



# Cadres have no respect for us...

# POLICE CRY FOUL

## We are not happy that our friends have been retired like that - Esther

*By Thomas Mulenga*

Police Spokesperson Esther Katongo says officers are not happy with the retiring of four of their colleagues in Sesheke, fearing that it could happen to any of them at anytime. And Katongo has lamented that cadres have no respect for the police, suggesting that the service would operate much more effectively as a force. *To page 3*



Retired Constable Mukela Fridric



Retired Senior Superintendent Shaapa Wakunguma



Police spokesperson Esther Mwaata Katongo

**ACC must follow up on those companies in News Diggers exposé, demands - Lifuka**

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**Importation of GMOs an insult to manufacturers, farmers - Union**

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**Lungu is not in charge of the State - Kalaba**

*By Thomas Mulenga*

Democratic Party president Harry Kalaba has charged that the storming of Parliament by PF cadres on Thursday is a sign that President Edgar Lungu isn't in charge as the Head of State. And Kalaba says President Edgar Lungu's casual approach on the arrest of Housing and Infrastructure Development Minister Ronald Chitotela gave a wrong impression on the fight against corruption. Speaking when he featured on Hot FM's 'Breakfast' show, Kalaba charged that last Thursday's incident involving PF cadres who harassed opposition members of parliament was a sign that President Lungu was not in charge as the sitting Head of State. *To page 2*

**We'll close down 'churches' causing noise pollution in compounds - Sampa**

*By Sipilisiwe Ncube*

Lusaka Mayor Miles Sampa has warned illegal churches in all the seven constituencies in Lusaka that they risk being closed if they cause noise pollution to unwilling listeners. Responding to a press query from News Diggers, Sampa said he had also received complaints from the seven constituencies of pastors and churches that make noise in residential areas. Sampa further observed that most churches have no council licenses or approvals to conduct their operations. "My office is full of complaints from all seven Constituencies of churches and pastors who make noise for residents day and night. It's noise in the sense that the sound is made to unwilling listeners," Sampa said. *To page 4*

By Thomas Mulenga

Democratic Party president Harry Kalaba has charged that the storming of Parliament by PF cadres on Thursday is a sign that President Edgar Lungu isn't in charge as the Head of State. And Kalaba says President Edgar Lungu's casual approach on the arrest of Housing and Infrastructure Development Minister Ronald Chitotela gave a wrong impression on the fight against corruption. Speaking when he featured on Hot FM's 'Breakfast' show, Kalaba charged that last Thursday's incident involving PF cadres who harassed opposition members of parliament was a sign that President Lungu was not in charge as the sitting Head of State. "That is anarchy! In a country where you have leadership, you can't have what we were seeing yesterday (Thursday). I am a President and members of my party go to harass a duly elected MP? It means you are not in charge! You can't claim to be in charge of a home and you don't know whether there is mealie meal and other things like that; it means you are not in charge! That's why I tell

# Lungu is not in charge of the State - Kalaba

people that when you go to a village, there will be someone masquerading as village headman, but he is not. We have a purported leadership in place that is allowing things like this," charged Kalaba. "How can you explain it that we can have people almost killing each other in Sesheke simply because someone has to go to Parliament and begin earning K40,000 every month, simply because you want to show people that you are popular? come on PF! You can do better than that. Because for me, on that violence, don't even talk about UPND; the UPND are not in power. I think this all falls squarely on the shoulders of PF because they should have ensured that cadres were not ferried there. Whoever was not a voter was not supposed to be there; only those approved by the party secretariat should have gone there to campaign. But you ferry people there to go and cause confusion, that's not how it should be for a party that's in power. Kalaba said he does not

tolerate anarchy, and as such, he could no longer stay in the PF, hence resigning in January 2018. "Some of my colleagues who are still in PF will tell you that I am a very disciplined person and I don't tolerate anarchy. That's one of the reasons I resigned. What's happening in PF right now is total anarchy and a person like me cannot be part of that and that's the reason why I didn't agree to continue. I have never been a violent person. Why would you transport people to another region to go and cause mayhem when you are a ruling party? Why can't you just allow fair play?" he wondered. "These children that are being brutalised and killed are other peoples' children and we need to feel for them. Who would want to imagine his or her own child having blood oozing like we saw in Sesheke? But what's happening is that they are borrowing other peoples' children to go and fight their own political battles, while their own children have remained in

Woodlands, Kabulonga, drinking coffee but they have sent other peoples' children to go and be brutalised! And when you ask those guys how much they get for what they are going through, it's peanuts! So, we need order in this country and that's why I say this country must be called to order; that will be happen under the auspices of DP!" He further said there was an invisible hand within the ruling party promoting violence and thuggery in the country. "When you talk about Sesheke, I could not believe that what I was seeing was happening in Zambia. 54 years after Independence, we are seeing other peoples' children being brutalised in that fashion. It was horrific, I didn't think that in the 21st century we can have such things happening simply because somebody wants to record that they have won a by-election! I think all of us political players must understand that while passions might stray, the bond of action must not be broken. We

must remember that we are Zambians first even before we belong to any political party. There is an invisible hand that is sponsoring violence due the insatiable appetite for people to win elections, because they think that if we lose, people may think that we have lost popularity or that we are not in charge. You transport people from Intercity (Bus Terminus) to go and fight in Sesheke? That's not right and that's one of the reasons I am running for the (Republican) Presidency because we can't continue practising such kind of Stone Age politics," said Kalaba. Meanwhile, Kalaba, the former Foreign Affairs Minister, who also resigned his position as Bahati PF member of parliament, insisted that there were a lot of Cabinet Ministers involved in corrupt activities and that it was just a matter of time before they were also exposed like Chitotela. "When you read the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, I think (Section) 47; it is very clear that any public officer that is arrested by the Anti-Corruption Commission needs to pave way for investigations to take place. I heard the President when he was talking about Honourable Chitotela. President Lungu is very casual on very substantive issues of the nation and that's the reason this country is dragging like this. The President was very casual when talking about Chitotela's issue and he said 'what do I do with it?' That sends a very wrong impression on the fight against corruption. But on

moral grounds, even before we talk about President Lungu, comrade Chitotela could have said these charges have been slapped on me...because you can't go to equity with unclean hands. Even the Ministerial Code of Conduct states that once you are under investigation, you cannot fly the Zambian flag. The Zambian flag should only be flown by people who safeguard the interests of the Zambian people. Now, I don't know what will happen when we go to court because it will be the people of Zambia vs Honourable Chitotela," Kalaba said. He said the arrest of Chitotela vindicated him. "I did say when I was resigning that I resigned because of the massive corruption that was going on; I did say that Ministers had become businessmen. It's not only Honourable Chitotela, there are many others who are involved in being suppliers to Zesco, NAPSA, or any other government parastatals or Ministries, and I didn't think that a Minister should also be a supplier. I didn't agree that Ministers should be businessmen instead of being social workers. So, I may yet to be vindicated; this is just the process of being vindicated because more will come out! There is a lot that I know myself, but you saw that people marched against me saying 'let Kalaba tell us who is corrupt, Kalaba is lying, he is power hungry, there is no corruption in this government,' I want them to say that again, my eyes are open," said Kalaba.

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By Zondiwe Mbewe

A 41 year-old man of Chipata Compound has been sentenced to nine years imprisonment with hard labour for breaking into the Lusaka Magistrates' Court complex and stealing K16,000 cash and two cell phones. And principal magistrate David Simusamba has ordered that the recovered money should go to government revenue while the items should be handed over to the respective owners. In this matter, Chipungu was charged with one count of breaking into a building and committing felony. Particulars of the offence were that on January 25, this year, Derrick Chipungu with intent to steal, broke into the new Lusaka Magistrates' complex building and stole K16,026 cash, one HTC phone and a Samsung phone, all together valued at K18,526.10. He had pleaded guilty and only about K2,500 was recovered from him. The matter came up, Monday, for facts and sentencing. According to facts before court, on the material day, a security guard identified as Tom Banda who works at the Magistrates' complex

# Lusaka man gets 9 years for stealing at Magistrates' Court

was conducting a routine check when he heard noise at the clerk of court office. He went to report the matter at Ridgeway police station where he found constable Phiri who recorded the report. The two then rushed back to the complex where the noise was coming from. They discovered a broken lock and saw Chipungu who was hiding by the staircase, as he had heard them coming. The two apprehended the accused and took him to Ridgeway police station. Upon searching him he was found with cash amounting to K2,562. The suspect was then charged for the subject offence and a warn and caution statement recorded, after which Chipungu admitted the charge. In mitigation, Chipungu asked the court for leniency saying he was looking after his family. He added that he was on TB medication. "I am on Tuberculosis

medication. I'm [also] married with three children and looking after my grandmother," he said.

However, magistrate Simusamba sentenced him to nine years imprisonment with hard labour.

He further ordered that the recovered money should go to government revenue while the items should be handed over

to their respective owners". "Considering the nature of the offence and the circumstances in which it was committed, I sentence you to nine years imprisonment with hard labour. The money recovered will go to government revenue and the other property recovered will be returned to the respective owners," ruled magistrate Simusamba.



President Edgar Lungu (r) chairs the fourth Cabinet meeting at State House on Monday, as Vice- President Inonge Wina (l) follows the deliberations. - Photo by Salim Henry

# Police Service not happy with firing of Sesheke officers – Spokesperson

By Thomas Mulenga

Police Spokesperson Esther Katongo says the police service is not happy with the retiring of four police officers in Sesheke as that can happen to other officer at anytime. And Katongo has lamented that cadres have no respect for the police, suggesting that the service would operate much more effectively as a force. Speaking when she featured on UNZA Radio's Lusaka Star Program, Monday, Katongo also refuted social media reports that the police had apologised to the PF for having beaten the party's cadres in Sesheke. Katongo said two of the retired officers were her personal friends and no one in the service was pleased about what had happened to them. "No one would want to see a fellow Police Officer being retired, I have seen a lot of statements, some of them attributed to me, propaganda on Social Media to say I have even been counting that now we have fired four, there are 14 more to be fired, which is not true. No one would want to see a police officer being fired because what happens to my fellow officer today, may happen to me tomorrow. So we live as a family and when one goes like that, we really feel bad. And speaking in my personal capacity as Esther Katongo, two of the four officer who were retired, are my personal friends whom I have worked closely and I feel bad. I will talk about Shapa Wakunguma, I will talk about Chilongo, those are officers that we have been interacting with very well and to see that they have been retired is not something that has made us happy, even as a service we are not

happy that our friends have been retired like that," Katongo said. "I saw the propaganda online stating that the Zambia Police Service had apologised to the PF for allegedly beating its cadres. At no point did I ever write to the SG that the service had apologised for what transpired. In fact, it is not within my mandate to write such letters on behalf of the institution, I am not the person in charge of the police, there is the command there. I was puzzled to read that and that's the propaganda I am talking about." And Katongo said political party cadres had no respect for the police as some cadres even go to an extent of causing fights at police stations. "There are situations where cadres want to go and cause a fight at the police station, meaning that they do not respect the police. Maybe in the past when we were a police force, people had so much

respect and fear for the police now with the police service, when you handle someone, the human rights people will come in and all these NGOs crying out loud against the police. I think those who created the police as a force they knew why they did that. I think this issue of it being a service is somehow disadvantaging the operations of the police. People should have respect for the Police, especially the cadres. Cadres do not have respect for the police, the police are here to serve everyone in maintaining law and order," Katongo said. Meanwhile, Katongo said the PF cadres who went to protest at Parliament last week did not have a permit but they were not arrested because they complied when officers asked them to disperse. "We heard complaints from people saying 'when did they apply?' even without understanding what transpired. No one gave those

PF cadres any permit to go to Parliament to go and protest, it was just a group that mobilized itself to go and protest. And immediately word reached the Police, the Police commissioner Lusaka Division had to deploy officers to go to Parliament. And I heard people saying there was no any arrest. That's not how we operate, we don't just go and start arresting people, we first approach them and find out what they are up to. If they fail to comply, that's when we use minimum force. But when it came to this group that was protesting outside parliament, immediately the officers engaged them and told them to disperse, they complied. So if they complied, why should we use force? But when you look at people are looking at the situation, they want it to look like we used kids gloves because they are PF cadres, no," Katongo said. She said police did not see anything

wrong with the Public Order Act. "There was a time when the issue of the Public Order Act was in court and at that time it was Dr Solomon Jere who was appearing in court where we were looking at the Public Order Act. After analyzing it, to us as the police it is very useful piece of legislation and we feel it is sufficient. We have never complained against the Public Order Act and its provisions, we have been receiving complaints from people that are being policed. So when it comes to amending the Public Order Act, let those who are being policed, the ones who are seeing the gaps, go and make their submissions to Ministry of Justice. We however don't want them to end up with a piece of legislation that would be useless, we would want to have a legislation that would help the police to police the public because if this can't be done, anyone can wake up today, get a chair to go

and sit in the middle of the road because there will be no one to step that person or anyone would just wake up and say I will be having a meeting tomorrow and no one will question them, that will mean chaos," Katongo said. Meanwhile, Katongo said the Police were not segregative in the application of the Public Order Act "I would say the Police is not segregative in the way we implement the Public Order Act. What regulating officers do is that they will look at the situation before giving a go ahead to groupings that intend to hold public meetings. However, whenever we have told some groupings that you cannot go ahead because of this, we see them going to the media, making a lot of noise, saying the police have not allowed us but in an event when you allow them, there will be no noise. So those who have been complaining, they should be honest with their complaints. If the police were just saying go ahead, go ahead, there could have been no need to have a provision in the Public Order Act stating that the Police must give a go ahead. So if we say you are not going ahead, we are just doing our job according to our assessment and the law is very clear, if you are not happy, you can write to the minister of Home Affairs and later to the courts," said Katongo. "Our role when it comes to elections is to ensure that we create an environment where every political party and individuals feel protected to participate freely. And an environment where all participants are given a common ground where they can conduct campaigns freely and to ensure that we protect the election materials."

## Police nab 6 over cop's wife's murder

By Zondiwe Mbewe

Police in Lusaka have apprehended six suspects in a case in which some armed robbers broke into an officers house, stole some items and shot his wife in the process. In a statement, police spokesperson Esther Mwaata Katongo stated that various items were also recovered. "Refer to a report of Aggravated Robbery and Murder which occurred on 10th January, 2019 involving Sgt Simwamba of Protective Unit in which his wife was murdered by criminals. Police in Lusaka arrested six suspects identified as Kebby Jere aged 34, Evans Mwaba alias Shilozi aged 38, Clement Sinkamba

alias Yeelo aged 28, Isa Mtonga Zulu aged 27, Mathews Malisawa aged 23 and Elijah Phiri aged 25 in connection with the murder of Joy Mpandu Simwamba, a wife of a Protective unit Police Officer who also sustained injuries after they were attacked at their Lusaka's Makeni Villa Home on 10th January, 2019 at about 02:00 hours by criminals armed with iron bars," Katongo stated. "Police also recovered from various places one Blanket, two cell phones, a bicycle, a school bag, a mattress and other items, property of the Sgt Simwamba. Police also recovered a jacket and three Police combat uniforms from a pit latrine where they were dumped.

The suspects have been charged with Aggravated Robbery contrary to section 294 and Murder contrary to Section 200 of the Penal Code cap 87 of the Laws of Zambia. They are detained in Police Custody and will appear in court soon." Meanwhile, Katongo stated that police were still searching for Constable Edwin Kabasiya who murdered Constable Lennox Kapila after a dispute in January. "A search for Constable Kabasiya, the officer behind the shooting of another officer Constable Kapila is still on. We appeal to members of the public to working with the Police in the search so that the suspect can be brought to book," stated Katongo.

## We'll close down 'churches' causing noise pollution in compounds - Sampa

**By Sipilisiwe Ncube**  
Lusaka Mayor Miles Sampa has warned illegal churches in all the seven constituencies in Lusaka that they risk being closed if they cause noise pollution to unwilling listeners. Responding to a press query from News Diggers, Sampa said he had also received complaints from the

seven constituencies of pastors and churches that make noise in residential areas. Sampa further observed that most churches have no council licenses or approvals to conduct their operations. "All those churches who cause Noise pollution in residential areas risk being closed. My office is full of complaints from

all seven Constituencies of churches and pastors who make noise for residents day and night. It's noise in the sense that the sound is made to unwilling listeners whose interest may not be with that church but other churches. Those who want to worship, need to go inside churches and be spoken to by Pastors in a sober

and peaceful manner. Most of these churches have no Council licences to conduct their operations. They need Council approval to host gatherings. Before issuing approvals, Council ensures Health and toilet facilities are adequate and in good condition to host crowds," Sampa stated. Sampa also warned that

the local authority would soon be sending out inspectors on the ground adding that those found wanting would be closed. And Sampa appealed to Religious Affairs Minister Godfridah Sumaili to monitor and evaluate the mushrooming of churches in residential areas. "We will send inspectors to check all these churches

for our Approvals for them to operate. Those without our licences, will be closed. I appeal to Religious Affairs and National Guidance Minister Madam Godfridah Sumaili to help us monitor and evaluate these churches that have mushroomed in residential areas and causing noise pollution" stated Sampa.

## Tourism ministry refutes Daily Mail's animal trafficking article

**By Thomas Mulenga**

Director of National Parks and Wildlife in the Ministry of Tourism Paul Zyambo has refuted claims published by the Zambia Daily Mail on February 15, 2019, alleging that some people were airlifting wild animals from Zambia. In a statement issued by Ministry of Tourism and Arts Public Relations Officer Sakabilo Kalembwe, the director stated that whilst there were cases of people airlifting animals in the region, Zambia was an exception. "Director of National Parks and Wildlife, Mr. Paul Zyambo has said there are no animals being airlifted from any Zambia's national parks. Recting to the an article that appeared in the Zambian Daily Mail dated 15 February 2019; the director said that some poaching syndicates have used helicopter in the poaching of rhinos in some parts of the region but not in Zambia," read the statement. "He indicated that illegal activities in protected areas are sophisticated, transnational and that other equipment is used in such activities. The Article stated that Mr. Zyambo had said wildlife trafficking in sophisticated because traffickers fly into the country helicopters and airlift animals. It further said that people who were stealing animals were from other countries who fly in to drug animals and fly them out of the National Parks."

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aged 28, Isa Mtonga Zulu aged 27, Mathews Malisawa aged 23 and Elijah Phiri aged 25 in connection with the murder of Joy Mpandu Simwamba, a wife of a Protective unit Police Officer who also sustained injuries after they were attacked at their Lusaka's Makeni Villa Home on 10th January, 2019 at about 02:00 hours by criminals armed with iron bars," Katongo stated. "Police also recovered from various places one Blanket, two cell phones, a bicycle, a school bag, a mattress and other items, property of the Sgt Simwamba. Police also recovered a jacket and three Police combat uniforms from a pit latrine where they were dumped. The

suspects have been charged with Aggravated Robbery contrary to section 294 and Murder contrary to Section 200 of the Penal Code cap 87 of the Laws of Zambia. They are detained in Police Custody and will appear in court soon." Meanwhile, Katongo stated that police were still searching for Constable Edwin Kabasiya who murdered Constable Lennox Kapila after a dispute in January. "A search for Constable Kabasiya, the officer behind the shooting of another officer Constable Kapila is still on. We appeal to members of the public to working with the Police in the search so that the suspect can be brought to book," stated Katongo.

## Business activity in January remained subdued – Stanbic

**By Milimo Namangala**

The Zambian economy continued to be characterised by decreased business activity in January, 2019, mainly attributed to slow sales and lack of money in circulation, according to Stanbic Bank Zambia's latest Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) Survey. According to the latest Stanbic Bank Zambia PMI report released this month, business

activity remains subdued largely due to low consumer sales and little money in circulation. "A weaker fall in new orders was registered in January, with the rate of contraction easing for the third consecutive month to the slowest since last September. Some panellists reported a continued lack of customers, although others indicated that they had been able to secure new clients.

Slow sales and a lack of money in circulation were reportedly behind the latest reduction in business activity – the sixth in as many months. Output fell at a solid pace, albeit one that was weaker than in December, in line with a softer decline in new orders," the report revealed. "Companies in Zambia continued to reduce their outstanding business in January amid a further reduction in new orders. Backlogs of work have fallen in each month since July last year. Sustained reductions in workloads brought an end to a six month period of job creation in January as employment decreased fractionally during the month." It also noted slow business activity in purchasing activities. "Purchasing activity decreased for the third time in the past four months, with inventories also falling as companies displayed a reluctance to hold stocks amid reducing new orders. The length of time taken for vendors to deliver items shortened again, with reports suggesting that regular suppliers remained reliable," it stated. "Overall input costs increased sharply again at the start of the year amid a marked rise in purchase prices and modest staff cost inflation. Where purchase prices increased, panellists mentioned higher fuel costs as well as weakness of the kwacha against the US dollar." Although data shows a slight improvement in business conditions between December and January, the Survey findings,

as illustrated through the PMI, revealed a sustained deterioration in business conditions during the first month of the New Year. "The headline figure derived from the Survey is the PMI. Readings above 50.0 signal an improvement in business conditions on the previous month, while readings below 50.0 show deterioration. At 48.1, the PMI continued to signal deteriorating economic conditions during January extending the current sequence of decline to six months. That said, the reading was up from 47.8 in December to indicate a slightly softer contraction," data revealed. And commenting on the Survey's findings, Stanbic Bank Zambia's head of global markets Victor Chileshe stated that consumer inflation may subside due to the relative stability of the kwacha against major currency convertibles. "Although higher fuel prices and currency weakness resulted in a sharp monthly increase in input costs, the rate of output price inflation moderated, which may be a sign that threats to a rise in consumer inflation are subsiding, especially since USD-ZMW remains stable," stated Chileshe. The Stanbic Bank Zambia PMI is based on data compiled from monthly replies to questionnaires sent to purchasing executives in approximately 400 private sector companies, which have been carefully selected to accurately represent the true structure of the Zambian economy, including agriculture and construction, among others.



Children of Lusaka's Bauleni Compound play with used tyres - Photo by Tenson Mkhala

# ACC must follow up on those mentioned in Diggers' exposé

By *Rueben Lifuka*

The recent expose by the News Diggers of serious allegations of impropriety and corrupt activities associated with Hon Ronald Chitotela unfortunately confirms the growing public concern of the pervasiveness of corruption in our country. While recognising that these allegations need to be investigated and the accused brought before the courts of law, we want to observe that we have reached a stage in our country where corruption has no limits even when this impoverishes the majority of the people. We are witnessing a serious erosion of public morality and respect for public resources. The people who are granted the privilege to be stewards of public resources, have become suspected plunderers of even the little that people depend upon for basic survival. This is a sad indictment of the political and community leadership in our land, those elected or appointed to positions of authority see this as nothing more than a means of self if not illicit enrichment. Service to humanity has been replaced with service to oneself as well as to kith and kin. The massive suffering of the people who live on the margins of poverty, has failed to pull at the heart strings of these selfish corrupt individuals. Corruption is rapidly turning this country into an unmitigated disaster and no amount of spin doctoring will save us from this condemnation unless we firstly admit we have a problem and urgently deal with this as an existential threat to our collective well being.

Quite sadly, it has to be said that this expose by News Diggers has failed to shake society to its core because as a people we have become accustomed if not spectacularly indifferent to such revelations which are treated as normal by authorities - a perennial feature of successive governments. For President Lungu, in 2016, out of his own volition and without any public prompting, he made a public confession that his Cabinet Ministers were involved in corruption and were acting with gross impunity. President Lungu informed the public that some ministers were receiving huge daily bank deposits and were additionally involved in illegally acquiring land and property. These are the same ingredients which are highlighted in the expose and it is evident that the sad picture painted by President Lungu in 2016, continues to this day and the situation has even become worse as no meaningful action has been taken in the intervening period. And surprisingly so, the Republican President who was dismayed by the levels of corruption has largely kept faith in nearly the same coterie of Ministers in office, and this speaks volumes about the seriousness or lack of it attached to the fight against corruption. We have always stated that it is not the eloquence of words that wins the fight against corruption but the consistent and timely bold actions by those clothed by law with the necessary powers.

The patently criminal activities of the corrupt alleged in the expose are similar to the revelations made in the 2017 Financial Intelligence Centre Trends Analysis Report. It has become apparent to many why government and ruling party operatives made vitriolic attacks on the Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC) for merely releasing this report to the public in its unadulterated form. In this report, the FIC demonstrated how companies connected to Politically Exposed Persons (PEPs) and their associates, have continued to be involved in suspected corruption and money laundering. The FIC underscored an important point that there were instances where shell companies have been used to conceal the beneficial owners of those companies, who in most instances are Politically Exposed Persons and their associates who may include spouses and children. The expose by News Diggers curiously resembles the description of the corruption and money laundering activities by FIC in its Trends Analysis report. We dare to say we are now entered into an era where "corruption on steroids" is what defines us.

Given the gravity and far reaching consequences of the expose, it is our honest expectation that the least that the Anti Corruption Commission can do is to follow up on these leads and all those found wanting, should be brought to justice. There is no better time than in the current circumstances for us to emphasise to the ACC

the weight of national responsibility that lies on their shoulders. The ACC has the honourable responsibility to thoroughly investigate all leads and cases, regardless of the political consequences of such decisions. The ACC should be reminded that "Fighting corruption in a superficial manner and without any real commitment, is not only tragic but a great injustice to the victims of corruption." Given the gravity and far reaching consequences of the expose, it is our honest expectation that the least that the Anti Corruption Commission can do is to follow up on these leads and all those found wanting, should be brought to justice. There is no better time than in the current circumstances for us to emphasise to the ACC the weight of national responsibility that lies on their shoulders. The ACC has the honourable responsibility to thoroughly investigate all leads and cases, regardless of the political consequences of such decisions. The ACC should be reminded that "Fighting corruption in a superficial manner and without any real commitment, is not only tragic but a great injustice to the victims of corruption." The expose equally raises additional and worrisome insights which should attract the immediate attention and action of the ACC and Drugs Enforcement Agency. We urge that all culprits are urgently brought to book. The key points which should be pondered further are inter alia:

1. It is alleged that Hon Chitotela sold maize to Hon Michael Katambo the Minister of Agriculture for an estimated amount of USD4.5 million. Evidently, Hon, Katambo equally has some explaining to do and show how he acquired such amounts in the light of his known earnings;
2. The ownership of Veil Construction which seems to be a shell company, should be established, particularly in light of the newly amended Companies Act which provides for the establishment of beneficial ownership of shares in a company. We further have questions on how a company incorporated in March 2017 became a recipient of numerous payments from AVIC International. What was AVIC International paying for? What services or goods does Veil Construction offer and what if any, are the taxes paid?
3. This episode points to inherent weaknesses in the enforcement of the Parliamentary and Ministerial Code of Conduct Act, specifically section 6 which requires that Ministers and Members of Parliament declare interest in government contracts to the Chief Justice. Similarly, we question the veracity of the annual declaration of assets, liabilities and income made by Ministers and Members of Parliament as required by the Parliamentary and Ministerial Code of Conduct. For many years, we have questioned the authenticity of what is declared given that the office of the Chief Justice has no capacity to verify these declarations. It is time that this Act was reviewed and amended to ensure stricter enforcement of the Code of Conduct. We also demand that the Chief Justice makes public the Registers of these declaration of assets and liabilities. We have unfortunately noted a strange reluctance by the Chief Justice to avail details of the declarations and not merely a list of who has submitted their declarations. We find this attitude retrogressive and self defeating.

Transparency International Zambia wishes to reiterate its position that on the matter of arrest of Hon Chitotela by the ACC on criminal charges of concealment of property, that President Lungu should relieve his Minister of his duties- and this action is not to pre judge Hon Chitotela's guilt but rather one that seeks to preserve the sanctity of the investigations and the court process. This is not a matter that should attract unnecessary legal arguments because in the first place it will be consistent with President Lungu's own declaration in October 2016 when he publicly declared that he would not wait for the ACC to take action against corrupt ministers but he would send them packing as soon as he had information of their activities. It would seem that President Lungu has undergone some metanoia and is now converted to the new legal arguments. This insistence to retain Hon Chitotela in office, reminds one of the famous or infamous statement by Oscar Raymundo Benavides- a Field Marshal and former President of Chile, who once



*Transparency International Zambia Chapter President  
Reuben Lifuka*

quipped - "For my friends everything; for my enemies, the law." However, we wish to remind him of a couple of points:

1. In September 2018, President Lungu, according to his own Minister of Information and Chief Government Spokesperson, had swiftly relieved Hon Emerine Kabanshi of her position as Minister of Community Development, following allegations of fraud and misapplication of resources for the social cash transfer. Similarly, senior government officers in the same ministry were suspended together with senior managers at ZAMPOST. None of these people were formally arrested and neither were they given their day in court. If we go by the new argument about presumption of innocence - then Hon Kabanshi and all other persons involved, should have or should continue in office until their cases are heard in court.

2. While recognising that there are different civil service procedures, we take note that in 2018, Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of General Education - Henry Tukombe and three others were suspended for suspected theft of K2.5 million. Similarly, three accountants in the Ministry of Housing and Infrastructure Development, the same Ministry were Hon Chitotela is presiding, were dismissed for allegedly engaging in fraud and theft of public funds. Finally, last in 2018, 12 accountants were dismissed by the Civil Service Commission to pave way for investigations. The principle in all these cases is that erring officers have either been suspended or dismissed in order to facilitate investigations. This is the normal way of proceeding but it seems there is one interpretation of the presumption of innocence for those close to President Lungu and another for all of us common mortals.

3. Article 262 of the Constitution of Zambia as amended in 2016 is clear on the matter of conflict of interest and it states that - "A person holding public office shall not act in a manner or be in a position where the personal interest of that person conflicts or is likely to conflict, with the performance of the functions of office." Hon Chitotela will be conflicted if he continues to discharge functions in the same office which maybe the source of the properties under investigations.

We wish to end by quoting a poignant statement made by one Antonio Mwanza in 2016, who at the time served as spokesperson of the Forum for Democracy and Development party, following President Lungu's revelation of high levels of corruption in his Cabinet. Mr. Mwanza called on President Lungu to immediately fire the corrupt ministers and he said - "it is this inertia to fight corruption by the top leadership of the state that demoralises our investigative wings because they know that no matter the risk they take and the length they go to investigate corrupt senior government officials, nothing happens to corrupt officials. Corrupt Ministers remain in office and nothing will happen as they will use their influence and authority to tamper with evidence and intimidate potential witnesses."

*(Rueben Lifuka is TIZ chapter president)*

By Mirriam Chabala

The Africa Consumer Union has asked Zambians to reject food containing Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) that is imported on the Zambian market by the government, warning of serious health implications. In a statement, ACU 1st Vice President Muyunda Ilunga appealed to President Edgar Lungu to provide leadership by ensuring that he puts his foot down and prevents the importation of GMO

# Importation of GMOs an insult to farmers, manufacturers, says Consumer Union

products on the Zambian Market.

Ilunga charged that the continued importation of food that contain GMOs was an insult to both the farming and manufacturing community in Zambia.

"Zambia has the capacity to produce sufficient non-GMO agricultural products and also to manufacture non-GMO products such as cornflakes and porridge. It's a big insult to both the agricultural

and manufactures sectors in Zambia therefore that the country continues to squander foreign exchange to import poison to feed consumers even when healthy alternatives are plentiful. What is even worse

is that these are the types of foods that been aggressively marketed to appeal to children and young people. Greedy food corporations have aggressively marketed their GMO products to policy-makers and public in

the name of ending world hunger but many studies have shown that Biotechnology has lamentably failed to ensure food security in the world. For Zambia, the situation is dire. We have a weak regulatory regime and institutions that are seen to be cheer-leaders for dubious GMO products and as a result, the country's policy on GMO products is full of twists and turns. Today this, tomorrow that," stated Ilunga.

"Let me take this chance to appeal to the consumers of this country; do not be misled, GMOs are not safe. There is still, as a matter of fact intense debate in many areas of the world. Beware of the long-term effect that GMOs can cause to your health. Do not become a willing victim of cancer. Avoid eating GMOs and stay healthy. You the consumers must reject GMOs even if your government allows them on the Zambian Market. It's about your health. Let me also appeal to President Lungu to provide leadership and ensure that he puts his foot down and prevent or outlaw the Importation of GMO products on the Zambian Market."

## World Vision starts \$6m countrywide borehole drilling project in Pemba

By Milimo Namangala in Pemba District

World Vision, through the Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) project, has drilled its first borehole in Muloongo Village, Southern Province, out of the 300 boreholes to be done this year across the country.

And National Director of World Vision John Hasse said the WASH programme, worth US\$6 million, would provide clean water for up to 170,000 Zambians in around four years.

Technical programme manager Maybin Ng'ambi explained that the drill in Muloongo Village was the first out the 300 boreholes to be done this year countrywide.

"We are in Southern Province in a village called Muloongo in Pemba District where we've just started drilling our first borehole out of the 300 boreholes that we are going to drill this year as World Vision. We are working with government in this particular district to ensure that people are able

to have access to clean and safe water," Ng'ambi told journalists in Muloongo Village, Pemba District.

"Muloongo Village is one of the villages in Southern Province where they've had a lot of challenges in terms of accessing water from the time these villages were setup. They've been getting most of the water three to five kilometres away from their homes, and even the water they've been collecting, it's been very dirty water, which one cannot even drink."

And World Vision national director John Hasse said providing clean water had since increased

literacy levels in girls, which benefited the local economy.

"In many of our programmes as we've been doing this, as we've been rolling water out in schools, we're seeing the attendance, education and literacy rates of girls go up higher. And we know that's improving the economy and strengthening the economy in the country. So, when we mechanise those systems, we are able to run the water out to communities a kilometre out, or even more out, from those water systems; that provides water just to someone's home, to that

community and everyone in that home has access to water at their home," Hasse narrated.

"This year alone, we'll provide about 170,000 people with clean water; that's more clean water than anybody else in Zambia, besides the government. In about 4 years will provide clean water to about a million people for the first time. So, you think 16 million people in Zambia; most of that is not from institutional donors, that's actually private donors from other countries...it's actually stimulating the economy, it's bringing new money into the economy

outside what official foreign aid is doing. And we'll provide about 20 clinics; we'll put water into them for the first time."

Meanwhile, Muloongo Village Headman Beston Simukali hailed World Vision for availing clean water to the community of 766 people and 57 children.

He said the close proximity of the borehole would solve the usual long distance challenges of fetching water, thereby, help stabilise families' homes.

All provinces except for the Copperbelt are expected to have boreholes drilled by the end of this year.

## Mundende reshuffles Zesco directors

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

Returning from local leave, Zesco managing director Victor Mundende has made staff reshuffles and appointments at various levels within the utility.

The Zesco boss went on 'local leave' at the beginning of January 2018, leaving Director of Transmission

Webster Musonda as acting Managing Director. In the midst of PF cadres accusing him of failing to empower ruling party youths with jobs and contracts, the Mundende's leave fuelled speculation that it was politically motivated to pave way for investigations into his

dealings.

But in a memo number 108/2019 dated February 8, 2019, which was addressed to all company managers and employees, Mundende authoritatively stated that he had implemented staff changes in an effort to enhance the company's efficiency and service

delivery.

Mundende relieved Director of Distribution Denis Banda and appointed his Lusaka divisional manager Yona Sichalwe as new to take over the position.

He has also appointed corporate affairs senior manager Patrick Mwila as the new director for strategy and corporate services, while chief engineer senior manager for electro technical services Collins Kavamba has been appointed as senior manager for transmission O and M South.

"In an effort to enhance our operational efficiency and service delivery to our esteemed customers, management wishes to advise you that the following staff changes have been made, with immediate effect: Mr Yona Sichalwe -Divisional Manager Lusaka Division has been appointed Director Distribution. Mr. Patrick Mwila - Senior Manager Corporate Affairs, has been appointed Director Strategy and Corporate Services. Mr. Collins Kavamba, Chief

Engineer-Senior Manager - Electro Technical Services has been appointed as Senior Manager - Transmission, O and M South," the memo read.

Mundende also transferred southern division manager Clement Silavwe to Lusaka in the same capacity, among other changes.

"Mr. Felix Chifwaila - Chief Engineer SCADA Projects has been appointed senior Manager - Electro Technical Services. Mr. Wilson S. Banda, Chief Engineer - small hydros has been appointed power station manager - ITPC. Dr Elenestina Mwelwa - Chief Environmental Scientist, South has been appointed Senior Manager - SHEQ. Mr Alex Mbumba -Regional Manager, Lusaka South has been appointed Divisional Manager - Southern Division. Mr Clement Silavwe -Division Manager, Southern Division has been transferred to Lusaka Division in the same capacity. Please be informed accordingly and it is my sincere hope that you will give them the necessary support," stated Mundende in the memo.



LUSAKA HUSTLE: Robert Daka of Bauleni Compound transports 25 Kg bags of mealie meal to his shop - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

**Talking Business with Chibamba Kanyama**  
 Chibamba Kanyama is founding partner of Bridges Limited; Corporate Leader; public speaker; communication specialist and strategist

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Ear to the ground

# Faith and resilience

A business culture is also anchored on faith and resilience. There are no enterprises that have survived hard times without their owners and managers having faith and the spirit of resilience. Business demands of you to hold on irrespective of the risks associated with the investment. Every business has had to convert numbers from a bleak picture to that which is positive. That is the test of management. Some businesses have been insolvent but through resilience managed to turn round the fortunes. In short, every business will go through a cycle. But how does one remain resilient in business?

The most important thing is to be in charge of all the business processes. At times, one may require the services of an external “eye,” auditors, who may help appraise the business functions, especially the utilisation of resources. This is because at times, business problems emanate from weak processes within the business. Generally auditors are very sceptical. In many other cases, they are very afraid of change. This is the reason why you should not be disillusioned about their reports. In modern times, the role of auditors has evolved from “arms length” critiques and fault-finders to business risk-managers.

Modern time auditors will offer to help in areas that they identify as key business weaknesses. They will guide any entrepreneur towards repositioning of the company so that it is a going concern. Business owners and auditors will do well to even agree on managing the information about the findings so that the leakage of material resources does not become a danger to the business itself. Audit reports should

help you make a decision. They should not be the reason for surrender. Auditors generally give an independent opinion to your business so that you re-strategise and make critical business decisions. Some businesses only need a fresh injection of capital to come out of trouble.

Remember that business is a cycle and at every stage of business growth, fresh capital is needed. Without

market, have challenges on their balance sheets. In short, business requires faith and resilience. It is not for gamblers and those with short-term goals.

A Greek historian, Herodotus writes, “some men give up their designs when they have almost reached the goal while others, on the contrary, obtain victory by exerting at the last moment, more vigorous efforts than ever before.”

*“some men give up their designs when they have almost reached the goal”*

understanding how your business is performing, you would be dangerously riding on a roller-coaster of success and deception. The reason most businesses have not competed effectively is that they are expected to perform wonders when new capital has not been injected. Most of them survive on retained earnings and you can never run a business like this for a long period of time.

Dynamism in business means anticipating that the market opportunities will expand and injection of fresh capital will assist towards the exploitation of an even bigger market.

The Bible says, “faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

If you want to break through in business, always stick to your business vision. Engaging in business is just like being a farmer who plants seed and believes that it will germinate. There is hardly any business that has not faced challenges. Some large corporations, even with dynamic and aggressive positioning on the

There are people who cannot venture out into enterprise because of the numerous challenges of running a business. The majority of businesses and corporate entities anywhere in the world are in some kind of financial trouble. Many are barely surviving.

On one hand, you have tax officials pursuing you and threatening to take away your assets unless you clear a backlog of tax liabilities, while on the other hand, you have your creditors, including banks foreclosing on your business. I know of a farmer whose farm was foreclosed by a commercial bank. The gentleman had the passion for agriculture for many years as it remained the family occupation passed on through generations. But just for one simple debt that could have been resolved easily, his farm was placed under receivership. When I met the gentleman with his family, I saw the frustration in him.

As he left my office, he said a few words, “Chibamba, my father was a farmer. Our family is in agriculture. We know what it takes to run the farming business. This move to frustrate us will never take away our resolve and the determination we have embraced over several decades. Prosperity has always been on our side.” (The article is an excerpt from my book, *Business Values for Our Time*).

By Mukosha Funga

National Democratic Congress leader Chishimba Kambwili says the four officers who have been fired for beating up PF cadres in Sesheke will be reinstated in 2021 because they have done nothing wrong.

And UPND president Hakainde Hichilema says it is unfortunate that the officers have been fired for allegedly breaking the law when those who killed Vespers Shimunzihla are still in the service.

Speaking to journalists after attending mass at St Ignatius parish in Lusaka yesterday, Kambwili said it was unacceptable for the President to indirectly tell police officers that officers cannot take action against PF cadres.

“I think we need to put a stop to the way the country is being run. People have been killed in the past by police, police have never been dismissed. Police have beaten the opposition supporters, they have never been dismissed. Now because these officers beat up PF thugs who went with all sorts of weapons to cause violence in Sesheke, the police officers

## CK, HH condemn govt for firing Sesheke officers

have been dismissed. I can only tell those officers that their dismissal is short lived. Let them be patient, they will be reinstated because they have not committed any offense. We cannot have a situation where the President, the Minister of Home Affairs are indirectly telling the police that you cannot take action against PF cadres, because that is what they are doing, even when they came to Parliament to demonstrate, that was illegal,” Kambwili said.

“Laura Miti, Pilato and the rest were arrested over a similar protest, we haven’t heard any arrest of a PF cadres for coming to Parliament on Thursday. Besides, it is a sign of having a very useless Secretary General because if he can allow his cadres to go to Parliament illegally

and demonstrate that they want to fish out an elected member of parliament, then that Secretary General does not belong to politics, that Secretary General must be a boxer or worse still a fisherman and I think Mwila needs to resign.”

Kambwili said not only would the officers be reinstated in 2021, they would also be paid their salaries for the time they would have spent at home.

“When Imbwili comes, they will be reinstated, they have just gone on leave. They will be reinstated and all the money will be paid back to them for the time they will be in the compound. Let them go and arrest those who killed Vespers at the University of Zambia. Let them go and arrest those who killed UPND cadre in cold blood. I don’t understand my friend Edgar

Lungu’s thinking. It’s like I have said, it’s like we don’t have a President, the country is on autopilot. Honestly, if you have Kampyongo as Minister of Home Affairs, what do you expect? Manners from Katondo,” said Kambwili.

And in a statement, Hichilema wondered why the Sesheke officers were fired when those who killed Vespers were still in the service.

“We have noted the continued harassment and firing of civil servants performing their duties lawfully by the PF with dismay. The recent being the firing of police officers who maintained law and order in the Sesheke parliamentary by-election. It is appalling to note how the PF has swiftly concluded that the officers broke the law when for months now no one has been found wanting over

the death of a student at the University of Zambia. This is unfortunate. We are aware that young professionals working in government have not only suffered in terms of poor conditions of service but also physical attacks, unlawful dismissals from known PF officials including Mr Edgar Lungu himself as a beneficiary of lawlessness in the country,” Hichilema stated.

“However, we would like to assure all the civil servants and in this case men and women in uniform not to lose hope because once in government, we will give back your jobs. There is nothing good as moving on with a clear conscience especially knowing too well that yours was to serve the country diligently and not a group of select corrupt few. As a party we call on the

country to unite against the PF’s continued lawlessness being funded by loans and corruption acquired at the expense of the majority poor. We would also like to appeal to the Nation to remember that actions such as firing of professional civil servants for performing lawful duties such as deterring known PF unruly thugs has the potential to further create anarchy in a country whose economy is already on its knees.”

Hichilema stated that citizens would have no choice but to start defending themselves. “This is because citizens will have no choice but to defend themselves whenever attacked by the PF corruption and loans funded thugs. Lastly, we call the Nation to action that whenever attacked by the PF thugs, you must defend yourselves because the law and order enforcers have been made unimportant by the PF leadership. Self defence is a constitutional right that each and every citizen of our country enjoys and this is part of the people power which is your power to override the corrupt few in the PF led by Mr Edgar Lungu,” stated Hichilema.

Last week, President Edgar Lungu went to officiate at the launch of the ZamPalm Out-grower Scheme in Muchinga Province. During the event, Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) Group Chief Executive Officer Mr Mateyo Kaluba, told the President that so far, the government investment portfolio has invested K2.7 million to enable the out-grower scheme takeoff, with 137 smallholder farmers having cultivated 80 hectares. Mr Kaluba added that IDC was investing an additional US\$5 million in ZamPalm to expand the capacity of the mill to handle output coming from the out grower scheme.

To our readers who are not familiar with this massive government investment, ZamPalm is the controversial plantation of palm trees which was previously owned by Zambeef, and was purchased by the IDC at US\$16 million cash. According to government, in the next couple of years, Zambia will stop importing cooking oil and other related edible oils because all the oil the country needs will be produced and manufactured by this plantation called ZamPalm. In fact, the company manifesto states that Zambia will be one of the biggest exporters of edible crude oil in the region, translating into hundreds of millions of dollar in government profit.

Minister of Agriculture Mr Michael Katambo who accompanied President Lungu, said the project was a true reflection of government's commitment to the economic diversification agenda, because the project would not only create jobs but also eradicate poverty and make a significant contribution to the GDP.

# Stop misleading Zambians on ZamPalm viability, it's a vote-seeking bottomless pit

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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All those statements, economic analyses and projections sound like such a real deal to a naked eye. When pronouncements and figures are being declared, the ZamPalm project sounds like a long awaited gateway to prosperity for Zambia. But when we look at this investment with our 'transparent' lenses, we find that there is a lot of misinformation that is being fed, not only to the President, but the rest of the people of Zambia.

Anyone who has followed the ZamPalm story can agree with us that the figures that are being quoted are scary. Purchasing ZamPalm cost Zambia's taxpayers US\$16 million, an extra US\$4 million was spent on working capital, bringing the figure to US\$20 million dollars. The out-grower scheme that was being lunched last Thursday will cost government another US\$28 million, to benefit about 5,000 local farmers. Already, if we are spending US\$4 million on working

capital on a project that is far from producing any revenue, then that means it's an overly expensive undertaking, by any standard.

We have made this observation in the past, and we will keep on reminding the people of Zambia who care about how their money is being spent. The IDC is not following proper investment guidelines and economic reasoning on this matter. When you are investing an annual US\$4 million in a company that will take over five years to bring to profitability, you must be certain beyond any reasonable doubt that there is no room for error, because the money spent accumulatively becomes too colossal.

Those who understand our kwacha better, we are talking about over K240 million hard earned money already spent from the pockets of taxpayers. Every year, another K50 million will be spent on this undertaking. What is sad is that no one working

at IDC, or Ministry of Agriculture can hold the Bible and swear by the Almighty God to promise the owners of this money that by this specific date, they will start frying their kapenta using cheap, sweet smelling cooking oil from ZamPalm plantation in Muchinga Province as they are being made to believe.

The reason why no one can vouch for the undoubted success of ZamPalm is simple. The climate conditions we have in this country, particularly where this plantation is located, do not support the growth of palm trees. This is not information that we just googled and started speculating. Experts in forestry development working at ZAFFICO, experts from the economic sector and experts from outside Zambia who have vast knowledge and experience in this sector, were all involved in the research on this project, and they all came up with one conclusion; the climate is not favorable and it is

bad business. That is why Zambeef looked for some foolish people to buy it from them because they projected a loss. If it was a viable business, they were not going to sell it to anyone, they would have guarded it jealously, like they are guarding the meat company.

We the Zambian people have taken over this liability, pouring in millions of dollars which we are almost certain that will eventually go to waste. Meanwhile, we have a list of already existing parastatals which already have clear profit-generating prospects on the market, such as the Nitrogen Chemicals of Zambia. All they need is recapitalization worth half of what was spent to purchase the risk child called ZamPalm. Given US\$16 million, NCZ would be producing all the fertilizer that farmers in Muchinga actually want for crops that are right for their climate.

Let the people of Zambia demand answers from IDC

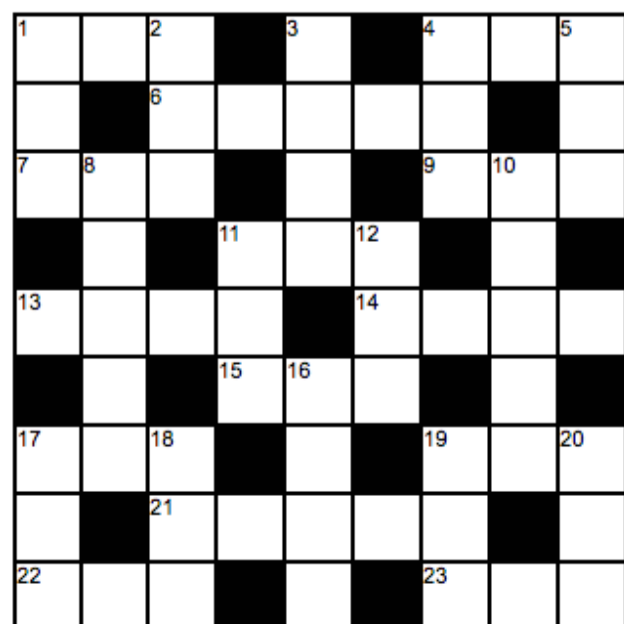
on what that working capital they are talking about is. We are not calling anyone at IDC a thief, but can they tell us how the K50 million being spent at ZamPalm annually is used? What is the breakdown of this money? If only K2.7 million was spent on the out-grower scheme, who are they spending the US\$4 million on every year? They are saying they need another US\$5 million to expand the mill. How do you expand the mill when you have not reached full capacity?

In our view, people have colluded to mislead the President on this project in order for them to chew. And the President has bought into it because he needs votes from farmers in this area. So he needs to use this investment to make northerners believe that the Patriotic Front under Mr Edgar Lungu is creating jobs.

The sad reality is that we are not making economic decisions as a country, but political decisions. Unfortunately, the consequence is this taxpayers' money we are wasting today will only be realised long after President Lungu and those who are misleading him have left power. We know that there is need for the government to implement projects, but let the economic advisors to the President be truthful for once. We know that they have seen these figures and they know that they are not making good business sense.

With this kind of careless ploughing of dollars into a venture without a sound outlook of returns backed by expert analyses, we don't see how Zambia Airways is going to be viable. This is a bad business and it must be stopped in it's tracks.

## Crossword puzzle 296



*"The secret of life, though, is to fall seven times and to get up eight times." - Paulo Coelho*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Across</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Not in operation</li> <li>4. Prohibit</li> <li>6. Get out of bed</li> <li>7. An evergreen tree</li> <li>9. Immediately</li> <li>11. ___ roll, appetizer</li> <li>13. Not shut</li> <li>14. Hence</li> <li>15. Beaver's house</li> <li>17. Affirmative vote</li> <li>19. Before dos</li> <li>21. Carved poll</li> <li>22. Central Intelligence Agency</li> <li>23. Round baked dessert</li> </ul> | <p><b>Down</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Big galoot</li> <li>2. Long way</li> <li>3. Encircle</li> <li>4. Benjamin (abbr.)</li> <li>5. Not used before</li> <li>8. Insinuate</li> <li>10. Church instrument</li> <li>11. Conclusion; finish</li> <li>12. Precious stone</li> <li>16. Aardvark meal</li> <li>17. Part of a circle</li> <li>18. Greek H</li> <li>19. Baseball ref</li> <li>20. Run a deficit</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

## Solutions to puzzle 295





# Reader's feedback

## Dismissal of 4 Sesheke cops for beating PF cadres

Editor, leaving criminals," - Innocent Lwando

"When Levy Mwanawasa (MHSRIP) was in charge of our beloved country's affairs, it only took the president one word to finish the so called political party violence. And this what he said; And I quote; Today I Levy Patrick Mwanawasa, I'll not defend whoever will be involved in any political party violence be it a member of my political party MMD or any other political party and I don't want carders to dance, provide security and welcome me at the airport as I have government security. After then and going forward, the country become peaceful and the rest is history!" - Wisdom Shilamba Sr

"Let's not just talk about being disappointed. We can contribute money to the police officers retired in PF interest. It will also encourage other police officers to do the right thing knowing that the people of Zambia will support them," - Mwipiko Ben

"Was this case investigated as is for many other cases? What were those Lusaka cadres doing in Sesheke?" - Mulenga P Kaoma

"Only in Zambia where good public servants are dismissed

"Very unfortunate occurrence, you don't treat fellow human beings this way. These are people with families and they were trying to carry out police work by curbing violence. Those PF carders had guns and other weapons. So what does this tell us about the top leadership," - Muyunda Kalaluka

## DIGGERS OPINION: that Chitotela's protection has put the lives of ACC investigators in danger

Editor, "This is exactly how he threatened the judges on his case for 3rd term and his doing it again with the ACC. I don't know which constitution his governing the country on," Mutinta Mulonda

"People called I be wrong to suggest that ACC drops Chitotela's cases before they can go any further? Because as the writer said we've been calling these investigative wings all sorts of names for failing to Arrest and subsequently prosecute these so called high profile cases involving ministers, the President is frustrating them because even if these case are taken to court, nothing will happen. Chitotela has already been proven innocent by the appointing authority.

"Great analysis.. its like the President wants Chitotela to "hang" himself but I guess the guy's intellect is not that high to discern, instead, he feels he is being protected," - Raphael Patali Phiri

"Well articulated, and I thought these were the times/are times when the CSOs, the Church, Opposition parties and other non-governmental organizations needed to show solidarity and support the ACC not just by the word of mouth, but by organizing peaceful demonstrations so as to show that we are a people that deserve some seriousness and say no to being subjected to such questionable decision(s) by the Head of state. But hell no, all those NGOs have either gone to bed with the ruling PF or better still scared to organize such protests. Sincerely speaking, how many times will opportunities to show our displeasure on certain decisions surpass us? We on many occasions accuse/ have accused the ACC of not doing their work accordingly, especially when it comes to big fishes, but when they try and then it backfires like the Chitotela situation, we all sit, relax and say "Nivao ivo", when in fact we are all concerned at some point. The ACC has seriously been left in vulnerability and as such, i feel this is such a time the country needed to have rose to the occasion and show solidarity/ stand with the Institution. 1. Are we ever gonna learn from South Africans on such matter? For how long shall we all have to wait upon Pilato and a few colleagues to go out there and match? the very same person many of us have painted opposition for simply trying to show displeasure. If only we saw the need, only then shall we risell!" - Allan Lungu



## Danny Pule's church sues 19 members after exchanging insults in worship wrangle

Editor "The devil has deleted all the Bible passages from Danny pule's head and installed constitution!" - Andrew Nalukui  
"If Dan Pule will enter heaven then I'm also assured of heaven." - Perk Mbewe  
"Whenever Danny Pule is on the news its for the wrong reasons." - Dennis Tyson Phiri  
"These are the churches Rev. Sumaili should first examine" - Mugala Allan  
"Dan Pule has never been serious in all of his life areas! private life, politics, spiritual life etc... Whatever he tries it fails! he needs to seriously reflect upon his life." - Chanda Emmanuel  
"Believers are dragging each other to the ungodly courts? Lol so if it was just ordinary people at no don't drag your brothers to court manje apa we shall hear all sorts of justifications." - Peter Mapalo  
"Some people think they are men and women of God, called by God himself....not knowing that they are men and women of Satan, called by Satan himself using the name of God!" - Guyson Mweemba

## Kang'ombe's declaration that his victory is a snippet of a 2021 revolution

Editor, "The change of government from PF to UPND can't be referred to as a revolution rather simply a transition(change of a few faces and names), which may not even be the case. Because once the characters in PF realize that power is slipping through their hands, they will just switch lanes. It's a matter of fact that both parties serve the same interests of business/corporations. So please don't just use these terms casually," - Eugene Mulenga

their can't debate their motive is just to use violence big ups to kangombe you an inspirational to young one," - Chris Banda

"PF Youths, take a leaf from young Kangombe and aspire for greater things in your party as well rather than being used as tools of violence by those who have already built 13 or so mansions," Mike Phiri

"Its good to have young people in the political arena unlike these freedom fighters dragging us back

**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.

Leading Zimbabwean politician Tendai Biti has been convicted of illegally declaring opposition leader Nelson Chamisa the winner of last year's disputed presidential election.

Biti was on trial for "unofficial and false declaration of results." Magistrate Gloria Takundwa fined him \$200 for the offence.

Biti, also a leading human rights lawyer, fled the

# Zimbabwe's Tendai Biti convicted

country to neighboring Zambia in August citing threats to his life. He was deported back to Zimbabwe days later and arrested for allegedly violating the electoral law.

Main opposition leader Nelson Chamisa and his party, the Movement for

Democratic Change, have rejected the election results, claiming the electoral agency rigged the vote to ensure a win for President Emmerson Mnangagwa.

Mr Biti violated electoral legislation by preempting the official announcement, and undermined the authority of

the electoral commission, a magistrate ruled.

He has not yet been sentenced.

At least six people were killed two days after the 30 July vote in clashes between security forces and opposition MDC Alliance supporters who alleged

that Mr Chamisa had been robbed of victory.

The commission declared President Emmerson Mnangagwa the winner of the election - the first since long-serving Robert Mugabe was forced to step down in 2017 under pressure from the military.

Mr Biti - a former finance minister - was at the forefront of rejecting the result, and was detained at the time after his attempt to get asylum in Zambia failed. According to the official

results, Mr Mnangagwa obtained 50.8% of the vote, compared with Mr Chamisa's 44.3%. The remaining votes went to 21 other candidates. Zimbabwe has sunk deeper into political turmoil and economic decline since the elections, the first to be held without former longtime ruler Robert Mugabe. At one time the elections were viewed by both local and the international community as key to turning the country around after decades of repression. **BBC**

## Brain function of night owls and larks differ, study suggests

The brain function of very late risers and "morning larks" during the hours of the working day is different, according to a study.

Researchers scanned the brains of night owls with a bedtime of 02:30 and a wake time of 10:15, along with early risers.

The tests - performed between 08:00 and 20:00 - found night owls had less connectivity in brain regions linked to maintaining consciousness.

They also had poorer attention, slower reactions and increased sleepiness.

Researchers said it suggested that night owls were disadvantaged by the "constraints" of the typical working day.

They called for more research to understand the health implications of night owls performing on a work or school schedule to which they are not naturally suited.

Scientists took 38 people who were either night owls or morning larks (people who went to bed just before 23:00 and woke at 06:30) and investigated their brain function at rest using magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans.

The volunteers then carried out a series of tasks at various times, from 08:00 to 20:00, and were asked to report on their levels of sleepiness.

Morning larks were least sleepy and had their fastest reaction time in the early morning tests. They were also found to perform significantly better at this time than night owls.

In contrast, night owls were least sleepy and had their fastest reaction time at 20:00, although they did not do significantly better than the larks at this time. The brain connectivity in the regions that predicted

better performance and lower sleepiness was significantly higher in larks at all time points, suggesting connectivity in late risers is impaired throughout the whole working day, researchers said.

The lead researcher, Dr Elise Facer-Childs, of the University of Birmingham's Centre for Human Brain Health, said the findings "could be partly driven by the fact that night owls tend to be compromised throughout their lives".

Dr Facer-Childs said: "Night owls during school have to get up earlier, then they go into work and they have to get up earlier, so they're constantly having to fight against their preferences and their innate rhythms."

She said there was a "critical need" to better understand how adapting to school and work times to which people are not suited, may be affecting health and productivity.

About 40-50% of the population identify as having a preference for later bedtimes and for getting up after 08:20, researchers said.

Dr Facer-Childs added: "A typical day might last from 09:00 to 17:00, but for a night owl this could result in diminished performance during the morning, lower brain connectivity in regions linked to consciousness, and increased daytime sleepiness.

"If, as a society, we could be more flexible about how we manage time, we could go a long way towards maximising productivity and minimising health risks."

Dr Facer-Childs stressed that the differences in brain connectivity are not a type of damage and are probably reversible.

There are also some limitations to the study.

The tests did not look at brain function later in the day, and it is possible that other factors not picked up on in the study, like lifestyle choices, may have affected the results.

Dr Alex Nesbitt, consultant neurologist at King's College London, who was not involved in the research, said the study added to evidence that a person's brain performance is influenced not only by the time of the day

but also their body clock.

"It is becoming increasingly clear that these factors are important when 9-to-5 routines are widely imposed on people," he added.

The authors of the study called for more research to look at whether other brain regions might be affected by being a night owl or morning lark.

The research, which also involved the University of Surrey, is published in the journal *Sleep*. **BBC**



## Dolly Parton talks 9 to 5 feminism and women in the workplace



Dolly Parton (C) sings with Katy Perry (L) and Kacey Musgraves at the 2019 Grammy Awards

Dolly Parton has said there is still "a long way to go" for women in the workplace as she addressed gender equality before the launch of *9 to 5 The Musical* in London.

The country music star said *9 to 5 The Musical*, which debuted at

the West End's Savoy Theatre on Sunday, deals with some "great, important issues" and that the show resonates with the recent #MeToo movement.

Speaking to Sky News, she said: "It's a work in progress as life itself is - especially women in

the workplace.

"So I really think that's why we're here now with the new #MeToo movement.

"It brought up the subject again with harassment in the workplace and the fact that women are still not getting the chance to do as much as they can or get paid equal for the work that they do."

Parton, who wrote the Grammy award-winning song *9 to 5* in the 70s, said she was "lucky" to have navigated a successful career but admitted to being constantly "hit on" throughout her life.

She said: "Of course I've been hit on in my life. Any young girl, would be. But a lot of that I just took as a compliment.

"I never did anything to try and get ahead in the business, I've never slept with anyone unless I wanted to."

She added that she has known "more good men in my life than bad ones" and that there are "a lot of bad women in this world too".

"I've worked with a lot of women that were b\*\*\*\*s, b\*\*\*\*y as

anyone else can be. It's just about the person, about how we treat each other with respect."

Parton said she is "proud to be a woman" but added that she thinks "like a man".

"I just think of it in terms of getting a job done."

Talking about the musical, which is making its debut 40 years after the original film, Parton said it is "going to be fun". "What's great about *9 to 5* is it makes some good points and deals with some great, important issues, but it's also very entertaining," she said.

The musical tells the story of Doralee, Violet and Judy, three workmates pushed to the limit by a sexist and egotistical boss

Based on the 1980 cult movie of the same name, it features a book by the movie's original screenwriter Patricia Resnick and music and lyrics written by Parton herself

It carries a theme of female empowerment with a predominantly female cast including Bonnie Langford, Amber Davies, Louise Redknapp and Caroline Sheen.

Despite writing songs and choosing projects that are feminist, Parton doesn't view herself as a feminist.

"I think that I just live my femininity. I mean, people say 'are you a feminist?' And I say, I don't know what that means," she said.

"I'm proud to be a woman, proud to be a woman in business, proud enough to do what I do."

But she thinks there may be a chance of a female US president coming into power in her lifetime, though she "needs to be smart".

"She needs to have the goods, she needs to have the knowledge, needs to have the backbone to be able to run a country." **Sky News**

## Lion 'rescued' from tree by firefighters

A very large cat has been rescued from a tree near a property in California after the homeowner saw it while working in the garden, officials say.

US firefighters arrived at the property in San Bernardino after the mountain lion - or cougar - was spotted perched on a branch about 50ft (15m) high.

The area was then secured and the animal was tranquilised and lowered to the ground using a harness. It was released back into the wild following an assessment by biologists.



"It is common for young mountain lions to wander outside what some would

consider normal habitat in an attempt to establish their territory," said Kevin

Brennan, a biologist with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The department's warden, Rick Fischer, said that extracting the animal would have been difficult had the firefighters not turned up within several minutes on Saturday afternoon with a ladder.

"Leaving the lion in the tree would not have been safe for the community," Mr Fischer added in a statement posted on the San Bernardino County Fire Facebook account.

**BBC**

## Keita starting to deliver on potential

Naby Keita has started to display the form that saw Liverpool part with a then-club record fee for his signature from RB Leipzig, according to Jordan Henderson.

A mix bout of injuries and poor form has seen the midfielder's qualities questioned and, thus, had found himself on the fringes of the Reds set-up. However, showings in recent weeks have seen the Guinea midfielder's stock rise; with Henderson blaming the weight of expectations at a Premier League club such as Liverpool for his initial struggles.

The Anfield outfit skipper believes the 24-year-old has started to settle on the Merseyside, and is getting to grips with Jurgen Klopp's philosophy.

"Everybody can see how good Naby is as a footballer," Henderson said.

"But as I know myself coming to Liverpool, it's

such a huge club and especially changing to the Premier League, it's tough. It takes time to adapt. "He has done really well in certain games he has played. I can see him getting used to the way we play and the manager is helping him improve. I can definitely see the potential coming out of him. "But it takes time to feel right at home, but over the last couple of games you can see the quality he gives the team and how good he is."

With Liverpool short in defence ahead of Bayern Munich's Champions League round of 16 visit on Tuesday, Henderson is one of the few options to deputise in place of the ever reliant Virgil van Dijk [suspended] in central defence.

Keita is, however, expected to continue starring in midfield - expectedly his fourth in the competition - against a familiar foe in the Bavarians. *Goal.com*



# Mbappe only behind Messi & Ronaldo and can be 'the next genuine superstar in football' - Lizarazu

Kylian Mbappe only sits behind Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo in the global pecking order, says Bixente Lizarazu, with the Paris Saint-Germain forward boasting the potential to be "the next genuine superstar in football".

At just 20 years of age, one of the most exciting talents on the planet has already collected two Ligue 1 titles and helped France to World Cup glory.

Big things are expected of Mbappe, who continues to shine for club and country, with his name expected to figure prominently in Ballon d'Or votes of the future.

If he does scale those heights, then he will be following in the illustrious footsteps of global icons currently turning out for Barcelona and Juventus.

Lizarazu, a World Cup winner himself with France in 1998, believes Mbappe is destined for the top, telling Goal at the Bayern Youth Cup in Delhi: "Yes, I think he can be the next genuine superstar in football and I think he already is one."

"He is the best young footballer in the world and after Ronaldo and Messi, there is no reason why he cannot become the best in the world."

Mbappe starred for France as Les Bleus captured a second



world crown at Russia 2018 - 20 years after Lizarazu and Co had landed a first on home soil. More is expected of a golden generation which also includes the likes of Paul Pogba and Antoine Griezmann, with Dider Deschamps having turned struggles of the recent past into a distant memory. If

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Asked to compare the class of 2018 with that of 1998, Lizarazu said: "I think more than anything, the spirit in the two teams was the same."

"Didier Deschamps brought the same spirit to the 2018 squad to the one we had during our time."

"This France squad did not go for the big individual names but ones who would fit in well in the system."

"Comparing both teams, I think ours was older and hence we were able to exert more control on the game."

"The 2018 squad had a lot of young players and relied more on counter-attacks."

"It was a fantastic achievement for France in Russia and I must say that Deschamps has done a brilliant job with the team."

While Lizarazu was a star turn at left-back for France during a previous era of dominance, it was at Bayern Munich that he enjoyed the greatest success at club level.

Having taken in two spells with the German giants, he is now an ambassador for the Bundesliga outfit.

The 2018-19 campaign has been a testing one for those at the Allianz Arena, but they are back in a domestic title race and readying themselves for a crunch clash with Liverpool in the Champions League.

Lizarazu said of that encounter, with the first leg of a last-16 tie due to be staged at Anfield on Tuesday: "Liverpool are in amazing form in the Premier League. They were the Champions League finalists last year and they are even stronger this year."

"I think this is the toughest test Bayern could get because I believe Liverpool are one of the three favourites for the title this season."

"They are playing very well at the moment while Bayern are not at their best currently. They have not been playing well in the league and are second, which you know is not good enough."

"So I think this will be a very exciting and difficult tie for Bayern." *Goal.com*

# Six more player join U-23 squad as Musonda prepares for Malawi test

By Abraham Kalito

Six more local players have joined the 23 squad ahead of the AfCON qualifying match against Malawi next month.

The six that have joined include Harrison Chisala and Moses Nyondo (Nkana FC) who were part of the 2017 U20 Africa Cup winning side, Biston Banda from in-form Circuit City, Ngosa Sunzu (Buildcon), Twiza Chaibela (Kabwe Warriors) and Simon Nkhata of Napsa Stars. Assistant coach Bilton Musonda

will however be without Zanaco and Zesco United players who were playing on Sunday but were expected to join later yesterday.

Speaking after the morning session at Nkoloma Stadium, Musonda said that the team had entered the final phase of preparations with the local players and had taken shape.

He said the technical bench has already identified players that are eligible to play at the 2020 Olympics in Tokyo should Zambia qualify.

"The team is slowly taking shape.

We have eliminated those that are under-23 but are not eligible for the tournament because they were born in 1996. We should have players who were born in January 1997," he said. The side seeks to emulate the 2017 U-20 side that went on to win the AfCON on home soil without a lose or draw.

Foreign based players are expected to be part of the final selection weeks before the match in Blantyre.

Zambia will take on Malawi on March 20 before meeting them again

four days later in Lusaka.

The majority of the 2017 Under-20 winning team will be the highlight of the Under-23 campaign.

The national side has been training for three weeks now in a bid to qualify for the Olympics.

The winner between Zambia and Malawi will face either Congo Brazzaville or Burundi in the final qualifying round.

Eight teams qualify for AfCON while the top three win qualify to the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.



## Boateng's house burgled

The 31-year-old was being robbed during his LaLiga debut for the Catalans with some valuables carted away.

Kevin-Prince Boateng's residence in Spain was burgled on Saturday while he was in action for Barcelona in their 1-0 win over Real Valladolid.

The Ghanaian midfielder played his first match at the Camp Nou as well as his first league match for the league leaders as Lionel Messi's effort from the spot gave the hosts a victory.

He was in action for 60 minutes before he was replaced by Luis Suarez as Ernesto Valverde's men held on to their seven-point lead at the summit of the LaLiga table.

Boateng's league debut, however, was overshadowed by an ugly incident after some thieves barged into his private residence located in Sarria district to steal his possessions.

Marca reports that jewellery, watches and cash worth over €300,000 were stolen from his house.

While police continue investigating the incident, the Sassuolo loanee will hope to make get some playing minutes when Barcelona visit Lyon for Tuesday's Uefa Champions League fixture. [Goal.com](http://Goal.com)



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