



# LUANGENI MP SPEAKS OUT

**I'll only serve one term if elected President – Chipimo**  
By Sipilisiwe Ncube  
NAREP president Elias Chipimo says should he be elected President, he will only serve one term because he does not want to be preoccupied by perpetrating his stay in office. *To page 5*

*Story page 7*

**I haven't joined Kalaba, but let PF confirm if I'm suspended so that I decide my move**



UNDP Country Representative Mandisa Moshologu addresses journalists with TIZ chapter president Rueben Lifuka at Cresta Golf View Hotel yesterday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

**We don't understand why people have stopped reporting corruption – ACC**

By Mirriam Chabala  
Acting ACC director general Rosemary Khuzwayo says there has been a drop in the number of people reporting corruption cases to the institution, and the commission does not understand why.

And Transparency International Zambia chapter president Rueben Lifuka has launched the 2018 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI), revealing that the Sub-Saharan Africa region scored lowest in the fight against corruption, followed by Latin America. *To page 7*

**More PF MPs are supporting my 2021 presidential bid, reveals Kalaba**

By Thomas Mulenga  
Democratic Party president Harry Kalaba says he will not challenge the Patriotic Front's decision to expel him from the party. And Kalaba says his party will not participate in the Bahati by-election but focus on mobilizing for the 2021 general elections. Speaking at a media briefing in Lusaka, Tuesday, Kalaba said he had officially taken up the position of Democratic Party president. The former foreign affairs minister who resigned from government, citing rampant corruption, further revealed that several ruling party members of parliament had been supporting his 2021 presidential bid. *To page 7*



Harry Kalaba addresses journalists at Lusaka's Hotel Intercontinental yesterday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

**Juveniles tell court how weed solves their problems**  
*Story page 5*

**HH thinks Zambia owes him the Presidency – Sunday**

By Mirriam Chabala  
PF media director Sunday Chanda says Hakainde Hichilema acts as if Zambia owes him the Republican Presidency. And Chanda has wondered if the UPND leader delights in the misfortune of other people, questioning why he is not commending government's intervention to save 21,000 mine jobs. *To page 4*



By Thomas Mulenga

Shangombo UPND member of parliament Mubika Mubika says the PF-led government has neglected his constituency as they continuously ignore his appeal to construct the Sioma-Shangombo Road. Mubika complained that while government was constructing roads in other parts of the country, it had neglected his constituency. In an interview, Mubika said Minister of Housing and Infrastructure Development Ronald Chitotela rejected an offer by a Chinese contractor to renovate the Sioma-Shangombo road on a credit basis, saying government had no funds. "The biggest hindrance of development in Shangombo is the road; the road from Sioma to Shangombo is in a very deplorable state! So at the moment, even businessmen, it is very expensive for them to hire trucks from Lusaka to bring their merchandise to the district. And even when it comes to passenger transportation by cars, I am sure the Shangombo route is the most expensive in the country because from Senanga to Shangombo, people are paying as much as K320 if

# Government has neglected Shang'ombo, complains MP

you are lucky, and that's for a Corolla that's loading 7 people, you can imagine 7 people in a Corolla, and travelling on a very bad road. The road is in a very bad state, I am in the constituency as we are talking and my car right now, the springs are broken, I am using a tree to come back to Lusaka, and that's a new car. Even trucks that were hired to bring farming inputs from Lusaka were getting stuck in Sioma and Nangweshi, they are failing to come to Shangombo! So, delivery of farming inputs has also been delayed because of the road, people can't take their farm produce to market because the area has no good roads, and as MP, I can't manage to work on the roads, it's very expensive! So, the road is what is causing all these hardships to the people," Mubika lamented. And Mubika disclosed that Chitotela rejected an offer by a Chinese contractor to renovate

the Sioma-Shangombo road. "What I can say is that government is segregating the people of Shangombo because I can tell you, there was a Chinese contractor who [was] doing the road from Sioma, they had approached me, they said they had material, which could renovate the road up to 80 kilometres coming towards Shangombo, and that if government could commit that they were going to pay, instead of those materials going to waste, they were ready to work on the road. They were even ready to do the road up to Shangombo if government committed to pay half of what they were going to cater for. Honourable Chitotela can't deny that, I engaged him with the same Chinese consultant, but he said: 'no, we don't have money.' Even when someone was saying, we can do the road using the materials that are already on site, but the Minister still refused, so who

would you blame there? It's 100% neglect!" Mubika said. "If the PF can say they have been neglecting the people of Shangombo based on politics and voting, that would be so wrong! The last MP who was there, Poniso Njeulu, was working with the PF. He was UPND, but started working with the PF and was appointed Western Province Minister and later contested on PF, although he lost. When they were by-elections for local government somewhere in 2014 and 2015, they won three council seats after promising the people that they will tar the road. The Vice President herself came to Shangombo on about two or three occasions, promising the people that they would put tarred road in the area. This is 2019, it's four years! So, I blame the government, it is neglect by government!" Mubika said pupils in Shangombo could not learn computer lessons as the

area still had no electricity. "The other time when I asked government to connect Shangombo to the national grid from Sioma, they said 'no, maybe 2022' that information is in public domain. And the same government said it is now compulsory to teach computers in all government schools, but how do you expect pupils in Shangombo to learn computers when government has failed to provide, even solar energy, at least at government institutions so that pupils can be taught computers, unlike just being shown how a computer looks like and later asked to draw them. Even mobile phone network; we were supposed to have five towers, which were supposed to have been put up in 2014 and 2015, but none of the towers have been put up to-date, so even communication is a struggle in Shangombo! So, this is clearly failure on the part of

government," Mubika said. He said unlike PF, the MMD managed to work on the roads in the area during their time. "On the part of the MMD, they did something for the area, they are the ones who did the gravel road from Matebele to Shangombo, which is still there. I can confirm that we used to do every after two years, we used to gravel or grade the road. But from the time the PF came into power, this road from Shangombo to somewhere in Mbovuma was last graded in 2010, that's about 9 years ago. I don't think a gravel road can survive for nine years without being graded because normally it should be graded every after the rainy season or at least every after two years. Transport was cheaper here during the MMD government, I personally and other people, we used to run Rosa buses from Senanga to Shangombo, people were paying between K100 and K120, but because of the bad road, those vehicles were damaged and are packed, it was too expensive to maintain them! So, people now shun bringing their vehicles to Shangombo, for you to bring your vehicle here, you have to be strong," said Mubika.

## ZNFU asks govt to intensify fight against army worms

By Mirriam Chabala

The Zambia National Farmers Union (ZNFU) has called for closer collaboration with government in sensitizing farmers whose fields had been affected by the fall army worms to prevent further spread of the pests. Fall army worms were first discovered in December last year in some parts of Lusaka Province and government had engaged strategic partners to purchase pesticides. Last week, government distributed about 2,500 litres out of the total 4,166 litres of pesticides to affected farmers in Lusaka. In an interview, ZNFU media and public relations manager Calvin Kaley said he was concerned about productivity seeing that the fall army worms were rapidly spreading, making them virtually impossible to eradicate. "We know that parts of the Copperbelt, Southern Province and Lusaka have been affected. But you know these [army worms] are highly migratory pests, so obviously, they may even have migrated to nearby areas. They move about 100 kilometres in one night. But we started our education programmes for farmers even way before the planting season started, we were raising awareness on what to do when you discover that there is an area where fall army worms have been spotted and then bring

experts to help you with spraying. You crush the eggs where you notice eggs for fall army worms. But we need more collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture to see how we can work together to sensitize farmers and also to eradicate or indeed to control the spread," Kaley said. "These pests would be difficult to eradicate because they are highly migratory. So, we are just [searching] for ways in which [we can] control the spread so that we don't [incur] as much losses as we did the previous seasons. So, that's what we've been doing as ZNFU. But we just need more collaboration from the government because we already know where to find these farmers because we have presence in all the districts of this country. So, when our farmers are affected, it's easy for us to identify them and go in there. So, we need close collaboration with government so that we can fight this battle together." He regretted that there was no pesticide that would completely eradicate the pests. "It's really difficult to [completely] eradicate army worms because they are highly migratory. 44 countries in Africa have reported army worms, and they keep spreading and spreading! They are very very difficult, extremely difficult to eradicate. You can control, but you cannot eradicate them. We

know this is going to affect production, but we are hoping it doesn't affect too much. Yes, farmers have been affected already, but we know that if we work closely together we can help to control the spread and we are hoping we don't have a lot of such incidences where the pests go unreported because then we can have problems where farmers spot the fall army worms late. But we have been sensitizing them to say, once you spot a moth in your area then know that it's fall army worms," said Kaley.



UPND president HH and his vice GBM being welcomed by PF, MMD and UPND women choirs at the Cathedral of Child Jesus in Lusaka on Monday during former vice-president Lupando Mwapu's requiem mass

## World Bank grants UNZA US\$6m for Zoonotic research laboratory

By Mirriam Chabala

Government has received a US\$6 million grant from the World Bank to help finance the setting up of a Zoonotic research laboratory at the University of Zambia (UNZA). According to a statement issued by First Press Secretary at the Zambian mission in Tokyo, Yotamu Mugara, UNZA Vice Chancellor Professor Luke Mumba, who is in Japan to launch the university's strategic partnerships with GIFU university, said the laboratory would be a centre of excellence in the Southern African region for the study of zoonoses. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), zoonosis is an infection that is naturally transmissible from vertebrate animals to humans. Zoonoses may be bacterial, viral, or parasitic, or may involve unconventional agents. Mugara stated that Prof Mumba announced this when he paid a courtesy call on Zambia's Ambassador to Japan Ndiyoi Muliwana Mutiti at

the Embassy in Tokyo on Monday. Prof Mumba, who also thanked the Japanese government for giving Zambia about US\$5 million, said the grant which was awarded to Zambia when President Edgar Lungu visited Japan in December, 2018, would be used for the rehabilitation and equipping of the Veterinary laboratory at UNZA school of Veterinary Medicine. "We need to set up the tone for development of science and technical skills in the country. This means our teaching staff must at all times be exposed to new developments in the fields so that they can pass on appropriate skills to students. The University's teaching infrastructure and aids must move with the changing technological environment and this requires being part of the international community of researchers to exchange ideas on many challenges facing societies," said Prof Mumba. Mugara also stated that Prof Mumba hinted that UNZA in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and Sports would

set up a Sports department in the School of Education to contribute to the growth of the discipline, explaining that "Worldwide, sports have proved to be a lucrative sector with high earnings and potential to contribute to economic development." He stated that the Vice Chancellor had since appealed to the Embassy in Tokyo to help the university identify corporate donors who may be willing to provide the institution with expertise and equipment for academic purposes. Meanwhile, Ambassador Mutiti said the mission in Tokyo had continued to strengthen bilateral relations with Japan in many areas, including the education sector, and promised that the mission shall ensure that players in Zambia's education sector were linked to strategic institutions in Japan to increase interactions and exchanges for the benefit of the country. Mutiti further praised UNZA for the strategic approach it had embarked on, describing it as key to achieving the Seventh National Development goals.



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By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Prime Television Director Gerald Shawa says the manner in which PF Secretary General Davies Mwila chased two Prime TV reporters from covering his briefing on Saturday was un-procedural, undemocratic and totalitarian. In a letter addressed to Mwila and dated January 28, 2018, Shawa said the PF chief executive officer's conduct had potential to subject his journalists to unwarranted political attacks, especially from PF cadres. "Unfortunately, you have opted to use a more un-procedural way which to us is unfortunate, undemocratic and totalitarian in that it may subject our journalists to unwarranted political attacks especially attacks from the Patriotic Front cadres. It is our considered view that the approach you took is not only undemocratic, but is a serious indictment on the freedom of the media. While you have the right not to be covered if you so wish, it is Prime TV's policy to provide a platform for all political parties without bias," Shawa stated in the letter, which he copied to the Ministry of Information, IBA and to MISA. Shawa stated that it was unfortunate that despite Prime TV being an independent media and registered under the laws of Zambia, Mwila still went ahead and banned the TV journalists from covering all PF functions. "It is with a heavy heart that we write your office on a matter in which you publicly chased Prime TV journalists from your Press Conference on Saturday

## Mwila's actions undemocratic, says Gerald Shawa

26th January 2019 and later on, decisively, barred Prime Television from covering all your party functions. As a broadcast institution registered to operate independently under the laws of Zambia, we find the idea to chase our journalists and the decisive submission to bar Prime Television from covering all PF functions unfortunate," Shawa stated. "Given your Party Position as Secretary General, and Knowing that you come from the ruling party which should lead by example by following the law ,it is sad that you opted to ignore the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) complaints procedure, which requires that you tender a formal complaint

to a broadcast institution ,which complaint is supposed to be addressed within 14 days ,upon which you are free to bring it to the attention of the IBA after 14 days ,where you feel that that Broadcast institution has failed to adequately address your complaint. The above procedure is a requirement for all those who feel aggrieved on a matter of broadcasting." He stated that as a commercial TV station, PF just like any other political party was free to sponsor their activities to be broadcast by the station.

"We also wish to bring to your attention that Prime TV is a commercial Television station where all those wishing to have sponsored programs are free to come and have their programs paid for as many times as they can just like your party has previously on the same platform. As you may have observed, many political parties have been sponsoring their press conferences to air and this is done in a business sense. We wish to urge you to follow the law as you make further complaints of a coverage nature

and those complaints should be in compliance with sections (33-38) of IBA Act 2002. As a media house , we still hold you in high esteem and pray that this misunderstanding you have raised is resolved promptly in a formal and civil manner," stated Shawa. And Mwila yesterday met MISA Zambia at the PF secretariat to discuss his concerns on the ruling party's relationship with Prime TV. This is according to a statement issued by PF media director Sunday Chanda. "The meeting was honest and

fruitful. MISA Zambia will continue engaging both the ruling Party and Prime TV in order to find common ground. In accordance with the PF Manifesto, our party will continue to build upon its record as a champion of a vibrant media, as evidenced by the operationalisation the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) in 2013 (which had remained inoperable since 2002) and the unprecedented issuance of broadcasting licenses to establish radio and television station across Zambia to more than 52 radio and 33 television licenses including Prime TV. PF continues to respect the media and the role it plays in our democracy as the fourth estate," stated Chanda.

By Zondiwe Mbewe

A University of Zambia (UNZA) security officer has narrated to the Lusaka Magistrates' Court how a student accused of trafficking in psychotropic substances allegedly hacked him with a machete and hit him with a stick when he tried to apprehend him to the extent that he blacked out. In this matter, Allan Muvundo, a special education and history student, is facing three counts of trafficking and possession of psychotropic substances as well as unlawful wounding. It is alleged in count one that on November 12, 2018, Muvundo

## UNZA security guard narrates how student hacked him with machete

trafficked in 9,918Kg of marijuana without lawful authority. In count two, it is alleged that on the same date, Muvundo had in his possession 0.2 Diazepam drug. In the third count, it is alleged that on the same date, Muvundo unlawfully wounded Jerry Chiwambo, a security officer at UNZA. And when the matter came

up for continued trial before Magistrate Nsunge Chanda, Monday, Chiwambo told the Court that on the material day between 10 and 11:00 hours, he was on duty when his supervisor asked him to accompany some Zambia Police Service officers who wanted to apprehend some suspects who were allegedly conducting illegal activities. "I was asked to accompany State police officers to President hostel block six where students were conducting some illegal activities," Chiwambo said. Chiwambo said when they got to the room, they found three people, among them, the accused.

He, however, added that one of them escaped through the window upon seeing them. Chiwambo told the Court that at that point, the accused removed a machete from his waist and attempted to hack him in the head. He said he guarded his head with his left hand causing the accused to hack him on his forearm. Chiwambo said the student further hit him with a stick, causing him to black out. "He produced a machete from his waist and aimed it at my head. I guarded it using my left hand. At this juncture, the situation in the room became

chaotic and Allan Muvundo tried to escape. I remember grabbing him despite the injury. Whilst we were falling down, he grabbed my head and hit me with a stick. I blacked out only to find myself at Levy Mwanawasa Hospital," he narrated. And medical doctor at Levy Mwanawasa University Hospital Dr Bulaya Philip explained that Chiwambo's wound on the left forearm was 5cm, and that extensive section of his skin was completely torn off the underlying tissue. He said he had to stitch the wound and put the patient on antibiotics. "On the material day around 12 to 14:00 hours, we received a male patient with the history of assault. He was in a security officer's uniform from the University of Zambia. He was presented with an injury to the left forearm, which was already bandaged. I took the patient to the emergency room. I unwrapped the wound and it was about 5cms and it was a degloving wound. I had to suture it and the patient was put on antibiotics," narrated Dr Bulaya.

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By Mirriam Chabala

Alliance for Community Action (ACA) executive director Laura Miti says those enjoying the good life in government should stop insulting the suffering of Zambians by suggesting that the way they live their lives is how everybody else does. Recently, Lusaka Province Minister Bowman Lusambo said Zambia's economy was doing well judging by the number of citizens who were sending their children to private schools. But Miti wondered how the Minister could use such a parameter to determine the performance of the economy. Miti said Lusambo should not mock Zambians and disrespect their suffering by suggesting that the way those in government were leading their lives was the same way that even ordinary Zambians were. "In responding to Mr Lusambo, one has to take into account that all our ministers in government have shown an ability to live in alternative space. So, they live in their own space in which they have such huge amounts of money. It is very true that a certain group of people, to which Mr Lusambo belongs... the same way Dora Siliya, the Minister of Information belongs when she says that: 'you just have to look at the car.' So, it's the same narrative. While it's shocking for those of us who are outside and are struggling to make ends meet, we need

# Stop insulting Zambians in their poverty, Laura advises Bowman

to understand where they are coming from. They are coming from positions in which they have access to huge amounts of money, they live in a world in which when they are unwell, they are evacuated outside the country, their children go to the American schools, they can go to functions where they can buy tickets at K30,000 just to sit at a table! What is tragic is that they've begun to project this situation on the majority Zambians who are really battling," Miti said. She urged Lusambo and other government leaders to stop insulting the suffering of Zambians and just enjoy their good life silently. "Right now, I am part of a project that is trying to identify young people who are achievers, but cannot manage to pay their school fees. It's shocking and just heartbreaking to see the number of people who are at home right after they got over 700 marks at grade seven; children who are well beyond 400 marks at grade nine and yet cannot afford to pay K800 per year! So, the truth is that life is

extremely hard for Zambians. Those in power need to enjoy their good life in silence, the least they can do is respect

the struggle of the ordinary Zambians. They should respect the struggle of the street vendors, respect the struggle of

even the employed Zambians who are finding it very difficult [to survive]. So, Mr Lusambo and Ms Siliya need to stop

insulting the suffering of the people by suggesting that their lives are the lives that everybody else is living," said Miti.



Minister Mwanakatwe with KCM Acting CEO Mr. Venkatesan Giridhar.

# HH thinks Zambia owes him Presidency – Sunday

By Mirriam Chabala

PF media director Sunday Chanda says Hakainde Hichilema wants to occupy State House at all costs

because the opposition leader feels like Zambia owes him the Republican Presidency. And Chanda has wondered if the UPND leader delights

in the misfortune of other people, questioning why he is not rejoicing over the saving of about 21,000 jobs after mine owners resolved

not to lay off any workers. In an exclusive statement to News Diggers! Chanda charged that Hichilema was so desperate to become Zambia's Republican President such that he was willing to do and say anything, even if it destroyed the country and put people in danger. "Mindful that a looming sixth defeat at the polls will jettison his waning political career into extinction, Mr Hakainde Hichilema has defenestrated patriotism and every modicum of decency he may still have had; he has instead adopted dirty tactics and is drawing everything from the pile of the vile. Hichilema wants to occupy Nkwazi House at all costs, even if it means saying things that can destroy the country, people losing jobs or sabotaging the Zambian economy. Even if Zambian citizens, workers and miners are trampled upon, the end justifies the means for the UPND leader; probably he feels he is bigger than Zambia or that Zambia owes him the Presidency at all costs," Chanda charged. He recalled how Hichilema castigated his party spokesperson for welcoming the new mining tax regime some time last year. "In the moments that followed the presentation of the 2019 (national) budget on Friday, 28th September, 2018, UPND spokesperson Charles Kakoma welcomed the changes to the Mineral Royalty Tax. And footage was subsequently shown of Kakoma on ZNBC TV news and private media channels elaborately praising the 2019 budget, saying that the changes in the mining tax regime were timely as they came at a time when Zambians felt that they

were not benefiting from the mineral resources. The UPND spokesman further described the changes as 'fair'. A few hours later, Mr Hakainde Hichilema in a vicious mood at his party secretariat humiliated his party spokesperson when he brutally trashed Kakoma's statement welcoming the new mining tax regime," Chanda recalled. "And when the mines subsequently made an announcement threatening the loss of 21,000 jobs as a result of the new tax regime, Hichilema was over the moon as he clicked his heels, jumped for joy, and did cartwheels! He could hardly conceal his fiendish glee at the prospect of 21,000 Zambian miners losing their jobs because he felt he could 'kill two birds with one stone'; it would make the government unpopular on one hand; and it would further his political interests on the other. Hakainde betrayed Zambians as he distanced himself from the Zambian mine workers and did not make a single effort to plead their plight before the mine owners. Instead, UPND life president saw it as political capital and took sides with his personal interests and foreign capital; as he stood in support of the mine owners. With a malevolent smirk on his face, Hakainde gleefully twiddled his fingers in anticipation of the loss of 21,000 jobs on the Copperbelt. Meanwhile, the Patriotic Front government continued to engage the mine owners, as the PF administration stood shoulder-to-shoulder with mineworkers' unions and the miners themselves." Chanda argued that the outcome of the negotiations between government and the

mine owners had shocked Hichilema as what he anticipated never happened. "While Hichilema eagerly anticipated and looked forward to massive job losses on the Copperbelt, the mines yielded to government's patriotic endeavours...Is Hichilema a man who delights in the misfortune of others and is displeased by their progress? Why isn't he rejoicing with the saving of 21,000 jobs? He's clearly disenchanted with progress, especially when he construes the said progress to illuminate others and dim his prospects of occupying Plot One; even if the progress is for the greater good and benefits the majority. Hakainde delights in the misfortune of others. But why should he behave like a twisted predator who looks for opportunities to prey and benefit from calamities that befall people in vulnerable positions, even if the said calamity affects multitudes, as long as he can derive some kind of advantage?" asked Chanda. "It is heart-breaking when Hichilema considers good news for Zambia as bad news for himself; and bad news for Zambia good news for himself. As Dr Lubinda Haabazoka recently wrote: '...Some stakeholders including certain economists said the new taxes are bad and I am sure these people were just waiting for job losses!! In any fight that benefits citizens, it should be Zambia first! Certain issues know no religion, tribe or race. Certain things are about Zambia and its future. As he wipes and licks the mining egg off his face, we wish Mr Hakainde Hichilema well as he enjoys additional dollops of a particularly red humble pie.'

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By Zondiwe Mbewe

A 15-year-old boy of Lusaka's George Compound yesterday told the Magistrates' Court that smoking marijuana helps him control his temper, while others said that it helped them carry out house chores quickly and forget about their late loved ones. This is the matter in which 11 juveniles and a 20 year-old grade 12 pupil identified as Lukas Daka, all from Lusaka's George Compound, are facing two counts of trafficking and unlawful use of psychotropic substances. The 12, who all pleaded guilty, took turns explaining to the Court how marijuana, gives them appetite, strength to lift weights and carry out house chores quickly, skills to play good football and to avoid making noise in class, among other things. It is alleged in the first count that on January 16 this year, the accused jointly and whilst acting together with other persons unknown, trafficked in 305.7 grams of marijuana without lawful authority. In the second count, it is alleged that on the same day, the accused jointly and whilst acting together did use 1.2 grams of marijuana without lawful authority. And when the matter came up for plea before magistrate Chanda, Tuesday, the 12 accused admitted the charges, saying they used to smoke in an unfinished building in George Compound. Asked why they were smoking the cannabis despite knowing that it was unlawful, the juveniles and an adult, took turns explaining how the drug helped them solve their personal problems. The first accused, a 16 year-old Grade nine pupil, who started smoking in 2014, said marijuana gave him appetite. "I was doing it for appetite so that I can eat. I started smoking in 2014," he said. Accused number two, a 14 year-old Grade six pupil told the court that he used to stress too much after his father passed on so he decided to start smoking last year to stop having too many thoughts about him. "I used to stress too much after my father died. [But] when I smoke I never used to think too much. I started smoking last year," he said. Another 15 year-old grade nine pupil said, "I was found with the drugs in an unfinished building. Yes I know it's an offence to smoke [marijuana]. [But] it helps

# Juveniles explains to court how Marijuana solves their problems

me to forget some things. Like the death of my father [though] I have never even seen him." And another 15 year-old Grade nine pupil said smoking marijuana helped him to control his temper and to remain quiet when someone provoked him. A 16-year-old Grade nine pupil said marijuana helped him carry out house chores quickly. "I become fast when doing chores in the house," he said. Asked who taught him how to smoke cannabis, the juvenile said he started on his own. Another 16-year-old Grade nine pupil also reiterated that the cannabis helped him to do house chores quickly. "I'm the one who helps my mother with work because she doesn't have a girl child. I help her fetch water, take her food to the market, because when I smoke I become so fast," he said. When magistrate Chanda asked him if he wanted his mother to stop giving him chores so that he doesn't smoke, the juvenile said no. Further, a 14-year-old Grade seven pupil admitted that smoking marijuana made him feel good. "I feel good when I smoke. If my friends are talking bad about me, I will just ignore them," he said. Meanwhile, a 16-year-old grade nine pupil said smoking marijuana helped him to play good football, while another one added that when he smoked,

he would be quiet in class. "I bought the marijuana from Chibolya just there in town at K5. When I smoke, I don't make noise in class, because I don't want to be part of the noise makers," he said. A 17-year-old juvenile said when he smoked, he could draw

perfectly as he was an artist. And 20-year-old Lukas Daka said he smoked because of group influence. He said he felt good after smoking as he would be able to lift weights in the gym. After hearing their testimonies,

magistrate Nsunge Chanda entered a plea of guilty, noting that the offence of trafficking in cannabis was a serious one. She urged the accused to reflect on their lives saying their behaviour was intolerant. "Your parents are here instead of

doing something sensible. Which is very unfair to your parents. The one who is 20 years-old, you are influencing the young ones. The 20 year-old one, I won't even spare you. This is intolerant, what kind of society are we going to have. We have children who don't even have parents but they study. So while in prison you should start reflecting," said magistrate Chanda. The matter comes up on February 5, for facts and social welfare report.



UNDP Country Representative Mandisa Moshologu addresses journalists as TIZ Chapter President Reuben Lifuka listens during the 2019 Corruption Perception Index launch at Cresta Golf View Hotel in Lusaka yesterday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

# I would only serve one term if elected President, says Chipimo

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

NAREP president Elias Chipimo says should he be elected President, he will only serve one term because he does not want to be preoccupied by perpetrating his stay in office. Speaking when he featured on Hot FM's Frank on Hot programme, Chipimo said he would not

waste time trying to protect his position if elected President. "I continue to remind even my colleagues that we are our own waste enemies. Even if you were to say today that 'Elias Chipimo you are the President today and I have all the powers that the current President has, it may be difficult for me to manage and control all

the elements that will be doing bad things in my name. And even if I can, I will now be thinking to say 'oh ok, if I touch this one, he might now do this' and so I will be looking at protecting my own position which is why personally, I have made a statement to say if by God's grace should I be elected president, I will only run one term.

Why? Because I don't want to be thinking about the nonsense that I need to have in place in order to be re-elected," Chipimo said. And Chipimo said alliances were essential in politics because they united people. "We need to make it clear that in the last two elections, PF were only able to make it because they had an alliance. They just didn't announce it publicly that we are working with and we are working through but certainly if you look at the cabinet today, some of them may have shifted to PF but they are really MMD. So really the majority known MMD that has enabled PF to go through. Look at the difference in numbers if the election results were to be believed but the difference in the numbers was so small between the PF and the UPND that had the PF not worked with the MMD, they would never had been in power. That is just the reality," Chipimo said. "So alliances are a reality of our current political landscape and we will continue to be a reality of our political landscape going forward and I think that's a good thing because really nobody should go in there governing alone. The beauty of the alliance that we are trying to build is that it is diverse and it is trying to bring people from all corners of the country together. And it is trying to say 'look, no matter what our differences, we

can agree on fundamental things." Chipimo said leaders must not be preoccupied by being at the top, but must pave way for others to go first in order for alliances to succeed. "Look we had entered into an alliance with Miles Sampa and Erick Chanda, that was a very big mistake and I am ready to admit that but I didn't rush to say it has to be Elias Chipimo to lead it. I was happy to say that 'look, this is about how we build the youth of the country, we give them hope' [but] of course I didn't understand some of the characters and individuals that I was going to be working with but I was ready to say 'you go first' and this is the attitude that we need to adopt before going to build a nation that can make everybody feel proud," he said. Meanwhile, Chipimo said President Edgar Lungu WOULD be running for a third term in disguise. "It is a third term in disguise and without a doubt about it and no doubt that his spin doctors will try and present it as just the will of the people and the decision of the court and in accordance with the law. We have had that debate, the constitutional court ruled on that [but] I don't believe it was the right decision but I do believe that the people will see it as a third term and that is really what it is," said Chipimo.

# Kabwe council removes booths from central business district

By Joseph Mwenya in Kabwe

About 100 irate Kabwe traders yesterday condemned the Kabwe Municipal Council for bringing down their booths in the Central Business District (CBD) in a joint operation with state police, describing the act as inhumane. The booth agents, who stormed the civic centre demanding to be addressed by the Town Clerk, lamented that they woke up to a rude shock when they found their booths brought down and their merchandise missing. One of the traders, Watson Mwale, said he was called by a friend around 05:00 hours to rush to town where council police were demolishing structures. Mwale wondered why the council had treated him like a criminal when he had complied with the trading conditions they gave him.

"I feel disrespected by the council action because I was not engaged. Before setting up my container, I actually consulted the council and I complied with the conditions they gave me as well as paid all the required fees. I don't even know where they have taken my goods worth over K9, 000. How do I survive now? I have school fees and other bills to pay this month" said Mwale. Another trader, Ruth Kamwendo, who owns 4 mobile money booths, said she felt duped by the Local Authority because barely a week after paying an annual business levy of about K750, the council swung into action bringing her business to a standstill. "I was made to pay K750 business levy and in addition I have to pay about 15 percent of my profits to ZRA. Why pay these taxes if we being treated like this. The government has failed to employ us and yet when we do business, we are being

inconvenienced," lamented Kamwendo. And in addressing the traders, Town Clerk Ronald Daka apologised to those with proper documentation for being inconvenienced during the operation. Daka, however, maintained that the operation was in accordance with the law as part of the council's mandate to ensure order and sanity in the manner business was conducted in the municipality. "The operation we carried out is in compliance with the law. We understand that through those booths, you are earning a living but we need to also adhere to the law in the manner we conduct business. It is regrettable that we have been compelled to reach this far because last year we gave several reminders for people trading in town to move to designated places. Sadly, our reminders have not been heeded to," said Daka.





# Democratic Party

*Let's believe again!*

**Why we deserve your vote**



## Changing the Space & the Narrative for Paradigm shift – What Zambia needs!

### 3. Our Greatest Resource – Our People.

“And the King of Sodom said unto Abram (Abraham), Give me the persons (People), and take the goods (Riches) to thyself.

A valid lesson from the encounter that Abraham -The Patriarch of the Christian faith had with King of Sodom in Genesis 14:21

“Wealth is not without its advantages,” John Kenneth Galbraith once wrote,” And the case to the contrary, although it has often been made, has proved widely persuasive”. Despite the obvious advantages of wealth, nations do a poor job of keeping count of their own. They boast about their abundant natural resources, their skilled workforce and their world-class infrastructure. But there is no widely recognized, monetary measure that sums up this stock of natural, human and physical assets. The United Nations in June 2012 published a Balance sheet for 20 nations in a report overseen by Sir Partha Dasgupta of Cambridge University. They included three kinds of asset: “Manufactured”, or Physical, Capital (Machinery, Buildings, infrastructure and so on); human capital (the population’s education and skills); and the natural Capital (including land, forests, fossil fuels and minerals).

Zambia like most African countries is faced with human capital flight ( Brain Drain).Most skilled professionals seek out work abroad rather than returning to work abroad rather than their home country.Shockingly,Countries like Ethiopia has lost as high as 75% of its skilled professionals over the last 10years.This phenomenon is not only a serious economic issue(both in that the Country loses workers and the money it put into training them and the Host),but one that often puts the health and safety of the nation’s citizen at risk, creating long-term and potentially disastrous results for countries with high brain drain rates.

It is without any shadow of doubt; our greatest asset will forever remain our People!

Human Capital flight: Zambia on Trial

According to the World Bank Group in 2005 publication, nearly 70,000 qualified African leave their home countries to work in industrialized nations. According to The Ethiopian –based United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA),the African continent lost a third of its skilled professional personnel through emigration in less than two decades prior to 2005,and has had to replace them with over 100,000 expatriate professional at an annual cost of US\$4.7Billion. And as a country, we have not been Spared at all. From the paltry fifty(50) University graduates at independence in the 1960’s, Zambians have gone breadth and length in achieving academic excellence in all fields of learning.The likes of Chiluwata Lungu( Head of Combustion at General Electric (GE) USA),Mukashyachona Musokotwane (Structural engineer –BOEING),Prof Clive Chirwa,Prof Kenneth Mwenda,Norman Mbazima(Acting Chairman –Anglo America Africa),Dambisa Moyo( Economist/Advisor to President Paul Kagame),Enock Mwila (Head of

Design –BOEING),Prof Grace Kahenya ( Public Health –Philippines)to name but a few, are all sons and daughters of this great land carrying the torch of academic and professional excellence.

During a state visit to Botswana H.E President Michael C.Sata made an appeal to Zambians living and working in Botswana and the world over to return to Zambia and help develop the Country. A timely and intent-driven plea made by the late President but with very little or no action at all from those with the responsibility to actualize. We must be candid enough to ask the question; Have we done enough to retain and benefit from their education and skills of these great sons and Daughters?

The answer is – An unrepentant NO!

We awake in Zambia on a daily basis with the “Pull factors” staring in our faces. The elements; Tribalism, Nepotism and favoritism that undermine professionalism, Poor working conditions of service, deliberate disregard for local talent, scarcity of jobs, limited access to quality education, poor healthcare service, high levels of corruption,institutional failure and a partisan civil police are an everyday reality.

The Travesty

The political leaders in Power expect self-sacrifice and Patriotism from our educated and skilled Sons and daughters when they themselves are drowned and unwilling to fore go their lofty lifestyles. The variance between their words and actions are irreconcilable. The single-handedly granting of Concessions for road Tolls and Markets, borrowing in unforgivable markets beyond the Ceiling set by parliament, blatantly ignoring FIC Report 2017 is in its own right is the ultimate act of Unpatriotism. How then do you inspire those that have migrated into the diaspora? How do expect others to live by a standard that we ourselves cannot live up to? The hypocrisy has to end! To those ends, the few that have dared to return to Zambia have been humiliated and used to settle political and personal scores.

Our education curricula from Primary to tertiary does not resonate with the present times and the challenges it presents. On the other hand, our counterparts from developed nations have curricula that is in tandem technology and recent innovations.

How then do retain the best brains?

To what extent can developed nations go to attract the most brilliant brain?

DP Proposes- The Low-Hanging Fruit: Solutions for Zambia

#### 1. Enabling Environment, Peace and stability

It is impossible to attain meaningful socio-economic development that would provide a satisfactory standard of living for would-be emigrants in that absence of sustained peace and stability. It is therefore incumbent upon each and every political, tribal and military leadership to be mindful of the need to find ways of forestalling war and instability. Political leaders and constituents need to embrace democratic elements of

Governance such as ;

Press Freedom, Transparency, Respect for the rule of Law,Intra-Party democracy, and a respect for Human Rights.

Moreover, there is a need for serious consideration of ethnic and other interests in the distribution of Power, educational facilities, health services,and so forth.

2) Low-Interest Loans: The effort to stem the exodus of trained nationals to foreign countries may also require a country’s national and local governments to grant low-interest loans to professionals based in foreign countries so that they can return to the country to start and manage their own business undertakings. Such loans also need to be extended to locally based professionals to lure them from migrating to foreign countries for employment.

3) An Enabling Environment: Unless the factors that initially lead to migration are redressed, the exodus of skilled Africans will continue to haunt governments and employer-organizations on the African continent. There is, therefore, a need for African governments to find viable ways and means of tackling the problems of human rights abuses, armed conflicts, inadequate social services, and high rates of unemployment.

4) Feasible Policy Initiatives: There are many other important policy initiatives which countries affected by the exodus of trained personnel need to consider in their quest to address the problem and its effects on socio-economic development. Such initiatives may include the following:

- (a) Tax proposals requiring native professionals trained through the public treasury to pay a certain percentage of their incomes earned abroad to their home-country governments;
- (b) Generation of restrictive policies aimed at delaying emigration – such as by adding extra years to medical students’ training, requiring doctors and other professionals to stay on for a number of years to ‘pay back’ what they ‘owe’ to society, or to incorporate the delay within the training period, thus ensuring that certification follows rather than precedes a spell of public service;
- (c) Initiation of international agreements requiring employers in foreign countries who may hire professionals trained through public resources to reimburse the home governments for financial and material resources committed to the training of the professionals;
- (d) Introduction of retention allowances for skilled personnel on government payroll;
- (e) Provision for research grants for academic staff in government-supported educational institutions;
- (f) Provision for car-ownership and home-ownership schemes;
- (g) Upward salary adjustments for employees on government payroll; and/or (h) Assistance with passages for emigrant citizens wishing to return to their native countries by governments in such countries.

*Lets Believe Again!*

By Thomas Mulenga

Luangeni PF Member of Parliament Charles Zulu says his allegiance lies with the people who elected him as member of parliament and not any group of people who have their own interests. And Zulu says the people of Luangeni are 'suffocating' with the news that their member of parliament has been suspended from the ruling party, and has asked the PF leadership to tell him if at all a decision has been made to boot him out, so that he also consults the voters on his next move. On January 18, PF Luangeni Constituency Chairman, Ezra Dube, suspended Zulu for "gross misconduct" on grounds that

# PF should confirm if I am suspended so that I make a decision - Luangeni MP

he refused to avail himself for disciplinary hearing, in a matter where he is accused of demeaning President Lungu, and insulting PF members in Luangeni. The suspension, however, did not receive immediate backing from the PF secretariat in Lusaka, leaving the action with no serious effect, apart from social media speculation. On Saturday, The PF Central Committee expelled Bahati member of parliament Harry

Kalaba, and further expressed concern that some PF back benchers, including Zulu, had been holding dark corner consultative meetings with the former foreign affairs minister, with a view to support his 2021 presidential bid. When contacted, Tuesday, the Luangeni lawmaker denied supporting Kalaba, but hastened to say if he decides to join the Democratic Party in future, he will announce.

"I have heard from my relatives, I have also heard from the media that I have been suspended, but I have not received that letter. I am a Member of Parliament for PF in Luangeni Constituency, that's all, that's what I know. What I am told is that one of my relatives attended a meeting when Kalaba came to Luangeni constituency, the time I was in Zimbabwe for a wedding, so I think it's from there that they are associating me with Harry Kalaba," Zulu said.

"But the thing is, if I make a decision to join Harry Kalaba or to join HH, or to join any other political party, Elias Chipimo, Chishimba Kambwili, I will come out openly and I say so. I will not hide, why should I hide? I mean, if I make a decision, I join this man for whatever reasons, I will do that, but for now I am a PF member of parliament for Luangeni constituency. So if people associate me with Harry Kalaba, it's in their

heads, I cannot control that." And Zulu said he was eager to hear from the PF central organ, whether his suspension is real or not, so that he can consult the electorate on his next move. "Right now I am in the Constituency, I am working, and everyone here is disappointed with the News that has broken out here that I have been suspended by the PF. It's everywhere here, all the media houses here; Radio Maria, Radio Breeze, Chipata TV, Feel Free Radio, that's what everyone is talking about and I am wondering how the constituency executive arrive at this decision. This has caught me by surprise, I cannot give a position for now. I will go back to the constituency and consult the people who sent me to Parliament that is if I am finally booted out of the Party. I will sit down with the people and ask them then I will come up with a position, it's the people I report to not a small group of people who have their own interests," Zulu said. "I am working very hard and everyone here is very happy with me, so far after the news broke out, people cried. They were telling me 'we are not sleeping here, we haven't slept for the past three days' that's what they are telling me, someone told me that he cried the whole night with his wife, people are not happy here and I think it's time the party came up with a position. The party should come up with good reasons to expel me or to suspend me. What I know about disciplinary action is that first, you write to someone; 'it is alleged that you did this and that, can you exculpate why we cannot take disciplinary action against you', then you exculpate yourself. It's from there that they will decide whether to summon you for case hearing or not, but nothing of that sort happened."

## More PF MPs are behind me - Kalaba

By Thomas Mulenga

Democratic Party president Harry Kalaba says he will not challenge the Patriotic Front's decision to expel him from the party. And Kalaba says his party will not participate in the Bahati by-election but focus on mobilizing for the 2021 general elections. Speaking at a media briefing in Lusaka, Tuesday, Kalaba said he had officially taken up the position of Democratic Party president. "The people of Bahati, I thank you for the confidence you placed in me by electing me as your member of parliament. You sent me to Parliament and I spoke on your behalf. You and I have a bond temporarily broken but still together in the fight for the betterment of Bahati and the whole of Zambia. I do not wish to challenge the decision by the PF in courts of Law. I will spare the courts the drama of adjournments and injunctions," Kalaba said. "On several occasion I have said there are only five months before the gratuities come and the easiest way for me would have been to put up an injunction, wait for the money and then resign. That is not

me because money has never influenced the decisions that I make in life, among my 10 priorities, money is not among them. Morality and decency rank high. So their K2 million or K1 million can remain because the suffering of many Zambians outweighs the benefits that I would get as an individual. I was elected member of parliament for a period of 5 years and we are remaining with slightly 24 months before the next elections. A responsible leadership would have avoided the Bahati by-election as elections are an added cost to the already struggling economy. Unfortunately, the leadership does not care about prudent utilization of the peoples' resources. And Kalaba said his party would not participate in the Bahati by-election but focus on mobilizing for the 2021 general elections. "I will not participate in the Bahati by-election. Instead, I will focus on mobilizing support for my presidential candidature for 2021 under the Democratic Party (DP). I will also be taking up the party president position of the DP, so we can build a stronger party of value driven by leaders who will inspire confidence and provide

hope for a better Zambia and posterity. I look forward to your support and to working together to rewrite history and to build the Zambia you and I want. Speaking now in my new shoes as Party President, I am saying the DP will not participate in the Bahati by-elections, instead the party will continue mobilizing itself and getting ready for the 2021 general elections," he said. Kalaba said the PF expelled him because he spoke against the corruption that was going on in government. "Early last year, I resigned from government in which I served as foreign affairs minister. I had made my point clear that I was resigning my position on the premise of high levels of corruption in government and thanked his excellence, President Edgar Lungu for his magnanimity of allowing me to serve in his cabinet as foreign minister. It is clear that my resignation from Cabinet amidst high level corruption by the government's top leadership, is the reason for my expulsion from the PF. I have not, and have never committed any crime; the only crime was to speak against corruption, and to side with the people, who

the absolute owners of the resources are being plundered," Kalaba said. "Today, the bells are tolling for my departure from the PF. The PF has proven to be a party of intolerance, a party of self-enrichment, and a party which abets grand corruption and theft by those in positions of trust and responsibility. I choose to be on the side of people; the very people who had sent me to Parliament. The same people who motivated me to join politics so I can be their servant and help to better their livelihoods, and to speak on their behalf in Parliament and in Cabinet." Meanwhile, Kalaba said some PF MPs were encouraging him to continue campaigning for the presidency. "In a revolution, there is a wee wind and whoever is caught up in the wee wind will choose either to work with us or to be overtaken by the wee wind. Of course I have got a lot of friends in the PF who have encouraged me to be strong and to soldier on on this trajectory. But I want to tell you that I am not courting anyone of the members of Parliament for PF to join me, because they themselves will join me at an appropriate time, they will come," said Kalaba.

By Mirriam Chabala

Acting ACC director general Rosemary Khuzwayo says there has been a drop in the number of people reporting corruption cases to the institution, and the commission does not understand why. And Transparency International Zambia chapter president Rueben Lifuka has launched the 2018 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI), revealing that the Sub-Saharan Africa region scored lowest in the fight against corruption, followed by Latin America. Speaking during the launch of the index at Lusaka's Cresta Golfview hotel, Tuesday, Khuzwayo said she was surprised that people had stopped reporting corruption. "Corruption has continued to be a great concern to good governance in Zambia. But this is not just a Zambian problem but it's a global challenge. Experience has shown us that political will is cardinal, so we need

## We don't understand why people have stopped reporting corruption - ACC

government's participation or just the political will for us to successfully fight corruption. There is a drop in the number of reports that we are getting from members of the public. We do not understand why there is a drop but there is a significant drop in the number of cases of corruption which are being reported. People are not really reporting on corruption," Khuzwayo said. She said huge sums of money were lost through kickbacks in Zambia. "Then evidence also shows that in Zambia, huge amounts of monies are lost through kick-backs compared to other corruption avenues such as abuse of office. Another area of major concern for the ACC includes procurement in the manner in which contracts are awarded for roads and buildings; I think

there is a problem there that we need to work on. Related to procurement also is the issue of the purchase of goods and services, how contracts are being awarded," observed Khuzwayo. "We've also identified recruitment as an area of concern, how are teachers being recruited, how are soldiers and...how are just civil servants being recruited? The other type of corruption that we identifies is the corruption that obtains at points of public service delivery when you are seeking services from a government institution, what things are you made to do that are not allowed and what things are you being asked to pay? So that's another area of concern. So as can be seen, there is need for concerted efforts to deal with the challenge."

And Lifuka said sub-saharan Africa did not put up a strong fight against corruption. "The top most country [in fighting corruption] is Denmark which scored 88 out of 100, taking over from New Zealand which has come second with 87 out of 100. Meanwhile, Finland, Singapore, Sweden and Switzerland scored 85 out of 100. At the bottom of the 180 countries included in the Survey, Somalia is last with only 10 marks while Syria and South Sudan scored 13 each and Sudan and North Korea scored 14 out of 100. Sub-Saharan countries have the least scores, our highest score is 32 out of a 100. So the lowest scoring region is Sub-Saharan Africa, followed by Latin American then European region." explained Lifuka. "But most troubling is that

16 countries significantly decreased the scores including Australia, Chile, Hungary, Turkey and I dare to say Zambia and 35 out of a 100 is where our score is, we have dropped by two points from the 2017 CPI. On the CPI 2018, we are ranked 105 out of 180 and we've dropped nine places. But of significance, in the last two years, we've dropped three points. In 2017 we dropped by one point and in 2018 we dropped by two points. We were static at 38 for a number of years and then we went to 37, now we are at 35, that should be a matter of concern. We can console ourselves and say there are only 17 countries that rank higher than Zambia in Sub-Saharan Africa and we perform better than 31 countries in the region. But what we see as TI is that where corruption

seeps in the democratic system, particularly at the higher levels of power, democratic institutions suffer as corrupt leaders actively work to protect themselves from prosecution and use their power for private gain." Meanwhile UNDP country director Mandisa Mashologu regretted that corruption deprived the people development. "Money lost to corruption is essentially development lost to those at risk of being left behind. Globally, the accumulated lost budgetary resources due to corruption whether it's through bribes or the diversion of funds or illicit financial flows... these exceed an estimated USD10 trillion, which could possibly end our road to poverty by 2030. From a human development perspective, people freedoms, their choices and opportunities continue to be undermined by corrupt practices that distort income distribution and public expenditure decisions," said Mashologu.



After the embarrassing video went viral, showing the PF Secretary General Davies Mwila dressing down Prime TV journalists, and banning them from covering his press conference, the government, through the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, has stepped in to pacify public outrage.

Dora Siliya, who doubles as Chief Government spokesperson, is now seeking to reconcile the ruling party's chief executive and the private media house. But in so doing, she has already taken a stance to trivialize and downplay the incident, claiming that the gravity of the matter is being exaggerated by opposition political parties.

"Government has observed with great concern that a simple misunderstanding between the Patriotic Front Secretary General and Prime TV journalists is being used for political mileage by some opposition leaders. The government is working very closely with media leaders to see the Media Council come into fruition with its greatest role being that of setting standards for journalists and also to protect journalists from those who may hinder their professional practice," said Honourable Siliya.

"The matter at hand, which is an isolated incident, is merely a misunderstanding of which I believe will be resolved amicably. The PF Secretary General Hon. Davies Mwila is eager to meet with Prime TV to discuss the matter on Tuesday."

We can see that the Minister has found herself

# Warning shots on media regulation under PF regime

afraid to rebuke the PF Secretary General? It is because under this government, the ruling party official is senior; the Chief Government Spokesperson reports to him? So, since Mwila said: "when I make a decision [to ban the journalists], it's final!", then there is nothing that Dora can tell him. But to minimize the damage on the so-called ZIIMA agenda, the Minister is trying to kill the case tactfully, without embarrassing her boss.

We want to use this opportunity to ask the donor community that has an interest in promoting a free press in Zambia; is this a government that can be trusted with mandatory and statutory media regulation? We want to ask our fellow private media operators who have excitedly welcomed the formation of a media regulation council; does this government leadership sound like it has any regard or consideration for private media houses? How safe are our journalists if their mere presence at a ruling party event is so irritating to those in power?

These are warning shots that have been fired by the Patriotic Front. Media operators, the international community and concerned Zambian citizens must know that the actions from Mr Mwila, in full view of his supporters, are a silent signal to PF cadres to start attacking Prime TV journalists, tomorrow it will be Muvi TV, next it will be News Diggers! By the time 2021 campaigns heat up, all the independent media houses will be completely silenced or shut down. Shame on Dora and her boss, Mwila!

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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in a very awkward position because Mr Mwila's harassment of journalists has put a dent into her efforts to try and convince media stakeholders that she means well with her plans to impose mandatory media regulation in Zambia. This is the reason why she is saying a lot of nothing. Honourable Siliya has been championing for mandatory media regulation through a recently-formed media council called the Zambia Institute of Independent Media Alliance.

Under this government-controlled organization, which is trading as an "independent" body, the Minister has pledged to isolate the professionals from the rest, as well as protect journalists from those who may hinder

their professional practice; people like Davies Mwila. The awkwardness of Mr Mwila's case is that the Minister is trying to condemn the offence, but defend the offender.

Honourable Siliya cannot just say, "it's a simple misunderstanding". What misunderstanding is there? Mr Mwila explicitly gave his reasons for his decisive decision. He said Prime TV never covers his press conferences, so he wants them to stay away from the PF secretariat. So, what misunderstanding will he be resolving with Prime TV? Let the PF media team announce to the nation what transgression Prime TV has committed to deserve this harassment and threat, so that the public can judge if Mr Mwila was in order.

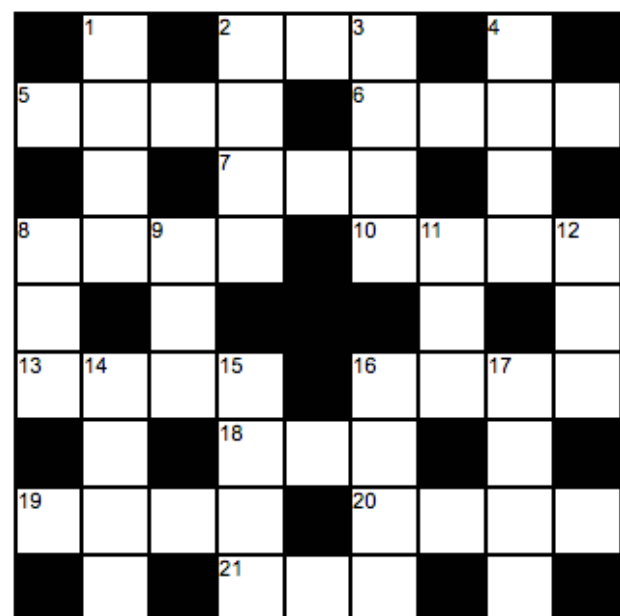
And even assuming that Mr Mwila had a good reason for disliking the editorial policy of Prime TV, how can he take his anger out on the innocent junior employees of the station who have no control of what is televised? We expected Honourable Siliya to be telling Mr Mwila, that there is a procedure for complaints enshrined in the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) Act. The law says if you are aggrieved, you tender a formal complaint to the broadcast institution, which complaint is supposed to be addressed within 14 days, after which you can escalate the matter with to IBA, if not satisfied with the resolution.

If one chooses not to waste time with reporting a complaint to the

Independent Broadcasting Authority; or in an event that the media house in question does not fall under the regulation of the IBA, there is an express route of litigation. There is no need to physically attack the journalists. If Prime TV has been airing false and malicious news against the PF Secretary General or his party, he is free to drag the TV station to court. But Mr Mwila has failed to lead by example. So, we will not be fooled into sleep by the lullaby that the Minister of Information is singing to the aggrieved media practitioners.

What the Chief Government Spokesperson is failing to say is that Mr Mwila was wrong and Prime TV deserves an apology. Why is Honourable Siliya

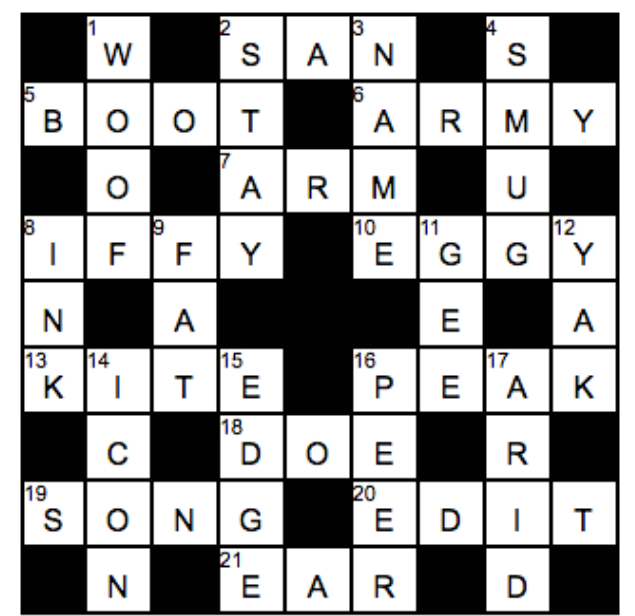
## Crossword puzzle 282



*"A goal is not always meant to be reached, it often serves simply as something to aim at." - Bruce Lee*

- | Across                       | Down                 |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
| 2. Not average, but not huge | 1. Touch on          |
| 5. Having ability            | 2. Pooh, for one     |
| 6. You do this with a book   | 3. Kind of student   |
| 7. Chicken ___ King          | 4. Walking aid       |
| 8. Celebrity                 | 8. Second-stringer   |
| 10. Buck or doe              | 9. Short for Abraham |
| 13. Car horn sound           | 11. New Year's ___   |
| 16. Red veggie               | 12. A depression     |
| 18. Tire filler              | 14. 2, 4, 6, 8, ...  |
| 19. In the vicinity          | 15. Piece            |
| 20. A continent              | 16. Praise oneself   |
| 21. You're it game           | 17. Completely bad   |

## Solutions to puzzle 281





# Reader's feedback

## Chitotela on directing EIZ to explain govt projects

Editor,  
"That is not the mandate of the EIZ. That's the job of the government spokesperson and the ministry involved in the project." - Chisomo Cmo Tembo

"It sounds funny; how and since when did EIZ become a PF mouthpiece?" - Clifford Kulutwe Remy

"EIZ is never consulted when awarding contracts. Why do you need them when structures start collapsing? Please engage them from the start!" - Robert Banda

"Real development is not explained, but just seen by the people if it is there." - Ernest Simwanza

"EIZ is only good

at collecting membership fees and organizing exorbitant annual meetings." - Golden M. Musonda

"If you don't involve EIZ as a body when initiating the projects why do you want them to be part of your irregularities." - Joe Nyambe

## Wynter's on voting out Lungu as being only way to stop 3rd term

Editor,

"Makes sense. The Zambian people will give the last verdict over his eligibility..." - Ackim Mwanamuzenge Neene

"The only politician that is sober-minded, and does not side of emotions or envy, but by what is right and true." - Kenneth Ktg Ngoma

"Zambians know whom to vote out, but they don't know whom to vote in." - Richard Bweupe

"If there's a person who seems lost and not knowing where exactly he stands it's Wynter! At times, he comes out as though he's on the Lungu bandwagon!!! Please clear yourself; tell Zambians where exactly you belong." - Allan Alinew Lungu

"I remember one political party president mentioned during the 2016 campaigns that President Lungu was not entitled to presidential benefits because he had not served a full term!" - Mu Ngoni

"Last time ku Muvi TV, you said Edgar Lungu can stand in 2021; today you're speaking the opposite? I don't trust you anymore!" - Joseph Chisi

"The Constitution only allows someone to be voted twice. Not three times. Simple and straightforward." - Mwipiko Ben



**Diggers' OPINION: UPND, respect alliance partners**

Editor,  
"The Diggers' opinion and president Msoni's sentiments regarding the alliance are food for thought for UPND; they should be read between the lines for one to appreciate their importance." - Grace Shankaya

"Pomposity or no pomposity, it's undoubtedly an undeniable fact that the UPND doesn't really need that alliance with certain non-existent political parties who's presence on the Zambian political scene can't be traced." - Holyfield Bashi-Tasheni Mumba

"The UPND alliance with other political parties is to offer strong checks & balances to the PF between now & 2021." - Chanda Pochoko

## HH's view that PF foolishly misinterpreting his position on mine tax

Editor,

"That's my president!" - Joseph Mbondo

"This is a man we need our businesses have been affected." - Sydney Devine

"We are with you, Mr HH." - Mwambwa Kwikoshi

"The PF regime is fond of misleading the public every time HH issues a statement; Sunday Chanda and Antonio Mwanza are among Edgar Lungu's foolish propagandists who deliberately misinterpret HH's statements." - Chivunda Samusungwa

"Wow, incredible! HH is very confused,

self-contradictory, hypocritical and paradoxical. This is the man some folks call a visionary leader. Well, he falls short of that by far." - Lawrence Chimukwaya

**EDITOR'S NOTE:**

*Go to our News Diggers! Facebook page, select a story you like and jot down your comment. We will pick that as your feedback and get you published on this page. The shorter the comment the higher the chance of getting published.*

*Note that we block Facebook users who use abusive language.*

"The Constitution only allows someone to be voted twice. Not three times. Simple and straightforward." - Mwipiko Ben



# DNA test for kids 'stolen by Orphanage'

Belgian authorities have asked for DNA samples of children adopted from the Democratic Republic of Congo to establish if their biological parents are still alive, reports say.

They have contacted the adoptive parents of some 15 children to find out if the youngsters were kidnapped, according to Belgian newspapers.

Prosecutors suspect the parents thought they were sending their children to a Kinshasa holiday camp not an orphanage.

The orphanage has since been shut down.

"There are only losers in this story and the judge will have to determine where the best interests of the kids lie," Flemish MP Lorin Parys told the BBC. Thousands of African children have been adopted in recent years from countries including Ethiopia and Uganda.

Fears of child-smuggling in DR Congo prompted the central African country to halt exit permits for adopted children in 2013. Some cases continued to go through because they had already begun.

DR Congo has one of the highest rates of orphaned children, but it emerged in 2017 that four children who had been adopted in Belgium had been falsely

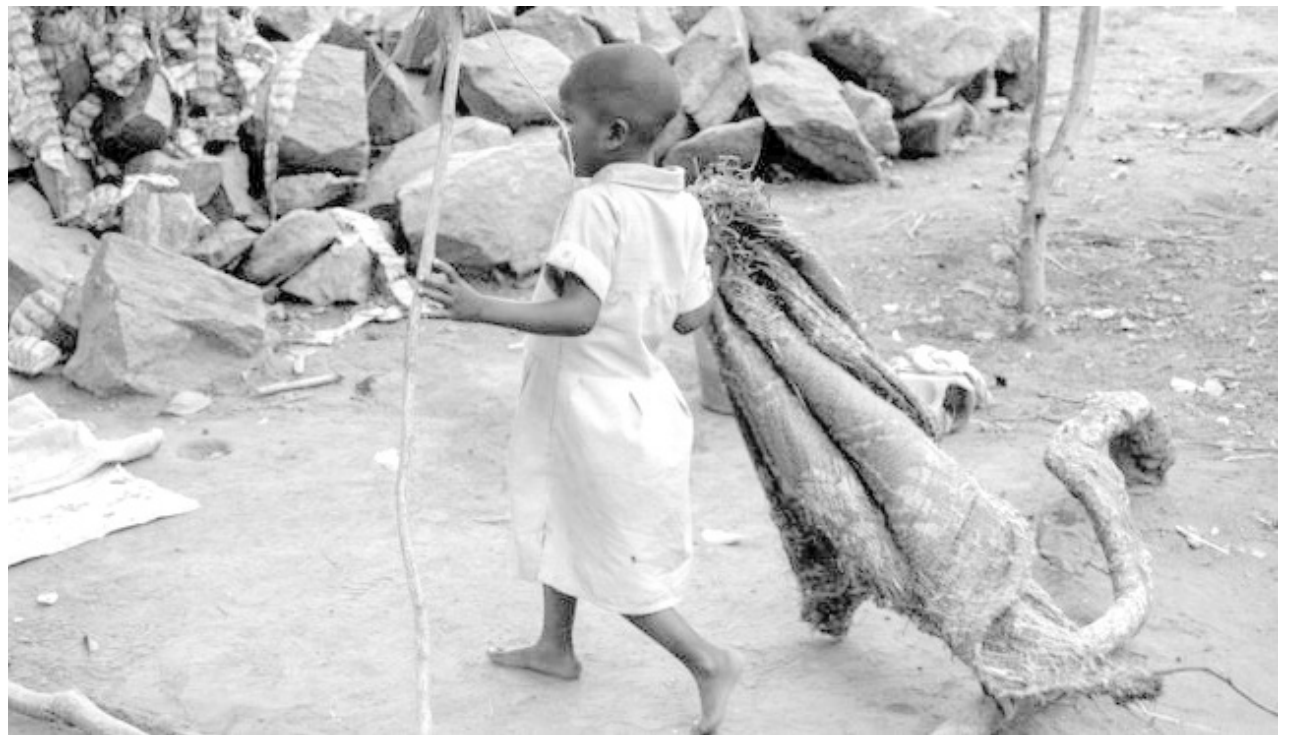
declared as orphans. All four had been aged between two and four when they were taken to Belgium from the Tumaini orphanage in Kinshasa.

A team of Belgian journalists traced the children's parents to a town about 850km (530 miles) from the capital Kinshasa. The parents said their children had been given the opportunity of going with a young organisation to a holiday camp but had never returned.

Since the original four cases emerged, Belgian authorities have investigated a series of adoptions of children who came from the Tumaini orphanage. All 15 are thought to have come to Belgium between 2013 and 2015.

A spokesman for Belgium's public prosecutor said couples had been contacted with a request for an expert to conduct a DNA test on their adopted child, Nieuwsblad reports. Belgium's judiciary has strong indications that the children's parents are still alive. Like the four other children, the parents are thought to have sent their youngsters to the Tumaini orphanage under the assumption that they were going to a holiday camp.

"They are different age



ranges but the kids who've been here the shortest time have been here three and a half years, so they have all been integrated," explained Mr Parys, an MP with the N-VA party in the Flemish parliament. "The parents here have done nothing wrong and of course the parents in Congo are devastated that they lost their kids under false pretences."

Belgian-Congolese lawyer Julienne Mpemba has been investigated for her role as head of the orphanage. Her lawyer was unavailable for comment on Tuesday, however he

has in the past declared that she is innocent.

Georges-Henri Beauthier, a lawyer representing three of the adoptive families, said the DNA tests would not change

anything.

"No-one I know is arguing that the children here came here in a network with false papers," in told Belgian public broadcaster RTBF. "What my clients

have been calling for for two and a half years is that those who are the true heads of these networks are questioned and arrested and answer for their actions." **BBC**

## Zimbabwe women urged to report rape by soldiers

Women allegedly raped by the security forces during night raids to suppress recent protests have been urged to report their cases to the police.

The information minister

said only one attack has been officially reported despite numerous allegations, the state-run Herald newspaper reports. The BBC has spoken to six women who said they were

raped by soldiers.

Correspondents say there is widespread mistrust of the police, who were also involved in the crackdown on protests.

The state-funded Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission has accused soldiers of using "systematic torture" in the crackdown on protests that broke out a fortnight ago following a more than doubling in fuel prices. It has strongly criticised the authorities for using troops to quell demonstrations.

The BBC spoke to six women who had sought refuge at a safe house about their experiences during the night-time door-to-door raids by the security forces.

One of the women said: "They slapped me, then said they want to have sex with me. When I refused, they slapped me again. The first soldier had unprotected sex with me. Then the other one said, 'I want to do the same.'"

Information Minister Monica Mutsvangwa said the government did not condone and or tolerate "criminal behaviour by any member of society particularly those in positions of trust".

"All women, who were allegedly raped, are encouraged to come forward and report the cases to the Zimbabwe Republic Police Victim Friendly Unit, which can be found at every police station around the country," The Herald quotes her as saying in a statement.

"The unit is led by a female commissioner, hence, all affected women will be treated with empathy, compassion, respect and due care. Their safety will be guaranteed," she added. **BBC**

# Data on 14,000 people with HIV/AIDs leaked

Confidential data about more than 14,000 people diagnosed with HIV, including foreign visitors, has been stolen in Singapore and leaked online. Authorities revealed details about the 2016 health data breach on Monday.

They believe an HIV-positive American whose partner was a senior Singaporean doctor is behind the leak.

The hack comes just months after the records of 1.5m Singaporeans, including Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, were stolen last year.

Confidential information including names, addresses, HIV status and other medical information is reportedly included in the latest breach.

Officials say the details of 5,400 Singaporeans and 8,800 foreigners dating up to January 2013 have been compromised.

Until 2015, foreigners with HIV were not allowed to visit the city state, even as tourists. Now, anyone who wants to stay beyond 90 days, including for work, is subject to mandatory

medical screening to make sure they do not have HIV.

Officials believe a 33-year-old US citizen who lived in Singapore from 2008 is behind the leak.

Mikhy Farrera-Brochez was convicted and jailed for fraud and drug-related offences in 2016 and was deported last year.

He is the former partner of Ler Teck Siang, the former head of Singapore's National Public Health Unit, who was convicted of helping Farrera-Brochez falsify his medical records to disguise his HIV-positive status.

Officials said Ler offered his own blood labelled as Farrera-Brochez's to allow him entry to the country.

In a statement, the health ministry blamed Ler for the breach, accusing him of not complying with the policies regarding the handling of confidential data.

They said they were first made aware in 2016 that the American may have had confidential information - but

thought all material had been seized and secured by police.

They say they were notified on 22 January this year that Farrera-Brochez could still have possession of the HIV registry data.

"I'm sorry that one of our former staff who was authorised to have access to confidential information in our HIV registry appears to

not have complied with our security guidelines," Health Minister Gan Kim Yong said at a Monday news conference, Singapore's Today Online news website reports.

On Monday, health officials said they had tried to contact "virtually all" of permanent resident and Singaporeans on the list - but had only managed to speak to about 900.

A hotline has been set up for those affected, and counselling will be offered, Ministry of Health Permanent Secretary Chan Heng Kee confirmed.

He also said officials believe Farrera-Brochez was abroad, but do not know where.

"There is a risk of him continuing to publicly disseminate the info," Mr Chan warned. **BBC**





# Hudson-Odoi going nowhere insists Sarri

Chelsea teenager Callum Hudson-Odoi will be staying put at Stamford Bridge during the January transfer window, with Blues manager Maurizio Sarri saying Tuesday "the club told me he's out of the market".

The 18-year-old England youth international is out of contract in 2020, with Hudson-Odoi reportedly keen to force through a move to German giants Bayern Munich before Thursday's transfer deadline.

Hudson-Odoi scored his second Chelsea goal on his sixth start of the season in Sunday's FA Cup fourth-round win over Sheffield Wednesday.

But he is yet to start in the

Premier League and has made just three substitute appearances in the top flight, the first coming on Boxing Day at Watford.

But Sarri stressed again on Tuesday that London club Chelsea wanted Hudson-

Odoi to stay at Stamford Bridge.

"On the pitch he's doing very well," Sarri said. "I'm really very happy with him.

I'm not very happy with the situation, but I know very well that every big team here

in England has the same problem.

"It's not easy to keep these young players. He is of course one of the best 18-year-old players in Europe, so it's very, very difficult. **AFP**



## ZESCO's consistent defeats to Nkana irks Nyambe Mulenga

*By Alex Chilumbwe*

Find the winning formula against Nkana before you become their everyday ride, says former ZESCO United player, Nyambe Mulenga.

Aggrieved by his former team's continued defeats against Nkana, Mulenga, a 2012 AfCON winner whose career was cut short by a road accident that

claimed three lives on the Great North Road, noted that ZESCO United lost to Nkana in their past four encounters, urging ZESCO to find means of avenging.

In an interview with Goal Diggers! Mulenga who is currently a ZESCO company employee as well as a background assistant coach at a Division two

side ZESCO Victoria Falls, urged players at his former club to help their coach George Lwandamina end a losing spell to Nkana by winning within regulation time when the two sides face each other in Sunday's CAF Confederations Cup at Levy Mwanawasa stadium in Ndola.

"ZESCO need to beat

Nkana because in all the last four encounters, they have lost. They are super league defending champions and they need to add more colour to that by beating Nkana just in regulation time when they play continental football on Sunday. If Nkana keeps beating them, they will end up being their every day ride and it will take time for them to change that," he said.

Mulenga, who was an alternating right full back and central defender further noted that a lot of players from ateam in the 2019 season. He said the development was proof that there was attractive talent in lower divisions thereby

calling for prioritization of grassroots football.

"I have seen a lot of Division one players graduated to the super league apart from the teams that won promotion.

This is a good sign that there is good talent in lower divisions of football so there is need for us as a country to pay more attention to grassroots football. It is where future stars that will be playing in the national team are," said Mulenga.

Mulenga's football career was cut short when he got involved in a road accident with two other players on their way from Copperbelt province to Lusaka where they were to report for national team camp in 2014.



New Monaco playmaker Cesc Fabregas talks to the media during a press conference

## Buildcon picks 3rd manager in less than a year

*By Abraham Kalito*

Ndola based club Buildcon FC has struggled to adapt

to Zambia's elite football league since its promotion in 2016 despite being one of the promising sides.

Four years after promotion the club performance in the league has remains lacklustre despite numerous players of different African origin having been brought-in

On Monday the super division side signed Serbian Srdjan Zivojnov as manager to replace Tenant Chembo becoming the third manager in less than a year.

In April 2018, the club dismissed Italian trainer Arena Gulgleimo barely four months after he was signed, replaced him with Zambia's Tenant Chembo who has since been replaced by Serbian Srdjan Zivojnov. The Serbian appointment follows the acquisition of 11 foreign based players among them seven Congolese, a Cameroonian, Ghanaian, Tanzanian and Namibian.

## Kalusha Bwalya's reduced ban elates Lusambo

*By Abraham Kalito*

Lusaka Province Minister Bowman Lusambo has pledged to pay a 10,000 Swiss Franc (more than K120, 000), fined on Zambia's most celebrated football icon Kalusha Bwalya by the world soccer governing body, FIFA. On Monday, FIFA upheld an appeal lodge by Bwalya to reduce his ban from all soccer related activities, but insisted that he pays the CHF10, 000 fine slapped on him for being corrupt.

The reduced ban however elated Lusambo who pledged to pay the fine on his behalf as an expression of joy following the move by FIFA. Lusambo wrote on social media (Facebook) that he was vindicated by FIFA's decision to reduce the ban. "As a football fan, I wish to join millions across the world that have welcomed the decision by the FIFA Appeals Committee to uphold the appeal lodged by our celebrated

football icon Kalusha Bwalya and set aside the ban imposed by the adjudicatory chamber of the Ethics Committee made in April 2018. I am highly elated by the news that effectively means that Kalusha can now devote his time to the game that he passionately loves, football. Furthermore, this development heralds a fresh chapter in the redevelopment of our game particularly in Zambia," he said.

"As someone who always believed in and supported Kalusha's appeal process, I can proudly state that the landmark decision by the Appeals Committee has vindicated me. Having followed Kalusha's career and his public life, I have to commend him for having handled this entire episode as a true gentleman he has always been. After facing so much ridicule and disdain even from some of the people that personally benefitted from his

football exploits, Kalusha has again shown tenacity, will power and the never-die spirit that has made him an accomplished sportsman."

He said the gesture was just a way of appreciating Bwalya's service towards the country and not a way seek to cast aspersions on his ability to pay the fine.

"My call is that the football family can now put the failures of the past few years behind and use this ground-breaking ruling as an opportunity to get Zambian football back to winning ways. The coming back of Kalusha into the fold means that the nation and the rest of Africa can again benefit from his unrivalled expertise in football administration. To demonstrate my happiness, I pledge to pay the 10,000 Swiss Franc (K120,000) fine that the Appeals Committee has imposed on Kalusha. The gesture does not way seek to cast aspersions

on Kalusha's ability to pay the fine but it is a small attempt at thanking Kalusha for the many years of great service to Zambia," said Lusambo.

"I also invite other well-meaning football fans to join me on this noble and humble crusade to offset the fine as a way of paying homage to a great Son of the soil. If only one hundred fans put away a K1,000 each, a greater portion of that fine would be paid off. I should state clearly here that the funds to honour my pledge to pay the fine on behalf of Kalusha will be fully funded from my personal resources and will be made in my capacity as a football fan. When history about Zambian and African football is finally written, we all know that Kalusha's chapter will take its deserved place." Bwalya was banned from all soccer related activities in April last year after being found guilty of corruption.

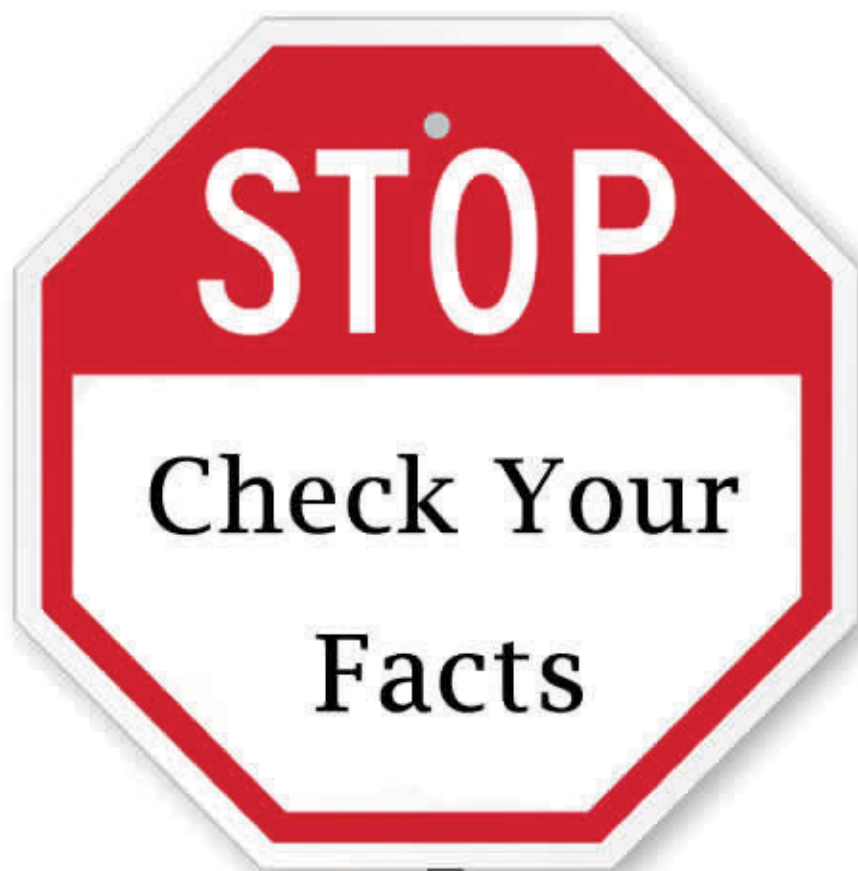


# I'LL PAY KALU'S FINE - BOWMAN

By Abraham Kalito

Lusaka Province Minister Bowman Lusambo has pledged to pay a 10,000 Swiss Franc (more than K120, 000), fined on Zambia's most celebrated football icon Kalusha Bwalya by the world soccer governing body, FIFA. On Monday, FIFA upheld an appeal lodge by Bwalya to reduce his ban from all soccer related activities, but insisted that he pays the CHF10, 000 fine slapped on him for being corrupt.

To page 11



## FACT CHECKING COURSE

In a society where there is latest news every hour, nobody has time to check facts before sharing on social media, but a journalist must have the desired skill to investigate and verify before publishing.

The Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa (OSISA) in conjunction with News Diggers! is inviting applications from working journalists across Zambia to attend a digital investigative journalism training programme in February 2019.

COURSE:	Investigative Journalism and Fact-checking
WHERE:	Lusaka-Zambia
DURATION:	One week (18-24 February, 2019)
CHARGES:	Free (all expenses paid for; including transport, accommodation and food)
APPLICANTS:	Must be working journalists between 18-30 years. Community Radio, television, newspaper and freelance reporters are encouraged to apply
HOW TO APPLY:	Attach qualifications, reference letter from employer, two samples of published news articles/documentary
CONTACT:	Send applications to editor@diggers.news Or via whatsapp on 0977708285
DEADLINE:	Apply before January 31, 2019

