



# I'M READY TO

# RULE - HH

## ...Zambians have waited enough

*By Sipilisiwe Ncube*  
UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema says his party has remained the strongest opposition political party in its 20 years of existence because of its continued participation in elections under a focused leadership. In an interview with News Diggers! Hichilema said a majority of Zambians were eager to test his leadership, judging by the national vote that the UPND has been recording in past elections.  
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Health Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya with Luapula Province Minister Nickson Chilangwa hold siamese twins Bupe and Mapalo who are under the care of Kawambwa District Hospital after their parents abandoned them

**Improve hospitals to cut cost of your medical checkups - NAREP tells Lungu**  
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**Kwacha will depreciate more - analyst**  
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## Lungu has no powers to stop mining firms from retrenching, says Wynter

*By Sipilisiwe Ncube*  
The President has no powers to stop mining companies from retrenching workers, says former justice minister Wynter Kabimba. And Kabimba yesterday mocked

Chishimba Kambwili saying, evil has paid him after being expelled from PF because he celebrated the misfortunes of others who were forced out of the ruling party. Meanwhile, Kabimba says he doesn't

understand what the PF is trying to achieve from the privatisation inquiry which can be answered by a ministerial statement from the Minister of Finance, adding that his party would not support the witch-hunt.  
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**Sewer overflow caused water contamination, says NWASCO**  
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# I won't allow LCC to harass vendors - Kamba

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Aspiring PF Lusaka Provincial Chairman Kennedy Kamba says he will not allow the Lusaka City Council (LCC) to turn street vendors into enemies of the PF government by harassing them. And Kamba says complaining about him in the media will not unite the party, but encouraged those aggrieved to follow the right communication channel. In an interview, Kamba vowed not to allow LCC to turn vendors against PF. "I have just seen that the Lusaka City Council were destroying the mobile money booths in the Central Business [District] of Lusaka, why? Based on that they don't have a license! Honestly, how do we go that far when the unemployment levels in Lusaka are very high? The best the Lusaka City Council should have done is to engage those mobile money service providers. And that permit [which] they are talking about is K100. That is not fair and those are the people who voted for us in Lusaka District. When we are ushered in as chairman of Lusaka, we are going to look into that. We are going to harmonize, including the street vendors. We have to bring them on the table so that they also provide what they have on the table [and] we will also provide what we have on the table [so that] at the end of the day,

we agree," Kamba said. He said he would not allow street vendors to be turned into enemies of government resulting from mistreating them and confiscating their goods. "What I don't want is to be treating the traders and the street vendors as enemies of this government. I am not going to allow that because those are the people who voted for Edgar Chagwa Lungu, and this party belongs to the poor. When we talk about the poor people, those are the people who are selling groundnuts, the women who are selling Chikanda. Honestly, somebody has got a capital of K50, he buys Chikanda and starts going in the streets [selling and] when you find that person, and you arrest her and take him to the fast-track court and charge him K1,000 failure to that you jail him for two months? How many people are going to be jailed? So, that policy which the Lusaka City Council has come about with is not going well with me because I strongly feel that those are the poor Zambians who voted for the party, who voted for this government and we need to engage them," Kamba added. Kamba also said that street vendors are running to trade along public roads because they know that the roads are public properties. "Have you seen any street vendors at Levy Park? The answer is no.



Have you seen any street vendor at Manda Hill Shopping Mall? Have you seen any street vendor at Arcades or East Park Mall? The answer is no. They are going through Lumumba Road; they are going through Cairo Road; they are going through Cha Cha Cha Road because they know that those roads belong to the Zambian government, they are not [on] private properties. So, hence we need to engage them because the tendency of the Zambian people [is that] we have been brought up as people who easily buy from the vendors. Someone cannot drive just Cabinet office all the way to Soweto Market just to go and buy tomato for K10. There are others who are providing tomatoes on the doorstep," Kamba narrated.

"What we need to do is to bring them on board, if we need to license them, if we can give them a few days per week so that they can also earn something out of street vending, and if we can give them days to clean the street, those are the issues we need to put on the table, and they also have got a lot of issues to put on the table. Taking people to court over their K50 worth merchandize will de-campaign the party. Yes, the city should be clean and this is why we need to bring them on the table and look at them as people who voted us into office." And asked how he survived the pressure from those against his adoption, Kamba said it was important to air such grievances using the right communication channel.

"Don't mix structures and bloggers. We have got our colleagues who are on the social media 24/7 and we've got our party officials. Most of those people in the blogs, some of them don't have party positions. And we are not saying that we don't need our friends on social media. But what is important for those colleagues is to follow the right channel of the party if they have any grievances," said Kamba. "If Kennedy Kamba has erred, I am human, I can error; I am not God, [but] there are channels, which they should follow if they want to air their

grievances against me who has erred. They have to see the Secretary General of the party; they have to go through the National Youth Chairperson of the party; they have to see the National Women Chairperson of the party unlike washing dirty linen in the media; that is not going to unite us, and that is what the opposition is looking at. They really want this party to be divided so that it becomes easier for them to mobilize the party in Lusaka, which I am not going to allow when I am ushered into office. I am going to make sure that I unite the party in Lusaka."

## National dialogue will fail if some stakeholders are barred - Bizeck

By Thomas Mulenga

University of Zambia political historian Professor Bizeck Phiri says the dialogue process should not segregate some stakeholders. In an interview, Prof Phiri, said barring some stakeholders from being part of the dialogue would make the process fail. "When you are in the process of undertaking dialogue, it should be open, it should not be restrictive as to who should participate or who should not participate. And for that reason, the number of stakeholders cannot be determined, you can dialogue starting with two people, the number can go up to hundred people participating in the process. You cannot begin to preclude others, the moment you do that it means that the dialogue process is segregative and the moment you segregate, you are most likely to fail to achieve

the objective," Professor Phiri said. Professor Phiri insisted that the dialogue process should accommodate all stakeholders, including those with opposing views. "So when you are having a dialogue, let it be open. Every stakeholder has a view. And in the dialogue process, there is the issue of give and take in order to move forward together, without leaving anyone behind, because the moment you leave others behind, you are sowing seeds of discontent and when there is discontent, there will be a problem. So I would advise for an all-inclusive process. You may not agree with other views but bring them on board, listen to them and let them listen to what others are saying and in the process of giving and taking, you will be building the nation because the focus is the wellbeing of the nation," said Prof Phiri. "What we should be looking at is

that the dialogue process has already begun, there have been meetings that have been taking place, which are part of the dialogue, 18th January is not the beginning and the end, it is the continuation of the process. So all those who will be attending, let them focus on the objective of the dialogue, what is it that we want to achieve? Dialogue is a process, we are now in 2019, let them not think that dialogue will end, it will continue and others will come on board as we go on. So to begin to say this one should not be part of the process, this one what, then you are creating more problems, I don't think that would be the best approach." There have been calls from some political party officials, to prevent NDC consultant Chishimba Kamwili from attending the dialogue meeting, arguing that the Roan MP was not a party president but a consultant.

## Army worms attack C/Belt fields

By Daniel Chansa

The notorious army worms have invaded six districts on the Copperbelt, posing a serious challenge to farmers. Copperbelt Provincial Agriculture Coordinator Obvious Kabinda has, however, stated that measures are being put in place to address the spread of the pests. He stated that out of the 10 districts on the Copperbelt, six had confirmed cases of army worms. "As Copperbelt, we have recorded six districts with army worms. The six are Ndola with 9 camps affected, Kalulushi with 7, Chililabombwe with 3, Masaiti 1, Kitwe 8 and Chingola with 11 camps affected," Dr Kabinda disclosed. He disclosed that Copperbelt had 156 camps of which 39 had been affected. "What has happened is that early November, we trained some staff to help identify the army worms. So we are getting weekly reports. As government, we have started the procurement process to have the chemicals to fight the army worms, and by next week, we will receive the chemicals. We will start with the most areas at risk," said Kabinda. Last farming seasons, army worms destroyed thousands of hectares of maize.



**By Milimo Namangala**  
The Zambian National Students Union (ZANASU) has urged government to invest more into the education sector following a reduction in the budgetary allocation over the last three years. In a statement, ZANASU Information and Publicity Secretary Assa Willie stated that the reduced pass rate in the grade nine examination results should be a signal to government to improve

# ZANASU calls for increased budgetary support to education

learning infrastructure around the country. She added that there is need for government to urgently scale-up investment in the education sector given the dwindling budgetary allocations in the last three years. Declining budgetary

allocations to the sector have coincided with substantially reduced pass rates at grade nine level. Last week, total of 116,616 candidates out of the 255,449 that sat for the Grade 9 examination progressed to grade 10, representing a 45.65 per

cent reduction from the 52.76 per cent recorded 12 months prior. "ZANASU is moved by the reduction in the pass rate of the just-released grade nine examination results. With this kind of results, the government needs to give the education

sector more attention and hence the reduction in the budget allocation to education is questionable. Education is the key to success and development, hence if neglected, we are headed to a nation that has leaders with little or no knowledge,"

Willie warned. She additionally said that government needs to ensure all school requirements are met to enhance learning. "The reduction is alarming and should be a wake up call for the government to improve learning infrastructure. There is need to ensure that schools have conducive rooms and up to standard learning materials. Pupils also need to get into a habit of seriously researching, studying and revising as much as possible, otherwise their performance will not improve," she observed. Willie also cautioned pupils to desist from social media abuse and focus on their studies instead. "Pupils need to value education and reduce the time spent on social media and other forms of entertainment, it's important that they give education its own share of time. Zambia's attainment of universal primary and secondary education depends on our ability to educate our young ones. We also need to keep our teaching staff motivated unlike the current scenario where teachers remain unmotivated," stated Willie. Since 2011 when the Patriot Front formed government, there has been a decline in the budgetary allocation to the education sector. Resources allocated to the education sector rose from 17.5 per cent of the total budget to 20.2 per cent between 2012 and 2015, but this has since dropped from 17.2 per cent to 15.3 per cent of the total budget between 2016 and 2019.

# Zambia needs cheaper legal representation - PRISCCA

**By Mirriam Chabala**  
Prisons Care and Counseling Association (PRISCCA) executive director Dr Godfrey Malembeka has called on government to compliment its efforts in decongesting correctional facilities by employing more lawyers. And Dr Malembeka has appealed to the Law Association of Zambia to encourage members to take on more pro bono cases. In an interview, Dr Malembeka welcomed government's intention to decongest correctional facilities by creating more bed spaces and introducing community sentences for selected offences, but said government still needed to do more to reduce the backlog of cases. "PRISCCA participated in that policy review or should I say the newly introduced Zambia Correctional Service community sentencing guidelines which was led by the Zambia Law Development Commission. PRISCCA was invited to sit in that committee as one of the technical members. So I want to agree with the minister [of Justice] and what he's saying is commendable. But what has happened is that from the time the President assented to the new constitution amendment Act, changing the name to Correctional Service and the model from punitive to reformatory, we started reviewing not only the community sentencing but the entire Prisons Act Cap 97 has been reviewed and renamed and we have participated ourselves. One of the good things they are going to introduce is the Zambia Correctional Service community sentencing. There are people who will be recommended after serving a sentence

to go and finish the remaining part of it in their community and that is what the minister was alluding to," Dr Malembeka explained. "So we are very happy with that ourselves, that's why we participated because that will work very well with the non custodial options judiciary conducts because judiciary will continue giving suspended sentences, community sentences and fines. Now that is the way to go because the use of non custodial options in Zambia has been too low, very very low. So what we need is to improve to make the use of non custodial options in Zambia more effective. If you look at the larger portion of the cases that those incarcerated people are

facing, they are all minor, petty offences. So such people should actually be institutionalized, meaning, let them go back in the community and then they will be supervised by officers." Dr Malembeka asked government to find resources and recruit more state lawyers, saying they were a lot cheaper and could be found in districts where other legal practitioners had no presence. "On creating and introducing new space, we don't doubt this government. They've already proved because they've finished four new correctional facilities and they have done a lot more for example in commuting the death penalty and also pardoning thousands, that we don't doubt. So

it's a welcome move. But that weight needs complimentary effort. We need the judiciary and the Ministry of Justice to compliment also what minister (Stephen Kampyongo) was saying. What we need is not only to create space and put up all these places, the idea is good and we support that but what we want is to reduce the backlog of cases. So we want government to find resources and recruit more government lawyers because they are cheaper and they are found in districts where LAZ lawyers are not found," said Dr Malembeka. "The other thing we want to see is actually LAZ itself. LAZ should find mechanisms and ways of motivating its members... private law firms must

make the pro bono, free legal representation effective in Zambia. Legal representation in Zambia is very expensive. If I am to give you approximate statistics, Zambia still has about 3,500 to 4,000 people awaiting trial. These are remandees, they are innocent until proven guilty. We don't need that. We need to reduce that backlog to about 1,000. then we will be talking about decongesting. We need to keep convicts in our correctional facilities and very few remandees, like they have done in Malawi. That is what is required. If we approach this congestion issue from two perceptions, the one that the Minister spoke and the one that I am telling, reducing the backlog, then we shall be winning the wars."

# I can't sleep with my son, there're many women around, Accused tells court

**By Zondiwe Mbwewe**  
A 38-year-old man of George Compound who is alleged to have had carnal knowledge of his seven-year-old son against the order of nature, has told the Lusaka Magistrates' Court that there's no way he can sleep with his child with so many women in the area. But a police officer has testified that he found sores on the seven-year-old's private parts after being told that he was a victim of sodomy. In this matter, Victor Mukuka is charged with one count of unnatural offence, a charge which he denied before magistrate Nsunge Chanda last year. Particulars of the offence are that Mukuka, on dates unknown but between January and May 10, 2018, Lusaka, had unlawful carnal knowledge of his seven-year-old son against the order of nature. When the matter came up for continuation of trial, Tuesday,

inspector Micheal Kasanga, 45, of Matero Police Station under Child Protection Unit, told the court that on May 10, 2017, he was on duty when he received a report from a concerned citizen, who reported the alleged sodomy on behalf of the juvenile. He said he issued a medical report and the child was referred to UTH and then to Social Welfare for counseling. Kasanga said when the accused was apprehended, he denied the offence but was charged with the subject offence after the child insisted that his father used to sodomise him. "On May 12, 2017, Victor Mukuka was apprehended at George police and was later transferred to Matero Police where I recorded a warn and caution statement from him. I charged him with the offence which he denied committing. But since the child insisted that his father is the one who

allegedly sodomised him, I made up my mind and charged him for the subject offence," he said. Kasanga said when the police checked the child, they discovered sores on his private parts. "When we checked the child, he had sores on his private parts. After I interviewed the child, he said the father used to have anal sex with him. He said that happened many times. The child mentioned that they used to live just the two of them with the father," he said. The officer said he later learnt that Victor's wife had left him and after the couple divorced, she left the boy in his care. He added that the child was currently at an orphanage. In cross examination, Victor asked the officer for proof that he was the one sleeping with the boy. In response, Kasanga said it was because the child had insisted that it was the father who used

to have anal sex with him. The accused, however, claimed that other people were influencing his child to lie adding that they might have even bought biscuits for him. He added that there was no way he could sleep with his own son with so many women in the area. "Big people are the ones telling the boy to say what he said. They might have even bought biscuits for him. With a lot of women in the compound, how can I sleep with my son?" Victor asked. Magistrate Chanda, however, guided him to ask relevant questions only. Victor then asked "Did they examine me at the hospital for you to prove that the sperms (on the boy) were mine?" In response, and the witness said the doctor would come and explain. Trial continues January 17, and the accused remains remanded in custody.



By Sipilisiwe Ncube

UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema says his party has remained as the strongest opposition political party in its 20 years of existence because of its continued participation in elections under a focused leadership. In an interview with News Diggers! Hichilema said UPND was the only opposition party with structures and councillors all over the country, adding that it is now ready to govern the country. "I think the last 20 years of existence of the UPND, we have achieved a lot. By and large, you need to know that

# UPND is now ready to govern Zambia - HH

a lot of practice, today in this country, we have over 50 political parties that are registered and many of them are there purely in a symbolic manner. By that I am not demeaning anybody because you can only test that by

looking at those that are in Parliament, which party has councillors, and UPND has; which party has chairmen at councils, UPND has. I am talking about the opposition now. Which party has mayors? UPND has, which party has managed to run elections anytime, all the time? UPND has and continues to do that under a focused leadership. Essentially, UPND has structures all over the country. We have councillors in all the provinces of Zambia," Hichilema bragged. He said a larger portion of Zambians would like to see the UPND government them, as evidenced by the number of votes the party gets in elections.

"If you look at our performance, as a party, we have now institutionalised this organisation called UPND because we have for years as a party managed to get a national share of the vote. I am talking about a situation where for sometime a party was getting below 30 per cent of the share of the national vote. Today, if you look at the share of the national vote; we take the presidential votes for example...the last election moved us to 48 per cent," he said. "When you compare with the person that is in office today, above the threshold of 50 per cent plus one, the gentleman in State House is sitting in that

office on account of 13,022 votes. And when you just look at now, who constitutes the 100 per cent of the votes in this country? UPND and PF share 98 per cent plus of the total national vote. The rest of the parties that are participating are sharing less than two per cent." He argued that not being in office did not mean that the UPND did not win elections. "I don't think we can even take time to illustrate that UPND has grown, UPND is resilient, UPND is now institutionalised. And that's what you need in the organisation of a political party. It doesn't appear during elections only and

then disappear after that; I am talking about general elections, I think it's important for us to understand the strength and the future of our democracy. So, UPND has contributed substantively on democracy. The fact that we are not in office does not mean that we do not win an election, and I think that goes without say," he said. And Hichilema said he is now ready to govern this country because he has gained a lot of experience. "The party is now ready to govern this country. We have gathered a lot of experience, I know the things that work. And I want to give credit to the founding father of this party. He did a lot of work. He is a soldier who died on duty, but he died at the front of the party to grow democracy. And we carry on that torch, the seed [which] he planted has not only germinated, but has grown deep roots. It's entrenched in the Zambian community. So, I think UPND is ready to govern," said Hichilema.

## Kwacha set to depreciate further - financial analyst

By Milimo Namangala

Financial market analyst Mambo Hamaundu says the kwacha is likely to depreciate further following the slowdown in China's economy that will demand less of Zambia's copper exports. And Hamaundu says sustained pressure from Zambia's mounting public debts will contribute to the kwacha's depreciation as 2019 ends. China's slowed economic growth comes in part from tariff sanctions imposed by the US government under President Donald Trump's administration. China, being one of Zambia's five major export destinations, is reducing on its imports in an effort to stabilize its economy. When asked if the kwacha would be affected by China's sluggish economy, Hamaundu said the kwacha's performance will inevitably be negatively impacted, triggered by China's reduced copper demand. "The Chinese slowdown in the economy can only affect the Zambian economy to the extent that their slowdown also slows down the procurement of copper. I think what is truly the link, China is one of the biggest consumers or buyers of copper on the stock market, they, therefore, have an effect on the demand for copper and they drive the price upwards," Hamaundu told News Diggers! in an interview in Lusaka. "Now, if a slowdown means that they'll no longer be [in] a position to procure or to buy copper, then definitely, it affects us as a country from an export perspective because a significant portion of our exports is made up of copper and, therefore, if

our biggest consumer or buyer is out of the market, then it will definitely affect us. And, of course, an argument can be put to say that, when you check on the figures in terms of who buys, you'd find that their other countries buy, but the ultimate destination is China." And he also argued that the kwacha's performance, though unpredictable, would equally come under pressure by the country's mounting public debt. "It is difficult to just put a figure and say this is how high it will go, but I think that the general direction might be that of depreciation. I say so because the kwacha will be receiving a lot of pressure from the issues related to debt," observed Hamaundu. "Our country is highly indebted and we need quite a lot of money to service our debt, so that aspect of servicing our debt on its own constitutes a significant demand of foreign exchange whereas the supply side is not really increasing or there are no new suppliers who are coming on [to the foreign exchange market]. So, because of that, the direction is expected to be that of depreciation of the kwacha as opposed to appreciation. But with our debt structure, chances are we'll have a weaker currency at the end of the year." The kwacha depreciated to breach the K12 psychological barrier per dollar twice last year, while Zambia's external public debt maintained an upward trajectory to hit US \$9.51 billion by September 30 last year from US \$8.7 billion by the end of December, 2017.

## 'Drainage bus stop' shocks Lusaka Mayor



By Zondiwe Mbewe

Lusaka Mayor Miles Sampa has wondered how anyone with a brain can construct a bus stop shelter on top of an open drainage, saying investigations have been instituted within the Lusaka City Council (LCC) to ascertain the responsible culprits. And Sampa has cautioned that if levels of negligence are discovered the culprits responsible will be disciplined. Commenting on a picture circulating on social media, Wednesday, where a bus stop shelter near Kamwala Prison has been constructed on top of an uncovered drainage, Sampa said he had issued internal instructions to the director in charge of engineering of all drainages and roadworks

to explain the development because it did not make sense. He also said he would visit the bus stop to decide whether to shift the shelter or mount a cover over the drainage. "I have seen it (the picture), and I'm waiting for internal feedback. I have already issued internal instructions to the director in charge of engineering to explain to me why that bus stop ended up like that! Obviously, it doesn't make sense to me, also it's funny. Whoever did that, I don't know what they were thinking. We shall possibly put up a bridge in between the bus stop and the road so that it's usable. I will visit the place and see that we either shift it or put a little bridge in between," Sampa told News Diggers! in an interview, Wednesday. And Sampa said he wasn't aware

of the strange development. Sampa argued that anybody with a functioning brain could have realised that the shelter would be unusable. "As Mayor, I wasn't aware, it has just been brought to my attention, and I have demanded for an explanation from the people that are in charge of drainages and roads and bus stops, within the Council. As usual, if there are levels of negligence, people doing their works without choosing to use their brains, we will institute disciplinary measures because we want efficiency and effectiveness. Anybody with a brain that works could have seen that that bus stop wasn't going to work in the state that it had been put. But I cannot confirm until I have gotten an official report on who did that and why," said Sampa.



By Sipilisiwe Ncube

The President has no powers to stop mining companies from retrenching workers, says former justice minister Wynter Kabimba. And Kabimba yesterday mocked Chishimba Kambwili saying, evil has paid him after being expelled from PF because he celebrated the misfortunes of others who were forced out of the ruling party. Meanwhile, Kabimba says he doesn't understand what the PF is trying to achieve from the privatisation inquiry which can be answered by a ministerial statement from the Minister of Finance, adding that his party would not support the witch hunt. Speaking when he featured on United Voice radio's 'Add Your Voice' programme, Wednesday, Kabimba, who is the Rainbow Party General Secretary and 2021 presidential aspirant,

# Lungu has no powers to stop mines from retrenching says Wynter

said the President had no powers to stop mining firms from retrenching workers. "I noticed three days ago, I saw on TV the Association of Zambian Women Gemstone miners, they were at State House greeting the President. I was very interested in that clip and the conversation between the President and the women. And I listened to them very carefully. One, they said 'can you help us with listing arrangement where we can list equipment to maximize our production, two, they were crying for finance capital to capitalize

their small scale companies. I was interested in the response from the President which was very vague. Instead of just saying we don't have the capacity and we don't have those institutions in place, he was promising them something. There is no Zambian owned bank that can extend finance capital to those women. The President has no authority to order any of the existing banks today to give those women money, he doesn't have that power just like he has no power to order any mining company not to retrench," Kabimba said.

"He has made those pronouncements before but retrenchments have gone on. Even today, KCM is retrenching some of its workers from its underground pit. Barely a week before, the President had said 'we are not going to accept any retrenchment but the miners ignored him, showing him that he has no power.' And Kabimba mocked Chishimba Kambwili saying, evil had paid him after being expelled from PF because he celebrated the misfortunes of others who were forced out of the ruling party.

"Let me get to this statement that 'people celebrated when you were fired' I have heard this story before. Ba Kafula (caller) I can tell you my brother who was paying those people that were celebrating. I can tell you the people who were in PF, they are no longer in PF today, they are crying because Edgar has thrown them out and I can tell you how they were spending money to pay the people who were celebrating. Everybody knows this even in PF. I have met people that have confessed that 'X and Y paid me to demonstrate'. Comrade Chikwelete is seated with me, he can tell you who was giving him money to manufacture those coffins, he can tell you. He can tell you the events that took place," he said. "What I like about those events is that everybody who thought that they would benefit by Wynter Kabimba being out of PF are themselves out of PF today and they are more miserable than me. That's how God in the high heavens punishes wicked men and women. So I can tell you that there was nobody who celebrated. Those who celebrated were celebrating because they were paid to celebrate. And if you want more details, challenge me next time I will tell you. I will even tell you the names." And Kabimba said he doesn't understand what the PF is

trying to achieve from the privatisation inquiry because questions can be answered in a ministerial statement from the Minister of Finance. "I have not been very clear in my mind what the PF government is trying to do. There are people that are saying that 'no we want to know the privatization process was undertaken, we want to know how much money was realized from that process, we want to know how that money was invested, we want to know that money was spent.' Surely if that is what you want, you can ask the Ministry of Finance to give a ministerial statement in parliament because privatization was undertaken and superintended upon by the Ministry of Finance. So they have all the records. ZPA was under the ministry of Finance," he said. Meanwhile Kabimba said he had not joined the opposition alliance because he had not been invited. "At the consummation of this alliance, we were not invited. The first time when I came to learn about the alliance was when we were being asked to sign a notification to the police for a peaceful demonstration on the increment for salaries for ministers. So we have not understood clearly the agenda for this alliance. And [those saying that] 'we didn't ask you to join the alliance because you are defending PF' we don't want to join the alliance. You can keep the alliance and God bless the alliance. We are not defending the PF [and] we have never defended the PF at any time, we stand by the truth. You want to glorify leaders who stand by telling lies [and] I don't want that," said Kabimba.

## ZABS halts 'sexual booster' drink consumption

By Geoffrey Zulu

The Zambia Bureau of Standards (ZABS) has warned the public not to consume the Natural Power "SX Energy" Drink until results of the ongoing investigations are out later this week. In an interview, Tuesday, ZABS Marketing and Public Relations officer Nzali Chella confirmed that the institution was carrying out investigations into the high energy drink, which is believed to contain substances that treat erectile dysfunction men, and that the outcome would soon be made public. "Yes, we are carrying out investigations on the allegations, and because of that I cannot give you any information until we jointly make a statement again to read

out the results of the tests," Chella said. In a joint statement released, Monday, the Zambia Medicines Regulatory Authority (ZAMRA), the Ndola City Council and ZABS informed the general public that investigations have been instituted on the natural power high energy drink, which is alleged to contain sildenafil citrate following social media reports emanating from Uganda that the energy drink Natural Power SX may contain this substance, which is used for the treatment of erectile dysfunction in men. "We wish to inform the public that the three institutions are working together to ascertain the claims made about the product. Officers from the three institutions are on the ground to collect samples of the

raw materials and of the finished product for analytical tests that will determine if there is any truth to the claims being made. The outcome of this investigation will be communicated to the public as soon as results are released," the statement read. In view of the foregoing, the three institutions have urged the public to immediately desist from consuming the drink until conclusive results are released that either confirm or dismiss the allegations. "The manufacturers of the product, Revin Zambia Limited based in Ndola, have been ordered to halt the production and distribution of the energy drink until all investigations have been concluded and appropriate action taken," read the statement.

By Mirriam Chabala

Those in government must prepare to undergo a lifestyle audit after national dialogue so that we can check if their wealth is commensurate to their earnings, says National Democratic Congress (NDC) leader Chishimba Kambwili. Kambwili, who is also Roan PF member of parliament, has insisted that he will attend the dialogue meeting slated for January 18, 2019 to represent NDC. Meanwhile, Kambwili says the the PF do not want him to be present at the meeting because they do not want him to raise issues of theft and corruption in government. At a press briefing, Wednesday, Kambwili said he does not need anybody to represent him at the national dialogue meetings because he is capable of representing himself. "I want to make it very clear that the thieves have exposed themselves through this national dialogue. I am sure that all these have been saying that Kambwili should not attend the national dialogue have been sponsored by PF and President Edgar Lungu because of the issues I raised in the first meeting that we had at Kapingila House. I made it very clear that there will be dialogue without discussing corruption. I made it very clear that we need people to explain how they have acquired their wealth. Because of this, Bakabwalala (the thieves), the corrupt have not been sleeping since the last meeting we had with the Church Mother Bodies. Now they are trying to make sure that they exclude me by pretending that somebody in PF is going to represent me," Kambwili said.

# I'll attend dialogue meeting, talk about corruption, vows CK



"I have made it very and I want to say it again, I am in Parliament and I have gone to Court to fight for my Roan seat, not to fight for membership of the PF. For the past two years, the PF have never called me for any meeting that they call... are you not surprised that today they are saying 'Kambwili is a member of PF so we are going to represent him', represent who? I am capable of representing myself. I don't need anybody to represent me. So bakabwalala, ba Pompwe

(thieves), ba corrupt I know why you are scared of me being in that reconciliation meeting. It's because you know the issues that I am going to raise. But I want to tell you that you can't intimidate me." And Kambwili said there could be no national dialogue and reconciliation if people continued to steal. "If people have stolen and they don't want to pay or bring back the things that they have stolen from the people of Zambia... all those in government must be

prepared after the dialogue to undergo a lifestyle audit so that we can check their wealth against their earnings to see whether their wealth is commensurate with their earnings and the little businesses that they do. And because of that, all radio stations, all newspapers, is today Mwanza, tomorrow Nakacinda and the other day is Lifwekelo. All wanting to drive an agenda that Chishimba Kambwili should not be allowed. Let me make one thing very clear, this dialogue

is not an inter party political meeting. This is a dialogue for the nation, for everybody who has an issue against the way this country being run. I am going to attend this national dialogue because the NDC have decided that our of the representatives, it shall be myself, the Secretary General and the Vice-President of NDC, period! So bakabwalala be prepared," Kambwili said. Kambwili insisted that anybody who had stolen from what belongs to Zambians would

be embarrassed after dialogue. "You can even see how they are preparing themselves. The first person to issue a statement was their minister Banda, the Minister of Tourism, saying 'no we don't want our President will be embarrassed'. If he has not stolen, he will not be embarrassed. But certainly if he has stolen, he will be embarrassed because the truth about where they've gotten the money will come out. Where they've become so rich at the expense of the poor people. So you have just exposed yourselves imwe bakabwalala (you thieves) and I am not going to run away from you and just know that one the agenda in the dialogue, it is the electoral process, the Public Order Act, the Constitution and paramount of them all is corruption. If you dipped your fingers in the coffers of Zambia, yes you will be embarrassed and whatever you are going to say will not stop me from attending the dialogue. I am a Zambian and I am NDC consultant and I will lead the NDC team, period!" said Kambwili. Asked if he would succumb to calls for his resignation from PF as a member of Parliament for Roan Constituency, Kambwili said "why should I resign, are they the ones who voted for me? Ask them ati nibanyinabo ba nvotele (that is it their mothers that voted for me?)"



**NDC**  
**NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC CONGRESS**  
*The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom*  
 Why we deserve your vote



# AGRICULTURAL SECTOR PLANS AND REFORMS

There have been no significant developments in Zambia's agricultural policy since the 1970s. It is therefore very important to redefine the agriculture by way of tailoring the education system to teach and lecture conservation farming techniques coupled with good farming methods and deployment of technology, whilst encouraging diversification and increase in both agriculture production and allocation of resources towards the sector. When we take a look at the distribution of the agricultural budget in the recent past; it is noticeable that little emphasis has been placed on broad-based public investments. The emphasis on agricultural subsidy packages alone has also proved to be less effective in fostering agricultural growth. NDC cannot overlook the reality that investments in research extension, roads and strategic public infrastructure, is vital in supporting a robust agriculture system.

Additionally, heavy spending on FISP and FRA only has left few resources to invest in other recognized drivers of agricultural growth and stifled diversification as the country policies are maize-centric which is a low value crop. Another hindrance is the continuous late budget releases to the Ministry of Agriculture, fisheries and Livestock. Late budget releases to support extension officers and field operational funds affect operations and execution of other agricultural programs hence affecting service delivery.

Therefore, in order to counterbalance the challenges and bottle necks in the agricultural sector, The NDC will do the following:

We will balance government funding to support other key drivers of agricultural growth which are essential.

We will increase spending in public infrastructure which will incorporate the following issues: irrigation development as a way to lessen drought and improve productivity; crop, soil, and livestock scientific research and development and deploy the use of latest technologies in this area;

we will also focus on extension and educational programs for effective and efficient utilization of inputs,

We will also ensure continuous infrastructure development and improve timing for budget releases. As NDC we will develop an effective monitoring tools intended to increase budgeting transparency and accountability in the sector.

Since the involvement of commercial banks in the small and medium scale agricultural sector remains negligible; NDC government will introduce a bank called "AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIAL BANK" in collaboration with the private sector that will give loans to businesses ventures that have cooperated to convert agricultural produce to finished products hence creating linkages between agricultural sector and industrial sector.

We will ensure that youth and women

cooperatives are formed and will access loans from the agricultural and development bank in the conversion of agricultural produce to finished products.

NDC'S AGRICULTURE DIVERSIFICATION PLAN. In order to diversify our agriculture sector,

Sustainable diversified agricultural sector that supports the significant reduction of poverty entails a significant investment in other sectors such as horticulture, livestock and fisheries, and treat it as core equals to other sectors of development.

NDC will revamp agriculture cooperatives and diversify them for bulk input supply and marketing services for the production of specific commodities other than Maize, rice and soya.

We shall facilitate the development of agro processing industries in all the districts for purposes of value addition and job creation, especially for the youth and women.

Every district will have an industry tailored to that district's agricultural produce and comparative advantage

We will anchor our agricultural sector on the principal of comparative advantage. We will ensure that each district in Zambia only focus on a crop that it is best suited to be grown in that area.

## HORTICULTURE PRODUCTION

An increase in urban populations and a varying of consumption trends has generated key opportunities and prospects for local farmers by a rise in domestic and regional demand for horticultural crops; fruits and vegetables. Horticulture provides a substantial value addition in terms of slicing, packaging, canning, and dicing, and production of juice, sauces, preservatives. The processing of horticulture products creates significant jobs in both urban and rural areas. This sector has been deserted by government due to the tendency of prioritizing the maize sector which has very low potential in reducing rural poverty and urban unemployment.

However, in trying to exploit these opportunities, we will do the following;

We will make a deliberate effort to support smallholder horticultural production by allocating public funding towards infrastructure and entrepreneur activities that will support slicing, packaging, canning, and dicing, and production of juice, sauces, preservatives.

Foster private-public partnerships with tax incentives in the area of processing horticulture products to finished produce.

We will also support horticulture research and technologies to advance suitable horticultural production

We will also invest in horticulture trading markets locally and abroad and use Zambian missions abroad.

## LIVESTOCK SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

Livestock production and marketing in Zambia has remained restricted to the traditional sector hindering the growth of livestock per household and the lack of marketing livestock produce. This has been caused by: a limitation of disease control at almost all stages of the value chain; a small input of husbandry techniques, low productivity and poor marketing coordination that link farmers to urban markets.

When we form government this is what we will do:

Direct more resources to disease control through the construction of extra dip tanks and establishment of breeding centers and effective breeding programs in every rural ward.

veterinary extension service delivery will be done through deployment of veterinary assistants at ward level.

Animal husbandry techniques will be improved by promotion of supplementary feeding programs for livestock particularly during lean periods for every farmer.

We will also support livestock research and technologies to advance suitable livestock production

And investment in livestock trading markets locally and internationally and use Zambian missions abroad.

## FISHERIES SECTOR DEVELOPMENT

Citizens involved in fish production and the economy as a whole are not benefiting from this industry because of the many challenges that the sector is facing despite its potential to increase employment, contribute significantly to GDP and reduction of poverty. Not only so; there has been a gap between supply and demand of fish production in the country and this has to be bridged. These challenges include; miniature production and productivity; absence of storage facilities for fish and other fish products; inefficient administration of the sector and weak implementation of fisheries regulations.

To undo these challenges and enable a thriving fishing industry; NDC will implement the following;

we will reorganize the fisheries department into Capture Fisheries and Aquaculture and ensure that each is funded separately and adequately.

we will introduce an Aquaculture and Fisheries Fund for fish production for small and medium scale sector, especially for youth and women. This will multiply fish production from aquaculture; especially by small and medium business hence creating employment and reducing poverty amongst the youth and women

We will also enforce fishing regulations that avoid depletion of fish stocks in water bodies but the same time promote other fish producing activities that boost reproduction of fish stocks.

These proposed measures will ensure a thriving agricultural sector.



# PF should have gone after Sata, it's a curse - Changala

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Civil rights activist Brebner Changala has charged that the ruling Patriotic Front shouldn't have continued in power after the death of its founding leader, Michael Sata, sating it has proven to be a curse to Zambia.

And Changala says President Edgar Lungu's PF is a direct opposite of Sata's party that won the 2011 elections because making money is the incumbent's top agenda.

In a statement, Changala recollected that the coming of PF to power in 2011 brought not only hope to many, but also high expectations in the advancement of human rights and the rule of law on the part of the Executive and other arms of government.

He also recalled that president Sata led a humble life despite his aggressive verbal character and died trying to live and actualise his campaign manifesto of transforming Zambia to the letter.

"President Michael Chilufya Sata promised to transform Zambia through infrastructure development. President Michael Chilufya Sata died trying to live and actualise his campaign manifesto to the letter. President Sata lived and led a humble life despite his aggressive verbal character coupled with intimidating facial features. Yes! Michael Chilufya Sata tried not to live beyond his means. Sata was but basic in all spheres. President Sata inspired and gave hope to the poor and those in need of a better tomorrow. Yes, indeed, Michael was not

a saint, like myself, Sata was a perpetual sinner," Changala recalled.

He argued that the PF shouldn't have continued in power after Sata's demise because it has now clearly proven to be a curse on Zambians.

"With hindsight, I strongly believe that, PF as a political party should not have continued in power after the death of its founder leader, president Sata. There are many reasons one can fairly advance on the PF's unfitness to hold on to State power. The pro-poor PF vision of president Sata died the day he died. Right or wrong on my part, PF as a governing party and its leadership are but a curse to Zambia and

our collective aspirations in pursuit of human rights, rule of law, equal and fair opportunities," he stated.

Changala noted that making money was President Lungu's number one political agenda.

"Education standards and health institutions have fallen apart. Clinics and hospitals have no drugs and clinical equipment. The new PF of President Edgar Chagwa Lungu is a direct opposite of president Sata's PF. President Lungu's PF is of 'Hollywood stars.' Making-money and dancing 'dununa reverse' is their number one political agenda. Service to humanity is last," he added.

"The new PF of President

Lungu has impoverished our countrymen and women through high taxes, unemployment, dictatorship and has empowered the Chinese in all sectors of our lives. Yes! PF of President Lungu is a curse now. No one talks now in Zambia; Chinese money talks for us through PF. What can we do? Police officers are sleeping in Chinese houses and dreaming about China. ZAF officers and army officers are sleeping in Chinese houses and dreaming about China. Our entire Cabinet sleeps in China half of the year. God, please, help us."

Meanwhile, Changala pointed out some reforms which needed to be

conducted in Zambia.

"My personal demands from Zambians are that: Appointments to the High Court and Supreme Court Bench must be truly transparent and on merit; we need 90 days of LAZ and public scrutiny; the Judiciary should be adequately and independently funded; the Human Rights Commission must have powers to release those incarcerated for exercising their fundamental; Public Protector must be adequately funded independent of the executive arm of government; Drug Enforcement Commissioner must be a constitutional Officer

with security of tenure, so that he/she can investigate without fear or favour and should not serve on contract," stated Changala.

"Anti-Corruption Commission Director General and directors must be constitutional officers if they have to investigate corruption without fear or favour and must appointed on merit. A President or the Vice President violating the Law or the Constitution must be impeached. A President or Vice President who has no regard for a court order must be impeached. Public media must be accessed by both side of the political divide as they don't belong to the ruling party, but to the tax payer."

## NAREP asks Zambians to pray for Lungu's quick recovery

By Stuart Lisulo

NAREP have asked President Edgar Lungu to urgently improve healthcare facilities in Zambia to ensure tax payers' money is not wasted on his routine medical check-ups.

And NAREP has asked Zambians to pray for the Head of State's health to improve.

Meanwhile, the opposition political party has commended State House for being transparent on the President's whereabouts, but have argued that transparency should remain the standard when dealing with his affairs.

Commenting on the sudden

evacuation of President Lungu to South Africa on Tuesday afternoon, NAREP secretary-general Ezra Ngulube asked the Head of State to urgently improve healthcare facilities in Zambia to ensure tax payers' money is not wasted on his "routine" medical health check-ups.

"It is really important; as Head of State; he should actually lay a foundation so that we can go back to our drawing board where we used to see in the First Republic, our first Republican president Dr Kenneth Kaunda used to frequent UTH (University Teaching Hospital) for his

medical check-ups. So, as NAREP, it is our prayer that, under the Edgar Lungu leadership, we want to see that there is improved health facilities in Zambia so that, as a country, we could stop spending colossal sums of money having to see our leaders going to a neighbouring country," Ngulube told News Diggers! in an interview, Wednesday. "If that trend continues, I can assure that, the people in leadership won't pay much attention to improve medical facilities within Zambia because for them, whenever they fall sick, they will go and seek medical treatment in

the neighbouring country. They believe that accessing UTH is suicidal! So, it is important we make UTH habitable for all classes of society, including the President."

Ngulube challenged the Head of State to prove that he had confidence in Zambia's health policies by accessing medical facilities. "I would love to see President Lungu go to UTH. And I want to make an appeal to President Lungu; we would like to see him have confidence in his health policies to make sure that...let him spearhead to go into UTH; let the Ministers go to UTH

for routine check-ups! It is actually an insult to Zambians to see the Head of State whenever he suffers anything...or whenever he wants to go for a medical check-up, he has to go and fly to South Africa! Even sneezing, he has to go to South Africa to be attended to, whilst you and I, who are paying for the Head of State to go to South Africa, we are going to UTH only to be given a prescription. It is very unfair!" he argued.

"As important as it is for the Head of State to be in good health, it is important that each and every Zambian is good health."

And Ngulube asked Zambians to pray for the Head of State's health to improve.

"The Bible declares that we should pray for our leaders so that God can give them good health. It is important that we pray that our Head of State is in good health so that we can maintain stability," Ngulube said.

While commending State House for the announcement, he argued that being transparent relating to President Lungu's foreign travels was in order. "Citizens have a right to be told this is the reason why the President has left the country and this is what he has gone to do. When information is made available to citizens, State House is not doing us a favour; it is actually their responsibility," said Ngulube.

## Sewerage overflow caused water contamination, says NWASCO

By Geoffrey Zulu

The National Water Supply and Sanitation Council (NWASCO) says water contamination in some parts of Lusaka is suspected to have been caused by Sewerage overflow that was reported from a housing block in close proximity to the NAPSA Housing Complex.

And NWASCO has ordered LWSC to exempt affected households from paying water bills for the month of January.

At a press briefing, Wednesday, NWASCO assistant director engineering Peter Mutale confirmed that preliminary findings from the ongoing investigations show that, microbial contamination was recorded in two boreholes in the periphery of the NAPSA Housing Complex.

"Contamination is suspected to have been

caused by Sewerage overflow that was reported from a housing block in the close proximity to the boreholes and also the storm water from the complex which is discharged near the borehole site," Mutale said, adding that sewerage overflow was believed to have occurred between December 29 and 31, 2018. Mutale also confirmed that sporadic cases of sewerage overflows were reported in Nyumba Yanga in the period preceding the start of the New Year that potentially propelled water contamination.

And Mutale directed LWSC to take stock of all households affected by water contamination in Nyumba Yanga, NAPSA Complex, Matala and parts of Ibex Hill and exempt them from paying bills for the month of January, 2019.

He also directed LWSC to flush two boreholes

and system where contamination occurred until the source and network was safe.

"Super Chlorination should continue as earlier directed until NWASCO is certain that the situation is under control," he said.

Mutale further directed LWSC to attend to all sewer blockages immediately when they occur and not within 24 hours as stipulated in the Service Level Guarantees.

He has assured the general public that NWASCO would continue monitoring the situation until the issue was satisfactorily resolved.

Mutale has also warned the public to take precaution and ensure water for household use is disinfected or boiled, further advising the public to observe good personal hygiene as well as good environmental practices.

We have read with keen interest the rules of the January 18 National Dialogue at which all political parties have been invited to participate. We are told that organisers have given each registered political party three slots of representatives to attend. This is a very simple and straightforward coordination directive, but those with degrees in manufacturing confusion have already jumped on board to bring trouble.

For some strange reason, the ruling Patriotic Front is clinging on to an agenda that National Democratic Congress (NDC) leader Chishimba Kambwili must not be allowed to attend this event. Their argument is that the scheduled national dialogue gathering will strictly be for political party presidents and their respective secretary generals.

Suddenly, the PF is now recognizing Honourable Kambwili as its member who should communicate his contributions to the dialogue table through the party structures on the Copperbelt. They argue that since he is not a political party president, he should stay away from the function. We find this very ironic and wrong!

This discrimination from the PF is prompting us to ask, what is the essence of this so-called national dialogue? We thought this event was specifically meant for political leaders who have grievances against each other. We thought the mandate of the

# Blocking Kambwili defeats the essence of national dialogue

Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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Church mother bodies and the Zambia Centre for Interparty Dialogue (ZCID) was to bring political rivals in one room so that they can iron out their differences and move on a new page having resolved everyone's concerns. If that is the idea behind this programme, why then are they blocking a man that they should be reconciling with?

Maybe we are missing something here. What exactly is threatening the Patriotic Front over the NDC leader's interest in this dialogue event? Can Mr Kambwili become President of Zambia by attending this meeting? What will the Church, ZCID or the ruling party lose if this politician attends the dialogue meeting?

The PF cannot say this event is strictly for political party leaders. This is not an African Union (AU) Head of States Summit; it is not the United Nation's General Assembly, but even at the two prestigious events, countries are allowed to send a delegated government leader to represent the President. What is wrong with Honourable Kambwili representing the National Democratic Congress (NDC) if the party has settled for him as its representative?

If he was coming in as a representative of the traditional healers association, we would agree that he would not have a role to play at the event. But he is a party leader and NDC is not complaining that he is

hijacking their party; they are actually willing to give him an adoption certificate if the dialogue coordinators demand for it. So, why block him?

The PF must be glad to have Honourable Kambwili at the dialogue table so that they can tell him what they are not happy about his style of politics. If they don't want to dialogue with Kambwili, who do they want to dialogue with? Dan Pule? What is there for Dan Pule to dialogue with the PF? They eat, drink together and connive to keep the President in power forever; so they may need a table for sharing spoils, but they certainly don't need a dialogue table! This national dialogue is supposed to be between the governing party and

the individual opposition political parties who feel aggrieved and politically oppressed. It is not supposed to be between Mr Hakainde Hichilema and Mr Elias Chipimo or between Mr Davies Mwila and Mr Raphael Nakacinda. These have no grievances against each other.

If the NDC is a registered political party and they have recognized Honourable Kambwili to be their 2021 presidential candidate, then that is enough to qualify him to attend this event on behalf of the party. This heart that the PF is demonstrating is sending worries to the public over what should be expected from the dialogue. It's like they don't want to make peace with anyone, they are just simply fulfilling a

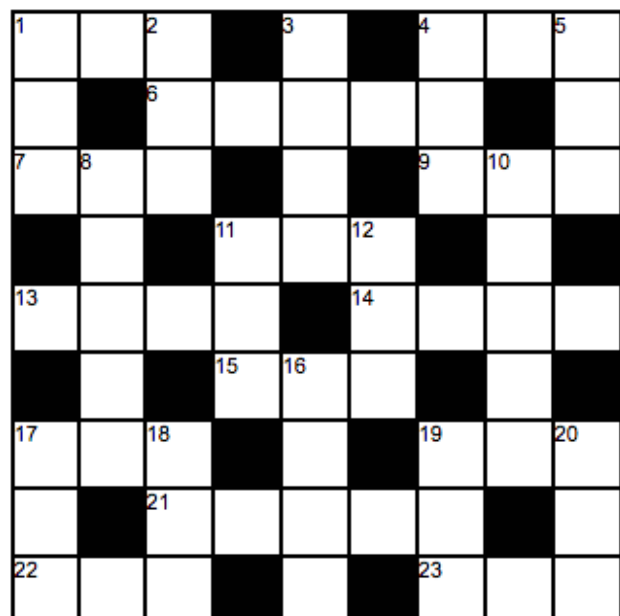
public demand without any interest from it.

The argument that Honourable Kambwili is not a party president doesn't hold water at all. What about political parties like the Rainbow Party that has no party president, but operating under the leadership of the General Secretary? Will the organisers stop Mr Wynter Kabimba from attending the event because he doesn't hold the title of party president? If Mr Kabimba is allowed, will he be stopped from bringing any other party member who doesn't hold the title of secretary general? Let's be serious as a nation and develop a desire to make progress in the things that we endeavour to do.

For more than two years, Zambia has failed to bring all political parties together to discuss ways of ending political violence, upholding the rule of law and respecting the electoral process. The National Day of Prayer and Reconciliation has failed to fulfil its reconciliation mandate; it is just a mass interdenominational prayer meeting where people pretend to be too holy for hours. This is the closest that we have gotten to a meaningful dialogue process and no one should be allowed to frustrate it!

We have come so far as a nation to drag our political leaders to the dialogue table. We can't let Kambwili's desire to attend the event be the reason for the whole thing to break apart. Shame on violent mongers who survive on hate speech and bloodshed!

## Crossword puzzle 269

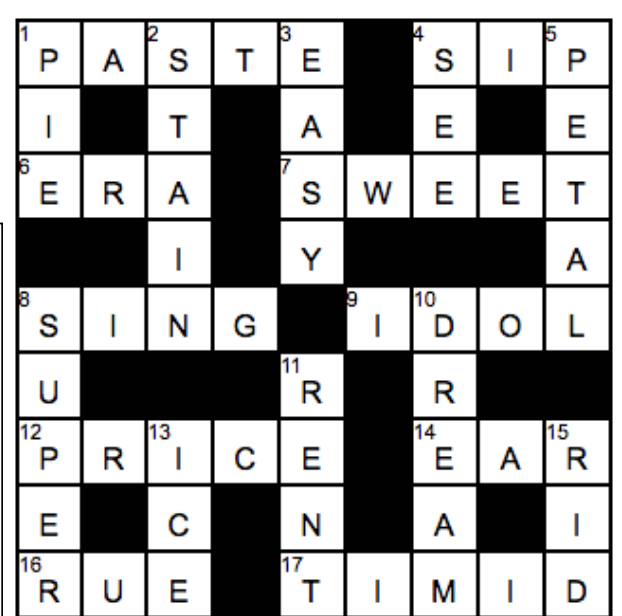


*“Once you have tasted flight, you will forever walk the earth with your eyes turned skyward, for there you have been, and there you will always long to return.”*  
- Leonardo da Vinci

- Across**
1. Commercials
  4. Amount charged for a service
  6. Beach item
  7. Stable food
  9. Not me; thee
  11. Stare at
  13. Bridge, or wide gap
  14. Not on time
  15. Make less bright
  17. Affirmative vote
  19. Mess up
  21. Boulder
  22. Faced
  23. Permit

- Down**
1. Shade tree
  2. Pig home
  3. Waver
  4. Tackle box item
  5. Large flightless bird
  8. Submit a resume
  10. Aquatic mammal
  11. Conclusion; finish
  12. Shade tree
  16. Something to worship
  17. Upper limb
  18. Superlative suffix
  19. Moray, e.g.
  20. Spoil

## Solutions to puzzle 268





# Reader's feedback

## Lusaka cop's shooting of colleague at Munali station

Editor,

"How often do our cops go for mental and psychological evaluation? Alcohol is often not a solution to put all the frustration in. Let's stop hiding behind politics when this is deeper than what the eye can catch..." - Ndenge Eliam Nguni H

"Indiscipline in the police service and other govt departments has been caused by PF's insistence that cadres must be employed first because they helped them win elections, even when they are less qualified. For the first time, we even have unqualified teachers mentioned in newspapers, indiscipline police officers being captured on camera and health workers etc." - Bashi

Meghan

"What do you expect from PF cadres...? No professionalism! In PF government, killing is normal." - Urwyler Kalota

"We live in a society where our not well-trained police officers are armed and drunk all the time!" - GT Temb



## 'Kampyongo should know PF is one of the "little parties"

Editor,

"Those you call little parties look 'little', but are huge in terms of their respective followers. If anything, you are the ones becoming more and more 'little' as time

passes by. So, leave that to the electorate to say something about how they also feel about you through the ballot!" - Martin Nyanjagha

"Small parties? If the so-called 'small party' to you are weak, why campaigning and dishing out money to people? You even know that things are bad for you chaps; your hotels will be courts, cells, not those V8's and planes you're boarding!" - Katai Katai

"By-elections are never the test of popularity. Only believe the results at your own peril!" - Buddy Banks

"Your ego is bigger than the Freedom Statue; not all fingers are equal. One day, you're going to choke on your words. Stay humble; nothing last forever. We have seen the mighty fall..." - Sam Chidi

"Let's hope Sesheke residents are aware of the more taxes coming their way this year from this same PF government!" - Malekani Ian Tembo

"Ba Kampyongo, my bro; any alliance where UPND is involved cannot be underestimated. We all know the results of 2016 elections. Let's not bury our heads in the sand for the sake of political expediency!" - Chicheli Mangenda

## Diggers' OPINION: G7 multiple choice exams must be revised

Editor

"This is a good observation; Grade 7 has lost relevance. 100% pass rate means that everyone who sat for the exam and wrote all the papers is 'free' to enter Grade 8. Much as we welcome this 100% pass rate for this exam, the Ministry of Education should make sure that everyone who is writing Grade 7 exam knows how to read and write! They should instruct the teachers to make sure that Grade 7 pupils are tested in this area of reading and writing, especially English our official language." - Chipasha Steward

"Exactly my thoughts. G7 exams need to be restructured; only 20% of the questions in each paper should be multiple choice." - Michael Mwanz

## Mayuka's departure from Lusaka Dynamos

Editor,

"I think LD has a problem in some kind why is it that players always free from it? Triple C left in a bad way! He went to TZ where they worship him; Fwayo Tembo before coming back again to LD, he once left in the same manner; Mayuka has also gone the same way! That other coach left in a hash way! I am smelling something in the LD management." - Clement Mwaba Clems

"That's why it's time to start encouraging young upcoming players to be using natural talent; how can a player be finished just after AfCon? I don't think he was playing genuine because that form the guy was in at the 2012 AfCon, you can't expect him to fail to perform the next year. And to be club-less today?" - Jabulani Chandilila

"Mayuka should just go to GBFC, Arrows or ZNS; he will be given a job." - Ausy M Ndafiz

"We are waiting for you at Kabwe Warriors! No

place like home..." - Gib J Mudenda

"Let him try something else in life. It's typical of Zambian sportsmen; they finish badly!" - George Mundia

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

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## Ex-Mozambique finance minister and 17 others face charges over \$2bn loan fraud

At least 18 people, including a former finance minister, have been charged for fraud involving \$2bn in loans to state-owned companies in Mozambique, the Attorney General's Office (AGO) has said, in a scandal that has ensnared two major international banks.

"Mozambique AGO is indicting 18 defendants, (ranging) from public workers and other citizens, on charges of abuse of power, abuse of trust, swindling and money laundering," it said in a statement on Monday.

The indictment came days after three ex-Credit Suisse bankers were charged in the United States with fraud over their role in Mozambique's deal in 2013 to borrow money from international investors to fund projects that included a state tuna fishery.

Former Mozambique Finance Minister Manuel Chang, 63, is one of the 18 inductees. He was arrested in neighbouring South Africa last week as part of the same case. He has denied wrongdoing.

The attorney general's office also said it would seek to have those charged in the US and elsewhere face charges in Mozambique, one of the most indebted countries in the world.

Apart from Credit Suisse, Russian lender VTB also arranged financing for Mozambique's state-owned companies.

The southern African state admitted in 2016 to undisclosed lending, prompting the International Monetary Fund and foreign donors to cut off support, triggering a currency collapse and a default on Mozambique's sovereign debt. It is still struggling to overcome the resultant debt crisis. **AL JAZEERA**



*As protests across Sudan approach their third week, President Omar al-Bashir remains defiant amid fears of further unrest and violence in the country.*

*Protests, which initially appeared to be tied to an increase in the price of bread and other economic hardships, quickly morphed into growing anti-government rallies demanding Bashir's resignation.*

*Bashir, who has been at the helm since 1989, has refused to step down, while security forces continue to crack down on activists and protesters. **AL JAZEERA***

## 52 'Major' irregularities observed in DR Congo vote count says SYMOCEL

An observer mission to the Democratic Republic of Congo's presidential election said it had

witnessed 52 "major" irregularities in the 101 vote-counting centres it observed, including people tampering with results.

There are 179 counting centres currently tallying the vote across the DRC.

The report released on Tuesday by Congo-based SYMOCEL said 16 percent of vote counting centres it had observed relied on tallies transmitted by voting machines instead of hand-counted tallies as required by law.

It also said 92 percent of the vote-counting centres it had observed did not post vote tally sheets outside as required by law.

Meanwhile, an opposition party said its leader was the "presumed winner" of the December 30 poll adding that Felix Tshisekedi has had contact with departing President Joseph Kabila "to prepare a peaceful and civilized transfer of power".

Kabila adviser Kikaya Bin Karubi, however, on Tuesday denied any such contact.

The statements by UDPS party Secretary-General Jean-Marc Kabund appeared to go against electoral regulations that say only Congo's electoral commission can announce election results.

The UDPS also warned that the commission

could be delaying the announcement of the December 30 election results in a bid to manipulate the outcome. The electoral commission on Sunday delayed it indefinitely.

A spokesman for the ruling coalition rejected the accusation, asking "Why would we have to steal?"

Meanwhile, the Zambian presidency said in a statement on Tuesday President Edgar Lungu is travelling to South Africa on Tuesday for an "urgent consultative meeting" with President Cyril Ramaphosa about DR Congo's presidential election.

Martin Fayulu, an opposition presidential candidate for Lamuka coalition, warned electoral authorities not to "disguise the truth of the polls".

"The Congolese people already know the result," he said, warning against political tensions.

Fayulu accused the electoral commission of knowing the "real results", saying it had "deliberately abstained from making them public in violation of its own timetable for unacknowledged reasons."

"The election results are not negotiable," Fayulu said, also speaking on behalf of five other minor candidates. **NEWS AGENCIES**

## Taiwan announces new drill tactics to counter China



Taiwan's military has announced a series of newly designed large-scale military drills for this year aimed at countering China's renewed threat to use force to gain control over the island.

While Taiwan's armed forces regularly hold such exercises, this year's drills announced on Wednesday are "being drafted based on newly adopted tactics for defending against a possible Chinese invasion", the official Central News Agency quoted defence ministry planning chief Major-General Yeh Kuo-hui as saying.

China claims sovereignty over the self-governing island, which split from the mainland amid civil war in 1949.

Chinese President Xi Jinping renewed the threat of force in his January 2 message to the island, saying China reserved the right if necessary to counter interference by external forces - and what he called an extremely small number of Taiwanese separatists.

Although Xi didn't mention the United States by name, Washington is a key supplier of weaponry to the island and is legally bound to respond to threats against Taiwan.

With its three million-member armed forces and the world's second-largest defence budget of \$173bn, China has the overwhelming military edge over Taiwan.

Xi has been ratcheting up the

military threat to put pressure on independence-leaning Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen.

Tsai responded to Xi's speech by rejecting demands for unification between the sides saying, "China must face the fact of the existence of Taiwan."

Taiwan wields a much smaller but technologically sophisticated force that would be relied on to hold off a Chinese assault until outside help arrives.

In recent years, Taiwan's strategy has evolved from defeating a Chinese landing force to repelling an invasion on sea and in the air. **NEWS AGENCIES**



# South Africa blame 'politics' for humiliating loss to Egypt

As South Africa reeled Wednesday after a humiliating defeat by Egypt in a contest to decide the new 2019 Africa Cup of Nations hosts, the blame game began.

South African football officials said the 16-1 vote in favour of Egypt in Senegal Tuesday was "political" without offering insight. Confederation of African Football (CAF) president Ahmad Ahmad said Egypt politicians were more enthusiastic than their South African counterparts about the June 15-July 13 event.

A CAF insider told AFP that South Africa have not been forgiven for backing the winning Canada/Mexico/United States 2026 World Cup bid instead of sole rivals Morocco.

Acting South African Football Association chief executive Russell Paul said: "Technically, there is no country in Africa better suited to host the Cup of Nations than South Africa. "We do not have a fight with Egypt, we have a fight with the way the process unfolded," he added, referring to the vote being brought forward 24 hours without an explanation.

"A delegation had been prepared for a Wednesday presentation only to find that the Egyptians had been there for a while, with government representatives, ready to present their case."

Speaking in Dakar, Ahmad said the two candidates had equally good infrastructure and the greater political enthusiasm of Egypt was the key factor.

"Our audit firm said the infrastructure was equal so we assessed the political commitment in the two countries and Egypt came

out on top.

"Members of the (CAF) executive committee did not feel any real support from the South African government to carry the project forward."

- Security concerns - Malagasy Ahmed acknowledged that there were security concerns regarding Egypt, with three Vietnamese tourists killed in a recent terror attack there.

"Before the 2018 World Cup, people were worried about the security situation in Russia, but they worked hard and there were no incidents," he said.

South Africa have had cool political relations with Morocco because the republic backs the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic, who are contesting land occupied by the Moroccans. On government instructions, South Africa backed the American/Canadian/Mexican 2026 bid, which comfortably outvoted the Moroccans.

This decision reportedly infuriated Ahmad, leading to South African media speculation that he encouraged CAF executives to support Egypt.

"South Africa voting for the USA, especially after president Donald Trump had publicly criticised the people of the continent, was seen as anti-African," the CAF insider said.

"The feeling ahead of the vote in Senegal was that Egypt were favourites, but no one expected such a landslide victory."

The contest between Egypt and South Africa was necessitated after CAF dropped original hosts Cameroon last November because of delays in preparations and security concerns.



CAF President Ahmad Ahmad announces Egypt as host of the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations (CAN) between June 15 and July 13, during a press conference in an Hotel in Dakar on January 8, 2019. The CAF executive committee preferred Egypt to South Africa as replacements for original hosts Cameroon, who were dropped due to delays in preparations and concerns over security. AFP

Under an Ahmad plan still to be finalised, Cameroon will now host the 2021 Cup of Nations with the Ivory

Coast (2023) and Guinea (2025) staging the following two editions.

From this year, the

tournament moves from January/February to June/July to avoid club-versus-country dilemmas for

Africans based in Europe, and the number of qualifiers has been expanded from 16 to 24. AFP

## Tottenham know what I want - Eriksen



Christian Eriksen offered a cryptic answer in response to the latest questions surrounding his contract situation at Tottenham, amid talk of interest from Real Madrid.

Reports have claimed that Madrid have been advised they will need to pay a mega £225 million (\$287m) fee if they are to land the Dane from Spurs.

The 26-year-old is under contract at the north London club until 2020, with Spurs keen to tie him to a new deal to follow the likes of Harry Kane and Dele Alli in committing his future to the Premier League side.

Madrid have been mooted as a potentially interested party, though, with Eriksen telling TV3 Sport that Spurs "know what I want" in relation to the talks over a new deal.

He said: "[The future is] not something I'm thinking of. I focus on playing football, and there are many battles you have to think about which must be won."

Responding specifically to Madrid's apparent interest, he added: "It is not the first time that there have been rumours, and when the newspapers write something, it is not something we are masters of. If there is nothing concrete, then I just comment on rumours."

"I think people know what I want, and I know what they [Tottenham] would like. There is a nice dialogue so there is nothing [new] there."

If reports are to be believed, Madrid are in the market for a new creative midfielder having struggled for goals in the 2018-19 campaign to date.

Santiago Solari's position as manager has been called into question after a disappointing first half of the season in the league, with Madrid 10 points behind Barcelona having suffered a shock 2-0 loss to Real Sociedad last time out.

Eriksen, meanwhile, was in action as Tottenham beat Chelsea in the Carabao Cup semi-final first leg at Wembley on Tuesday night.

Harry Kane's penalty, awarded by VAR, was the difference between the two sides, with Chelsea having the chance to respond in the second leg at Stamford Bridge on January 24. Next up for Spurs is a meeting with Manchester United at Wembley, with Pochettino's side currently third place in the Premier League table, two points behind Manchester City in second. *Goal.com*

## Iniesta apologises over blackface photo

Barcelona legend Andres Iniesta has apologised after posting a photo on social media with two people in blackface as part of Epiphany celebrations.

The 34-year-old superstar who currently plays at Japan's Vissel Kobe had no intention "to upset anyone by displaying that photo," according to a statement by his agency sent to AFP on Wednesday.

"He would like to apologise to those people who may have felt offended," the statement said.

Iniesta's picture on Twitter and Instagram posted on Sunday showed his family and a group of people in

costumes, taking part in the Three Kings Day celebration also known as Epiphany, which is widely celebrated in Spain.

The midfielder, who lifted 32 major trophies and made 674 appearances for Catalan giants Barca, joined Vissel Kobe in May, calling his J-League move an "important career challenge".

The Spain icon's decision to choose Vissel arguably represents Japanese football's biggest transfer coup, with many top players now moving to cash-rich Chinese clubs in the twilight of their careers.

It also came as a timely boost to

the J-League, which used to attract luminaries such as Brazilian great Zico and former England star Gary Lineker when it began in 1993, but has struggled to attract marquee players in recent years.

Iniesta -- who famously scored Spain's winning goal against the Netherlands in the 2010 World Cup final -- had been top of the wishlist of Vissel owner Hiroshi Mikitani.

The billionaire businessman is also the founder and CEO of Rakuten, Barcelona's main sponsor, and was heavily involved in the deal that brought Iniesta to Japan. *AFP*





Ivorian soccer player Didier Drogba (R) presents South African Chrestinah Thembi Kgatlana (L) with the Women's Player of the Year trophy - AFP



CAF President Ahmad Ahmad (L) poses after he handovered the 2018 African Footballer of the Year Award also called Ballon d'Or to Liverpool's Egyptian forward Mohamed Salah (C). Right is Liberian President George Weah during an award ceremony in dakar on Tuesday - AFP

# DYNAMAMOS TO HOST NKANA VS ZESCO

*...FAZ takes charity shield final to Kitwe*



Women's Player of the Year South African Chrestinah Thembi Kgatlana (C) stands on stage with Secretary General of FIFA Fama Samba Diouf Samoura - AFP

*By Diggers Reporter*

The Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) says the 2019 Samuel 'Zoom' Ndhlovu Charity Shield final between Nkana Football Club and Zesco United Football Club will be held in Kitwe at Arthur Davies stadium on January 26, 2019. This was contained in a statement released by FAZ communications manager Desmond Katongo. "FAZ wishes to urge the public to turn up in numbers and support the two local giants. This is expected to be a clash of the titans because of the rivalry that currently exists between the two Copperbelt giants. It is also an important fixture for the clubs and the Association as it symbolises the beginning of the 2019 transitional league season," he said. "The Association wishes to urge both sets of fans to exhibit the spirit of fair play when the two clubs meet. FAZ has zero tolerance towards hooliganism from any football club and will not hesitate to dispense disciplinary action against erring clubs. The Association will not hesitate to ban supporters or clubs that indulge in behaviour that doesn't promote the spirit of fair play." FAZ further urged the Zambian football fraternity to rally behind Zambia's representatives in the CAF Confederations Cup. "We wish to appeal to soccer fans across the country to support Nkana and Zesco United when they host San Pedro and Kaizer Chiefs on Saturday and Sunday respectively," said Katongo.