



Zambia sees reduction in COVID-19 cases

By Natasha Sakala
MINISTER of Health Dr Chitalu Chilufya says the country has seen a reduction in the number of COVID-19 cases after recording a low of 61 new cases from 1,521 tests done in the last 24 hours.

Story page 11

UPND ADMITS CHALLENGES

...much as we blame the system for losses, we also need some buttoning up - Nkombo

By Julia Malunga
MAZABUKA Central member of parliament Gary Nkombo says the UPND has got a lot of buttoning

up to do evidenced by the loss of the just ended parliamentary by-elections in Lukashya and Mwanabombwe constituencies.

And Nkombo says President Edgar Lungu will be remembered for the degeneration of law and order in Zambia.

Speaking when he featured on Radio Phoenix's Let the People Talk program, Friday, Nkombo said while some blame for the loss

could be ascribed to failures in the system, the UPND needed to do some buttoning up.

Story page 6

Lungu is desperate to pass Bill 10 to legalise 3rd term bid - Telesphore

By Julia Malunga
ARCHBISHOP Telesphore Mpundu says it is lawlessness

of the highest order to restore an expired Bill in Parliament. And Archbishop Mpundu

says President Edgar Lungu should listen to the voice of Zambians who are telling him "thank you very much for your luckless time in State House but now time has come for you to go away".

In an interview, Archbishop Mpundu lamented that PF was so desperate to pass Constitution Amendment Bill Number 10 of 2019 that they were changing the rules.

"It is very sad that the PF

government is hell-bent on taking the dead Bill 10 back to Parliament again by changing the rules of Parliament known as standing orders. In the first place, the bill did not have sufficient numbers to support it in order for it to go through the second reading in Parliament. The PF government decided to buy time so as to dangle carrots and sausages so as to obtain the numbers required to vote..."

Story page 7

We agree with LAZ that ConCourt did not deal with eligibility, but Lungu qualifies - Mundubile

By Julia Malunga

PATRIOTIC Front chairperson for legal affairs Brian Mundubile says the Patriotic Front agrees with the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) position that the Constitutional Court did not deal with President Edgar Lungu's eligibility for the 2021 election.

Mundubile, however, insists that President Lungu is eligible to stand in 2021 because he will have only served one term of office by then.

Story page 2

Govt yet to decide mode of action in probing privatisation saga - Wina

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

VICE-President Inonge Wina says government has not yet decided on which mode of action to use in dealing with the involvement of public figures in the privatisation process.

And Vice-President Wina says President Edgar Lungu has not failed to run the economy of this country following the abrupt dismissal of former Bank of Zambia (BoZ) governor Dr Denny Kalyalya last month.

Story page 10

Mwila nullifies the Lusambo-appointed mobilisation committee

By Daniel Chansa

PATRIOTIC Front Secretary General Davis Mwila has nullified the appointments of the Masaiti District PF mobilization committee.

The Masaiti District Committee was appointed by Copperbelt Mobilization Chairman Bowman Lusambo.

Story page 2

POWER HUNGRY

WHAT'S YOUR GUT FEEL ABOUT ANOTHER 5 YEARS OF PF RULE?



**K5.15
OF BREAD
THEN & NOW**



IN 2015 K5.15 BOUGHT YOU 1 LOAF OF BREAD.
IT NOW BUYS YOU LESS THAN 1/4.

NO MORE PF RULE

#BallyWillFixIt



PF Legal Affairs Chairperson Brian Mundubile

We agree with LAZ that ConCourt didn't deal with eligibility, but Lungu qualifies – Mundubile

By Julia Malunga

PATRIOTIC Front chairperson for legal affairs Brian Mundubile says the Patriotic Front agrees with the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) position that the Constitutional Court did not deal with President Edgar Lungu's eligibility for the 2021 election.

Mundubile, however, insists that President Lungu is eligible to stand in 2021 because he will have only served one term of office by then.

Last week, the Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) said the Constitutional Court did not deal with the eligibility case of President Lungu.

In an interview, Mundubile said the party concurred with LAZ's position but insisted that President Lungu was eligible for 2021.

"Our position as PF Party is that President Edgar Lungu had only served one term of office as per ConCourt Judgement in the Danny Pule case. As PF party, we have consistently argued with those individuals and organisations that have been misleading the public that President Lungu was not eligible to stand in 2021 because he had already served two terms of office and is therefore barred by the Zambian Constitution. We are also alive to the fact that there

are several eligibility criteria for one to stand as President and one of them is that a Person wishing to stand as President of the Republic of Zambia must not have served two terms of office," said Mundubile.

"One side of the argument was that President Lungu was ineligible to stand in 2021 because he had served two terms of office, our side of the argument was that he was eligible because he had not served two terms of office in so far as the law was concerned and the Constitutional Court agreed with our position. We therefore agree with the position taken by LAZ that the only issue the Court dealt with decisively in its judgement was that of the term of office because questions of the other eligibility criteria were not brought before the court and in our view the other eligibility criteria may not be in issue because President Lungu will not be contesting as President for the first time."

Responding to a press query, LAZ president Abyudi Shonga said the ConCourt did not deal with any other eligibility criteria.

"It is the position of LAZ, according to the Constitution of Zambia as amended by Act No. 2 of 2016, the President of Zambia may only serve two terms. Further, it is LAZ's position

that there are several eligibility criteria for a person wishing to contest for the office of the President of the Republic of Zambia. One of the criteria is that the person must not have served two terms prior to attempting to contest. It is common knowledge that the Constitutional Court was called upon, in the cases of Reverend Danny Pule and others vs Attorney General and others, to determine whether President Edgar Lungu was eligible to stand for the office of the President of the Republic of Zambia in 2021," said Shonga.

"Apart from a pronouncement that the presidential term served between the 25th of January, 2015 and the 13th of September, 2016 cannot be considered a full term, it is the position of LAZ that the Constitutional Court did not deal with any other eligibility criteria. Our opinion on the qualification or lack thereof of any potential candidate can only be based on the criteria passed by the law and on being presented with certain facts that may bring the qualification of such a candidate into question. The position as at now is that the only issue we are aware of is the issue of the full term which the court dealt with decisively in its judgement which is binding."

Mwila nullifies Bowman-appointed Masaiti mobilisation committee

By Daniel Chansa

PATRIOTIC Front Secretary General Davis Mwila has nullified the appointments of the Masaiti District PF mobilization committee.

The Masaiti District Committee was appointed by Copperbelt Mobilization Chairman Bowman Lusambo.

According to a letter addressed to Lusambo and seen by News Diggers! Mwila said all appointments should be made through the PF National Mobilization Chairman and the party secretariat. Lusambo has appointed District Mobilization Committees in Ndola, Luanshya, Kitwe, Chingola, Masaiti among other districts.

But Mwila has nullified the Masaiti District committee.

"I wish to inform you that, I have on behalf of the

party nullified the appointments of the Masaiti District mobilization committee with immediate effect. I wish also to advise you that any other future appointments should be approved by the national Chairman of the mobilization committee in consultation with secretariat," the letter, which was dated 17th September, 2020, read. Mwila said the National Chairman of the mobilization committee had been informed accordingly.

"By copy of this letter, the National Chairman of the mobilization committee, Copperbelt Chairman and the Masaiti District Chairman are hereby informed of the decision," wrote Mwila.

The mobilization committee is in conflict with the PF Copperbelt Provincial executive which feels that the mobilization is causing confusion.



MEANWOOD FINANCE CORPORATION LIMITED

**5 ACRE
SMALLHOLDINGS
FOR SALE**

MEANWOOD PARK - KITWE

About 1Kilometer from Mufuchani Bridge, Riverside

PRICE & PAYMENT OPTIONS

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| PRICE: | 30 DAYS K200,000 | 3 MONTHS K220,000 | 6 MONTHS K240,000 | 9 MONTHS K260,000 | 12 MONTHS K280,000 |
| DEPOSIT: | 30 DAYS K100,000 | 3 MONTHS K50,000 | 6 MONTHS K50,000 | 9 MONTHS K60,000 | 12 MONTHS K60,000 |

** Current plot pricing and payment options are subject to change*

NOTE: 1. MEANWOOD PARK IS AN ON-GOING PROJECT WITH SOME PLOT OWNERS UNDERTAKING HOUSING CONSTRUCTION ON THEIR PLOTS

NOTE: 2. ALL PLOTS ALREADY HAVE INDIVIDUAL CERTIFICATES OF TITLE

NOTE: 3. SUBDIVISION OF PLOTS NOT ALLOWED

NOTE: 4. MERGING OF PLOTS ALLOWED

**PROMOTION PRICE K150,000 CASH
FOR A LIMITED NUMBER OF PLOTS**

SALES ENQUIRIES

MEANWOOD OFFICE

Suite 207, 1st Floor Mukuba Pension House, Kitwe

Mobile: +260 964 727901, +260 964 727907

Email:sales@meanwoodfinance.co.zm



CTPD'S MONDAY OPINION

This is a weekly column aimed at sharing CTPD's perspective and steering public debate on various issues pertaining to Trade & Investment Law, Public Finance Management, Extractives and Human Development.

TODAYS TOPIC:

CTPD's reflection on the Financial Intelligence Centre Trends Report 2019 with **Ms. Chileshe G. Mange**



THE Financial Intelligence Centre ("FIC") published the 6th Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Trends Report for the year 2019 (the "Report") in August of this year. The Centre for Trade Policy and Development ("CTPD") has reviewed the Report from a civil society perspective and in particular the policy processes that need to be implemented to give further efficacy to the FIC and the financial sector as a whole. In this week's opinion we consider the findings of the Report as compared with the results of the previous financial year and attempt to identify the specific areas that warrant special attention.

The FIC is mandated by the Financial Intelligence Centre Act No. 46 of 2010 (as amended by Act No. 4 of 2016) to receive, request for, analyse and evaluate suspicious transaction reports and information from sources authorized by law to make suspicious transaction reports (including designated foreign authorities). Other functions include but are not limited to:

(a) providing advice and assistance to law enforcement agencies in furtherance of an investigations;

(b) accessing, directly or indirectly, on a timely basis, financial, administrative and law enforcement information required for the better carrying out of its functions under the FIC Act;

(c) educating the public and reporting entities of their obligations and inform them of measures to detect, prevent and deter money Laundering and financing of terrorism or proliferation.

Furthermore, one of the objects of thereport is for public consumption and to provide redacted case studies that demonstrate methods used to launder suspected proceeds of crime. The Report may influence policy formulation by Government to address money laundering and terrorist financing.

With respect to the 2019 period the Report revealed that the FIC received a total of seven hundred and ninety (790) reports comprising of seven hundred and forty (740) suspicious transaction reports. In comparison, the FIC received seven hundred and ninety-nine (799) reports in 2018 of which seven hundred and twenty-four (724) were in relation to suspicious transactions. In addition, reporting entities are required to submit currency transaction reports to the FIC. One hundred and forty-nine thousand, six hundred and twenty-five (149,625) currency transaction

reports were submitted in 2019 compared to seventy-five thousand, five hundred and ninety-two (75,592) in 2018. This has been attributed to improved compliance by reporting entities.

It should be noted however, that once reports are received by the FIC, they have to be analyzed in order to ascertain the value in financial terms of those reports, in other words determine how much is lost and account of what sort of illicit activity. On this basis the FIC analyzed one hundred and one (101) suspicious reports in 2019 compared to one hundred and seventy-six (176) in 2018. In 2018 the FIC revealed that Zambia incurred losses estimated at ZMW 6.1 billion due to financial crimes such as tax evasion, fraud, corruption, and money laundering activities. Of the ZMW 6.1 billion lost in 2018, an estimated ZMW 4.9 billion was lost solely due to corruption, with public procurement activities being significantly vulnerable to corruption.

In respect of the 2019 period, the Report reveals that the value of reports (in other words the total estimated losses) amounted to ZMW 948 million as compared to the ZMW 6.1 billion in 2018. The Zambia Revenue Authority assessed a total loss in revenue of ZMW 27 million on account of the Report. The value of disseminations in relation to money laundering (typically money from the proceeds of crime) for 2019 is ZMW 450 million, an increase from ZMW 195 million in 2018 according to the Report. The major offenses that contributed to the proceeds of crime and therefore laundering of money, being corruption and tax evasion.

Although there is a significant decrease in the overall value of reports from 2018, as already mentioned, the FIC analyzed less reports in 2019 in comparison with the 2018 period. The Report also reveals that this is on account of a lack of funding available to the FIC to carry out the analysis of reports. It was also noted that the value of reports was significantly less than in the 2018 period as most of the reports involved natural persons (individuals), as opposed to corporations whose transactions are larger in value.

Despite the seeming improvement in 2019 as compared to 2018, what is evident is that the government continues to lose money due to corruption, with single sourcing of projects remaining a major source. Public procurement is therefore proving to be a perennial loophole

and source of corruption, particularly involving politically exposed persons or public officials.

Public procurement is an essential tool for government considering its link with the pillars of effective governance which include, improved public service delivery, value for money, and an enabling environment for private sector-led growth thereby contributing directly to improving a country's business, investment, and social environments.

The dire state of the economy is no longer a matter of debate given the unprecedented levels and Kwacha depreciation against major currencies - a situation exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is therefore worrying that the country continues to hemorrhage much needed monies through public procurement vis-à-vis corruption as it hinders private sector growth which is needed to spur economic growth and employment creation. This has a wider bearing on domestic and regional trade.

The CTPD is encouraged by the approval by Cabinet of the Public Procurement Bill, 2020 will repeal and replace the existing Public Procurement Act No. 12 of 2008 in an effort to strengthen enforcement mechanisms on procurement and the oversight and regulatory role of the Zambia Public Procurement Authority. However, there is need to examine holistically the legal and policy framework governing the aspect of public procurement including the Public Private Partnership Act No. 14 of 2009, which the Report has already flagged as problematic in that certain of its provisions create vulnerabilities in the procurement process. The suggested examination must also consider the financial sector regulatory framework and its direct linkages with procurement processes and in so doing suggest a policy road map that will enhance the efficacy of the FIC.

Having identified the major systemic loopholes as cited in the Report, the next article will be a discussion of the policy road map suggested in the foregoing paragraph. The discussion will be informed by an examination of the linkages between the procurement and financial sector regulatory framework.

About the Author

Chileshe G. Mange is a Researcher at CTPD, an Advocate of the High Court for Zambia and a part-time tutor with the University of Zambia.

We would like to hear from you, drop us a comment using the details below:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
P.O. Box 50882, Lusaka, Zambia
Plot 123, Kudu Road, Kabulonga
Tel: +260 211 264409
Email: info@ctpd.org.zm
or nyimbilimwaka@yahoo.com



Centre for Trade Policy & Development



@CTPDZambia



www.ctpd.org.zm



+260975876038

By Sipilisiwe Ncube

LEADER of the Opposition Jack Mwiimbu has insisted that Bill 10 died on June 4 adding that PF wants to use it as their ventilator which can prolong President Edgar Lungu's tenure of office.

But deputy chief whip Tutwa Ngulube says with or without Bill 10, the PF can continue in power after 2021.

Debating Vice-President Inonge Wina's motion to restore Bill 10 and seven other bills on the Order Paper, Friday, Mwiimbu insisted that the Bill died and could not be reinstated.

"As far as we are concerned as UPND, Mr Speaker, this Bill died on 4th June. There was an attempt by the Minister of Justice [Given Lubinda] when he wrote a letter to request parliament

With or without Bill 10, PF can continue in power after 2021 – Tutwa

to allow him to debate the Bill on 30th June. Mr Speaker, you cannot extend a Bill that has already lapsed. It had died on 4th June. After the death of this particular Bill on 4th June, two weeks later, it was cremated. The ashes were thrown in the Zambezi River [and] they are now in the Indian Ocean. We cannot ourselves as UPND be part of the process which we don't agree with. We cannot be part of a process that is fraud. There is one thing which we know Mr Speaker. Why is the PF so desperate pertaining to Bill 10? Bill 10, Mr Speaker, is a ventilator for the PF. That is why they are insisting that this Bill be resurrected even

when the ashes are in the Indian Ocean, it is because of what the Constitutional Court ruled on the eligibility of the current President. And that is why they are insisting that Bill 10 be brought because they want to make amendments to Article 52. That is the reason Mr Speaker. Mr Speaker, we will not be part and parcel of a fraud process. If you want to pass it, you will pass it on your own. And as a result Mr Speaker, I would like to indicate that I am not going to assist the PF to look for Oxygen so that they can put in a ventilator and start breathing again. There is no way. Let them do it alone," Mwiimbu said before seeking

permission to leave the House saying that he did not agree with the process.

As he was leaving the Chamber, Justice Minister Given Lubinda and Ngulube tried to convince him to stay and listen to their responses saying: "Sit, we have to answer you. You can't run away."

And when debating the same Motion, Ngulube said Mwiimbu was misleading the nation by alleging that the Bill sought to extend President Lungu's stay in office.

"Mr Speaker, we want to tell the Zambian people the truth about the powers that this House has. It is not correct to state as Honourable Mwiimbu has stated that

Bill 10 died or any other Bill that wasn't concluded. I want to refer my brother to the provisions of Article 77 of the Constitution which actually states and I will quote: 'subject to this Article and Article 78, the National Assembly shall regulate its own procedure and make Standing Orders for the conduct of its business. It is not correct to state Mr Speaker that this House cannot control its own internal proceedings. Honourable Mwiimbu on behalf of the UPND is misleading the Zambians. And I think they have been behind all these social media frenzy including the insensitive comments they have been making," Ngulube said.

"As far as we are concerned Mr Speaker, there is a list of Bills that have been restored. But he has only chosen one Bill, Bill 10 and he wants to mislead the nation that the Bill died and it cannot be resurrected. As far as we are concerned, the procedure in this House is that if we are not able to conclude business, a motion of this nature can be brought and the members of parliament will vote. As far as we are concerned, Mr Speaker, there is nothing about Article 52 that they have actually stated. The provisions of Article 52 that he has mentioned have not been proposed by the Patriotic Front government, they are being proposed by ECZ itself. The Electoral Commission of Zambia wants all the provisions in the Constitution that have to do with elections to be put in one place. We cannot have an election being conducted where you have to look at the Constitution, you have to look at the Electoral Process Act, you have to look at the 1991 Constitution. And the ECZ made it very clear at the National Dialogue Forum that they would like Article 52 to be amended."

Ngulube who is also Kabwe Central PF member of parliament said with or without Bill 10, the PF can continue in power after 2021. "We also know, Mr Speaker, that the UPND have been misleading the Zambians to say that President Lungu wants to overstay in power. There is nothing in Bill 10 that talks about that. There is nothing in Bill 10 that even says that PF is on a ventilator. With or without Bill 10, PF can continue in power after 2021. And in fact Mr Speaker let me put this on record that the people who are calling for the enactment of Bill 10 are all those Zambians who were negatively affected by the amendments of the 2016 Constitution. President Lungu was categorical when he accented to the Constitution on 5th January 2015. After the Constitution came into effect, we discovered that the Constitution had a lot of problems and a lot of errors. And to correct those problems, the people of Zambia called for a meeting which was attended throughout by the UPND," Ngulube said.

Ngulube said if the UPND succeeded in shooting down the Bill, they should not cry foul in 2021 after losing elections.

"They (UPND) want to start telling Zambians that they will not be part of this process because they know that even without the UPND, the PF can pass Bill 10. And the PF will make sure that if they are going to shoot down the Bill, no one should wake up again tomorrow to cry that the Constitution has problems. So, if the Constitution is not amended and Hakainde loses again in 2021, he should not go to the Constitutional Court because we know that he is the one who has been running to the ConCourt whenever he loses elections," said Ngulube.

By Natasha Sakala

NEWLY-ELECTED Lukashya PF member of parliament George Chisanga says he and the ruling party have got work to do in his constituency.

And Chisanga says the results of last Thursday's by-election which he won with a landslide is an indication that the people still love the Patriotic Front.

But losing UPND candidate Davies Mulenga says he cannot get sick over his loss in a constituency, alleging that the PF victory was stolen.

We've got work to do – Chisanga

In an interview, Chisanga, the former Law Association of Zambia president, promised the electorate in Lukashya that he would continue where the previous member of parliament, Mwenya Munkonge, left off.

Munkonge, who was an independent member of parliament, died in July, 2020.

"When the President came here, he made a clarion call to all the members of the party to make sure that we work extra hard to make sure that we deliver this constituency, not only for the victory but even for the percentage and if you have seen, almost 90 per cent of the vote came to us. Now that is a demonstration that Lukashya is a bedrock of the Patriotic Front, but also

that the people of Lukashya are still in sync with what the Patriotic Front has been doing for them," Chisanga said.

"But look, we have got work to do, if you ask me to tell you what work I am going to do, I am going to finish where Honourable Mwenya Munkonge left. Mwenya Munkonge had a plan for this constituency and he worked through the plan and that plan, I think, was also in sync with what the party was going to do in the constituency. So, it's just a continuation of that plan until it comes to the end, then we can plan through the manifesto of the PF and the national development plan what we can do for the next five years when we come to contest next year."

He said winning the Lukashya by-election was very exciting.

"It's an exciting opportunity, myself and all

members of the Patriotic Front in Lukashya constituency are happy and excited that we have delivered the victory that we had promised the central committee and the President," Chisanga said.

He added that Lukashya had always been a PF stronghold, saying the loss in 2016 was a demonstration against an individual and not the party.

In the 2016 elections, the PF fielded Alfredah Kansembe Mwamba, who lost to Munkonge, an independent candidate.

"This is a rural constituency and going through the height and the breadth of the constituency, you will see the needs that people have and the kind of infrastructure development the Patriotic Front has put up to support the people's needs.

Continues on P10

Thank You

My menstruation was clotting for two years I didn't know what to do till I saw your advert GOD BLESS you for freeing me from DARKNESS Dr EMMA . HIS LINE 0979310300 Dr Emma

MEN'S SOLUTION

- control quick ejaculation
- strong erection
- power/libido.
- More rounds.
- Increase blood flow into the penis (enlargement) with muvule oil
- no side effects... 100% Herbal
- call/whatsapp prof.Makolo +260979471095



PROF. KIRYA

Specialist in love and financial problems using strong traditional chams.

- Control your lover as you want
- bring back your lover or you want quick marriage
- You want to boost your business
- You want to get more salary or delayed pension
- You want protection in your business



- Men's clinic for boosting sexual performance
- You need a luck to progress in life
CONTACT PROF. KIRYA CALL/ WHATSAPP: +260978973613

DR. BALAM AKUMED

NO MORE SUFFERING SAME DAY RESULTS DR. BALAM AKUMED SPECIALIST IN HEALING WITH PURE AFRICAN MEDICINE Call/WhatsApp +260978973609 Bringing back lost lover within 30mins all marriage problems Be the bedroom king and go for more rounds . Stop early evacuation and size enlargement Financial problems . Business boosting and attract customers Quick selling and buying of properties Call/WhatsApp +2560978973609



ASTROLOGER 2021
The Enthusiastic and Blood movers (SHAKERS and MOVERS YEAR) good fortune for people born on the 5th, 14th and 23rd analysing PLATONIC or MADE IN HEAVEN type of LOVE
Botanic herbal remedy for BP, DIABETESE, HEMMORHOIDS, STROKE, PULSE
and our new Product for **CORONA**
BAYCARO
KIBOKO YA CORONA
Enquiry Dr. Emma call : 0979 310 300

For the love of eggs
Price K105 Each
VACCINATED DE-BEAKED POINT OF LAY +260 963 946368 +260 9773134216
BOOKING FOR NOVEMBER, 2020

GOLD INVESTMENT IN ZAMBIA

For every businessman's dream is to make a successful and profitable investment. Its high time tha your dreams come true by investing in gold of pure quality from across africa and guarantee your future

wealth and prosperity for generations . Make your purchase early note: any potential buyer should be willing to co-operate with me on custom legal procedures call or watsup +260977368704

MEN'S CLINIC

For all men who have been deprived of their pride worry no more. Here is the combination of mvule stamina tree grinded with famous ginseng.
▪ Early ejaculation
▪ strong erection
▪ power and appetite
▪ more rounds
▪ sperm count increase
▪ veins cleansing
▪ penis enlargement \$girth
N.B women satisfaction is prior to marriage stability call / whatsapp :+260978863471

UPND needs to button up - Nkombo

By Julia Malunga
 MAZABUKA Central member of parliament Gary Nkombo says the UPND has got a lot of buttoning up to do evidenced by the loss of the just ended parliamentary by-elections in Lukashya and Mwanabombwe constituencies.

And Nkombo says President Edgar Lungu will be remembered for the degeneration of law and order in Zambia.

Speaking when he featured on Radio Phoenix's

Let the People Talk program, Friday, Nkombo said while some blame for the loss could be ascribed to failures in the system, the UPND needed to do some buttoning up.

"We take note of the results and I think the fairest thing to say is that even as we cast some blame on the system and the players, we also would like to say that maybe from our own end there is a lot of buttoning up to be done. But the good news is that ultimately, the reception in what you called

perceived PF stronghold was overwhelming and if the reception could turn into votes, obviously our desires would be met. This is a region where three years or less ago, it was unheard of for UPND to have a free range of activities without stones being cast at them, this time there was no single stone cast," Nkombo said.

And Nkombo said President Lungu would be remembered as a Head of State who embraced corruption-accused

ministers.

"There is poverty in this country, untold poverty and that is why even when I was looking at President Lungu's state of the nation address and saying the things he was saying and the achievements of PF in the light of what I see before my face I then come to a conclusion that... and my own understanding of the law is that Mr Lungu was giving a kiss of goodbye to the presidency at that state of the nation address because he is ineligible to stand as a

President in the next election.

So in his farewell bid, he said things that I personally translated as how he wants to be remembered. Now, how one wants to be remembered is totally different to how one is remembered. President Lungu in his state of the nation address enjoyed the freedom of his feelings about the achievements that PF has done. That is how it is, it ends at his feelings which he is entitled to but he is not entitled to our feelings. Our feeling is that he will be

remembered as the President who was very lucky, in his own words to the country, he did not have a vision for this country and the people using the vote of pity arising from the death of President still went on and gave him a vote. He is a very lucky individual. Degeneration of law and order in the country, that is how he shall be remembered," Nkombo said.

"This is the only country where a political cadre can storm a radio station and start breaking things. This is the only country where a political cadre can order a police officer and tell him what to do. The power base has shifted from the police who are the enforcers of the law to the cadre, there is superiority of a cadre. He will be remembered as a President who nursed and harnessed ministers who are accused of corruption. In his state of the nation address, he talked about the social cash transfer and the social security plan for this country. What we remember about the social cash transfer is that it was stolen by PF through ZamPost. We have a President who criticized even the institutions that are constitutionally born; the Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC), this was born out of the act of Parliament, you know how they have been demonized."

Meanwhile, Nkombo charged that foreign nationals were being allowed to acquire national registration cards.

"There is a scandal regarding the sovereignty of this country where foreigners are being allowed to get tools that are only exclusive to citizens, bonafide citizens. If you ask Dracula if he drinks blood, he is going to tell you he doesn't drink blood. The Home Affairs Ministry under Stephen Kampyongo are the ones that are responsible for this program. We think that it is something that they are doing willfully and knowingly and if it is not the case, it means that they are incompetent. It means that they have allowed security paper to be in the hands of wrong people. Either way, it means that we are dealing with people that are dangerous because an incompetent person is a very dangerous person. If you recall, the statement made by PF secretary general Davies Mvila, he said 'this issue of NRC is a party program' and without any ounce of shame that it can never be a party programme. If it is a party programme, then it is meant for self-preservation. This is a national program and it is not a program that is going to enhance self-preservation. This is just a degeneration of the rule of law in this country where there is no respect for dignity and human life," said Nkombo.

Why should I pre-register online to vote?

www.ovr.elections.org.zm

- Convenience**
Start the voter registration process online, from anywhere at your own convenience.
- 24/7**
You can lodge your application at any time of the day during the pre-registration phase.
- Save Time**
Spend less time at the registration center.

#VotingSquad



TUNE INTO MUSIC.
TUNE INTO NEWS.
TUNE INTO TALK.
TUNE INTO YOUR CITY.
TUNE INTO YOUR WORLD.

97.7 FM



By Julia Malunga

ARCHBISHOP Telesphore Mpundu says it is lawlessness of the highest order to restore an expired Bill in Parliament.

And Archbishop Mpundu says President Edgar Lungu should listen to the voice of Zambians who are telling him “thank you very much for your luckless time in State House but now time has come for you to go away”.

In an interview, Archbishop Mpundu lamented that PF was so desperate to pass Constitution Amendment Bill Number 10 of 2019 that

Lungu is desperate to pass Bill 10 to legalise 3rd term bid, insists Telesphore

they were changing the rules.

“It is very sad that the PF government is hell-bent on taking the dead Bill 10 back to Parliament again by changing the rules of Parliament known as standing orders. In the first place, the bill did not have

sufficient numbers to support it in order for it to go through the second reading in Parliament. The PF government decided to buy time so as to dangle carrots and sausages so as to obtain the numbers required to vote for it to sail through

the second reading. The life of the bill expired a long time ago and Parliament decided to change its own rules regarding the life span of a bill before it is enacted into law,” Archbishop Mpundu said.

“This is lawlessness of the

highest order perpetrated by the lawmakers themselves. Rules and regulations must be followed, and Parliament must lead by example in following rules and regulations. Of all institutions, Parliament must champion constitutionalism, not lawlessness by bowing to the dictates of the Executive.

It is immoral and therefore wrong for this PF government and its stooge Parliament to insist on resurrecting a dead Bill 10 which instead ought to be buried. Parliament as the Legislature must play the role of checks and balances supporting one of the pillars of democratic rule.”

And Archbishop Mpundu insisted that Bill 10 was designed to allow President Lungu to stand for a third term.

“Bill 10 is designed specifically to allow Edgar Chagwa Lungu to stand for the third term which the current Constitution has outlawed! Late Fredrick Chiluba after tasting the sweetness of power wanted to change the Constitution to allow him to stand for a third term and he kept saying that he was listening to people who had already spoken through the Constitution Chiluba desired to bend. They saw through all that and said an emphatic ‘no’. Today that voice from the people that told Chiluba to go away after the second term should be heard again very loudly and loudly ‘Chagwa Lungu, thank you very much for your luckless time in

State House but now time has come for you to go away’. Laws are made for all not just for some people. No animal should be more equal than others in a truly democratic dispensation,” he said.

Archbishop Mpundu advised President Lungu to throw away Bill 10.

“My word to the President is, repent and bring back to the people of Zambia their God given right to determine how they are going to rule themselves through a Constitution of their own they can truly claim is truly theirs by the words ‘we the people’ and not ‘we the PF government’. Throw away Bill 10. In fact, it is already too late to start discussing it again, it takes a long time to fine tune a Constitution. The current one in use was signed only after the last presidential and general election. If forced down the Zambian people’s throats, Bill 10 is the litmus test that will summarize and judge President Lungu and his presidency for today and posterity. He will be known as a spineless Judas Iscariot who betrayed this nation for 30 pieces of silver. In other words, the disciple who sold Jesus for a song or the then prevailing price of a slave. By ditching Bill 10, President Lungu will be voting with the people of Zambia and his name will be forever revered as that of an audacious patriot. The die is cast, it is now for President Lungu to choose,” said Archbishop Mpundu.

Govt admits not doing enough to ensure differently abled children are in school

By Tenson Mkhala

GOVERNMENT has the obligation to provide support required to facilitate effective education of persons living with disabilities, says developmental psychologist and early childhood senior education officer Joachim Nyoni.

And General Education Principal Officer Mwamba Mwenya has admitted that his Ministry has not done much in ensuring that children living with disabilities are enrolled in schools.

Speaking during the presentation of the research finding on indicators for measuring quality of education in pre and early grades in inclusive schools at UNZA, Friday, Nyoni expressed dismay that a large population of children living with disabilities still had no access to education.

“Government has the obligation, through the Ministry (of General

Education), to provide the support required to facilitate the effective education of children living with disabilities, including providing reasonable accommodation, adequate equipment and individualised support measures, as well as paying teachers, who are qualified and trained to teach children living with disability within regular schools. According to our findings, we discovered that inadequate provision of specialised training and resources to equip teachers in handling children with special educational needs in ordinary classes contributed to many pupils dropping out of school,” Nyoni said.

He further said lack of investment in quality education of learners living with disabilities was also a contributing factor to them being out of school.

“We also found out that there is lack of investment in quality education of learners living with disabilities in

the country. Our wish is for government to consider funding schools with special education, the better. Poverty and unemployment contributes greatly to exclusion of children from accessing education because most parents of children with disabilities are unemployed and poor, and as a result, you will find a large population of those children having no access to education,” said Nyoni.

“So, inadequate funding to schools to a great extent hinders implementation of inclusive education. For instance, unsuitable infrastructure, inadequate learning resources, inadequate trained teachers in special education could all be attributed to inadequate funding by government.”

And Mwenya conceded that his Ministry had not done much to ensure that children living with disabilities were in school.

“If we go out, you will find out that UNZA has a

centre where they provide education at a level in children with special education needs. Then, we have another centre in Kabwe, specifically for such children. I think even UTH special school, they are doing that. [Also] at Mulumba in Choma and Bauleni special needs project. If you look at these schools that I have just mentioned here, they’re just a drop in the ocean, meaning that the majority of learners at that level are not in school and when we are talking about inclusive education, we are saying, let’s bring all on board. But I think, as the Ministry, we are not doing much in ensuring that children living with disabilities and special needs are in school,” said Mwenya.

Meanwhile, UNZA lecturer and researcher Dr Tamara Kabali said there was need to educate and create community awareness to handle children living with disabilities and special needs.

Threatening to arrest opponents on International Day of Democracy

EPTEMBER 15 was International Day of Democracy, we did not see or hear of any statement from State House regarding this special day. Why? Apart from announcing his intentions to arrest Hakainde Hichilema, how did our President celebrate this year's International Day of Democracy?

On 8th March, we celebrate International Women's Day, the President holds a special event for that occasion. On 12th March, we celebrate Youth Day, and the President holds a special commemoration event. On May 1, we also hear from State House as we celebrate Labour Day. The President has even created another holiday on our calendar called National Day of Prayer, which falls on October 18 and he congregates with believers in the name of prayer. There is also Remembrance Day on November 11, which is not even a holiday in Zambia,

but our President spends time officiating at this event with surviving war veterans.

We are told that Zambia is a beacon of democracy in African. The party in power claims to be the most democratic organisation since the dawn of multipartyism. But the International Day of Democracy means nothing to our President and his political party. Why is this the case? We don't remember reading any statement from the government or State House commemorating this very important day on the United Nations calendar. What does this mean?

We recall on several occasions when our President has officiated at the World Toilet Day, among

other United Nations observance days, but somehow, there is no interest towards the International Day of Democracy, which was declared for the purpose of promoting and upholding the principles of democracy. This is of concern to us.

As if the silence is not loud enough, on this year's International Day of democracy, our President was issuing threats to his political arch rival, and giving indirect orders for the arrest of Mr Hichilema. We can guess that the President doesn't even know or care about this day on his calendar. Again, this is of concern to us because we use the word democracy for political expediency.

A leadership that

truly believes and is dedicated to promoting and upholding the principles of democracy must take serious interest in this day. We want our President to use this day to tell us what he has done, in the previous year, to preserve democracy in this country. The President must explain how much civic space he has given to political opponents for their activities. This doesn't seem to be tenable for our leadership for one reason - there is no democracy to talk about.

In a real democracy, citizens are allowed to share the governing power and civic responsibility and to make decisions on how they should be governed. Yes, in a democracy, the

majority rules, but this does not happen to the exclusion of the minorities' rights. In enacting laws, a democratic government is expected to strike a balance between majority and minority interests. Even if a legitimate decision is made by a majority of the people, if that decision negatively affects the fundamental rights of the minority, then the decision must be adjusted to reflect what is fair and equitable to all citizens. Can this be said about the laws that the Patriotic Front is enacting? Is this principle of democracy reflected in Bill 10?

A true democracy upholds the basic human rights of its citizens as outlined in its laws, agreements or Constitution. These

rights include freedom of religion, freedom of speech, equal protection under the law, the right to a fair trial and a right to privacy without unwarranted intrusion by the government. Can anyone in our government or the ruling party claim that the above principles are respected in this country? Is there freedom of speech? Are people free to associate? Do citizens have the right to a fair trial and the right to privacy?

What makes us a democracy? Is it because the Constitution says or is it because we hold general elections every five years? Is democracy in Zambia a national motto or it is just a name we prefer to use to define our political system?

We are eager to hear President Lungu's definition of democracy. If he was asked to say something about the International Day of Democracy, what would he say, apart from declaring himself the sole candidate of the ruling party in the next election?

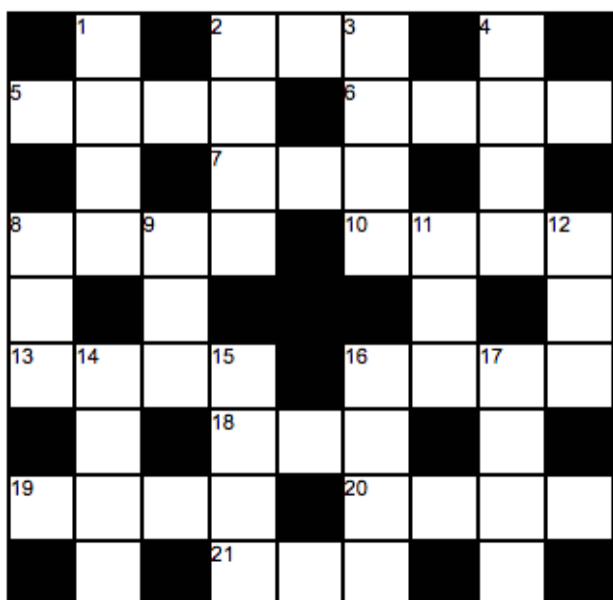
News Diggers!

Ear to the ground

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

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

Crossword puzzle No 694



“winners see the gain;
losers see the pain.”
- Shiv Kherra

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>Across</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Defeat 5. 12:30 pm or 9:00 am 6. Beast; like Shrek 7. Make a mistake 8. Dud 10. Constructed 13. More than want 16. A toboggan 18. Baseball ref 19. Told untruths 20. Yearn for 21. Ages and ages | <p>Down</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It may be hard to swallow 2. Shed a lot of tears 3. "Cheers" character 4. Brought up 8. Part of a fish 9. Solitary 11. Become unwell 12. Final; finish 14. Malevolent 15. Buddy 16. Bridge, or wide gap 17. Parrot |
|---|---|

Crossword puzzle No 693



Readers' Feedback

'Honeybee has to be taken to jail for supplying spoilt medicine'

Editor,

"Useless they must be jailed and deregistered for putting the lives of Zambians at risk!" - Pesh Mbiiza

"Replacing.....?? That is a criminal offense and they are suppose to be heading to jail". - Brian Ponde Mukoba

"This honeybee crime is worse compared to what you want to create an inquiry for, real time crimes you want gloss over and sweep under the carpet, 'men without shame and moral

compass in life". - Friday Tatila

"Due diligence on that sham of a company would have prevented this! So the big question is 'Was it done during the tender evaluation?'" - Percy Masheke Mushambi

"Zambia has become an experimental ground mostly in the ministry of health under this cadre minister Chitalu Chilufya. This is the first time our government is supplying expired drugs in health centers and yet we have the appointing officer watching all this nonsense

sure this country is on Auto pilot I think". - Nosiku Mulonda

"The Minister said the drugs are safe to consume, the Spokes person at the MOH says the drug store has to replace the tainted drugs, who owns this Honey Comb drug store? Knowing the owners, we will know which directive will be followed by the drug store?" - Petrine Eshiloni Musonda

"If one votes for this circus government again we are in trouble. Straight forwad thing you argue, you deny until it is on social media". - Arthur Hakalima

medicine'

"So what is the point of including a performance guarantee in the contract, if one has under performed? Just do what is right and get back what is due to the State. Already they showed incompetence by endangering the lives of the patients". - Henry C. Sakasole

"The ones who allowed this shall eventually go to prison. Eventually". - Joe Mumba Kawimbe

"Effects of corruption caused by ba mwankole". - Abie Jones Sunga



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.

PF's persistence with Bill 10

Editor,

"What about motion to restore the economy. Leave that dirty paper down and look at the economy, what's so special about a bill that has failed to pass for 2 years. We got 10 months remaining to a general election, put the paper down please!" - Kris Mubanga Malama

"...when PF constantly insist on something, just know that there is 'mudoda' for them in that thing". - Sylvester Chisanga

"I feel we have serious matters that need much effort like economy, power shortages, high fuel prices, exaggerated government procurements, payment of retirees, procurement of medicines in hospitals etc". - Francis Lishomwa Walubita

"Bill 10, bill 10, bill 10 and bill 10. Why putting so much efforts on this bill. Whatever agenda it shall not come to pass the heavens and the earth is my witness". - Dason Chokochani Sakala

Tutwa on Lungu's Parley speech being best ever

Dear editor,

"How can the speech inspire hope among Zambians when there's high rate of unemployment and the jobs that were promised aren't fulfilled. Stop joking and start acting". - Charles Chiluba Chuutu

"The speech was a joke, I may not be a lawyer or learned as you are sir but this is an intellectual insult to us who got the chance to read and understand the speech. Lunch's speech lacked a road map or a recovery plan for our dying economy this on its own shows the incompetence not only in the president but cabinet at large in the their ability to try and revive the economy". - Eric

"Kabwe people, if you ever give us this comedian next year, we will create a short cut from Kapiri to Chibombo so that we see

who will be your customers for those toilets". - Brian Sichula

"Has it inspired Mulungushi Textiles back into operation?" - David M Mwanangombe

"Mwankolez are inspired by anything as long as it feeds them". - Aphius Kaputula Snr

"Tutwa is now a typical mwankole... A.k.a mushanina bwali". - Ricardo Musonda Mukuka

The ongoing debate over Lungu's 2021 eligibility

Editor,

"The key word is 'sworn', the Constitution allows someone to be sworn in twice. If he was finishing sata's term he was not supposed to swear, guy Scott did that to lead the country to fresh elections according to the Constitution. Lungu held the Bible TWICE why should he hold it for the third time? Zambians open your eyes, if it's finishing sata's term guy Scott was supposed to lead the country upto 2016". - Zack Don

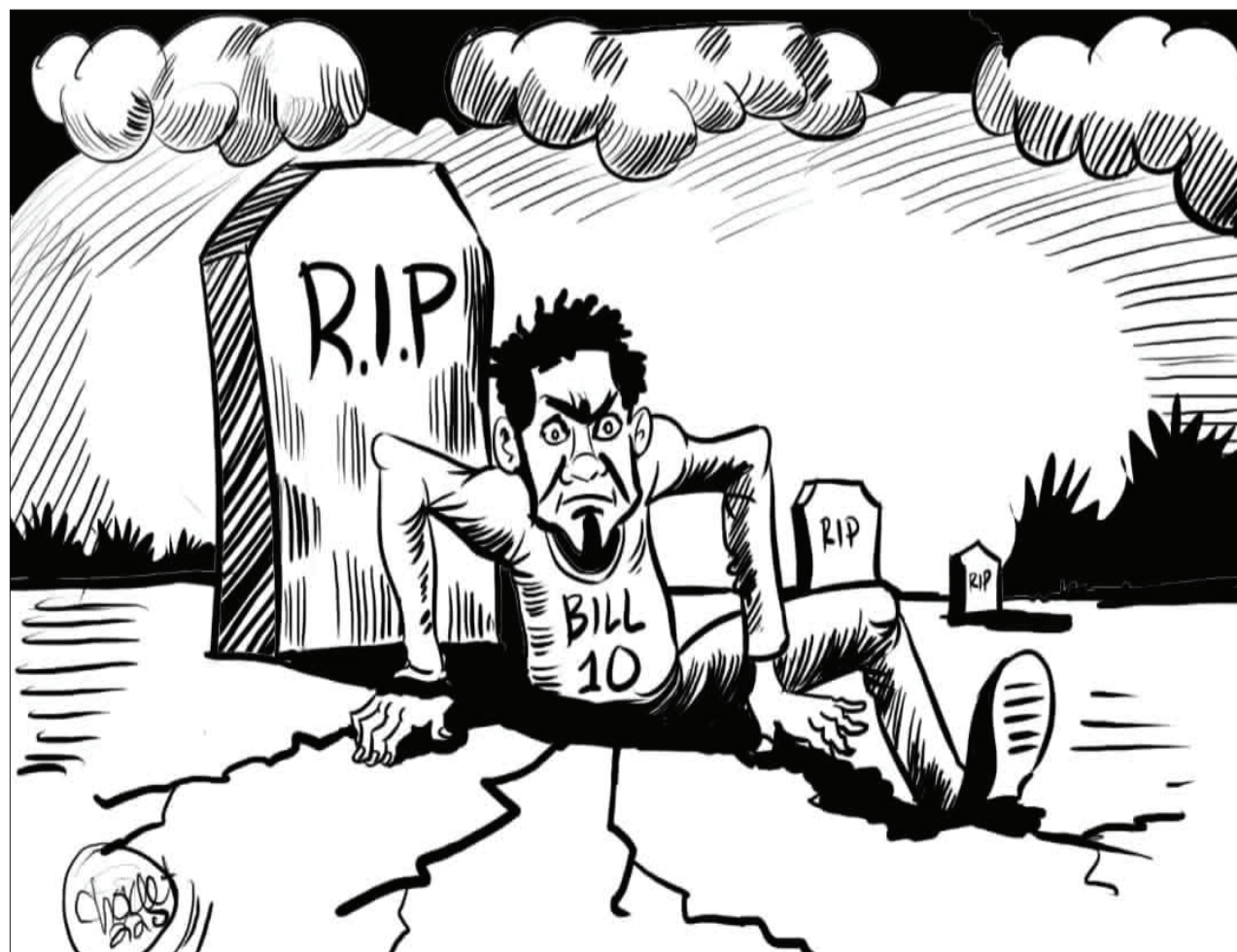
"Of course Concourt didn't declare Lungu eligible. But then again, it didn't declare him ineligible! The Court dealt with the issues of what constitutes a term without discussing any person in particular, but rather the circumstances that prevailed in Lungu's situation. At the end of the day, the Court found that a person in similar circumstances such as Lungu cannot be said to have exhausted his terms in office. At the end of the day, a person in Lungu's circumstances is free to contest again. Even if the Court refused to discuss Lungu at a personal level, they were discussing circumstances in which he found himself and ultimately they said such a person did not exhaust his constitutionally guaranteed time in office. However way you want to look at it, it comes back to the same thing. Lungu is free to stand again because the Court didn't say he cannot. It is now upon us Zambians to chuck him out of office!" - Yuri Kasonde IV

"The constitution talks about holding office twice and not terms....the chaps will be shocked, wait for it!" - Kay Dee Man

"Article 106(3) 'a person who has twice held office is not eligible for election of president". - Mulenga Phiri

"Correct, that's what we have been saying and it's the reason why PF want to cling on to Bill 10 like a tick on the bull's testicle. The Constitution is clear ,the critical part is holding office,if one has held office twice they cannot seek re-election ie they are ineligible to contest for the Presidency again". - Sylvester Chongo

"We understand how sweet power is but the constitution is clear also, it talks of holding office twice, getting elected twice..... so what's negative about these two things on Lungu?" - Keith Moono



By Sipilisiwe Ncube

VICE-President Inonge Wina says government has not yet decided on which mode of action to use in dealing with the involvement of public figures in the privatisation process.

And Vice-President Wina says President Edgar Lungu has not failed to run the economy of this country following the abrupt dismissal of former Bank of Zambia (BoZ) governor Dr Denny Kalyalya last month.

Vice-President Wina was speaking in Parliament during the Vice-President Question Time, Friday, after Muchinga MMD member of parliament Howard Kunda asked her if government was considering constituting a commission of inquiry into the privatisation of State-Owned Enterprises (SOEs).

"Your Honour, the Vice President, there have been a lot of discussions and talks about the privatisation of our companies that belonged to government. I would like to find out from you as to whether you can indicate to this nation, through this August House, whether government is considering to set up a commission of inquiry into privatization, bearing in mind that this is a national issue that the Zambian people have been discussing that they have lost or they had lost money that belonged to them," Kunda asked.

In response, Vice-President Wina said the privatisation topic was a national issue, which was still being debated on.

"Mr Speaker, indeed, this is a national issue that is being debated all over the country because Zambians want to know what transpired during the privatisation exercise. The Privatization Act Chapter 386 of the Laws of Zambia was enacted by Parliament through Act 21 of 1992. And it was amended in 1994 and 1996. The Privatisation Act was to provide for the privatisation and commercialisation of State-Owned Enterprises to provide for an establishment of the Zambia Privatisation Agency and to define the functions of the agency, to provide for the sale of shares in State-owned Enterprises. Mr Speaker, again in Section 26 of the Privatisation Act, the Act provided that political leaders and public officers should publicly disclose their intention to bid for the purchase of shares in State-Owned Enterprises," Vice-President Wina responded.

She said the negotiating team of the process needed to act professionally and should have disclosed any personal interests before carrying out the assignment.

"And as regard to the involvement of some public figures in the privatisation process, the Act had a provision under Section 32, which guided the process for public figures as stated below. This section provided that the Zambia Privatisation Agency would appoint an independent negotiating team for each sale and that a person appointed on the team was required to have proper professional qualifications, experience and good business standing. The person also needed to disclose any personal or professional interest before accepting the appointment. Therefore, the negotiating team needed to

have ensured professionalism and disclose any personal or professional interests as they carried out their assignments," Vice-President Wina added.

But she announced that government had still not yet decided on which mode of moving forward to probe the privatisation saga.

"Mr Speaker, members of the negotiating team were also required and expected to uphold high standards of integrity, transparency and professionalism since they were dealing with public assets. Disclosure of personal interest was, therefore, a legal requirement. So, Mr Speaker, the people of Zambia are still debating this matter and they want their government to find a solution that will put an end to this public discussion. And government has not yet decided on the mode of moving forward regarding this matter. But when

Govt yet to decide mode of action in probing privatisation saga – Wina

the time is right, government will take action to address this very important issue that has left parts of this country in poverty, that has left many Zambians in destitution [and] that is why Zambians are very keen to know the outcomes," Vice-President Wina said.

And Itzhi-tezhi UPND member of parliament Herbert Shabula asked Vice-President Wina to explain why President Lungu fired Dr Kalyalya as Bank of Zambia (BoZ) governor last month.

"Your Honour, the Vice-President, dismissal of the Bank of Zambia governor Dr Denny Kalyalya came to us as a surprise! And the reason that was given was not clear and we are trying to guess whether he failed to manage the economy

or whatever it is. However, what is surprising is that Dr Kalyalya had two supervisors; namely, the President himself and the Minister of Finance (Dr Bwalya Ng'andu). And now we see Dr Kalyalya being dismissed for failure to manage the institution. And later on, the President admitted by saying, 'now, he will manage the economy.' The question is, is this clear admittance that the President and the Finance Minister have lamentably failed to run this nation? Is he accepting?" Shabula asked.

However, Vice-President Wina insisted that President Lungu had not failed to run the economy, but avoided shedding

further light on the matter.

"Mr Speaker, let me assure the country that the President of the Republic of Zambia, Mr Edgar Chagwa Lungu, has not failed to run the economy of this country. And as for the appointment of the Central Bank governor, that is a prerogative of the President. I cannot say much more on that issue," she replied.

On another topic, Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Jack Mwiimbu mockingly congratulated the PF for scooping the Mwanabombwe and Lukashya parliamentary constituencies, saying: "I would like to congratulate the PF, Mr Speaker, for having been in Mwanabombwe and Lukashya

constituencies campaigning and whilst they were away campaigning, the economy collapsed! Congratulations for collapsing the economy, while you were busy campaigning!"

The Monze Central UPND member of parliament then asked Vice-President Wina why there was still no substantive US Ambassador to Zambia following the controversial recalling of Daniel Foote late last year, even after the Zambian government had assured that there was nothing wrong with the relationship between the two countries.

"I just wanted to find out with Her Honour, the Vice-President last time, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs told us that there was nothing wrong with the relationship between Zambia and the United States of America when the Ambassador was recalled. I just want to find out from Her Honour, the Vice President, as to what has happened considering that most of the time, when an Ambassador of America is recalled, they appoint another Ambassador. From the time he was recalled, America has not appointed any Ambassador to Zambia. Is the relationship still strong as it used to be?" wondered Mwiimbu.

Vice-President Wina responded saying:

"Mr Speaker, the relationship between the Government of the United States and Zambia is extremely strong and very cordial. Mr Speaker, it was only last month that our Ambassador to the United States (Lazarous Kapambwe) was accredited and received at the White House by President (Donald) Trump. The fact that the (US) Ambassador has not arrived in Zambia is in the hands of the American government. And perhaps what we don't know is because of the restricted movements of persons under this COVID-19. We are not privy to the arrangements that the American government is currently making. But for all I know, the relationship between the two countries is very secure and strong."

And when asked by Roan National Democratic Congress (NDC) member of parliament Joseph Chishala if it was legal for Konkola Copper Mines' (KCM) employees to be quarantined for over a month, Vice-President Wina said government would only take action once it was aware of where the said miners were being quarantined.

Lungu asks financial institutions to ease pressure on farmers

By Natasha Sakala

PRESIDENT Edgar Lungu has called on financial institutions to relax pressure on farmers and provide incentives for them to thrive during the COVID-19 pandemic period.

Meanwhile, Agriculture Minister Michael Katambo says the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) will manage to reach the one million metric tonne maize buying target as directed by the Head of State.

The President was responding to Zambia National Farmers Union (ZNFU) president Jervis Zimba, who expressed concern over the challenges farmers faced, leading to them not being able to repay loans and meet statutory obligations.

He was speaking at Chobe Agrivision Farm in Mkushi, Friday, during the launch of the National Wheat Harvest.

"Your Excellency, how can the cost of production be held downwards? I will summarise it in two sentences: farmers are asking for assistance that they are owed huge sums of VAT refunds and they are asking for assistance so that this money can be paid to them so that they are able to pay bank loans. Another form of support, which can come is the forgiveness or cancellation of huge NAPSA penalties, which some businesses continue to carry. This will let a chain reaction of slowing down price increases because many businesses face challenges," Zimba said.

He further said farmers were facing further losses as they were unable to sell about 42,000 metric tonnes of maize they were told to grow in the early maize project.

"Your Excellency, we got a directive to grow early maize for the nation and farmers signed up a contract with the FRA of about 130,000 metric tonnes, although the farmers grew 140,000 metric tonnes. But because we have lost in terms of timing, the farmers only supplied 30,000 metric tonnes to the FRA, the rest were told to export. Now, because the decisions came very late, we lost the market opportunities. This is a grave matter as farmers are under pressure from the banks. Government should find a way

of compensating all farmers, who grew early maize to the agreed price. Today, as we are seated, over 42,000 metric tonnes are unsold and we hope that the matter will be resolved, your Excellency, but we have lost patience; we are looking for your assistance or farmers are looking for your assistance. What has caused all this is management of time as exports are time bound," he added.

He further called on government to halt the importation of edible oils as Zambia had the capacity to grow enough sunflower and soya beans, among others, to cater for the local market.

"Your Excellency, this country can grow a lot of soya beans, we can grow a lot of sunflower, cotton; then why are we importing oils in this country? For us to make sure that we are able to grow, we must create our own markets. On behalf of all farmers, I say no to importing edible oils; we can produce our own for this country," Zimba said.

He further called for a merger of ZEMA and WARMA because they were wreaking havoc for farmers.

"Your Excellency, the water issue in Mkushi has been a problem and it's becoming very costly. Your Excellency, I remember in one of your meetings, you were not happy with WARMA and ZEMA and you said, I repeat, 'if WARMA and ZEMA are going to cause problems to farmers, I will merge them.' Your Excellency, true to what you were saying, the time to merge them is now! How do we work with WARMA if whatever we want to do, they don't want to agree with us?" wondered Zimba.

In response, President Lungu said financial institutions must extend incentives to farmers to enable them survive during the COVID-19 pandemic period.

"I am aware that most farmers are struggling when it comes to meeting their obligations with financial institutions. Let me appeal to financial institutions to relax their pressure and develop mechanisms that will allow farmers to survive and thrive. I urge financial institutions to

extend incentives to farmers, especially during the tough times of COVID-19. Financial institutions should come up with facilities that are tailor-made for the agriculture sector as the sector requires specialised services," President Lungu said.

He added that government was committed to ensuring that Zambia's potential of being a regional bread basket was actualised.

"Government remains committed to farmers and other value chain players to ensure that we resolve the various challenges that you are facing. Time has come for us to be practical and move away from the rhetoric that Zambia has a lot of potential to become the bread basket in the region, it is time to actualise this. I wish, therefore, to reiterate the need for effective and transparent dialogue. This is the only way that government will be kept abreast with current developments in the industry and this is the only way for timely interventions. Our interest, as government, is to ensure that agriculture thrives and farmers make a meaningful return on their investment. Likewise, this is also in your interest as farmers," President Lungu added.

He further reiterated government's commitment towards crop diversification despite maize getting more attention in terms of resource allocation.

"Although there is so much attention paid to the maize crop because it is our major staple food and has a great potential

on farmers

for export, we still remain committed to agricultural diversification. We, therefore, attach the same importance to other crops, such as wheat that we have to base. The wheat industry is very important and strategic," said President Lungu.

Meanwhile, Katambo said the Ministry had employed strategies to ensure that the one million metric tonne maize purchase target was met by the FRA.

"The Food Reserve Agency grain purchasing is on, your Excellency. You always told us to consult all key stakeholders in the industry. We had a stakeholders' meeting where we all agreed that FRA will go into the market and buy at K110 per 50Kg bag, so we are buying at K110 per 50Kg bag. Of course, there is competition with other grain traders, we shall manage the requirement with the strategies that we have put in place, your Excellency, like prompt payment to our farmers. And let me take this advantage, your Excellency, before you that we have put forth the money to purchase the one million metric tonnes of maize and the farmers are being paid promptly. We are using certain strategies of reaching out to the farmers' doorstep. Farmers, who have more than 50 bags, FRA is going at the door steps to buy and this is also helping them in their transport modalities. We shall manage the instruction that you have given us," said Katambo.

We've got work to do – Chisanga

From P5

SO, PEOPLE are still with Patriotic Front. It must be made very clear that in 2016, the people of Lukashya just demonstrated against the individual, not the party itself. They loved this party because if they didn't love the party, I can tell you that UPND would have won this vote but they lost. And we had an independent member of parliament who was, by the way, a member of the Patriotic Front. That just tells you how much love the people of Lukashya have for the Patriotic Front," said Chisanga. "I have been working here from 2006, I speak from a standpoint of knowledge that people love the party and they love the candidate that they have voted for because they know this

candidate from way back. You know, there was this negative talk of 'no, they don't know him', etc. If they didn't know him, you were not going to see the results you are seeing now."

And Mulenga, who defected from PF to the opposition party after being left out at adoption stage, said the loss was just a minor setback as he would start preparing for the 2021 elections.

"How can I get sick of the results? When I was in PF, we lost six times with Mr Sata, 10 years losing, now this ka small one honestly... and I am sure you all know that they just snatched it, it's just a ka stolen one temporarily; seven months [from now], I am going to get it," said Mulenga.

LAZ to meet IG over lawlessness among cadres

By Diggers Reporter
LAW Association of Zambia (LAZ) Honorary Secretary Sokwani Chilembo says the association will soon meet Inspector General of Police Kakoma Kanganja to discuss lawlessness being

exhibited by political cadres which cannot be allowed to continue.

In a statement, Friday,

Chilembo condemned some Kasama police officers who did not take any action as PF cadres destroyed a UPND

vehicle recently.

"The Law Association of Zambia (LAZ) has followed the incidents of widespread violence perpetrated by political cadres in full view of the Police with deep concern. One such incident was filmed, and a video showing identifiable persons damaging a motor vehicle in Kasama has been brought to our attention. In the said video, police officers in uniform are seen being present at the scene. We are dismayed to note that the police officers took no action to attempt to prevent the malicious damage that was being done," Chilembo stated.

"LAZ has since written to the Inspector General of Police over the matter, and a meeting has been confirmed, at which this issue will be discussed in detail, amongst other issues that have the capacity to undermine the Rule of Law.

It is the view of LAZ that the lawlessness being exhibited in the country by political cadres cannot continue to be condoned. The Police Service is a key stakeholder in the maintenance of law and order in the country, and as such the significance of engaging the Inspector General of Police by LAZ is crucial."

Last week, Northern Province Police Commissioner Richard Mweene said the police had launched a manhunt for some PF cadres seen in a video threatening violence and damaging UPND property.

"I can say we are looking for that group. That information has just come to our attention," said Mweene.

The PF cadres were led by Mubanga commonly known as "Bargadi" of Ndola.

Bargadi, as he is commonly known on Ndola, is part of the Security committee of the PF on the Copperbelt.

U-17 women team ready for camp ahead of Cosafa games

By Ngosa Chalwe
ZAMBIA Under-17 national women's team coach Kangwa Kaluba has announced a 40-member provisional team ahead of the 2020 Cosafa Women Championship.

According to Football House, the team was expected to go into camp this week to kickstart their preparations.

"The technical bench has retained some girls from the 2019 squad that emerged third at the Cosafa championship in Mauritius," a FAZ statement read in part.

Zambia were eliminated from the FIFA World Cup race by South Africa in

March after having suffered a 3-2 aggregate loss.

The 2020 Cosafa under-17 tournament is set for South Africa.

FULL SQUAD (GOALKEEPERS)

Inghutu Muchahabali (Yasa Girls), Chiteta Munsaka (Musport), Margaret Chileshe (Queens Academy), Miriam Sikanduli

(DEFENDERS)
Martha Kitila Banda (Busa), Patricia Mumba, Mirriam Mwape, Pauline Lungu (all Pataki), Jane Mulenga (Rockets), Esther Siamfuko (Choma Warriors), Margaret Yambe (Lusaka Foundation),

Luty Kamanga (Yasa), Edah Lungu (Evergreen), Tefeonga Munune (Luyando Foundation), Misozi Phiri (Cabana Girls)

(MIDFIELDERS)

Shelly Masumo, Esther Banda, Margaret Chulu (Busa), Gloria Maweta Chilenga (Red Arrows), Margaret Chisenga (Green Buffaloes), Blessed Mwaba (Rockets), Josephine Phiri (Lusaka Foundation), Grace Sakala, Shanje Kolala (both Luyando Foundation), Nandipa Mukombe (Lusaka Queens), Joyce Nyirenda

(Queens Academy), Blessings Zulu (Pataki Girls)

(STRIKERS)
Enart Mukumbwe (Red Arrows), Florence Kasonde, Melisa Mutaba (both Yasa), Tisilile Lungu, Lydia Hamananga (both Kafue Celtic), Precious Nsama, Comfort Selemeni (both Solwezi Academy), Pauline Zulu, Inonge Muyamwa (both Barca Academy), Cindy Banda (Blessing Academy), Lucy Kajiya (Rising Stars Academy), Tikule Daka (Queens Academy).

Under-15 in Egypt, to connect to Croatia for invitational tourney

By Ngosa Chalwe

THE Zambia Under-15 national team arrived in Egypt yesterday where they were expected to play Zamalek in an international friendly match.

According to the Football Association of Zambia (FAZ), the team touched town at Cairo International Airport 52 minutes past midnight and was received by First Secretary - Political and Administration at the Zambian Embassy, John Phiri.

While in Cairo, the team is also expected to be issued with Visas to Croatia ahead of the eight-nation Vlatko Markovic invitational tournament that kicks off on Wednesday this week.

Zambia has been drawn against Bosnia, Romania and Macedonia

By Natasha Sakala

MINISTER of Health Dr Chitalu Chilufya says the country has seen a reduction in the number of COVID-19 cases after recording a low of 61 new cases from 1,521 tests done in the last 24 hours.

And Dr Chilufya data following the reduction in cases, the daily update will now be done twice a week with statistics released on a daily basis.

Meanwhile, director of clinical services Professor Lloyd Mulenga says schools should ensure that they have safe places where children and learners can go and breath after having a mask for a long while.

Speaking during the daily update, Sunday, Dr Chilufya noted that the country had seen a reduction in the number of patients in the isolation centres

Zambia sees reduction in COVID-19 cases

which was a good indicator for the country.

"Today, we continue to see a reduction in the number of patients in the hospitals, in the COVID-19 facilities, which is a good indicator. We see a critical mass of citizens in various parts of the country wearing masks, it's a good thing. It is the reason why we have seen a reduced transmission, we have seen reduced transmission from the tests that we do. This must be encouraged...In the last few weeks, you noted we had high numbers of people in our hospitals who were very sick, we needed to mop," Dr Chilufya said. "Kudos to the clinical teams, they kept the mortality low and treated a lot of our patients who have been discharged. The reduced numbers that we see in our clinical facilities gives us yet another window to push back the interventions in the community where we must ensure transmission is disrupted and we close the leaking tap in the community and we continue to see less and less numbers in our hospitals until we have zero number of cases in our hospitals."

He said more of the new cases were from communities and truck drivers.

"61 cases have been recorded in the last 24 hours out of 1,521 tests done and these have been recorded in Lusaka, Nakonde, Kabwe, Serenje. Therefore, our cumulative number of cases now stands at 14,131. The distribution, again you see truck drivers, you see members of the community during routine screening," Dr Chilufya said. "When we look at the number of deaths, the total number of deaths stands at 330 and these are classified

as 111 due to COVID-19, 216 due to COVID-19 related deaths and 3 others are being reviewed. As we speak today, we have seen a reduced number of cases in our COVID-19 facilities, a good indicator but that also summons us to shift the fight into the community. So 34 patients in our various facilities with 15 on oxygen."

He said the reduced community transmission was attributable to the improved use of masks in the country.

"So the understanding of the situation today with the reduced numbers in the hospitals is that cases which are coming in are going lower, the community transmission is reduced and this is attributable to the improved use of masks. Going around the country, I have seen a critical mass of Zambians wearing masks, therefore the sensitization has been working. This can be sustained only if we upscale these same measures we have been talking about, the five golden rules," Dr Chilufya said.

And the Minister announced that the mode of updates would change, with live briefings only being done on Mondays and Fridays while an updatable dashboard of statistics would be released on a daily basis.

"The compliance levels countrywide to health measures, generally, has improved. Positivity has gone down, today we report the lowest positivity of four percent. This is commendable and we must commend the public for adhering to the golden rules of masking up in addition to other rules. This is informing the cautious relaxation of restrictions. Going forward, as the number of cases of

COVID-19 is abetting and the community is responding very well in engaging with us, the updates are going to be equally restructured. We are now going to be issuing updates twice in a week on Monday we will be reviewing the weekend and on Friday, we will be reviewing what has happened during the week but on a daily basis, there will be press releases or an updatable dashboard which will show you the new cases on a daily basis," said Dr Chilufya.

Meanwhile, Prof Mulenga said the confidence to stop children from masking up is derived from the data showing 0.05 positivity in that age group.

"We look at the age group of two years and also looked at the age group below five years and for us, we looked at the data which we have had in Zambia; those less than five years, less than 0.05 percent have been infected. So when we looked at that data, we found that the risk of acquisition is low, which can give us confidence that we can recommend no masking for those below five. However, even as we do so, we need to protect these little ones, which is why we need to have safe places in the school places so that even those who are masking up can have time to breath," said Prof Mulenga.

"The recommendation for Zambia is those who are five years and above should mask up, then those who are below five years, they should not but we are advising that they should have a loose cloth around the face. Now that cloth when it's put on the face, it's largely trying to protect the individuals who they infect, it's not protecting them. It's protecting the one who is next to them, if they have COVID-19."

Patson finds the net again

By Abraham Kalito

PATSON Daka on Saturday scored his second goal for Red Bull Salzburg, helping his side claim a four goals to one win over Altach in the Austrian Bundesliga.

He has taken the tally to two goals in two matches for Salzburg, but has a total of eight goals in three matches this season.

Last week, the Chipolopolo striker got his name on the

scoresheet as Red Bulls started their title defence in fine fashion with a 3-1 win over Wolfsberger away from home.

Unlike last week though, Daka's side started the match on a poor note after Andre Ramalho Silva got his matching orders in the sixth minute.

Daka and colleagues had to play majority of the match with a man down, ordinarily, this should have meant trouble.

It became a little bit of trouble minutes later when the visitors led in the 33rd minute.

Daka, however, won a penalty two minutes later and Salzburg did not disappoint from the spot kick.

The Liverpool and Tottenham linked topman then got his name on the scoresheet just before the interval, with his team taking charge of the match thereafter.

Salzburg ended up winning the match by four goals to nil despite being a man down.

It was a close encounter - Kayonde

By Ngosa Chalwe

SIX-TIME National Chess Champion Andrew Kayonde has attribute his victory over Fide Master (FM) Prince Mulenga to experience.

On Saturday, Kayonde, who holds an International Master (IM) title, beat Mulenga 14 - 12 in an exhibition match dubbed Elite Cage match in Lusaka.

Kayonde, who threw a jibe at Mulenga by labeling him a rising amateur, said in an interview that he had an edge over the Kitwe-based player owing to experience.

"I just wanted to make a statement that he is a rising amateur and he has a lot to learn, he still has a lot to learn but he thinks we are equal, no we are not equals yet," Kayonde bragged.

He described the game as interesting.

"It was a close encounter, I was having a lot of advantages in the game. He put up a spirited fight but at the end of the day, I am more experienced and I beat him," said Kayonde.

Patson finds the net again
By Abraham Kalito
PATSON Daka on Saturday scored his second goal for Red Bull Salzburg, helping his side claim a four goals to one win over Altach in the Austrian Bundesliga.
Story page 11

It was a close encounter - Kayonde
Story page 11

ZAMBIA, KENYA

By Abraham Kalito
THE Chipolopolo boys are scheduled to take on the Harambee Stars on October 13 in Nairobi, but the match is a doubt as the Kenyan government is yet to ease restrictions on sporting activities in that country.

On Friday last week, the Kenyan government released new guidelines following a decline in COVID-19 cases but sporting activities including soccer, remain suspended.

The local soccer association, Football Kenya Federation (FKF) CEO Barry Otieno told journalists in that country that they are in touch with the government adding that plans for the eventual resumption of football in the country were still on course.

"We have the guidelines from the ministry and from interpretation, football will

FRIENDLY IN

eventually be allowed to resume as long as we adhere to the laid down guidelines from the Ministry of Sport and Ministry of Health," Otieno said. "As FKF, we have our calendar ready and as soon as we are given the go-ahead by the relevant authorities, the plan is to start with the national team call ups for a friendly against Zambia in Nairobi in the next Fifa calendar (between October 8 and 13), end the remaining Betway Cup matches and then, hopefully,

start the football leagues between 23rd and October 30th. All these are tentative plans and we shall remain guided by the Ministries of Sports and Health."

The Chipolopolo boys will be hoping that Kenya eases restrictions on sporting activities quickly so that the planned friendly goes ahead.

Zambia will play Kenya on October 13, 2020, but prior to that, the Copper Bullets will take on Bafana Bafana of South Africa in another friendly

LIMBO

encounter at the FNB stadium on 11th October. According to national team coach Milutin Sredojevic, the matches will help

him gauge his arsenals ahead of international fixtures, including the AfCON and World Cup qualifiers 2022.

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.

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.

FM Travelers is also affiliated to Magodi lodge limited that offers accommodation at affordable prices yet an excellent standard with professional staff. Our rooms range from as low as K200 to K600 inclusive of free Wi-Fi, swimming pool, air con and DSTV.

To make a reservation contact us on +260977424351

