possible that any other institution can have shares in ZNBC because ZNBC belongs 100 per cent to the people of Zambia. ZNBC as an institution can do business and acquire shares in other interests but nobody can acquire shares in ZNBC because it was created through an Act of Parliament and under Cap 154 of the laws of Zambia. So unless we in this House decided to

change that status, it is not possible that anyone else can have shares in ZNBC. And for the record, Topstar has no shares in ZNBC, but ZNBC has got 40 per cent shares in Topstar and in Star times ZNBC has got 60 per cent. So this misinformation is merely smear campaign against the people of Zambia because ZNBC is owned by Zambians and it was created by the representatives of the people of Zambia in this House. So any move away from that position is an affront from the people Zambia," Siliya explained.

And responding to Monze UPND member of parliament Jack Mwiimbu, who in his question insisted that the minister had confirmed the sell of ZNBC by admitting that the public broadcaster had merged with Star Times, Silya expressed displeasure and questioned his understanding of the law.

"Clearly, law is not an exact science because if it was, we would not be having this debate. ZNBC is a statutory body. None of its shares have been given to anybody because it was created by an Act of Parliament. If the member of parliament pays attention, he would avoid being misled. ZNBC has not merged with Topstar. But what has happened is that ZNBC through a company called Star Times created a new entity called Topstar. And I am sure in legal language that is very clear. So in this case, ZNBC remains 100 per cent an independent entity but it has interests as provided... the CPCC law, that 'its interests can merge with interest of another institution and they can create a new body called Topstar' and this is under the company's Act.

ZNBC remains as a whole as a statutory body under Cap 154 of the laws of Zambia. I am sure it's very clear now Mr Speaker," she explained.

Meanwhile, in apparent reference to the opposition MPs, Siliya cautioned Zambians not to listen to politicians who were spreading falsehoods.

"As government, we're telling the Zambians to be careful what they read online because for some people what they read online is taken as Gospel truth and they want to bring it to this House. As citizens, we have to be careful that we can be misled. This is why we are providing for laws so that we bring to book those that want to mislead the citizens. It may be on a simple thing today but tomorrow it will be on something big we can see that even internationally. Many governments are challenged with fake news, propaganda and as citizens, we have to refute the information," said Siliya.

"So as citizens, we all have to be aware that sometimes as citizens, we all have to be aware of people are posturing with passion and want to make us believe that they are telling the truth but sometimes they are just posturing and they could be trying to mislead this country. And the ZNBC case was classic example where even members of parliament who should know the law where the ones in the forefront telling citizens that ZNBC has been sold. So we have to call out those people who like to posture in this House, that those are bad politics and citizens should see them for who they are, that they are just people who like to posture and they are not decent politicians."



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By Mirriam Chabala

The opposition UPND and NDC will not participate in the dialogue process led by a committee of local eminent persons that has been constituted by the Zambia Centre for Inter-party Dialogue (ZCID).

The two parties confirmed this in separate interviews, saying they were uncomfortable with the people that sat on the board of ZCID and that the Centre had no mandate to spearhead the dialogue process.

But the ruling Patriotic Front (PF), has welcomed the appointment of eminent persons to lead the process. Last week, ZCID established a committee of local eminent persons comprised of: House of Chiefs Chairperson Chief Ngabwe; Senior Chief Madzimawe of the Ngoni people of Chipata; Zambian politician and businessman Akashambatwa Mbikusita-Lewanika and former FDD vice-president Chifumu Banda to chair the national political dialogue.

But UPND, through its spokesperson Charles Kakoma, said his party would not participate in any dialogue process associated with ZCID.

"First of all, no one gave the mandate to the Zambia Centre for Inter-party Dialogue to spearhead the dialogue process. They are doing that on their own, or it's a secret deal with PF, because the stakeholders that met in Siavonga two months ago only chose the three Church mother bodies to spearhead the dialogue process. So, they cannot spring up from nowhere to start spearheading the dialogue process and appointing eminent persons to chair the process. Certainly, they are wrong and they do not mean well," Kakoma said.

"What they are doing is to try to divert attention from the agreed roadmap, where the Church is spearheading the process, by creating a parallel dialogue process. And we cannot have two dialogue processes taking place at the same time to talk about similar issues. So, we should only speak to one dialogue process and

# NDC, UPND threaten to shun ZCID-led dialogue

that is the one led by the Church, not the ZCID one. The issue is that we have not, as UPND, recognised ZCID to lead the process. So, we cannot participate in a process that is being led by an organisation, which has not been mandated or recognised to spearhead the process."

The National Democratic Congress (NDC), through acting spokesperson Misheck Moyo cited skepticism about ZCID's capacity to appoint an impartial committee to chair the national dialogue as its reason for shunning the

process.

"To be honest with you, we are not comfortable with people who sit on the ZCID board. We believe that most of them side themselves with the governing party, the PF. And in this regard, NDC is a member of the ZCID. But when picking Dr Lewanika, they didn't consult anyone. Who did they consult? So, this entire process bleeds [with] suspicion. What we are insisting on, therefore, is that the Church, who are independent, impartial and credible, should lead this process. The men of God, who do not have any

particular political influence, should lead the process. We all know where Dr Lewanika is coming from. He cannot be an independent and impartial person to lead this process, so we have certain reservations," said Moyo.

"We are not comfortable with Dr Lewanika and we are challenging the ZCID board to inform the nation how they picked on that single name because a lot of people in this country have done conflict resolution and disputes, but to pick on Dr Lewanika without consulting raises a lot of suspicions. And

we also want to ask the PF government, why are they are not comfortable with the Church leading the process? Why are they insisting on ZCID? If you look at the funding of the ZCID, it's funded by the donors; they receive funding through the Ministry of Justice. So, their independence, therefore, is highly questionable. Then we just don't want to draw the traditional leadership into politicking and we've got our own reasons. We are insisting on the Church, credible Church bodies, not these Church bodies, which are affiliated to political

groupings because their intelligence is questionable." Meanwhile, PF media director Sunday Chanda said the party had welcomed the appointment of the eminent persons.

"Patriotic Front Secretary General Hon Davies Mwila has says that the ruling Party has welcomed the constituted four (4) man committee of eminent persons consisting of Chief Ngabwe, Senior Chief Madzimawe, Hon Akashambatwa Mbikusita-Lewanika and Mr Chifumu Banda SC to lead the dialogue process. Hon Mwila has also mentioned that political parties affiliated to ZCID made a collective decision to bring on board a Committee of eminent Zambians and the names announced by ZCID are those of credible persons with vast experience in their respective fields," stated Chanda.

# Thieving civil servants, govt officials are mostly from Eastern, Luapula - GBM

By Mirriam Chabala

Today we have criminals in the government because they have a Head of State who is also a criminal, says United Party for National Development (UPND) vice-president Geoffrey Bwalya Mwamba.

And GBM says most thieving civil servants and government officials are from Eastern and Luapula provinces.

Last week, Minister of National Development Planning Alexander Chiteme charged that thieving civil servants were sponsored by the opposition, a remark which was reiterated by PF deputy media director Antonio Mwanza.

But in an interview, GBM said government workers and PF officials were not feeling guilty about stealing because President Lungu had already given them permission by saying "Uubomba mwibala alya mwibala" which suggests that one must eat from where he works.

"Well, I will tell you, those are the rantings of a weak

government. As for this young boy Antonio Mwanza, I sympathise with him, and his end will be like the one for the Late John Chimba who was busy insulting PF. Those young boys in PF are now speaking with their bellies and not with their heads, which is so unfortunate. Honestly, how can you sponsor people to go and steal?" GBM asked.

"Stealing is something which is inborn. Stealing is something which we see, if my father was a criminal, then I will also be criminal. Today we have criminals in government because they have seen that even their Head of State is a criminal. He told them that 'uubomba mwibala alya mwibala', what does that mean? It means that he was the one actually who was telling them to steal. So what we are seeing today, in terms of levels of stealing and corruption in PF, it's something which has been orchestrated by the Head of State. So I think what they are saying is just an excuse that

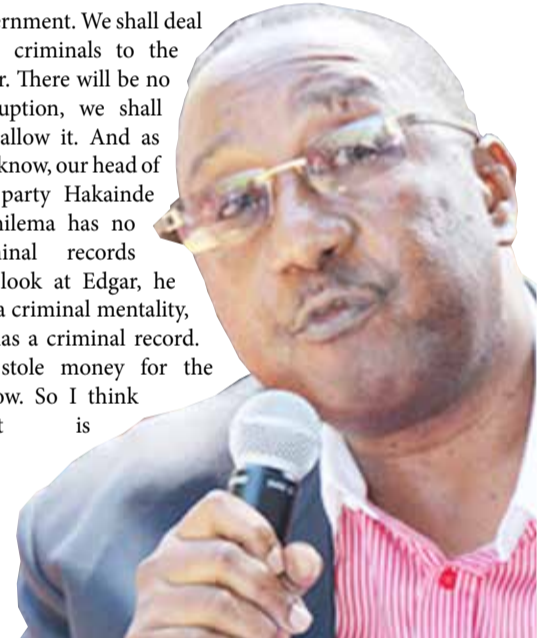
we are so powerful and we can do that."

And GBM said most thieving civil servants and government are from Eastern and Luapula provinces.

"But let me tell you, by nature, most people that we are dealing with are not criminals and they have no access to those public funds. If you look at the history of this country, most people who have been Presidents, are they from Southern Province? No! Mostly they are from my Province, from Luapula and from Eastern Province... these are the criminals that we've had in State House and they've been looting this Treasury. Even Antonio Mwanza as he is, I think he's a criminal, that's why he can afford to say what he says," GBM charged.

"But in our party and our government, let me tell you, once our time comes, when the Zambian people give us the mandate, which is coming pretty soon, I can assure you that there will be no criminality in our

government. We shall deal with criminals to the letter. There will be no corruption, we shall not allow it. And as you know, our head of the party Hakainde Hichilema has no criminal records but look at Edgar, he has a criminal mentality, he has a criminal record. He stole money for the widow. So I think what is



happening in PF should not be extended to us, we are not criminals like them," GBM said.

GBM further said the PF were using technicalities to escape their criminal offenses.

"Let me tell you, that kind of thinking by Chiteme and Antonio Mwanza is

criminal. It can only come from a person who is criminally minded. They want to get away with their criminal activities by a technicality. You can see the way he was responding. Look, every document in a ministry is supposed to go under a Permanent Secretary, more especially when it involves public funds. Antonio Mwanza has never been in government, he's just a hired gun, that's why he can say that. Every document, every payment has to go through a Permanent Secretary. So what he was talking about I think it has no basis, he doesn't even know what he's talking about. Let Edgar give him a job in government, let him learn how the civil service operates. The service controls public funds, our money. So that was just a lame excuse which he was trying to advance," said GBM.

# Kambwili loses parliamentary seat

By Mukosha Funga

High Court judge Maria Kawimbe has thrown out NDC consultant Chishimba Kambwili's matter in which he asked the court to nullify his expulsion from the Patriotic Front on a technicality.

But Kambwili says he does not accept shortcuts and he will pursue the matter until justice is served.

In July 2017, Kambwili sued the PF seeking a declaration order that the decision of the party's central committee to expel him was illegal,

wrongful, null and void.

In his statement of claim, the former information minister cited PF secretary general Davies Mwila as the Defendant.

Kambwili wanted the court to declare that his rights under the PF constitution were infringed by not giving him a chance to face his charges and further sought an order that the PF central committee could not be complainant, accuser and judge in its own case against him.

But when the matter came up yesterday, judge Kawimbe threw out the case, saying it appeared the Plaintiff was not serious about proceeding with the matter after failing to meet several guidelines.

In an interview, however, Kambwili said he did not accept shortcuts and he had already prepared an appeal.

"What I can just tell you is that we don't accept shortcuts and we have already filed in documents for appeal. What has been done is

a short cut. Let them defend the matter on merit, not short cuts. I will go all the way with this matter so that people can learn a lesson not to do short cuts. During the process of expulsion, they did a shortcut and they want to go to court to do a shortcut. Zambia is not a lawless country," said Kambwili.

Meanwhile, PF Secretary General Davies Mwila challenged Kambwili not to appeal but to test his popularity in a by-election.

By Mirriam Chabala

The Centre for Trade Policy and Development (CTPD) has asked the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to give a clear position about its negotiations with Zambia for a bailout package to enable the country move forward.

And CTPD has predicted that the country will face a lot of challenges when time to repay all its loans finally comes because there is clearly no reasonable investment where all the acquired loans have been committed to.

Speaking on Hot FM's Hot Seat programme where he featured alongside Zambia Tax Platform coordinator Ibrahim Kamara, Thursday, CTPD executive director Isaac Mwaipopo said the IMF's failure to give its position on the bailout package that Zambia had been seeking from the Fund for years had stranded the country.

In July, the IMF revealed that talks on Zambia's

# IMF needs to make decision on Zambia's bailout package - CTPD

economic bailout package, widely expected to be around US \$1.3 billion, have been suspended owing to concerns surrounding the country's debt sustainability. The Fund, through its communications director Gerry Rice disclosed that it had suspended discussions on a possible economic bailout programme because the Zambian government's borrowing plans had compromised the country's debt sustainability, which in-turn, will undermine Zambia's macroeconomic stability.

"Zambia still needs the bailout package. And as the International Monetary Fund will be visiting this country; it is our hope from the Centre for Trade Policy and Development that the International Monetary

Fund would be able to give a clear picture in terms of where we are going with these negotiations. The negotiations have been going on for quite a long time and they are actually affecting the ability for this country to move forward. So, it will be good if they can give a clear indication with regards to their position on the bailout package that Zambia has been seeking. On the question whether we need it (the IMF package), yes, Zambia needs the IMF bailout package. It can help to improve the balance of payments," Mwaipopo said. And he said Zambia will face a lot of challenges when time to repay its loans comes because there has not been any reasonable investment from all the loans.

"One of the challenges we are

faced with is that there was a huge delay in setting up a Sinking Fund. There was a proposed plan to set up a Sinking Fund that was going to ensure that we put aside some resources to prepare for the time when we need to pay back the loans. As of this year, we've heard that there is some movement to put aside some resources to prepare for that, but the other thing is that there is a growing conversation around the need to look out to countries like China as well as other people that we owe some money to begin conversations around possibly restructuring the debt that we owe. So, if this conversation is gaining momentum, it also gives you an indication that we are foreseeing ourselves having a challenge to pay

back some of the debt that we owe when they are due. So, one of the things we are trying to do is to buy-off some time, reorganise and rearrange the period under which this debt is to be paid or find an alternative route to manage that," said Mwaipopo.

"But as for whether or not we will manage to pay back, that is yet to be determined, but at the rate at which we are moving, we think we might have a challenge to pay. Not necessarily defaulting, but there are several options, which you can pursue, one of them is restructuring the debt. Defaulting is something we need to avoid at all costs. However, debt is something to worry about really. Debt in itself is not bad, but it is something that you are in the position to pay back. I think the big question that we should be asking ourselves is: are we in a position to pay back when this debt matures or are we in a position to clearly point in terms of where we have invested the resources that we had acquired? If we are in the position, well and

good, if we are not in the position, then it would call for concern and worry."

Meanwhile, Kamara said much as Zambia needed the IMF package, the country could realise a lot of revenue if it invested in value-addition industries.

"In as much as we might need the bailout package, I also believe that the nation has so much potential to generate revenue from different sectors. The mine is one such sector, which can generate massive revenues into the government, diversification into the agricultural sector, and I think on the other thing we've lagged on is the industrial base in the nation. I think with regards to that, even the copper that the nation is producing, it's exported in its raw form. But you can imagine if there was so much value added to copper, if there were industries, which were able to add value to certain things before we export them, those would become industries, which can be taxed and revenues can be increased for the nation. So, I believe the nation has potential, but right now, we might be heading to a situation where we do in fact need the IMF bailout package, looking at the current debt stock for the nation," said Kamara.



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# Inflation rises to 8.3%

By Stuart Lisulo

The annual rate of inflation has leaped to 8.3 per cent, up from 7.9 per cent recorded in September, the highest on record this year so far, according to Central Statistical Office data.

Announcing Zambia's annual rate of inflation for the month of October, CSO acting director of census and statistics Goodson Sinyenga said the rise in inflation this month was largely attributable to price movements in fuel, lubricants and motor vehicles.

"The year-on-year inflation rate as measured by the all items Consumer Price Index (CPI) for October, 2018, increased to 8.3 per cent from 7.9 per cent recorded in September, 2018. This means that on average, prices of goods and services increased by 8.3 per cent between October, 2017, and October, 2018," Sinyenga told journalists in Lusaka, Thursday.

"The increase in the annual rate of inflation is mainly attributed to purchase of vehicles, fuels and lubricants (diesel and petrol), passenger transport by air (Lusaka/London via Dubai) and liquid fuels such as kerosene."

According to Sinyenga, food and non-alcoholic beverages accounted for 4.3 percentage points, while non-food items accounted for a total of 4.0 percentage points.

CSO data reveals that Zambia's annual rate of inflation of 8.3 per cent recorded this month is the highest on record since November, 2016, when inflation was at 8.8 per cent from 12.5 per cent in October, 2016, before it dropped to close 2016 at 7.5 per cent.

Zambia's annual rate of inflation has again exceeded the Bank of Zambia's targeted corridor of 6-8 per cent forecast for the short-to-medium term for the second time this year following the 8.1 per cent recorded in August, 2018.

# The True Cost of Maize

It is yet again that time of year when those employed in the agriculture sector are determining what they will plant at the start of the rainy season. Farmers are paying a lot of attention to weather conditions in particular – the dream being that we will receive adequate rainfall for a sufficient harvest.

For many farmers in Zambia, maize is still the number one crop of choice. If that's your plan, it is time to think of maize seeds, fertilizers, and chemicals against the fall army worms, among others. These are some of the main costs associated with maize production, but are these the true costs and how can we ensure that we're producing sustainably?

## The current reality of maize floor price and production

We've seen determined stakeholders calling for the 2017/2018 maize floor price to be proportionate to the cost of the product. These stakeholders were expecting the government to take the high cost of production into account before arriving at the price of the farm produce.

These high costs are especially important in light of the recent decline in maize production. In the 2017/2018 season we saw the national average yield rate for maize decline from 2.19 metric tonnes per hectare in the previous season to only 1.72 metric tonnes per hectare. Small and medium scale farmers recorded an average maize yield rate of 1.68 metric tonnes per hectare, whilst large scale farmers recorded an average maize yield rate of 3.18 metric tonnes per hectare.

The government largely attributed this reduction to the prolonged dry spells that we experienced between November 2017 and January 2018.

Another reason for such a decline is a reduction in production area, which dropped by 15.3 percent from 1,644,741 hectares in the previous season to a mere 1,392,546 hectares in 2017/2018 season.

## The true cost of maize production in Zambia

Hivos is looking at the impact of this reality in Zambia, where limited food diversity and a decline

in soil fertility are both the result of unsustainable agricultural practices and production focused on a single crop.

In this context, Hivos commissioned Soil & More Impacts BV (SMI) to conduct a comparative true cost assessment of traditional maize production in Zambia's Central Province, compared to alternative maize production systems using sustainable practices. This report provides an insight into the real costs of an agricultural system that focuses on maize as the only crop, and offers concrete solutions to lessen these costs. It concludes that the actual costs of production in Zambia's current maize cultivation systems are on average 2.5 times higher than what is calculated in market prices. This finding is in line with other true cost accounting studies.

## What can we do?

We recognize that in order to adequately tackle today's and tomorrow's food security challenges, unsustainable agricultural practices must change. Furthermore, market prices need to reflect the real costs. If, and at what price, agricultural goods will be available in the future is determined by the agricultural practices used today. If we want to secure a sustainable future food supply, the agricultural system needs to shift towards more sustainable practices.

## Sustainable production practices do exist

Sustainable farming practices do exist and are important to counter the effects of climate change. Examples include natural fertilization (using crop residues for composting), reducing tillage (agricultural preparation of soil), and using cover crops (plants grown primarily for the benefit of the soil rather than the crop yield). These practices reduce carbon emissions from the soil by about one third and even sequester additional CO<sub>2</sub>. Carbon sequestration, combined with compost application and crop residue management, also builds up soil, making better use of water and nutrients and reducing the risk of increasing production costs and crop failures.

## Who needs to push this forward?

Governments must help accelerate the shift towards sustainable food systems that increase access, availability and affordability of diverse and nutritious foods. This entails investing in research and extension services, working with the private sector, and supporting smallholder farmers to adopt sustainable practices.

Farmers and agribusiness for their part need to invest more in the quality and health of soils – their main production asset – both to secure future profits and a sustainable supply of food.

## The many benefits of sustainable practices

An increasing number of stakeholders in different sectors have been calling for policy frameworks that use accounting models to evaluate the external environmental costs mentioned above and integrate them into market prices. If we promote and incentivize a farming system that reduces risk for farmers by using sustainable practices, we can reduce the dramatic volatility of food prices, make the food system more resilient to climate change, and ultimately create environmental benefits.



*The author, William Chilufya is the Regional Advocacy Manager for Sustainable Diets For All. Hivos Southern Africa*

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Finance Minister Margaret Mwanakatwe says officers found guilty of financial misconduct will be suspended, dismissed and prosecuted, and that action has already commenced on the maladministration of the Social Cash Transfer funds as well as donor aid at the Ministry of General Education.

And Mwanakatwe says government has continued engaging with International Monetary Fund (IMF) visiting staff on the possibility of a Fund-supported programme.

In a statement, Mwanakatwe pledged stiff action on erring public officers found guilty of financial misconduct.

“Government wishes to reiterate that with the strengthened Public

# Thieving public servants will be prosecuted, warns Mwanakatwe

Finance Management Act, officers found guilty of financial misconduct will be suspended, dismissed and/or prosecuted. Action has already commenced on the mal-administration of the Social Cash Transfer programme and the reported mismanagement of funds in the education sector. Government will progress the forensic audit in both Ministries that will be the basis for final action. Similar action is being taken in Ministries where mismanagement has been unearthed by auditors. As part of the action to address misuse

of funds, the government has already reimbursed the contributions of the United Kingdom to the Social Cash Transfer programme as forensic investigations continue and better systems are put in place,” Mwanakatwe announced.

“Government has undertaken work to strengthen the procurement law and enact a new Planning and Budgeting Bill. Government has also strengthened control systems in the IFMIS and rolled it out to all government Ministries,

provinces and spending agencies. We have also instituted measures to ensure strict control and use of imprest across government and upgraded the audit function under the office of the Controller of Internal Audit. On the basis of these measures, a number of cases of misuse of funds have been unearthed and government is proactively taking measures to deal with these cases. The findings under the Ministries of Community Development and Social Welfare and (General) Education are part of the

findings of the improved audit function. Cases in other Ministries have also been unearthed.”

And Mwanakatwe added that government has continued engaging with IMF visiting staff on the possibility of the IMF-supported programme.

“Government has continued taking measures that will form a basis for facilitating discussions with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on the possibility of an IMF-supported programme. In the meantime, engagement has continued

through staff visits, with one upcoming in the 1st week of November, 2018, and an Article 4 mission to follow through next year. Cooperation with donors will continue based on the principles of transparency, accountability, prudence and cost effectiveness in the use of their resources. To this effect, the government will continue to strengthen its financial governance systems to ensure that cooperating partners continue to have confidence and any fraud is detected before it happens,” stated Mwanakatwe.

At this stage, we now have every reason to believe that President Edgar Lungu is drunk with power; and we are genuinely concerned that this drunkenness has led him to lose sensitivity to what the people who put him in office are looking for. This power has corrupted him and Mr Lungu is no longer the man that he was when PF offered him the Presidency.

In order for our analogy to be understood in the right context, let's talk about how a drunken person behaves. We have all seen them. When someone is drunk on alcohol or any other intoxicating substance, they lose common inhibitions. The things that embarrass a sober person do not embarrass them at all. This is one of the many downsides of drunkenness. A drunken person can urinate in public without feeling embarrassed, insult and do all sorts of insensitive things without shame.

This is what we are seeing with our Head of State. He is drunk with power. And just like a person who is drunk on happy juice, an experience which President Lungu is very familiar with, he has lost the ability to feel embarrassed by the kind of public scandals that would embarrass many other leaders. It seems our President has reached a stage where he does not mind undressing in public, and we will give examples of what we mean here, as we get to the point.

We have observed that there are now very few informed people in this country who are still not concerned about the direction that Zambia is taking. Even the most conservative public figures, who would ordinarily not criticize the government openly, are now opening up Twitter or Facebook accounts to speak out for Zambia. The litany of scandals is just getting so long that we are even failing to keep up. Even the people closest to President Lungu

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Ear to the ground

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# Watch out, Israel is flying below the radar

in this government are looking genuinely concerned. They can't believe some of the things that are being done by him or in his name.

This is why it is not uncommon in the recent past for different wings of the government to contradict themselves. The Chief Government Spokesperson is saying one thing; State House is saying the opposite. And then you have a Permanent Secretary somewhere also having his own say. There seems to be no clear strategy on how to run government. The only thing that is consistent is that someone who is close to power is eating at every turn. But President Lungu, who is supposed to intervene, is also drunk with his own power and does not seem concerned.

It is no wonder factions are even emerging in the PF. It seems some heads in the PF are thinking that this has to be stopped. They have observed that State House is running the government like Somali warlords with no coherent strategy except for personal enrichment, and they are concerned that if this is not corrected, they will lose power.

These concerned people in PF have a good reason for

being worried. In the last few weeks, we have been treated to the shocking stories of donor funds going missing, acknowledged by government, and then miraculously 'found'. Before that scandal even settles down, we have learnt of the government buying luxurious aircrafts, which we, as a nation, can ill-afford. At a time when government is struggling to pay civil servants' salaries on time, President Lungu and his inner circle are not ashamed to go and purchase one of the most expensive executive jets on the market today.

We understand that this American-built Gulfstream 650 ER, which the Zambian government is buying for President Lungu from Israel, can take him from Lusaka to New York non-stop. That is rather convenient we must admit, but at what cost? Then we are told of two Italian C27J transport aircrafts from Leonardo Aerospace Company, all for a country that is looking to heaven for economic solutions.

We are further told that this aircraft is coming fully equipped with all kinds of science fiction gadgets that would make even US President Donald Trump jealous. Now,

it is outside our liberty to talk about the necessity of the so-called MUSIC system installed on this Gulfstream 650 to shoot down missiles aimed at Mr Lungu's aircraft, but we are wondering why an African President in a peaceful country like Zambia desperately needs this priority sorted above all the devastating national demands that are screaming in the President's face.

In our view, this could probably go unchallenged if Zambia was a very rich country, able to give aid to Somalia and Malawi, not when we have gone cap in hand to beg for funds from other countries. This is like your cousin arriving in a Ferrari asking for K50 to put in some fuel.

A sober person, a person who is not drunk, would tell the people who are proposing such a deal to him, to go to hell! When this story was broken, we expected the government to apologise to the long-suffering Zambian people and tell them that these deals would be cancelled. But that was not to be.

Instead, what we saw was a lowly-Permanent Secretary, whose qualifications we don't know, except that he is a friend of the President,

gathering courage to stand up and confirm that apart from the three other aircrafts that were known to be in the process of being purchased, there were five aircrafts being bought from Russia, including a Sukhoi presidential super jet. Why would a sober President buy two presidential jets at this time? Surely, with the prevailing economic times, one jet is a scandal on its own, buying two is absolute madness and eight is plain insanity!

But the Zambian people need to open their eyes. President Lungu's government has not denied that it has given contracts to its Israeli connections, which are in the neighbourhood of US \$1.4 billion. While people are going mad about China, and the opaque loans that President Lungu and his friends are contracting, Israel is flying under the radar.

Here is what we meant when we said President Lungu seems willing to undress in public. Given the simmering scandals between Zambia and Israel, it would have been in our wildest imagination that one would see President Lungu exposing his private links to Israel. But there was our Head of State flaunting pictures to

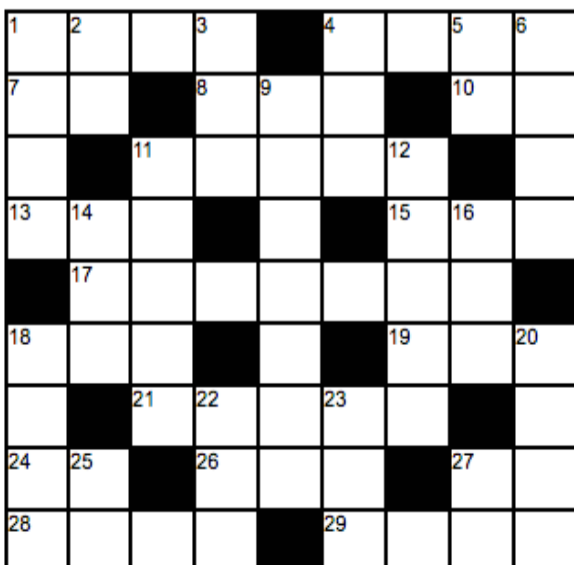
the media, showing him with a disgraced ex-convict and former Prime Minister of the Middle Eastern country. Not only was President Lungu seen jogging with Mr Ehud Olmert that early morning, he was also seen displaying his affection for the old man who left prison only last year, as if to announce that 'this is my mentor in whom I am well pleased.' Isn't that undressing in public without feeling embarrassed?

The photo opportunity that President Lungu created for himself and Olmert must worry every right-thinking Zambian. What is Olmert doing in Zambia? What deals is he pushing? How do they benefit us? These are the questions that we must ask. This is an issue that President Lungu has to address. The company that he keeps is no longer a private matter. When he was a private citizen who could wander into Chawama to have a drink, it was no one's business whose company he kept, but today the company he keeps is our business.

A convicted criminal is denied a tourist visa to go to the United States of America, but here, we have a President according a convicted red carpet VIP treatment. Like we said, a person who is not drunk would feel embarrassed to welcome such a figure into State House grounds, but this President is drunk on power, he now thinks that he is not answerable to anyone. He has lost sensitivity, even for those who elected him.

But Mr Lungu is not the first Republican President in this country to think that our people are docile and he can continue manipulating them. Let him educate himself to some of our recent history. The end for those who get drunk on power is never good. Our President should learn to respect the office that he holds, and most importantly, the people that he leads. As one of our popular artists sang, "insoni ebuntu".

## Crossword puzzle 217



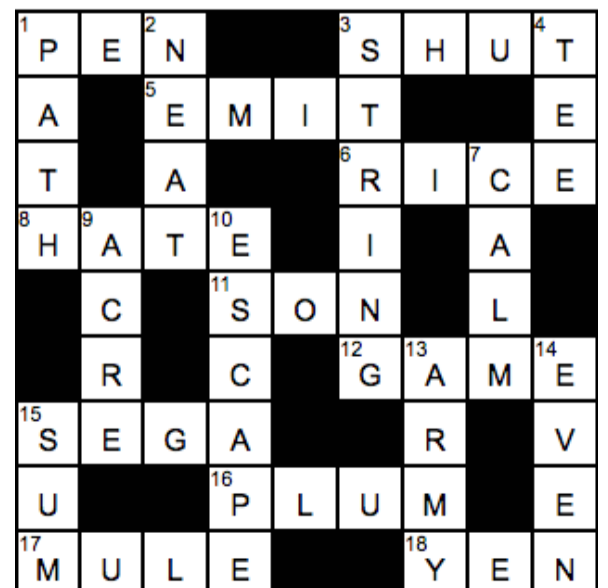
### Across

1. Clammy
4. Watch over
7. At home
8. A drink: lemon \_\_\_
10. Either's partner
11. Takes off
13. Tell a mistruth
15. Kind of meat from pig
17. Add more sugar
18. Not he
19. Greek H
21. Mississippi, for one
24. Between so and ti
26. Not used
27. Pronoun for a lifeless thing
28. Connection
29. Gas station

### Down

1. A rotary device
2. A single one
3. Friend
4. Casual top
5. Negative
6. Large barrel
9. Merit
11. Not as many
12. See-through
14. Suffix meaning more or less
16. Household pest
18. Give away for money
20. Low female singing voice
22. Pen filler
23. Ram's mate
25. Gore or Pacino
27. "That's the way it \_\_\_"

## Solutions to puzzle 216





# Reader's feedback

## Chiteme accuses opposition of sponsoring theft

Editor,

"Is there even one person who is not mentally ill in this party??" - Mwimanenwa Kamona

"This is now laughable. Everything it's the opposition. We shall hear that the leaked grades 7, 9 and 12 exams, it's the opposition." - Jay Toka Samungole

"Leadership is all about taking responsibility of both failures and successes recorded during your tenure, not heaping your failure your opponents and attribute successes to being as a result of hard work. Accept your own flaws then make corrections!" - Enock Seith

"This kind thinking, Zambians let's be worried. A Minister thinking like a kaponya." - Joseph A Mtonga Jr.

"This is unheard of! After carrying out genocide by retiring some civil servants on the pretext of national interest, they still want to cheat that those belong to the opposition." - Matakala Musialela

"The biggest challenge that this government has is its failure to accept responsibility for failure. Consequently, it becomes very difficult for this government to take corrective measures to redress the failure because such is always attributed to forces outside government. Leadership demands that one does not assume the aura of invincibility and immortality in as far as errors are concerned.

No one in the PF and in government is beyond error. A total disregard of this fact leads to statements like above from the Minister." - Felix Nkonge

## EDITOR'S NOTE:

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## Mabumba's explains exam leakages & cancellation to Parley

Dear Editor,  
 "The victims of such rotten systems are students, what has gone wrong? I think the real problem is the source where exam papers are printed, packaged and distributed. Please work on these three areas. Never used to exist during our time; maybe one out of 10 papers were brought straight to schools in police vehicles accompanied by police officers and personnel from Education Dept. and opened them right in the presence of pupils. Can you please govern the education sector properly!" - Jason Mwanza

"Now you take leakages serious because the leakage was on social media? We've had leakages all along." - Thulani M'sandibvute Mwinga

"Quite alright the paper leaked, but not everybody had it. Why should the innocent be affected?" - Amon Ngosa

"These people should ask Dr Chituwo. There was no leakage when he was Education Minister. Those who sat for exams during his tenure can attest to this." - Gabriel Samunyina

## Kandeta's revelation that Commerce Ministry accountants stole K450,000 when IFMIS crashed

Editor,

"I steal K450,000, which is more than my retirement package; I am fired! There is nothing you are doing; seize their assets take them to court, Kapoko can't be alone." - Musukwa Kanjere

"Wow! Civil servants are getting rich quick!" - Joseph Maimbolwa Namasiku

"If there is a place with better systems is the govt so as an accountant, myself, those two accountants are sacrificial lambs." - Chongo Kanwa

"Those two are just a tip of the iceberg, bigger crooks will be nabbed! One day, they are going to blame HH again just as they always do when they make a mess of things!" - Richard Mushabati

"Prosecute, jail them and recover the money back; that is the only way stealing can stop in government." - Andrew Banda

"I like Kandeta, keep up the good work. Conviction and hanging by the neck is the best; we are tired of corruption and stealing." - Matutu Matutu

"Ba Kandeta, please, how much did the people who bought fire tenders 'eat'? What about those mentioned in the FIC Trends Report, how much?" - Ngambi Stanford

# China vows to defend Taiwan, South China Sea 'at any price'

China vowed it will never give up an inch of its territory - whether it's the self-ruled island of Taiwan it claims as its own or in the disputed waters of the South China Sea.

China's Defence Minister Wei Fenghe made the remarks on Thursday at the opening of the Xiangshan Forum in Beijing, which China styles as its answer to the annual Shangri-La Dialogue security forum in the wealthy city-state of Singapore.

"If someone tries to separate Taiwan from China, the Chinese armed forces will take action at any price," Wei warned.

China's military ties with the United States are important and sensitive, he said, adding Taiwan is a "core" interest and Beijing opposes displays of strength by "outside forces" in the South China Sea.

Beijing has been infuriated by recent US sanctions on its military, one of a growing number of flashpoints in ties with Washington that include a bitter trade war, Washington's backing of Taiwan, and the US' military posture in the South China Sea.

"The islands in the South China Sea have long been China's territory. They're the legacy of our ancestors and we can't afford to lose a single inch of them," said Wei.

The world's two largest economies need to deepen high-level ties to navigate tension and rein in the risk of inadvertent conflict, US

defence chief James Mattis told his Chinese counterpart last week.

A former US military commander warned on Wednesday it's likely the United States will be at war with China in 15 years.

Retired Lieutenant-General Ben Hodges said the US will need to focus more attention on defending its interests in the Pacific.

"I think in 15 years - it's not inevitable - but it is a very strong likelihood that we will be at war with China," Hodges told military and political experts.

"The United States does not have the capacity to do everything it has to do in Europe and in the Pacific to deal with the Chinese threat," Hodges said.

"So you're going to see us ... permanently assign forces for the eventuality that in 10 or 15 years we're going to be having to fight in the Pacific."

AL JAZEERA



Hurricane Willa swept through the town of Escuinapa in Mexico's Sinaloa state, late on October 23, 2018. AFP

## Putin: If US delivers missiles to Europe, we will mirror this

Russian President Vladimir Putin says Russia will respond in kind if the US withdraws from the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces Treaty.

Putin's warning followed US President Donald Trump's weekend announcement

that he intends to opt out of the landmark 1987 nuclear arms control pact - which rid Europe of land-based nuclear missiles - over alleged Russian violations.

"If the United States does withdraw from the INF treaty, the main question

is what they will do with these newly available missiles. If they will deliver them to Europe, naturally our response will have to mirror this," Putin told reporters in Moscow on Wednesday.

Trump said the treaty was

ineffective because it does not include China, which has intermediate-range missile capability.

Negotiated by then US President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and ratified by the US Senate, the

INF treaty eliminated the medium-range missile arsenals of the world's two biggest nuclear powers and reduced their ability to launch a nuclear strike at short notice.

American Cruise and Pershing missiles deployed in Britain and West Germany were removed as a result while the Soviet Union pulled back its SS-20s out of European range. But since 2014, the US has accused Russia of breaching the INF by developing the SSC-8, a land-based, intermediate-range Cruise missile which also has the name of Novator 9M729.

On Wednesday, Putin again rejected Trump's claim that Russia breached the INF, saying a collapse of the pact would lead to a new arms race, a situation which he described as "extremely dangerous".

He alleged it was the US that violated the agreement. AL JAZEERA

## NATO shows Russia its military might in giant exercises

Norway hosts NATO's biggest exercises since the end of the Cold War from Thursday, to remind Russia the Alliance stands united despite seeds of doubt planted by US President Donald Trump. Some 50,000 soldiers, 10,000 vehicles, 65 ships and 250 aircraft from 31 countries are taking part in Trident Juncture 18, which is aimed at training the Atlantic Alliance to defend a member state after an aggression.

"In recent years, Europe's security environment has significantly deteriorated," NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, of Norway, said.

"Trident Juncture sends a clear message to our nations and to any potential adversary. NATO does not seek confrontation but we stand ready to defend all Allies

against any threat," he told reporters on Wednesday.

While the "potential adversary" has not been officially identified, Russia is on everybody's minds.

The country, which shares a 198-kilometre (123-mile) border with Norway in the Far North, has repeatedly flaunted its military strength in recent years.

The Russian army has annexed Crimea, helped destabilise eastern Ukraine, beefed up its military capabilities in the Arctic, and conducted its biggest ever exercises in the Far East in September. The Russian embassy in Oslo said it considered Trident Juncture an "anti-Russian" exercise.

"Such activity ... comes

across as provocative, even if you try to justify it as being of a purely defensive nature," it said.

For months, Moscow has been annoyed by the growing Western military presence in the region. The United States and Britain have been increasing their deployments in Norway to accustom their troops to cold weather combat. AFP

## Khashoggi murder: CIA Director Gina Haspel 'heard Khashoggi audio'

CIA director Gina Haspel has heard audio recordings that are believed to capture the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi, media reports say. They say Ms Haspel was allowed to listen to the audio during a visit to Turkey earlier this week. Khashoggi, a US-based critic of the Saudi government, was killed during a visit to its consulate in Istanbul. Saudi Arabia has blamed the killing on "rogue agents". The case has strained relations with the US and other allies. Soon after the murder on 2 October, Turkish media quoted officials as saying they had audio recordings of Khashoggi's interrogation and death, but gave no details about the contents or how the audio had been obtained. Ms Haspel travelled to Turkey on Monday. On Wednesday Turkey's Sabah newspaper said she had listened to the recordings. Now, sources cited by the Washington Post and Reuters news agency have backed up the reports. *BBC*



Reporters work in the street as New York City Police Commissioner James O'Neil and Mayor Bill de Blasio hold a news conference after CNN evacuates its NY headquarters because of a pipe bomb scare. *AFP*

President Donald Trump continues to make calls via cell phone despite intelligence that China and Russia listen in, The New York Times reported Wednesday.

The Times report, citing current and former officials, said Chinese spies have listened to Trump's iPhone calls and that the President's aides had told him Russian spies were listening regularly.

Trump's cell phone use has been noted throughout his tenure, and security experts have raised concerns in the past. CNN noted in April that after John Kelly became chief of staff, Trump made more calls through the White House switchboard, but by the time of the April report, the President had begun to make more calls through his cell.

The New York Times report said the officials raising an alarm about Trump's refusal to stop making unsecured calls were doing so out of frustration.

Those officials told the Times that China was seeking to use its findings on Trump to help the country in its trade dispute with the US and that the Chinese had noted Trump's conversations with Stephen Schwarzman, head of The Blackstone Group, and Steve Wynn, a Las Vegas figure who established major investments in Macau, a gambling hub in China. Wynn stepped down as finance chair for the Republican National Committee last January following allegations of sexual misconduct, which he denied. China, in turn, has begun

# China, Russia listening to Trump's cell phone calls

using its own businessmen to try to influence people friendly with those Trump talks to, according to the New York Times report,

hopes the information will make it to the President. An attorney for Wynn told the Times that Wynn was retired and

declined to comment, and a spokeswoman for Blackstone said Schwarzman "has been happy to serve as an

intermediary on certain critical matters between the two countries at the request of both heads of state."

Schwarzman spokeswoman Christine Anderson told CNN she had no additional comment. *CNN*

# Sahle-Work Zewde named Ethiopia's first woman president

Ethiopia's parliament has named Sahle-Work Zewde as the country's first woman president.

The decision was made by a unanimous vote on Thursday during the second Special Joint Session of Ethiopia's two houses of parliament - the House of Peoples' Representatives and the House of the Federation.

A former top diplomat, Zewde has served as both the special representative of the United Nations' secretary-general and the head of the UN office to the African Union.

She will replace Mulatu Teshome in the largely ceremonial role, serving under Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, who holds the country's highest executive powers, including responsibility for the armed forces.



During her diplomatic career, Zewde was also head of the UN office to Kenya and has acted as Ethiopia's ambassador to several

countries including France, Djibouti and Senegal. In mid-October, Abiy appointed a 20-person cabinet in which half the

posts were assigned to women. They include defence minister Aisha Mohammed and Muferiat Kamil

who leads the newly-created Ministry of Peace, responsible for police and domestic intelligence agencies. *AL JAZEERA*

Disney World and Disneyland so much that they never leave.

Despite years of denials from the House of Mouse, an urban legend has been confirmed: Human ashes are regularly scattered at the theme parks.

Loved ones of the recently deceased are known to place the remains on the Pirates of the Caribbean ride, the Dumbo ride, near Cinderella's castle — pretty much everywhere, according to a new report in the Wall Street Journal. It happens about once a month, often enough that custodians know to call for a "HEPA cleanup" with a special vacuum cleaner when it does.

The most popular place for people to spread ashes? "The Haunted Mansion probably has so much human ashes in it that it's not even funny," an unnamed custodian told the newspaper.

One employee said she and her co-workers got in trouble for referring to such incidents as "Code Grandma."

For guests, there are consequences for getting caught.

"This type of behavior is strictly prohibited and unlawful," a company spokeswoman told the Journal. "Guests who attempt to do so will be escorted off property."

The act of spreading ashes without permission is a misdemeanor, according to a spokesman for the Anaheim (Calif.) Police Department.

But there are plenty of people willing to take the risk, if it means their beloved friend or family member can spend eternity with Mickey Mouse and pals. They just hide the ashes in Ziploc bags or pill bottles when they come to the park.

Jodie Jackson Wells went with the latter in 2009 when she brought her mom's ashes to Disney World, where she sprinkled them on the It's a Small World ride and in front of Cinderella's Castle.

"Anyone who knew my mom knew Disney was her happy place," Wells told the Journal.

When people like Wells do get caught, theme park employees reportedly shut the ride down for "technical difficulties" until any visible ashes are removed.

So that's what they're doing... **YAHOO**

# Disney theme parks: The happiest — and ashiest — place on Earth



A statue of Walt Disney stands at the front of Disney World

## David Schwimmer: 'I didn't steal beer' from Blackpool shop

A UK police force's search for a Ross Geller "lookalike" thief must go on after the real star cleared his name in a social media video.

Officers in Blackpool shared the CCTV still of the man, dubbed the "spitting image" of Friends actor David Schwimmer, clutching a crate of beer. Schwimmer responded to jokes posted on Blackpool Police's Facebook post

with the video on a convenience store investigation." Wednesday.

He wished officers hunting the double "good luck with the investigation".

In the video posted to Twitter and Instagram, the star is seen furtively glancing at a camera as he walks through

clutching cans of beer.

"Officers, I swear it wasn't me," says the accompanying post.

"As you can see, I was in New York.

"To the hardworking Blackpool Police, good luck with the

investigation."

Police had earlier confirmed Schwimmer was not in the UK at the time of the offence, but the original post has descended into something of a Friends quote-fest, attracting 133,000 comments referencing the

show.

"I don't think it's been this guy's day, his week, his month or even his year," wrote Nick Croston, while Olly Byrne quipped: "I'm suprised you've not found him... it's like you're always stuck in second gear." **BBC**

## Cardi B on Nicki Minaj: "I Always Address People Face-to-Face"

Cardi B's interest in Nicki Minaj seems to be waning.

In a FaceTime interview with Ebro Darden on his Beats 1 show on Apple Music, the rapper was asked whether she could be in the same room as Minaj—without fighting—following their Fashion Week showdown. "I don't care," she said. "It's whatever the energy's like. I don't care."

Earlier this week, Cardi B's song "Money" leaked—and she blamed Minaj's fans for spreading it. "This happens all the time, you know? When you give it to streaming services, it might go to a freakin' different country...and somebody from there leaked it. And, you know, people don't like you, so they're gonna keep spreading it. It was literally the people who hate me who posted it. My fans were like, 'Please, don't post it.'

Everything that I do, they be on it before my fans," she said. "Seems like you love me, so it's like, 'F--k it. I can't retract it; I might as well put it out.'"

In "Money," she addresses her critics ("I heard that Cardi went pop / Yeah, I did go pop / That's me bustin' they bubble") and her competition ("Cardi at the tip-top, bitch / Kiss the ring and kick rocks, sis") But she denied speculation that it's a Minaj-inspired diss track. "The way that I came up, it was never about dissing nobody, and I still feel like I don't need to diss anybody for nothing. My music was never about that. I have a short temper, so that's like doing things that I don't stand for," the "I Like It" rapper explained. "I don't like when people be subbing me. So, why would I subbing you on music? Any problem I have, I always address people face-

to-face."

Cardi B made similar comments when she called out the Barbz on Instagram Live. "They claim they hate me, but they really love me," she said, "because they be on my page before my fans."

Minaj has not responded to Cardi B's latest gripes.

After releasing her Invasion of Privacy album in April, Cardi B plans to share a collection of bonus tracks. "The plan was always to drop a, like, bonus. But I just didn't [think] I was going to be so busy doing back-and-forth, back-and-forth things after I gave birth. It's like, 'Oh my, God. Like, my schedule is so flooded.' Maybe in December or maybe January. I don't know," the rapper pondered. "It's just songs that I felt were really good songs that didn't make the album." **EONLINE**

## Sofia Vergara: Modern Family actress is best-paid star on US TV by far

Modern Family star Sofia Vergara is the best-paid actor on US TV, earning \$16m (£12.4m) more than her nearest rival, according to Forbes magazine.

Vergara earned \$42.5m (£33m) in 2017-18, Forbes said - far ahead of the top-earning man, The Big Bang Theory's Jim Parsons, who is on \$26.5m (£20.5m).

Overall, the top 10 men still earned more than the top 10 women, but the gap has closed since last year.

The Big Bang Theory and Modern Family actors make up 13 of the 20 names.

Five of the six next best-paid on-screen stars behind Vergara are in The Big Bang Theory.

As well as Parsons, who plays Sheldon in the CBS sitcom, there is Johnny Galecki, who plays Leonard, Kaley Cuoco (Penny), Kunal Nayyar (Raj) and Simon Helberg (Howard), who earned between \$23.5m (£18.2m) and \$25m (£19.4m) each.

But their pay has dropped since last year's list after they reportedly took pay cuts in order to give co-stars Mayim Bialik (Amy) and Melissa Rauch (Bernadette) pay rises.

As a result, that pair are now on the list of the 10 best-paid actresses for the first time, on \$12m (£9.3m) each.

However all those bumper pay packets won't last for much longer - The Big Bang Theory will end next year.

Grey's Anatomy star Ellen Pompeo was also near the top, on \$23.5m (£18.2m) - a rise of \$10m since last year after she reportedly signed a new contract with ABC.

The Forbes figures include sponsorship and licensing deals as well as TV show salaries.

Sofia Vergara's total counts her tie-ups with coffee maker SharkNinja Coffee and furniture chain Rooms To Go, the magazine said. She is top for the seventh year in a row. **BBC**

## 'We've got the power!' In DRC, rap moves to take on rumba

It is a conflict at once cultural, generational and political: rap music in DR Congo is staging a frontal assault on rumba, accusing its ageing stars of only singing of love and other banalities.

DRC's growing army of rappers say their urban lyrics reflect a gritty realism edged with angst as one of Africa's biggest and most unstable nations heads towards a troubled presidential election.

At the back of a courtyard in Bandal, a popular and trendy district of the capital Kinshasa, a DJ called DDT has opened Kinshasound, a recording studio which is about the size of a toilet.

At the mixing deck, beat maker Kratos is playing around with a mix of ethnic rhythms caught somewhere between the big sounds of the Bronx and the driving drumbeats of Afrobeat or Afro-Trap.

This tiny studio has attracted



A video-clip involving an actor covered in condoms for Belgium singer and artist Baloji, who is part of a wave of Congolese rap

rap artists like Sista Becky, Alesh and Magneto, who electrified the crowds at last month's Red One urban music festival in Kinshasa.

But Kinshasound has also attracted other visitors -- among them officials

responsible for music and events at the national censorship board who shut it down in August, DDT explains.

It was eventually reopened after a series of negotiations, which involved handing

over some cash.

And their complaint? That DDT was producing "obscene songs which were an offence to common decency" and violated a law on censorship dating back to 1996. **AFP**

As the country mourns the death of hip-hop star HHP, discussions around depression are taking centre stage.

The circumstances leading to the artist's death remain unclear but he had been suffering from depression for several years.

Jabulani 'HHP' Tsambo's friend and fellow musician Siyabonga Metane, who is popularly known as Slikour, says not enough is known about

# HHP's death thrusts depression into spotlight

the dangers of depression. He says communities need to be educated about depression.

"I don't know how we can start teaching ourselves to deal with it, people who live with it and what

advice we give them."

At the same time, condolences continue to pour in following the

announcement of the death of one of South Africa's most respected hip-hop artists, HHP.

Many have turned to social media to pay their respects to the star, whose real name is Jabulani Tsambo.

Musician Cassper Nyovest has tweeted saying he cannot believe what has happened.

Meanwhile, HHP has been remembered for his ability to cheer people up with his sense of humour. South African producer DJ Cleo says: "He'll be remembered for being himself. He'll be remembered for humour as well, he was one of the funniest people you can ever be around. Obviously, he'll be remembered for his rhymes, for his flow. He was larger than life."

Spokesperson Nomazwe Ntlokwana says: "The Gauteng MEC for Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation Ms Faith Mazibuko has expressed her sadness upon the devastating news of the passing of yet another South African music icon, our legendary hip-hop star Jabulani Tsambo."

**MSN**



Ellen DeGeneres forces Sean 'Diddy' Combs to face fear of clowns on Thursday's episode of The Ellen DeGeneres Show, where he unknowingly came face-to-face with one of his greatest fears. **EONLINE**

LeBron James had 19 points, 10 assists and seven rebounds as Los Angeles clobbered the Phoenix Suns 131-113, giving the four-time MVP his first win as a Laker.

James scored all his points in three quarters and likely would have posted his 74th career triple double if he hadn't sat out the fourth with the game already in hand.

But this Laker win, he said, was by committee as seven players reached double figures.

"It feels great to win, period," he said. "But it feels good for us to know that what we have been doing over training camp and these first few games of the season that we are continuing to get better."

"We got better tonight and we are going to try and continue that going forward."

Lance Stephenson had 23 points, JaVale McGee added 20 points, and Kyle Kuzma 17 for the Lakers.

James signed with the Lakers three months ago after leading the Cleveland Cavaliers to four straight NBA final appearances, including their first championship in 2016.

James joins a Lakers club that has missed the playoffs in each of their last five seasons, the longest playoff drought in franchise history

# James finally gets into win column as Lakers rout Suns

for the 16-time NBA champions.

"We stuck to the game plan," James said. "We were able to get them out of it in the later

stages of the first quarter, and then took it into the second quarter and into the half, all the way to the end of the game."

Devin Booker led the Suns with 23 points, seven rebounds and seven assists but left the game in the third quarter with a sore

hamstring. Deandre Ayton, the first draft pick this year, had 22 points and 11 rebounds.

Los Angeles was without

suspended guard Rajon Rondo for his role in a heated fist fight with Houston Rockets Chris Paul on Saturday night.

They were also missing Brandon Ingram who was slapped with a four-game ban for starting the melee, then, after being separated, charging back into the kerfuffle and throwing a wild sucker punch from behind at an unsuspecting Houston player.

Phoenix committed four turnovers in a 17-2 Los Angeles outburst that put the Lakers up 63-43 with 3:51 left in the first half.

The Lakers led 76-54 at the break and Phoenix never got closer than 16 in the third quarter.

Elsewhere, Kawhi Leonard scored a season-high 35 points to help the Toronto Raptors improve to 5-0 with a 112-105 win over the Minnesota Timberwolves, equalling their best start in franchise history.

Jonas Valanciunas scored 16 points, Serge Ibaka had 15 and Norman Powell added 10 for the Raptors, who also won five straight to start the 2015-16 season.

Jimmy Butler scored 23 points, Derrick Rose had 16 and Taj Gibson 13 for Minnesota.

In Houston, Donovan Mitchell scored 38 points to power the Utah Jazz to a 100-89 win over the Rockets who struggled without the suspended Paul and then they lost James Harden, the reigning NBA MVP, in the fourth quarter with an injury.

Harden, who is expected to be looked at by team doctors on Thursday, said his hamstring is sore but the injury is not serious. "Just being cautious," he said.

With Harden out the game, the Jazz regained control, scoring the next 10 points to make it 94-79 and cruised to victory.

The Rockets had to rely on 34-year-old Carmelo Anthony who finished with 22 points. Harden scored a team-high 29.

Paul finished up a two-game suspension for his role in the fight with Lakers Rondo.

In Atlanta, Kent Bazemore scored 32 points as the Atlanta Hawks rallied from a 26 point first half deficit to defeat the Dallas Mavericks 111-104.

Bazemore delivered a clutch monster dunk with just over a minute to go and Trae Young contributed 17 points in the win. **YAHOO**



Barca cruise past Inter without Messi with Rafinha scoring the opening goal as Barcelona saw off Inter in a 2-0 Champions League victory on Wednesday. AFP

## Arsenal's Mesut Ozil is 'thankful' Arsene Wenger was his coach

Mesut Ozil says he is "thankful" Arsene Wenger was his coach and hopes to see the former Arsenal boss return to club management.

Wenger signed Ozil from Real Madrid in September 2013 and the pair went on to

win three FA Cups together before the Frenchman left Arsenal at the end of last season after 22 years at the club.

Ozil has played a key part in Arsenal's recent form, with Unai Emery's side winning

their last 10 matches in all competitions following Monday's 3-1 victory over Leicester.

As part of a Twitter Q&A, the 30-year-old praised Wenger, who recently expressed his intention to return to football

in January, and said he would like to see him back in the dugout soon.

"He always protected and supported me the best way he could," Ozil said.

"I'm very thankful he was my coach. Would love to see him

as a club manager again."

Ozil also said he was still a Germany supporter despite the controversial circumstances surrounding his international retirement.

The 2014 World Cup winner quit playing for his country in July and accused some German FA officials of racism after the fallout created over previously posing for a photograph with Turkey's president Recep Tayyip Erdogan. The German FA (DFB) have rejected Ozil's accusations of racism.

However, Ozil said he is still following the national side and is a Germany supporter.

"I've always been supporting the DFB Team since my childhood and I've still many friends playing for the German National Team," he said. "Of course I'm still supporting the team!"

Elsewhere, Ozil listed Matteo Guendouzi as the top young player at Arsenal, and claimed Cristiano Ronaldo is the best player he has played with and Lionel Messi the best he has played against.

**SKYSPORTS**



Angel Di Maria celebrates after scoring Paris Saint-Germain's last-gasp equaliser against Napoli in the Champions League on Wednesday. AFP

# Vandenbroeck explains Zambia's poor showing

**By Alex Chilumbwe**  
Chipolopolo coach Sven Vandenbroeck says it is normal for players to perform better at

club level than in their respective national teams. Vandenbroeck said a club had different combination and coordination of

players as compared to national teams. In an interview with Goal Diggers! Vandenbroeck also said that national

team squads did not have adequate time to allow a coach to cement a better player combination. "People will always judge

a player's performance at club and national team level. Few will understand that a club offers enough time for players to blend

in and actually bond while national team call-ups solely depend on camp time to do all that," said Vandenbroeck.

And soccer analyst Paul Phiri backed Vandenbroeck's statement and added that it was up to the players themselves to prove a point to the coach and showcase their best form. "That players fail to perform as good as they do at club should not be a coach's problem. The coach summons those he believes have the capability to deliver based on their club performing. Players on the other hand should play up to the coach and fans' expectations," said Phiri. A number of both former and current Chipolopolo players abroad had good performances last weekend in their respect leagues with Stophila Sunzu, Jacob Mulenga and Collins Mbesuma finding the back of the net.

Justine Shonga put in a full shift while Augustine Mulenga played the first 45 minutes for Orlando Pirates who secured a 1-0 win over Chippa United in South Africa. Strikers Gamphani Jones Lungu and midfielder Salulani Phiri came face to face as SuperSport United defeated Polokwane City 6-5 on penalties to secure their spot in the Telkom Knockout quarter-finals. Lungu played the first 114 minutes while Salulani Phiri played the last 18 minutes. Mwape Musonda assisted a goal in Black Leopards loss to Kaizer Chiefs in a Telkom Knockout Challenge. The match ended in a one all draw but Chiefs managed to win 4-2 on post match penalties. Former Chipolopolo coach Wedson Nyirenda's Baroka FC recorded a two nil win over Golden Arrows to book a spot in the Telkom Knock Out Challenge quarter finals. Rodrick Kabwe played a full 90 minutes for Ajax Cape Town who played out to a disappointing goalless draw against Ubuntu. In DRC, Kabaso Chongo and Nathan Sinkala played 90 minutes for TP Mazembe who beat Motema Pembe by three goals to nil. Rainford Kalaba was left out of the match day squad.

## ZafCa tells coaches to learn from 2018 challenges

**By Alex Chilumbwe**  
Shepolopolo forward and top striker Barbara Banda has signed a contract with a Spanish side Femenino Logrono whose longevity is not known yet. Banda who caught the side's attention during the COSAFA Castle Women championship last month in South Africa played for the Zambia Army side Green Buffaloes before signing with Logrono. She has become Zambia's first footballer to grace the La Liga and the latest female footballer in Zambia to sign

with an international club. In a statement availed to the media by the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) Banda was optimistic she was going to make positive contribution to her new club. "I watched my new club on Sunday and I must say they are a good side. I have since resumed training with them after trials and

I am confident that I will make positive contribution to the team," said Banda. And Zambia's top female FIFA referee Gladys Lengwe applauded Banda's achievement saying it was a clear indication of the fruition that followed hard work. "I am very happy for the young lady. It has shown what hard work can

result into and it is a good motivational milestone for other young ladies that are in this sport dominated by males. I am not positive more and more young ladies will work harder," said Lengwe. Meanwhile, Banda's former coach at Green Buffaloes football club Beauty Mwamba appealed to other female footballers in

the country to see beyond the gender barriers that she said could be broken. "Banda's achievement should not be taken lightly. She has broken not only a record but a gender barrier that few female footballers in Zambia did not think would be broken. As her first coach, I'm really happy and I feel inspired by all this," summed Mwamba.

**By Alex Chilumbwe**  
Green Buffaloes volleyball team is the official runners-up to defending champions Green Eagles in the Midlands volleyball league. The mid week game was played yesterday at Arakan barracks and was no short of thrills as the army side syndicated their 3-0 win over Nkwazi. Although Nkwazi recalled all of their players in police training camp, their input was not good enough to win a single set of the game. The first set that saw long ball specialist Aaron Sinkala float in thin air, block spikes and offer unexpected coverage to teammates ended 25 -19. His absence of his thrillers was covered by Gabriel Mubanga's thunderous spikes that sent one Nkwazi player out of the game due to impact. The second set saw Nkwazi block most Buffaloes' attempts but only to a scoreline of 6-4 in Nkwazi's favour. Buffaloes playmaker Richard 'Appetito' Phiri coordinated well with setter Joseph 'Fufa' Bwalya to widen the scoreline to 15-9 through his unexpected tosses. The second set finished 25-17. The police setter directed

## Buffaloes volleyball seal 2nd spot with Nkwazi win

six balls in the net while their newly signed setter Raban could not control

aerial balls that resulted into Buffaloes' points. The third set finished 25-19.

The result between Unza and Nkwazi on Sunday will determine if Nkwazi

will officially finish third or fourth as Unza beat Buffaloes 2-1 in series.



Green Buffaloes and Nkwazi in midweek action at Arakan Barracks court yesterday - Picture by Alex Chilumbwe



### Wade hangs up rugby boots at 27

Christian Wade, the third highest try-scorer in English Premiership history, announced his retirement from the sport at the age of 27 on Wednesday amid rumours of a move to the NFL.

The wing, who in spite of his try-scoring record was capped just once by England in 2013 -- has reportedly been targeting a shot at the NFL. AFP

### James finally gets into win column as Lakers rout Suns

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Liverpool's Mohamed Salah has now scored 50 goals for the club in just 65 appearances. AFP

### Sven explains Chipolopolo's poor showing...

# PLAYERS DON'T

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# BOND ENOUGH

