



ACC ARRESTS ZRA OFFICIALS

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
THE Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has arrested three Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) employees and one clearing agent for corruption.
And the ZRA has suspended the Tax Payer Identification number (TPIN) for Fedrol Cargo Logistics of Zambia for fuel smuggling and tax fraud.
In a statement, Wednesday, ACC corporate affairs officer Jonathan Siame identified the three officials as Topsy Sakala, Dickson Msimuko, Nasilele Isilabo, and the clearing agent Nancy Yendama. **Story page 4**

...for aiding Savenda in fraudulent deal

2021 will be Lungu's turn to petition election results, says UPND

By Mirriam Chabala
UPND deputy spokesperson Cornelius Mweetwa says if anyone will petition the 2021 elections, it will be President Edgar Lungu. **Story page 5**

Tribal divisions threatening national unity - Kasonde

By Julia Malunga
CHAPTER One Foundation says the emergence of heightened modern-day economic, political, religious and tribal divisions have resulted in increased threats to national unity.
In a statement to celebrate their one year anniversary and Unity Day, Wednesday, Chapter One Foundation executive director Linda Kasonde called on the government to develop and implement national policies that address the increasing economic, political, religious and tribal divisions. **Story page 4**



Wina's statement makes Zambia a laughing stock - CK

By Ulande Nkomesha
NATIONAL Democratic Congress (NDC) president Chishimba Kambwili says Zambia has now become a laughing stock due to the PF's continued push to remain in power.
And Choma Central UPND member of parliament Cornelius Mweetwa says Vice-President Inonge Wina failed to provide clear answers on her claim that the enactment of the Constitution

Amendment Bill 10 of 2019 would curb violence and strengthen the rule of law. **Story page 2**

Fact checkers catch Lungu napping over false road rehabilitation photo

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
PRESIDENT Edgar Lungu was yesterday forced to delete his Facebook posting and correct the record after he published a photograph of road rehabilitations works in Lagos, Nigeria, claiming they were new images of ongoing road works on the Kafue - Mazabuka Road in Southern Province.
"I am impressed with the progress report on the Kafue - Mazabuka road earmarked for..." **Story page 7**

UPND the most violent party Zambia has ever seen - Siliya

Story page 2

By Ulande Nkomesha

NATIONAL Democratic Congress (NDC) president Chishimba Kambwili says Zambia has now become a laughing stock due to the PF's continued push to remain in power.

And Choma Central UPND member of parliament Cornelius Mweetwa says Vice-President Inonge Wina failed to provide clear answers on her claim that the enactment of the Constitution Amendment Bill 10 of 2019 would curb violence and strengthen the rule of law.

Commenting on last week's Vice President Question Time where Vice-President Inonge Wina said that the discrimination on the application on the rule of law will only be dealt with when Bill 10 was enacted, Kambwili questioned the connection between Bill 10 and the upholding of the rule of law.

He added that under normal circumstances, the opposition should have walked out of Parliament after that response from Vice-President Wina.

"I think it is very unfortunate that such kind of answer can come from a Vice-President. To make matters worse, a mother of a nation who is supposed to be the custodian of the people of Zambia. Now, if a mother can say that, it is very unfortunate because it is a duty of the government to apply the law fairly with or without Bill 10. In any case, which section in Bill 10 deals with application of the law? Not even one. There are 79 articles that they want to repeal and amend and not even one talks about the application of the law. So, where is the connection? This clearly shows that whatever those PF cadres do to disrupt peace and tranquility has got the support of the powers that be. It has got the support of the (ruling) party, it has got the support of the government," said Kambwili in an interview.

"We have stooped so low that we have now become a laughing stalk just for the purpose of keeping their offices or remaining in power. We have had interruptions at radio stations, we have had

Wina's statement makes Zambia a laughing stock – Kambwili

PF cadres insulting openly, but never arrested. Then, the mother of the nation, who is supposed to give hope that, really, government is concerned about the happenings and they are doing something, comes and says, 'unless you support Bill 10...' It clearly shows you that this Bill 10 has nothing to do with cleaning up the Constitution or whatever, but it is just a tool to make PF remain in power. Indeed, Friday's (VEEP) Question Time was a dark day and it is just that Parliament now has...I don't know how I can describe it. Under normal circumstances, the opposition should have walked out immediately she gave that teasing answer."

And Mweetwa said that Vice-President Inonge Wina had run out of ideas by insinuating that the enactment of Bill 10 will enable the fair administration of the rule of law.

In a separate interview,

Mweetwa said Vice-President Wina failed to prove how Bill 10 would enhance the rule of law and clampdown on violent conduct.

"First of all, it is just that the Vice-President is a running mate, as such, she has to hold office until next term otherwise she fits to be called to resign because she has run out of ideas. You can see that she is tired. She has run out of ideas, she can no longer perform the functions of that high office. Look, when Honourable Mwiimbu asked her what provision in Bill 10 deals with violence, didn't she look out of place? She completely looked out of place and that tells you that this is a person who is performing acts of political gambling at the present moment. She was trying to play to the gallery, but it didn't work. It is fair to say that she is a true representation of what PF has become: a government that has run out of ideas, a government that

is not in touch with people," Mweetwa said.

He insisted that there were no provisions in Bill 10 that dealt with violence, adding that there were already sufficient laws and rules in the current Constitution to deal with violence.

"Bill 10 has nothing to do with acts of violence and even if the Bill had a connection to ending violence, there are sufficient laws and rules right now to deal with ending violence. We cannot continue on this path where a government sits and they are profiteering from violence. PF are profiteering from the prevalence of violence, but the sad part of it is that violence does not choose. One day, one of them may suffer an injury or one of their loved ones will have an injury or loss that will make them realise that they should have curbed violence," said Mweetwa.

"At the present moment, they are enjoying because



wherever they go, they are protected by the police. Very soon, Vice-President Wina will no longer be protected by Zambia Police, she will become an ordinary citizen. In the next nine months, she will realise that when she was Vice-

President, she should have done better to ensure the safety of all Zambians. For now, she is blind-folded by that luxury she is enjoying; by the security she is given. She needs to know that the rest of Zambians don't have the luxury that she has."

UPND the most violent party Zambia has ever seen – Siliya

By Ulande Nkomesha

GOVERNMENT has condemned the behavior of UPND cadres who jeered President Edgar Lungu during his visit to Monze District in Southern Province saying that party is the most violent in Zambia's history.

In a statement, Wednesday, Chief Government Spokesperson Dora Siliya stated that government was disappointed that the UPND cadres saw something wrong with the visit by President Lungu when he was taking development to that area.

"Government condemns in the strongest terms, the behavior of unruly and bad mannered UPND cadres, who jeered against President Edgar Lungu, on his visit to Monze to commission new housing units for the Zambia correctional Service. President Lungu is on record and at many occasions, that as President of Zambia, it is his duty to ensure all provinces access national resources for development. It was in his quest not to leave anyone behind that he was in Monze, not for the PF, his political party, but as head of state elected by majority Zambians, to oversee the development agenda on their behalf," Siliya stated.

"The Commissioned correctional service houses are an opportunity for our young Zambian men and women of various tribes including those from Southern Province and employed by the Ministry of Home Affairs, to live in good communication. How is it then, that the UPND as a party, saw something totally wrong with this visit by President Lungu and sent bad mannered cadres to jeer the President?"

She stated that UPND was the most violent party the country had ever had.

Siliya stated that the incident illuminated the type of leadership UPND president Hakainde Hichilema possessed saying it fell below the expectation of most Zambians.

"It is true that Zambia is a democracy and citizens have the right to freedom of expression and protest. However as David Young, the American Charge d' Affaires agreed with me last week, these rights have responsibilities and must be done in a respectful manner. Clearly, decent thinking citizens have agreed that the behavior of the UPND against President was not just disrespectful to the Head of State and his office, the Presidency, but also extremely illuminating of the type of leadership, Mr Hakaine Hichilema possesses, which falls far below that expected by Zambians of one who wishes to occupy the Presidency," Siliya stated.

"This is why Mr. Hichilema has chosen once again not to condemn the bad manners and violence of his party members and supporters. Government has observed that before that the UPND is the most violent party in the history of our multi party politics and has failed at every opportunity to condemn violence. This is not surprising as their raison d'etre is based on the Mapatizya formula, which is violence. We dare them now to change their record by condemning the behavior of their party cadres against President Lungu."

Siliya called upon security wings not to spare anyone found harassing citizens who were traveling through Southern Province.

"Government has received many reports from ordinary citizens afraid to go through Southern Province for fear of being attacked by bad mannered and violent UPND cadres. The government wishes to assure all Zambians that Zambia is for all citizens regardless of your tribe and as such citizens are free to move freely in their own country. We urge the security wings not to spare anyone found harassing citizens for going to our passing through Southern Province," stated Siliya.

"Once again government is cognisant of the fact that a party in government and opposition parties do not necessarily have to agree. However, that disagreement must be expressed in palatable and decent manner and must be carried out at the right place and right time. The onus is on opposition leaders to exhibit decency for their followers to follow."



Martha Zimba takes advantage of Zesco's load shedding to earn a living from selling charcoal on Lusaka's Alick Nkhata road on July 7, 2020 - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

Lusaka father sues Mpelembe School for expelling his daughter over 'weed' smoking allegations

By Zondiwe Mbewe

A LUSAKA man has sued Mpelembe Secondary School in the High Court for expelling his daughter, a Grade 11 pupil, on allegations of smoking marijuana at school.

Lazarous Tute wants an order for her immediate reinstatement to the school.

He is also seeking, among other claims, damages for defamation, humiliation and embarrassment suffered by the pupil as a result of her arbitrary withdrawal.

In a statement of claim filed in the Lusaka High Court principal registry, July 2, 2020, Tute stated that his daughter was enrolled at Mpelembe on the Coppetbelt as a Grade 11 pupil.

Tute stated that his daughter had been enrolled at the school from Grade eight and was an excellent pupil, morally, spiritually and academically without any blemish on her part.

He stated that by a letter dated February this year, the school arbitrarily purportedly withdrew the child from the school for allegedly smoking marijuana and keeping it in her locker.

Tute stated that the purported arbitrary withdrawal of his daughter was wrongful, illegal, null and void and of no legal consequence or effect whatsoever warranting the same to be rescinded forthwith.

"The alleged illegal substance, namely marijuana allegedly contained in a purse whose whereabouts and fate remain unknown currently was not brought to the attention of the plaintiff or at all the same remains a mystery to date," the claim read.

Tute stated that his daughter was disadvantaged by failure to give her an opportunity to be heard and not consulting her parents or giving her a charge sheet.

He stated that the school withdrew the pupil but that on March 6, 2020, they appealed against the said withdrawal from the school.

Tute stated that the school convened a hearing chaired by the school's principal.

He stated that on March 24, 2020, the appeal was successful and the withdrawal was rescinded.

Tute stated that his daughter was then placed on three weeks suspension and

professional counseling on the dangers of use of drugs.

He stated that his daughter accepted to be reinstated into school but demanded for the reinstatement to be completely unconditional as the offence of the alleged smoking of marijuana were never proved.

Tute, however, stated that in a dramatic and sudden turn of events, the school for no cogent or apparent reasons as opposed to addressing the pupil's demands by a letter dated April 9, 2020, reinstated the withdrawal.

He stated that the decision to withdraw his daughter from school following her demand for an apology was made in bad faith.

Tute stated that his daughter was merely a victim of circumstances at the hands of the school to punish her for no cogent.

He is now seeking an order of ex parte reparative injunction directing the school whether by itself, its agents, servants, employees or otherwise restoring the pupil in the school pending hearing and determination of the main matter.



By Sipilisiwe Ncube

THE Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has arrested three Zambia Revenue Authority (ZRA) employees and one clearing agent for corruption.

And the ZRA has suspended the Tax Payer Identification number (TPIN) for Fedrol Cargo Logistics of Zambia for fuel smuggling and tax fraud.

In a statement, Wednesday, ACC corporate affairs officer Jonathan Siame identified the three officials as Topsy Sakala, Dickson Msimuko, Nasilele Isilabo, and the clearing agent Nancy Yendama.

"The ACC has arrested three ZRA employees and one clearing agent for corruption involving abuse of authority of office, corrupt practices and fraudulent false accounting, Topsy Sakala, Dickson Msimuko, both ZRA Treasury Officers; Nasilele Isilabo, a ZRA Senior Treasury Officer and Nancy Yendama, a clearing agent have been charged with various counts ranging from corrupt practices, fraudulent false accounting, and abuse of authority of office, contrary to the laws of Zambia," Siame stated.

"Topsy Sakala, 34, of Chilenje in Lusaka has been charged with two counts of fraudulent false accounting, contrary to Section 326 Cap 87 of the laws of Zambia, two counts of abuse of authority of office by a public officer, contrary to Section 21 of the Anti-Corruption Act No. 3 of 2012, and a further two counts of corrupt practices, contrary to Section 19 of the Anti-Corruption Act No. 3 of 2012."

Siame revealed that on

ACC nabs 3 ZRA employees for corruption

dates unknown, but between January 1, 2019, and April 15, 2020, in Lusaka, Sakala, being a public officer, whilst acting together with others unknown received bribes of K21,000 and K100,000 on separate occasions in order to generate false Automated System for Customs Data (Asycuda) receipts for Simudi Enterprises and Savenda Management Services Limited.

Siame added that Dickson Msimuko, aged 39, of Emmasdale in Lusaka had been charged with two counts of abuse of authority of office by a public officer, and two counts of corrupt practices.

"Details in the matter are that Msimuko, being a public officer, on unknown dates, but between 1st January, 2019, and 21st April, 2020 in Lusaka, whilst acting with others unknown, abused the authority of his office and received bribes of K100,000 and K1,500 on separate occasions from agents in order to facilitate generation of a false Asycuda receipts for Savenda Management Services Limited and an unknown company," Siame narrated.

He added that Isilabo, aged 43, of Obama area in Lusaka, had been charged with four counts of corrupt practices and one count of fraudulent false accounting.

"Details of the offence are that on unknown dates, but between 1st January, 2019, and 21st April, 2020 in Lusaka, Isilabo, being a public officer, whilst acting together with others unknown, received bribes of K100,000, K12,000, K25,000, and K2,500 on separate occasions from a



ACC corporate affairs officer Jonathan Siame

named agent in order to facilitate generation of false Asycuda receipts for Savenda Management Services Limited and an unknown company. Meanwhile, Nancy Yendama, 35, of Kamwala South in Lusaka, a Director at Nameric Investments Limited and Yenamo Investments Limited, is charged with five counts of corrupt practices, contrary to Section 19 of the Anti-Corruption Act No. 3 of 2012," he added.

"Details are that on unknown dates, but between 1st January, 2018, and 20th April, 2020 in

Lusaka, Yendama, being a businessperson, whilst acting together with others unknown paid bribes of K104,730, K12,500, K25,000, and K2,500 on separate occasions to the aforementioned ZRA Treasury Officers in order to facilitate generation of false Asycuda receipts for Savenda Management Services Limited. She further paid a bribe of K10,000 to a named ZRA officer in order for him to facilitate the release of an impounded truck. The suspects have since been released on bond and are due to appear in court soon."

Meanwhile, ZRA corporate affairs manager Topsy Sikalinda announced in a separate statement that the Commission had suspended a clearing agent Fedrol Cargo Logistics' TPIN, which allegedly declared one truck of fuel worth K1 million as transit fuel when in fact not.

"The trucks were declared as transit cargo to DRC by Fedrol Cargo Logistics, a Zambian clearing agent. One of the trucks carrying fuel worth over K1 million was being monitored to appreciate and understand how exactly the scam was happening. The

alert ZRA officials had to wait for the truck to start offloading the consignment in the light industrial area for them to impound and document the evidence. This consignment was declared as transit fuel going to Congo DRC, but was offloaded in Zambia without paying any taxes. The Authority has further decided to suspend the TPIN for the clearing company," Sikalinda disclosed.

And he added that the Commission also impounded three trucks at Makeni Enforcement Centre for fuel smuggling.

"The ZRA is closing in on fuel smuggling scams that have already resulted in three trucks being impounded at the ZRA Makeni Enforcement Centre. The Authority is aware of transit fraud that is currently happening and warns all people involved that the long arm of the law will soon catch up with them! We are monitoring the situation and gathering all the evidence to ensure that prosecution in the courts of law is fully successful. The Authority is exploring a partnership with Congo to ensure that information exchange is done on all transits," stated Sikalinda.

Tribal divisions threatening national unity – Kasonde

By Julia Malunga

CHAPTER One Foundation says the emergence of heightened modern-day economic, political, religious and tribal divisions have resulted in increased threats to national unity.

In a statement to celebrate their one year anniversary

and Unity Day, Wednesday, Chapter One Foundation executive director Linda Kasonde called on the government to develop and implement national policies that address the increasing economic, political, religious and tribal divisions.

"Since President Kenneth Kaunda's famous proclamation 'One Zambia, One Nation,' created to signify the importance of Heroes Day and Unity Day, Zambian leaders have continued to stress that the unity and collaboration of the diverse Zambian people led to Zambia's independence thus the spirit of unity must be maintained to not only honour those that fought for a free Zambia but also ensure that the vision for a free and peaceful Zambia is maintained. Though Zambia continues to maintain relatively high levels of peace since its independence, the emergence of heightened modern-day economic, political, religious and tribal divisions has resulted in increased threats to national unity, giving the commemorations of Heroes Day and Unity Day more importance than ever before," Kasonde stated.

"Given the polarisation seen in recent years, Chapter One Foundation recognises that the definition of 'heroes' has expanded beyond those who fought for Zambia's Independence and now includes people from all walks of life who contribute to the nation's advancement and the protection of our unity. Chapter One Foundation calls on the government to develop and implement national policies that address the increasing economic, political, religious and tribal divisions. We encourage all stakeholders

to reflect on the roles they can play towards enhancing the peace and unity enjoyed thus far in order to promote inclusive multi-sectoral strategies that will address the economic, social, political and environmental triggers of Zambia's civil disunity."

Kasonde commended the government for its contribution towards the growth and protection of the country.

"In addition to these measures, Chapter One Foundation would like to call on the government to further promote unity through collaborating with people across the political divide, as the State plays an important role in continuously showcasing the unity agenda to the public. Chapter one remains committed to working with the government and other stakeholders in efforts to address the concerns highlighted. Chapter One Foundation commends the Zambian people, the government and other stakeholders that have contributed towards the growth and protection of our beloved Zambia and the preservation of unity thus far. We urge all stakeholders to continue to promote our nation's motto of One Zambia, One Nation," she stated.

Kasonde said since inception, the Foundation had raised awareness on the impact of Bill 10 on the nation's governance among other things.

"Chapter One Foundation officially opened its doors on 8th July 2019 with the mandate to promote and protect human rights, human rights defenders, constitutionalism and the rule of law in Zambia primarily through strategic

litigation, advocacy and civic education in a sustainable manner. With the overarching objective to uphold and defend the Constitution and the rights included in it and by so doing, free the space for Zambians to fully participate in the democratic governance of the country, Chapter One Foundation was named after Chapter One of the Laws of Zambia which contains the Constitution. In our first year, Chapter One Foundation has facilitated and provided human rights training for human rights defenders and civil society and raised awareness on the impact of Bill 10 on the nation's governance and democracy alongside making submissions to the National Assembly on the impact of African Peer-Review Mechanism in Zambia," stated Kasonde.

"Additionally, Chapter One Foundation built partnerships with human rights organizations and national institutions in order to advance its objectives. In celebration of our first anniversary, which falls shortly after Heroes and Unity Day, Chapter One Foundation recognizes the efforts of various individuals in Zambian society who have contributed to the promotion and protection of human rights, constitutionalism, the rule of law and social justice in Zambia. Celebrated annually on the first Monday and Tuesday of July, Heroes and Unity Day are holidays that were created by the nation's forebearers to honour those who fought in the struggle for freedom and encourage unity following Independence amongst the 70-plus ethnic groups that represent the Zambian people, as a means of fostering long-term solidarity."

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By Sipilisiwe Ncube

PRESIDENT Edgar Lungu must be ashamed to call himself Zambia's leader when he is allowing his corruption-accused Minister of Health Dr Chitalu Chilufya to be attending court sessions in government vehicles, says UPND secretary general Stephen Katuka.

And Katuka says President Lungu cannot act appropriately on Dr Chilufya because he also has crimes on his own shoulders.

In an interview, Katuka insisted that the right thing to do was for Dr Chilufya to step aside.

"Our appeal is for government to ask Chilufya to

Lungu can't fire Chilufya because he's got crimes on his own shoulders – Katuka

step aside. Even Chilufya, as a person, if he has some integrity, he is an educated person, a doctor for that matter. But the PF is so addicted to illegalities and cadism such that even educated people in the PF behave like cadres! The moment you join the PF, you become a cadre. It's a bunch of crooks who are there to swindle government resources. So, please, bwana Edgar Lungu,

let Chilufya step aside while the investigations go on, while he is still appearing. A date for appearing in court was given, let him come to court from his home and not from a government office going to court with a government flag on a ministerial vehicle. He (Lungu) doesn't even feel embarrassed with his own Minister to appear in court with a flag and calling himself a leader?"

Katuka wondered.

"There is a provision in the law that when you are being investigated, you step aside to allow investigations to be done independently. How do you come to investigate somebody, who is still sitting in that office? Those charges are originating from his position as a Minister. By virtue of the job, that's where he committed the crime, which he is

being accused of. And you allow him to sit in that office, don't you think he will destroy evidence? Nobody is saying that he must be fired. But what everyone is saying is that, he must step aside to allow for an independent investigation."

And Katuka charged that President Lungu had failed to ask Dr Chilufya to step aside because the former equally had "sufficient crimes on his shoulders."

"When they investigate and he is cleared by the courts of law, he goes back to his position. That is what happens in any civilized society. But PF is full of illegalities. The one who is supposed to ask the other one to step aside is an accomplice in one way or another. That is why he can't do that. Bakolwe baleseka nefipato! (a monkey has those areas without hair on its buttocks and each one is laughing at the other to say, 'that one has no hair behind when he also doesn't have!')

They have the same situation and it's difficult for them to condemn the other one. He has sufficient crimes on his shoulders, too," he said.

"PF has schemes that pop up like balloons every day. Today, it is this crime, another day, it is copper, the other day it is gold, and another day, this scandal. He has refused to fire anybody and even to suspend anyone for corruption, which under normal circumstances, any civilized government should have asked that minister to step aside and allow smooth investigations until cleared by the courts of law. We have seen that happened in the previous governments, which

have been responsible. But PF is a very irresponsible government."

Katuka added that under normal circumstances, Dr Chitalu should not be paid a full salary while investigations are ongoing.

"PF is not worried about the expenditure of government. They will allow somebody to continue drawing a full salary whilst being investigated. Under the rules, if you are on suspension, pending investigations, you get half salary until you are cleared. That is saving on behalf of government. But for them, they want him to continue enjoying all the benefits. He is getting the full salary and by the time they realize that this man committed a crime and is convicted, he would have earned so much money that he was not entitled to," Katuka lamented.

But Katuka said that once UPND formed government, their administration would not allow its ministers to continue serving when they were facing corruption charges.

"This is the difference between us and the PF, and I can assure the Zambian people that when our time comes, if you have a matter before courts, as a Minister, you will have to step aside, whether you like it or not. If you are decent yourself, you will just ask for permission to step aside, but if you are indecent, like PF Ministers, the President will tell you to step aside," said Katuka.

Last week, President Lungu's Special Assistant to the President for Press and Public Relations Isaac Chipampe stated that the Head of State would not fire the embattled Health Minister just because he had been accused of corruption as Dr Chilufya was still innocent until proven otherwise.

By Mirriam Chabala

UPND deputy spokesperson Cornelius Mweetwa says if anyone will petition the 2021 elections, it will be President Edgar Lungu.

And Mweetwa says Southern Province members of parliament will write a letter of complaint to President Edgar Lungu over his tendency to tell lies about them each time he visits that area.

Mweetwa, who is also Choma Central UPND member of parliament, wondered where President Lungu got the idea that the UPND would be petitioning elections next year.

"Who tells him that UPND will be petitioning the elections next year? UPND is winning elections in 2021! Unless it is him who will be petitioning the elections, but on a serious note, it is very shocking that the President is making an initiative to go and discuss with headmen and chiefs, who don't vote in Parliament for Bill 10. Bill 10 lapsed on the 4th of June. So, any negotiation about constitutional amendments, if it is about a Bill, it should be done in Parliament. So, we are wondering how we can leave members of parliament, who are currently sitting at Parliament, and undertake to perform a journey into the province and go and lobby the chiefs. We think that, as MPs, we are generally answerable to the electorate and so, the electorate have already spoken, they don't want Bill 10 and nothing will change," Mweetwa said.

And Mweetwa expressed worry about President Lungu's tendency of maligning UPND

Lungu is the one who'll petition the 2021 polls – UPND

MPs whenever he visited Southern Province saying the area MPs were now resolved to write a complaint letter to the Head of State against propagating lies.

"The President was saying that UPND members are attacking the officers issuing NRCs, but that is a blatant lie and it is dangerous to have a President who can lie publicly without any sense of shame! If the President wasn't just doing some cheap politics by saying that, then he must have been ill-informed. But who can ill-inform him about something that doesn't exist to start with? I think that type of fiction is very dangerous and it is clear that, as usual, when President Lungu is in Southern Province, his only agenda is to talk about the UPND. He doesn't talk about why he has gone to visit the province, there is so much for him to talk about that can keep him busy, all the time having a

nightmare about the UPND. I don't even know if he sleeps at State House, it's like President Lungu is haunted by HH. I can only imagine the way President Lungu looks at HH, he looks at HH like a ghost that should haunt him such that every time he goes to sleep, he just sees a ghost hovering around written 'HH,' Mweetwa argued.

"So, we think that he can do better, and that is the only time he can focus because when the people see that he is addressing their challenges, then they will take him seriously. Otherwise, the UPND and HH are not part of the problems the people of Zambia are facing, nor are we the current solutions. The current solutions lie in the policies that the government is able to put in between now and August 12, 2020, when we go to the election and see PF out.

Talking about HH and UPND will not help."

Mweetwa said UPND MPs in Southern Province were concerned about the lies.

"We shall write a polite letter; the contents will be very clear: we shall be asking the Head of State to desist from telling lies to the nation. The office he occupies is too big to be used as a podium for lies. We know this is a government of lies, but now it's too much! However, we are not completely shocked because the President is heading a government that can receive a donation of bicycles and they don't know who has donated. So, if they can't know whether the bicycles have been donated by India or an NGO, it is demanding too much of such a government not to tell lies, but again, it doesn't have to take the President to lie," said Mweetwa.

By Ulande Nkomesha

RAINBOW Party president Wynter Kabimba says President Edgar Lungu should push an amendment to Article 128 of the Constitution, which remains a source of conflict between the Constitutional Court and the Speaker of the National Assembly.

Reacting to constitutional lawyer John Sangwa State Counsel's remarks calling for President Lungu to intervene in ConCourt-Speaker affairs was dangerous as it was giving the

Lungu can intervene in Speaker, ConCourt conflict by pushing amendment to Article 128, clarifies Kabimba

Head of State powers he did not have, Kabimba explained the nature of involvement which President Lungu could have.

"Nowhere in my statement am I alleging that the President has powers to direct either the ConCourt or the Judiciary, or the Speaker. That is not the context of my argument. That

is why I referred in my earlier statement to Bill 10, that now that Bill 10 is on the table, maybe this is the time that the Executive, the President, should take interest to deal with this matter and find a remedy to it. That is the context of my argument. So, I am not vesting powers in the President, which he doesn't have under the Constitution to direct anybody," Kabimba said in an interview.

"I am very alive to the fact that the President doesn't have those powers under the Constitution. The powers that he has is to move amendments or to introduce amendments to Article 128, which can deal with this situation. So, if you read my statement in its entirety, you actually come to appreciate the context. But if you just read it, you just pick one sentence then you get into the pitfall that John Sangwa has gotten into because, then, you are overlooking the complete context of the statement."

He insisted that Article 128 was problematic.

"I have read the statement of State Counsel John Sangwa which is a reaction to my statement on this apparent conflict. I still want to call it a conflict between the Office of the Speaker and the Office of the Constitutional Court. In my

earlier article, I referred to the President taking interest in this matter or intervening in this matter not that the President has constitutional powers to direct either the Constitutional Court or the Speaker in the discharge of their functions, but I was calling upon the Executive to correct this adversity, this oversight, which clearly comes out when you read Article 128 of Constitutional Amendment Act Number 2 of 2016, and which overlooks investing the powers in the Constitutional Court to interpret the Constitution. It overlooks the functions of the Speaker in discharging his day-to-day functions when he is making rulings relating to the points of order raised," Kabimba said.

"So, I used the word that it was clear, in my view, that when we are framing Article 128, the framers of that Article in 2016 did not take in to account the fact that the Speaker also interprets the law, including the Constitution, which John clearly in his earlier article put correctly, that as long as the Speaker has rulings confined to Parliament because they don't create a precedent."

He said the apparent conflict was neither the Speaker's nor the ConCourt's fault.

"I went further and said the

Speaker himself in the ruling makes it very clear that when he is ruling on a point of order, he doesn't sit as a court, he doesn't exercise judicial functions. So, he doesn't get into the parameter of a ConCourt in interpreting the Constitution. He makes his ruling in order to direct or respond to points of procedures raised by a point of order. There are no parties before him so he doesn't rule against one party in favour of the other party. The Speaker makes it very clear in his ruling," said Kabimba.

"So, the point that I was canvassing, and I still stick to that point is that, there is an apparent conflict here, which is not the fault of the Speaker and is no fault of the Constitutional Court, but it arrives from the framing of Article 128. So, I am not saying the Speaker is right or wrong, I am not saying the ConCourt is right or wrong; all that I am saying is that this conflict arises from the framing of Article 128, which has overlooked the fact that the Speaker performs or discharges functions, which relate to the interpretation of laws, including the Constitution when he is dealing with points of order. That cannot be made clear by the Speaker or the ConCourt, it must be made clear in the Constitution under Article 128."

MPs shouldn't shun Bill 10 debates – House of Chiefs

By Julia Malunga

HOUSE of Chiefs Chairperson senior chief Kaputa says members of parliament should debate the Constitution Amendment Bill Number 10 of 2019 to measure if the proposed piece of legislation is good or bad.

In an interview, Chief Kaputa said there was no need to stay away from debating the controversial Bill in Parliament.

"It is a good thing for people to discuss issues of governance. You don't leave them in suspense. You debate, you point out the positive and negative things about the amendments. People have different opinions based on the environment where they are coming from. I would encourage everybody who is part of that process to debate the amendments. Instead of just saying, 'it is not good' what is not good? Is it all the proposals or maybe the majority of them? We want to hear the debates because the reason we elected our members of parliament

is to be able to go and debate as lawmakers. You don't stay away from debates. For me, it is a sign of maturity for people to debate," argued chief Kaputa.

"If there are those who say, 'they don't want to talk about it,' I don't know what reasons they have. They should tell us the reason why they don't want to debate because debating does not mean you have passed the amendments. I really support the way the government came out to publish the Bill so that people are able to read and understand what is at stake. The only problem I know is that Zambians are not very good at reading. People should be able to read. Walking away is a Parliament is a right, but debating is cardinal for an MP, who has been elected to go into Parliament. Before you come to the point of saying, 'it is good, it is bad' you must debate convincingly. You cannot say, 'it is good' or 'it is bad' before the Bill has been debated."



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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS UNDER NDC

AS THE National Democratic Congress Party, we believe that Zambia is extremely behind in terms of technological advancement. In order to ensure that technology is harnessed and applied in every sector of our country, we shall implement the following:

Ensure national coverage of easily accessible internet connectivity which shall be affordable to the majority Zambians.

We shall give subsidies to Zambian companies that develop technological innovations and creations that support the growth of our economy and provides efficient ways in which government and private sector can efficiently conduct business.

We shall ENSURE that A DEPARTMENT IS CREATED in every ministry and government agencies for purposes of identifying, purchasing, developing and deployment of the latest's technologies developed by Zambians and Zambian companies.

In the same manner we have food markets, we shall sponsor and introduce TECH-MARKETS of various categories to show case and patent the technology advancements that have been engineered by

Zambians from all walks of life.

The Tech-Markets shall also ensure that buyers and sellers of these new technologies and innovations are protected through contractual agreements and legislation.

As NDC we shall introduce TECHNOLOGICAL ZONES in every province as places where ordinary citizens, companies and firms shall be exempt from taxes for entrepreneurs that are developing technological discoveries and making technological products for sale on the Zambian markets.

As NDC we shall mandate all, private schools, missionary school, church schools and other schools sponsored by NGOs to introduce a curriculum for ICT. Further all schools must ensure that from the 1ST grade and upward, a specific curriculum on information communications technology (ICT) development must be an option. These two conditions must be fulfilled before the school is registered or given a license. This includes the studying of information communications technology (ICT) development, robotics and artificial intelligence from higher education to tertiary education.

Under the NDC government, technology shall

be integrated into all fields of study at institutions of higher learning.

We shall also reduce import duties on components that are imported for the purposes of assembling classified technologically advanced products in technological zones in Zambia.

We shall exempt those establishing industries for production of components that are used in Information, communication and technology (ICT) products. Focusing on computers and micro-chip development and manufacturing.

As NDC government shall build and upgrade computer and science labs.

The NDC government shall ensure that all government workers in relevant fields of operation undergo basic ICT training courses.

NDC Government shall mandate each government ministry and department to have measurable ICT goals and targets that they intend to achieve.

These strides shall help the country in producing and deploying technological products every facets of our lives and the nation at large.

By *Miriam Chabala*

GOVERNMENT Parliamentary Chief Whip Brian Mundubile says holding a referendum just to determine the popularity of Constitution Amendment Bill Number 10 of 2019 is not tenable because it runs contrary to procedure.

Responding to calls by some opposition members of parliament that Bill 10 should be subjected to a referendum to determine its popularity, Mundubile argued that a referendum would be unprocedural.

He, however, wondered why certain stakeholders wanted to depart from the already-established laws and bring in other suggestions, insisting that Zambia was not short of laws that provided for how the Constitution should be amended.

"I find that suggestion very unusual; it's a very strange suggestion. I don't know why people want to depart from the already-established laws and bring in other suggestions. Zambia is not short of laws that provide for how a Constitution should be amended. Article 79 of the Zambian Constitution is sufficient to deal with amending of the Constitution.

Bill 10 referendum isn't feasible – Mundubile

You only bring in issues of the referendum when you want to amend Article 79 itself the Bill of Rights, as provided for by the law. So, for one to suggest that to establish whether Bill 10 is popular or not, we must go to a referendum, I think it's a very strange proposal and it is not tenable at all. It's just not tenable to go to a referendum just to find out its popularity, it's unprocedural and it's not part of the laid-down process. So, let's stick to what the law says about this," Mundubile said.

He said enactment of laws remained a preserve of the National Assembly.

"We must understand that when we talk about enactment of laws, that's a preserve of Parliament. So, in Parliament, to pass an ordinary piece of legislation, an Act of Parliament, you only need a simple majority and the assumption is that those are people's representatives. So, if the number of those that say, 'yes' is bigger than those that say, 'no', you are saying the majority of the people of Zambia have said, 'yes' because these are people's

representatives. By the same token, for the Constitution, the threshold is even higher because it goes to two-thirds majority. So, if two-thirds of MPs in Parliament support the Constitution Amendment, then that is the position. But then to put things straight, I think we have really missed the rail on the issue of Bill 10. I don't agree with the phrase to say, 'do you support or not support Bill 10?' My own opinion is that there should be no question like that because what is Bill 10? Bill 10 is a collection of proposals. So, if you are presenting a collection of 79 proposals, how possible is it that you can disagree with all these proposals and yet they came from other Zambian people?" Mundubile asked.

"So, if you ask 'do you support Bill 10?' You actually make it very difficult for the person that you are asking. Assuming out of 79 clauses, this person is opposed to 10 of them and feels very strongly against these 10, he's unlikely to say, 'yes' because of these 10. So, if you rephrase the question to say, 'how many clauses in Bill 10



are you objected to or are you supporting?' Then the debate around this issue would be different altogether. So, I think people must only competently comment on proposed clauses that affect them, not rejecting the whole Bill because the clauses contained in Bill 10 affect every one of us differently. So, the people who would want to propose on Bill 10, they should come up with counter-proposals against these proposals and be able to debate. But suggesting to go to a referendum? I think it's a shortcut way of looking at things because even if we did go for a referendum, then what?

Using what law? I think let's not be lazy, as Zambians! We should not be lazy to think, thinking comes naturally and we just have to apply ourselves a little bit more to say... And assuming we went to a referendum and then you came up with a position that those that are for Bill 10 are more, then what? You will be again on the same process."

He argued that stakeholders calling for a referendum were the same parties who had been changing goal posts since the Bill was introduced on the floor of the House.

"We all have different views

on these particular clauses. But if you get one champion saying, 'I don't like everything,' I find that unusual. You can't amend laws with a defeatist approach and if that is the way we are going to approach the Constitution-making, then it becomes difficult. So, if you look at what is provided, what we are supposed to be doing now is that political parties, those with representation in Parliament speak to the MPs; walking away is not the solution because when voting in Parliament, there is 'yes' and 'no' and there is a record as to who voted how. So, even those opposed should just go and vote and shoot down the Bill with reasons so that the Zambian people can judge for themselves," argued Mundubile.

"Otherwise, the people who are changing statements are people who committed themselves to what they didn't want in Bill 10 at first, they had come out in the open, but now, they've stopped talking. If you look at our position, we have never changed. But our friends have been shifting goal posts, which is very worrying."

Opposition should be grateful to Lungu for development- Prisons Commissioner



By Julia Malunga
ZAMBIA Correctional Service (ZCS) commissioner general Dr Chisela Chileshe says he did not say opposition parties will be barred from campaigning in detention facilities but that they should be grateful to President Edgar Lungu for his efforts to bring development.

In an interview, Dr Chileshe said if the opposition did not appreciate the developmental works, they should not have the audacity to tell people that the President had done nothing.

"The government is governed by systems and these systems are put in place constitutionally and the Head

of government is the President and he doesn't come from thin air, he comes from a party. This party puts their manifesto on the people of Zambia to vote for them or not. And so when they are doing policies, be it changing the law or amending the laws, they are there for a purpose to fulfill the manifesto that they presented to the people. When His Excellency comes to our facility, he is coming as Head of State, meaning he is an executive controller of the country. Precisely, in Monze we have a government that has responded to the people's cries within the constituencies, they needed accommodation. If you look at the accommodation, you would shed tears of how officers were living. They were living in old structures like there was a war, they were using pit latrines. Surely the members of parliament cannot have the audacity of saying thank you for creating this peaceful environment?" Dr Chileshe asked.

"Is that not development initiated by the government?

That is what I was merely saying and so arising from that, if people cannot appreciate the works that have been done, should they have courage to come and tell people to say 'this government has done nothing, this President has done nothing?' Are they going to have that courage? Because they are driving their own selfish motives and not the general populace, that is what I said. I am not saying the opposition will be barred. Not minding whether they are from the opposition or the government, they need to appreciate. I was saying the party that is governing is PF and they are the ones who have done the manifesto and running the government."

Dr Chileshe said he would also respect the opposition if they came into power.

"Even them when they come in power, it will be the same. Would they be safe if other people [would] just be shooting them when they are making policies? Would they govern the country? It just follows that if people are in

government, you respect them and you keep on reminding them on the roads they haven't done, the schools they haven't built, that is what you do as an opposition, you remind them," said Dr Chileshe.

Dr Chileshe was reacting to widespread criticism over remarks he made in Monze recently.

He said he would do whatever it took to help President Lungu and the government.

"If there are people in Southern regions here who have a negative attitude and not seeing the works that your government has done and they are able to see vividly with their eyes and they are able to hear what you have done and they are unable to attend to this important function, I would close the house in which they enter. Because they are not representing the people of Monze but they are representing themselves and this can be seen by what has been transformed. We are talking about Livingstone where you are constructing

the first ever female prison, we are talking about Katombora where the renovations have been done. We are talking the same Monze where we are told is the household for some people," said Dr Chileshe.

"And they can see what is there and I wonder what they would do when you come to open such a huge investment. This is what we have seen by the so called politicians that even if you see development coming in your area, you are unable to appreciate. What type of hatred is that? And that is the reason why, your Excellency, my officers who are in uniform and trained to be loyal have been directed that we will never entertain anyone to enter in this facility if they are unable to support you... We have moved from prisons to correctional facilities. A directive to our officers is that we must pay back by working hard. We can only say thank you and we will do what we can to help your leadership. We will do what we can to help your party. We will do what we can to help your government."

Fact checkers catch Lungu napping over false road rehabilitation photo

By Sipilisiwe N'cube

President Edgar Lungu was yesterday forced to delete his Facebook posting and correct the record after he published a photograph of road rehabilitations works in Lagos, Nigeria, claiming they were new images of ongoing road works on the Kafue - Mazabuka Road in Southern Province.

"I am impressed with the progress report on the Kafue - Mazabuka road earmarked for completion by October 2020. My Government was called all sorts of names because this road had been in a deplorable state for many years. We listened and committed to work on it," stated President Lungu.

But netizens took only a few minutes to fact-check the claim and prove it wrong.

Singer Roberto tweeted the same images with a 2019 headline from Nigeria: "Maybe it was an upload error", he said.

But other social media users wondered what the image was doing in the photo gallery of the President's phone if it was published by mistake.

Another follower asked if the progress report which the President received from RDA on the Kafue - Mazabuka Road works contained the false images from Nigeria.

"Those are the roads to be proud of, look at the thickness, stop stealing images of other countries to deceive people", posted another follower.

President Lungu then issued a correction, saying the image was "erroneously attached".

"Yesterday a wrong photo was erroneously attached together with the message below. Find below the correct RDA images for the Kafue-Muzabuka road works. Thank you," stated Lungu.

Magistrate refuses to transfer of Kambwili's defamation of the President case to High Court

By Zondiwe Mbewe

LUSAKA Chief Resident Magistrate Lameck Mwale has dismissed an application by NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili to have the matter where he is charged with defamation of the President referred to the High Court for constitutional reference.

Magistrate Mwale dismissed the application on grounds that it lacked merit.

In this matter, it is alleged that between August 26 and 27, last year in Lusaka, Kambwili, with intent to bring the name of the President into hatred, ridicule or contempt, published an insulting matter by word of mouth saying, "Noti ishi imbwa shabantu yaleikala fye Ku Chawama elo yamona ste ati ntandale icalo, eko baita fye kuya. Kuti washo umutengo wabunga balelwa 150 Waya? Kumona

fye abantu abika kuti wabula Kampyongo, ati Minister of Home Affairs? Kuti Chaba Chalo? Ba Kaizer Zulu. Okay, bane." Meaning: "not these people, who are like dogs who used to stay in Chawama when it saw ste decides to move all over the world, whenever it is called, it goes. Can you leave the price of mealie meal they fight K150 you go. You can even see the people he appoints. How do you appoint Kampyongo as Minister of Home Affairs? Can it be a country? Ba Kaiser Zulu. Okay, guys."

Kambwili, through his lawyer Keith Mweemba, had applied that the matter be referred to the High Court for determination on seven constitutional questions.

Kambwili wanted, among the seven questions, for the Court to determine whether or not the action

taken by the State through the police to arrest and prosecute the accused person on unclear charges, infringes the right to the protection of freedom of expression in line with Article 20 of the Constitution.

He also wanted a determination on whether or not his arrest and prosecution on the said charge is in violation of the principle of quality of arms and the right to a fair trial.

Kambwili further wanted a determination on whether or not the offense of defamation of the President in the manner it has been done under the authority of Section 69 of the penal code contravenes or infringes his rights to a fair trial.

But ruling on the application, Wednesday, Magistrate Mwale dismissed the application on grounds that it lacked merit.

He ordered that the case proceeds to trial.

"The Court is of the view that the application by the defence lacks merit and the case shall proceed into trial," ruled Magistrate Mwale.

However, after the ruling was passed, State prosecutor Charity Bauleni said the State was not ready as the witness on the stand was not available.

Kambwili's lawyers were equally not present on grounds that they were not aware of yesterday's date.

The matter comes up today for setting of dates.

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The problems our country is today facing in many sectors are a result of corruption in public procurement. As long as such opportunities exist for those in power and those connected to them to make huge amounts of money through public procurement, problems will be there in every sector. Today, the Zambian people are paying the highest prices for various goods in the region simply because of corruption in the procurement system. People are paying high prices for mealie-meal because of corruption in the procurement of fertiliser and other farming inputs that make the production of maize expensive.

In our view, this is not a problem of the people who supply these commodities to government, but it is a problem of government choosing the expensive way of providing the services using middlemen. For instance, why should the Zambian government contract private individuals to supply fertiliser when we have the Food Reserve Agency, Nitrogen Chemicals of Zambia and the Zambia National Farmers Union, among other stakeholder institutions, to supply fertiliser to our farmers at reasonable prices?

We think that the profits that these institutions would make would indeed go a long way to improve agriculture in the future because they would

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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public resources, government funds by ensuring that activities such as public procurement are done transparently and in an accountable way, are the ones who are mooting schemes to loot the Treasury through all sorts of questionable contracts. How can one be a controller, a referee, a monitor and a player at the same time?

There will be need to lift immunity and pave way for arrests, prosecutions

eventually pass on the benefits to our farmers and to the consumers, a thing private individuals, briefcase suppliers will never do. Our procurement system is so riddled with control flaws such that the procurement officers themselves are the ones who seek bribes from the suppliers.

The consequences of tolerating this type of corruption are not small. In the end, our industries – agriculture, transportation, mining, etc – will not compete with their counterparts in the region and indeed in the whole world because our production costs will continue to escalate, making our products too expensive. In the end, very little, if not nothing, other than copper, will be exported from this

country. It will be very difficult to curb corruption in public procurement if our laws and attitudes are not drastically altered.

Who in this country doesn't know that public procurement contracts are the main sources of kick-backs for those in government and one of the main sources of funding for the ruling party? When one looks at the road contracts, most of the tenders have gone to companies connected to those in power and the ruling party. And it is through these characters that those in power and their party fundraise.

It will not be possible to fight corruption in government if we have wrong practices that are legally and otherwise

permissible for those who work in government, for those who lead government institutions and their associates. Today, most of the public procurement contracts go to people who are public servants through their agents or associates or to those who give them commissions or kickbacks of one sort or another. It has been established that the biggest business in this country is the supply of goods and services to government.

As long as this type of business continues, corruption will not stop in this country. This is why we have everyone from president to cleaner in government trying to be a supplier of this and that to state institutions – directly or indirectly.

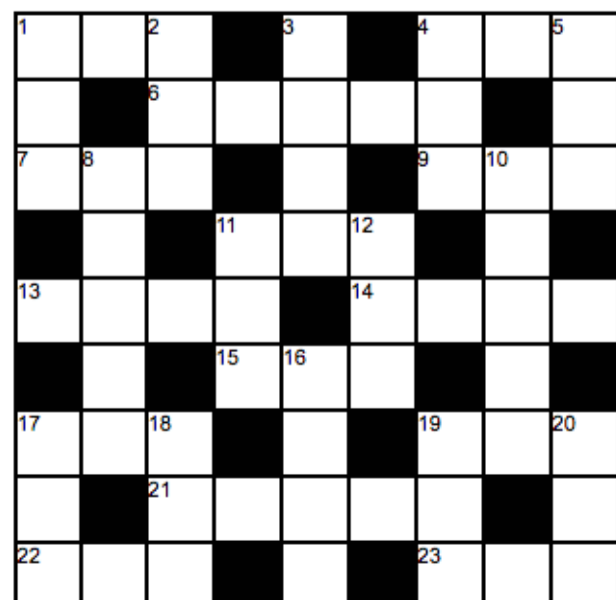
There is too much vested interest by those running government in everything that they can get money from. The public procurement system has become so inherently corrupt and serves no other better purpose than to enrich those with the appropriate control of government institutions or those with the necessary connections.

This kind of system will not help us develop a meaningful, progressive and honest interaction between government and the private sector. We cannot build a strong private sector on the threshold of such a corrupt public procurement system. There is a serious problem with any system where the people who are supposed to protect

This is what the activities of those in government insofar as public procurement is concerned amount to. This means that the planning of government activities is not consistently driven by the interests of the people but by those of the public servants who are in control of government machinery. This is surely not a recipe for governing well. It is a recipe for unbridled corruption, veritable chaos and anarchy in the country.

If this continues, at the end of the President's term of office, there will be need for presidential immunity to be lifted to pave way for arrests and prosecutions. If this continues, when the life of this government comes to an end, there will be need for another Task Force to prosecute those who are looting at will in this regime. We don't mind if they don't go to jail, but what they stole must be recovered. Their properties, built from proceeds of crime, must be forfeited to the State; there is more than the 48 houses! We want justice to prevail.

Crossword puzzle No 642



“If you don't choose responsibilities that expand freedoms, you are allowing others to intentionally limit yours.”
- Richie Norton

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Across</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commercials 4. Amount charged for a service 6. Beach item 7. Stable food 9. Not me; thee 11. Stare at 13. Bridge, or wide gap 14. Not on time 15. Make less bright 17. Affirmative vote 19. Mess up 21. Boulder 22. Faced 23. Permit | <p>Down</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shade tree 2. Pig home 3. Waver 4. Tackle box item 5. Large flightless bird 8. Submit a resume 10. Aquatic mammal 11. Conclusion; finish 12. Shade tree 16. Something to worship 17. Upper limb 18. Superlative suffix 19. Moray, e.g. 20. Spoil |
|---|---|

Crossword puzzle No 641



Readers' Feedback

'Land law permitting foreign ownership must be changed!'

Editor, them??" - Mwila Lukonde

"Woe to a country whose land belongs to foreigners, for a person without land is a slave...elo nga bami tuka, ati ba youth taba kwata umuchinshi!!! Do you even understand the LAND TENURE systems in Zambia and how we should manage

"Do you have a piece of Land in China ba Minister?" - Festus Mbewe

"What kind of government is this which has no control over the country's land, seriously?" - Chisangano Votte

"Go and try to buy land in

their countries and see the type of land law that is practiced there, you will be shocked...pity, when will we wake up?!" - Michael Ngala

"What??? Can you buy land in their countries? Shame!" - Mulenga Joseph

"These are some of the laws we have to amend". - Zed Power Matt

"There you go. No shame at all. Our children in the near future will be buying land from the foreigners in their mother land". - Enza Pule

"Clueless regime. Can she be sold land in India or China?" - Richards Mweetwa



EDITOR'S NOTE:

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Lubinda's withdrawal of the defamation case against Lukuku

Editor, He has learnt well". - Chisha Kabale

"He sensed a dangerous outcome". - Maclean Moyo Miga

"Do the same with the bill, withdraw the evil bill 10 too". - Bernard Zuze

"Couldn't prove otherwise..." - Malama CM

"So it's only government officials that are defamed in Zambia?" - Brian Ponde Mukoba

"Developed cold feet? Anyway, smart move otherwise there could have been revelations that could have weighed him down lamentably". - Jerrod Banda

"Hope Chella's complainants can do the same". - Chanda Ch

"I wonder what the real T&c are..." - Shiraz Dee Blaizé

"So does this mean that he is from Madagascar?" - Sean Saapi

"He just lost one which cost against Lifwekelo. He's learnt a lesson. He can't risk going ahead with this one against Lukuku...."

"Lubinda is not a type who easily forgives or withdraws cases, there must be something cooking, but I smell a dead rat!" - Richard Mweetwa

Miles on PF needing to up their game or risk losing 2021 election

Dear editor,

"He should have said its impossible for PF to win 2021, period". - Preston Kasempa

He's too close with the people and he is able to see and hear what people are saying and going through". - Kambole Bwalya

"Now you are talking. Your party is in need of Chishimba Kambwili's campaign antics. Maybe if you entice him with the running mate position he

might consider coming back. And by the way, Chishimba Kambwili did not leave the PF on his own accord. He was expelled. Has the PF forgiven Chishimba Kambwili and why? I don't remember Chishimba Kambwili asking for forgiveness". - Leslie Mwape Chibuye

"The mayor is very straight and simple and that's the truth". - Humphrey Mwila

"THERE IS NOTHING TO UP THE GAME, JUST CONTINUE BUILDING ROADS AND BUILDING SHOPRITE STORES ITS THE ONLY THING YOU HAVE DONE AS PF GOVERNMENT FOR PAST SEVEN YEAR'S". - Jacques Makatwe Mwewa Chisha

Zambia's escalating COVID-19 cases

Dear editor,

"It's hard to believe the statistics from Dr Chitalu Chilufya". - Akataluka Songiso

"SORRY DR WE HAVE ALREADY MOVED ON WITH GOD, COVID 19 IS OUR HISTORY NOW AND OUR PAST IS OVER". - Mwango Chanda Moses

"We're having challenges in believing whatever this guy says now". - Mubita Amukusana Dreama

"It is PF officials and cadres who are increasing this COVID19, because they have started campaigning and are gathering in large numbers". - Peter Silwimba

"If those figures were announced by someone else I would have believed not this minister of fimo fimo, this guy can't be trusted". - Sikalele Xulu

"It's only those benefiting from this whole thing who will care about those statistics". - Okwonkuo

Ahmadinejad Mwanawina

"It's because you are campaigning!!!" - Oscar Mwewa

"We heard another donation towards covid -19, so we are expecting exaggerated high number in order for the money to keep coming". - Kalumbwa Musenge

"This man takwata ama morals honestly can you even parade yourself on TV when you have cases against you and those cases boarder on your integrity, I doubt any serious donor would put money in this ministry when the person at its helm is accused of corruption". - Haggai Mandala

"Where are the testings taking place for all those records? Because i personally i never met even one health officer examining people anywhere and today we are given figures. Zambians must wake up please. Being humble to typical lies everyday". - Peace Isaad Zabian



FACEBOOK'S "vexing and heartbreaking" decisions are causing significant setbacks for civil rights, an audit commissioned by the company says.

The two-year-long review says its actions have left many activists "disheartened, frustrated and angry".

Facebook has already said it will make some - but not all - of the changes called for in the 100-page report.

The official number of advertisers boycotting Facebook over its civil-rights policy is now at nearly 1,000.

Facebook commissioned the review in May 2018, a month after founder Mark Zuckerberg faced intense questioning at a congressional hearing.

"With each success, the auditors became more

Facebook civil-rights record hammered in own review

hopeful that Facebook would develop a more coherent and positive plan of action that demonstrated, in word and deed, the company's commitment to civil rights," it says.

"Unfortunately, in our view Facebook's approach to civil rights remains too reactive and piecemeal.

"Many in the civil rights community have become disheartened, frustrated and angry after years of engagement where they

implored the company to do more to advance equality and fight discrimination, while also safeguarding free expression."

But the audit report also praises Facebook for progress in some areas, such as its improved consultations with rights groups.

Shortcomings exposed Facebook said the report was "the beginning of the journey, not the end".

"What has become increasingly clear is that we



have a long way to go," it said.

"As hard as it has been to have our shortcomings exposed by experts, it has undoubtedly been a really important process for our company."

The auditors also referenced Facebook's decision to allow a controversial post from US President Donald Trump to remain on the platform.

"When it means that powerful politicians do not have to abide by the same rules that everyone else does, a hierarchy of speech is created that privileges certain voices over less powerful voices," the report says.

It calls for: a more effective policy to tackle voter suppression that "prohibits content like the Trump voting posts" and more consistent enforcement ahead of the US presidential election at the start of November

visible" and made a consistent priority in Facebook's decision-making

Facebook to invest more in addressing "organised hate" against Muslim, Jewish people and other groups

a ban on the "praise" and "support" of the ideas underpinning white nationalism "even where the terms themselves are not used"

more concrete, specific actions to address worries about bias in the company's algorithms

"This report outlines a number of positive and consequential steps that the company has taken but at this point in history, the auditors are concerned that those gains could be obscured by the vexing and heartbreaking decisions Facebook has made that represent significant setbacks for civil rights," it adds.

Chief operating officer

Sheryl Sandberg said the audit had already had a "profound effect" on the company and Facebook had already acted on many of its recommendations.

"While we won't be making every change they call for, we will put more of their proposals into practice soon," she said.

She also noted that two years ago, the company could not have predicted the audit would be published at a time of a major advertising boycott of Facebook.

"Vitriolic hate"

Organisers of the boycott said a meeting with Facebook's senior management this week, including Ms Sandberg and Mr Zuckerberg, had been "disappointing".

"It was abundantly clear in our meeting today that Mark Zuckerberg and the Facebook team is not yet ready to address the vitriolic hate on their platform," the Stop hate for Profit group said, adding the company would not respond directly to the demands of the boycott.

And it accused Mr Zuckerberg of offering "the same old defence" society had "heard too many times before".

"Facebook wants us to accept the same old rhetoric, repackaged as a fresh response," it said.

Color of Change president Rashad Robinson also said the meeting "was a disappointment".

This audit is grim reading for Facebook.

What makes it so significant is the report looks at whether Facebook itself is driving people towards extremism.

"Facebook should do everything in its power to prevent its tools and algorithms from driving people toward self-reinforcing echo chambers of extremism," it says.

And that is not just a criticism there is nasty stuff on the platform.

It is criticism the platform itself may drive hate.

Failure to act can have dangerous and life-threatening real-world consequences, the report says.

And it will add momentum to the Facebook ads boycott that had gone a bit quiet over the past few days.

Meanwhile, it has emerged Facebook's much-lauded oversight board will not now launch until late-autumn. The board will be an independent body that can decide what kind of content can and cannot be on Facebook - with the power to overrule the company's own decisions.

When asked, the Oversight Board Administration said the tweet did not necessarily mean the start date would be after the US Presidential election on 3 November.

"There has been no change to the oversight board's timing for becoming fully operational, and we expect it to begin its work in the coming months," it told the BBC.

"No effort is being made to avoid any particular event, and the board aims to begin its work as early as possible. No exact date can be set yet as the technical and operational systems are still being set up." BBC



Street artists perform for costumers outside the Golden Lion pub in Todmorden, West Yorkshire

US Democratic challenger Joe Biden has said he will reverse President Donald Trump's move to withdraw from the World Health Organization (WHO) "on day one" if he wins November's election.

Mr Trump formally began the pull out on Tuesday after signalling the move in May. He said the WHO was under China's control during the coronavirus crisis.

The process could take at least a year.

Mr Trump currently trails Mr Biden in the race for president by a margin of more than 10 percentage points.

Analysts have urged caution in interpreting the polls, but Mr Biden's lead is far greater than that of Mr Trump's 2016 opponent Hillary Clinton at the same point in the campaign.

Many voters are concerned by the administration's handling of the pandemic and its

Biden vows to reverse Trump WHO withdrawal

economic fallout.

There have been almost three million confirmed cases of the virus in the US and more than 130,000 deaths, far more than in any other country. Meanwhile, tens of millions have lost their jobs.

What did Mr Biden and others say?

In a tweet on Tuesday evening, Mr Biden said the US was better off working within the international community on global health issues.

"Americans are safer when America is engaged in strengthening global health," he said.

"On my first day as President, I will rejoin the @WHO and restore our leadership on the world stage."

Democrats in Congress confirmed that the legislature had been notified of the

president's decision.

Robert Menendez, the leading Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, wrote on Twitter: "Congress received notification that POTUS officially withdrew the US from the WHO in the midst of a pandemic.

"It leaves Americans sick and America alone."

China also deplored Mr Trump's move, saying it would hit poorer countries hardest.

"This decision of the United States undermines international efforts and will have grave implications - especially for the developing countries that urgently need international support," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian.

"We urge the United States to fulfil its international

responsibilities and obligations and to show the responsibility of a big country."

What led to this move?

Explaining the decision, a senior US administration official told CBS News that Washington had detailed the reforms that it wanted the WHO to make and engaged with it directly, but that the WHO had refused to act.

"Because they have failed to make the requested and greatly needed reforms, we will be today terminating our relationship," the official was quoted as saying.

Mr Trump first announced in April that he was going to halt US funding for the WHO unless it undertook "substantive improvements" within 30 days.

Then in late May he said the US "will be terminating our relationship with the World Health Organization and directing those funds" to other global public health charities.

"The world is now suffering as a result of the malfesance of the Chinese government," he said, adding that China had "instigated a global pandemic".

The president accused China of pressuring the WHO to "mislead the world" about the virus, without giving evidence for his allegations.

"China has total control over the World Health Organization," the president said

What will the consequences be?

The US is the global health agency's largest single contributor, providing more than \$400m (£324m; €360m) in 2019, around 15% of its total budget.

Under a Congress resolution in 1948, the US can withdraw but must give a year's notice and should pay outstanding fees, although it is unclear where Mr Trump stands on that.

The withdrawal will call into question the WHO's financial viability and the future of its many programmes promoting healthcare and tackling disease.

Other countries, including Germany and the UK, have said they have no intention of withdrawing funding from the WHO, which is coordinating a global initiative to develop a vaccine against Covid-19.

What is the WHO - and who funds it?

Founded in 1948 and based in Geneva, Switzerland, it is the UN agency responsible for global public health

Has 194 member states, and aims to "promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable"

Involved in vaccination campaigns, health emergencies and supporting countries in primary care

Funded by a combination of members' fees based on wealth and population and voluntary contributions BBC



Mr Biden has a healthy lead in the polls, with just four months to go till the election

Jorginho acknowledges Chelsea exit 'rumours'

JORGINHO has acknowledged the rumours of his impending Chelsea exit, but insists he is completely "focused" on helping the team finish the season strongly.

The Blues signed the Italy international from Napoli for an initial fee of £50 million (\$63m) in

the summer of 2018, as the midfielder followed his former head coach Maurizio Sarri to Stamford Bridge.

The 28-year-old quickly adapted to the intensity of Premier League football, and helped the Blues secure a third-place finish while also making a big

contribution during their run to Europa League glory last season.

Sarri returned to Italy to take the top job at Juventus at the end of the campaign, but Jorginho retained a place in Chelsea's starting line-up under the 61-year-old's successor Frank Lampard.

The former Napoli star has taken in 38 appearances in all competitions this term, helping Lampard's men move into contention for a top-four finish and reach the latter stages of both the FA Cup and Champions League.

However, he has only featured once for the Blues since March, having slipped down the squad pecking order since the resumption of the season on June 17.

Jorginho's solitary outing came as a second-half substitute during Chelsea's 3-2 win over Crystal Palace on Tuesday, with Lampard explaining pre-match that his decision to pick Billy Gilmour over the Italy international was purely tactical.

Sarri is reportedly eager to reunite with Jorginho at Juve when the summer transfer window opens, but the experienced playmaker insists that he hasn't been in contact with anyone over a potential move away from west London.

The Chelsea star told the club's official website after the victory at Selhurst Park: "I just have to stay focused on when the team needs me.

"There have been rumours but I haven't heard anything, I am just focusing on finishing the season well with Chelsea and qualifying for the Champions League."

Olivier Giroud, Christian Pulisic and Tammy Abraham grabbed the goals for the Blues against a spirited Palace side, who very nearly earned a point after a dramatic late siege on Kepa Arrizabalaga's net. **GOAL**



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Patson keeps hopes high

By Abraham Kalito

RED BULL Salzburg striker Patson Daka says he has had a fruitful 2019/2020 season and is looking forward to achieving more.

Daka, whose performance has mesmerized several fans around the world during the campaign, said the just-ended season is a stepping stone towards a brighter future.

"It means that people are recognising my efforts. I'm just humbled to be recognised so whatever comes, all glory belongs to God. But I think it's something that I deserve, it hasn't come by mistake. It was a great season for me personally, it has been a season to remember and it has just been a breakthrough season for me. I think I have done a lot of things right and there are still a lot of things that I have to work on so I think it has been a great stepping stone for the future," Daka said.

On missing out on the Golden Boot, he says he will work harder to win the accolade in the coming seasons.

"It was a disappointment but the winners deserve it. I just have to work on the next one. When I lost my father in 2012, I was very young and from that time, I have been carrying huge responsibility, so I don't see anything that is going to distract me. I will try to utilise this time to work as hard as I can to make sure that I stay in shape and I don't get off track. I currently have a running contract which I respect and its until 2024 so my focus is always on my current club and because I know what I do at that club will determine my future so we will see what will happen," said Daka.

FIFA ultimatum puts us in a tricky situation - FAZ

By Abraham Kalito

FOOTBALL Association of Zambia (FAZ) general secretary Adrian Kashala says the association has found it very tricky to normalise disputes involving the federation because the same matters are before FIFA, Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) and the local courts.

And Kashala says the association has been on the receiving end of court orders, saying it has never been in their interest to resolve matters in the courts of law.

In an interview, Kashala said FAZ would endeavor to withdraw from the courts of law and deal with all disputes on a case by case basis.

"We don't have the mandate to reconcile everyone. Each and every aggrieved person has their own problem, situation so it's a case by case scenario. So for instance, if someone was expelled by the council, how do I come in and say 'no, allow

this person' or how is a meeting going to allow that person to be reinstated? So we don't want to breach the constitution even as we have agreed that we are open to dialogue. These people want us to negotiate outside the constitution but they come back and say 'you didn't use the constitution' and we are trying to avoid that. We will stick to the constitution even as we are going about it and besides, FIFA is coming," Kashala said.

"We are good to have these matters presented before FIFA. The challenge for us is that the same matters are in courts of law, the same matters are before CAS and the same matters are before FIFA. These are the same matters we are to deal with, it's very tricky. So all these are before FIFA and CAS and ordinary courts and FIFA is saying 'we don't want them in the courts, we will withdraw from the courts because if we are sanctioned, it's our name that will be tarnished', how are the people going to look at us? We

have a name to protect. We don't want to go down in history as the people that caused a ban even if we are on the receiving end of all of this. Some of us have actually lost out so much."

And Kashala said it has never been FAZ's desire to resolve disputes in courts of law.

"We should not be looking at fighting an individual using an institution, it shouldn't be like that. Fight an individual for his wrong and not subjecting an entire nation to fighting an individual. And the people behind that are not even members so to me, let's try and do the right thing at all times. It's a matter of following procedures. We don't dispute that other parties are contesting certain decisions but I think it must be clear and we should look at how we can progress. Going to court is not the solution because then, we fall in breach of both the FIFA and FAZ statutes. We are in court not because we want to be in court, we are in court because

we have been dragged to court, not that we take pleasure in going to courts," he said.

"Disputes are there but I think we need to take the right route in challenging whatever decisions that are there. And most of these are bordering on the elections. And what is obtaining is that people want to use non-members of FAZ and its not the first time. We had an injunction at some point when we were going round the country, a non-member was used...so it is went calculated and well managed because no paid-up member would take FAZ to ordinary courts. This is strategic. Then after that, people put the blame on FAZ. As much as we know that we have disputes, we should be able to solve them amicably."

He said the association is always open to dialogue and willing to resolve issues amicably without dragging anyone to the courts of law.

"We don't have a problem with

Mr Kazala who took us to CAS, even with the decision in Kitwe we are ok with it. Mr Kalusha Bwalya took us to CAS, I think any other person who is aggrieved, we should take the right route as opposed to issuing statements that Kamanga has stopped this person or that person. As an individual, Mr Kamanga cannot make those independent decisions to allow or disqualify anyone, no. People should show how somebody probably interfered other than making alarming statements," said Kashala.

"We have been accused that we have banned this one, we have stopped this one from contesting, but I don't know even in our normal elections if anyone would just walk in to contest in any position. There are eligibility criteria, so if that criteria is not met, then do we blame the person who is maybe presiding over elections that he has stopped someone? So there is nothing different with FAZ."

Kashala opens up on FIFA ultimatum...



Daka wins Salzburg's Player of the Year Award
Story page 11

IT'S A TRICKY SITUATION

By Abraham Kalito

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