



By Mirriam Chabala
HOME Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo has asked Zambians not to judge former Education Minister David Mabumba but pray for him, saying being a leader doesn't mean one has turned into an angel who cannot sin.
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Don't judge Mabumba, we all do wrong things in private...

WE'RE NOT ANGELS - KAMPYONGO



President Lungu commissions the new Makeni Flyover bridge on Kafue road in Lusaka yesterday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

Scores defy Covid-19 rules to witness Lungu's launch of Kafue overpass

By Julia Malunga
A MULTITUDE of Patriotic Front cadres yesterday flouted COVID-19 regulations to witness the commissioning of the Makeni flyover bridge. Rather than enforce the COVID-19 prevention measures, President Edgar Lungu expressed delight at the presence of the PF cadres, most of whom were unmasked.

I enjoy immunity from being sued, Simusamba tells court

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"Ladies and gentlemen and most important for me, fellow PF party cadres, we are here because of you. We shouldn't lose sight of your presence. You made..."
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PF should have called Bill 10 as "Bill Third Term" - Telesphore

By Julia Malunga
ARCHBISHOP Telesphore Mpundu says Zambia is in a dictatorial regime, in everything, except name. And Archbishop Mpundu says PF should have called Bill 10 as "Bill Third Term".
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60% of those who have succumbed to COVID-19 were diabetic - MoH

By Natasha Sakala
MINISTER of Health Dr Chitalu Chilufya says Zambia has in the last 24 hours recorded 233 new COVID-19 cases and one death. And Ministry of Health Director Infectious Disease Professor Loyd Mulenga has disclosed that 60 per cent of those who succumbed to COVID-19 were diabetic.
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PF has performed miracles in 9 years - Chiteme

By Diggers Reporter
NATIONAL Development Planning Minister Alexander Chiteme says PF is an enemy of its own success because it has performed miracles in the nine years in which it has been in office, leaving people craving for more.
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Choosing CEO: Board nightmare

If there is one area of disagreement between shareholders and the Board, it is in the choice of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for the company. In most cases, the two parties have unmatched expectations. Shareholders on one hand want a CEO who can drive results and ensure the business declares profits. That is a sure return on capital. They care quite little on the actual personality of the CEO and how the individual engages with the other stakeholders.

One typical example is a Premiership team called Arsenal with its vibrant manager at the time, Arsene Wenger. There was a time he could not deliver results for the other general stakeholders whose primary focus was about winning trophies. The shareholders were little bothered provided Wenger delivered positive financial bottom-lines. The only time they responded to the protests of the club's fans was when the team started to finish outside the top four teams that took away the millions of dollars associated with playing in the Champions League. In other words, the shareholders only generated a resignation from their cherished manager when the financial numbers were affected.

The boards entrusted with the oversight role for any organization look beyond the profits. They have the bigger picture in mind when identifying the CEO. Some issues the boards focus on is the actual personality of the individual in question. Their questions go beyond the ability of the individual to drive profits. Is the individual flexible in the sense that he/she can redirect company policy when circumstances demand so? This is because there are CEO who are so rigid that even when circumstances change, they will not look beyond policy. There are CEOs who are so scared of venturing into new territory that they would rather lose an opportunity than take a risk. Shareholders love these individuals, but boards usually do not value such rigidity, failure to think outside the box.

Boards also want a CEO who can easily connect with customers and employees. The shareholders are not that concerned about autocratic leaders as CEOs. If anything, these are the individuals they value. They would not like a CEO who easily makes win-win compromises with employees; that eats into their dividends. Boards, on the other hand, want good leadership. A company is more than financial

bottom lines but about how those who help drive the profits are treated.

Other issues boards consider in the choice of a CEO are team building skills, the ability to develop quality relationships through cooperation and collaboration, cross cultural skills and generally, ability to lead. But why is finding such a CEO a nightmare? It is because individuals with such skills are not easily found. Let me redirect the discussion to point out the three types of potential CEOs that boards will interview for the top job.

First, most boards and shareholders find it easy to identify a technically competent CEO. These are individuals who know a lot about the product. Usually, they grow from within the business. They have job specific knowledge and will always appeal for consideration for the job. They understand the numbers, the way the business is run and are very well-focused individuals. In most cases, they drive the KPIs, primarily the profits. These become a darling to shareholders.

From experience, while these individuals drive the results, the outcome is that the business slowly goes on a nosedive over a period. One of the reasons is that because they are so much results focused, they lose wider networks of support, first from employees, unions and critical stakeholders such as suppliers. Some of the technically minded CEOs are usually very insecure leaders; they fear to be challenged for their lack of emotional intelligence. To make up for this, they silence contrary views. Management meetings take the path of autocracy.

By the way, in the old paradigm of leadership, that of the 1960s, these are the managers who built organisations. That was when the markets were local, with a non-diverse homogeneous workforce and all that mattered was organizational stability and efficiency. Unfortunately, the nature of business under the global village has drastically changed. Many organisations have graduated from autocratic leadership styles where the technically competent CEOs thrived to learning organisations.

In other words, the CEO is no longer the only source of innovation and ideas. The ideas now come from everyone in the organization, including the shop floor manager who does not sit in management meetings. This has made the technically competent CEO no longer that desirable for long term business sustainability. They can drive the results in the short term but rarely in the long term.

The second potential CEO who attends the job interview is the networker. These are individuals well versed in people skills. They possess the ability to understand others and alter, lead and control the behaviour in organisations. They are mostly loved by many

stakeholders, including employees even if they know quite little about the job.

Unfortunately, these individuals whose leverage is in public relations skills are not that appreciated by shareholders because they give away too much in terms of money. Whereas the institution maintains stability, their focus on people affects the overall contribution to the growth of the business. The nightmare for the board is that these individuals have large networks from which they build a strong reputation for the business and the board will not fire them easily until the AGM makes a resolution.

The third and most crucial candidate for the board is the conceptual CEO. The individual has both characteristics of technical competence and people skills. They can analyse and diagnose a situation in order to come up with solutions. They have very strong emotional intelligence skills through which they understand and acknowledge their weaknesses and able to understand others.

This is where the gap lies in most of our local institutions, particularly the state-owned enterprises. Government, which assumes that role of shareholder, sometimes has influence on the selection of these individuals. These are pushed into leadership positions either for their technical competence or for their relationships with some people. The boards, on the other hand, are looking for individuals who understand the job well and at the same able to operate at the very high level. Finding the individual with the right balance and exposure under the Zambian circumstances is always a nightmare. We do not have that many candidates who have the conceptual outlook to business.

I reported to a gentleman called Pearson Gowero, then Managing Director of Zambian Breweries. He fully understood the business of beer. He had worked in the business for many years. I did fully appreciate the level of thinking he applied to the business. Every management meeting was a strategic platform; building business models from every engagement. He was able to lead thinking among management whenever market conditions changed. He did this in a very timely manner, marshalling and redirecting resources like a football coach making substitutions to respond to a goal deficit.

Pearson's other strength was people management. He built strong networks within the business, understanding employee expectations, engaging them quarterly through townhall meetings. His office was always open to allow for all employees to easily walk in to share ideas. His level of emotional intelligence was excellent.

Boards in Zambia should not only be on a search for these individuals. Boards should be ready to pump money to groom these potential leaders through training and coaching. We have a huge opportunity to transform the parastatals through dynamic CEOs.

“There are CEOs who are so scared of venturing into new territory that they would rather lose an opportunity than take a risk.”

“Some of the technically minded CEOs are usually very insecure leaders; they fear to be challenged for their lack of emotional intelligence.”



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By Mirriam Chabala

MEDICAL expert Dr Aaron Mujajati says over 600 men die from prostate cancer every year in Zambia, partly due to lack of sensitization on the severity of the disease.

Speaking when he featured on Hot FM's breakfast show, Thursday, Dr Mujajati observed that most people had little or no idea about the dangers of prostate cancer because much publicity had been given to other cancers like breast and cervical cancer.

He, therefore, called on health facilities in the country, both public and private, to start offering free screening for prostate cancer, while encouraging the corporate world to also begin sensitising people about the disease as a way of paying back to the community.

"The picture generally in Africa, I don't have the latest figures, but I will tell you for Zambia. If you look at Zambia, we lose slightly over 600 people every year and that translates to two people per day. So, those numbers are just for the cases that we know, those are for the people that come to the hospital. But then there is a caveat to that that those are just the ones that we know. How about the ones that don't make it to the cancer register, how many are they? So, the number could even be slightly higher than we think. I am back tracing this on...just a few days ago, there was a statement by the Spokesperson for the Cancer Diseases Hospital, the claim was that they had tested about 200 and 300 something samples of patients for prostate cancer and that 95 of those tests came out positive for prostate cancer. Now, that's a huge positivity rate! It's much bigger than I had even imagined," Dr Mujajati said.

"So, those are just people that made it to the hospital and the number they are quoting is small. The other argument could be that the sample size was very small. But the issue is that because prostate cancer is very common in Black people, the numbers out there are quite huge. Talking further about numbers, if you look at cancers that kill adults in Zambia, prostate cancer is number two, it's only beaten by cervical cancer. Yet there is a lot of noise, good noise rather, there is a lot of campaigning and sensitisation on cervical cancer. But not much is being done on cervical cancer, that's why we have taken it upon ourselves to actually do this."

Dr Mujajati regretted that citizens were not well informed about the dangers of prostate cancer as much prominence had been given to other cancers like breast and cervical cancer.

"If you were to rank all the cancers in Zambia; just rank them in terms of frequency of occurrence, prostate cancer is number three, it's only beaten by breast cancer and cervical cancer. So, you can tell from those numbers that something needs to be done; we need to do more in terms of sensitisation, we need to do more in corporate social responsibility to try and contribute to screening more men. And one would wish that more corporates, more

Zambia loses over 600 men to prostate cancer annually – Mujajati

hospitals, more clinics can come on board to just give to the community and make sure that we can screen as many people as possible," he said.

He said prostate cancer was more common in black men due to their genetic make-up.

"Several people have postulated several things, but it's very difficult to understand. Apart from the fact that we probably have something in our genes that predisposes us to it. Others have argued that, probably, it's in our diet because there is an argument that if you eat more animal fat and red meat, you potentiate a lot of disorientation in your body and that it also drives the development of prostate cancer. But that's a very simplistic view because there are several other communities that eat just as much animal fat, just as much red meat. But other races don't have as much prostate cancer as we do. So, probably, it has something to do with our genes as black people," Dr Mujajati explained.

But he encouraged men not to fear getting screened for prostate cancer, saying it was not as painful as it appeared.

"Most people fear that screening involves a physical examination, but what we have done is that there is technology that can be used to screen somebody just for screening purposes and it's a very simple technology, which relies on a very common test. It's actually done in most laboratories in Zambia. So, the presupposition we are using is that if we are able to detect that particular protein that is produced by the prostate, a certain degree, it means that you are now going to be subjected to a more physical exam, more screening, more additional tests, including ultrasound and biopsy. But what we are saying is that, we don't need to do a physical exam on you for us to be able to screen you, all we do is a simple blood test from

your finger and this test can be obtained from anywhere. That's why we are saying that we wish that most facilities can come on board to do this as a way of giving back to the community," he said.

"The physical examination that is done is that, to access the prostate, you have to access it through the rectum. So, if we find that the protein levels that we are looking for in your blood are that high, we will recommend to you that you need to do a rectal examination, an ultrasound and a biopsy. Those are necessary steps to confirm because the screening test that we are using cannot confirm prostate cancer. It can give us a high suspicion, it has the capacity to tell us that you don't have it. But it cannot confirm it and if we see that your proteins are very high, then you are a very good candidate for further examination, including the very same exam that most people find uncomfortable. But that physical exam doesn't last longer than a minute. But then it's the biopsy test that will tell the doctor what type of cancer you have and the kind of treatment you require."

Meanwhile, Dr Mujajati called on all medical facilities in the country to start offering free testing for prostate cancer.

"What we are saying is that because the screening is so simple, can everybody please do it? Both public and private facilities, let's just offer these services and let more men come. But then there is another barrier to it, men generally fear hospitals. It's a general fear and you find that when a man goes into a hospital, the first thing you see is that his BP is high. But when a woman walks into a hospital, their BP is never high. Women find it easier to go to the hospital and go and check for their health. But for me, that's why we are even doing this because we need to encourage them," said Dr Mujajati.

By Diggers Reporter

NATIONAL Development Planning Minister Alexander Chiteme says PF is an enemy of its own success because it has performed miracles in the nine years in which it has been in office, leaving people craving for more.

And Chiteme says he is not ashamed that Zambia's growth rate is projected to be in the negatives because by investing heavily in infrastructure, PF has laid a solid foundation for other sectors to thrive, emphasising that things have "to get worse before it gets better".

Meanwhile, Chiteme has revealed that he is a COVID-19 survivor, pledging to support the awareness programmes.

Speaking on a Pan African Radio programme, Sunday, Chiteme said PF had performed miracles in the short time it had been in office.

"I'll repeat the words of a great man who tells us every day that PF is an enemy of its own success. PF has only been in government for 9 years but PF has done what no government has done in this country starting from our founding fathers; thank God that they did what they did, thank the MMD that they did what they did but we came in as PF and in nine years, we've done wonders, we've done miracles as regards infrastructure development, just to mention the road networks," Chiteme bragged.

"I'm sure someone else is going to call later on and say 'we can't eat roads' but the simple answer is that yes because infrastructure development brings about a lot of other developments in a lot of other sectors that we should begin to mention and explain to our people so that they can have an understanding. I was in Sikongo the other week and I shed a tear because for the first time in Sikongo, we switched on a light bulb, from 1964. That is the development that we are talking about."

Asked to clarify what he meant by saying PF was an enemy of its own success, Chiteme said; "we've done so much in so little time and people expect so much more that they are going to say 'even here they haven't yet come to develop' because they have seen

PF has performed miracles in 9 years – Chiteme

what the PF government has done in so little time."

Chiteme said all the debt Zambia had accrued had improved people's livelihoods in one way or another.

"When you say over borrowed, that is a term that I use very lightly. I have borrowed for projects that are changing the livelihoods of our people. If you want to term it over borrowing, well and good. I am terming it borrowing that has transformed the lives of our people. And in doing that, we are making sure to say our investments that [we have used the debt on] will begin to produce results. So that result is what we are going to use now to try and cover up our debt repayment. But you know, some investments, like when you go to open up in Shang'ombo, the return might not be seen today but in 25 years, 30 years from now. Maybe PF won't be there, God forbid. But the actual impact is being seen by those people whose livelihoods have been changed," he said.

"People are going to cry and say 'when PF took over, the dollar was at K5' or whatever it is. People are going to cry and say a lot of things but when the PF took over, there was no Levy Mwanawasa Hospital, there was no road linking Chingola into Solwezi. When PF came into power, the roads were in a deplorable state."

And when asked why he kept bragging about roads when people were crying for affordable essential commodities, Chiteme said if previous governments had focused on building infrastructure, PF would have started from somewhere else.

"What I am saying is that first of all, you need to construct your infrastructure base...Because if we are going to prioritise to say our people are crying because a bag of

mealie meal has gone to so much, it's an issue that has to be addressed somehow because it is suppressed and it speaks to what we are doing right now. First of all, you have to bring out your foundation. Imagine, if MMD built roads, if they built hospitals or did all these other linkages, PF was going to start from somewhere. But we found a very broken down system. We found good numbers, our fiscals was good, we were growing at 7.5 per cent, our projection right now is that we are going to go into the negative. I am not ashamed of saying that," Chiteme said.

"So we have to build a base to start from somewhere... as PF, we have looked at the basics that people need. First of all, we need to create linkages in the market. We need to create those farm blocks, we need to create those irrigation projects. That's why we say diversification. That's why our 7NDP is based on making sure that we've got a conducive environment where our people can begin to thrive. It has to get worse before it gets better."

Meanwhile, Chiteme said he had just recovered from COVID-19.

"I am a survivor of COVID-19. I was diagnosed positive for COVID-19. I was just told three days back when you called me to come on radio that I had a negative result after testing positive of course. I am one of the people of this country that tested positive for Covid-19. Covid has got no status. It'll attack you whether you're a minister or wether you are a garden boy or MP. So I am one of the testimonies that you can come back and recover from COVID-19 and I want to be part of the people that are going to advocate for people to follow the guidelines of the Ministry of Health so that we can begin to defeat it," said Chiteme.

Sacika advises Miles, Kang'ombe to sue Charles Banda

By Mirriam Chabala

FORMER Secretary to Cabinet Dr Sketchely Sacika has encouraged Lusaka Mayor Miles Sampa and his Kitwe counterpart Christopher Kang'ombe to sue Local government Minister Charles Banda for illegally suspending their councils.

And Dr Sacika has called on the Local Government Association of Zambia (LGAZ) to pass a resolution to abolish the position of District Commissioner saying it is unconstitutional.

In an interview, Dr Sacika said there was no law in the Zambian Constitution which allowed the central government to interfere in the operations of local councils.

"Miles Sampa and Kang'ombe should challenge Charles Banda for suspending their councils. Article 2 of our Constitution says that every Zambian has the duty to defend

the Constitution and prevent a person from illegally abrogating the Constitution. Banda acted unlawfully when he suspended the two councils and he must therefore be challenged and no better persons could do that than Sampa and his friend, Kang'ombe. The law under which Banda has suspended the two councils is an unconstitutional [one]. Article 152 of the Constitution is very precise, it says that the central government has no powers to interfere in the affairs of councils," Dr Sacika said.

"And by some token, according to the Constitution, the post of the District Commissioner is also unconstitutional. District Commissioners are appointed to administer a district on behalf of the central government. But according to Article 152 of the Constitution, the administration of districts is a

responsibility of district councils. The Local Government Association of Zambia (LGAZ) should therefore pass a resolution, demanding that the post of District Commissioner is abolished because it is neglecting to defend the Constitution."

Dr Sacika insisted that by suing Banda, Sampa and Kang'ombe would be promoting the cause of good governance.

"The safety of all of us and of our country depends on obeying the law. If the law is set aside by those in power, our country will come to grief. Already our police force has become a militia of the Patriotic Front, carrying out unlawful orders to persecute citizens, contrary to what the Constitution and the law says and this is because we the people have not stood up to defend the rule of law. This is a responsibility bestowed on all of us. Supporting the PF does

not mean supporting even the wrong things that those in government are doing. A good supporter is one who sees to it that the party is doing the right thing. My view therefore, is that Sampa and Kang'ombe will promote the cause of good governance and of the rule of law in our country if they took Banda, the Minister of Local Government to court for acting unlawfully when he suspended their councils," said Dr Sacika.

"There are risks involved, but those risks are worth taking. No one can dismiss them from their jobs as mayors for taking legal action against the suspension of their councils because they were elected by the people. So Charles Banda or Lungu the President cannot dismiss them, and they will be doing their country a lot of good if they stood up to defend what the Constitution says."

PF should have called Bill 10 as “Bill Third Term” – Telesphore

By Julia Malunga
ARCHBISHOP Telesphore Mpundu says Zambia is in a dictatorial regime, in everything, except name.

And Archbishop Mpundu says PF should have called Bill 10 as “Bill Third Term”.

Meanwhile, Archbishop Mpundu says the ruling Patriotic Front risks not having a presidential candidate in next year's elections because President Lungu is not eligible to stand.

Speaking when he appeared on MUVI TV's The Assignment programme, Sunday, Archbishop Mpundu said Zambia was now a dictatorship.

“When it comes to freedom of expression, freedom of speech...those young people who wanted to meet the President what happened? They were threatened by guns! Our own children threatened with guns! That was disgraceful! What kind of freedom is that?” Archbishop Mpundu asked.

“What kind of freedom is that where people are not free to speak? They are not free to come together and share ideas? What kind of Freedom is that where the President is threatening lawyers that ‘I have to run again and if this ConCourt stops me, you will see what will happen’. We already have a President who is so strong and now this time they want him to be more powerful. This is not democracy at all! This is a dictatorship in everything except name. There are no two ways about it. People should not go around beating around the bush, this is the situation.”

And Archbishop Mpundu insisted that if enacted, Constitution Amendment Bill Number 10 of 2019 would perpetuate President Lungu's stay in power.

He said the bill should have actually been named “Bill Third Term”.

“Bill 10 is shameful Bill. Why is it that every administration that comes to State House wants to change the constitution in order to perpetuate them in power? This is wrong! PF is tampering with the constitution in order to perpetuate themselves in power, not just the President. They will be remaining there to continue marring administration in this country. It is a shameful Bill. They should have called it Bill Third Term. They want to give a third term to Lungu but he has already served two terms according to the Constitution. And not only that, a law that is made to benefit one person or to benefit a group of people against others is, right from the word go, wrong! And that is what it is. What is hidden in that and people fear, this fear must be expressed. What they see is not only to perpetuate Lungu's stay in State House but it is designed in such a way that one person among those who are aspiring to be candidates will be disqualified. And this is criminal. It must be withdrawn,” he said.

Meanwhile, Archbishop Mpundu said PF risked not having a candidate in 2021 if they stuck with President Lungu.

“We are not constitutional lawyers but we can read. The law says ‘anyone who has been elected twice as President of the Republic of Zambia can't run for another.’ He has served two terms and this what has happened to Lungu he is not eligible. The time of nomination, those candidates who think they are eligible will start filing in their nomination and then

once this has been done, they close the nomination but then people who know that one candidate does not qualify will place in a petition with the ConCourt. And if everything goes well according to what we know, he is disqualified. That means the PF won't have a candidate because once they have closed the nomination, you can't go back and say ‘we are going to nominate this person’ it might be too late. So we might be going to the polls with the PF without a presidential candidate. But they want to make sure that he puts in his nomination you can't challenge that after elections,” he said.

When asked if he was a UPND sympathiser, he denied, saying he was a non-politician who wanted to lend his intelligence to better the lives of Zambians.

“...It is not a question of interfering in politics, this is our mandate. Anyone who says ‘you are a politician. Why don't you come out?’ You see, the communist used to say ‘religion is the opium of the people.’ No politician will tell me you are interfering in politics, this is my duty. I am also a politician. I am not seeking political power. It is just as a human being I have the intelligence given to me by God that this is wrong especially when it comes to people. So no one is going to say to me that ‘you are being fronted, you are a hired gun.’ You think it is so easy to hire me? I am not a hired one, I am not a gun. I am a human being, a priest and a Bishop. And nobody is going to tell me that ‘you shouldn't do this’ no. So nobody is going to frighten

me that you are coming into politics. Yes, politics is my business and I want to see politics being done in the proper way. I am not seeking political power. Why would I seek political power at my age? It is just speculation, hallucinations. Hallucinations is when somebody's mind goes radioactive they start seeing all kinds of things,” he said.

Archbishop Mpundu urged Zambians to ask themselves sincerely if the ruling party was their party of choice.

“My word is very simple. They have seen what has been going on. I think all the administrations have to be judged by their actions by the fruits that come from the administrations. This country is in a crisis. Crisis of leadership, crisis of the

economy, putting people at loggerheads, tribalism and so on. Is this the government people want to continue? Let them ask themselves sincerely. There are no two ways about it. [If it's corruption], mamama. When they go to vote, is this the government they want to continue with or they need a break? And a big break,” Archbishop Mpundu wondered.

He condemned the Catholic Parliamentarians Association comprised of PF MPs who differed with their Bishops.

“Recently, there was an incident where the Bishops Conference sent a pastoral statement concerning Bill 10 where they criticised it and said it should be withdrawn because it brings retrogressive elements. And what happened? A group of people

calling themselves Catholic parliamentarians reacted and said ‘it is wrong you can't do that’. It is unprecedented that Christians would tell the bishops who have been teaching from authoritative documents of the church and the social teaching of the church. They told the bishops that what you said is wrong. If I were in their positions now, I would say that the leadership of the Catholic parliamentarians should resign. It has never happened! I would at least tell them for the time being don't use the name Catholic because it is a scandal,” said Archbishop Mpundu, who insisted that those in power should be held accountable by the church.

“You don't make a nation a Christian nation by a declaration... I asked Chiluba, ‘did you consult other Christian bodies?’ He said ‘no’ he just came one day and said ‘we are a Christian nation.’ That is wrong! You don't make a Christian nation by a declaration. It is what you do, how you behave that is when they are going to say ‘this is a Christian nation’ not a declaration.

UN Zambia shuts offices as 4 catch COVID-19

By Natasha Sakala

THE United Nations in Zambia has announced the closure of all its country offices in Lusaka to visitors and staff following a rise in the number of cases in the UN family.

In a statement, Monday, UN national information officer Mark Maseko disclosed that the office closure had been necessitated by four members of its staff testing positive for COVID-19.

He said the closure would be for a period of 14 days

to strengthen prevention measures in the workplace.

“The United Nations in Zambia has been operating on a reduced physical footprint for all its premises since the activation of its Business Continuity Plan (BCP) in March, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. Notwithstanding, all UN agencies continued their operations in support of Zambia's development and humanitarian priorities, in particular the implementation

of the Government COVID-19 Multisectoral Contingency and Response Plan, with many of its personnel working under partial or full-time telecommuting. While the UN in Zambia introduced strict measures in its premises and facilities, including temperature checks, hygiene and sanitation stations, wearing of masks and physical distancing to prevent the contamination in the workplace, a cumulative total of four UN personnel and three UN dependents had tested positive for COVID-19 as of August 1, 2020,” announced Maseko.

“Against this backdrop, the United Nations will temporarily close all its offices in Lusaka to its personnel, visitors and the majority of contract workers for a period of 14 days, effective August 3, in line with its BCP and in consultation with the national authorities. The closure will facilitate necessary additional preventive, protective and tracing measures following a rise in the number of cases in the UN family in order to mitigate and prevent contamination risks in its premises. Throughout this period of temporary closure, the UN in Zambia will continue operating on a full-time telecommuting arrangement as per normal working hours. The United Nations in Zambia stands in solidarity with the government and people of Zambia as it has done over the past 56 years, and will continue its support to the COVID-19 Multisectoral and Contingency Response Plan, the implementation of the 7th National Development Plan (7NDP) and all efforts to help the country recover from the impact of COVID-19.”

I enjoy immunity from being sued, Simusamba tells court

By Zondiwe Mbewe

LUSAKA Principal Resident Magistrate David Simusamba has insisted that he enjoys judicial immunity from lawsuits arising from his exercise of judicial functions.

In this matter, NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili and his lawyers Cheelo Mwiinga and Christopher Mundia have sued Magistrate Simusamba in the Lusaka High Court for defamation for alleging that they attempted to bribe him in order to deliver judgement in Kambwili's favour in the forgery case, which is before the Subordinate Court.

The trio is seeking a public retraction of the false and malicious allegations contained in a letter to the Chief Justice and an apology to them to their satisfaction in respect of all the defamatory utterances attributed to Magistrate Simusamba, among other claims.

However, in his application to have the matter dismissed on point of law, Magistrate Simusamba argued that no action could lie against a judicial officer in his or her capacity for acts done or words spoken by an adjudicator in the honest exercise of judicial office.

He submitted that the action by Kambwili and his lawyers was misconceived at law as he enjoyed judicial immunity, adding that he was

not the right party to be sued as he was a government employee, and that the right party ought to have been the Attorney General.

And in his reply and skeleton arguments filed, July 30, 2020, Magistrate Simusamba insisted that he enjoyed judicial immunity from lawsuits.

“The subject matter of the suit herein arose in the course of criminal proceedings and the defendant being a presiding magistrate in the case enjoys judicial immunity from lawsuits arising from his exercise of judicial functions provided under section 55 of the Subordinate Court Act Cap 28,” Magistrate Simusamba stated.

“The first plaintiff (Kambwili) wrote a letter of complaint against me in my honest conduct of court proceedings as a presiding or sitting magistrate exercising judicial office in the criminal matter ‘The people v Chishimba Kambwili’ to the Hon Chief Justice and I enjoy judicial immunity.”

He stated that he was not an accused person in any criminal proceedings and that he had not been found guilty of committing any crime and further that a presumption of innocence applies to him.

“The Chief Justice is the overall superintendent of the Judiciary and exercises supervisory functions over

me, among others, and my written response to her Ladyship's letter to me following the first plaintiff (Kambwili's) complaint was an administrative issue done with the strictest of privacy or confidence as stated in Kambwili's letter to her Ladyship dated December 17, 2019, and her Ladyship's letter to him dated January 22, 2020,” Magistrate Simusamba narrated.

“I wrote my letter to the Chief Justice in response to her memorandum to me concerning Kambwili's complaint in my exercise of judicial functions as a sitting magistrate equally in confidence and the letters were not in public domain.”

Magistrate Simusamba further stated that the subject matter was not capable of being adjudicated upon by the Court as it was outside the jurisdiction of the Court.

“The defendant enjoys judicial immunity from lawsuits arising from his exercise of judicial functions. The defendant is still presiding over the criminal proceedings in the Subordinate Court in which Kambwili is an accused person. The Court has power to set aside a writ and or dismiss a matter where the subject matter is outside the jurisdiction of the Court,” he argued.

Magistrate Simusamba insisted that the suit against him was irregular

as the plaintiffs ought to have sued the Attorney General.

He added that the plaintiffs had not indicated his residential address on the writ of summons and had further not indicated their postal and electronic addresses, which were also irregularities.

Magistrate Simusamba prayed that the Court grants his application to have the action against him dismissed.

But in their joint-affidavit in opposition to Magistrate Simusamba's affidavit in support of summons for an order to dismiss the action on a point of law, Kambwili and his lawyers argued that soliciting for bribes did not include functions of a judicial officer as Magistrate Simusamba allegedly did, as it was a crime.

They added that Magistrate Simusamba could not hide under the wing of immunity.

“Soliciting for bribes does not include functions of a judicial officer as the defendant (Magistrate Simusamba) did, as the same constitutes a crime and the defendant cannot hide under the wing of immunity,” Kambwili and his lawyers stated.

They further stated that Magistrate Simusamba did not in any way enjoy judicial immunity for being allegedly corrupt because corruption was not one of the functions of a judicial officer.

Court dismisses KCM's application for interim relief against CEC

By Zondiwe Mbewe

THE Kitwe High Court has refused to grant Konkola Copper Mines (KCM) an order of interim relief, pending arbitration, in which it sought to stop Copperbelt Energy Corporation (CEC) from restricting power supply to the mining company over the US \$132 million debt owed to the power utility.

Kitwe High Court Judge Evaristo Pengele has dismissed the said application by KCM with costs, saying the mining company has not convinced the Court that there is a serious question to be heard and determined at arbitration.

He added that it is evident from the affidavit in support that the acknowledged amount of US \$131,811,794 remains due and unpaid to CEC.

Justice Pengele has further discharged the ex-parte order of interim relief, pending arbitration, which he granted to KCM on May 13, 2020.

In this matter, KCM (in liquidation) sued CEC in the Kitwe High Court seeking an order of interim relief to prevent losses and damages that would be caused if CEC proceeded to restrict power supply to the mining company.

The mining company submitted that should CEC proceed to restrict its power supply, it would suffer irreparable damage to its mining operations, which would not be atoned for in damages.

And on May 13, 2020, the Court granted KCM an ex-parte order for interim relief, pending arbitration.

But CEC through its lawyers Musa Mwenye State Counsel and William Nyirenda argued that KCM had not established a prima facie case to entitle it to the reliefs sought.

It stated that the Power Supply Agreement (PSA) between KCM and CEC came to an end on May 31, 2020, and that KCM signed a new PSA with Zesco Limited on June 1, 2020.

"Therefore, the right which the plaintiff (KCM) is seeking to protect does not exist. Further, the plaintiff is aware of its obligations under the Power Supply Agreement and should not seek interim relief from this court, which is intended to act as a shield from responsibility," CEC argued.

State Counsel Nyirenda submitted that restriction of KCM's power supply would not result in irreparable damage as the restriction would maintain power supply to critical areas of the mining company's facility.

He added that being the major consumer of CEC's electricity supply, KCM's default in paying for the electricity was unsustainable for CEC's business.

Nyirenda maintained that the ex-parte order of interim injunction should be vacated and that the costs of this application must be awarded to CEC.

And Mwenye submitted that KCM's application had been overtaken by events, adding that being a company in liquidation, KCM cannot suffer irreparable damage.

In his ruling, Friday, Judge Pengele said he was of the firm view that KCM had not established that there was a serious dispute to be determined at arbitration to warrant its entitlement to interim relief from court.

He added that on the material so far placed before him, KCM had not satisfied him that it had any real prospect of succeeding in its contentions at arbitration.

Judge Pengele said it was clear that KCM acknowledges and accepts that it owes CEC US \$131,811,794.00 in relation to which CEC issued the contested demand notice.

"I have found it difficult to appreciate how KCM would properly be aggrieved with CEC for claiming payment of a debt, which KCM acknowledges is properly due and payable to CEC. From the affidavit in support, it is clear that the last payment KCM made towards electricity consumed from CEC was made between October and December, 2019. This means that from December, 2019, to at least about May 13, 2020, when KCM filed the application, KCM did not make any payment towards the bills for electricity supplied to it by CEC," he said.

Judge Pengele said clause 13 (d) of the PSA, which KCM exhibited in its affidavit, provides that in the event that any payment due to CEC from KCM remains unpaid for a period in excess of 45 days, CEC shall have the right to suspend KCM's power supply by giving 14 days' written notice of its intention to suspend the power supply.

He said it was evident from the affidavit in support that the acknowledged amount of US \$131,811,794.00 remained due and unpaid for a period in excess of 45 days as envisaged in clause 13 (d) of the PSA.

"From the foregoing, I have no hesitation in holding that the plaintiff has not convinced this court that there is a serious question to be heard and determined at arbitration. I see no basis for granting the plaintiff interim relief, pending arbitration," ruled Judge Pengele.

"On the basis of the above, I find no merit in the plaintiff's application for an order of interim relief, pending arbitration. I dismiss the plaintiff's application forthwith. I discharge the ex-parte order of interim relief, pending arbitration, which I granted in favour of the plaintiff on May 13, 2020. I award the costs for this application to the defendant to be taxed in default of agreement."

By Natasha Sakala

MINISTER of Health Dr Chitalu Chilufya says Zambia has in the last 24 hours recorded 233 new COVID-19 cases and one death.

And Ministry of Health Director Infectious Disease Professor Loyd Mulenga has disclosed that 60 per cent of those who succumbed to COVID-19 were diabetic.

Meanwhile, Prof Mulenga says COVID-19 symptoms keep evolving as people are now presenting with diarrhoea, vomiting and eye infections.

Speaking the daily COVID-19 briefing, Monday, Dr Chilufya said one patient who was critically ill had died, bringing the total number of deaths to 171.

"Country men and women, in the last 24 hours we have recorded new incidences of COVID-19 and this is out of a total of 1,820 tests done. These cases have been identified through the routine screening that we do in our health care facilities and in our communities. But what is important to note is that Lusaka and the Copperbelt provinces continue to show a high number of cases and therefore, our people in Lusaka, in all the high density areas, in the public places, need to raise awareness, need to raise alertness in the way they manage themselves in public. We reiterate the need for us to adhere to the simple measures, the four Ws are critical; wear a mask, wash your hand, watch your distance and keep warm," he said.

"Ladies and gentlemen, in our hospitals, we have 39 patients on oxygen, six are in the intensive care unit. These are critically ill and that's one of the reasons we say let us see how we can work together to avoid progression of COVID-19. We lost one patient in the last 24 hours and this was a patient who was critically ill and it has been a co-morbidity to hypertension and other common chest infections. Therefore, our cumulative numbers for COVID-19 now stand at 6,580. Total of 171 deaths with 208

60% of those who've succumbed to COVID-19 were diabetic – MoH

patients discharged in the last 24 hours, we have 4,701 recoveries."

He emphasised the need for citizens to avoid gatherings to avoid a further spread of the disease.

"This is not time for attending funerals. Funerals should be managed events, should be for the selected close people who are invited. Funerals need to be seen as very high risk areas of transmission. Parties, chilanga mulilos, all these are events that are associated with the cases we are getting. It is not uncommon, country men and women to have five, six members admitted to the facilities and what we just pick up is a party they had in a family, funerals they had a week prior," said Dr Chilufya.

And speaking during the same briefing, Prof Mulenga said most people who had died from COVID-19 were diabetic.

He also said those without a history of diabetes were also presenting with high sugar levels once they had COVID-19.

"So the age range, most of the patients that we are seeing are those above 45 but increased deaths is above those who are above the age of 45 as well. We have those heart pumps in those patients who have diabetes, so diabetics, in fact, are the ones whom we have lost the majority of them, almost 60 percent have had diabetes but also we are seeing that someone may not have had diabetes before but when they have Covid, they present with increased sugar levels and a diabetic picture and controlling the sugar becomes very difficult and that also leads to increased deaths," Prof Mulenga said.

"There is also hypertensives, honourable. We have had people with hypertension, then complicated HIV, those with HIV whose treatment is not optimal, they are not taking ARVs well,

the outcomes also have been very bad. Then we have also other people with other co-morbidities like chronic lung infections that includes TB as well, those factors they lead to the severe forms of disease and also increased risk of death."

Meanwhile, Prof Mulenga listed some of the symptoms of COVID-19, which he said kept evolving.

"What we are seeing is that the symptoms which we were reporting earlier on has been changing over time. We were emphasising that the pandemic had a flu like symptoms, sneezing, coughing having fevers and also headache. Then we went again to start seeing more persons presenting with diarrhoea, vomiting, then also we started seeing some individuals who have also conjunctivitis, they have infection of the eyes, where the eyes are red. Also, many do report of fatigue and fatigue progresses over time even when someone has recovered from COVID-19, the fatigue will still be there. Now when it comes to severity, we usually see patients who come in with shortness of breath, they have chest pains as well. Some even just complain of chest tightness," said Prof Mulenga.

"Now, those are worrying signs because it would mean that the lungs are getting affected and someone may have developed pneumonia which is an infection of the lungs. Over the last two to three weeks or so, we've been seeing excessive sweating and when we see someone with excessive sweating, it shows that they are reaching almost the peak of the severity of their infection and it's a sign for us to even make certain interventions in terms of the drugs that we need to institute as well. So not just the lungs, we have also the people who just collapse suddenly because this virus has a tendency of forming

clots in various parts of the body, the blood vessels. So you may have someone just complain of sudden shortness of breath and we lose that patient within a short period of time. Others present with a stroke, others present with clots as well in the lungs. So we are looking at a broader picture and once we have those severe symptoms or signs we need to have those put in intensive care."

He said there was need for more medicines and oxygen.

"So the outcomes have been favourable, we could have lost a number of people but also thanks to the support of government who are instituting certain measures and certain drugs being available. Of course we need more drugs, those who are a game changer like steroids as well, those which can also reduce the clotting as well. Those have been affecting the good outcomes. And having oxygen. As you noted as well, we have a lot of people in need of oxygen having reached a peak of about 48 on oxygen and also now in ICU we are seeing more severe cases. And of course these cases are across all races, we are seeing black Zambians, we are seeing white Zambians, some Asians. So it's not affecting just one specific race. The severities are across the board," said Prof Mulenga.

"The outcomes depend on how severe someone is. In fact when you look at the number of deaths that we've had, we have tried to limit the mortality in the facilities but fellow Zambians, the media, it's very difficult once you have a severe infection especially when the lungs are affected. Over the last one week, we've been seeing deaths almost on a daily basis in the facilities. We have of course dedicated health care workers and for us to prevent in the exhaustion and also for us to prevent the increased mortality, we need to start first in the first preventive measures of people avoiding getting sick or else they will go to the severe form of the disease themselves."

Scores defy COVID-19 rules to witness Lungu's launch of Kafue overpass

By Julia Malunga

A MULTITUDE of Patriotic Front cadres yesterday flouted COVID-19 regulations to witness the commissioning of the Makeni flyover bridge.

Rather than enforce the COVID-19 prevention measures, President Edgar Lungu expressed delight at the presence of the PF cadres, most of whom were unmasked.

"Ladies and gentlemen and most important for me, fellow PF party cadres, we are here because of you. We shouldn't lose sight of your presence. You made us what we are," President Lungu acknowledged the cadres.

He said that the bridge would promote efficiency and safe movement along Kafue Road.

"The Lusaka City Decongestion Project is just one example of such cordial relations that have existed between the two countries over the years. On behalf of the Zambian government, the people of the Republic of Zambia and, indeed, on my own behalf, let me express my deep gratitude to the Indian government and the people of India for the continued support and partnership. I further extend my gratitude to the contractor, Afcons Infrastructure Limited, for the good works executed thus far. I wish to assure you that such support will not go unnoticed," President Lungu said.

"My government has worked to improve the livelihood of all Zambians regardless of ethnicity, gender or political orientation. We have embarked on several projects aimed at transforming the face of Zambia in all parts of the country. The

Lusaka City Decongestion Project is just one of the many projects that government is undertaking to ease the movement of people, goods and services within the city of Lusaka and across the country. The bridge we are commissioning today (Monday) will promote efficient and safe movements along Kafue Road. By reducing the traffic congestion along this road, we will be saving on time spent on the road resulting in increased productivity. With increased productivity, comes improvement in people's livelihood."

He added that the PF government would continue to invest in infrastructure.

"Infrastructure development is a critical catalyst to enhanced economic growth, and therefore, my government will continue to invest in infrastructure, such as roads, schools, hospitals and many other such infrastructure. I have heard some sections of our people arguing that 'they cannot eat roads and as such, government should not invest so much in infrastructure...' To the contrary, provision of essential infrastructure is key to unlocking the economic potential of our country resulting in many benefits for our people. As such, my government will not be distracted from doing what is necessary. We will not relent from providing the necessary infrastructure," President Lungu said.

"Apart from infrastructure development, my government is determined to create various jobs, especially for the growing youth population. I have been informed that through this project, over 1,000 direct jobs have been created for our men and women. Additionally, several other indirect jobs have also been created through

various other ancillary businesses resulting from this project. Ladies and gentlemen, the relevance of any infrastructure is dependent on the design and, therefore, it is necessary to ensure that any infrastructure put up, incorporates appropriate designs that assure value for money."

President Lungu also said time to talk more would resume ahead of next year's general election to showcase what his administration had achieved to voters.

"Today, we are commissioning the completion of Makeni flyover, which is part of the four fly-over bridges to be constructed under this project. The benefits of the Makeni flyover bridge will be immediate because the travel time between Kafue roundabout and Chilanga will be reduced to nearly half, as the freeway will not be burdened by turning or joining vehicles at the Chawama-Makeni junction. I keep reminding myself that I shouldn't talk too much, I should be working because the time for talking will be in 2021 when we will be showing you what we have done," said President Lungu.

And Local Government Minister Dr Charles Banda said the project engaged 60 local contractors.

"I wish to further state that in line with the government policy on sub-contracting of construction works, 20 per cent of the contract sum has been reserved for Zambian sub-contractors. I am glad to report that the project has engaged 60 local contractors undertaking various works," said Dr Banda.

Meanwhile, Indian High Commissioner to Zambia Ngulkam Jathom Gangte said his country would continue to help Zambia in the fight against COVID-19.

By Mirriam Chabala

HOME Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo has asked Zambians not to judge former Education Minister David Mabumba but pray for him, saying being a leader doesn't mean one has turned into an angel who cannot sin.

And Kampyongo says Zambia will completely migrate to digital issuance of National Registration Cards (NRCs) in 2021, in accordance with the Smart Zambia agenda.

Speaking when he featured on K-FM radio in Mansa, Saturday evening, Kampyongo asked callers who were condemning Mabumba for being involved in the production of obscene material to remember that all humans were sinners who needed forgiveness from God.

"It is said that 'to err is human and to forgive is divine', that is the reason we even go to church to repent and pray because we are all sinners. But when we are chosen or appointed as leaders, we know that the burden we carry is heavy because you have to be a good example when you are a leader and leave behind some of the things that you used to be when you were just an ordinary citizen. But that doesn't mean that we have become angels. We all know how we have been created by God. So for me as Stephen Kampyongo, Honourable Mabumba is someone I have worked with for a very long time and I respect him so much and I am sure even the people that elected him respect him so much. Even when that, it was so unbelievable. But all I can say is that when such things happen to people, we need to put them in prayer and not condemn them," Kampyongo said.

"I want to believe that is the reason why the President also acted the way he did because he's the one who gives

Don't judge Mabumba, leaders are not angels – Kampyongo

us opportunities to serve in government. But when he notices a problem that affects one's duties, he reserves the authority to relieve someone of their duties. Therefore, let us not judge because it is God who knows all of us personally. There are a lot of wrong things we do in privacy which only God sees, and that is the reason why we always pray and repent to our God."

And Kampyongo said the issuance of NRCs after 2021 would fully migrate to digital systems.

"What that entails is that all the files that are domiciled in all the districts where registration has been taking place since 1994 will be migrated to digital platforms and citizens will be required to go and update their files by adding biometric requirements and other features such as picking the special features of your eyes, your finger prints and the necessary biometric data that will be picked to be added to your already existing details and now these will be on digital framework and consequently, you will have a digitalised identity card issued to you. This will lessen these challenges of finding someone with another NRC where we have to deal with so many cases of people coming to complain that another person has a similar national ID as themselves and all those things. So this migration will help resolve those issues and it is in line with the President's call to embark on smart Zambia. When the President was announcing smart Zambia it's like people didn't understand what that entailed, what it entailed was to also move like other nations in terms of how to identify citizens," he said.

Meanwhile, Kampyongo, who flagged off the mobile NRC issuance exercise in Mwense district of Luapula Province on Saturday, announced that the first phase of the exercise would run up to the second week of September this year.



Home Affairs Minister Stephen Kampyongo

And during Radio Phoenix's Let the People Talk programme, Friday, Kampyongo explained that the mobile issuance of NRCs was intended to increase coverage and reach out to citizens who lived in far-flung areas.

"The mobile registration

exercise will be done in two phases, and 40 days is for each phase. The first phase, which has commenced today (Saturday), will run up to the second week of September, the second phase will run from September 1 to the second week of October. Phase one will

cover Luapula, Northern, North-Western, Copperbelt and Eastern provinces while phase two will cover Western, Southern, Lusaka, Central and Muchinga provinces," Kampyongo said.

The Minister also urged registration officers to be professional when dealing

with citizens especially in remote parts of the country.

"To the officers on the ground, be respectful to the people you will be interacting with. We know that you will be dealing with different categories of our people in the rural communities, but I urge you to be professional and patient. Any officer who will mishandle our people will be removed from the exercise and appropriate action will be taken against them," Kampyongo warned.

Kampyongo also asked citizens not to politicise the registration exercise.

"Elections don't take place on social media, they are a physical exercise whose participants can be seen and be counted. So these social media politics that people have gotten crazy with are what has brought about this idea of the ground shifting. Where has the ground shifted? Just go and register to vote; and we will go to all the 10 Provinces and ensure every eligible Zambian is registered then we can meet in the elections after that," said Kampyongo.

Maj Chintu's widow in court for not honouring his will

By Zondiwe Mbeve

FORMER Zambia Air Force (ZAF) Deputy Commander Major General Kapotwe Chintu's widow has been dragged to court for allegedly getting over K700,000 benefits and depriving other beneficiaries of their entitlement.

Meanwhile, the deceased's sister has testified before the Lusaka Magistrates' Court that the accused, Evalista Kafula, allegedly went behind the family's back and withdrew money from the estate of her late husband on various dates.

In this matter, Kafula is charged with six counts depriving beneficiaries of their entitlements and one count of administrator or guardian who wrongfully deprives a minor.

In count one, it is alleged that between January 11 and November 30, 2019, Kafula whilst acting together with other persons unknown, unlawfully deprived Bwalya Chintu of her entitlement, namely K82,868.35 cash

held at Stanbic Bank Zambia Limited to which they were entitled from the estate of her late father, Kapotwe Chintu.

In count two, it is alleged that between the same dates, Kafula unlawfully deprived Kennani Chintu of his K82,868.35 entitlement held at Stanbic bank to which they were entitled from the estate of his late father, Kapotwe Chintu.

In the third count, it is alleged that between the same dates, Kafula unlawfully deprived Jason Chintu of his entitlement, namely K66,294,83 held at Stanbic Bank to which they were entitled from the estate of his late son, Kapotwe Chintu.

In the fourth count, it is alleged that between the same dates, Kafula unlawfully deprived Larry Chintu of his entitlement namely K11,049,07 held at Stanbic Bank to which they were entitled from the estate of his late father, Kapotwe Chintu.

In the fifth count, it is

alleged that between the same dates, Kafula unlawfully deprived Maria Chintu of her entitlement namely K11,049,07 held at Stanbic Bank to which they were entitled from the estate of her late father, Kapotwe Chintu.

In the sixth count, it is alleged that between the same dates, Kafula unlawfully deprived Linah Chintu of her entitlement namely K11,049,07 held at Stanbic Bank to which they were entitled from the estate of her late father, Kapotwe Chintu.

And in the last count, it is alleged that between the same dates, Kafula unlawfully deprived Larry Chintu of his entitlement namely K468,186,80 held at Investrust Bank to which he was entitled from the estate of late Kapotwe Chintu.

When the case came up before Lusaka Magistrate Felix Kaoma for trial, Friday, Mukuni Chintu, a retired civil servant, told the court that she was the sister of the late Kapotwe Chintu, who was a major general in the Zambia Air Force.

She testified that the accused was married to Gen Chintu who died in India on January 11, 2019, adding after his death, the family started preparing to find out the extent of the late Gen Chintu's estate.

Chintu, however, said Kafula later went behind the family's back and allegedly withdrew money from the estate of Gen Chintu on various dates.

She said she then reported the matter to the police victim support unit and wrote to the bank that no cash should be withdrawn.

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A push for journalism ethics by a people with no 'moral ethics'

Like we stated in our editorial opinion yesterday, this "Zambia Council of Journalists Bill" that government wishes to take to Parliament, according to what they have told us, will dictate that all journalists affiliated to this council should have a prescribed level of qualification, without which, they will not be issued with a practicing licence. We have also been told that erring journalists will be punished by this council, which punishment could include withdrawal of the practicing licence. As an organisation, we have serious reasons why we oppose this Bill in the strongest terms.

Look at what the Independent Broadcasting Authority did to Prime TV! Look at the offence that the TV station committed and look at the punishment that was meted out! Is that commensurate? How can a refusal by a private TV station to air free government adverts warrant cancellation of a broadcasting

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Ear to the ground

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licence? This is what happens when you give power to people who care only about self-preservation. That power that the Independent Broadcasting Authority has is the same power that this Bill seeks to give to the so-called Zambia Council for Journalists. Which journalists in their right frame of mind can support such a Bill?

We insist that this media regulation agenda is targeted at specific media houses and journalists. When you look at how they have treated the case of Prime TV, it is clear that they want to regulate the media for narrow political reasons, for their own political survival. They see institutions such as News Diggers as a stumbling block in

their desire to retain power in 2021. They have attempted to conquer all private media organizations in Zambia but they have failed. On our part as a newspaper, we have many difficulties, many problems, many deficiencies but we have never offered ourselves for hire to anyone. We have tried very hard to take a principled position in our work, even with no resources at our disposal.

But this resilience has not sat very well with them, so they need another mechanism for seizing control of our journalistic activities. That way, if we publish pictures of the President and his suspicious friends from Russia and Belarus, the next day,

we will be appearing before a committee at the so-called Zambia Council for Journalists. If our answers to their questions don't satisfy their interest, they would then withdraw our practicing licenses. This is the agenda and we are saying NO to it.

Using a call for professionalism to gag the media will not work. In fact, we are saying to the Patriotic Front government that there is no media ethics that they can teach us when they don't have political ethics themselves, not even moral ethics for that matter. We are seeing them embarrassing themselves every day from scandal to scandal.

They really want journalists to

uphold distinguished professional ethical standards. They say left unchecked, the unprofessionalism in the media can destroy society. But look at them! When you look at these politicians, what professional ethics do they uphold? Look at our ministers! Who among them can we point at and say, "this one upholds the ministerial code of conduct?" How do they conduct themselves privately and in public?

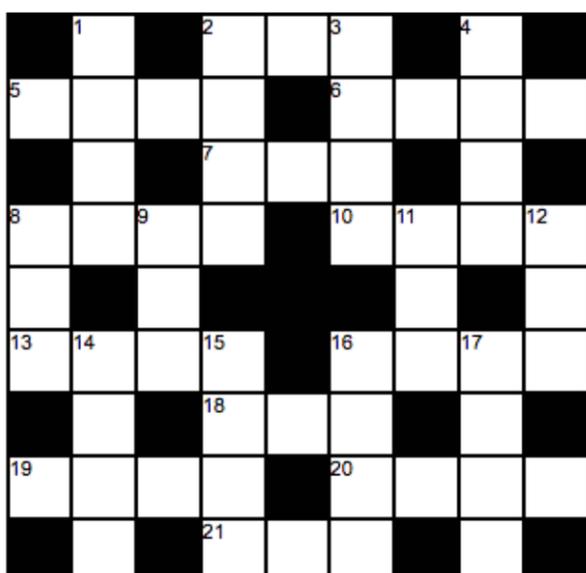
When they show off pictures of their bedrooms; or when they are about to enjoy their sumptuous gourmet meals with their children; or when they are showing off bundles of money; when they engage in lawlessness, beating people and destroying

private property with impunity, do they inspire good leadership or hatred from the people?

They want the conduct of journalists to be subjected to statutory laws while their own conduct remains unchecked. It's wrong! Which offence can a journalist commit in Zambia that cannot be punished by the already existing laws? Leaders must learn to first fix their professional and moral bankruptcy before they can command other professionals to emulate them.

We are urging our members of parliament to raise these questions that we are asking when this Bill is brought before the House so that the movers can explain how statutory media self-regulation will advance the tenets of democracy, good governance, accountability. From where we stand, there is nothing that this Bill seeks to fix which cannot be fixed using already existing laws. It's a dangerous Bill and it must be rejected.

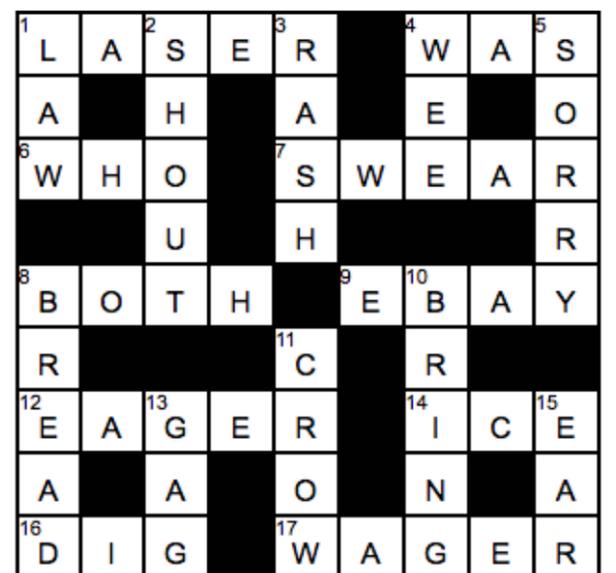
Crossword puzzle No 660



"The further you get away from yourself, the more challenging it is. Not to be in your comfort zone is great fun."
- Benedict Cumberbatch

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>Across</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Morning riser 5. Journey 6. Parrot 7. Wrath 8. Expanse 10. Stopped living 13. 365 days 16. Ogles 18. Rainbow shape 19. Mark from healed cut 20. Just 21. Long period of time | <p>Down</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Swaddle 2. Go around and around 3. Necessity 4. Footwear 8. Secret agent 9. Driver's org. 11. Frigid 12. Disk operating system 14. Apiece 15. Very uncommon 16. Bus. course 17. Slippery swimmers |
|---|--|

Crossword puzzle No 659



Reader's feedback

'Netizens right to roast HH over social media politics, UPND still has work to do before forming govt'

Editor

UPND in the recent past has received sympathy from some Zambians as the next option to take over government using ballot from PF. The party has gained abit of numbers but if they want to form government they have alot to do. They seem not to be worried to the bruises they have sustained in their on stronghold from PF. PF is not taking things lightly and working hard weakening your structures. And you say come 2021 things will change. Don't dig your own grave. You play your cards as if all is well. Talking ill about President Lungu and his government won't help. Find a winning formula. Who are your political advisers and strategists. PF has the best campaign crew. You can't match them. Learn from them. Get musicians who can come up with winning song like PF. Get eloquent spokesman and SG. get party damage control officers and image builders. The President also is not live. He has no sweet talk. He needs a message to convince Zambians. my appeal is change tactics otherwise we will always be complaining and condemning PF for our failures. over

confidence without proper weighing of the party fitness is bad. If you continue at this rate pf Will still win and you will petition. - Joshua Kazadi

Here in Mazabuka we have changed and we are going with Adada! ECL and PF have shown true love, they have taken development to all Parts of Zambia. - Janet Moonga

Don't stress him, the time is coming when we shall all be on the move. The suffering that citizens are going through is making them overdemanding on the opposition, fearful of a PF win and generally impatient. Chill. We are on course. - Munacho Shimapengo

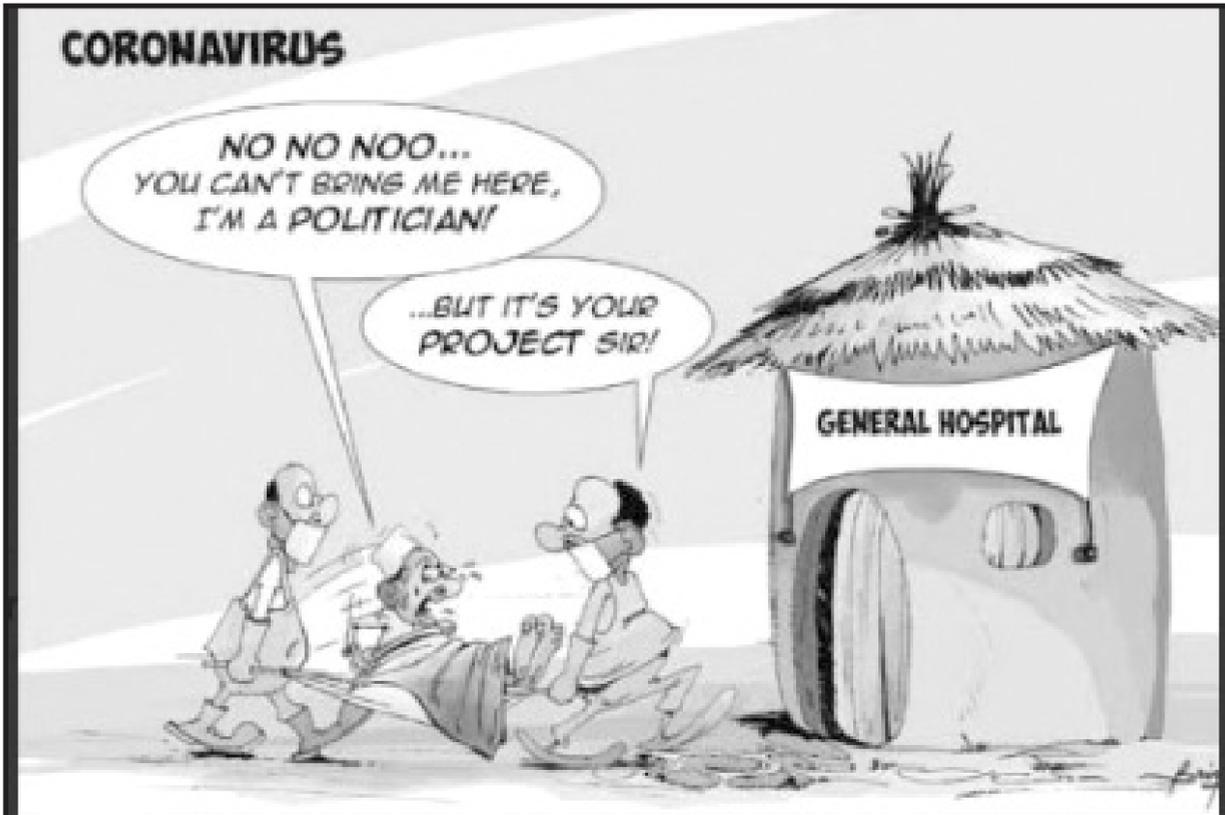
'Kakuka, Kakoma need to be replaced over UPND by-election losses

Dear Editor

Let you Kakoma and Katuka be replaced.... You two have lamentably failed.... Questions are being asked, answers must be given and action should and must be taken..... Not just comforting yourself and believe in your own imaginations! Pf is not taking next year's election lightly for your own information! - Ian Malekhanie

For a team to win a tournament, its performance is gauged by the number of friendly games it plays and win. UPND has been losing alot of bye-elections to the PF and still has the audacity to claim they would scoop the 2021 polls.... NEVER!...Ulabeja yebo kakoma!...continue comforting yourselves blindly while PF is busy organising its structures on the ground. - Elias Mwanza

UPND Must wake up to convince the people. A change can't be done through Facebook no, through Instagram no, through Twitting no, through social media no. The last time I checked is that they must leave their comfortable zones and go out there sweat, suffer plant the tree in the knowledge that those who plant the tree may never enjoy it's shades. - Cornerstone C Tiango



Health PS' claim that Chilufya's corruption case hasn't derailed COVID-19 fight

Editor

Funds of covid 19 were diverted to fund other programs... That's why the government does not have enough reagents to carry more tests... Misappropriation of funds is one major reason they should not over look. - Elvis K Makwangala

What a dishonest statement. The problem with our government is they think they are the only educated ones! Please learn to be honest. I like Dr. Chilufya and I believe he knows what he doing. But, he is compromised.

Perhaps his case has not slowed down donations due to his case. The truth is his case slowed down the country's progress towards fighting corona. When he stopped giving updates, he slowed the fight against corona. When he showed up at the court and there was a mass gathering, that sealed the envelope. Let's not pick and choose which part has slowed down the fight against corona. It is a combination including the President himself. - Herta Shikapwashya

The mistake you make is relying to much on social media likes and comments. Hilary Clinton had the most likes and the opinion polls from the reknowned media predicated her winning by a wide margin what happened waq very embarrassing. You people you forget tbe silent voice, the ones you always call irritates, dull and uneducated, these are in the majority and they are tbe ones your friends are targeting and befriending.

You seem to be comfortable with social media support such that you forgot about those people that voted for in large numbers in the rural parts of western and northwestern province.

You will be surprised one dqy even in southern province where you think its automatic you have a 100% vote things can change.

Bakakoma wakeup because you will cry more than you did last time. - Neto Chitindi

MoH's advice to stay away from weddings, funerals amid COVID-19

editor

I kindly ask someone to go to State House and read the guidelines for the Corona virus so that our hard working, God given president should not be found in large gathering with no social distance observed. - Chanda Dudu Mutale

The Authorities have acted totally irresponsibly..... this Covid thing calls for personal responsibility and protection.....do not look to the left nor to the right for guidance.....this is one of those "discipline is within thyself" kind of season.....be responsible, be safe and protect yourself - Lombe Nkunde

You are the cause of these deaths.....No one can obey the rules if the Law makers are the law breakers.....we have lost it all together..... By elections continue and you tell pipo to avoid weddings.....pipo don't attend a funeral you call them names - Robimson Bwato

It's no coincidence that the cases and deaths have gone up after the government started holding political rallies with huge crowds disregarding the Covid19 guidelines! The government is responsible for this! - Henrietta Buwalda

Honestly it is very difficult to understand what is going on. Political gathering, disguised campaigns by the ruling party and by elections are going on normally but for everyone else life is supposed to come to a standstill. Who is fooling who? - Mukaba Mukaba

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.

AFRICA'S biggest supermarket chain, South African-owned Shoprite, says it is considering pulling out of Nigeria.

It said it was looking at selling all "or a majority stake" of its operations in Africa's most-populous country.

Shoprite is the latest South African retailer to look at leaving Nigeria - clothing firm Mr Price announced its exit in June, and Woolworths in 2014.

Shoprite's decision comes at a time when Nigeria's economy is struggling amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Economists from the World Bank have warned that the oil-rich country could be on the brink of its worst recession since the 1980s because of "the collapse in oil prices coupled with the Covid-19 pandemic".

Shoprite said lockdown restrictions because of coronavirus had affected its operations in 14 African countries, with sales declining by 1.4% in those markets. Its South African operations on the other hand witnessed "significant growth".

The retailer has also been battling currency-induced inflation surges - especially in Nigeria, where it has been hit hardest.

Shoprite employs at least 2,000 people in Nigeria.

The retailer's stores in the capital, Abuja, and the commercial hub, Lagos, became a flashpoint for

Shoprite considers pulling out of Nigeria



outrage in 2019, following violent attacks in South Africa on other migrants from elsewhere in the continent.

The National Association of Nigerian Students (Nans) - which represents university students at campuses across the country - picketed branches of Shoprite and South African telecoms giant MTN, turning away staff and customers.

The student body demanded that all South African-owned businesses leave the West African state.

Why Shoprite has struggled in Nigeria

Analysis by Nduka Orjinmo, BBC News, Lagos

Shoprite's failure in Nigeria is not surprising, the shiny shopping malls with escalators where its outlets are located are more popular for taking pictures than actual shopping.

Though it is regarded as a working-class supermarket in South Africa, most here consider it as catering to the upper

classes.

Tens of millions of Nigerians are poor or unemployed - and the minority who have the spending power to shop

at Shoprite have seen their finances take a battering because of the coronavirus pandemic.

These are hard times for businesses, but the slow

growth at Shoprite Nigeria predates the pandemic.

Consumers here want quality services, but they want it on the cheap. **BBC**

Zimbabwe patients 'dying in hospital car park'

DOCTORS in Zimbabwe say the country is facing a crisis from a shortage of healthcare workers as the number of Covid-19 infections begins to rise.

Dr Rashida Ferrand, an epidemiologist at the main public hospital in the capital Harare told the BBC there are too few doctors and nurses because of a health workers' strike, which began before the pandemic, and a shortage of protective equipment.

She told the BBC's Newsday programme:

Quote Message: As a result of that, many wards, including the Covid centre, do not have enough staff. So whilst we have the capacity, we're currently relying on two volunteer doctors and a small group of nurses per shift. Even though we have extremely sick patients we are taking in only a maximum of 30 patients."

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The hospital is having to turn patients away:

Quote Message: The reality is that if there are patients who are about to die and are at home I ask relatives and doctors to make them comfortable.

The reality is that if there are patients who are about to die and are at home I ask relatives and doctors to make them comfortable.

Quote Message: We've had patients dying in the car park and unfortunately as soon as [we reach] the limit of 30 beds which I can cope with, given the staff I have, I have to say 'no' [to their admission to the hospital].

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unfortunately as soon as [we reach] the limit of 30 beds which I can cope with, given the staff I have, I have to say 'no' [to their admission to the hospital].

Quote Message: And that is a very very gut wrenchingly difficult decision we've had to make over the last couple of weeks."

And that is a very very gut wrenchingly difficult decision we've had to make over the last couple of weeks."

Zimbabwe has had nearly 4,000 confirmed virus cases, with 70 deaths officially registered, but doctors say the actual numbers are higher. **BBC**

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VIRGIL van Dijk has proven himself to be “unbelievable” in almost every aspect since joining Liverpool, but former Reds defender Kolo Toure thinks forwards can cause him more problems by running at him in one-on-one situations.

Netherlands international Van Dijk joined Liverpool from Southampton in January 2018 for a reported £75 million (\$98m), at the time a world-record fee for a defender.

His signing helped transform Liverpool from top-four contenders into a team that challenges for

Van Dijk has a weakness - Toure

titles, as the Reds were only narrowly beaten to the 2018-19 Premier League title while also winning the Champions League.

Van Dijk's influence showed no sign of abating this term as Liverpool won a first league title in 30 years, while his performances continue to impress.

Toure, a former Liverpool and Celtic defender like Van Dijk, is an admirer of the centre-back but feels

forwards might have a little more fortune against him if they are braver.

“He’s an unbelievable player,” Toure told Stats Perform News. “He’s a top player. He’s got speed, height, he can jump. He’s got technique. He can switch the game with his long passes. He has got everything.

“I haven’t seen many players challenge him one on one. In my opinion, that’s his weakness! He’s really tall and if you really attack him with the ball, he can struggle, but he’s so clever.

“He’s so clever because he drops well, but if you are really aggressive in attack in a one-on-one, I think you can get something from him.

“He’s a really clever player. He’s got [Joe] Gomez on his side, good players on his side to help him as well. There are good players around him and I think that makes his game easy, but I think he’s got so many qualities.”

Toure was part of the Liverpool team that were pipped to the title by Manchester City in 2013-14, losing out by two points after Steven Gerrard’s infamous slip in a 2-0 defeat to Chelsea helped hand the initiative back to Manuel Pellegrini’s men. **GOAL.COM**



Former Reds centre back Kolo Toure



Liverpool centre half Virgil van Dijk

Willian snubs latest Chelsea contract offer

WILLIAN has again turned down an offer of a two-year contract from Chelsea, but the winger has delayed making a final decision on his future.

The 31-year-old still wants to play in the Blues’ probable final game of the season as they aim to overcome a 3-0 first leg home defeat against Bayern Munich in the Champions League on Saturday.

Frank Lampard is facing a selection crisis for the match with Christian Pulisic, Cesar Azpilicueta, Pedro and Billy Gilmour all out injured, while Jorginho and Marcos Alonso are suspended.

Willian is aiming to recover from his Achilles problem which caused him to miss the FA Cup final against Arsenal, amid offers from five clubs.

His agent, Kia Joorabchian, told talkSPORT last week: “I don’t think he’s done a U-turn or any kind of turn. He’s always been very much in the same mode. We had big offers – one from MLS which required him to move on July 1 – but he’s always wanted to finish the season at Chelsea and the day after the season has finished he would decide.

“He has two concrete offers from Premier League clubs on the table, an offer from an MLS club, and two other offers from Europe. He is going to make his decision after the last game of the season.”

The MLS club is understood to be Inter Miami, but Arsenal are thought to be the front

runners due to Willian’s desire to remain in London and play at the highest possible level.

The other offers are rumoured to be from Barcelona and Inter, although Goal has been told that the Catalan giants are no longer moving for the winger.

The Blues’ chances of keeping their January 2013 signing from Anzhi Makhachkala appear to be slim as they are immovable on the length of contract that they are willing to offer.

Chelsea have recently upped their one-year contract policy for players over 30 to two years, but are unwilling to push that again to three for the Brazil international.

“It is his decision, I haven’t got that answer,” Lampard said of the situation to reporters on Saturday. “I know the situation at the club’s end. I have a great relationship with Willian, but I don’t actually know what the decision is.

“If that happens over the next whatever days, as he said, then that would be good for me in either way. Of course, I am very happy with Willian. He has been brilliant for me this season with his input and work ethic, within the squad.

“It is his choice and I respect his choice. He has been a great servant for Chelsea if he decides to move on, and if he does decide to move on then Chelsea will move on and we have to look forwards ourselves.”

Indeed, the Blues have already moved forward having signed two competitors for Willian’s place in both RB Leipzig forward Timo Werner and Ajax playmaker Hakim Ziyech at a combined cost of £84 million (\$105m).

Chelsea have now turned their focus to signing Bayer Leverkusen’s Kai Havertz, but the Bundesliga club have yet to open talks over a fee. **GOAL**



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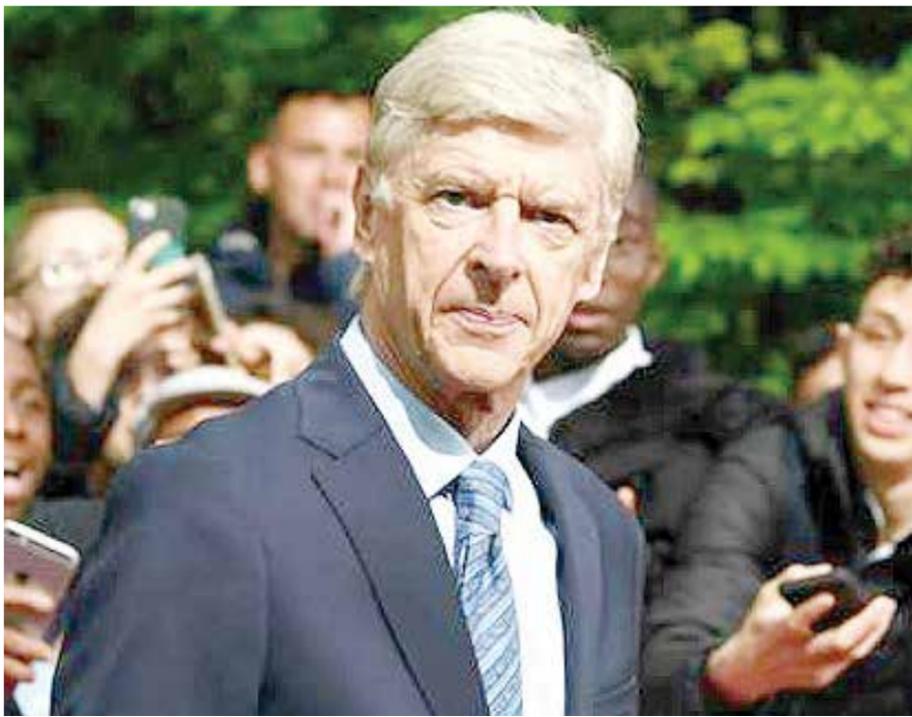
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Wenger open to managerial return... I MAY COACH AGAIN



...but only under 'optimal conditions'

FORMER Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger has revealed he's open to coaching again one day but only under conditions he deems as "optimal".

Wenger departed the Gunners after 22 years in 2018 and is currently working as FIFA's new Chief of Global Football Development.

While eager to make the most of his new position, the Frenchman admits he's

missing being a manager and concedes he could make a return if the right position presents itself.

"Every day, I want to train, I've been doing this all my life," Wenger told Europe 1.

"I'm 70 years old, I gave a lot. Should I play Russian roulette a bit, even when it comes to my health? I can't do things by halves, so I ask myself this question."

Asked what it would take

for him to manage again, Wenger replied: "It will be in conditions that I consider optimal. Otherwise, I will not do it."

Wenger officially joined FIFA in November last year with the former Arsenal manager refuting reports at the time that Bayern Munich wanted him to replace Niko Kovac.

Though still getting used to his new role and eager to make an impact, Wenger hinted he's not a massive fan of being stuck inside when he previously conducted much of his work out on the pitch.

"I smelled the grass every morning, and today I am more in muffled, administrative environments, and in offices. So obviously, I feel a bit of an intruder in there," he said.

"I want to create the most efficient analysis center in the world at FIFA. I know it is very ambitious, but you will see that at the World Cup in 2022 we will produce match analyses which will be extremely efficient."

"I'm in the process of hiring a lot of people at this level right now. And I think there is still a lot of progress to be made in the way we see football."

The 70-year-old recently declared Paris-Saint Germain and Manchester City as his favourites to take out this season's Champions League when it resumes this week.

Both sides must still navigate the second legs of their last-16 ties with PSG trailing Lyon 1-0 and City holding a 2-1 lead over Real Madrid. **GOAL.COM**

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