



FINDLAY ASKS NAPSA TO BUY CHRISMAR

...pension body under pressure to pay \$18m

By Mukosha Funga

LUSAKA Businessman Valden Findlay has offered Chrismar Hotel for sale to the National Pension Scheme Authority (NAPSA), expecting a purchase price as high as US\$18 million, when the deal is approved. *Story page 10*

Kalaba, KBF, Mutati alliance tribal - Moonga

By Julia Malunga former finance minister Felix PATRIOTIC Front Lusaka Province chairman Paul Moonga says a plan to form an alliance by Democratic Party leader Harry Kalaba, Mutati and Lusaka lawyer Kelvin Bwalya Fube is a danger to society because it is founded on tribal lines. *Story page 2*



UPND president Hakainde Hichilema is welcomed by locals on his visit of rural Central Province where he donated face masks yesterday - Picture Courtesy of UPND Media Team

Trends Report will be released on August 31 - FIC
Story page 10

We're ready to participate in COVID-19 vaccine trials - MoH

Keep Listening to Byta FM
Mazabuka - Choma
bytafmchoma@gmail.com | 0966811429
First in Agriculture and Health

By Natasha Sakala
THE Ministry of Health has announced that the country has recorded 162 new cases of COVID-19 and one suspicious death in the last 24 hours, with 83 patients admitted at Levy Mwanawasa isolation centre. And the Ministry says the country is ready for vaccine trials as it has the capacity to monitor the safety and efficacy of any vaccine. Speaking during the daily update, Thursday, Minister of Health Dr Chitalu Chilufya said the Ministry had decided to open dedicated COVID-19 facilities in Solwezi and the Copperbelt following the increasing number of cases on the two areas. "Today, we have 83 patients admitted to the levy Mwanawasa covid facility, 32 of whom require oxygen support, five are in critical condition and are admitted to the intensive care unit. Another 33 patients are admitted in various parts of the country and reflecting on what we said yesterday on the Copperbelt and North Western, we have in Solwezi, seven patients who are critically..." *Story page 7*

By Ulande Nkomesha

YOUTH, Sport and Child Development Minister Emmanuel Mulenga says President Edgar Lungu is set to launch another youth empowerment programme on the Copperbelt this Saturday.

Speaking during a briefing, Thursday, Mulenga said government targeted to empower not less than 160,000 youths before December 2020.

"This coming Saturday the 15th of August 2020 His Excellency the President of Zambia will be launching a good substantial amount of money. It is going to carter for the youths and this money is actually sitting in our Ministry. This will be done on the Copperbelt on Saturday. So all youths are encouraged to follow the proceedings wherever they will be so that they know and appreciate how they are going to have access to that youth empowerment. Our target as a Ministry is to empower not less 160,000 youths before December this year," Mulenga said.

"Since the funds will be launched by His Excellency I would rather live it to His Excellency to announce the funds which will be put on the table for the youths to access. We are not looking at a specific sector or a particular kind of business which the youths should engage themselves into. Remember, we have done some empowerment before and after doing a review and

We want to empower 160,000 youths by December – Mulenga

the report was issued in 2018, 2019; the report indicated that we just impose as a ministry, projects and business ideas on the youths. So we have left it up to the youths to come up with business proposals. We need to understand that business is something that you like doing, something you enjoy doing."

He said his ministry had engaged ZAFFICO to empower youths with timber logs which were going to be used in the production of desks for sale to the Ministry of General Education.

"The other thing we have negotiated under the value added chain, we have spoken with ZAFFICO. You know that timber has become a scarce product, it is not so much available on the market and many millers are having a challenge to get timber. If youths want to get into the production of desks, it is becoming expensive for them to produce desks and during the last opening of Parliament His Excellency President of Zambia directed Minister of General Education to start buying desks from youth owned enterprises; but the youths have been failing to produce a desk

at a competitive price because the cost of timber has actually escalated," he said.

"So, what we have done is that we have agreed with ZAFFICO, they are going to give certain cubes of logs. At the moment, they have given 4,800 cubes which we are going to give to the youths. The youths are going to start harvesting these logs, that is the set of youths. Another set of youths are going to be producing timber from these logs and they are going to supply another group of youths who are going to produce desks. We have agreed with the Ministry of General Education to be buying desks from these youths. So, the market has been created already. So we are creating that environment making sure they thrive and they pay back."

Mulenga also said his ministry would sign another agreement with the Zambia National Service to empower youths with business skills and ideas.

"We have an agreement that is going to be signed on that day with Zambia National Service. Zambia National Service will take youths on board inclusive of youths who are on the streets

without any skill. Zambia National Service is actually going to take them on board and teach them skills and business ideas on how to run

any business into a profitable business. We have also agreed with financial institutions. We have brought on board banks and other financial institutions

which are going to teach these youths financial principles which they are supposed to implement in their business," said Mulenga.

Kalaba, KBF, Mutati alliance tribal - Moonga

By Julia Malunga

PATRIOTIC Front Lusaka Province chairman Paul Moonga says a plan to form an alliance by Democratic Party leader Harry Kalaba, former finance minister Felix Mutati and Lusaka lawyer Kelvin Bwalya Fube is a danger to society because it is founded on tribal lines.

On Wednesday, Kalaba had disclosed that the trio were planning to form an alliance for next year's general election.

But speaking when he called News Diggers, Thursday, Moonga said the planned alliance should be condemned as it exposed its tribal characteristics, with all three hailing from one region of the country.

"When I saw the lawyer, KBF, Mutati an accountant, Kalaba unknown CV, and all from one region that is quite dangerous in politics. So, this is called a 'member consortium' and people should always advise people, when you form a political party, they should look at themselves and what they are trying to do. But they are simply bringing tribalism in the country, which is unacceptable! When alliances are made on tribal lines, not on ideologies, this becomes a danger to our society. It is quite sad. And I am happy I congratulate News Diggers! for digging deeper, for bringing three men together to show the world this is former

minister of finance, renowned lawyer Bwalya Fube [and] Harry Kalaba, former minister of foreign affairs...Surely, if people form parties on tribal lines, not on ideologies, it is dangerous for our nation," Moonga argued.

"So, this alliance of tribalism will destroy our nation and must be condemned from inception. And I am very disappointed that the whole Fube, a lawyer as they call him, clever and intelligent, would go and join a political party or form an alliance on tribal lines, it is very dangerous! And for Kalaba, I would say when he was in an accident, sometimes, he tends not to be thinking properly. Maybe he should seek some medical attention to check whether his mental status is normal or not."

When asked why he was concerned about the alliance, Moonga insisted that he was concerned about tribalism, which reflected in how the three Bemba-speaking former Cabinet ministers assembled.

"I am not concerned about the three, I am concerned about tribalism. You can't form a whole Tonga three men forming one political party, that is nonsense! When three men come together to form a political party, that is stupid! I have no problem with it, but the combination. I am condemning tribal party politics. I have said time and again the UPND have condemned me because I

am not part of them. They think by being Tonga I should belong to the UPND. I have always said that I am not going to join a political party because of tribe," he responded.

And when further asked how it was a problem that the trio planned to work together, Moonga maintained that tribal politics should not be entertained.

"I am speaking from a psychological point of view and I am not a baby. Maybe they can cheat you, they can't cheat me. So, from the word go, they must be advised. We don't want tribal politics in Zambia. We want political parties, which have a national character because at the end of the day, we will be bringing tribalism in the country and I am scared tribalism will tear us down, mind you, it can bring wars in the country. We should at all times not entertain tribal politics in our 'one Zambia, one nation' country. I wouldn't mind if one is from there, but the three of them, this is dangerous for the nation," he replied.

When reminded that the PF secretary general Davies Mwila and his deputy Mumbi Phiri came from one region, Moonga said that the party hierarchy was ethnically diverse.

"The party hierarchy is President Edgar Lungu and Vice-President Inonge Wina that is the party hierarchy," said Moonga.

MAZHANDU COURIER SERVICES



Send and receive your goods with us at very low prices. We guarantee you good care and total security of your goods

QUICK. RELIABLE. AFFORDABLE

For Details:

+260 978 730 192

+260 962 212 157 / 977 935 580

LCC shuts illegal wine factory at Evelyn Hone College

By Zondiwe Mbewe

THE Lusaka City Council (LCC) has closed an illegal wine factory at Evelyn Hone College following a complaint from the institution's administration after it noticed a fermentation smell coming from the school canteen.

And the Council has warned all persons involved in illegal brewing and distribution of uncertified wines to stop operations before they are visited by the local authority.

According to a statement issued by LCC Public Relations Manager George Sichimba, Thursday, workers at the said wine factory at Evelyn Hone College manually packaged the wine into bottles without any protective equipment.

He disclosed that the factory was making wines with labels: Zikomo, Chibe Pakapaka, Natotela, Zambezi, Sansamukeni and Banana Wine.

"Lusaka City Council has closed an illegal wine factory at Evelyn Hone College. This follows a complaint from the institution administration after it noticed a fermentation smell coming from the school canteen. Acting on the tip, a team of LCC public health inspectors moved to the scene and found a wine factory running and all processes involved in the making and packaging of the product was being done in one place," Sichimba narrated.

"Workers at the factory manually

packaged the wine into bottles without any protective equipment and no measures were in place to allow for safe food handling. The factory was making wines labeled Zikomo, Chibe Pakapaka, Natotela, Zambezi, Sansamukeni and Banana Wine."

Sichimba stated that at the time of inspection, the owner of the factory was unable to produce any permits that allowed them to manufacture and distribute the wine, which was contrary to Liquor Licensing Act No 20 of 2011, Public Health Act Cap 295 and Food, Drug Safety Act No. 7 of 2019 of the laws of Zambia.

He added that the LCC had since seized all goods that were in the factory until investigations were concluded.

"LCC has since seized on the premise all goods that were in the factory until investigations are concluded. Thus, members of the public should be on the lookout for these products that look as innocent soft drinks, but have unknown alcohol/chemical contents in them. The local authority is, therefore, advising all institutions to take keen interest in reporting all suspicious business activities/premises to the relevant authorities," stated Sichimba, who also warned all persons involved in illegal brewing and distribution of uncertified wines to stop operations before they were visited by the local authority.

The constitutionality of the suspension of the Lusaka and Kitwe City Councils

By Joseph Chirwa

1. Conceptual Foundation

Local government simply means governance at the local level and local authority means a council and its secretariat consisting of persons appointed by the Local Government Service Commission as provided for by Article 266 of the Constitution of Zambia, Chapter 1 of the Laws of Zambia as amended by Act No. 2 of 2016 (hereinafter referred to as "the Constitution"). When we talk of local government or local authorities we usually refer to councils. The law in Zambia, under the same provision, simply states that a council includes a city, municipal or town council. Previously, a council was defined as to mean a city council, municipal council, or district council as defined under section 2 of the Local Government Act, Chapter 288 of the Laws of Zambia which stands repealed by Act No. 2 of 2019 (hereinafter referred to as the "LGA"). And Article 152 (3) of the Constitution states that there shall be a council for each local authority.

2. Historical perspective of suspension powers

The power of the Executive branch, through the Minister responsible for local government, to suspend and indeed dissolve councils has always been on our statute books. The rationale behind this power, which is practiced in most Commonwealth jurisdictions, is premised on the fact that the Executive is charged with the general power to 'execute' government policy and the need to make policies made at 'local level' by local authorities be in tandem with the overall national policy.

For avoidance of doubt Article 91 (2) of the Constitution provides that the executive authority of the State vests in the President and, subject to this Constitution, shall be exercised directly by the President or through public officers or other persons appointed by the President. By virtue of these powers and those under Article 116 the President may appoint a Member of Parliament as a Minister who is responsible, under the direction of the President, for the policy and strategic direction of a Ministry, department or other State institution, as assigned by the President. This is the genesis of ministerial power and in this regard, that of the Minister responsible for local government to discharge policy under his or her ministry.

a. Pre-2016 suspension powers

The power to suspend and dissolve councils prior to 2016 was found under section 88 of the Local Government Act, Chapter 288 of the Laws of Zambia (hereinafter referred to as the "repealed Act"). This provision gave power to the Minister to suspend or dissolve a council due to "refusal, failure or inability of a council adequately to discharge all or any of its functions" and "the Minister considers it necessary or expedient in the interest of local administration to do so". Thus, it may be noted that prior to 2016, the Minister had discretion to suspend or dissolve councils if he or she considers it necessary or expedient in the interest of local government administration but of course guided by the "refusal, failure or inability" of a council to adequately discharge all or any of its functions. In this regard, it is settled that the Minister had power to suspend or dissolve a council as the case maybe during the period 1995 to 2016.

b. Post-2016 suspension powers

It must be noted that the provisions relating to local government under the Constitution of Zambia, Chapter 1 of the Laws of Zambia as

amended by Act No. 18 of 1996 (hereinafter referred to as the "1996 Constitution") were vague and simply recognised the existence of local government system and left everything to be prescribed by an Act of Parliament. Thus, the repealed Act was enacted specifically to give life to Article 109 of the 1996 Constitution. Thus, the possibilities of Chapter 288 being in conflict with the Constitution which is the supreme law of the land were practically impossible as the 1996 constitution left everything in the hands of Parliament.

Enter 2016; an amendment to the Constitution was made by Act No. 2 of 2016 which, unlike the 1996 Constitution had comprehensive provisions on local government. Part XI of the Constitution radically changed the context of local government in Zambia in that most provisions relating to the administration of local authorities and councils in Zambia. It did so, in my view in two major ways namely: the calling for progressive devolution of councils and prohibiting interference from central government in local government operations. The other radical changes were the election of the Mayor by direct adult suffrage and the clear-cut separation of what functions of local authorities are as well as those for the national government.

This said, the LGA still maintained the powers of the Minister to suspend or dissolve councils as the case may be. Section 56 and 57 of the LGA provides for these powers and states that: 56. The Minister may, by reason of the refusal, failure or inability of a council to adequately perform all or any of its functions, by statutory order—

(a) appoint a public officer to be the Local Government Administrator for that council; and
(b) suspend all councillors of the council from performing all of their functions as councillors and empower the Local Government Administrator to discharge all the functions of the council.

(2) Any functions of the council discharged by a Local Government Administrator under subsection (1) shall be deemed to have been discharged by the council in accordance with this Act.

(3) The Local Government Administrator shall relinquish office on the lifting of the suspension.

57. (1) An order made by the Minister under section 56 shall, unless revoked, expire after ninety days of the date of making the order, except that the Minister may, in the interest of local administration, extend the order for further periods of ninety days at a time.

(2) Where the Minister revokes the order appointing the Local Government Administrator made under section 56, of the Local Government Administrator shall cease to perform the functions of the council, and the functions shall be vested and performed by the council that is constituted under Article 153(2) of the Constitution.

The above said, unless there is a pronouncement by the Constitutional Court on the constitutionality of the above sections the law is crystal clear and the failure by the Minister to apply it amounts to dereliction of duty and the President may have to remove him from office and the National Assembly may move a motion to censure that Minister in line with Article 87 of the Constitution. That said, in the absence of such court pronouncement, the Minister retains the power to suspend councils as the law provides.

3. Misconceptions that sections 56 and 57 are unconstitutional

There has been a widely held misconception that the provisions of the LGA under sections 56 and 57 are unconstitutional. To repeat what has been said above, the law is the law and must be respected unless declared unconstitutional by the Constitutional Court exercising its exclusive jurisdiction under Articles 1 (5), 67 and 128 of the Constitution. It is only when a competent court pronounces on the constitutionality or otherwise of a law that it can be called unconstitutional.

But is section 56 in conflict with Article 152 (2) of the Constitution? No, and the answer is no. Why so? Article 152 (2) provides that "the national Government and the provincial administration shall not interfere with or compromise a local authority's ability or right to perform its functions". The operative word in this provision is "interfere". Can it be said that suspending a council for illegal land allocation and other maladministration amounts to "interference"? Interference in this sense means interruption as the framers of the constitution could not have possibly intended to allow councils to loot national resources without any checks and balances from the Executive branch which is charged with the overall national policy. Thus, the action taken by the Minister amounts to "intervention" aimed at fostering good governance in local authorities. Thus, section 56 is not in conflict with Article 152 (2) as it interventionist in nature to enhance good local governance practices. It is unthinkable to suggest that the framers of the constitution would have wanted total independence by putting councils above scrutiny. In fact, section 56 acts as a safeguard against impunity and corruption within local authorities by giving powers to the Minister to intervene when he or she considers it necessary or expedient in the interest of local government administration but of course guided by the "refusal, failure or inability" of a council to adequately discharge all or any of its functions.

4. By way of conclusion

Critics of the move by the Minister to suspend the Lusaka and Kitwe City Councils must always remember to read the law and critically analyse the historical perspective, rationale as well as discern the intention of Parliament when enacting a particular law. The intention of Parliament may be discovered by examining the mischief with which that law was intended to cure among others. It cannot be said that local government, which is funded and operates within the national policies promulgated by the Executive, may operate outside the control and direction of the Executive. Decentralisation and devolution does not entail impunity and lack of accountability as well as checks and balances. Positive interference and intervention on institutions of governance is always a characteristic of democracy and good governance. To suggest that erring councils must be left alone is the opposite of those principles.

The Author is a lecturer of Local Government Law at the University of Lusaka and is the author of Essential Text on Local Government Law in Zambia (2020) and Commentary on Public Law in Zambia: Law, Politics and Governance (2020) both published by Juta and Company of South Africa. The views in this article are his and do not in any way represent those of his employer or professional bodies he may belong to.

By Ulande Nkomesha
MEDICAL expert Dr Aaron Mujajati has advised Parliament to take the necessary precautions in avoiding the spread of COVID-19 as they plan to reconvene next month.

And Dr Mujajati says there is need to increase private health facilities' participation in testing for COVID-19 to enhance the fight against the virus as it is evident that government's limited capacity has been overwhelmed.

In an interview, Dr Mujajati urged the National Assembly to consider rescheduling next month's re-opening to October or ensure that all proceedings were conducted virtually.

"For me, if they are going to meet like they way they were meeting last time, I would advise that they proceed with a lot of caution. If, indeed, Parliament must open and that it is inevitable to open and there is no other way, then let them consider meeting virtually. Let them consider a virtual meeting and I want to believe that Smart Zambia would have a solution to that. I want to believe that if they engage Smart Zambia, and I want to believe that Smart Zambia has the capacity and probably expertise to be able to make that possible that Parliament

Parley should proceed with caution as sittings resume – Mujajati

can convene in a virtual way. I feel very strongly that if it is a must and it can't not be avoided, it cannot be postponed then let them consider a virtual meeting. Especially looking at what happened within Parliament not so long ago where you had a lot of people testing positive, we also had some deaths. I would strongly advise that they proceed with caution, especially that the meeting cannot be postponed," Dr Mujajati urged.

"If it can be postponed, I would suggest that they probably wait and observe and see how the month of September will go in terms of numbers and probably convene in October. If the law does not allow, and it's something that cannot change, it's cast in stone and it is inevitable that it must happen and that Parliament cannot reschedule, let them look at the possibility of meeting virtually, because we are under very extenuating circumstances and I want to believe that there should be some provision that would allow Parliament to meet virtually. I strongly recommend

extraordinary measures. You can see COVID-19 is really spreading and for Parliament to open if it can't be avoided, let them meet virtually; if it can be avoided, let them reschedule or postpone."

And Dr Mujajati said there was need to increase private testing facilities to help in the testing of COVID-19, as evidenced by how government health facilities were overwhelmed.

"The cases are on the rise, deaths are on the rise, hospital admissions are on the rise and the capacity to test for the Ministry (of Health) and government in general is not very strong. Remember, they told us that they have a backlog of more than 2,000 tests that are not yet tested. It tells you that we are overstretched! That is why I was advocating for private sector participation in testing, let us allow more private sector facilities to participate in testing because a backlog of 2,000 tests is too much because the question you should

ask yourselves: the owners of those samples, where are they? Are there some people in that batch of 2,000, who are positive and who have continued to transmit to other people? The possibility is yes," said Dr Mujajati.

"We need to have more private sector facilities participating in testing and the reason I am advocating is that people have argued

that the private sector is expensive; the reason it is expensive is that you have only allowed two facilities to do it. If you increase the number of facilities that are testing, it would really help in reducing the price. It is simple economics: the demand is high, the supply is less, the prices will stay up. Clearly, government is overstretched, having a backlog of 2,000 is too much,

that is why I am saying, allow more private facilities to participate, allow more private labs to participate. All they need to do is to work out the guidelines and they have capacity among regulators to work out those guidelines. In terms of testing, we need to really ramp up our capacity. Leaving it to government is not a very good strategy, resources are limited because government resources are needed elsewhere. Health is not the only thing government looks after, even if we are under COVID-19, resources are limited."



Zambia police choir signs at the national church and religious bodies/State dialogue platform at Government Complex in Lusaka yesterday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

By Tenson Mkhala

National Guidance and Religious Affairs Minister Reverend Godfridah Sumaili has called on the Church to play a role in ensuring peace and unity during next year's elections.

In a speech on her behalf by permanent secretary Howard Sikwela during the church and religious bodies state dialogue platform in Lusaka, Thursday, Rev Sumaili said the church should be an anchor of peace and unity in the nation rather than cause divisions in the name of freedom of expression or association.

"The country will next year be going to the polls and people are looking to

Sumaili asks church to help ensure peace in 2021

the Church to foster peace and unity in the nation. I call upon you to play your role in ensuring peace and unity reign before, during and after elections in our Country, Zambia. The Church and religious bodies are supposed to be an anchor of peace and unity in the nation and not to divide the nation in the name of freedom of expression or association," Rev Sumaili said.

She said her Ministry had commenced dissemination of policy on national guidance and religious affairs in provinces, starting with Central Province.

"Allow me to thank everyone that participated in the drafting and launching of the policy on national guidance and religious affairs which the Ministry launched on June 30. I am pleased to inform you that the Ministry has since

commenced dissemination of the policy in Provinces starting with Central Province and is expected to roll out to the remaining Provinces soon. I want also to inform you that the department of immigration under the Ministry of Home Affairs has joined us in this meeting because of the numerous complaints that my Ministry has received from Churches and religious bodies concerning the application for VISAS for foreign clergy who come for conferences, crusades and other church functions," she said.

Meanwhile, Rev Sumaili said government valued the support and counsel which the church was offering.

"The government of President Edgar Lungu values your support and counsel in all matters of governance. It is for this reason that we are gathered to share our thoughts and discuss the best we can collectively serve the people of Zambia. This is the reason why this platform accords us an opportunity to find solutions to the problems that the nation is facing like Coronavirus," said Rev Sumaili.



Medical expert Dr Aaron Mujajati

Economy doing very well – Mwakalombe

By Daniel Chansa

PF Kitwe District Chairlady Alice Siabula yesterday complained to Copperbelt Minister Japhen Mwakalombe that the economy is bad.

But Mwakalombe stopped her in her tracks, saying everything was okay as seen from the massive infrastructure development on the province.

Last week Mopani Copper Mines demolished over 600 houses in Luyando community in Mindolo which were built illegally on the mine's land.

The affected families have been spending nights in the cold over the past weeks.

Speaking when Mwakalombe

and Nkana Member of Parliament Alexander Chiteme visited the area, Wednesday, Siabula lamented that since the houses were demolished, people had suffered, coupled with a bad economic situation in the country.

"Yes, our people have erred by building here, but we expected Mopani Copper Mines to engage us the leaders. This decision is so harsh despite our people doing the wrong thing of building here. The Mopani came with a lot of police officers in the night of demolition, and there was some confusion. People started stoning the police and the balliffs. Ba minister, we thank you for coming here. These our people are suffering. You see the economy is bad and

people here have suffered," said Siabula before she was cut short by Mwakalombe who told her that the economy was actually okay.

"Ba Chairlady, the economy is okay. It is doing very good. Look at the infrastructure development on the Copperbelt! Copperbelt has received a share of the national development, so the economy is doing well," said Mwakalombe.

And Chiteme said as soon as he recovered from COVID-19, he had to attend to the people of Luyando community.

"I had covid but after hearing what had happened here, I asked the doctors that I should come here despite having covid. If it was possible, I could be sleeping with

you people here. This has made me upset. This is unfair. Mopani Copper Mines are inhuman," said Chiteme.

Chiteme then donated K15,000 cash to help the affected families.

"I am told our Chairman (Copperbelt PF Nathan Chanda) donated K15,000 just a few days, but I am told only some few (party) individuals abused the money. Surely, even when you see people are suffering you go ahead and abuse the little?" asked Chiteme.

Later, Chiteme and Mwakalombe distributed some DMMU mealie meal, beans and Kapenta to the affected families.

DMMU has also supplied tents and food stuffs to the affected people.

By Natasha Sakala
MINISTER of Transport and Communications Mutotwe Kafwaya says PF is able to win ward by-elections in Western Province because voters appreciate the development that the ruling party has taken to the area.

And Kafwaya says the process to attract a fourth mobile service operator to emerge in the ICT sector remains ongoing under ZICTA's supervision.

Speaking when he featured on Oblete Radio Liseli in Mongu, Wednesday, Kafwaya wondered why the UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema dissolved his structures which won him parliamentary elections and replaced them with structures which were losing by-elections in their stronghold.

"I am very sure that the people in Western Province are seeing the development. Here in Western Province, we had how many by-elections? We had six by-elections, the PF won five, the UPND won one. People are seeing that PF is up to development of this country and let me take the liberty to even thank the people of Sitoya ward, that is in Limulunga; Nakanya ward here in Mongu Central; the people of Silumbu ward in Sesheke; the people of Imusho, I will never forget Imusho, I love the area, I love the place, I hope I can go back quickly; the people of Nangweshi in Sioma, for voting PF because this is a demonstration that people, now, are seeing... And I wonder what is going to happen to the structures of UPND because if you recall, HH dissolved the UPND structures here in Western Province for poor performance and he said for poor performance. I even wondered because

PF winning in W/Province because voters are seeing development – Kafwaya



Mutotwe Kafwaya

those are structures, which gave UPND all the MPs they have and he has put a new structure, which has lost how many wards at once?" Kafwaya wondered.

"They have lost five wards out of six, so is he also going to remove them? Listen, when we went to elections, Nalolo (constituency) here we had an independent; in Sioma, we had an independent, but all others it was UPND. Those are the structures, which gave him all those

MPs, but they lost a ward in Sesheke he removes them and says, 'no, these are not performing.' But now, the ones he has put have lost five out of six, I wonder what is going to happen. But we are dealing with UPND, when it comes to these issues, unpredictable UPND."

He further wondered why Choma Central UPND member of parliament Cornelius Mweetwa could call Vice-President Inonge Wina as

shallow when he did not do the same for Hichilema, who he said spreads lies all the time.

"It is in UPND where you find an MP, who is of my age telling the Vice-President, 72-year-old woman, that she is shallow, a 72-year-old woman, who is your grandmother, who is the mother of the nation, you go and say, she is shallow, 'this is a shallow woman' and the Speaker even takes the liberty to say, 'come and apologise' and my friend says, 'I can't apologise.' So, I tend to wonder, is this the same thing, is it similar to the Sakwiba Sikota story because you can't tell such an old woman that you are shallow no matter how wrong she may be. And I even wonder, that MP is from Choma Central; if HH, who always tells lies, HH cheats all the time and we say that in Lusaka, he went to a road, which he was saying, 'this road

costs K1.2 billion when the road actually just cost K1 million, can he stand up and say, 'HH is shallow,' he can't! But how attractive can it become for anyone of my age, honestly, to tell Her Honour, the Vice-President, that you are shallow?" Kafwaya asked.

And Kafwaya, who is also Lunte PF member of parliament, announced that he had ordered ZICTA to expedite the process for a fourth mobile operator to be identified and penetrate the ICT sector.

"There is need for a fourth mobile service provider, I think so without a shadow of doubt in my mind because as I said earlier, the fourth mobile provider will bring competition and when you have more competition, you have players racing

for customers and when people begin to compete for customers, they begin to improve their appearance, they start to improve everything about them so that they become the company of choice. So, when you do that, it benefits the customers, it doesn't necessarily benefit you because to improve your appearance, it's a cost, you have to spend some money on yourself to improve quality of service, these mobile network providers have to spend a little more money and that spending is for the benefit of the Zambian people. So, I personally think that this must be done, and in fact when UZZI pulled out after they failed to meet the conditions we had set when we extended the licence, I directed ZICTA to advertise so that players can compete and we get a suitable player to come and be given a licence to become the fourth mobile operator," said Kafwaya.

Mumbi must be truthful, I don't own land in Forest 27 – Mulyata

By Julia Malunga

RUFUNSA UPND member of parliament Sheal Mulyata has refuted PF deputy secretary general Mumbi Phiri's claims that she owns land in Forest Reserve Number 27.

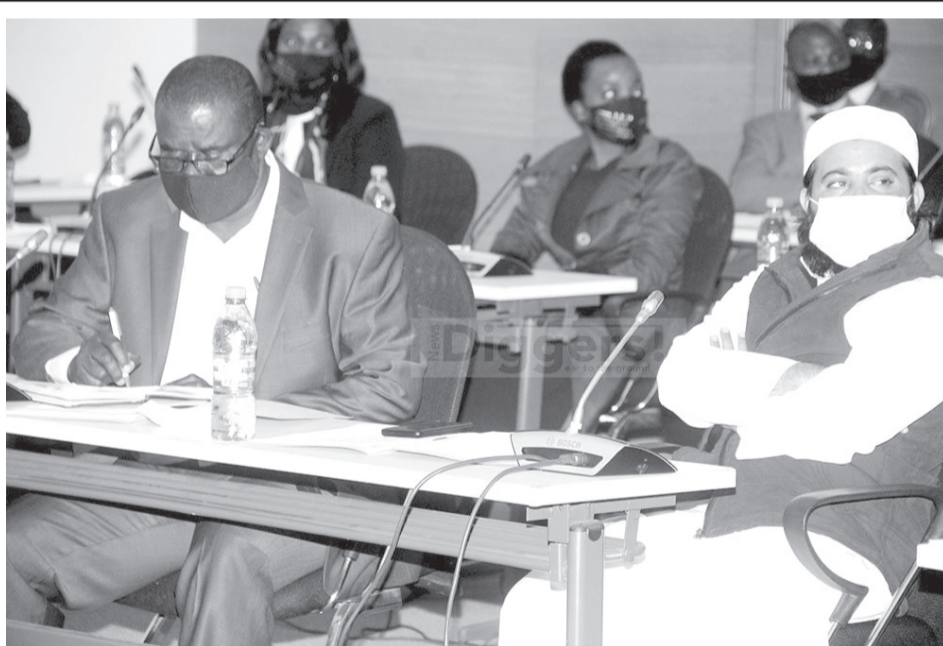
On Tuesday, Phiri urged UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema to take action against Monze UPND member of parliament Jack Mwiimbu and Mulyata for owning land in Forest 27.

But in an interview, Mulyata challenged Phiri to avail evidence that she owned any land in the Forest

reserve.

"During a radio programme on Phoenix radio, Honorable Mumbi Phiri rang in giving her opinion and contribution. In her contribution, she accused me that I also received land in Forest 27. Now, I have never been to Forest 27, I don't have a title deed there, I don't even know where it is and it is de-gazetted. How can you get land like that? I am an MP in Rufunsa where there is vast land; you can ask our council chairperson and secretary, I don't even own land in Rufunsa. I have my own land in Kasisi. So, this is very disappointing coming from a sister who is Catholic like me and she wears that cross of Jesus, which should lead her to tell the truth," said Mulyata.

"She must tell me where that title deed is that is showing that I have land at Forest 27. You can go to the Ministry of Lands and you will not find records that show that I own something there. I am very disappointed! I would like to advise her, she is a mature politician who must learn to tell the truth. Because when you wake up and tell the nation such things, you can bring a lot of problems. I urge her to clarify her information. She must learn to be peaceful so that we build Zambia. Let us not be telling lies over people who are innocent. These things are damaging and it's not nice to do that."



Lusaka Muslim Society representatives Iqram Islamic (r) and Haroon Zulu at the national church and religious bodies/State dialogue platform at Government Complex in Lusaka yesterday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

Kalengwa Mineral Processing opposes Moxico Resources' application to set aside title dispute case

By Zondiwe Mbewe

KALENGWA Mineral Processing Limited has opposed an application by Moxico Resources Zambia Limited to have the case against the latter and Euro Africa Kalengwa Mines Limited set aside for irregularity and abuse of court process.

In this matter, Kalengwa Mineral Processing Limited has dragged Moxico Resources Zambia Limited and Euro Africa Kalengwa Mines Limited to the Lusaka High Court, seeking an order that it is the title holder and vested with the surface rights to its properties known as Farm No. 31477, Farm No. 31478 and Farm No. 31479, situated in Mufumbwe District.

Moxico Resources Zambia Limited director Davies Mwanamoya had, however, asked the Court to set aside Kalengwa Mineral's writ of summons and

statement of claim for being a multiplicity and an abuse of court process.

But according to an affidavit in opposition to the affidavit in support of summons to set aside the writ of summons and statement of claim, Brenda Gama, a shareholder in Kalengwa Mineral Processing, argued that there were two different matters, bearing two different subject matters.

She stated that even assuming that the same was true (multiplicity of actions), the name Kalengwa Processing Zone Limited was not the plaintiff as it was a different entity with a different legal existence.

"This can be seen from the documents that the parties in this matter and the matter referred to by Mwanamoya in the affidavit in support of summons to set aside the writ of summons and statement of claim are different. The claims

in both matters are different as one seeks to address the tort of trespass, while the other relates to ownership and certificates of title as well as the aspect of being a bona fide purchaser," Gama stated.

She stated that the said certificates of title relate to three properties being; Farm No. 31477, Farm No. 31478 and Farm No. 31479, whereas the matter under cause number 2019/HN/186 relates to a portion known as Kalengwa area, which portion was clearly not Farm No. 31477, 31478 or 31479.

Gama further stated that there was no numbered property, which was the subject of litigation under cause number 2019/HN/186.

She stated that this matter further seeks to preserve property that sits on the surface, which property was well set out in the said process and the order of preservation granted by the court on January 27, 2020.

Gama stated that the issue of surface rights was not one of the issues to be determined in both matters, but that the subject matter was ownership and issues of trespass in the other matter under cause number 2019/HN/186.

"That be it as it may, the subject matter relates to two distinct pieces of land, one being three farm lands and the other being an area called Kalengwa area. The fact that the shareholders are similar in no way means that the company is the same, and as such, the plaintiff in this matter is not the plaintiff under cause number 2019/HN/186. Further, the plaintiff and Moxico Resources are not parties in the said action," read the affidavit.

"Essentially, these are two different matters and bearing two different subject matters. The fact that shareholders may be the same does not make the parties the same."

By Natasha Sakala

THE Ministry of Health has announced that the country has recorded 162 new cases of COVID-19 and one suspicious death in the last 24 hours, with 83 patients admitted at Levy Mwanawasa isolation centre.

And the Ministry says the country is ready for vaccine trials as it has the capacity to monitor the safety and efficacy of any vaccine.

Speaking during the daily update, Thursday, Minister of Health Dr Chitalu Chilufya said the Ministry had decided to open dedicated COVID-19 facilities in Solwezi and the Copperbelt following the increasing number of cases on the two areas.

"Today, we have 83 patients admitted to the Levy Mwanawasa covid facility, 32 of whom require oxygen support, five are in critical condition and are admitted to the intensive care unit. Another 33 patients are admitted in various parts of the country and reflecting on what we said yesterday on the Copperbelt and North Western, we have in Solwezi, seven patients who are critically ill and four are on oxygen support. We have in Kitwe eight patients who are on oxygen support. We have further decided to strengthen our clinical management on the Copperbelt and in Solwezi by opening dedicated facilities to look at the cases that are

We're ready to participate in COVID-19 vaccine trials – MoH

ballooning. And therefore, we are emphasising again the need for us to close the tap to suppress the epidemic in the community so that we do not overrun our health systems. You and I have this responsibility to stop the spread in the community. Therefore, with no deaths recorded, we still remain at 73 deaths that are due to COVID-19 with 165 covid associated deaths. That brings then the total number of deaths to 246 and in addition to the [168] recoveries that we have added today we now have 7,401 recoveries," he said.

"Zambia has recorded 162 new cases of COVID-19 out of 1,017 tests done and this brings the cumulative number of cases to 8,663. We did not record confirmed deaths to COVID-19, however, we had a suspected death of a 66-year-old male who presented with hypertension and was obese and succumbed before we finished working out this patient and results shall be released in due course, may his soul rest in peace. The 162 cases that we saw in the country in the last 24 hours reflect the wide



Minister of Health Dr Chitalu Chilufya

geographical spread. We see a case in Mporokoso, three in Mpika, 10 in Chinsali and 60 in Lusaka. We see two in Chilanga and we see six in Kasama and two in Nsama and all these cases have been found out of routine screening and hospital surveillance. Health workers continue to be at risk and four health workers were found to be covid positive."

Dr Chilufya further called on local researchers and academia to engage in research so that they can contribute to knowledge on COVID-19.

"COVID-19 is a new disease and there a number of things that we need to understand and every day we continue to invest in research, we continue to invest in various interventions in order

to understand this. Today again, we call on the academia and research specialists to engage in research for COVID-19 to adduce evidence. Zambia is rich with researchers and today we call in the academic world and the world of researchers to engage in research for COVID-19 and contribute to the body of knowledge on COVID-19. Government will provide a conducive environment for such research. This is the best way we are going to have answers to the unanswered questions. Our academic institutions and research organisations are urged to respond to this challenge and government will invest adequately to support research in this area," he said.

"Country men and women, the world is moving steadily towards establishing a COVID-19 vaccine, Zambia is not left behind we are engaged with the Africa CDC

and a group of partners to participate in vaccine trials and we are going to work closely with our partners to ensure that Zambia is not left behind."

Meanwhile, Dr Chilufya has clarified that no deaths had been recorded at Mukubeko Maximum correctional facility.

"We will update if we have any death in any jurisdiction, and at the moment, we do not have those three deaths at Mukubeko and should there be any information from there or any happenings in any part of the country, you will be informed. Let it be emphasised that the correct source, the authentic source of information on Covid, on the number of cases, deaths is the ministry of health through the Zambia National public health institute and that information is communicated on various platforms and we do release data," said Dr Chilufya.

And speaking during the same briefing, director infectious diseases Professor Lloyd Mulenga said that the country had the numbers and institutions to be able to carry

out vaccine trials.

"For vaccine trials, we are ready, we have institutions in the country which can enroll both in the public sector; like public hospitals, we have public research institutions and we have also private research Institutions, we have of course enough people. When you talk of the phase three you are talking of thousands, we are not shy of those numbers and also we have enough capacity to monitor the safety of these vaccines besides the efficacy," Prof Mulenga said.

"Now for us, I think it's important for the country to look at all these as opportunities, if there is a vaccine which meets the safety standards and also opportunities for the countries to participate, it's good for us to know if our populations are going to be protected by this vaccine as well."

He said achieving vaccination of 70 to 71 percent of the population is what would guarantee community protection from COVID-19.

"The importance of the vaccine is actually in two phases, at an individual level and also at a population level because at an individual level, if you are able to get this vaccine and protect you from acquiring the Covid, but also at the population level if we can achieve vaccination of about 70 to 71 percent then we are going to have that head in unity as a population whereby there will only be few people who will be able to get and those few people once they get, they also need to be able to cover them. So if we can reach that key point of vaccinating about 70 percent of the population then we will be able to have a community which is protected," said Prof Mulenga.

Prof Mulenga said currently, no COVID-19 vaccine had been approved by the World Health Organisation.

Financial gain

Want that opportunity, to have financial freedom? If ever there was a time to start something new, that time is NOW!

1. Do you want to earn extra income
2. Are you a person that take on a challenge.
3. Are you driven
4. Can you spend k2000 to start
5. Would you like to be part of the fastest growing Online business in 2020.
6. Do you want to know more?
7. Do you need support with this, we have it.

Then you are the person that I can help!
Call me on +260976113670 for a chat and I'll show you how.

Vinci consultancy

We can do the following on your behalf quick and efficient.

- Limited Company Formation,
- Pacra Annual Returns,
- Zra Tax online monthly returns,
- Tax waiver application,
- Zppa, NCC, EIZ and CEEC Registration.

Call us on 0977999967.

DR PWENYE

2020 YOUR PROBLEMS HAVE COME TO AN END WITH DR PWENYE WITH 50 YEARS EXPERIENCE.

Bring back lost lovers, 20 minutes ENLARGMENT, financial help. Pay after results. 0974187500

B-BACK RUB ON VIAGRA

Rabon Viagra organic

NO COMPLAIN

0979- 310 300

Bronchial & Surface Spray Sanitizer

Email: herb.tan76@gmail.com Cell: 0979-310 300

FARM SELECT
Your trusted pullets supplier

Price K95 Each

BOOKING FOR AUGUST 2020

Contacts Us:
Cell: +260 963 946368 / 0973 134216
Email: sales@farmselect.co.zm

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Mansa

- 2- bedroomed flats (4) plus bedsitter for sale, wallfenced, gated 24/7 water, price negotiable. Buy 1/2/3 or all.
-For details: 0964-147257

COUNTERFEIT DETECTOR PENS

Fake currency detector pens which detect forged notes.

- Works on forged kwacha notes only.
- Good for shops bureaus, filling stations, lodges etc. Going cheap at only K100 each. Call 0972456831

BATHTUBS

Resurfacing service for old Bathtubs Any colour Call 0977 88 62 19 Lusaka, Ndola, Kitwe

D EPUTY Inspector General of Police Bonny Kapeso says police officers should act professionally when giving out permits to political parties that want to hold events. He also says police officers who are charged with the responsibility of ensuring that they receive notifications from political parties, should be truthful to conveners and sit them down to explain what is permissible and what is not, giving clear reasons for the decision.

“It is common knowledge that everybody talks about the Public Order Act. But again, within the description of the POA, certain systems are already established by which somebody should follow in order to ensure that the POA is adhered to. People expect police officers to guide them, and that is why the POA is there. It clearly establishes the kind of procedures that we have to adopt in order for you to have a meeting. The selective application of the POA is just a general perception,” Mr Kapeso said.

We agree with Mr Kapeso when he says officers are supposed to act professionally when giving permits to political parties. We also agree with him that there is a need for law and order when political parties hold meetings.

Zambians can see through the lies of Deputy IG Kapeso

News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

Diggers! is published by NEWS DIGGERS MEDIA LTD
Temp 8, Alex Chola Road, Nyumba Yanga, Lusaka.
PO Box, 32147. Cell: 0977708285 /0965815078
Email: editor@diggers.news/mukosha@diggers.news

To advertise in the Diggers! ePaper or website:
Call +260953424603/+260967713093 or
Email: advertising@diggers.news or visit us at
Temp 8, Alex Chola Road, Nyumba Yanga, Lusaka.

But we do not agree with him when he says the selective application of the POA is just a perception. That statement is far removed from reality.

No one can argue today that policing in this country has become a big political issue because of the way the police have been behaving. We are trying to build a democracy in this country, but any progress we make is taken away by the undemocratic modus operandi of our police service. Anyone who says that the police have been professional in their application of the POA in this country gives us an idea about his political inclination.

Everybody knows that the powers that the police are given offer great temptations for abuse on behalf of the authorities

controlling them. We say this because law enforcement requires a delicate balancing act. The conflicts between liberty and enforcing order receive their purest expression in considerations of democratic policing.

What Zambia needs is a police service that is subject to the rule of law, embodying values respectful of human dignity, rather than the wishes of the President and his political party. We also need a police service that can intervene in the lives of citizens only under limited and carefully controlled circumstances and is publicly accountable. These conditions must be inherent to police in a country that wants to be seen as a democracy. Police are an important factor in building a democracy. And its importance increases with the

diversity and size of a society.

It is ironic that police are both a major support system and a major threat to democratic society. When police operate under the rule of law, they can protect democracy by their own example of respect for the law and by suppressing crime. Police must be moral, as well as legal, actors.

We are concerned that the powers vested in the police regarding the application of the POA are slowly building towards the rise of a dictatorial and tyrannical regime. Powerful interest groups are riding on the police to abuse the POA for their own selfish interests. In collusion with the political elites, these people are turning political dissent into a crime. Today, ruling

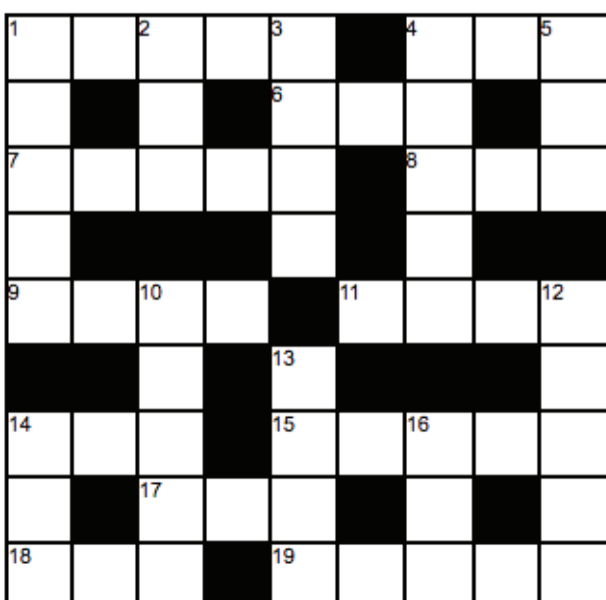
party cadres seem to be part of the police while the police chief himself is seen to be a cadre of the ruling party through his conduct.

Police powers cannot be subverted in this way; they cannot be used in this way. Police powers should be used according to the rule of law and not according to the whims of the President or the Inspector General of Police. The police, as the arm of the state's power, must be used in a restrained fashion and proportional to the problem at hand. We want to return to a time when citizens would accept police authority out of respect rather than out of intimidation. A professional police service is defined by both its means and its ends. Some means are simply too abhorrent and must be prohibited under any circumstances.

We should never allow our police to be a law unto themselves. In spite of strong pressures and temptations to the contrary, they should never be allowed to act in an explicitly political fashion such as disrupting the activities of groups they disagree with or failing to enforce the law against groups they support.

Mr Kapeso is trying to sound professional when he talks about the actions of his men and women in uniform, but he knows himself that he is not being honest. He knows that there is no fairness in the manner police handle political cases in this country. If we may ask him today, if someone went to report to the police that a group of PF supporters were holding a meeting at a named farm in the outskirts of Lusaka, and they were televising their meeting on Facebook, what would be his directives? Would he send officers to go and arrest the group? Would he even tolerate such a report? Zambians may be docile, but they are not foolish!

Crossword puzzle No 668



“Attitude is a choice. Happiness is a choice. Optimism is a choice. Kindness is a choice. Giving is a choice. Respect is a choice. Whatever choice you make makes you. Choose wisely.”
- Roy T. Bennett

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>Across</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supply party food 4. Unhappy 6. Perform a role 7. All inclusive word 8. Do sums 9. Nuisance 11. Brown seaweed 14. Also 15. Heart or brain, e.g. 17. Unused 18. Solitary 19. Junction points | <p>Down</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inch along 2. Worn around the neck 3. Mantas 4. Out of practice 5. Pop 10. Boulder 12. Trousers 13. Bridal attire 14. A pair 16. Zeus or Apollo |
|--|--|

Crossword puzzle No 667



Readers' feedback

'Govt's K750 fine for failing to wear mask excessive!'

Editor

The same government that failed to procure masks worth K5 to its citizens now demanding K750 from poor Zambians..... Seer 1 was right Zambia is no longer a country but a big JOKE! - Wesley Curtis Tembo

Corruption; the police will be asking Citizens pay k750, to jail or I give Me a k100 you go free? #Fines are not suppose to be exorbitant but reasonable especially in the Economic situation where bena Lusambo are ministers. - Richard Mhango

It is too early to start keeping offenders at stadium. Next year we expect many PF cadres to be jailed. Build additional prisons please - Mavu Sakalunda

madam Ester katongo we all value our health,did you take any action on chilanga mp who was seen distributing cooking oil for residents?your police service has no powers to handle politicians you see gathering crowds and campaigning when its not time to do so,we know you operate on commands and orders but be professional - Aggrey Mayumbelo

Using which law? The IG must remove Esther Kaongolo as Police spokesperson, last time she spoke openly in support of police brutality to innocent civilians. Today she's again in support of breaking the law? - Phillip Mwanza

Institutionalized

'Kalaba, Mutati-KBF pact useless!'

Dear Editor

If it was HH... NG'ANDU MAGANDE and GARY NKOMBO forming a pact we would have seen screaming headlines of them being tribalists and being selfish but since its the Bembas it's OK. Now I will wait for who will lead this pact so that I can confirm how shallow Harry Kalaba and KBF are because they refused to be in a pact with any other opposition Political parties because they don't want to escort Leaders to Power - Emmalito Lias

Useless alliance. People of the same Kind forming an alliance that will not yield. Alliances are met to bring different energies together for a common goal.. Miyanda Laiti

They will share votes with PF in the northern region. UPND and PF will share votes in Lsk, Copperbelt and Western. Southern is for UPND. I see a rerun in 2021. None of them will manage 50+1. - Emmanuel Kalota Kivike

It's fine,let them split the the votes in Northern,Luapula and Muchinga province,its their democratic right to do what they have decided,nevertheless the only pact I see working is that of UPND and NDC,to be honest they are very few politicians who can campaign like Kambwili even Lungu knows that very well,hope they will work together for the betterment of Zambia. - Reuben H Siwila

Just when u thought that kalaba is one of the few remaining principled politician then boom right in our faces he does the very thing he said a few days ago that he can never go into a pact with anyone else for the 2021 elections. All from one region. Mr Kalaba we need answers sir. - grey Siyunda

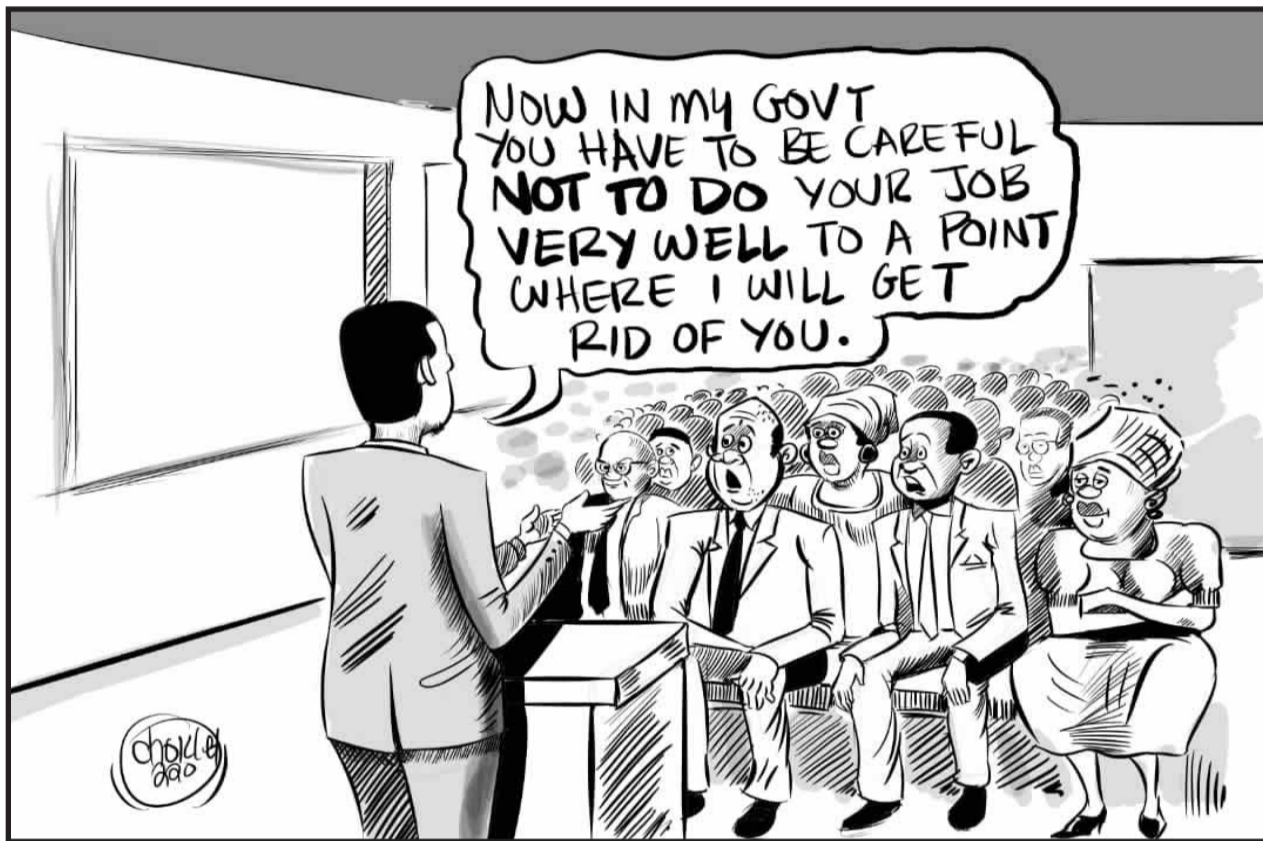
If this was happening else where,it was going to be tribalism and regional politics but for them it's working together - Clive Mukubesa

I can't waste my vote for these three, because even if i vote for them they can't win. - Samuel Alexand'r'a Kalou

Pact, are they joining the DP? KBF and Mutati no longer have a party to bring to the table - KBF was expelled from PF while Mutati lost the MMD to Nevers through a court judgement, so? - Genie Wi

Pacts like this look promising on face value but the problem comes when it's time to field a presidential candidate. Then they start fighting since they all think they are the most popular. In the end they disintegrate without achieving anything. - Abby Kasanda

Mutati by now should have been pa farm or something. He was in mmd then pf sure the old man couldn't serve some money. This is now selfishness of the highest order - Michael Nakeenda



Translation Of Bill 10 into 7 local languages

Editor

In whichever language, you'd still not understand it, as a whole document. So you will get pieces of "youth, women and differently abled" as show them as written, and they think only those small pieces will be voted. By the way, in the current 2016 amended constitution, these provisions are there, why haven't they been utilised - Isaak EngZek

This is President Lungu's weakness. He is busy spending millions on Bill 10 advertisements instead of spending it to motivate our Front Line Medical workers. What President Lungu has refused to understand is that Zambians are not failing to understand the Evil intentions of Bill 10. This is the reason why those against Bill 10 do not need to go that far. - Christopher Kalima

Shooting in the wrong direction the people to convince are mps because they are the one voting unless if this pf want to subject this Bill 10 to a referendum - Pesh Mbiiza

20% COVID-19 positivity rate

Editor

Not 2 but much higher if we follow daily reports, maybe 4 is a better figure - ohn Coutlis

That means 20 percent of the entire population is positive. 20% X 18,000,000 = 3,600,000 positive cases. - Chris Shalom

That's a lie! you have only tested 1 percent from the whole population of arround 17million.How can you say 2 in 10 are positive?? - Chanda Ch

18m people divide by 10 equals 1.8m by 2 equals 3.6m people are covid-19 representing 20% of total population. Batata apa mwabepa. - Boyd Nakuweza

Meaning we have a 20% infection rate for every Zambian tested. - Vincent Mwanza Chilombo

You and your govt are partly to blame, people did not take you seriously because you held rallies and campaigns against your covid-19 protocols - Zimba Geoffrey

I don't believe these numbers...zambia can be faking numbers like China did. - Kambalama M Kambalama

Hey guys 80 to 85% of the positive results are wrong. But you keep on posting this rubbish. - Falko Dörmann

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.

Congratulations to the "Three Wisemen" from the north. That's your democratic right and competition is healthy. Please hit the ground running as it's just about a year to go. I wish you good luck in your future endeavours. - GT Tembo

Findlay asks NAPSA to buy Chrismar Hotel for \$18m

By Mukosha Funga

LUSAKA Businessman Valden Findlay has offered Chrismar Hotel for sale to the National Pension Scheme Authority NAPSA, expecting a purchase price as high as US\$18 million, when the deal is approved.

NAPSA confirmed to News Diggers that it received an offer for the sale of the property which is located at Plot number 6892 Los Angeles Boulevard in Lusaka, but said the decision to go ahead with the investment had not been made, as at Thursday August 13.

Impeccable sources revealed that Findlay who is a close associate of President Edgar Lungu was in the process of liquidating some of his assets,

including Chrismar Hotel at inflated valuations.

"What we know is that three valuations were done on Chrismar Hotel, claiming that the property is worth US\$10 million, US\$11 million and US\$18 million respectively. So the general feeling is that it has been too overpriced, but there is pressure for NAPSA to buy the hotel. There seems to be too much pressure coming from the government even when the value that has been attached just doesn't make sense," sources said.

On Wednesday, August 12, NAPSA issued a statement, rubbing rumours that the Pensions Authority had bought the hotel, saying the report was

fake news.

"The National Pension Scheme Authority (NAPSA) is aware of a story circulating in some circles purporting that NAPSA has purchased Chrismar Hotel. The Authority wishes to categorically state that it has not purchased the named firm. Therefore, the story must be discarded as fake news," stated head of corporate affairs Cephas Sinyangwe.

But News Diggers wrote a detailed query asking: What procedure NAPSA follows before making investments; if NAPSA had done a cost benefit analysis before making a consideration to procure the property; if it was true that three overpriced valuations

were done on the property, placing the value at US\$10 million, US\$11 million and US\$18 million; what NAPSA intended to use the property for; if the board was under external pressure to make the procurement decision; and if it was of concern to NAPSA that the property in question belonged to Findlay, a close friend of President Lungu, and that the values being discussed had no relationship with commercial sense.

In response to the News Diggers query, NAPSA confirmed receiving the offer of sale for Chrismar Hotel, adding that the offer was among hundreds of others, which came as a result of a call for proposals

made last year.

"In July 2019, the National Pension Scheme Authority advertised a call for investment proposals (NAPSACIP/DI/1). (Refer to attached document).

The aim of the call was to give both public and private sector players an equal opportunity to present viable investment

proposals to the Authority. Hundreds of proposals were received. The proposal referred to in your query came through the same process," stated Sinyangwe.

"All the proposals that were received were processed in accordance with the Authority's Investments and operational guidelines, asset allocation,

Statement of Investment Policy and Investment Strategy 2018 to 2021. I would like to state that the proposal referred to has not been approved."

But sources insisted that the purchase had reached a negotiation stage.

"That matter is at negotiation stage. We are all surprised that they are even refuting the story as fake news because it is a fact. If you engage the Director General or anyone on the board, they will be able to confirm if they are honest, that it's an ongoing negotiation. The money involved is just too much when you look at it," said the sources.

"The other problem is that viability of the business. NAPSA is saying they invited public and private players to present viable investment proposals, but can they say Chrismar Hotel is a viable business? What business is there that can be worth US\$18 million, or even US\$10 million? That cannot be a good deal, and it takes us to the case of IDC (Industrial Development Corporation) where they have been buying loss making entities just because they are owned by people who are close to State House. So, if this Chrismar deal goes ahead, Zambia will lose a great deal of money and NAPSA will not be able to recover its investment. But you must remember that this is people's money that they are playing with."

Cyber crime has worsened during COVID-19 pandemic – Dora

By Ulande Nkomesha

CHIEF Government Spokesperson Dora Siliya says government is concerned with the increased number of cyber crimes amid the COVID-19 outbreak.

And Siliya says the fight against COVID-19 should not be taken as a government responsibility, but as a personal responsibility.

Speaking during a media briefing in Lusaka, Thursday, Siliya said government had observed an increase in cyber crimes during the COVID-19 outbreak because unprecedented numbers of citizens were working from home.

"There is something that is happening that is concerning government a lot and that is cyber crime. We have seen an increase in cyber crime and some of our experts are saying it is that a lot of people are staying at home and are on the phone; banks are complaining, citizens are complaining, including high profile citizens because of cyber crime," Siliya said.

"The message from government is very clear: cyber crime is detrimental to our economy and to our social fabric. The ills of cyber crime, which is money fraud, which is abuse of children, which is abuse of women, which is just defrauding citizens. I think the police have been very clear on behalf of government that they are going to be following up all these crimes to ensure that we bring the perpetrators to book."

She warned that government would deal with perpetrators of cyber crime to deter would-be offenders.

"The Internet, which we should enjoy positively, should not be used especially during this corona time, to be enjoyed negatively by encouraging crime. So, the message from government is that this is a good warning for those that are involved in cyber crime and government will definitely work very hard to make a number of these criminals examples to deter other people because even while we are at home and we are working from the laptop, from the Internet, it does not mean we should be abusing the Internet," she said.

"During this time of Coronavirus, there are people who are working night and day



Information and Broadcasting Services Minister Dora Siliya with Youth, Sports and Child Development Minister Emmanuel Mulenga during a press briefing at her office in Lusaka yesterday – Picture by Tenson Mkhala

to hack people's accounts, to hack people's Facebook accounts, to defraud people in terms of their cash by putting out fake empowerment programmes on the Internet. I think it is something that our citizens must be very aware of because it is on the increase and it is a very dangerous trend."

And Siliya said the fight against COVID-19 should not be taken as a government responsibility, but as a personal one.

"This is not a responsibility of government only, in fact, the first responsibility is yourself. If you don't take responsibility, you will lose your life and you will be responsible for that. Government wants to be as blunt as possible today that this is your responsibility. Surviving Corona is your responsibility because you have to wear your masks, you have to sanitise your hands, Corona is not going away anytime soon, we don't want to be part of this statistic; we want to ensure that at the end of Corona, you would have survived. So, the message from government is

that, it is your responsibility, take responsibility, wear a mask and if you see any person near you who doesn't want to wear a mask just know that they are putting you at risk and that you could die because of Corona," Siliya cautioned.

She reiterated that government was discouraging weddings and chilanga mulilos as they remained high risk events where people could easily contract COVID-19.

"There are a lot of people who are spending time at home and rightly so because people are encouraged to stay at home. They don't have to leave their home when they don't want to. Now, we have seen so many weddings taking place, funerals, chilanga mulilos. But I think we should heed the call of the WHO that every time you make a decision to leave your home; every time you make a decision to go to wedding; every time you make a decision to go to a chilanga mulilo, to places where you are not compelled to be, it is different from work. I think we should always know that we are making

a life and death decision and that government is saying that, take responsibility on these life and death decisions that you want to make," she advised.

"We are discouraging people from going to funerals, weddings, going to Chilanga mulilos, going to birthday parties. We are trying to encourage people to stay at home and now with Corona in other places, think twice before you decide to go to another town because Corona does not move, it's people who move the virus. So, the message is very basic: let us remember that this disease kills."

When asked if government was considering providing protective equipment to journalists to help them carry out their duties, Siliya insisted that protection against COVID-19 remained a personal responsibility.

"I think PPEs are important to all of us and the way government has been able to provide PPEs to Zambians in general, I think government has done that. We also encourage various organisations to support

their employees, but at the end of day, it is also a personal responsibility, and government has said that protecting yourself, especially the basic mask, is not just surgical masks, it is anything you can use to cover yourself. For me, it is good that we can protect ourselves, basically, in terms of masks from any piece of cloth at this point in time and I encourage all media organisations where they are able to, they should be able to support their staff. But I think each one of us as a citizen, must be able to take responsibility and ensure that we have our mouths and our nose covered," replied Siliya.

"I know how expensive masks are, sometimes I don't have surgical masks, I have to wear cloth masks because we have all been assured that we can wear cloth masks and because it is cheaper and they are reusable. So, I think that we all have to learn to use our bandanas, our scarfs and whatever else we can, especially media personnel because you are quite exposed and it will be a shame to hear that one of you has lost their lives from COVID."

Trends Report will be released on August 31 – FIC

By Julia Malunga

THE FINANCIAL Intelligence Centre (FIC) says the 2019 Trends Report will be released by Monday, August 31.

In June, FIC director general Mary Chirwa had said the internal report was ready, but was awaiting approvals from the board.

In a brief update, FIC acting director general Clement Kapalu said the Centre was still finalising the report.

"Nothing has changed. It will be out this month of August and we are just finalising it. So, there is no change from our earlier statement. Let's say by month-end. It could be earlier, but definitely, by the 31st, it will be done," announced Kapalu.

The FIC last revealed a 33 per cent increase in the amount of money Zambia lost to financial crimes from K4.5 billion in 2017 to K6.1 billion in 2018, according to their 2018 Money Laundering/Terrorist Financing Trends Report, which exposed unprecedented levels of corruption cases ranked the highest, with an estimated loss of K4.9 billion of the total amount.

Tax evasion ranked second with an estimated loss of K1 billion, while theft ranked third at K110 million.

By Abraham Kalito

THE Ministry of Sports has signed a US\$2 Million agreement with the Football Association of Zambia to embark on the rehabilitation of four stadia in selected provincial capitals.

FAZ has selected Kaole stadium in Mansa, David Kaunda stadium in Chipata, Independence stadium in Solwezi and Kasama Sports stadium in Kasama for upgrade by FIFA under the infrastructure development programme.

Earlier during the year, FAZ had announced that plans to implement the upgrade were on hold as the association was yet to address the question of title to the infrastructure.

Govt, FAZ sign \$2m deal for stadia rehab

But during a press briefing, Thursday, it was revealed that the program would take off, with the four stadia upgraded to international standards under phase one of the FIFA infrastructure programme.

Sports Minister Emmanuel Mulenga said the government would continue to embrace partnerships to ensure continued sports

development.

"I'm delighted to note that the ministry has continued to create an enabling environment where fifty percent of the population in Zambia continue to participate in the sport of their choice to enhance their health, social economic and political development by 2030. To demonstrate this commitment of sports development, we are today

witnessing the signing of the memorandum of agreement with the Football Association of Zambia to rehabilitate selected provincial stadia to international standards with funding from FIFA," said Mulenga.

"The funds for this purpose amounts to over 2 million USD as indicated by the FAZ president. I want to reiterate that government, with guidance

from the President, who is also the patron of the Football Association of Zambia will continue to embrace Public, Private Partnerships from various stakeholders to ensure continued sports development."

And FAZ president Andrew Kamanga said the projects, once completed, would ease the strain on the over-burdened stadia such as the Heroes and

Levy Mwanawasa.

"To the development of the game, it will also give an opportunity to the various national teams that we run as FAZ, whether men's or women's, U17, U20, U23, senior national team, we will now be able to take some games to these provinces because we don't have to restrict our activities to only Levy and Heroes stadium. So honourable minister, we wish to assure you that all Zambians should feel that they are part of the football that is being played. We can only have international engagements when we do have facilities which are compliant with FIFA and CAF expectations when it comes to hosting of such games," said Kamanga.

FAZ fines Kabwe Warriors for missing fixture

By Ngosa Chalwe

THE Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) has fined Super Division side Kabwe Warriors K20, 000 for non-fulfilment of a Super

Division Week 27 fixture against Power Dynamos.

On August 6, Warriors were set to take on Power Dynamos in Kabwe but the home team did not pitch

up, leading to the referee calling off the game.

FootballHouse has since reprimanded the club and moved quickly in handing them K20, 000 fine, among

other sanctions, for missing the match.

In a letter addressed to Warriors, FAZ general secretary Adrian Kashala stated that the Association

has been left with no choice but to sanction the club.

"We have considered evidence adduced by the Referee's match reports and applied Article 31 of the

FAZ Disciplinary Code that the Referee's match report is presumed accurate," Kashala stated.

He further stated that Warriors had violated Articles 109 and 110 of the Disciplinary Code which bordered on abandonment and failure to fulfil a fixture respectively.

"You shall therefore receive the following sanctions, your club forfeits the match as provided for in Article 77 of the FAZ Disciplinary Code, Power Dynamos Football Club have been awarded three points with a 3-0 scoreline. You have been fined K20, 000.00 and the this amount should be paid with seven (7) days of delivery of this ruling," the letter read in part.

Ronaldo, Real Madrid divorce causing nothing but Champions League misery

LISBON could have been the setting for a fascinating reunion on Saturday night, between Cristiano Ronaldo and Real Madrid. Neither will be present at the Estadio Jose Alvalade, though.

Ronaldo's Juventus were denied a place in the last eight of the Champions League by lowly Lyon, while Madrid were beaten with embarrassing ease by Manchester City.

Two years after their surprise divorce, Ronaldo and Real are still struggling to prove that they are better off apart.

It was the Portuguese, of course, who initially took full responsibility for the split.

In an open letter to Madrid's fans, he asked for understanding, explaining that in spite of all of the "love and affection" he had

experienced at Santiago Bernabeu, he felt it was time to "open a new stage" in his life.

He also made a point of thanking everyone with whom he had worked during his nine years in Madrid, including the club president.

However, Ronaldo subsequently admitted that Florentino Perez had played a pivotal role in his departure.

During that final season in Spain, the forward felt that something had changed in their relationship; that Perez no longer looked at him as lovingly as he once had.

"In the first four or five years, I had the feeling of being 'Cristiano Ronaldo'. Less afterwards," Ronaldo explained to France Football.

"The president looked at me through eyes that

didn't want to say the same thing, as if I was no longer indispensable to them, if you know what I mean.

"That's what made me think about leaving. Sometimes, I'd look at the news, where they were saying I was asking to leave.

"There was a bit of that, but the truth is I always had the impression the president would not hold me back."

And he was right. Perez was certainly sorry to see Ronaldo go but he was never going to turn down €100 million (£90m/\$117m) for a 33-year-old attacker - even one as talented as prolific as the Portugal international.

As well as pocketing a colossal transfer fee, Madrid also removed their biggest earner from their wage bill. In that sense, Real's decision

to sell Ronaldo made as much financial sense as Juve's to buy him.

The Bianconeri were not at the same level, commercially, as Madrid, and they still have much ground to make up in that regard.

But the 'Ronaldo effect' has helped them close the gap. He has opened up numerous

new markets to the Old Lady.

However, there was also, as Juve president Andrea Agnelli was at pains to point out, an important sporting aspect to the transfer: the Bianconeri had not won the Champions League since 1996; Ronaldo had fired Madrid to four in the preceding five seasons. **GOAL.COM**

Xavi wants Puyol to join him at Barca

FORMER Barcelona captain Xavi has reiterated his desire to one day become head coach at Camp Nou and stated that he would like to draft in the likes of former team-mates Carles Puyol and Jordi Cruyff to assist him in his duties.

The Catalan club had been in touch with the former midfielder - who is currently in the dugout of Qatari side Al Sadd - before appointing Quique Setien, but Xavi made it clear that the opportunity had come too quickly.

Internal issues also played a part in the 40-year-old's decision, with major questions continuing to be asked of president Josep Maria Bartomeu's running of the club - particularly regarding the Blaugrana's recent poor transfer business.

It is widely believed that Xavi's day will come, however, and the World Cup winner already appears to have plans in mind for who will make up his backroom staff.

"I am delighted to continue gaining coaching experience and challenging myself, but of course it would be a privilege for me to train Barca one day," he said in an interview with El Pais. "I'd want a dream team, with Jordi Cruyff, Carles Puyol and some current players.

"I would like to make a team with important people who know the club, people who I trust and will be loyal to me."


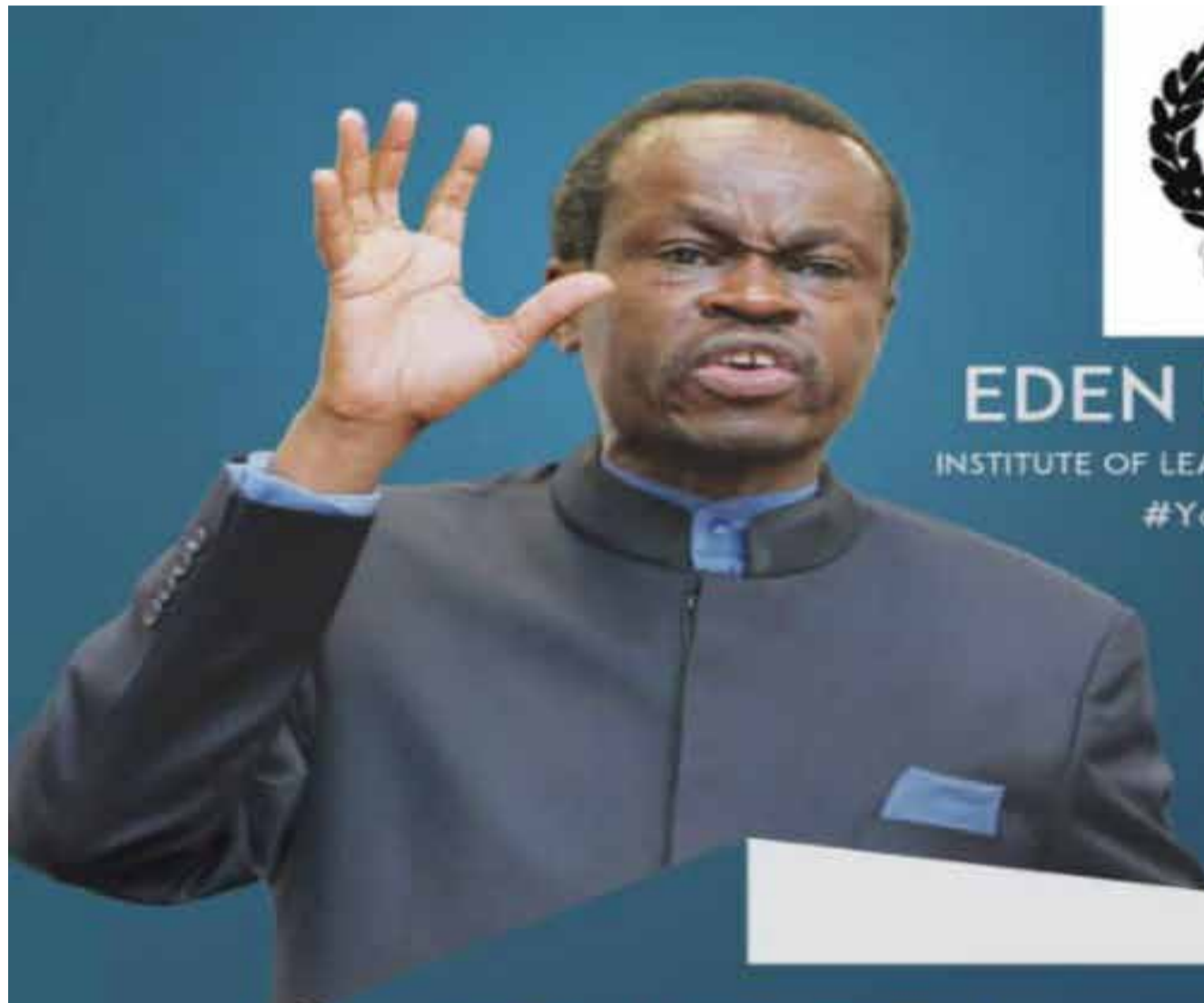
For now, however, Barca will have to make do with Setien, a man for whom Xavi admits to having great respect for due to his style of coaching, but admits that the exciting "Cruyffismo" style counts for little if the club doesn't win games.

"In January I told them that it was not the right time and since then they have not contacted me," he said. "As a 'cule' I wish them the best. I respect Quique Setien a lot, he has a style very similar to what Barca needs, which is 'Cruyffismo', but another thing is the results that accompany..."

The prevailing opinion on Barca at present is that they are overly reliant on Lionel Messi, a player who may well have hung up his boots by the time his old team-mate steps into the Camp Nou dugout, but Xavi still feels the Argentine can lead the club to another Champions League title.

"Messi needs Barca and Barca needs Messi," he added. "They have to make him happy because with him they will win more titles. I maintain a great friendship with him, I respect him a lot. **GOAL**





EDEN UNIVERSITY
INSTITUTE OF LEADERSHIP AND AFRICAN STUDIES
#YOURDREAMUNIVERSITY

ORGANISATIONAL MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP COURSE

Whether you are a senior executive trying to advance your organization in a new world or an experienced project manager, you will agree that being empowered with new and relevant skills with a contemporary perspective on leadership gives you a more confident, more productive and more effective advantage in driving your organizations forward.

This is a powerful, game-changing leadership course and coaching program guided by a team of trailblazers with decades of real-world experience developing corporate leaders.

Our leadership course is an eye-opening journey of self-discovery to uncover the leader you are. This is the most critical, profound step towards dramatic improvements in leadership.

Guest lecturers include but not limited to renowned Professor PLO Lumumba from Nairobi Kenya, Dr. Vusumuzi Sibanda from Zimbabwe, Chibamba Kanyama and many more...

DURATION 9 MONTHS
APPLY NOW!

General Enquiry
+260 97 9172078
sarahs@edenuniversity.edu.zm

Admissions
+260 979 966 697 / 097 954 4912
www.edenuniversity.edu.zm

Application forms can be downloaded on our website
www.edenuniversity.edu.zm

