



# JOIN PF OR SUFFER

**If you vote UPND, we're not bringing development, Lungu tells Sesheke**

*By Mirriam Chabala*

President Edgar Lungu yesterday told the people of Sesheke in Western Province to either vote for the opposition and continue suffering or choose development by voting for the ruling party. *To page 5*



President Edgar Lungu at the house of mourning for the Mwandi Royal Establishment induna, Wellington Mundia's in Sesheke yesterday - picture courtesy of Smart Eagles

**Tu PF mulefwaya ukunjipanya, jokes Kambwili**

*By Daniel Chansa in Luanshya*

Tu PF mulefwaya kunjipanya (PF, you want to kill me), Chishimba Kambwili jokingly shouted as he constantly coughed in the Luanshya Magistrates' Court on Monday. *To page 3*

**'UPND Councillor' gets 18 months for stealing over K53,000**

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**Sesheke violence worries FODEP**

*By Thomas Mulenga*

Foundation for Democratic Process (FODEP) executive director Mwenge Chimfwembe says the 2021 general elections will be bloody and chaotic if political violence is not curtailed. In an interview, Chimfwembe said the political violence in Sesheke was an indictment on government as it had the responsibility to ensure that people were protected from any form of harm. *To page 4*

**Miles threatens to shut down Lusaka Magistrates' Court over dirty toilets**

*By Zondiwe Mbewe*

Lusaka Mayor Miles Sampa has written to the Senior Clerk of Courts at the Lusaka Magistrates' Court over the dirty toilets at the complex, warning that the council would not hesitate to close down the premises if there's no improvement

in its sanitation.

And Sampa has offered solidarity, love and goodwill to UPND Kanyama Ward 10 Councillor Brighton Bilumba, who was sentenced to one year six months imprisonment with hard labour for theft involving K53,600. *To page 5*

**High Court judge recuses herself from handling CK, Mwila defamation case**

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**Brian Chilala dies in road accident**

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# Luo has sentenced students to maximum starvation - Gershom

By Daniel Chansa

Former Copperbelt University Students' Union (COBUSU) president Gershom Phiri says scrapping off of students' meal allowances is wickedness meant to sentence students to maximum starvation. Many stakeholders have condemned the move by the PF government to abolish students' meal allowances, saying it was against the law. Commenting on the move, Phiri charged that Higher Education Minister Professor Nkandu Luo was trying to oppress poor with bad education policies. Phiri, who is now a Copperbelt-based Human Rights and Good Governance activist said the PF administration has collected more taxes than any government in history, and wondered why it was failing to channel part of the money towards increasing students' meal and book allowances. "PF Government should instead introduce meal allowances and book allowances in other Universities and not scrapping it off from UNZA and CBU. Government has the capacity to do so. Scraping meal allowances is a highest level of wickedness

which is meant to sentence students to maximum starvation. The Bible as in Proverbs 14:21 says "Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt to the Lord which is exactly what Nkandu Luo is doing," Phiri said. "The justification that government wants other Zambians to benefit does not make any sense because if anything government has been collecting loan repayments from other students who were previously on bursaries,

collecting money from Tollgates, getting other Taxes from citizens which no government from UNIP till now has ever collected. Go and tell madam Nkandu Luo that most of these students are vulnerable and use the very meal allowances to pay their accommodation fees in boarding houses, and to pay for other fees that not covered by the Loan." Phiri said government had many options as it could use money collected from toll

gates to help the students. "The other way to increase funding to public Universities is to work on cost exaggeration on Public funded projects like that Michael Chilufya Sata tollgate. Let government demand the correct amount of that tollgate and channel the money to student allowances. Let them also tell Ministers who remained in office to pay the money back and help the poor students. We can channel it to meal allowances

and we must also maximise the taxes from the mining sector so that we pay these students' meal allowances," Phiri said. "I wonder what some of these Ministers like Nkandu Luo tell the President during Cabinet meetings... When President Micheal Sata was campaigning he promised students at Freedom park that once the PF forms government he would increase the students allowances and his Excellency (Edgar Lungu)

further told them that I will follow Sata's vision. But alas! The last increment they had was given to them by president Rupiah Banda." Phiri further guided students to use the right channels when speaking. "Students should not be known for riots, but their addition to good Governance even on issues that do not directly affect them, these are custodians of public interests who should not be breaking other people's vehicles. We need society to appreciate them," said Phiri.

By Thomas Mulenga

Northern Province Permanent Secretary Elias Kamanga says the poor drainage system in Kasama district caused the flooding of Kasama General Hospital last week. In an interview, Kamanga said the Intensive Care Unity, the Out Patient and the Maternity wings were among the most affected areas of the Hospital "As you may already be aware, Kasama and Northern Province in Particular, has been experiencing heavy rains, especially for the past week and this week. The heavy down pour led to the flooding of Kasama General Hospital, with the key wings of the hospital such

## PS Kamanga regrets flooding of Kasama General Hospital due to poor drainage

as the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), the labour ward, the outpatient among other wings of the Hospital. Kasama nursing school is also affected as the Kitchen area of the school is also flooded and that has been challenging to students in terms of cooking. The flooding is mainly due to poor drainage system in the district, and you may wish to know that the area where the hospital is sitting is actually a swamp. So

when heavy rains come, the water stays in one place. We actually noticed that the water was coming from underground in some affected wings of the hospital, meaning that there is no outflow of the Water in case of a heavy downpour," Kamanga said. "The flooding poses a huge risk at the highest health institution in the province, that may be a recipe for water borne diseases because we may not know how the Water is

actually moving and what damage it is doing. And as already said, the ICU is affected, if you have such a critical part of the hospital flooded, it's already dangerous enough in terms of attending to emergencies. However, the ICU is still operational. We came up with some interventions using local resources as we await some more resources from the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unity." Kamanga said the flooding of the hospital almost led to stoppage of operations at the health institution "We are however assured that soon, government will start working on some township roads in the district and we will make an appeal that drainages are worked on so that we avoid such happenings that do not only pose a danger to human life, but also reduces on productivity. People cannot work at the same rate when their work environment is flooded. So we hope the contractor who has been given to work on township roads will also be told to do proper drainages that will last a test of time," he said.

Kamanga however said minister in the office of the Vice-President Sylvia Chalikosa had assured that government would intervene to avoid further inconveniences. "We grateful to government for the quick response to this problem through the Disaster Management and Mitigation Unit under the office of the vice President. The minister in the office of the Vice President Sylvia Chalikosa rushed here immediately she was informed of the issue and assured us that government would come in by releasing funds to deal with the situation. The local resources can only do as much, this is a challenge that needs serious long lasting interventions. You may also wish to know that Chiba Basic School within Kasama district, had the roof blown off by the heavy down pour and pupils are stranded in terms of attending classes. The minister also visited the school and assured that government would intervene as soon as possible, so that the pupils are not delayed further," Kamanga said.

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By Mirriam Chabala

Lusaka Province Minister Bowman Lusambo has threatened to politically “crush UPND president Hakainde Hichilema and send him into extinction if he continues practicing provocative politics. Commenting on an incident last week in Sesheke where UPND supporters clashed with President Edgar Lungu’s supporters during campaigns, Lusambo said Hichilema was looking for reasons to get arrested again so that he could continue denting the President’s name. Speaking in Sesheke Constituency in Western Province when he went to drum up support for PF’s

# I will crush HH if he continues politics of provocation - Lusambo

Parliamentary Candidate Dean Masule, Sunday, Lusambo said Hichilema’s failure to obey lawful orders to suspend his campaign tour on grounds that the President was going to be in Sesheke on the same day was another desperate attempt to get into State House by all means. “What we have continued to witness are high levels of arrogance by a man who foolishly has convinced

himself that he is better than the incumbent, although election results point to the contrary. By refusing to allow President Lungu to freely conduct his business in the district, Mr Hichilema was endangering the lives of his few supporters but most importantly, what he needs to remember is that such actions have the potential to risk the life of His Excellency, President Lungu who has been given

the mandate to preside over the lives of 17 million Zambians,” Lusambo said. Lusambo insisted that Hichilema needed to be stopped saying the opposition leader’s “cheap political stunts” could not go on forever. “First, it was Limulunga and now we have to be dealing with the case of Sesheke and the instigator is always the same. We wish to further warn Mr Hichilema that

President Lungu is also a leader of the most powerful political party in the nation. The PF has the muscle and the numbers to bury the UPND for good. For him individually, he will be crushed politically if he continues playing Tom and Jerry with the presidency,” Lusambo charged. Meanwhile, Lusambo commended the UPND Chairperson for Elections Garry Nkombo for

demonstrating maturity and leadership in the manner politics should be conducted in Zambia. Lusambo stated that Hichilema should emulate Nkombo by denouncing violence. “Clearly, Hon Nkombo does not approve of such stupid stunts and we would expect that the entire leadership of an opposition political party could take a leaf from the Mazabuka lawmaker who has a better and mature way of looking at politics,” Lusambo said. Lusambo threatened that he would personally crush Hichilema politically and force him into extinction. “President Lungu is running Zambia and he is doing a very good job so far while Mr. Hichilema has failed to run a small tribal grouping. The one thing we know he is good at - is running cattle at his ranches. The distinction must be clearly noted. If Mr Hichilema does not quit the provocative brand of politics, he will have to deal with me and I can assure him that as an effective and time tested grass root mobilizer with a PhD in politics, I will personally crush him politically and he will be extinct in no time,” said Lusambo.

## Publish ATI Bill, demands PAZA

By Mirriam Chabala

Press Association of Zambia (PAZA) president Andrew Sakala says government should publish the Access to Information Bill so that stakeholders assist with identification of lacunas in order to speed up the enactment process. And MISA Zambia Chairperson Hellen Mwale says government’s inertia to enact the ATI Bill shows lack of commitment towards facilitating citizens’ right to access information. In an interview, Sakala advised government to be open about challenges it was facing in the implementation of the ATI Bill so that capable stakeholders could step in to assist. “The last time the government spoke about this bill, the official communication was that they had taken it to the Ministry of Justice and then the Ministry of Justice had

contracted a legal consultant to clean up the bill and the main reason was that they said that the bill would be in conflict with other pieces of legislation. So they wanted to make sure that when the bill is taken to Parliament and finally enacted, it was not in conflict with the other existing pieces of legislation. But from that time, we’ve never had a report and that report from that legal consultant has never been published. So our view is that let the government publish this bill so that all stakeholders can contribute in helping to clear the so-called lacunas,” said Sakala. “Stakeholders may have the solution to the so-called lacunas. Then what are these same lacunas? Because people now are just using this term ‘lacuna’ without even knowing what it means. So I think it’s important that government comes clear and point out exactly what

these problems are, the difficulties with the bill. Rather than always using a general term to say ‘lacuna lacuna’. What is it? What is the problem and specifically which part and section of the bill has got gaps which need to be filled? So if they published that, the stakeholders would then contribute and when stakeholders contribute, they will help to find solutions before they take that bill to Parliament.” And in a statement, MISA Zambia expressed disappointment at government’s continued delay to take the Access to Information (ATI) Bill to Parliament for enactment. “We make this statement based on media reports quoting Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Services Permanent Secretary Chanda Kasolo, stating that Access to Information (ATI) Bill will not be tabled in the next parliament sitting. Earlier last year,

Minister of Justice Given Lubinda was quoted in the media on 22nd February, 2018, saying that the ATI Bill would be tabled in the next sitting of parliament in that year; a move that was hailed by many stakeholders including MiSA. MiSA Zambia is highly concerned with the continued postponements by government to enact the ATI Bill and we are concerned that 2019 is starting on similar pronouncements. The inertia clearly indicates government’s lack of commitment towards facilitating citizens’ right to access information which is critical to holding government accountable, participating in decision making, making informed decisions and fighting corruption. We are therefore calling for more transparency in development of the law and more concrete timelines as regards enactment of the ATI bill,” stated Mwale.

## Tu PF mulefwaya kunjipanya, jokes Kambwili in court

By Daniel Chansa

Tu PF mulefwaya kunjipanya (PF, you want to kill me), Chishimba Kambwili jokingly shouted as he constantly coughed in the Luanshya Magistrates’ Court on Monday. And the matter in which Kambwili and 11 others are charged with unlawful assembly failed to take off because Kambwili said he was unwell and needed to go to the hospital. In this case, it is alleged that Kambwili and 11 others on November 25, in Luanshya, jointly and whilst acting together, unlawfully assembled with intent to carry out some common purpose and did conduct themselves in such a manner as to cause persons in the neighborhood reasonably to fear that they will commit a breach of peace.

The matter is before Ndola Principal Resident magistrate Obister Musukwa. When Kambwili entered

the courtroom for possible commencement of trial, he was constantly coughing. While, coughing, Kambwili

jokingly said; “tu PF mulefwaya kunjipanya”, sending the fully packed courtroom into laughter.

And when the matter was called out, the state said they were ready to proceed with two witnesses but defence

lawyer Charistor Mukonka said his client was unable to stand trial as he was unwell. “We were ready to start but our client is unwell. He wanted to go straight to the hospital, but just came to court so we get the right procedure. He has a cough and a fever. So we ask that the matter be adjourned so that he seeks medical attention,” said Mukonka. Magistrate Musukwa granted the application, adjourning the case to Wednesday, February 13, 2019. Meanwhile, Kambwili was scheduled to hold a press briefing to address President Edgar Lungu’s remarks that according to him, both the Roan PF member of parliament and Housing and Infrastructure Minister Ronald Chitotela were innocent. The briefing did not take place.



Roan PF member of parliament Chishimba Kambwili arrives at the Luanshya Magistrates’ Court yesterday - picture courtesy of NDC media team

# Judge Zulu recuses herself from handling CK, Mwila defamation case

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Lusaka High Court Judge Conceptor Zulu has recused herself from handling a matter in which PF Secretary General Davies Mwila has sued Chishimba Kambwili for defamation, on the basis that he has previously worked with the Roan PF member of parliament in Luanshya.

In this matter, Mwila sued the NDC Consultant Chishimba Kambwili, demanding punitive and exemplary damages for the malicious words uttered against him at a press briefing where Kambwili alleged that Mwila had hired someone to write his Grade 12 examinations on his behalf.

"...Mwila lost an election to a nonentity, a small boy, an independent in Chipili. I have won elections in Roan, three times...And by the way, let Mwila not throw glasses because even that grade 12 certificate he has bamulebele kofye (they wrote for him). When we came to parliament, he came as a form three. Get Mwila in a classroom today to rewrite his grade 12, nga kuti akwata ko nangu nine points (if he can even

get nine points). So that chap should not even start me because I know him very well," Kambwili had charged at a press briefing held in October, 2018.

And in a statement of claim, Mwila had stated that the parts of the press briefing relating to him, imputed

traits of dishonesty, bad faith, lack of respect for the education system; that he was not fit to be a leader and that he was a fraudsters.

He further stated that the words complained of had lowered him in the estimation of right thinking members of the society

and had generally brought him into public ridicule, scandal, odium, hatred and contempt.

However, Justice Zulu recused herself, saying he could not deliberate on the matter because he had worked with Kambwili in Luanshya.

"This record was allocated to me on December 17, 2018. I however wish to recuse myself because I have personally worked with the defendant during my tenure of office as Administrator General and Official Receiver. The Administrator General and Receiver was

in charge of RAMCOZ, a company whose assets are situated in Luanshya, the Parliamentary Constituency of the defendant. I accordingly recuse myself and request that the matter be re-allocated to another judge," said Justice Zulu.

## Sesheke violence worrisome - FODEP

By Thomas Mulenga

Foundation for Democratic Process (FODEP) executive director Mwenge Chimfwembe says the 2021 general elections will be bloody and chaotic if political violence is not curtailed.

In an interview, Chimfwembe said the political violence in Sesheke was an indictment on government as it had the responsibility to ensure that people were protected from any form of harm.

"We fear that if this is the manner we shall continue doing our politics, 2021 may not be something to watch. If political players themselves are carrying elections as a matter of life and death, then it will be bloody, it will be chaotic. If

we are to use the Sesheke by-election as a litmus paper for what would happen in 2021, then we can be worried, because what's happening in that area is not something desirable in the 21st century. But of course we know that a general election has its own different dynamics, but all we are saying is that political violence as the one being witnessed in Sesheke, has actually taken away from the electoral integrity of that election. The running battles, the shootings here and there, the retaliations from people, people shifting blames, death, that's not the way to go. There is something that must be done and it must be done now!" Chimfwembe said.

"Basically, the happenings

in Sesheke are quite disappointing. That by election has been perceived to be a matter of life and death which ordinarily it is not. At the end of the day, it is the people of Sesheke who should make the decision as to who should represent them in Parliament. Much as political parties are vehicles for doing that, the violence, counter exchanging of blame has been very disappointment and is an indictment on the state because the state has got a mandate to ensure that the people are protected, and that they choose leaders of their own choice without intimidation, coercion or any element that take away integrity from the electoral process."

Chimfwembe said people wanted politics of ideas as opposed to the outdated kind of politics being practiced.

"The kind of politics that we are practicing right now are not the way politics of the 21st century should be done. One would look to

the days when the Kaundas used to run battles with the colonialists that was the kind of politics at that time. The kind of politics we anticipate now are politics of ideas, exchanging ideas on how we intend to improve the welfare of our people. There is nothing wrong with political parties differing in terms of their ideas, but resorting to physical violence is unprogressive," Chimfwembe said.

"To us it is indicative of a number of things, but primarily we think that our political democracy has not grown and this is happening at a time when we have recognised multi political parties in our constitution. If you look into article 60, it is very clear in terms of the character of a political party and the importance it occupies in the lives of the people. It brings out what should be done and what should not be done by political parties. Therefore for us we cannot basically allow the situation to continue in

the manner it is."

And Chimfwembe said the Political Parties Bill would help tame political parties once it was passed.

"We have a law, the political parties' bill, although it has not yet been agreed upon. But we feel that it's important that the state moves in quickly in ensuring that we have a political party commission that can bring civility in the way politics are done going by the installation of article 60 of Republican Constitution. We feel that the political party commission would be able to deal with the day to day performance of the political parties, within the light of article 60. Because we realise that the Electoral Commission of Zambia may not be up to date in terms of operationalising article 60. He also said the national dialogue should be supported as it would help in easing the political tension being experienced at the moment," said Chimfwembe.

## 'UPND Councillor' gets 18 months for stealing over K53,000

By Zondiwe Mbewe

The Lusaka Magistrates' Court has sentenced UPND Kanyama Ward 10 Councillor Brighton Bilumba to one year six months imprisonment with hard labour for theft involving K53,600.

In this matter, Bilumba was facing one count of theft by servant contrary to section 272 and 277 of the penal code chapter 87 of the Laws of Zambia and had pleaded not guilty in April, last year.

Particulars of the offence were that Bilumba, 39, between December 2017 and January 2018 in Lusaka, being a person employed by the Local Government as a civic leader stole K53, 600 cash, the property of the Government of the Republic of Zambia.

He stole the said amount of money that was supposed to be paid to 13 people engaged by the Lusaka City Council to distribute bills for ground rates arrears on behalf of the Local Authority.

And when the matter came up for judgment, Monday, magistrate Felix Kaoma said the State had proved the case against Bilumba.

He said people in public office needed to be held accountable for their actions.

In mitigation, Bilumba said he was a father of six and was also looking after some orphans. He added that he was also taking care of his old mother and was further constructing two mother shelters in his ward.

Magistrate Kaoma however sentenced him to 18 months imprisonment with hard labour.

During trial, one of the witnesses Leonard Cheelo, had testified that Bilumba inflated the number of people that were supposed to be paid by LCC for distributing bills for land rates arrears on behalf of the local authority. Cheelo said he submitted 13 names to Bilumba but he however discovered that 22 ghost names were included, among them his wife and two other councillors.

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By Zondiwe Mbewe

Lusaka Mayor Miles Sampa has written to the Senior Clerk of Courts at the Lusaka Magistrates' Court over the dirty toilets at the complex, warning that the council would not hesitate to close down the premises if there's no improvement in its sanitation. And Sampa has offered solidarity, love and goodwill to UPND Kanyama Ward 10 Councillor Brighton Bilumba, who was sentenced to one year six months imprisonment with hard labour for theft involving K53,600. He said in an interview with News Diggers! that justice needed to prevail, but added that he was offering Bilumba love and goodwill as he serves his sentence. "As Mayor, I treat and

# Miles threatens to shut down Lusaka Magistrates' Court owing to dirty toilets

consider all Councillors the same. Justice must prevail but I offer solidarity, love and goodwill wishes to him as he goes through this process," Sampa said. Meanwhile, Sampa has written to the Senior Clerk of Courts at the Lusaka Magistrates' Court over the dirty toilets at the complex. Leaving the court premises yesterday, Sampa said he was unhappy with the sanitation at the court complex, warning that it was running risk of closure. In a handwritten letter

written jotted after after the Court session, Sampa disclosed that when he visited the men's toilets at the complex, he found them very dirty and without running water. He appealed to the senior clerk of court to assist the council in their 'Keep Lusaka City Clean, Green and Healthy' campaign. "I was at the complex this morning for a court judgement for one of my councilor Brighton Bilumba of Kanyama. I visited the mens toilet [and]

I found it very very dirty, not fit for human usage. The two urinary are blocked and covered with plastics. The two flashing toilet pans have no running water. There were two workers that were charging K2 to anyone to to enter the dirty toilet. Madam, please assist us in the 'Keep Lusaka City Clean, Green and Healthy' [campaign]," he stated. Sampa added that the council would not hesitate to close down the premises if there was no improvement.



# UNZA security chief narrates events leading to Vespers' death

By Zondiwe Mbewe

A University of Zambia chief security officer has narrated to the Lusaka Magistrates' Court events which led to the death of Vespers Shimunzhila last year, reiterating that the latter lost her life due to carbon monoxide poisoning. Bwalya Kalebaila told the court that when he visited Vesper's room, it was very hot and choking with smoke coming from the fire and teargas canisters. This is an inquest to ascertain how the UNZA student came to her death. Vespers, who was a fourth

year student at UNZA died in October last year of suffocation after police allegedly burnt one of the hostels using a tear gas canister during a student riot over delayed payment of meal allowances. The interested parties in this matter include; Vespers' parents, uncle, grandfather and her three roommates. When the matter came up for hearing, Monday, magistrate Silvia Munyinya informed the interested parties that they had the right to be represented by a lawyer in the inquiry. At this point, the coroner

called the first witness, Vespers' uncle Panister Shimunzhila, a 48 year-old farmer, who told the court that on October 7, 2018, he identified Vespers' body at UTH before postmortem was conducted. When he was asked by a lawyer representing Vespers' parents, Lastone Mwanabo on the results of the postmortem, Panister told the court that according to what he read from the report, Vespers died as a result of suffocation. The second witness was 44 year-old Bwalya Kalebaila, a Chief Security Officer at

UNZA who told the court that on October 4, last year, he was notified that there was a protest within the campus over alleged delayed payments of meal allowances. He narrated that he called an officer identified as Benjamin Ngwira and informed him of the unrest, and the officer promised to mobilise officers. Kalebaila said he also called the deputy Criminal Investigations Officer for Chelston Police Station. He told the court that while majority of the students were inside the campus on the material day, a few students were burning tyres on Great East Road. "At this point, I received a phone call from the officer in charge at Chelstone police who told me that he had assigned his deputy, Mr Kumwenda to be the commander or in charge of officers by the roadside. He indicated that he had quenched a few fires from the road side. He further indicated that his team would monitor the situation from the outside and he told me

that we should be on the look out from the inside," he said. The witness said when the situation inside the campus was calm, he heard some gunshots from the roadside which caused a lot of excitement among students. He said he then pleaded with the officer to stop firing because the gun shots were exciting the students. Kalebaila said around 00:50 AM, he saw a police vehicle, a green Nissan, coming in from the Great East Road and the officers in there started firing teargas canisters from the vehicle. He added that when he went to look for a senior officer to ask the police officers in the green Nissan to stop firing teargas canisters, his deputy called him saying there was a fire at the hostels. "I went back to the road side so that I could engage officers from the road side. As I was talking to him, my deputy, miss Mulenga rushed to the road side that there was fire. I rushed to the scene and found one of the rooms at October

two hostel on the upper floor was gutted," he said. "The first time I went there (at the hostels) there were some students that were trying to quench the fire and rescue some students who were inside. [However] when I went back [for the second time] I found that the students had scampered. My deputy told me that police officers had come and were firing teargas canisters towards the rooms, to disperse the students. According to my deputy, in the process one of the lower rooms at October two room three was also gutted. At this time, there were still some courageous students that were trying to quench the fire." Kalebaila said when he went to inspect the rooms at the October hostel with the Vice Chancellor and some students, the burnt rooms were very hot and choking. "I accompanied the VC, the first room was room 21, October two. The room was very hot and choking, both teargas canister smoke and ordinary smoke from the fire. I could feel it even on my skin. The clothes and mattresses were burnt. We were led by the VC to other rooms, generally it was a choking atmosphere. When we went to room 25 [Vespers' room] which appeared on the receiving end, where the smoke was going, it was choking," he said. Meanwhile, Kalebaila said he was informed by a female medical officer at Levy Mwanawasa Teaching Hospital that Vespers' cause of death was carbon monoxide or carbon dioxide poison. He added that during investigations, 26 shells of teargas canisters were picked and handed over to the police. The matter comes up on March 1 for continued hearing.

## Brian Chilala dies in accident

By Diggers Reporter

Kalindula maestro Brian Chilala has died in a road traffic accident. Police spokesperson Esther Mwaata Katongo confirmed this in a statement, saying the accident occurred at 23:40, Sunday. "There was a fatal road traffic accident which occurred on 10th February, 2019 at 23:40 hours along Lumumba road opposite Auto World. Involved was a Motor Vehicle Mitsubishi Colt registration number ABD 9588 which was being driven by Brian Chilala, a famous musician, whose age and address is not yet known. The accident happened due to excessive speed, lost control of the motor vehicle and hit into a street light pole and overturned once. The body is in UTH mortuary," stated Katongo.

# Vote PF or suffer, Lungu tells Sesheke

By Mirriam Chabala

President Edgar Lungu yesterday told the people of Sesheke in Western Province to either vote for the opposition and continue suffering or choose development by voting for the ruling party. And President Lungu says he is very fit and able to stand on his own, contrary to assertions by the opposition. Addressing a rally in Maondo, where he went to drum up support for ruling party candidate Dean Masule, President Lungu told Sesheke residents that they had until midnight to decide their fate. "The reason why I came here is to assure you people of this area that PF wants to work with you. PF wants to bring development to this part

of the country and all other parts of the country in order to leave no one behind. We have discovered that the opposition means no good for the Zambian people because they refuse their members of parliament to work corporate and work with us. So if you want to remain behind in the development agenda for Zambia, you should go ahead and vote for the opposition. You have between tonight and tomorrow morning to decide," President Lungu said. And President Lungu said he is fit and ready to stand on his own. "[I know] that some of you are only here simply because of the lies you heard from the UPND that Lungu is a very tired man who cannot even stand on his own. I know that they have told

you [a lot] of things about me but now that you have seen me for yourselves, I am sure you can now make up your minds to vote for us," he said. The President insisted that government under the PF could only take development to Sesheke if residents voted for the ruling party candidate. "If you want to wait for development, come 2021, you can wait. But if you want to see development starting tomorrow, give us Dean Masule because when he comes to Parliament in Lusaka, he will be telling us that this is what you need. You know Dean, right? This man was born and bred here in Sesheke. He knows your needs because he also has the same needs as you. But the only difference is that

Dean will be able to talk to me [when] other MPs from the opposition won't talk to me. And since I want him to succeed, I won't give him chance to rest, I will be on the impression that he will bring development to Sesheke. I don't want him to fail because we promised the people of Zambia development throughout the country," said President Lungu. "Secondly, we are a very cultured group, in PF we respect people because we know that we are in this position because of you. We are not like those leaders who think they know everything and they have the monopoly of wisdom, no! We listen to you because we know that you know better what kind of development we should bring to you."



## UPND AGENDA FOR RESPONSIVE MINERAL DEVELOPMENT AND TAXATION FOR SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Part II

Part I of this paper was issued last week in which we argued that the new mining tax regime may not give us revenues commensurate to the measures announced in the 2019 Budget Address to the National Assembly by the Minister of Finance. We indicated that the Zambian mining tax regime has been amended nine times since 2000.

Our conclusion was that while we agree that the ultimate objective of a mining taxation regime is to maximize the benefits that a country receives from the mineral resources, the tax instruments, their established rates, and the institutional arrangements must not discourage the investment that is necessary to give commercial value to Zambia's mineral resources and that mitigates the environmental, health, and social costs of mining activities. The taxation regime must also enable the government to collect a fair share of the country's mineral wealth to support national development priorities.

In this article, we show that the PF Regime's tinkering of the mining tax regime may not necessarily aim at raising more revenues for the Government but rather window dressing tactic that supports their rent seeking behaviour. We will not be surprised to hear very soon that the PF Government has adjusted downwards the tax regime and the rents will have been sought.

### Mining Tax Regime Changes in the 2019 Budget

The 2019 Budget introduced two main changes to the mining tax regime. These are:

1. Increase in the rates by 1.5 percentage points across the three bands from 4% to 5.5% for the first bracket, from 5% to 6.5% for the second bracket, from 6% to 7.5% for the third bracket and introduced a fourth band at 10%.

2. Non deductibility of mineral royalty for purposes of determining the taxable profit for mining companies.

To demonstrate this, we will focus on mineral royalty tax but may also make comments on mining income tax wherever we will need context so that its understood by the Zambian people.

Let us illustrate what this means with a simple example. Let us assume a company produces 10 tonnes of copper at a cost of US \$7,500 and the copper price is US \$10,000. It means the company's gross value will be US \$100,000 (i.e 10 tonnes X US \$10,000 per tonne). Let us also assume that the company has no any other expenses. Its total expenses will be US \$75,000 (i.e 10 tonnes X US \$7,500 per tonne).

The company will pay mineral royalty to

Government amount to US \$10,000 (i.e 10% of US \$100,000 since price is above US\$7,500). This means profit before tax is US \$15,000, i.e US\$100,000 (gross sales) minus US \$10,000 (MRT) minus US\$75,000 (Operational cost).

Prior to the 2019 changes, the company would then go to ZRA and pay 30% company tax on the US\$15,000 gross profit. It means the company will pay US \$4,500 in taxes and profit after tax for the company will be US \$10,500.

Now under the 2019 regime, ZRA will not allow the company to deduct the US \$10,000 which the company paid, as mineral royalty, to Government through ZRA. Instead ZRA will only recognise the US \$75,000 operational expenditure and will not allow the US \$10,000, meaning the company will be deemed to have profit before tax of US \$25,000 and therefore ZRA will charge 30% profit tax on US \$25,000, which will be US \$7,500.

In short the company will be asked to pay an additional 30% tax on the \$10,000 mineral royalty it already had paid to the Government. Effectively therefore, the company will pay 50% tax on its profit as a result of double taxation on the mineral royalty.

How much revenues does the Government expect from the 2019 mining tax regime?

In 2019, the Government expects copper production of 924,510 metric tonnes and projects copper prices at US \$6, 477 per tonne. In terms of revenues from the mines, the Government projects to collect just under K1 billion from mining income tax and mineral royalty. Of this amount mineral royalties collection is projected at K4, 887.60 million up from K3, 527.74 million that was budgeted for in 2018. This means Government expects an increase in mineral royalty of K1, 359.86 million. At the current exchange rate of K11.85 per US dollar, it means the Government is only expecting US \$114.76 million as additional mineral royalties from the regime change..

However, if our tax regime had remained stable some of the investments, such as the expansion of Lumwana Copper Mine; First Quantum's \$2bn green field Trident project; China Nonferrous Mining Corporation's \$832m copper project; the Lubambe mine jointly owned by Brazil's Vale, African Rainbow Minerals and ZCCM Investments Holdings; as well as the sinking of the new Synclinorium Rock Hoisting Shaft in Kitwe by MCM, which should have extended the life span of the mine would have come on board, should have taken place and increased output to 1.5 million tonnes by 2017 and above that by 2019. Consequently, export earnings would have increased to around US\$ 8-12 billion a year from the current US \$4.5 -6.8 billion per year.

Government revenues would have correspondingly increased from under US \$1 billion to around US \$2.2 to 4.0 billion a year. In addition, there could have been good quality jobs created as well as greater linkages involving more local suppliers.

This clearly shows that Government is losing out as a result of tinkering with the mining tax regime year in, year out. What is even worse now is that the 2019 tax regime will further affect mine development which in turn will impact negatively on production and thus Government revenues, in the short to medium term.

### UPND's Position on the new mining tax regime

UPND has noted that while the revenue yields from the changes in the mining tax regime are almost insignificant, the impact that these frequent changes of the mining tax regime has is huge. It must be noted that globally, copper mining industry operates with a long-term perspective. Production costs and risks are critical issues. The nature of the industry requires high upfront investment, high risk and long payback periods, and this has a number of implications. It is therefore worth noting that a country's legal/regulatory environment is a key determinant for investors when they compare the attributes of different destination countries. Mining companies seek a stable, predictable and transparent regulatory environment in which the rules of the game are clearly set out and administered on an equitable basis. These characteristics are particularly important in the case of the mining industry, given the high upfront capital investment and long payback periods involved.

In short, the UPND wants more taxes to be paid by the mining companies. But we also believe that we need to feed the cow that gives us milk if we expect good yields. This is the only point of departure that we have from the current thinking in the Government.

Otherwise from the analysis above, its very clear that although our tax regime is more onerous, it is not yielding commensurate revenues but rather it is discouraging investment and increased production, thereby denying the Zambian people the much needed revenues.

We hope these stand offs between the mining companies and the Government are not a deliberate ploy to create some rent seeking behaviour aimed at benefiting the privileged few.

Issued by:

**Hakainde Hichilema**  
UPND President

# Coping with business risks

There are many types of risks that you may face in any business. It is important to know these possible risks so that you prepare to avoid (or cope with) them. It is said that lazy people will always say, "There is a lion on the way" and, as a result, stay indoors. Entrepreneurs should anticipate risks. In every business, we have what we call "strategy risk." There is always the possibility that what you plan to realize may not be achieved after all. In the meantime, you have resigned from your well-paying job, committed all your savings in the investment, made long term commitments in salaries and rent and then things do not turn out to be what you had anticipated. It is actually said that strategy risk is very high for businesses that have major long term programmes of innovation. This is where there are high levels of uncertainty concerning key issues in the environment. The Telcel Zambia experience is in this category. The promoters had committed huge sums of money anticipating that the International Gateway, which was a key component of the business plan, would be liberalised. This did not happen at that time and what was earlier an opportunity became a risk. The strategy had to immediately change. The project required huge capital injections which were not initially projected. This kind of risk that the strategy will not be realised happens all the time. There are cases where the plans are unworkable. In other instances, the legislative environment changes and government reverses policy. The danger of policy reversal affecting property rights happens in most parts

of Africa and elsewhere. The strategy can also be affected by influential stakeholders who do not agree with the plan. This is because by the time they shoot down the idea, you would have committed time and resources only for the strategy to be thrown out due to power influences. Entrepreneurs generally resist the structured way of analysis and thinking about complex problems that overshadow the reality. There are cases where the mathematics should be ignored. What is important is to always question and challenge some wisdom that may lead to adoption of wrong strategy. It is about intuition. Most investments are long term and you cannot afford to have a longer term view of strategy based on weak assumptions. You should be very honest to consult widely from various sources including your own bankers, lawyers, and customers, family and even government officials. These can help you understand other possible risks inherent in your business such as market risk, operational risk and credit risk. All these depend on the type of business you are running. The most important thing is to use other people to help you perceive these potential risks. Some entrepreneurs bring on board very competent and experienced board members. This is because a director must demonstrate the degree of skill and diligence in every business decision. You need such well experienced people to guide your risk appetite. Some entrepreneurs will go for retired bankers and business persons, accountants, retired government employees, university professors or ordinary business persons who are still active to be part of

the board. The bottom-line is to look for those who will make a good mix of personalities, backgrounds and contacts for your business and help reduce risks. In other words, it is not just taking a risk that makes you an effective entrepreneur but how you prepare for any such adverse eventualities. Your aim is to succeed and not fail. You do not

***"You do not have to start off as an Albert Einstein to make it in business"***

have to start off as an Albert Einstein to make it in business. You can start as a slow kid and end up as a successful entrepreneur only if you work hard at it.

The best way to summarize this risk taking experience is to quote from Rev. Robert Sirico, the author of "The Entrepreneur Vocation," who spoke as follows and I quote, "the risk of launching a new enterprise is real. For entrepreneurs more often than not place their entire wellbeing at risks in order to produce something that they do not even know they have a market for yet. They have to be so convinced of their idea. They have to mortgage their homes in order to finance the first beginnings of their enterprise. They can lose it all but will do it over and over again." (The article is an excerpt from my book, 'Business Values for Our Time' currently being revised for an Expanded edition)

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Lusaka Province UPND chairperson Obvious Mwaliteta says the Patriotic Front should not blame the opposition political party for infighting which has rocked the ruling party.

On Monday, PF aspiring candidate for the Lusaka chairmanship Kennedy Kamba charged that the UPND had connived with investigative wings such as the ACC to scandalize influential ministers so that they could get fired and leave President Edgar Lungu vulnerable.

But in an interview, Mwaliteta said Kamba's allegations were baseless because whatever was happening was a result of infighting within the PF.

"Why is he saying it indirectly? He should just say it direct that there is total confusion in their political party and now they are fighting amongst themselves. So Bwana Kamba should just say that it is within their party that President Lungu wants to wipe out the Luapula people and then he wants to accuse the opposition political party. If as UPND we had powers to

## PF shouldn't blame UPND for their infighting - Mwaliteta

influence the ACC, by now this corruption which has traumatized Zambians was going to finish because we would have told them and give them evidence because the Zambian people have been trying to give evidence to ACC to arrest people but they have not arrested them. Why should they arrest them now? And what has changed for UPND to tell them that these people are thieves?" Mwaliteta asked.

"It's not only UPND who have cried foul over corruption in Zambia, it's all Zambians in general. Recently, the First Lady went to America to go and receive the fire tenders, look at the fire tenders the way they look and look at the fire tenders for US \$1 million the way they look, look at the water capacity of those fire tenders which were donated

and look at the capacity of those fire tenders for US \$1 million. A lot of things have gone wrong in Zambia. The guilty ones are always afraid. They should just check the cry of the Zambian people which has traumatized them to the point where every Zambian is crying in his bedroom [thinking about] what he is going to feed the children. How the children will go to school [and] yet other people are keeping billions of money in their trunks. God if watching everyone." Mwaliteta said God wanted to finish the PF by bringing confusion amongst themselves.

"So God wants to finish them now [that is why] he has brought confusion among themselves. So they don't know who to point a finger

at. Now they want to start pointing fingers at other people, no. If other people had influence, how many cases have been reported of corruption by other people, and ACC has not acted? ACC only acts when it's government telling them what to do. So Kamba should just say the truth that 'no, one of our senior people is the one who is reporting against us so that this Luapula versus PF should crack, or Luapula versus Eastern should crack because there is always war between Luapula Province and Eastern Province and it's there for everyone to see. And as UPND, we have no hand in what is happening in PF but we are very glad that the ACC has started acting. And we only hope that they should not give small charges and leave bigger charges

because when they say 'concealing information of property of suspected crime or whatever' what crime? They have to start to the route cause how that person came to acquire those properties? Where did the monies come from?" he asked.

Meanwhile, Mwaliteta urged the ACC to spearhead investigations on all corruption allegations without fear.

"We are hoping that the ACC should do more to dig deeper and come up with formidable charges against the corrupt ministers if there is any evidence than just to arrest someone and give him small charges and leave big charges under the ground. We are also worried the way they are doing it. We want them to do it more professional. We are expecting that since

Edgar Lungu says that he wants to fight corruption, we want the ACC now to spearhead that corruption now that the president says 'go ahead.' They should not fear anything. And because President Lungu told us that his cabinet ministers were corrupt, what has changed? Has he forgotten, his party is a party of the corrupt among the PF. Imagine even the minister of Agriculture was accepting that there is corruption in the FISP programme. Please we are not dull, we are asking this government to feel pity for these Zambian people who can't afford to do anything for themselves. So we will see how far this case will go but this is just the beginning of the crack between the Luapula and Eastern," said Mwaliteta.

When you are getting a job anywhere, you should know why you are being employed. This is the only way you are going to keep your job. The day you stop doing what you were employed for, those that employed you will sort you out. This is what we see in Chitotela's predicament. He forgot why he was employed.

The little Bemba that we know tells us that Chitotela is a special noun derived from a Bemba verb ukutotela, which literally means clapping, or praising someone. Considering that his character was already known to all, we can say that the minister was employed to be a cheerleader and participant in whatever his employers directed him to do. With what has happened to him, it maybe that he had stopped worshipping his appointing authority enough. Or he had not shown enough gratitude for the opportunity given to him to loot.

What is happening to Chitotela does not look like law enforcement. The action against this arrested minister looks like loyalty enforcement to us. Many of our people know what is happening in this government. Today, Honourable Chitotela may appear like the master of corruption, but there are people in this regime who have

# Chitotela is facing loyalty enforcement not law enforcement

others arrested even before Honourable Chitotela.

Although we are saying this, we are happy that this has happened. It confirms what many of us already knew that this government is built on corruption and rotten to the core. At least it has given us an opportunity to show the people what the corruption syndicate is doing in this government.

It is now for the people of Zambia to see the damage left by the corruption trail linked to just one minister. The number of companies implicated, and all the individuals he has been dealing with. Think about the damage that is being caused by the entire Cabinet put together. Yet the others are being protected. No one should be surprised that although Chitotela was arrested very publicly, he will continue to fly the Zambian flag on his official car, and nothing will happen to him.

We know that Chitotela's public humiliation had the full blessings of government at the highest level. But it ends there; this case is closed! Once again, this was not a corruption fight. It was a fierce fight amongst thieves. Those with nine lives like Honourable Chitotela will survive and live to loot another day.

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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amassed several times more money from corruption than what the arrested minister is accused stealing. But they are loyal and thereby safe.

We are not saying that it is wrong to arrest Chitotela, and have him prosecuted, but what we are saying is that this is a token attempt at fighting corruption. The people behind this have no interest in fighting corruption. We have seen what kind of charges they have slapped on the minister and citizens have seen what the minister was involved in. If they were serious about fighting corruption, they would have gone for everyone involved

in the corruption trail published by News Diggers last week – including the Chinese companies.

These people who are chasing after Honourable Chitotela are fighting each other for reasons that are far removed from the fight against corruption. There are only two reasons that could explain this problem. It is either he has challenged the powers that be, or he has not delivered the appropriate shares to those he was supposed to gratify.

The charges which this minister has been slapped with are almost laughable. It is a joke. It looks like he is being

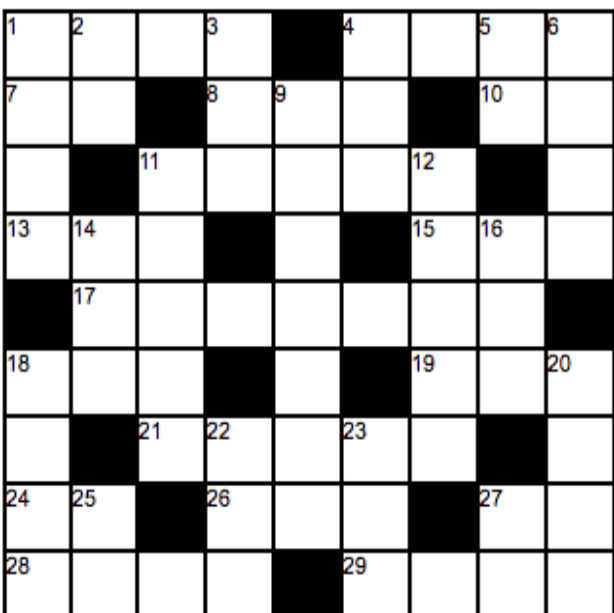
blackmailed, that 'if you don't cooperate and deliver people's shares, worse could happen to you.' This looks more like a mafia shakedown, than a legitimate fight against corruption. We can add that, considering the President's refusal to suspend the minister, it appears like this was a warning shot to simply make the minister know who is boss – nothing more.

Chitotela's wrong doings and those of other ministers and important figures in this government are very well known. People must ask questions; why was he singled out, and why now? This is the reason why some

people are beginning to suggest that Chitotela's arrest was meant to launder him. We can understand that kind of thinking. But we don't think that is correct. Chitotela has been arrested because he annoyed someone. This arrest is also meant to send a message to others who, like Chitotela, thought they could stop clapping and get away with it.

If Chitotela is a thief, then he is not the only one. There are others who are stealing but they are clapping well enough and there is no need for them to face loyalty enforcement. If this was law enforcement, there would have been many

## Crossword puzzle 291



*"Civilization is not destroyed by wicked people; it is not necessary that people be wicked but only that they be spineless."*  
- James Baldwin

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>Across</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Software test before release</li> <li>4. Sandwich rolled in tortilla</li> <li>7. Sound of surprise</li> <li>8. Mimic</li> <li>10. Perform a task</li> <li>11. Tier</li> <li>13. Big mess</li> <li>15. Not the beginning</li> <li>17. Plan</li> <li>18. Prefix with angle or cycle</li> <li>19. Had eaten</li> <li>21. Make cooler</li> <li>24. A single one</li> <li>26. Ruckus</li> <li>27. __, myself, and I</li> <li>28. Dormitory</li> <li>29. Prepare</li> </ul> | <p><b>Down</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Person in charge</li> <li>2. Canadians say it</li> <li>3. Driver's org.</li> <li>4. Very small</li> <li>5. Not BC</li> <li>6. Small body of water</li> <li>9. Egyptian tourist attraction</li> <li>11. Word in music</li> <li>12. Kingly</li> <li>14. Sticky black substance</li> <li>16. Catch butterflies in it</li> <li>18. Pond dweller</li> <li>20. 2, 4, 6, 8, ...</li> <li>22. Meat from pig</li> <li>23. Sever</li> <li>25. Negative answer</li> <li>27. Mother</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

## Solutions to puzzle 290





# Reader's feedback

## Mwanakatwe targets IMF bailout package this year

Editor,

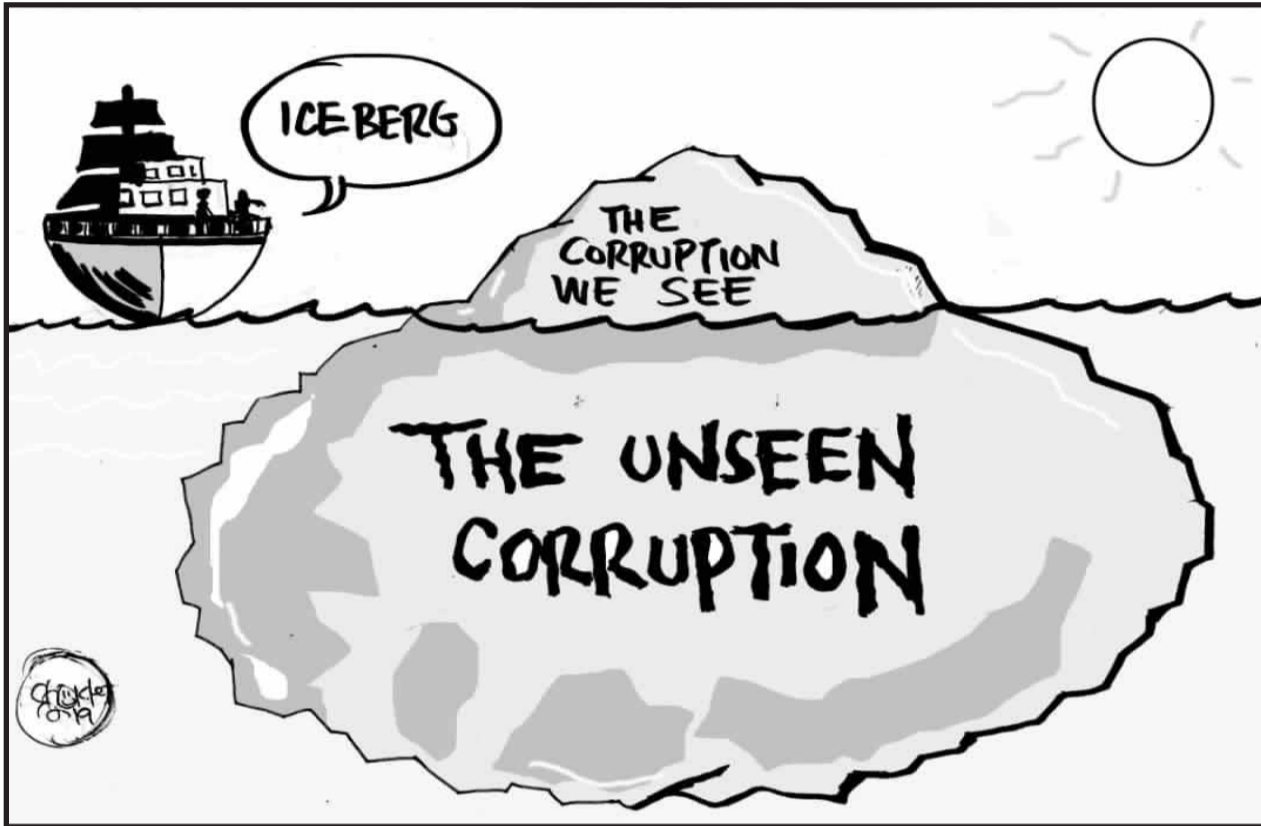
"Your boss is shielding thieves and you think the international community tolerates such nonsense. Even that goon also if he had a single fiber of morality he would have resigned. Now it's as usual. He will continue cutting deals kaili they share.

How do you justify one from being a pauper to be worth K23m in one year with no traceable business?" - Mainde D Keembe

"Why should we need a bail out. Late President Mwanawasa, negotiated us out of any debt. We Owed nothing! So how do we suddenly need a debt bail out. I am a bit confused. Well not really, just looking for excuses," - Mike Colinese

"In the eyes and perception of IMF, Zambia and Zimbabwe are now like Siamese Twins. Therefore, lending Zambia money is like lending to Zimbabwe. The video footages in Zimbabwe

of Police brutalising un armed civilians trying to express themselves are no different from Zambia Police brutalising un armed civilians trying to vote for a candidate of their choice. Where are the Chinese that PF members and surrogates said would come to Zambia's help? The truth of the matter is that we are all suffering under the thieving and corrupt leadership of Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu. Who would want to lend money to a nation where it will end - Christopher Kalima



## Lusaka cops rob robbers, share stolen cash

Editor,

"When police rob the robbers and the robbers report the police to the police and the police arrest the police.. meanwhile the owner of the money still in loss," - Ba Chomi

"It's a real thriller, and it can make a good movie, if filmed....., what happened ? the owner of the money reported the robbers, and robbers reported the police.....They should be arrested jointly with the robbers , as accomplices after the robbery.... Theft of exhibits, shameful cops," - Namasiku Likukela

"And lots of robberies that happen around in most of the towns Police Officers are accomplices, they connive with these robbers and when you report, Police men will be the first ones to discourage you the complainant ati iyo nkani niku ibalako chabe motoka iyo yaenda kudala," - Chrissy Chuma

"You surround a parked car but thieves still manage to run away apart from the driver? Then you loot the money and still lock up the driver and think he won't snitch on you?" - Phield Ngwewa

"When we say most Civil Servants get Peanuts, these are the results. There can be no professionalism in such cases, coupled with Swelling Corruption by 'misleaders' in government," - Alfred Herrera Maluba

"Everyone should be arrested including the owner of the money, all that money being kept in the house..... might just be proceeds of crime," Andrew Banda  
IV

## Katongo's revelation that he decided to leave FAZ in December

Editor,

"Very good decision, we need Zambian football to improve & u where one of the drawbacks. thank u very much mr," - Franco Mudekwa

"But those people are resigning for greener pastures. Who in their right mind would turn down an opportunity for better conditions elsewhere?" - Zak Zim

"There is nothing wrong at FAZ. In fact, what you ought to know is that FAZ is no longer a gravy train. There is Magufuli there now, no unnecessary travel, no kickbacks, no loose money to share under the table. So naikosako pakwikala uwakosa," - Caristo Mwango

## Lungu's Chinja team ukolewe remarks

Editor,

"Very childish as usual. What stupid slogan!! Not Inspiration at all! What normal person calling himself president to encourage everyone to be a drunkard like him, commander in chief of drunken thugs. Muli bu chakolwa kuti mwafuma ifya mano so (can anything normal come out of drunkenness)? Instead of finding something more sustainable for youth, he is encouraging Ukubuta (playing)!" - Sarah Musongole

"Thinking of drinking beer all the time.. mmmmm," - Chocho Mwangwa

"And where is minister of religion?" - Kay Mwenya

"I am seriously beginning to question the

mental Faculties of people who actually support this man," - Maimbolwa Kamanga

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

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Note that we block Facebook users who use abusive language.

# Al-Sisi's chairmanship to undermine African Union's Human Rights mechanisms-A Amnesty International

Egypt's President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi has been elected chairperson of the African Union at the continental body's summit in Ethiopia.

The Egyptian leader addressed the summit, saying he would focus on security on the African continent. "Our work must continue to improve peace and security in Africa in a holistic and sustainable manner," al-Sisi said. "Mediation and preventive diplomacy will remain one of the priorities of the African Union."

The new African Union chairperson said that "counter-terrorism requires the identification of those who support and finance it and combating them collectively.

While we are aware of the difficulty and complexity of the struggle, this remains the only appropriate way to uproot terrorism and eradicate it."

The rights group Amnesty International warned that al-Sisi's chairmanship might undermine the African Union's human rights mechanisms.

"During his time in power President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi has demonstrated a shocking contempt for human rights. Under his leadership the country has undergone a catastrophic decline in rights and freedoms," said Najia Bounaim, Amnesty's North Africa Campaigns Director. "There are real fears about the potential impact his chairmanship

could have on the independence of regional human rights mechanisms and their future engagement with civil society."

The rights group said Egypt since 2015 has orchestrated a sustained political attack against the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, the body that aims to monitor African states' human rights records. "Dozens of cases alleging serious human rights violations have been lodged against Egypt at the ACHPR," it said.

Egyptian leaders have been absent from African Union meetings since 1995 when an assassination attempt was made on the life of former leader Hosni Mubarak. **News24**



Younger women with a family history of breast cancer should receive annual screenings to pick up the disease earlier, a charity says.

Breast Cancer Now funded a study which found cancers were detected sooner when 35 to 39-year-olds at risk had annual mammograms. NHS screening often starts at the age of 40 for women with a family history. Experts need to balance the benefits of doing more checks against causing any undue worry or over-treatment.

The study's authors said that more analysis was needed on the risks, costs and benefits of extending the screening programme.

But Baroness Delyth Morgan, the charity's chief executive, called for the government's forthcoming review of NHS screening programmes in England to consider the introduction of scans for women aged 35 to 39 with a family history of breast cancer.

## Women in 30s at high risk - says Breast Cancer charity

The study, carried out by researchers at the University of Manchester, offered scans to 2,899 women in this age group who were deemed to have a moderate or high risk of the disease after being referred by a GP to a family history clinic.

The screening detected 35 invasive breast cancer tumours, most of which were small and identified before they had reached the lymph nodes - a sign that they had not spread around the body.

Effective detection

In a control group, which did not have the screening, far fewer of the cancers were discovered when they were still small and more had spread to the lymphatic system.

Prof Gareth Evans, the lead author of the study, said the trial demonstrates that annual scans are effective in detecting tumours earlier for this younger age group.

He said overdiagnosis - where people are treated for cancers that are unlikely to prove harmful - was "far less likely" to be an issue with this younger age group.

"For women with a family history, removing a non-invasive tumour so early in their lives is likely to be a cancer preventive," Professor Evans said

The study did not include women who had specific gene mutations which can increase the risk of the disease.

The charity says regular MRI scans - as is currently

recommended - remains the best option for those with faulty BRCA or TP53 genes.

Lives cut 'heartbreakingly short'

If annual mammograms for at risk younger women were made widely available across all four of the UK's NHS services, it could affect up to 86,000 women, the researchers said.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in the UK, with about 55,000 women being diagnosed each year and 11,500 dying from the disease.

Between 5% and 15% of breast cancers are linked to a family history of the illness.

"We've long known that a family history can define

a woman's risk, and that breast cancer can be more aggressive in younger women," said Baroness Morgan

"So if we can intervene earlier for those at higher risk through annual screening, we believe we may be able to stop the disease cutting so many women's lives so heartbreakingly short."

An NHS England spokeswoman said possible changes to the screening programme will be considered in the review.

She said: "Breast cancer survival is at its highest ever and with improved screening a key focus of the NHS long-term plan, even more cancers will be diagnosed earlier."

Who gets breast screening? Women are routinely offered screening when they reach the age of 50 - they will get an invite every three years until their 71st birthday

The NHS is doing a trial of extending routine screening to some women aged 47-73. If you have an increased risk of breast cancer because you carry certain genes or have close relatives who have had breast cancer, you may be offered yearly checks. Speak with your doctor about the best options for you. **BBC**

## Nigerian election office burnt Down

An office for Nigeria's election commission has been burned down just six days before the country is due to vote in a general election.

The fire in Plateau State has destroyed everything needed to vote, including ballot boxes and voting slips. A spokesperson called it a setback for the preparations for the election

On Sunday President Muhammadu Buhari warned of potential electoral fraud.

"The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission has raised concerns over laundered money being funnelled into vote buying," he said in an editorial published in the Pulse newspaper.

He is running for re-election in Saturday's poll where more than 84 million people are registered to vote.

Although there are many presidential candidates, analysts say Mr Buhari's main contender is former Vice-President Atiku Abubakar. **BBC**



(L-R) US singer-songwriter Lady Gaga, Jada Pinkett Smith, Host US singer-songwriter Alicia Keys, former US First Lady Michelle Obama and US singer Jennifer Lopez speak on stage during the 61st Annual Grammy Awards on February 10, 2019, in Los Angeles.

Robyn BECK / AFP

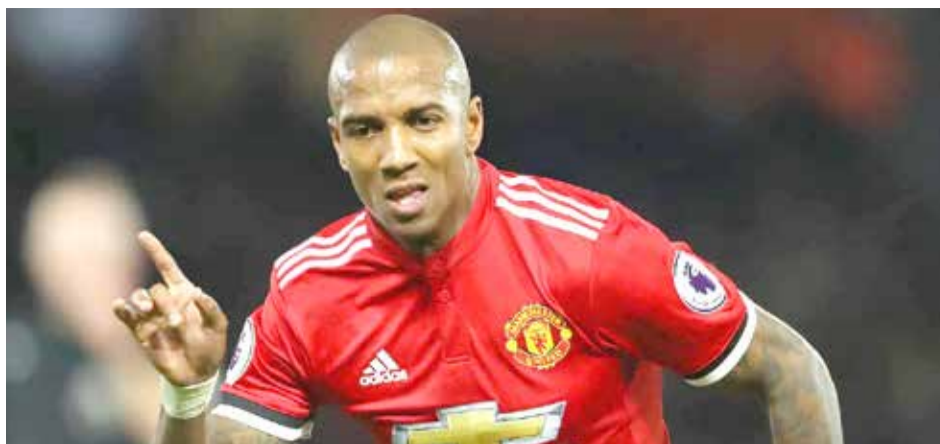
# Ashley Young signs new Man Utd deal

Ashley Young has signed a new one-year contract with Manchester United, the Premier League club announced on Monday. The versatile Young, 33, had only a few months left on his existing deal but had stated his desire to stay at Old Trafford. The England international joined United in 2011 from Aston Villa and has made 227 appearances for the club, scoring 17 goals and winning a clutch of trophies including the Premier League and Europa League.

He has established himself as a key member of the United squad and has made 25 appearances this season, scoring once.

Last year Young, whose

contract will keep him at Old Trafford until the end of the 2019/20 season, helped England reach the semi-finals of the World Cup, and he has been capped 39 times. *Goal*



## No Neymar, no Cavani, Verratti unfit: Decimated PSG in huge trouble against Manchester United

Thomas Tuchel's side are already looking at playing "Plan D" when they face Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's side at

Old Trafford on Tuesday. When Paris Saint-Germain were paired with Manchester United in the last 16 of

the Champions League, it seemed they had been given a green light towards the quarter-finals.

The Old Trafford club were toiling under the dour negativity of Jose Mourinho, the Parc des Princes side were flourishing, winning regularly and scoring freely. Barely two months on, though, and the tables are turned.

Under Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, United have rediscovered their customary swagger, while this clash could not have come at a worse time for PSG.

Not only have they hit a rocky patch of form, they also face the journey to Old Trafford with a squad that suddenly looks threadbare.

While there is a strong argument that a team with the resources of PSG should not find themselves in such a patchwork state – one that even head coach Thomas Tuchel would doubtless

subscribe to – the stark reality is that as they prepare to face Solskjaer's outfit is that they suddenly look short on quality.

Luck has played its role, deserting the Parc des Princes club at a vital juncture. Neymar, the game's most expensive player, has suffered a reoccurrence of a foot injury, while Edinson Cavani is sidelined with a thigh problem sustained in the process of scoring the only goal of his side's 1-0 win over Bordeaux at the weekend.

Both are certainly out of the trip in midweek and very probably the return in Paris next month.

"It's too much," Tuchel lamented to Canal+ after watching his side struggle to three more points on Saturday. "These are quality players who are here for the decisive matches in the Champions League, to play at the best level. It's not possible to lose all of the players capable of fighting at this standard.

"We don't have a backup to Edy, we don't have a backup to Neymar.

"We're no longer looking at Plan B but Plan D."

Although Kylian Mbappe is available, PSG's lack of offensive depth is belied by the fact that Eric-Maxim Choupo Moting, a man with only one goal in 595 minutes on the field, is the only other natural option at centre-forward for the next month. Meanwhile, Timothy Weah, who has twice the goals in around quarter of the time, was shipped out on loan to Scottish champions Celtic just a couple of weeks ago.

But while the headline issues are at the vanguard of the

team, there are concerns that are just as chronic in the heart of the field.

Marco Verratti seems to have won his race against time and an ankle problem to be fit for this clash, though after just an hour at the weekend, there is no doubt that he will be lacking the sharpness required to be at his absolute best.

Alongside him in the midfield, it promises to be a lottery as to who plays.

Adrien Rabiot is back training with the squad after being frozen out due to his ongoing contract dispute but has not played since early December and was not even among the substitutes at the weekend, while Leandro Paredes has played barely two hours of football with his new team-mates, virtually all of which came against third-tier opponents.

Dani Alves has been used as a central midfielder of late, but the likelihood is that he is asked to feature in his natural right-back role due to a concussion suffered by Thomas Meunier at the weekend.

Marquinhos, a centre-back by trade, is the man perhaps likeliest to feature.

Though constrained by the bonds of Financial Fair Play, PSG have been plunged into this ill-timed crisis by transfer window mismanagement. The lack of depth in attack and midfield are issues that have not been properly addressed in two transfer periods and it is little wonder that Tuchel is publicly at odds with sporting director Antero Henrique.

"You must ask Antero!" Tuchel responded after being asked why PSG had only one midfielder available for their first Champions League clash of the season, when their failure to sign a midfielder in August was still an open wound.

That match had ended in a 3-2 loss to Liverpool at Anfield, in which the French champions had given a performance so poor that they were flattered by such a narrow reverse. Only the quality of Neymar and Mbappe had saved from a true embarrassment. *Goal.com*

## We'll look into Numba's contract, says ZANACO

By Abraham Kalito

ZANACO Football Club General Manager Marlon Kananda says management will soon consider extending coach Mumamba Numba's contract but that the club is firstly focusing on the matches in the transitional league.

Kananda told Goal Diggers! in an interview that management had already extended Young ZANACO coach Henry Banda's contract and that it would do so when the time comes for Numba.

"Our goal is to focus on each and every game as it comes and respect our opponents. Numba and the technical team have done very well and this can be seen from the spirit the team is exhibiting. So, the way forward is for us to talk on

the pitch and continue working hard. Definitely we shall consider extending his contract when the time comes. They have a running contract and we are focussed on the game because currently that's what matters. Recently we renewed Henry Banda's contract for young ZANACO because the time had come for talking," he said.

ZANACO opened a three points lead in stream A after beating Kitwe United 4-3 at the Sunset Stadium in Lusaka on Sunday. It is the clubs third successful win of the campaign making it three wins out of three matches. Their rivals ZESCO United did not play as they had to travel to Ghana for their Confederations cup match against Asante Kotoko.



Nathan Hughes of England during the Guinness 6 Nations Rugby match between England and France at Twickenham Stadium on February 10th, 2019 in Twickenham, London, England

## Kaindu eyes improvements ahead of Nkana clash

By Alex Chilumbwe

Power Dynamos coach Kelvin Kaindu has noted the need to grill his strikers more ahead of the 16th February Kitwe derby fixture against Nkana.

Kaindu in an interview with Goal Diggers! said that his strikers missed a lot of golden chances against police side Nkwazi that led to their 1 nil loss.

He said that solid and disciplined

defending should be backed by strikers' ability to score goals in order to keep defenders motivated. "I need to sharpen my strikers so that they can be scoring at every chance. We had a lot of missed opportunities against Nkwazi that's why we lost. Defenders are motivated by strikers especially when they are defending well and with discipline. I will need my strikers to do more than expected against Nkana," Kaindu said.

Power Dynamos had 11 scoring chances of which six were on target but denied, three were too wide while the other two were no trouble for Nkwazi goalie, Charles Muntanga.

Meanwhile, defensive midfielder Benson Sakala said that he was aiming for a win against Nkana on Saturday in order to escalate on Stream B league table.

"I am hoping to win against Nkana

because if you see the table, we are not doing so well and no team can be underrated. We just have to train hard, play better than we did in the last three games and hopefully win," said Sakala.

Power is seventh on Stream B table with three points. They have played three games of which one was a win against MUZA while the other two are losses to Green Eagles and High Flying Nkwazi in that order.

# NIKANA SEEK REDEMPTION

**By Abraham Kalito** Nkana FC will this Wednesday seek redemption when they take on Al Hilal FC of Sudan in the Confederations cup on Wednesday. Nkana lost the first match of the tournament to local rivals ZESCO United by 2 goals to nil at the Levy Mwanawasa stadium on 2 February. Nkana's performance in all competition has been uninspiring despite showing signs of invincibility when they beat ZESCO earlier in the Samuel Zoom community shield cup.

## Paul Scholes appointed manager of Oldham

Former Manchester United and England midfielder Paul Scholes has been appointed as manager of Oldham Athletic, the club announced on Monday.

Scholes, 44, is taking on his first managerial role, signing a contract with the club he supported as a boy after spending his entire playing career at Old Trafford.

The former Premier League club are languishing in mid-table in League Two, the fourth tier of the English game.

"Oldham Athletic are delighted to announce footballing legend Paul Scholes as the new first-team manager on a one-and-a-half-year-deal," the club said in a statement.

"Paul has won everything there is to win in football," said owner Abdallah Lemsagam. "He is a man who will bring a lot of footballing knowledge and his hunger to succeed in management will be there for everyone to see."

"It's no secret how much he has wanted this job in the past and how much he loves this club, so I'm very happy to bring him into our family at Oldham Athletic."

Manchester United wished Scholes luck, saying in a message on Twitter: "Best of luck to Scholesy in his new role as first-team manager of @OfficialOAFCL!"

Scholes, who owns a stake in non-league Salford, will step down from his role as director of the National League club. AFP



The team has gone on to draw two more matches in the super league, the recent one, a two goals draw against Forest Rangers on Saturday at Levy Mwanawasa stadium.

Nkana's chances of qualifying to the next round in the Confederations cup will suffer a huge blow if they fail to win the match against Al-Hilal of Sudan tomorrow.

A win however will place them in a better position to advance to the next level.

The team so far has a loss, one win and two draws in all competitions.

ZESCO are currently confederations cup group C favourites.

## 'Man Utd should never have got rid of Moyes'

David Moyes "should have been given more time" at Manchester United, says Peter Schmeichel, while Jose Mourinho would have been a better appointment than Louis van Gaal in 2014.

The Red Devils have endured a tough time on the managerial front since seeing Sir Alex Ferguson head into retirement.

The Scot spent 27 years in charge of the Old Trafford outfit, but there have been five different coaches in the dugout in the six years since he departed.

Moyes lasted a matter of months, Ryan Giggs filled a caretaker post, Van Gaal managed two seasons, Mourinho two-and-a-half and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer is now in

interim charge.

United legend Schmeichel has questioned some of the calls which have been made in Manchester, with it his opinion that persevering with Moyes would have delivered greater stability.

The iconic goalkeeper, who also feels Mourinho should have been landed sooner, told beIN Sports: "If we should have any regrets as Manchester United, that is that we only gave David Moyes seven months."

"I think we should have given him more time, accepted that results weren't going to be the way we hoped they would be and that playing would be a little bit different."

Goal.com

