



FIC explains drop in illicit financial cases

CRIMINALS GOING FOR MINERALS - FIC

By Julia Malunga

THE Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC) says as the illicit cash transactions in the financial sector get worse, Zambians must focus their eyes on the rise in criminal activities

around timber, wildlife and precious stones, such as gold, as these have become easier means for criminals to take money out of the country.

And, outgoing FIC acting Director General Clement Kapalu

says when boards of government institutions do not provide the latitude for workers to do what they ought to do, they engage in self-censorship which inhibits initiative and innovation.

In this verbatim interview, Kapalu explains the challenges the center has faced in the past one year, and implores the public not to lose confidence, saying criminal elements will have it hard trying to break the

professional culture at the institution:

Question: The long awaited 2019 FC report is finally out but we note the method for releasing it is a little unusual. Why has this been the case?

Story page 2



Colleagues aid suspended Eastern Province PF chairperson Emmanuel J Banda (on wheelchair) to get into a vehicle at the Lusaka Magistrates' Court yesterday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

ZICTA fines all 3 mobile networks K5.4m for poor service

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

ZICTA has fined all three mobile network operators with K5.4 million for failure to provide quality service to its subscribers, with Airtel being the worst culprit and slapped with the highest fine of K4.8 million.

Story page 5

Schools must re-open, COVID-19 shouldn't overshadow development - PS

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

GENERAL Education Permanent Secretary Jobbicks Kalumba says stakeholders must advocate for schools to be opened because keeping them closed until next year will be disastrous.

And Kalumba says COVID-19 must not be looked at as a big mountain to overshadow other forms of development because the country will collapse.

Speaking when he featured on ZNBC's Kwacha Good Morning show, Thursday, Kalumba urged stakeholders to advocate for schools to be re-opened.

"We should preach one

thing [that] schools must be opened, otherwise, a good number of people will lose employment. And when they lose employment..."

Story page 2

Arresting a criminal can never trigger civil unrest - Chama

Story page 7

Ng'andu to unveil 2021 budget on September 25

By Diggers! Reporter

FINANCE Minister Dr Bwalya Ng'andu is expected to deliver the 2021 national budget on September 25, 2020, following

the just-ended budgetary consultative process.

This is according to a statement issued by Ministry of Finance spokesperson

Chileshe Kandeta, Thursday.

"According to Part XVI, Article 202 (1) and (3), of Constitution of Zambia (2016), the Minister..."

Story page 3

Wheelchair-ridden Jay Jay appears before Lusaka Magistrates' Court



Suspended Eastern Province PF chairperson Emmanuel Banda on a wheelchair at Lusaka's Magistrates' Court yesterday - Picture by Tenson Mkhala

By Zondiwe Mbewe

SUSPENDED Patriotic Front Eastern Province youth chairperson Emmanuel Banda, commonly known as Jay Jay, yesterday appeared before the Lusaka Magistrates' Court in a case in which he is accused of assaulting a police officer with intent to steal.

Meanwhile, there was a heavy presence of Zambia Police officers, who were securing the Court complex ahead of the said case.

In this matter, Banda, who was on a wheelchair, is jointly-charged with four others with one count of aggravated assault with intent to steal.

The accused persons in this matter are Banda, 35, a businessman of Petauke, Eastern Province; John Lungu, 26, a general worker of Garden House, Lusaka; Maxwell Pito, 20, a peasant farmer of Lusaka West; Moses Silyonde, 27, unemployed of Kanyama and Lyford Phiri, 21, unemployed, of unknown residential address.

It is alleged that on July 6, 2020 in Lusaka, the five jointly and whilst acting together with others unknown and with intent to steal, assaulted Allan Mbahwe at Lusaka Central Police Station.

Banda is being represented by lawyers Jonas Zimba, Osborne Ngoma and James Matarilo.

At the previous sitting, Lusaka Chief Resident Magistrate Lameck Mwale ordered the police commanding officer in Chipata to ensure that Banda appeared before him.

When the matter came up

for explanation of the charge before Magistrate Mwale, Thursday, the five accused persons said they understood the charge after it was explained to them.

At this point, Magistrate Mwale informed them that they would not take plea as the charge they are facing is only triable by the High Court.

"You shall not take plea in this case because it is tried by the High Court," he said.

However, State prosecutor Stuyvesant Malambo said the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) had not yet issued a Certificate of Committal to the High Court for trial and further

proposed that the matter comes up for mention on September 25, this year.

But Magistrate Mwale wondered why the Certificate of Committal was not yet ready when the State was aware that the matter had been delayed.

The State could not, however, give an explanation on why the instructions to commit the accused persons to the High Court had been delayed.

Magistrate Mwale then adjourned the matter to September 25.

Banda is also facing another case of unlawful assembly in the Chipata Magistrates' Court.

By Julia Malunga

THE Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC) says as the illicit cash transactions in the financial sector get worse, Zambians must focus their eyes on the rise in criminal activities around timber, wildlife and precious stones, such as gold, as these have become easier means for criminals to take money out of the country.

And, outgoing FIC acting Director General Clement Kapalu says when boards of government institutions do not provide the latitude for workers to do what they ought to do, they engage in self-censorship which inhibits initiative and innovation.

In this verbatim interview, Kapalu explains the challenges the center has faced in the past one year, and implores the public not to lose confidence, saying criminal elements will have it hard trying to break

Criminals now using natural resources to take illicit money out of the country – FIC

the professional culture at the institution:

Question: The long awaited 2019 FC report is finally out but we note the method for releasing it is a little unusual. Why has this been the case?

Answer: Indeed we changed the manner of release of the Trends report this year. Previously, the centre would invite stakeholders at a central location at which a short speech would be given and an opportunity for stakeholders to react to the report. Some stakeholders liked that process, some did not and we constantly listened to feedback from our stakeholders. And on this occasion we thought

we should do it differently. Apart from listening to some sections of our stakeholders, you remember we had issues of COVID and the fact that we could not have a lot of people in one location like we always do so we thought we could use our website to launch it. Nothing sinister.

Q: Interestingly, we have seen a sharp decline in the number of cases disseminated and cases analyzed, including the overall figure of money lost to illicit financial transactions, from K6 billion in 2018 to less than a billion in 2019. Is the FIC saying there has been a reduction in these illicit activities? *Story continues on P4*

Police arrest COBUSU finance secretary over theft, forgery

By Daniel Chansa

COPPERBELT University Students Union (COBUSU) finance secretary Bright Chanda has been arrested for theft by servant involving over K95, 000 from the union's account and forgery.

Copperbelt Province Deputy Police Commissioner Bothwell Namuswa has confirmed Chanda's arrest to News Diggers!

He said Chanda, 25, a student at CBU, is alleged to have stolen cash amounting to K95,990 from the COBUSU account.

"Theft by servant and forgery, occurred between 3rd March, 2020 and 19th June, 2020 at Zanaco, Kitwe Business Center in Kitwe and Zanaco Manda Hill in Lusaka, in which Michael

Papa Sinkala, 24, student (Prime minister COBUSU), reported on behalf of Copperbelt University Students Union (COBUSU) that students' money, cash amounting to K95,990.00, was stolen from the COBUSU Account by Bright Chanda, 25, of H/No 318, Francis Mukuka, Mufulira, a student (Finance Minister COBUSU)," Namuswa said.

He said Chanda, as one of the signatories to the COBUSU account, forged the signature of Dean of Students Dr Alisala Mulambya, who is the other signatory.

"Chanda is in police custody and we are following this matter and more arrests will be made," said Namuswa.

Schools must re-open, COVID-19 shouldn't overshadow development – PS

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

GENERAL Education Permanent Secretary Jobbicks Kalumba says stakeholders must advocate for schools to be opened because keeping them closed until next year will be disastrous.

And Kalumba says COVID-19 must not be looked at as a big mountain to overshadow other forms of development because the country will collapse.

Speaking when he featured on ZNBC's Kwacha Good Morning show, Thursday, Kalumba urged stakeholders to advocate for schools to be re-opened.

"We should preach one

thing [that] schools must be opened, otherwise, a good number of people will lose employment. And when they lose employment, what are the consequences of that? It's like we have looked at COVID-19 as a big mountain. It shouldn't raise fear to me; COVID-19 has come to stay, but other developmental programmes must continue. That's the meaning of new normal," Kalumba said.

He said that COVID-19 must not overshadow other forms of development because the pandemic was there to stay.

"COVID-19 must not overshadow other forms of development that government

is embarking on. Otherwise, this country will collapse! Roads will never be constructed. No form of activities will take place. It is a new normal. As long as we abide by what the Ministry of Health has provided, let's just continue. Here is an experience, no child has died and they have closed the schools. And I know they will come back to their similar health status. We have nothing to get worried about. Life must continue as usual. We must move on with life in order to give hope to this nation," he urged.

Kalumba further said that with or without schools opening, everyone was a potential carrier of the virus, hence the need to allow schools to re-open.

"How many people die of malaria on a daily basis? So, we have stopped talking about malaria, but it's all about COVID-19. People have diabetes, people have heart disease and they are dying. But now, what is so special about COVID-19 that it should overshadow other forms of development? It's there, we know. But we should take precautions. Look at me here, I am married. I have a wife at home. [I practice] social distancing during the day [but what about] in the night? So, all of us are potential carriers of the virus. During the day, we have social distancing, but at night I am with my wife. Even in our homes, we have

extended families, our children sleep just like that. We have no social distancing in our homes. Why shouldn't schools be re-opened?" Kalumba asked.

And he said that the Ministry had the capacity to accommodate all the learners in schools through a designed timetable, which will have spaced learning sessions.

"We shall accommodate all the children because we are going to design the time table in such a way that there will be sessions. Others can come in the morning and learn up to 10:00 hours; others up to 12:00 hours; others up to 15:00 hours and others up to 18:00 hours. In that way, we will be able to maintain social distancing," he added.

He insisted that it would be disastrous if schools did not re-open this year as certain grades would have two sets of learners.

"It will be disastrous if schools don't open this year because at the moment, we have the grade sevens who are now going to write their examinations. When they pass, they will go to grade eight. At the same time, we have some grade eights who are at home. So, it simply means that in a particular year, there will be two grade eight groups, which are very difficult for us to comprehend. Grade nines are writing examinations right now, next year, there is another grade 10, which is waiting at home. These are the complications,

which we will have if we don't open schools this year. There will be a disaster," Kalumba warned.

Asked if those who were not in examination classes should be allowed to progress to the next grade, Kalumba said doing so would compromise the quality of education.

"That is wrong. We are going to compromise on quality. We are going to usher into another phase of life as a compromised country because what we learn today has a bearing on what we are going to cover. If there is a topic on reproduction today in grade 10, the same topic on reproduction will emerge in grade 11 covering different units. So, you don't have to compromise on quality in the name of progressing. It's better we adjust the time table, we reduce the number of holidays so that we cover up the whole content," he said.

Meanwhile, Kalumba announced that his Ministry had made a recommendation to the Office of the President requesting for a go-ahead to re-open schools.

"As a Ministry, we cannot make a decision [as to when schools should open], we have also other bodies that must give us a go-ahead. And as a Ministry, we have made a recommendation to the highest authority and when they feel like, yes, it's the right time, they will grant us the authority," said Kalumba.

Police launch manhunt for masked Ndola man who defiled 10 year old

By Daniel Chansa

POLICE in Ndola have launched a manhunt for an unknown man who is on the run after defiling a 10-year-old girl.

The unknown man defiled the 10-year-old who was playing hide and seek with her siblings.

Copperbelt Deputy Commissioner of Police Bothwell Namuswa said the unknown man had masked his face while defiling the girl.

Namuswa said the masked man was in the company of another man who held the other three siblings captive, while his friend defiled the 10-year-old.

"We had a report of defilement which

occurred on September 1 in Bwana Mkubwa area in an unfinished building. It was reported by the mother of the victim on behalf of her daughter that she was defiled by a man who she cannot identify as he was wearing a mask," Namuswa said.

He said the 10-year-old victim was attacked while she was playing hide and seek with her siblings aged seven, five and three years.

"The man then pounced on the young girl. He was in company of another man who held the other three siblings captive while his colleague defiled the victim," said Namuswa.

He said the suspect was on the run while the victim had been taken to hospital and that the matter was under serious investigations.

By Diggers! Reporter
 FINANCE Minister Dr Bwalya Ng'andu is expected to deliver the 2021 national budget on September 25, 2020, following the just-ended budgetary consultative process.

This is according to a statement issued by Ministry of Finance spokesperson Chileshe Kandeta, Thursday.

"According to Part XVI, Article 202 (1) and (3), of Constitution of Zambia (2016), the Minister of Finance is mandated to prepare and present the National Budget (estimates of revenue and expenditure) before the National Assembly, not later than ninety (90) days prior to the commencement of the next financial year for Parliamentary approval on or before 31st December. In this regard, the Minister of Finance Dr Bwalya Ng'andu is expected to deliver the 2021 National Budget on Friday, 25 September, 2020. In his speech, the Minister will address issues related to the global and domestic economy, macro-economic objectives, policies, and strategies for 2021, and the 2021 national

Ng'andu to unveil 2021 budget on September 25

budget," Kandeta stated. "In the intervening period, the inter-ministerial Tax Policy Review Committee (TPRC) comprising experts in direct taxes, mining matters, customs and excise, and value added tax; and the inter-ministerial Non-Tax Policy Review Committee (NTPRC) comprising experts from all revenue-generating Ministries and agencies, will be finalising their assessment of proposals and recommendations to arrive at the best possible revenue generation measures for the 2021 National Budget."

And he refuted any assertions that the World Bank had halted its budgetary support to Zambia.

"At this point, we wish to address the misinformation by unknown people, which

has been circulated on various media platforms alleging that the World Bank has halted BUDGET SUPPORT to Zambia. To start with, Zambia DOES NOT get budget support from the World Bank. At this point, we have also NOT YET APPLIED for budget support from the World Bank; therefore, halting, rejection, or stoppage is not applicable. What we currently get from the World Bank is project support. The facility is intact and the disbursements are flowing. Starting in June, 2020, the World Bank has availed Zambia a new window under IDA 19. In this regard, the indicative planning and budgeting allocation for the period 2021 to 2022 is US \$600 million across all eligible sectors in the current country partnership framework for the period 2019 to 2023," stated Kandeta.

"Ministry of Finance will continue to engage frequently, local and external partners in order to improve information exchange on matters of

mutual socio-economic interest."

Various stakeholders, such as umbrella business associations, industry captains, professional bodies and interest groups, among others, made submissions to the Ministry of Finance during the consultation

period, which ran from May-August, 2020.

The number of submissions received by August 31, 2020, were 382, with 225 proposals submitted on customs and excise tax, according to Kandeta.

In May, 2020, the Ministry of Finance announced

the commencement of preparations for the 2021-2023 Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and the 2021 national budget.

The public, private sector players and non-State actors were invited to make proposals on tax and non-tax policies for possible inclusion in the 2021 budget to ensure broad-based consultations.

Although this year's K106 billion national budget was government's highest-ever proposed expenditure, Dr Ng'andu required an additional K15.01 billion supplementary budget to tackle Zambia's huge public debt repayments, among other government functions.



Kanganja launches POS machines on C/Belt

By Daniel Chansa
 INSPECTOR General of Police Kakoma Kanganja says reducing contact of cash among officers will enhance revenue collections.

Kanganja said this in Ndola during the launch of the ZANACO Point of Sale System.

Kanganja said the point of sale machines would quicken remittance of funds into the transit account and reduce allegations of corruption against the police service.

Kanganja said the programme, which was recently launched in Lusaka

and had already been rolled out in Southern and Central Provinces, would also enable members of the public make payments on the spot.

"This is in line with government's police of going e-smart as pronounced by the President of the Republic of Zambia Edgar Lungu," he said.

He said it would also reduce the cost of documentation, besides enhancing operational efficiency at the Zambia Police and ZANACO.

He directed responsible officers to ensure that members of the public and other

officers in the police service were sensitised on the new procedures and use of the new system.

"You may wish to know that this initial phase will have 20 points of sale machines in all the 10 provinces at selected police stations which will be on a pilot basis," said Kanganja.

And Copperbelt Deputy Police Commissioner Bothwell Namuswa said traffic officers in the province collect in excess of K200,000 every week.

Namuswa said the corruption tag on traffic police officers was not good.

"For the Copperbelt, our traffic officers collect in excess of K200,000 every week for revenue for the government. This system will not just build confidence, but will enable prudent use of resources. It will remove the bad tag that officers on the road receive bribes all the time," said Namuswa.

And Accountant General Kennedy Musonda described the move as a milestone that would reduce non tax revenue queries.

Musonda said audit queries in the police were a thorn in the flesh.

"The tag of corruption should be removed from the police. If it can be removed then it will be a milestone. The issues if audit queries in the police is a thorn in the flesh. The majority of queries in the Auditor General report is on tax queries and not banked money. But I am sure this system will reduce the temptation and even ensure that revenue for the government is collected on time without any delay," said Musonda.

Meanwhile, ZANACO Northern Region Coordinator, Cathrine Kankinda said the partnership signified a step towards ending handling of cash in the COVID-19 era.

Kankinda said provision of innovative banking services to consumers remained the bank's desire.

"I wish to assure you sir that our team will be on hand to ensure quick and convenient accessibility to the system," said Kankinda.

Kambwili fails to appear before court again

By Zondiwe Mbewe
 NDC leader Chishimba Kambwili yesterday failed to appear before the Lusaka

Magistrate's Court as he is still unwell.

Kambwili is reported to have COVID-19.

In this matter, Kambwili, his son Mwamba, Mwamona Engineering and Technical Services, Lukwesa Musonda Brano and Mulenga Makasa Kapilima are charged with; one count of making a document without authority, one count of uttering a false document, two counts of obtaining pecuniary advantage by false pretenses and 35 counts of being in possession of property suspected to be proceeds of crime.

It is alleged in one of the counts that Mwamona Engineering and Kambwili on dates unknown but between August 1, 2014 and September 30, 2016, in Lusaka, whilst acting together by means of false pretence, dishonestly obtained US\$105,220.07 from China Henan International Corporation Group Limited, purporting that Mwamona, a company which was subcontracted, was executing the works on Luwingu-Mansa road when in fact not.

Kambwili and Mwamona are also alleged to have presented a false ZRA tax clearance certificate to ZESCO purporting that it was genuinely issued, resulting in the award of a contract of K8 million for the construction of Houses and toilets under the

Lunzua Hydro Power project, thereby obtaining pecuniary advantage of a contract sum of K1,652,482.81.

However, when the matter came up for continued trial before magistrate Mwaka Mikalile, Thursday, the State informed the court that all the accused persons were before court apart from Kambwili.

At this point, one of Kambwili's sureties Kwangu Mukupa told the court that the accused person was unable to attend court because he was still unwell.

Mukupa a teacher of Lusaka's Lilanda area, said he was in possession of documents from Roan Antelope Hospital in Luanshya, Copperbelt, to show that Kambwili was still sick.

He told the court that Kambwili had done a test for COVID-19 but said the doctor who attended to him said the results would only be ready in two week's time.

The surety also submitted the documents to the court for perusal and verification.

After going through the documents, magistrate Mikalile adjourned the matter to September 17, 2020 for mention and setting of trial days.

Last month, Kambwili announced on his Facebook page that he tested positive to COVID-19 and was under isolation.



LUSAKA CITY COUNCIL

CITY OF LUSAKA PLANNING AUTHORITY

THE URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING ACT
 NO. 3 SECTION 53(2) OF 2015 OF THE LAWS OF ZAMBIA

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Centre for Infectious Diseases Research in Zambia (CIDRZ), intends to apply for planning permission for change of Land use from Residential to Mixed Use, on Sub 15 and Sub 16 of F/378a, Ibex Hill, City of Lusaka.

The plot measures approximately 8.0925 Hectares and 10.7375 Hectares in extent. The application may be viewed at the Office of The Town Clerk of Lusaka City Council P.O Box 30077, Lusaka and submissions or observations on the application may be made to the planning authority without charge. Submissions or Observations must be in writing and made within the period of 30 days beginning on the first date of the period for the publication of this notice being 2nd September, 2020 and ending on 1st October, 2020.

ALEX MWANSA
 TOWN CLERK
 For/ CITY OF LUSAKA PLANNING AUTHORITY

Date of erection of a site notice 2nd September, 2020.

From P2

A: Variations in numbers speak much more to the fact that crime is not like you work in a factory floor where you can say 'we produce 100 bricks per day' what comes to us in terms of reports will wildly vary or fluctuate. Our job is to ensure that once that comes, we are able to analyze it according to the law and disseminate. This year, the report has gone to great lengths to put out a flowchart on how the center receives the information, analyzes it, and disseminates it. That was deliberate to indicate that what the center looks at, as a matter of fact, comes from other stakeholders. So we don't choose what we need to analyze. Reporting entities, of which banks are a big part, send to the center what we have to work on. And once they have sent, our obligation is to look at what is before us and therefore, what comes in, the center has no control. And therefore what we receive is what we analyze and disseminate. So in that sense, it should not be viewed as though the center had control of what those numbers should look like. If it is K6 billion that we have received and we think it has reasonable suspicion, we shall disseminate it as it is. If it is K1 billion as has been the case this particular period we shall disseminate. If it shall be K7 billion next year, so shall it be reported.

Q: A number of people were disappointed immediately this 2019 report was circulated. People expected to see a rise in cases reported and disseminated because of the various suspicious financial activities happening around the country. I know you have explained that, that process is really not entirely up to the center. But are you not concerned that there could be a school of thought among members of the public that perhaps the center has been

Criminals now using natural resources to take illicit money out of the country – FIC

captured, given the figures we see in this report?

A: We value the trust that the public has in this center and I would like to assure that to the extent that the law allows us to carry our mandate, we shall continue to do so. As a matter of fact, this is one institution which, to the extent possible, has tried to execute its mandate without any influence from outside. You will get pressure, some of it negative but the decision as to whether to bend to that pressure, frankly is yours. Has there been any external influence as to how and what ends up getting reported? I would categorically say no there hasn't

Q: Reading the report, there is a part where I noticed an indication from the centre that there was an element of inadequate funding. What does this mean? You were not receiving funding from the ministry?

A: We are receiving funding and we did receive funding last year but it was anywhere between 65 and 70 percent of the requirements of the center. That directly affects our ability to do verification of the suspicious transactions reports that we receive from reporting entities. So yes it is correct that funding in the previous year was not adequate and it did to some extent impact the results that you see. Having said that, one should commend the government. There has been a complete reversal in 2020. We have seen a trend where the government has fully funded the center in 2020. And I can promise that you will see a much more improved and robust performance for 2020.

Q: My next question was going to be that perhaps the inadequate funding could be

deliberate because we have seen sentiments from some government officials that as the center you are going against the law to consistently release this report, which some individuals in government find contentious. They feel that it is simply a process of witch-hunt because you are disseminating what they call raw data or rumors. What would you say to that?

A: We would like to believe the inadequate funding impacted other institutions as well, not only the Centre. But more importantly we had a situation this year where through the Cabinet affairs committee of parliament, the mandate of the center was under significant scrutiny and a lot of stakeholders were invited to present papers including those that we work with extremely closely. And if you followed that process, it is abundantly clear that the center is executing its mandate as required by the Financial Intelligence Centre act and we are executing our mandate as required by international ML standards as pronounced by the financial action task force. So there is no question that the center may in one way or another, in fact, be going against the mandate that the law has given.

Q: Among the issues highlighted were cases of money laundering being pretty much on the rise. Would you like to explain to the people what that in comparison to 2017 and 2018.

A: Broadly speaking, if you look at the crimes seen in the country, the biggest problem that we have is that our preventative measures are not working well as they should. Even if you had a very good criminal justice system, that is able to detect a lot of them,

there will be no capacity to actually investigate, prosecute and probably convict these criminals. What needs to happen is its cheaper to prevent criminality from happening if criminality is widespread. It does not matter how good your investigative wings are, how your judicial system is, they will get overwhelmed. That is just what it is. Therefore, I believe we need to invest a little bit more on measure to prevent rather than to detect and correct crimes. I would go further that we have a situation where if you take an average public institution, and if the performance is not where the public expectation is, they are likely to give you the following reasons; one capacity, two; inadequate laws, three; they could talk of things like inadequate training or lack of financial resources. Truth is these may be contributing factors but there are not the major factors, the main factor is culture. That is the hard job. If for example one of the main sources where proceeds of crime are being laundered is the procurement process. What answer do you get? Let's revise the law.

Q: Does that change anything?

A: It does not. So what do you do? Where then is the problem? People will gladly put money through law reforms but you constantly get the same results, the answer is why? It is the culture. We know that even if the law is changed, there will be overridden by controlling officers, there will be collusion and still making it ineffective. We have not started to have a conversation, the real conversation of what we need to do and it is everything to do with change. And that is where we need to steer this

conversation. You will whip ACC, you will whip DEC there is only an extent to which they will be able to deal with these issues because they will easily get overwhelmed. We need to get back to a situation where we are saying why are these things happening? How can we stop them from happening? Rather than let them happen and then we detect and then hopefully think we can correct. These latter processes delay and they are expensive. But importantly it is critical that we think through this aspect of a culture change. And I can tell you having spent seven years here and reflecting on my time at the Centre, the one thing that has made these institutions perform despite the constraints in the law, constraints in financial resources, it has always been the culture that the initial governing board embedded in the center and that is going to continue because it is a source of sustainable competitive advantage. If you are looking from outside to say what makes the center tick, it won't be money. It is not going to be capacity building, or training these are contributing factors. The real issue is intangible value, behaviors you inculcate into the people that you lead in order to ensure that they have the necessary space and the latitude to do what they ought to do. If you begin to constrain staff, you begin to get self-censorship, you begin to get a lack of initiative, you begin to get a lack of innovation and this goes across other public institutions. Give institutions freedom of action, you will see innovation, you will see a lot more initiative than we probably have. And I think at the FIC this is one aspect that I have been able to see that despite other constraints, there

has been positive movement.

Q: in the report you talk about procurement challenges. Somebody in government was suggesting that maybe what Zambian needs is the office of Procurement General, like you have the Accountant General's Office. Do you think that, from the center's point of view, would help in some way?

A: There are different schools of thought. There is one that advocates for decentralization of that process, perhaps to the district, perhaps to the provinces because that one devolves power of those that are in Lusaka who are able to make decisions which negatively may affect people that are far off from the capital city. So there are individuals who believe more devolution will empower citizens to make decisions at the local level and that also applies to procurement. There are some who believe they will not be able to handle it and you will see a multiplicity of the corruption. So that is a debate but then you can look at it and say 'this is an arrangement that we previously had to some extent through the Zambia National Tender Board.' It is for academics to help us now check and analyze whether or not procurement corruption at that time was like it is today. Which of the two served the republic better? But everything said whether you decentralize or centralize to me it goes back to the core issue of values, behaviors. What makes our culture as individuals? We may borrow the best systems, superintend them on to the country if our culture isn't right, it won't work. And I think this is the conversation we need to continue to have. We need change agents around this issue of culture and to see how this may permeate through different aspects of our society including procurement. *Story continues on P5*

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EastPark
Mall
It's a Lifestyle Choice

CORNER OF GREAT EAST
& THABO MBEKI RD
LUSAKA, ZAMBIA



From P4

Q: I would like you to explain to me the rise in cases of suspicious cash transactions. How would someone go to the bank and withdraw K5 million, K10 million over the counter, are there no laws around this? Are banks allowed to give that much money in cash? How does that happen?

A: Well, it is your money so you can have it and the assumption is that that money is legally obtained. But what we see, where there are huge cash transactions, most of the time, it has to do with people trying to obscure the ultimate beneficial owners to this money. That is where the challenge is. Now, if you take that argument further, there are jurisdictions in the world that have literally limited the extent to which you can transact in cash. In Zambia, it continues to be a challenge that industries that you ordinarily don't expect to transact in cash are doing so. And you can see a direct link between the incidence of corruption and the transacting in cash. There is a debate at the moment around the cash transaction thresholds the SI 52, some people believing that that instrument is stifling banking activities but the reality around that issue is not to stop transactions but just to say 'transactions that are in cash above the particular threshold must be reported to the Centre.'

Q: I also note from your report that you have worked quite well with the Zambia Revenue Authority and you have also indicated that you have identified a number of cases where some companies are externalizing their proceeds from mining activities to offshore accounts. Have you follow up those accounts to find our money and bring it back?

A: Yes we have, and the individuals are known. Some of it is not even actually our effort, some of it is actually effort from our partners through the Egmont group [of Financial Intelligence Units] that will tell us 'your individual from Zambia is keeping so much money here. Can you check, is it legal or illegal money?' We will be able to do that. When our job is once done we will send that to law enforcement agencies. That is what we do,

Q: And cases such as the one where some government officials manipulated the payroll system, and payed themselves as much as K4 million, aren't those clear cases where individuals need to be picked up. Do you know if those individuals have been prosecuted?

A: Yes, we do believe that these are active cases by our colleagues the law enforcement agencies. But we have not yet gotten feedback from them so I would not be able to state whether they have proceeded to court or not.

Q: What kind of flows would you say exist in the government payroll system which could have caused this case?

A: One of the issues that one would immediately speak to, it has to be the quality of controls in the system.

Criminals now using natural resources to take illicit money out of the country – FIC

If you have low level public officers having to manipulate systems to syphon out funds up to this level, that ought to be worrying. We need to be constantly re-look and re-new the quality of our controls to ensure that exactly what I indicated earlier, there are preventative measures not to get things like this occurring. Very closely, it is about us now beginning to look at things like biometric identification because some of this may have to do with individuals that have died and their accounts being abused.

Q: Can you elaborate on the case of an individual civil servant who was earning a monthly pay of K5,000 but received K2.5 million proceeds from environmental related transactions?

A: Relating to the K5,000 and K2,5 million, the bigger discussion which the country should be interested in is that as the country's financial situation worsens, or as it gets more challenged, focus your eyes on our resources sector. Timber, soil, wildlife and precious stones. We anticipate those sectors coming under increasing pressure in terms of criminality because they have now become an easier means

of criminals getting money out of the country. And we think that there needs to be some rethinking on the way we control these aspects of our resources because increasingly we are seeing transactions around gold being reported to the Centre. And therefore we need to think through management of these natural resources and how they can benefit local people.

Q: Are you seeing a trend where some traditional authorities are getting involved in these activities? Or it is the politicians or it is the individual private business people?

A: I think it is a cocktail. You will find some traditional leaders involved in the timber trade or involved in the area of minerals. And normally in conjunction with business people.

Q: We have seen something similar to what you are saying in previous Trends Reports. What do you do if you disseminate the case as FIC and the following year, those individuals are not yet stopped and they continue with their illicit activities? Do you repeat the cases in your trends report? Do you report, in your dissemination, to the

law enforcement agencies the same individuals doing the same things or you just?

A: No we don't. Because firstly if there is a repeat, it will come as the subject of a separate suspicious transaction and therefore we analyze it afresh and if it is related to the previous, we send it as an addition to a previous case. If it is a whole new issue with separate facts, we send it as a fresh report. So, we don't ignore.

Q: Ah I see, so that means the X, Y Z that we are seeing in the 2019 Report maybe be the same people in the 2018 Report?

A: Yes, it may be the same people. (laughs...)

Q: I would be failing in my job if I don't ask this question about you in relation to the FIC because you have spoken very well about the culture that has been inculcated at the Centre from the time that you came here. And you are saying the professionalism has been quite high and that has helped the Centre to face the direction that it is facing to win the public confidence. But I am speaking to a man who has decided that he would like to separate from the Centre, people have so many questions around this

decision. One question that I would like to ask is; have the criminal elements you have been fighting, finally gotten to you and they have offered you a good job, a better salary and greener pasture elsewhere?

A: (Laughs...) The reasons for my leaving the Centre are obviously personal. But what I would like to say is that I think my mission at the Centre has been accomplished. Accomplished in the sense that we started a new institution without systems, without controls, without human capacity which we set up. But I leave at a time where I have mentored enough young persons in whom I think I have confidence that whether I am here or not the work of the Centre will continue to go on at the level that it is. Reason, culture. You inculcate a certain culture in the Centre in such that individuals become less important than the systems and with that, I will be going away a happy man knowing that the work of the Centre will continue.

Q: I would like to now give you an opportunity to speak to the people who really support the Centre. We have done an opinion poll on our website asking people which institution

they have the most trust in and the FIC stood out. Kindly give them your encouragement and farewell.

A: Thank you for the opportunity Mr Mwenda. The reason that this public confidence you have referred to is there now, it is because from inception, the Centre has tried to work within its mandate. You have catalogued a number of incidences where there would have been external pressure on the institution but I would like to assure people that the mission of the Centre has always been the people of Zambia. Our job is to prevent and detect money laundering and that mission has not changed. I do believe that the Centre will continue at that path and Zambians be rest assured that this is their institution we value the kind of public confidence and support that the public has shown in the Centre and that will continue. Again, the catch word today is culture because the culture in the Centre is really that of performance. You can try to pressure people here, it is highly unlikely that you will succeed.

Q: Thank you very much for the opportunity

A: You are welcome.

By Zondiwe Mbewe

LUSAKA High Court judge Sharon Newa has sentenced a 28-year-old man of Rufunsa District to 50 years imprisonment with hard labour for defiling his sister, who is an imbecile.

In her judgement, justice Newa said the case made a sad reading as the convict, being a biological brother to the victim, was aware that she is an imbecile who had no capacity to defend herself, but took advantage of her sexually.

She added that there is nothing to excuse such behavior as he should have been in the fore front of protecting her.

In this matter, Nelson Kapandula was charged with one count of defilement of an imbecile.

Rufunsa man gets 50 years for defiling imbecile sister

Particulars of the offence were that Kapandula between January 1, 2010 and May 29, 2018 in Rufunsa District had unlawful carnal knowledge of his sister knowing that she is an imbecile or of unsound mind.

He appeared before judge Newa after the Subordinate Court convicted him for the offence.

In his mitigation, Kapandula said he was 28 years old and still youthful.

He committed to contribute positively to the nation if he was given a second chance.

Kapandula further told the court that his four months incarceration had enabled

him to reform.

He added that he was remorseful for his bad behaviour and deeply apologized to the court.

The convict further asked the court to exercise leniency in imposing its sentence.

"We take cognisance of the fact that the offence carries a minimum mandatory sentence of 15 years. May the court exercise maximum leniency," he said.

But in her judgement, judge Newa said although the convict was a first offender who deserved leniency, the case made a very sad reading as the victim was an imbecile and sister to the convict.

"She (the victim) was

sexually abused by among others the convict, who fathered her first child of the three children that she has as established by the DNA tests that were conducted. The convict being a biological brother to the victim was aware that she is an imbecile who had no capacity to defend herself, but took advantage of her sexually," she said.

"There is nothing to excuse such behavior as he should have been in the fore front of protecting her."

Judge Newa said such behavior should not go

unpunished to serve as warning to would be offenders.

She said society should know that even mentally incapacitated persons were persons with full rights, just like normal people.

"I accordingly sentence the convict to 50 years imprisonment with hard labour with effect from April 30, 2020, the date of judgement. The convict is further informed of his right to appeal to the court of appeal within 30 days," ruled judge Newa.

ZICTA fines all 3 mobile networks K5.4m for poor service

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

ZICTA has fined all three mobile network operators with K5.4 million for failure to provide quality service to its subscribers, with Airtel being the worst culprit and slapped with the highest fine of K4.8 million.

In a statement issued by ZICTA corporate communications manager Ngabo Nankonde, Thursday, the authority fined Airtel Zambia with K4.8 million, Zamtel with K450,000, while MTN was fined the lowest at only K225,000 for various offenses, which mainly included failure to provide quality of service to their respective subscribers.

"Zambia Information and

Communication Technology Authority (ZICTA) has fined the three Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) – Airtel Networks Zambia Plc, Zamtel Limited, and MTN Zambia Limited, a total of ZMW5.4 million for failure to adhere to the Quality of Service (QoS) guidelines issued by ZICTA, April and June, 2020, respectively," Nankonde stated.

"Airtel has been fined a total of ZMW4,800,000 for failing to meet the following QoS parameters: (i) call setup success rate in Chipata, Kalulushi, and Lusaka; (ii) the drop rate in Ndola, and Lusaka; and (iii) HTTP download rate on 3G in Chisamba. Zamtel has been fined a total ZMW450,000 for

failing to meet the following QoS parameters; (i) call setup success rate in Chingola, Lusaka and Kitwe; and (ii) HTTP successful Internet log-ins in Chingola, Chipata, and Kitwe. MTN has been fined ZMW225,000 for failing to meet the HTTP success Internet log-in in Chipata, Ndola, and Chisamba."

Nankonde added that the fines had been imposed following the failure by the three mobile network service providers to improve the quality of service, even after the seven days' ultimatum, which was given to them.

"In imposing these fines, the authority took into account the MNOs' effort to improve

the quality of service on their respective networks. The fines were imposed on the MNOs on August 26, 2020, and a period of seven days was given within which the MNOs should pay the fines. ZICTA further warned the MNOs that continued breach of the QoS guidelines will result in further enforcement action," stated Nankonde.

"ZICTA will continue to conduct QoS monitoring inspections in the various parts of the country and consumers are encouraged to continue reporting to ZICTA incidents of poor quality of service experienced, specifying the location and the time they experienced poor quality service."



PEOPLE'S ALLIANCE FOR CHANGE

(PAC)
Viva New Zambia!!!

Why we deserve your vote



Politics and Accountability

By Andyford Mayele Banda

WHEN you travel and land at some airports around the world you can instantly see the vision of a country as you check out of the airport. One such airport is Dubai International Airport where you can see it from immigration, to the taxi drivers, hotel staff, staff at the shopping malls and anywhere you go that everyone is working towards a vision of a country. When you ask about the country, they will tell you the developments that have happened in the last years and the developments coming up in the next years. Basically, they are excited because the more the development the better their lives. This is what happens when you have leaders who have a vision for their countries.

Let's not forget that places like Dubai were deserts a few decades ago. Also, when you travel to China you will see that most people you interact with are also conversant with the vision of the country. They have an idea what the government is trying to do and achieve in the next few years. And every citizen has a role to play in that developmental agenda; it is not politically aligned but just a vision for the country. You will understand why countries like China moved from rags to riches. Today it's the second largest economy in the world. Our examples may not be perfect because these are countries without our kind of democracy but we can still learn something from there.

The past few days we have been inundated with the stories of privatisation. This propaganda has been driven by the ruling Patriotic Front and its surrogates calling for some individuals to account for their involvement in the privatisation program of the country's national assets. The truth is that this privatisation is not new but you may also agree that the past few days has been heated more than ever about this debate. It's been time consuming and honestly drained our energies. The question we ask is that, is this a call for accountability or it's a political issue?

Let's not forget that President Edgar Lungu is the fourth President after privatisation and it's ironic that his PF government think that they are God sent angels to come and seek accountability about the

ills of privatisation. And let's not forget that it has been the style of the PF government to always give us topics like we are school children to focus on so that our attention is moved away from the main issues that we should actually be focusing on. They think we are fools and we deserve to be in a fool's paradise.

You will agree with us that this privatisation story is a political story that is aimed at diverting our attention from holding the PF accountable as we go to the elections next year. As PAC we know that PF has no moral right to make noise about the mess that happened during privatisation as they have a lot of unanswered questions with the management of the country's resources. Why do you they think that it should be them to probe the ills of privatisation when we have seen clearly how they have failed to account for a lot of funds that they have misappropriated.

We feel Zambians have to decide what kind of country they want. We need to decide whether we want to be taken for a ride in a fool's paradise or we shall call a spade a spade. As PAC we shall always stand on principle. We shall not let a small group of selfish and greed people to fool this country for their selfish gain. We need to protect the integrity of leadership and not allow a few people who want to continue ruling at all costs to fool us.

The talk of privatisation is a scheme by the PF to run away from being held accountable for the period they have been in power going towards the 2021 elections. When they came into office in 2011, they found the price of mealie meal at less than K50 and they told the people that was too much, we shall make it less but today price of mealie meal is over a K100. The Zambian Kwa-cha was trading at around K5.6 to the US dollar and they shouted that is too much and not good for business, we shall bring it down and today its rushing to K20 per US dollar. The fuel prices were about K8.6 and they said this is too much we shall bring them down and today the pump price is over K17. Load shedding was 2 hours twice a week and they said a country can't run like that we shall sort out and today its over 15 hours per day.

The above mentioned issues are issues that the PF government are trying to run away from and want to bring the issue of

privatisation so that we don't remind them. So that we don't ask about the Fire Trucks, Mukula, Gold, the falling economy, the ambulances, the FIC reports, the auditor general reports and many other issues that they need to answer for. Since they don't have stories for 2021, their strategy is to give us topics to focus on aiming at justifying the elimination of some candidates. They know even themselves they know that this issue is about politics and power and nothing about accountability.

Getting back to the preamble where we spoke about knowing the vision of a country and we picked the mega city of Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, you can see that with the current leadership's focus there is no way we are going to see any meaningful development because their focus is on politics and fixing opponents. They don't have a vision to talk about, a topic that can last for years, but they have continuously diverted our attention with numerous topics so that we don't hold them accountable and focus on the non-issues. As a country it's our choice to make whether this is the kind of leadership that we want or we need to give an opportunity to another set of people. We can't have leaders whose sole purpose is to be in power even when they are presiding over a falling economy. As a result of politics, even non costly initiatives just as keep Zambia clean campaign have failed because they are just cosmetic.

As PAC we support that every individual must be held accountable regardless of their status in society. However, such calls for accountability must not be driven by greed and politics. As PAC we promise to give this country a vision that we will focus on and be accountable for all our actions. We promise to fund key institutions such as the Auditor General's Office, Anti-Corruption Commission and the Drug Enforcement Commission to operate independently and effectively for better accountability. We promise to change the politics of this country to focus more on development than a lack of vision. We in the PAC we believe that 2021 gives us the opportunity to start afresh and PAC is the best bet.

Andyford Mayele Banda
President

People's Alliance for Change (PAC)

UPND disputes claims of peaceful campaigns in Lukashya, accuses PF of transporting Intercity cadres

By Julia Malunga

THE United Party for National Development says they are living in fear because the ruling Patriotic Front have transported cadres from Lusaka to Lukashya Constituency in the forthcoming by-election.

But PF says the UPND are living in their own imaginations as there is no violence in Lukashya despite them trying to provoke the ruling party's team at their command post.

In an interview, UPND campaign manager for Lukashya Constituency Elias Mubanga said claims that campaigns in the area were fair were false.

"When we had returned from filing in our nominations, the PF followed us and stoned our vehicles. Yesterday (Wednesday), we had our first big rally in a place called Chisanga that went on very well. So when the PF saw that, they were not happy and they brought their people and started stoning us. I would have told our youths to fight back but instead, we thought of reporting to the police. Whatever I have heard from ZNBC that it (the campaign) is free and fair in Lukashya, that is a lie! They are following us. Also, they have brought cadres from Intercity in Lusaka and they are lodging here so that if anything happens, they will come and attack us. They are buying NRCs and voter's cards from the people. So there is no peace here. But I can tell you that UPND has penetrated Northern Province," said Mubanga.

However, in a separate interview, PF campaign manager Brian Mundubile denied allegations that they transported cadres from Lusaka.

"That is the figment of their own imagination. My campaign strategy as manager of the campaign, I am using locals. Only I can confirm to you that there is no cadre from Lusaka who is in Lukashya today. We were guided by ECZ that if you have been given a place to campaign from, all the other parties stay away, and basically, all campaigns are supposed to be door to door. So yesterday (Wednesday), the UPND were driving in an area called Chisanga and they found our command post, our people were there, it is a market place. Instead of driving, they decided to stop and started waving their party symbols. Our officials were not there so the ordinary people reacted and repelled them," said Mundubile. "You have seen them posting videos of Lukashya being on fire. In all our strongholds, our campaigns are peaceful. They are trying by all means to post videos of violence in Lukashya. People are moving freely. This is our stronghold; we are headed for a landslide victory in this election. There is no need for us to engage in violence. If we brought violence, then we are the ones to lose because there would be voter apathy."

By Sipilisiwe Ncube
SPEAKER of the National Assembly Dr Patrick Matibini says the limited platforms available for the public to access Parliament TV has posed a challenge in ensuring that proceedings of the House are broadcast to many people.

Speaking when he launched Parliament TV on DStv and GOtv, Dr Matibini said the inclusion of the channel on the two platforms was a great milestone in the country's democratic landscape and in bridging the gap between the business of the National Assembly and its citizens.

"You will agree with me that this is a great milestone in the Zambian democratic landscape and in bridging the gap between Parliament and the citizens. This is a positive step towards the

Parliament TV to air on DStv, GOtv

actualisation of the vision of the National Assembly of Zambia: 'to be a model Legislature for Democracy and Good Governance'. Parliament TV was launched on 21st February, 2018, with the aim of being a tool for outreach and sensitization programmes. Since its launch, Parliament TV has been striving to entrench the democratic principles of parliamentary oversight of the executive and increasing public participation in the parliamentary democracy. The station also informs and educates the public on the operations, functions and activities of the Zambian Parliament," Dr Matibini said.

He said the limited platforms available for the

public to access Parliament TV had posed as a challenge for citizens to access the business of the House.

"The introduction of Parliament TV has no doubt increased the visibility of the National Assembly and contributed towards enhancing the public's understanding of the work and operations of the National Assembly. However, the limited platforms available for the public to access Parliament TV has posed a challenge in ensuring that as many people as possible can watch Parliament TV. The coming on board of MultiChoice Group Limited, to partner with the National Assembly to broadcast Parliament TV on DStv and GOtv platforms,

has come at the right time when the demand to access the station continues to increase. This positive development will supplement the available platforms on which Parliament TV can be accessed. The current available platforms are Channel 5 on the Topstar platform and the online streaming on Parliament Facebook page," said Dr Matibini.

"I, therefore, wish to urge you to seize this opportunity and take advantage of the additional platforms provided by DStv and GOtv to follow Parliamentary debates in the House and Committee meetings. It is now my pleasure and honour to officially launch the Parliament TV Channel on DStv and GOtv platforms."

Zambia records 108 new COVID-19 cases, no deaths

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

ZAMBIA has recorded 108 new COVID-19 cases and zero deaths out of the 1,077 tests conducted in the last 24 hours, according to Health Minister Dr Chitalu Chilufya.

And Dr Chilufya says there has been continued improvement in adherence levels to the public health measures set up to fight COVID-19.

Speaking at the daily COVID-19 briefing in Lusaka, Thursday, Dr Chilufya said 108 new cases had been recorded and 68 patients discharged from

isolation centres.

"We have 108 COVID-19 cases out of 1,077 tests done. We had no mortalities. We discharged 68 patients in the last 24 hours. We have a number of patients in our facilities, 30 are admitted at the Levy COVID-19 facility and out of these, 18 are on oxygen and five are critically ill in ICU. In other COVID facilities countrywide, we have 11 patients with five patients on oxygen," Dr Chilufya announced.

And he said there had been a continued improvement in

adherence levels to public health measures.

"We continue to report marginal improvements in adherence to public health measures because of our strong engagement with the community. We thank the community leadership in the markets, on the streets, the Commuters Association of Zambia and all stakeholders that are working with us at the community-level to strengthen community engagements," he said.

Meanwhile, Dr Chilufya

said the Ministry would donate 25,000 face masks to markets to enhance community engagement towards preventing the spread of the disease.

"We would like to emphasize that community engagements will be the high impact intervention to disrupt COVID-19. We thank our cooperating partners, today, the German government and the US government that have come on board to support the fight against COVID-19. They are speaking to the fundamental pillars through donations of PPEs and equipment and medicines. We also want to emphasize that in order to strengthen this response to COVID-19 at the community-level, with the support we are receiving from various stakeholders, such as the Association of the Indian Community in Zambia, we will continue passing on these PPEs to the community. And today, we will donate 25,000 face masks to the community leaders at market-level so that they can continue on the programme that they have been doing," said Dr Chilufya.

Arresting a criminal can never trigger civil unrest – Chama

By Ulande Nkomesha

DEFENCE Minister Davies Chama says there can never be civil unrest in Zambia if a criminal is arrested.

Commenting on renowned lawyer Kelvin Bwalya Fube's (KBF) remarks that there would be unnecessary upheaval in the country if government moved in and arrested UPND president Hakainde Hichilema, Chama argued that government had no intention of arresting any opposition leader, but that no one was above the law.

"What I can say is that, it is a very unfortunate statement. No one should be above the law! Are you saying that certain people must be immune from criminal acts, then, if they are touched there will be civil unrest? There can never be civil unrest in the country when a criminal is arrested. No one is above the law, no one is immune to prosecution. We are not saying that anyone is planning to prosecute anyone, don't misquote me. We are not in the business of prosecuting innocent people, but on one can be immune from prosecution," Chama said in an interview.

"Such statements, it is like you are trying to threaten people that, 'if you touch [this person] there will be civil unrest.' There can never be civil unrest when a criminal is arrested. I want to emphasize, there can never be civil unrest if a criminal is arrested. So, I want to assure you that no one is above the law. If you

commit a crime, you will be arrested and there can never be any civil arrest. You will be on your own. Anyone who commits a crime, you will be on your own. You will be in Chimbokaila alone! There should not insinuate that, 'if that person is arrested, there will be civil unrest...' in his own mind, KBF, there will be civil unrest."

Chama recalled that Zambia had seen a number of prominent and powerful people being arrested in the past, including the first Republican president Dr Kenneth Kaunda, but the country never faced civil unrest.

"A lot of examples are bound in this country, people who have even held high offices of the land, former presidents have been arrested and have been prosecuted. There has never been civil unrest. Prominent people have been prosecuted. Even in our party, PF, when we were in opposition, our late president Sata, may his soul rest in peace, was arrested... was there any civil unrest in the country? So, there will be no such things as civil unrest because of an individual, who is a criminal, has been arrested, it will never happen in this country," Chama said.

"Our founding president, Kenneth Kaunda, was persecuted and he even went to prison, was there any civil unrest? He had a big following, for your own information, but the people were patriots. They never imagined civil

unrest because they loved this country so dearly. So, any person who loves this country cannot even start imagining or maybe that is what they are planning in their dark corners; that, 'if you touch this one, there would be civil unrest,' but nothing of that sort will happen, they will be sorted out, I can assure you."

And he warned anyone wanting to cause unrest in the country to prepare to face the law.

"So, now, if you say a certain political figure is arrested then there will be civil unrest then those people are already preparing unrest. That is what is in their DNA. Their DNA is to cause civil unrest and to destabilise the country.

I can assure you, anyone who wants to plan civil unrest will be met with the full force of the law and would be dealt with accordingly without fear or favour. No one is above the law. No one can be feared because they want to create a scenario in a country that some people are untouchable, if you touch them, there will be civil unrest, then what are you saying? I don't want to insinuate anything unless a fellow criminal element wants to cover up for his fellow criminal elements to try to threaten," said Chama.

"This government can never be threatened and no other government in the world can be threatened by any person. I can assure you. And

if you try to imagine that there will be civil unrest, you want to implant in the Zambian people, you want to scare off those people who can be scared off, not PF. For me, I am talking for my government, we cannot be scared of an individual, whether he is a president of a political party, whether he is a leader of a political party, if he commits a crime, he will be dealt with according to the law. If people are planning civil unrest because of elections because of anything, they have a criminal nature, they will be dealt with accordingly. So, I want to warn those who are planning civil unrest that they will be dealt with and they will be arrested, and they will be on their own."



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THE propaganda that FDD leader Edith Nawakwi has embarked on against her UPND counterpart may look new to some people, but we have seen this before. In 2011, a gentleman called Chanda Chimba III was recruited in the MMD's propaganda machinery tasked to scandalise late Michael Sata ahead of the election. Apart from Mr Sata, the Rupiah Banda-sponsored propaganda also targeted specific media houses, like The Post newspaper, that were giving Mr Sata coverage and they extended the mudslinging to every lawyer who was helpful to Mr Sata's legal battles.

Chimba called his scandalisation campaign "Stand Up For Zambia" and he categorised the targeted individuals in his agenda as "members of the cartel". The gentleman came up with all sorts of allegations against Mr Sata and his friends, ranging from criminal to satanic. Some of his allegations were as stupid as suggesting that The Post was publishing satanic symbols, in reference to space-fillers in newspaper designing.

The Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (ZNBC), Zambia Daily Mail, Times of Zambia and other State owned but government-controlled private media houses gave this Chanda Chimba III campaign maximum publicity. He was a regular feature on ZNBC prime time and he occupied the front page in public media. The accused persons were not given an opportunity by those media houses to defend themselves. Interestingly, Zambians were not swayed by the infamous documentaries that Chanda Chimba produced. They decisively voted out Rupiah Banda's MMD and gave Mr Sata the mandate to rule this

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Ear to the ground

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many problems in this country, both political and economic. People should not be distracted by bamushanina bwali, who only appear when elections draw closer.

We have reason to believe that this is now beyond just losing elections. To us, this looks like fear of going to prison. A leader who has served the government diligently cannot dread their exit from power to this extent. Anyone who goes into public service knows that you don't stay in power forever. But there is a clique of leaders in the Patriotic Front that seems unprepared to let go. This clique is behind these embarrassing machinations.

They know that the criminal activities, which they have been engaged in are unforgivable and they now think the only way they can avoid going to prison is by stopping another party from taking over government. They know that the moment these law enforcement institutions, which they have sedated, wake up from slumber under another regime, they will spend all their proceeds of corruption on fighting court battles. This is why they are so desperate to stop the opposition.

But we must remind the PF that Zambia does not belong to them. It does not matter what they do; if Zambians decide that their time is over, they will go, and some will proceed to prison. This attempt to arrest and harm Mr Hichilema will cause civil unrest and they know it. Zambians love peace, and despite the economic hardships that the PF has subjected them to, they still don't want to react with protests or violence. All they want is to exercise their civic rights at the next general elections. So, please, don't provoke them.

Nawakwi is the new Chanda Chimba III, we saw this in 2011

country. Nothing was able to stand in the way of the people's will, not even the billions that were spent in the MMD campaign that year.

Now, when the election dust settled, it was time for Chanda Chimba and his cronies to face the music in court. They were sued in their individual capacities. An inquiry was made on how and where the propagandist got the money for his activities. It's needless to say that the hero of "Stand up for Zambia" was standing alone in court and the people he thought he was fighting for, never showed up to give him solidarity. What happened after that is public knowledge.

Sadly, Chanda Chimba is no longer with us on this earth, may his soul rest in peace. But those who

used him are still alive. Some have even vampired themselves back into public service under Mr Lungu's PF, while others have been offered lucrative positions on the boards of government parastatals. This is what politicians do, they use and toss you aside when they no longer need you.

This is what we see in the privatisation propaganda that the FDD leader has embarked on. The only difference from Nawakwi is that Chanda Chimba III was not a politically-established individual. With all due respect to our late brother, we can say that he was basically a job-seeking youth, paid to do mercenary work. He did not have any political integrity to protect.

In the case of Nawakwi, like we stated at the beginning of her campaign agenda against

Mr Hichilema, this woman has done a lot for Zambia. She played a critical role against Chiluba's third term bid, she is supposed to be a reasonable and experienced senior politician, who knows the sad ending of what she is now trying to do.

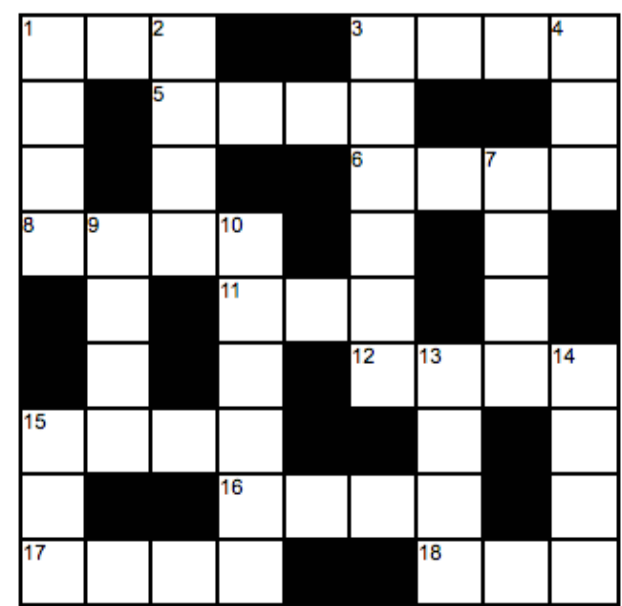
We have never seen this kind of desperation from one opposition leader against another. It doesn't make any sense at all. The only thing that would make sense is if someone told us that madam Nawakwi has been promised money or the position of presidential running mate in 2021. If that is not the case, then something could be wrong with our mother's reasoning, which would be a sad situation, considering that she is the only known female opposition leader at the moment.

We have nothing against

our first-ever female minister of finance, but we are at loss to appreciate her style of campaign – if that is what she is calling it. We say this because even a fool without any level of education can see that if there is anyone who should be arrested for whatever went wrong during privatisation, it should be Madam Nawakwi herself and her cronies who sold the said government assets. How can the former minister confess that: "I sold government assets so cheaply" and then demand that the person to be arrested for the purported crime should be the then 29-year-old advisor from the private sector? Just how?

Our appeal to those colluding to divert people's attention from the criminal activities going on in this government is that please, stop wasting the people's precious time. We have

Crossword puzzle No 683

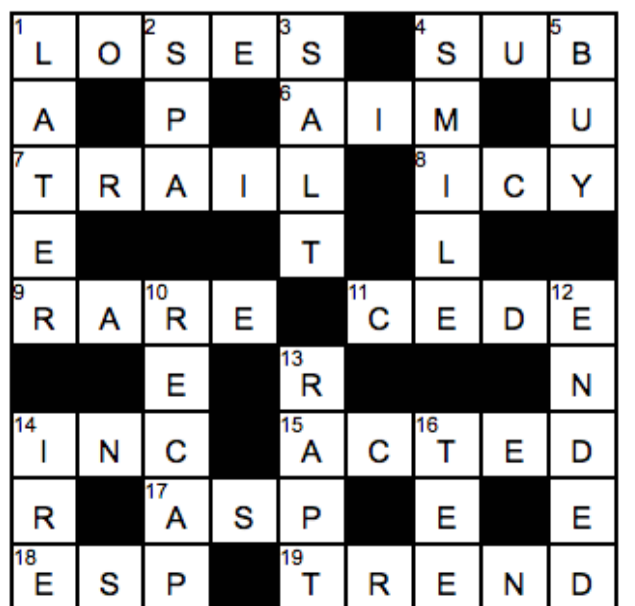


"Good works is giving to the poor and the helpless, but divine works is showing them their worth to the One who matters."

- Criss Jami

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|--|--|
| <p>Across</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Child's game 3. Minor mistake 5. "Say it ___ so!" 6. Fall gardening tool 8. Longest river 11. Tell an untruth 12. Seize 15. Traffic sound 16. Tickle Me ___ toy 17. Practical jokes 18. ___ Alamos, N.M. | <p>Down</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ripped 2. Lass 3. "Sesame ___" 4. Baked fruity dessert 7. Hose problem 9. Capri, for one 10. Marries in haste 13. Absent Without Leave (abbr.) 14. Type of trees 15. Sack |
|--|--|

Crossword puzzle No 682



Readers' Feedback

Lungu's request for the SDA church to pray for those who might want to cause havoc when they lose in 2021

Editor,
"You're already in our prayers your excellency". - Mercy Mwanza

"Am an SDA and I pray that Lord may you make it impossible for Lungu to cause havoc when he loses in 2021 and let every hidden evil agenda he is planning with his group come to light, if you did it to Nebuchadnezzar when he

became full of evil agendas we believe and trust that you will do it for us too". - Prince Gift Siambelele Jr.

"Actually I am praying for PF not to cause havoc because they won't believe that they will be out of power in 11 months". - Namilonga Nzubuka

"Pray for him please. He is the one who is likely to lose and has bought police the

bullying trucks in readiness for intimidation". - Brighton S. B. Banda

"Why didn't they ask him why he brought those armoured trucks for police instead of giving the army?" - Iden Mweetwa

"May The wrath of God be upon those that mock Him and use His name in vain!" - Collins Munthali


"In short he is telling the church to pray for him as he has evil intentions of causing havoc after losing elections...twalakupepela lolala!" - Moonga Kachemba

"We are also asking God to uproot those that want to hold on to power illegally and He must also remove those that are

looting national coffers from our lives in Jesus's name". - Lweendo Muzambalika

"We are also praying for those buying heavy military weapons. Those who praise the predator and persecute the prey. Those who call corruption a reward and hard as earning riches through dubious means. Zambia will be saved because the poor have cried to the listening God!" - Twaambo Hamane

"Additional of prayer requests to those who will want to abrogate the Zambian constitution because in doing so it might bring havoc to the peace of our country". - Roy Siansulinga II



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.

'The FIC Report was compromised'

Editor,
"Verdict on the #FICReport. 1. This year's report looks different, a lot seems to have been left out whether deliberate or not. 2. Lawyers are the ones helping people rob this country dry. 3. While its easy to single out PEPs, civil servants are also busy pillaging this country". - John Wilson Sakala II

"This document is seriously doctored to look presentable. The FIC is compromised". - Enza Pule

"So government officials have become talented in stealing our monies while Scot free.this government is bad new and it has become a NEW NORMAL,where is the PRESIDENT?!" - Godfrey Mapulanga

"Stealing from the payroll? That's literally stealing from workers, workers who we can't even tell to tighten

their belts because ma belt yanaduka kale". - Pempula Simpemba

"These are hard core criminals and not leaders". - Kuwabo Mbullai

"Oh my goodness!!! Long fingers in payroll systems now ka . Mr Lungu, WHY? Why is this government so cruel. For a country to prosper economically, employers need to pay their employees month in month out for the wheels of the economy to keep going. Now, your government goes after their money too, haven't you taken enough from the raw deals of contracts so far? You lot are really cruel and selfish leaders. Civil servants and others have suffered enough now". - Mary Taguma Bilsborough

"This report was EDITED AND REDACTED. It is not in its entirety, anyone reading it can tell that there were serious omissions made". - Jackson Thompson

'Laura right, HH should be given a platform on Sunday Interview to address privatisation allegations'

Dear editor,

"For the sake of professional journalism, ethics, equity and public interest, HH needs to be given an opportunity to appear on the Sunday Interview to respond to Madam Nawakwi's allegations. We will then see if there is any objectivity and fairness to this privatization issue". - David Back

Znbc has access to the the contracts in sales of companies that have been sold during Fredrick Jacob Titus Chiluba presidency and Edith Nawakwi being minister of finance and to pacra records as to who hold shares in Sun International Zambia hotel hence the znbc is busy burring

their heads in sand. Records are they hence znbc heading it's heads of so called professional journalists on clear issue playing politics and failing to the call of duty. What does Znbc want Zambians and the world to believe these lies being driven by Znbc? I think come 2021 the entire workforce from director general to the last worker must be fired in public interest to save the image of Znbc and professional

journalism". - Judicious Habeenzu Munkombwe

"And it should not be recorded but live so that no one will be accused of editing anything". - Sitali Amukena

"I second, we need to settle this dust and not turn it into a traditional ceremony that comes every 5 years". - Honourable Dumisani Mwanza

'Nawakwi's sexist defence carries no weight'

Editor,

"In politics there is no room for using sexist as defence. Everyone in the political arena is a politician regardless of their sex". - John Mileji Snr

"I forgive her for the misinterpretations, considering that Legana was once accused of having a condom. It is an innocent mistake". - Richard Waga

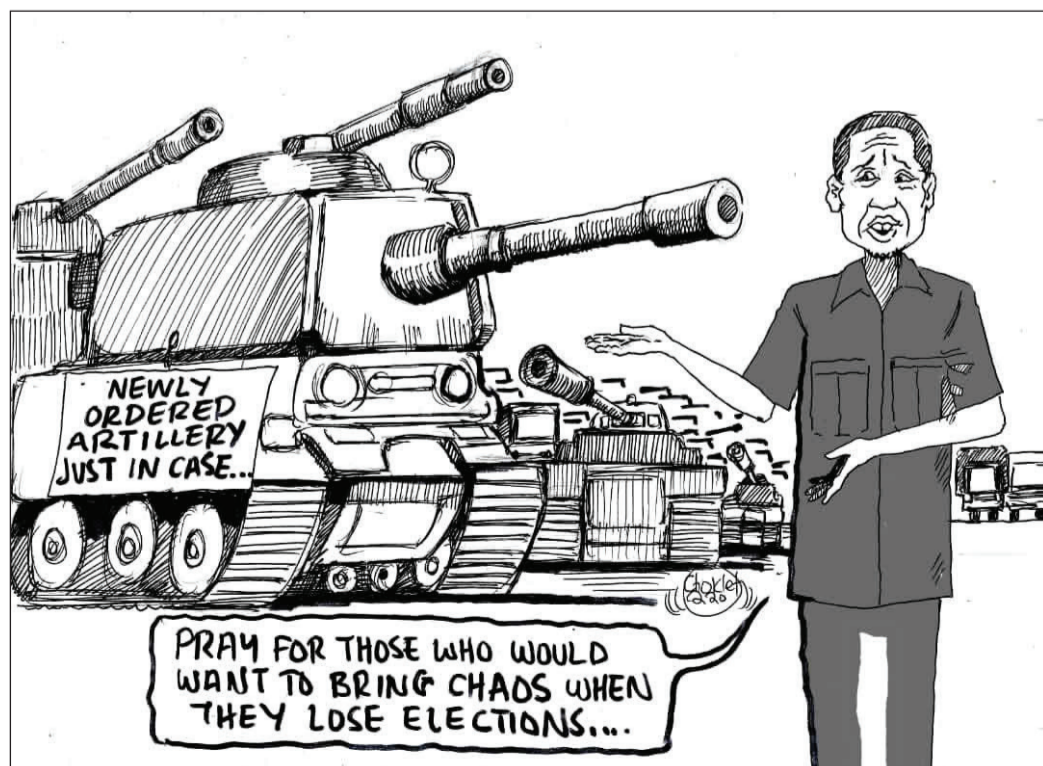
"Clearly she's not in touch with reality". - Shiloh Kudzwai Bunu

"This is what happens when you are absent from politics for a long time only to emerge close to elections. She doesn't know what has been going on". - Beauty M. Kabwela Mulenga

"Nga uli muchende.. Whatever is said in good faith... You will always find a dirty way to translate it". - Eriqwe Shetty Luh

"Ok, what is beans? Where is sex coming in? Before Nawakwi with her privatisation accusations,we listened to a lot of beans!and no one talked about sex! today just because HH said beans can go well with Legana sausage,it turned into sex! you must be thinking too much". - Baldwin Michael

"As far as the majority is concerned, beans refers to "Lies" and Legana Sausage refers to the actual "Edible Sausage" unless you look at it from a sexually corrupt mind point of view". - Lameck Nyirenda



LEBANON'S army said on Thursday it had found 4.35 tonnes of ammonium nitrate near the entrance to Beirut port, the site of a huge blast last month caused by a large stockpile of the same highly explosive chemical.

Army engineers were "dealing with it," according to an army statement carried by the state news agency NNA. The statement said the chemicals were found outside entrance nine to the port.

The catastrophic explosion on Aug. 4 that ripped through the city killed about 190 people. The authorities said it was caused by about 2,750 tonnes of ammonium nitrate that had been stacked in unsafe conditions in a port warehouse for years.

The blast smashed entire neighbourhoods, gutting buildings and injuring 6,000 people.

Lebanon's government quit amid public anger in a nation already brought to its knees by an economic crisis. The public remains anxious that more hazardous materials are being stored badly, putting them at risk.

Earlier on Thursday, President Michel Aoun ordered repairs to be made to old refuelling infrastructure at Beirut airport and called for an investigation into a report that thousands of litres of fuel had leaked from the system.

Beirut airport head Fadi el-Hassan told a news

Lebanese army finds more explosive chemicals outside Beirut port after huge blast

conference that a leak of 84,000 litres of fuel had occurred in March 2019 and repairs were completed in two months. He said international investigators had described the repairs as "satisfactory".

News of the leak added to concerns about public safety.

"No explosion is awaiting us," Hassan told the news conference.

Meanwhile, Russia said on Thursday the West should not rush to judge it over the poisoning of Kremlin critic Alexei Navalny and that there were no grounds to accuse it of

the crime, as talk in the West of punishing Moscow intensified.

The Kremlin was speaking a day after German Chancellor Angela Merkel said Navalny had been poisoned with a Soviet-style Novichok nerve agent in an attempt to murder him and that she would consult NATO allies about how to respond.

Navalny, 44, is an outspoken opponent of Russian President Vladimir Putin and has specialized in high-impact investigations into official corruption. **BBC**

US and Rwanda officials meet over Hotel Rwanda hero arrest

THE US assistant secretary for African affairs, Tibor Nagy, has held talks with Rwandan ambassador to the US over the arrest of Paul Rusesabagina, who was portrayed in a Hollywood film about the Rwandan genocide.

Rwandan officials said Mr Rusesabagina, 66, was arrested under an international warrant for leading "terrorist movements".

But his daughter told the BBC the allegation was false.

Mr Nagy tweeted after the meeting with Ambassador Matilde Mukantabana that the US government expects Rwanda "to provide humane treatment, adhere to the rule

of law, and provide a fair and transparent legal process for Mr Rusesabagina".

Mr Rusesabagina, who is also a Belgian citizen and a US green card holder, left his home in San Antonio, Texas, and landed in Dubai last Thursday, his family told the BBC.

"We believe he was kidnapped because he would never go to Rwanda on his own will," his daughter told BBC.

The Rwandan government hasn't commented on allegations that Mr Rusesabagina was kidnapped.

The son of a boat captain missing since Monday

evening after his vessel capsized while taking part in clean-up operations in Mauritius following July's huge oil spill says he is proud of his dad.

Three sailors died and four were rescued, while search operations are continuing for Captain Moswadeck Bheenick - the only crew member still missing.

Their tugboat had been towing an unmanned barge back from the spill site in rough seas when the collision between them happened.

The Japanese-owned MV Wakashio struck a coral reef on 25 July, and spilled about 1,000 tonnes of fuel oil into the coast.

"My strong, sturdy dad knows his stuff there. He is not a reckless person. No matter what happened to him, I am proud he has done his duty as the captain to leave the boat as the last person," 20-year-old Irfan Mizraim Bheenick told the **BBC**.

SA no longer among five countries worst hit by Covid-19



SOUTH Africa is no longer among the five countries most affected by coronavirus, according to the World Health Organization.

Peru now has the fifth highest number of confirmed Covid-19 cases, with 663,437 reported by Wednesday.

South Africa, which accounts for half of all the cases confirmed in Africa, has had 630,595 cases.

Although South Africa is still the hardest hit country in Africa, it has experienced a sustained decline in new cases for the past six weeks.

South Africa has been reporting fewer new cases daily compared to Peru in recent days.

The death toll in Peru is also higher at 29,259 compared to South Africa's 14,263.

Total cases in Africa have been on a downward trend for about a month, although it is too early to celebrate, says Africa Centres for Disease Control head John Nkengasong.

Over the past month, there has been an overall 14% decrease in the number of new cases being reported each week on the continent.

Meanwhile, Zimbabwe's government plans to hand back "a mere" 37 farms to foreign nationals covered by international agreements, the state-owned Herald newspaper reports.

The farms were taken under the controversial land reform programme initiated by then-President Robert Mugabe to tackle colonial-era land grabs.

The government had no intention of reversing the land reform programme, but it had an "obligation" to consider its own constitution as well international treaties and agreements, Lands, Agriculture, Water and Rural Resettlement Minister Anxious Masuka was quoted as saying. **BBC**



On Saturday Nigeria's former president Goodluck Jonathan, second from the left, arrives in Mali's capital Bamako as a mediator after the military took over in a coup...

\$10 fine for not wearing mask properly in Kigali

THE authorities in Rwanda's capital, Kigali, have announced that people will be fined \$10

(£7.50) for not wearing face masks in public or not wearing them properly.

The same fine will also be imposed for violating the 2m (6ft) social distancing rule in public, or ignoring the night-time curfew.

Organisers of parties and other illegal gatherings could be fined \$200, and those who attend \$25.

These latest measures to curb the spread of coronavirus have led to a backlash on Twitter.

"I wonder if heavy penalties will scare the virus away or will [financially] ruin people furthermore," one person tweeted.

Rwanda has so far reported more than 4,200 Covid-19 and 17 fatalities.

It has been praised for being effective in the fight against the disease, and is the only country in sub-Saharan Africa whose residents are allowed to enter the European Schengen zone.

Rwanda was the first country in sub-Saharan Africa to impose a total lockdown after confirming its first cases.

Some people who violated restrictions were taken to stadiums or school buildings where they were forced to sit all night or day. **BBC**

Facebook to freeze political ads before US presidential election

FACEBOOK has announced that it will not take on any new political ads in the seven days prior to the US election on 3 November.

However, the firm will still allow existing ads to continue to be promoted and targeted at different users.

Chief executive Mark Zuckerberg revealed the measure in a Facebook post.

He said that he was "worried" about divisions in the country potentially leading to civil unrest.

He added that Facebook would also label posts from candidates attempting to declare victory before the votes had been counted.

The social network has faced criticism for allowing political ads to be "micro-targeted" on its platform so that they are only seen by small communities rather than debated more widely in the days after they appear.

The Mozilla Foundation has claimed that this makes it easier for politicians and their supporters

to parade fiction as fact and avoid being called out on it until it is too late, particularly as Facebook has previously said ads placed by candidates would not be fact-checked.

The new steps could serve as a precedent for how the firm handles elections elsewhere in the future.

Facebook also revealed that it would remove videos of President Trump encouraging voters in North Carolina to vote twice, which is illegal.

Any videos of Mr Trump's comments without contextualising information would be taken down, the firm said in a statement: "This video violates our policies prohibiting voter fraud and we will remove it unless it is shared to correct the record."

'Divided nation'

President Trump has repeatedly claimed the election could be "rigged" due to voter fraud.

However, there is no evidence of widespread voter fraud in previous polls.

"This election is not going to be business as usual," Mr Zuckerberg wrote.

"With our nation so divided and election results potentially taking days or even weeks to be finalised, there could be an increased risk of civil unrest across the country," he added.

In an effort to stymie the spread of rumours and deliberate falsehoods on Facebook, the firm has said it will implement a series of measures:

no new political ads will be accepted in the week before the election

posts claiming people will get Covid-19 if they take part in the vote will be removed

information labels will be attached to posts seeking to delegitimise the outcome of the election

labels will also be added to posts by candidates that seek to claim victory before the final results are in

Mr Zuckerberg also said that Facebook had also "strengthened" its enforcement policies against

movements known to spread conspiracy theories, such as QAnon.

Thousands of Facebook groups associated with these movements had already been removed, he said.

The moves have, however, attracted criticism.

The chief of Media Matters for America - a liberal media monitoring body - described it as being a pointless PR stunt.

"They will still let political ads be rerun and targeted to new groups during [the last] week so long as the ad was run and had one impression before 27 October," tweeted Angelo Carusone.

"So, you can run a bad ad now, pause it and then reuse it that week."

An academic who specialises in how tech and politics interact made a related point.

"Campaigns will produce and run thousands of pieces of creative in the days before the cut off so they can run the final week," said Daniel Kreiss, an associate professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. **BBC**

Messi's father and agent hints star could stay at Barca after confirming talks with club went 'well'

LIONEL Messi's father and agent, Jorge, has hinted at a compromise being reached at Barcelona which allows his son to remain at Camp Nou until the summer of 2021.

The Argentine forward's representatives arrived in Catalunya on Wednesday for showdown talks with the Blaugrana board.

Jorge Messi told

reporters upon touching down that he did not "know anything" when it comes to his son's future. He was, however, to discuss the matter with under-fire Barca president Josep Maria Bartomeu amid mounting speculation suggesting that a stunning separation could be on the cards.

Messi has spent his entire senior career to date

on the books of the La Liga heavyweights. Countless records have been broken by the South American over the course of his remarkable career.

The 33-year-old is, however, approaching the end of his playing days and is aware of the need to make the most of the time he has left. With Barca starting to falter at home and abroad,

he has opened the door to a possible exit.

Messi dropped a bombshell on Barca when stating his intention to push for a move elsewhere, having grown disillusioned with life on and off the field at Camp Nou.

It was initially suggested that he could walk away for nothing, with an exit clause inserted into his lucrative

contract that could be triggered at the end of any given season.

No free transfer will be made, though, as it has been ruled that his €700 million (£630m/\$825m) release clause remains in place.

Interested parties are still sniffing around, with big-spending outfits such as Manchester City and Paris Saint-Germain ready to

make a move if an all-time great is made available.

That is not the case at present, and it may be that Messi never hits the market.

His father has told Mediaset that talks with Barcelona went "well", with there still a chance that an agreement can be reached which allows everyone to remain in their current surroundings.

Quizzed on whether a six-time Ballon d'Or winner could remain with the Blaugrana until the end of his current contract in 2021, Jorge Messi replied with "yes".

Barca will be hoping that an unwelcome transfer can be avoided at this stage, giving them time to work on convincing their captain that he should prolong his association with them – rather than take on a new challenge elsewhere.

Ronald Koeman has expressed a desire to keep a world-class performer on his books, having inherited an ageing squad from Quique Setien, and it may be that the Dutchman gets his wish when this stunning saga is brought to a close with the status quo in Barcelona maintained.

GOAL.COM

Foden hoping to claim David Silva's spot

COMPETITION for minutes has both plagued and benefited Phil Foden during his career at Manchester City and now England.

Indeed, at 20 years old, many would've expected him to already have senior caps due to his clear talents,

but earning starts at club level hasn't come easily.

City boss Pep Guardiola has often opted for the experienced option but Foden has begun to earn regular starts and has been picked in some of his boyhood club's biggest matches in the last year.

After earning the trust of Guardiola, England have come calling and Foden could make his debut against either Iceland or Denmark in the UEFA Nations League.

At club level, Foden isn't shy to admit that he wants to take the place of

his mentor David Silva next season.

"I am hoping so but there are a lot of midfielders still and a lot of quality in the team," Foden said about being given Silva's spot in the squad. "[Guardiola] is not going to just give me that position easily.

"Everyone has to train well and play well so it depends on me playing well enough to get that shirt. So yes, it is down to me. I am only 20 years old; A lot of people have been pushing it for me to play in the senior team much earlier but I haven't played a lot of games at Man City.

"Recently, I have played

a lot more and I have been doing well so I have had to work hard for the opportunity. Now I have got it, I am just trying to give it my best I can do and just enjoy it really. That's what I am trying to do.

"I played in some massive games last year in cup finals and big Champions League games. They are the games that everyone wants to play in. Sometimes it is difficult for a young player to play in those games but I think he has been patient with me and played me at the right times. I am learning a lot and I feel ready to go."

GOAL.COM

'Neymar has no reason to rejoin chaos at Barcelona' – PSG stay is the right call, says Rivaldo

NEYMAR has no reason to rejoin the "chaos" at Barcelona, admits Rivaldo, with the Brazilian forward told he is making the right career call in sticking with Paris Saint-Germain.

A possible return to Camp Nou for the South American superstar has been speculated on ever since he bid farewell to the Liga giants in 2017.

At one stage, Neymar was very much open to the idea of heading back to familiar surroundings.

Barca were prepared to forgive and forget and went as far as entering into transfer talks with European rivals at Parc des Princes.

PSG were, however, understandably reluctant to part with a player that they invested a record-breaking €222 million worth of faith and funds in.

Neymar saw exit doors slammed shut in each passing window, with the South American forced to stay put.

His efforts to engineer a move were not well received by some, with certain sections of the PSG support taking to jeering a talismanic figure at times.

The 28-year-old has played his way through those struggles, though, and helped to guide his current employers to the



Champions League final in 2019-20.

Bayern Munich were to dash PSG's dreams in Lisbon, but the Ligue 1 giants are expected to be serious contenders for European glory again next season.

With that in mind, and with Barcelona fighting fires on and off the field as they seek to prevent Lionel Messi from leaving and rediscover their spark, Rivaldo sees no reason why Neymar would want to consider a move away from Paris.

He told Betfair of an illustrious fellow countryman: "After everything he went through since his arrival at PSG, I think Neymar has to be congratulated for reaching the Champions League final after three seasons with the club.

"He had a tough time in France after he tried to return to Barcelona, being booed at his own stadium, but he managed to turn things around and I admire him because of that.

"Today, he is totally focused on the club and playing well, so the fans are supporting him. He has no reason to leave the club now, especially given the chaos at Barca.

"PSG shouldn't make too many changes to their squad for next season, so their understanding will improve a bit more and they should be strong contenders again in the Champions League."

Neymar is tied to a contract at PSG through to the summer of 2022 and has seen fresh terms mooted on a regular basis. GOAL.COM

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Messi's dad hints star could stay at Barca after talks with club go 'well'

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The Argentine forward's representatives arrived in Catalunya on Wednesday for showdown talks with the Blaugrana board.

Story page 11

SHEPOLOLOPOLO TO PLAY CHILE

By Abraham Kalito

THE Football Association of Zambia (FAZ) has announced that it has clinched an international friendly match for the Zambia Women National Team against Chile as part of preparations for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

According to a statement, Zambia will play Chile on November 28 and December 1 in Santiago as the Copper Queens

build up for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics that will be staged in Japan in 2021.

FAZ secretary General Adrian Kashala said it was vital for the Copper Queens to engage in high profile matches.

"We are happy to announce that we have organized a high profile match for our senior women national team with Chile. We believe that this will give the team

a taste of high profile opposition as we will be flying the continent's flag in Tokyo," Kashala stated.

It is the first such high profile match that the women's national soccer team will be playing.

Shepolopolo will be looking to impress at its maiden appearance at the Olympic games to be staged in Tokyo next year.

The games were initially supposed to be played this year

but the outbreak of the novel Coronavirus meant that all plans had to be reviewed.

Zambia had to overcome several African power houses enroute to qualifying for the Olympic games.

Botswana, Zimbabwe, Kenya and Cameroon stumbled and fell at the hands of the Copper Queens as they clinched qualification.

It is the only African team that has qualified so far.

FM TRAVELLERS /MAGODI LODGE LTD

Just arrived is a 32 seater luxury business class coach that includes a coffee making machine and a toilet inside with an excellent aircon facility. The business bus has been scheduled to depart from both Lusaka and Livingstone at 08:00 from Monday to Friday and Saturday Sunday it will be scheduled at the same time from Lusaka to Kitwe.

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