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TEARS FLOW OVER LAND-RELATED ROW



Anna Mtandulu of Mpamaa Street in Miyuji ward, Dodoma Urban District, pictured yesterday sobbing before traditional chiefs attending a rally. She was pleading with the government to resolve what she said was a longstanding land-ownership dispute she has with the Dodoma City Council. From-R: Chief Asher Maloda, Chief Henry Mtemi, and Human Rights in Africa administrative officer Jafari Ezekiel. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

CHWs suffer acute mental strain, study demonstrates

Health staff are not immune to psychological problems, the findings show, demanding setting up a formal psychological support system to effectively address these limitations

By Guardian Correspondent

COMMUNITY Health Workers (CHWs) experience critical mental health passages, including stress, anxiety, and psychological burnout due to acute challenges they face when providing services, a hospital survey has indicated.

Prof Tumbwene Mwansisya, an Aga Khan University don, presented the findings at a health research forum organized by the Tanzania Mental Health Community of Practice (TMH-CoP) based at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH).

The study findings assert that while healthcare providers such as doctors, nurses, and pharmacists face similar challenges, community health workers often lack psychological support, he said,

hinting that the matter is all too often neglected at an administrative level.

Stressing the urgent need for targeted psychological counselling programmes for healthcare workers, he said this is essential to mitigate adverse effects on the quality of their services and ability to communicate.

Rural healthcare workers are often seen as trees that always appear green and thriving, not expected to succumb to illness, while this misconception adds to the stressful conditions, he said, pointing out that CHWs are volunteers exposed to inadequate compensation.

As part of the community, they experience additional stress compared to doctors or nurses who work in formal

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Samia to officiate SGR passenger trains launching

By Correspondent James Kandoya

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan is tomorrow expected to officially launch standard gauge railway (SGR) speed train services from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma

Prof Makame Mbarawa, the Transport minister, said at a media briefing in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the launch is expected tomorrow in Dodoma after successful initial runs between the two cities five days ago.

The speed train services involve modernised electrically powered engines and signaling systems, where the government has emphasised the project's significance in fostering economic growth and elevating cargo and passenger haul efficiency locally and in the region.

Electrified train services will stimulate economic activities in sectors like trade and tourism, while production sectors like manufacturing, as well as the transit cargo landscape, will be substantially altered.

When cargo services commence, a

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Use revised trade policy, DPM directs facilitators

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

TRADE facilitators must effectively utilise the revised National Trade Policy to propel value increase for local products to improve the competitiveness of Tanzanian products in regional and global markets.

Deputy Prime Minister Dr Doto Biteko issued this appeal in Dar es Salaam yesterday when launching the revised policy setting before a diverse audience of diplomats, cabinet ministers, top government officials and trade sector stakeholders.

Utilising the new policy will help to eliminate trade handicaps to enable a robust legal framework to promote business activity, he said, underscoring that a government officer's role is to facilitate business development and ensure profit-



We must serve traders effectively and not frustrate them. There will be no tolerance for misuse of power

ability.

Officials are not supposed to create hurdles, he stated, worried about habits of taking pleasure in hindering business progress. This must change, he said, noting that the trade sector's contribution to national income remains modest, thus the need to use the revised policy to simplify trade processes and increase export contribution to growth.

"Many have criticized our previous policy as outdated. Now that we have updated it, it's time to demonstrate to the world that we are evolving in step with global standards," he declared, insisting that policies are only effective if they are implemented with good intentions.

It is high time to move beyond policy documentation to meaningful action, he

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Mkapa Foundation covering 32m people hired 13,000 health staff

Large medical investments have seen a huge decrease in under-five mortality rates and a substantial increase in life expectancy

By Correspondent Mary Kadoko

HEALTH sector operations of the Benjamin Mkapa Foundation (BMF) have in 18 years managed to reach 32m people and enabled 13,000 jobs to be provided for

healthcare workers with support from donor agencies and the government.

Dr Ellen Senkoro, the BMF chief executive officer, made this observation at the National Human Resources for Health (HRH) conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday,

meant to mark the legacy of the late former president while celebrating the work of the foundation.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa launched the foundation's strategic business plan briefly, with an observation that the foundation has helped to transform the country's health sector.

This year's conference is themed around managing the health workforce

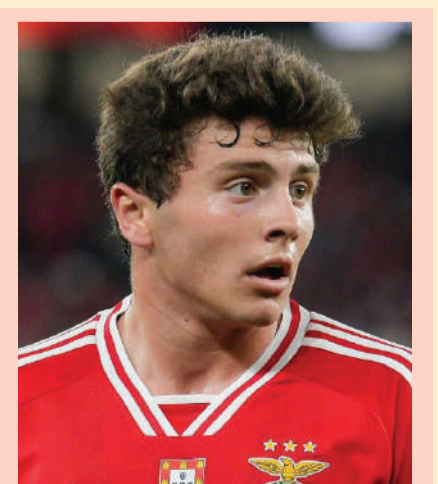
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Alliance Caravans triumph in thrilling 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup final

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Wanted by Europe's top clubs - who is Benfica teenager Neves?



Use revised trade policy, DPM directs facilitators

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said, cautioning on the futility of having documents and lacking people with good intentions to work on them, as "it will be just like a storybook."

"So let us change our attitude and thinking, we need to act as intermediaries between the business community and the government," he said, highlighting that President Samia Suluhu Hassan was concerned about trade sector challenges, setting up a committee to address the issues.

"We must serve traders effectively and not frustrate them. There will be no tolerance for misuse of power," the deputy premier intoned, assuring traders that the government is committed to uplifting the business environment, while cautioning against tax evasion.

Dr Selemani Jafo, the Industry and Trade minister, acknowledged the contributions of various stakeholders, including foreign embassies and TradeMark Africa, in developing the revised policy.

"Our goal was to create a policy that reflects current realities," he said, lauding ministerial experts for a job well done, and anticipating significant improvements in export performance particularly in regional markets.

Elibariki Shammy, the Trademark Africa country director, highlighted the organization's 13-years of collaboration with the government, the private sector and civil society organisations to enhance trade performance.

Progress registered includes the construction of one-stop border posts at Tunduma (Songwe Region), Kabanga and Mutukula (Kagera Region), along with Holili (Kilimanjaro Region) while scanners have been installed at the Tunduma border post.

Mkapa Foundation covering 32m people hired 13,000 health staff

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as a cornerstone to a resilient and sustainable development agenda, and stresses the importance of human resources—an important pillar in driving the government's transformative process of attaining a resilient health system for sustainable development.

To do so the government is raising investments in human resources, medical equipment and medicines as key pillars in attaining resilient health systems, he said, pointing at the Samia scholarships and health super specialization scholarship program.

These efforts buttress the late Mkapa's legacy in improving the health sector as well as accelerating human capital development, he explained, underlining government efforts in strengthening primary health care services.

This effort extends to the district level by building more hospitals at the local level, to reduce the distance those living in remote areas have to cover to reach a health care unit, while the government improving referral services in top facilities like the Benjamin Mkapa and Bugando hospitals, both located up-country, he stated.

During the three years of the current leadership, the government has employed 30,000 employees, assigned to various work stations, especially in underserved rural areas, he said, noting that deploying the doctors, nurses, and midwives was a significant step forward in developing health services country-wide.

Availability of human resources, medical equipment, and medicines remains a priority for the government, he said, while Health minister Ummu Mwalimu commended the foundation for its astute work in producing health professionals assigned to work in remote areas under three-year contracts.

"These employees do excellent work where they are stationed, and when their contracts with the foundation end, we have been retaining them to maintain those services in the areas they are accustomed to," she said.

BMF was putting into practice the

This has reduced border crossing waiting time by 70 percent, thus lowering transportation costs, he said, noting that ministry officials had shown dedication to effective policy formulation.

The task is complex and resource-intensive, he affirmed, while Norwegian ambassador Tone Tinnes said that in recent years, Tanzania has witnessed a new dynamic with a government push to enhance trade, attract investments and improve the business climate.

Recent trade data shows that Tanzania is again increasing its exports again, with regional trade opportunities significantly contributing to this growth while foreign direct investment (FDI) is also increasing, she stated.

"Regional trade and investment opportunities are expanding," she stated, explaining that while trade barriers come down, intra-regional trade is still lower than optimal and there is a huge potential for increasing it.

Studies show that Tanzania has shown comparative advantage in manufacturing mainly in crop value addition, within East Africa and across the broader African market for number of products, she stated.

She described the newly launched initiative as an up-to-date trade policy, aimed at enhancing its competitiveness regionally and globally. It focuses on strengthening the use of digital technologies, addressing issues related to gender, youth and climate change adaptation in elevating the doing business environment.

The true value of the new trade policy depends on how far it is realized in implementation at central and local levels and in consultation with stakeholders to resolve bottlenecks when they arise, the envoy added.

late president's legacy as they are focused on addressing the prevailing gaps rather than making a profit in health care initiatives, she said, underlining that the former president brought up access to proper medical services through the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) initiated in 2000.

Dr Grace Magembe, the Health deputy permanent secretary, underscored that human capital development has been essential in the ministry's work, where the government and BMF had reached a consensus of not only producing big numbers of healthcare workers but of the ability to catalyse social and economic development.

Michael Battle, the United States ambassador, said that a total of \$7.5bn has been injected into the health sector by US government agencies to support its growth and success.

The US was working closely with the government and the Mkapa Foundation in assisting efforts towards realizing the goals of the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) policy, so that people have access to the best healthcare possible, "an asset that every country wishes to have," he stated.

Large medical investments have seen a huge decrease in under-five mortality rates and a substantial increase in life expectancy, he further noted, explaining that the US government partnered with the Mkapa Foundation in addressing health challenges in the country.

Eight percent of the total health sector workforce has transitioned to meaningful employment, she said, noting that the conference comes at a time when Tanzania is striving to address the human resource gaps in health.

This is vital as it drives a transformative process to attain a resilient health system for sustainable development as the global shortage of health care workers threatens healthcare access, and Tanzania is no exception, he said.

"But also, efforts to achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC) goals in Tanzania are hindered by the critical lack of skilled health professionals as outlined in the recent HRH profile," he added.



Tourists continue with their climb to Mount Kilimanjaro's highest point, Uhuru Peak, which stands at 5,895 meters above the sea level. This scene was captured yesterday while they were at Saddle - within the Kilimanjaro National Park. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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settings, the don intoned, affirming that it was wrong policy to think that community healthcare workers remain resilient without additional support.

"This misunderstanding, coupled with inadequate compensation and the emotional toll of their work, exacerbates their stress. CHWs, who often work as volunteers, face additional challenges such as financial constraints and the emotional burden of losing patients they have cared for," he stated.

Community health workers often face criticism for delays in patient care, even though these delays are too often beyond their control. "Their unpaid volunteer work, waiting for funding, and the emotional stress of losing patients significantly contribute to their high-stress levels," the researcher emphasised.

The study, conducted in Dar es

CHWs suffer acute mental strain, study demonstrates

Salaam with initial efforts in the Coast Region and fieldwork in Dodoma, Tabora, Arusha, and Mbeya, showed that the most affected group in terms of health sector emotional drawbacks was CHWs.

They were followed by doctors, pharmacists, laboratory workers, and nurses, where the participants, mostly women with an average age of 39, predominantly held diplomas, were married, and 58 percent were nurses.

Up to 73 percent of the participants had health insurance but still experienced high levels of stress, anxiety, and burnout due to their demanding roles, he said, elaborating that the prevalence of stress and

anxiety among healthcare workers stands at 26 percent of the workforce, five percent higher than the global average.

This heightened stress negatively affects their communication and work quality, the study indicates, affirming that many healthcare workers do not seek mental health services due to the stigma and the belief that as medical staff they are not part of the problems for which they regularly receive patients.

Health staff are not immune to psychological problems, the findings show, demanding setting up a formal psychological support system to effectively address these limitations.

Dr Saidi Kuganda, vice-chairman of the Mental Health Professionals Association (MEHATA) and a senior consultant in mental health at MNH, highlighted the stigma associated with mental health struggles among healthcare professionals, which prevents them from seeking vital psychological support.

CHWs were particularly hard-hit during the COVID-19 pandemic as they had the dual burden of transporting patients and dealing with their subsequent deaths, the study recalled. Mental health support for healthcare workers is crucial to maintaining their well-being and effectiveness in providing care, it added.



Selemani Bishagazi, Director of the CSO Community Voice Centre based in Dar es Salaam's Kipunguni suburb, conducts a session at the weekend on ways to strengthen child protection desks inside and outside schools. It was at a seminar organised by the Nyantira congregation of the Mennonite Church of Tanzania and attended by advocates of children's rights from the wards of Mzingu, Kitunda and Kivule wards. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Samia to officiate SGR passenger trains launching

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standard load goods train will have a 10,000 tonnes capacity, by implication replacing upwards of 500 trucks, he said, noting that the train service is environment friendly and will help the country to save forex reserves to import fuel.

The grid supply of electricity cuts fuel costs to a third compared with operating diesel engines on

the same distance, he stated, urging the public to use the new means of transport to speed up business growth in their respective areas.

Masanja Kadogosa, the Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) director general, said that for the past two weeks, speed trains carried over 100,000 passengers, with one standard passenger train hauling 1,400 passengers across the dis-

distance. TRC operates electric multiple units that are undergoing a driving test, set to operate as quick service special passenger hauls, in like manner as large rapid transit buses in urban areas, officials say.

The SGR's entire route will run from Dar es Salaam to Mwanza on the shore of Lake Victoria, as well as Kigoma at the northern reach

of Lake Tanganyika, while from Kigoma it stretches to Burundi and from Isaka-Shinyanga Region in will branch off towards DRC and Rwanda.

Construction is nearing completion in the sections up to Makutupora, the next major transit point after Morogoro and Dodoma, while the distance to the capital is put at 460 kilometers (285 miles).



Watumishi Housing Investments managing director Dr Fred Msemwa (R) and Shadong Hi-Speed Group director general Li Mancho sign an agreement in Dar es Salaam yesterday for the construction of 101 houses in the city's Mikochei Regent Estate suburb. The project is meant as part of the implementation of WHI's Public Servants Housing Scheme. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TRA seizes, destroys counterfeit cosmetics

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE Tanzania Revenue (TRA) in Mbeya Region has seized and destroyed a consignment of counterfeit cosmetics worth over 1bn/- smuggled into the country through illegal routes.

The seized cosmetics, suspected to contain harmful substances were being transported in trucks from neighboring countries and bearing TRA seals.

Nsajigwa Mwambegele, TRA's Assistant Customs Manager in Mbeya Region, said that their investigation revealed that dishonest traders were smuggling the cosmetics into the country through unofficial routes.

Mwambegele explained that the cosmetics were transported from neighboring countries by

motorcycle couriers, collected in Tunduma Town in Songwe Region, and then loaded onto trucks for distribution to various locations, including Dar es Salaam.

He added that the perpetrators used a method to evade detection, where the cargo transporters when leaving Dar es Salaam for neighboring countries are provided with valid TRA seals but upon reaching their destinations, instead of removing the seals, they open the doors, unload the cargo and resealed the trucks. "When they arrived in Tunduma, they opened the doors again, loaded the cosmetics, and resealed the truck with the same seal. This made the cargo appear legitimate, but upon inspection, we discovered the illegal goods," Mwambegele said.

He mentioned that the

investigation was ongoing to identify other smuggling tactics and hence close all loopholes associated with the hazardous products that pose risks to consumer health.

Musib Shaban, TRA regional manager stated that in addition to destroying the cosmetics, legal action has been taken against the transporters, including fines ranging from \$1,500 to \$3,000.

"These measures are in line with Sections 199 and 200 of the East African Community Customs Management Act, which mandates the seizure and destruction of any smuggled cargo.

Shaban added that the destruction of the goods was carried out in collaboration with various law enforcement agencies and government institutions.

"I advise traders to cease dealing

in these illegal products, as we will continue to seize and penalise offenders. As a government authority, we are committed to enforcing the country's laws," Shaban said.

Mwesigwa Kajumulo, a quality control officer, Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) urged Tanzanians to avoid using substandard or banned products due to their health risks.

He further advised adherence to the country's laws to prevent unnecessary losses, including the confiscation of property.

Mary Samwel, a representative of the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) in Mbeya region, stated that the institution participated in the destruction of the goods to protect the environment.

Initiative to offer legal aid services to GBV survivors launched in Dar

By Beatrice Philemon

THE government in collaboration with the German Development Cooperation (GIZ) and partners yesterday inaugurated provision of legal aid services at the Mwananyamala Regional Referral Hospital one-stop center in Dar es Salaam.

The initiative is a collaboration between the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs, GIZ, and the Tanzania Women Lawyers Association (TAWLA).

During the launching event, Minister for Constitutional and Legal Affairs Pindi Chana along with German Ambassador to Tanzania, Thomas Terstegen, and GIZ Country Director, Anne Hahn hailed the step saying the special legal aid desk at the centre will help enhance access to justice for vulnerable populations, particularly women and children.

A statement availed to the media yesterday stated that in Tanzania, 40 percent of women aged 15 to 49 have experienced physical violence, and 17 percent have faced sexual violence. Additionally, nearly 30 percent of girls suffer sexual violence before turning 18.

Despite these alarming statistics, reporting rates are low, and many survivors do not seek essential support services such as medical, psychological, and legal aid.

To address the issues, Tanzania has established One Stop Centres for gender-based violence (GBV) and violence against children (VAC) within health facilities. These centers provide a comprehensive range of services—including medical

support, social welfare, and police assistance—within a single location, aiming to offer survivors the necessary support in a respectful and dignified setting.

Since its opening in 2019, the Mwananyamala Regional Referral Hospital One Stop Centre has provided survivors with medical and psycho-social support as well as police access. However, until now, there have been no legal support services available at the Mwananyamala OSC or any other OSCs in the country.

Legal assistance is crucial in helping survivors understand their rights, navigate the reporting process, and follow their cases through the justice system. It also aids in maintaining communication with survivors throughout the investigation and court proceedings, potentially leading to higher conviction rates.

The "Access to Justice for Women and Children" project, jointly implemented by the Ministry of Constitutional and Legal Affairs and GIZ Tanzania, aims to combat sexualized and gender-based violence by improving access to justice for vulnerable groups, particularly women and children.

This project works to identify legal and institutional barriers to justice, strengthen the capacities of state actors, and enhance community-level legal aid services provided by non-state actors.

It also aids in maintaining communication with survivors throughout the investigation and court proceedings, potentially leading to higher conviction rates

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Call Category (Zones/Groups)	Price(Tsh/Min)
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Zone 2: REST of EUROPE, Kenya	750
Zone 3: Rwanda, South Africa, Zambia, UAE, Oman, Haiti, Peru	840
Zone 4: Cameroon, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Uganda, Congo DRC, Mozambique	1,000
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Voice	Daily	350	25			
Voice	Daily	500		110		
Voice	Daily	500	60		60	
Voice	Daily	1,000	180		60	
Voice	2 Days	1,000	160		25	
Voice	Daily	700	10	Free every first 5 mins		
Voice	Weekly	1,500	180		150	
Voice	Weekly	2,500	350	50	150	
Voice	Weekly	3,000	450		150	
Voice	Monthly	4,000	400	50	50	
Voice	Monthly	5,000	550	650	100	
Voice	Monthly	10,000	1,600	1,600	150	
Voice	Unlimited	500	20			
SMS BUNDLES						
SMS	Daily	100			200	
SMS	Weekly	500			2000	
SMS	Monthly	1,000			10,000	
INTERNET BUNDLES						
Internet	Daily	350				170
Internet	Daily	500				246
Internet	Daily	1,000				492
Internet	Daily	2,000				985
Internet	10 days	2,100				1,024
Internet	Week	1,000				492
Internet	Week	2,000				985
Internet	Week	3,000				1,475
Internet	Week	5,000				2,460
Internet	Week	10,000				4,925
Internet	Monthly	10,000				4,920
Internet	Monthly	20,000				9,850
Internet	Monthly	30,000				14,780
Internet	2 Months	50,000		10		24,600
Internet	Unlimited	500				200
COMBO BUNDLES						
Combo	Day	500	15		5	200
Combo	Day	1,000	60		60	246
Combo	Weekly	2,000	55	20	20	850
Combo	Weekly	2,500	20		20	1,150
Combo	Weekly	3,000	100		30	1,250
Combo	10 Days	3,100	150		300	1,024
Combo	Monthly	10,000	280		50	4,000
Combo	Monthly	20,000	400		100	8,500
Combo	Monthly	50,000	600		200	22,000

Govt opens window for scholarship plan

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Atomic Energy Commission (TEC) and the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology have officially opened the window for eligible applicants to apply for opportunities to study for a Master's Degree in nuclear science technology through the Samia Scholarship Extended (SSE) Scheme 2024/25.

During this fiscal year, the government had set aside a total of 1.6bn/- to enable TAEC to sponsor at least five local students to study for Master's Degrees in different fields of nuclear science technology at diverse universities outside the country.

Announcing the vital development over the weekend, the Minister of Education, Science and Technology, Prof Adolf Mkenda said the vision behind the scholarship was to plug the existing shortage of availability of the experts in field of nuclear science within the country.

Prof Mkenda urged the science trainers at the local universities to apply for the chance.

He expressed, that rolling out of the scholarship was part

of concerted efforts by the government to mold and increase the number of nuclear experts in the country.

"Since the 2022/23 financial year, the government through the Ministry of Education embarked on a helpful strategy of rolling out 100 percent scholarship towards the best science students at the advanced secondary level," he said.

The scholarship, according to him, touches the qualified students who opt to undertake their first degree in Science, Information, and Technology (IT), Engineering, and Mathematics subjects, gears to further improve the performance of the science sector in Tanzania.

"Research has so far established that Tanzania faces a tall deficit of experts in the nuclear science sector, making it necessary for the government to come up with a tailor-made viable initiative to help curtail the deficit," he observed.

"For instance" Minister Mkenda expressed, "In Tanzania, there are only six experts of Medical Physics as well as the Nuclear Medical Doctors," he unveiled, adding that the country has only one Radiochemistry expert and two Radiopharmacists.

"Demand for nuclear science

technology in Tanzania keeps on skyrocketing daily thus, we must mold a good number of the relevant high-profile experts," Prof Mkenda insisted.

Prof Najat Mohammed, TAEC director general expressed that the qualified applicants are supposed to fill out the relevant forms that are available through the TAEC's website.

However, the newly picked TAEC Chief Boss informed us that the forms are also available through the Ministry of Education's website.

"This scholarship covers five key areas of studies, including nuclear medicine and pace airborne technology," she said.

Prof Najat also said the oversaw universities under the scholarship are those recognized by the Tanzania Commission of University (TCU), in several countries, including Australia, Canada, China, France, India, Finland, and South Korea, among others.

TAEC is an institution responsible for the control of the safe use of radiation in the country and the promotion of the safe use of nuclear technology in the country where this Institute is under the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology.



Mkalama district commissioner Moses Machali has a word with residents of Nkinto village yesterday. Seated (foreground) is one of the residents, Paul Toga, apparently following the proceedings attentively. Photo: Correspondent Tobias Mwanakatwe

New bus terminal, market, feeder roads to be constructed in Mbeya

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE government through the Tanzania Rural and Urban Road Agency (TARURA) has signed three contracts for the construction of a major bus terminal, a modern market, and feeder roads in Mbeya city.

The contracts were signed here over the weekend between TARURA and various contractors.

Speaking soon after the signing of the contracts, Mohamed Mchengerwa, Minister for State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments) said the projects will help transform the city's appearance and boost local revenue.

He said the projects are implemented under Tanzania Cities Transforming Infrastructure and Competitiveness (TACTIC) where the construction of the bus terminal and Soko Matola market are expected to cost 30bn/-, while the 23 km of feeder roads will cost 21.58bn/-.

Minister Mchengerwa instructed Mbeya city director in collaboration with TARURA officials, to ensure proper oversight of the projects

to guarantee timely completion as well as value for money.

He also wanted the contractors to complete the projects within the 15-month timeframe specified in the contracts for them to commence operations and bring positive change to the city and its people.

He also instructed all directors across the country where such projects are being implemented to ensure effective management to make them self-sustaining and increase revenue, particularly for markets and bus terminals.

Victor Seff, TARURA's chief executive officer stated that the TACTICS project is being executed in 45 cities, including five major ones, with funding of 1.16trn/- from the World Bank.

He added that in addition to the bus terminal and Soko Matola market, the project will involve the construction of nine feeder roads and rainwater drainage systems.

Seff noted that the market and bus terminal will be constructed by Sihotech Engineering Company Ltd and AMJ Global Multi Contractors Company Ltd.

"This project also includes a capacity-building component

for all relevant institutions, including ministries, TARURA, and local authorities, to improve performance, service delivery, and procurement of equipment, including vehicles," Seff explained.

Mbeya Urban MP, Dr Tulia Ackson thanked the government for commencing the projects, saying that their implementation will enhance the city's appearance and improve community services.

She highlighted that, besides this project, the government has also upgraded various infrastructure within the city, including the newly completed Mwasanga Bridge, which has now commenced operations bringing relief to residents.

Dr Tulia noted that before the bridge was built, residents used a local bridge that collapsed, resulting in the deaths of five people.

She further asked the government to continue improving the city's road infrastructure, pointing out that over 400 km of feeder roads need to be upgraded at the tarmac level.

Juma Homera, Mbeya Regional Commissioner reported that in the last financial year, they received over 30bn/- for various development projects.



Former Ubungo municipality mayor Boniphace Jacob (R) has a word with his lawyers, Dickson Matata (L) and Peter Kibatata, at the Kisutu Resident Magistrate's Court in Dar es Salaam yesterday shortly before the hearing of the case against him of allegedly publishing false information on social media. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

ACT smells rat in Z'bar islets leasing

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE opposition-ACT Wazalendo has alleged that the procedure of leasing small islands in Zanzibar to private investors had elements of corruption and needs to be worked on to electrify the situation.

Party's vice chairman, Ismail Jussa Ladhu made the allegation here yesterday when addressing a public rally at the Kata Tango grounds in the Mkoani constituency, Pemba South Region.

He alleged that some government leaders reportedly bypass official channels to demand personal gains from investors.

He said the party has already gathered crucial information, which will be made public shortly for the benefit of Zanzibar and its citizens, in line with the Zanzibar

Constitution of 1984, which requires citizens to protect the country's resources.

"You cannot truly care about Zanzibar if you do not have its origin, it is the citizens themselves who should stand firm to protect their country's resources," Jussa emphasised.

He further noted that the tourism sector in Zanzibar, a key pillar of the economy, has been struggling but President Samia Suluhu Hassan, demonstrating her commitment to Zanzibar, allocated 230bn/- to support various sectors.

"This is just a small example of what we can achieve while outside of power. Once we are into power, we will accomplish a number of greater things," he said.

Jussa also highlighted that the

markets being built in Zanzibar are not following proper planning, resulting in some of them remaining unused by traders even after spending a lot of funds.

Othman Masoud Othman, ACT Wazalendo chairman (Zanzibar) said that during his 25 years of service within the government, he has gained a thorough understanding of the union issues.

According to Othman, he participated in 25 committees and over 300 meetings related to union matters, apart from being a member of the Joint Financial Commission.

He added that addressing the union issues requires courage, as resolving these concerns could unlock Zanzibar's economic potential once they are removed from the Tanganyika-Zanzibar

union system.

Prof Omar Fakihi, ACT Wazalendo Central Committee member recalled the significant words of the late Zanzibar President Aboud Jumbe Mwinyi on the importance of national development and democracy.

"Jumbe said you cannot achieve national development without having land, people, good politics, and good leadership. While these elements are present, the challenge lies in having effective leadership," he stated.

He cited Singapore, as a country with a population of 6 million people and a land area smaller than Pemba, yet it has made substantial developmental progress due to adhering to the four criteria mentioned by Mzee Jumbe during his lifetime.

Youth equipped with essential skills to help stimulate behaviour change

By Getrude Mbago

A TOTAL of 114 youth from various wards in Dar es Salaam Region have been equipped with life and essential skills to help stimulate behavioural change and enable them to become responsible citizens.

The group has also been trained as agents of change to lead other youth in their respective areas by imparting the important knowledge to benefit more others and support positive change in the society.

This is through the execution of the Accelerated Hope and Development for Urban Adolescent (AHADI) programmes implemented by World Vision Tanzania.

Speaking during the graduation ceremony in Dar es Salaam yesterday Dr Joseph Mayala, associate director in charge of public engagement, faith and development at World Vision Tanzania, said the youth have been trained for nine months to ensure that they are well equipped to support others in their areas.

He said through the project adolescent girls and boys are trained on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for them to make informed decisions.

Funded by Global Affairs Canada, the project supports adolescents in and out of school to end violence, promote positive masculinities and gender equality.

He said the project uses evidence-based models to create a multiplier effect through a peer-to-peer education and behaviour approach in Dodoma and Dar es Salaam regions raising awareness on issues of sexual reproductive health and rights (SRHR) among others.

"Out of the 114 youth, 105 are lead volunteers and nine are promoters who are all well equipped to support other adolescents, powering them with an encouraging education to enable transition well into adulthood as active citizens with competencies, values, confidence and social connectedness," he explained.

According to him, the organisation's initiatives for many years were based in rural areas but later recognised that there is a great challenge also for youth in urban areas including those who migrate from rural to town.

He said the AHADI project is

a gender-transformative World Vision initiative that aligns with a framework to prevent gender-based violence by working towards changing harmful social and gender norms that perpetuate gender inequality in urban areas of Tanzania.

Winnie Mbilike, a lead volunteer for AHADI project at Mburahati ward in Ubungo District said the nine-month training has been fruitful to them with their mindsets being transformed to support development of others.

She said they have been trained on sexual and reproductive health (SRH), entrepreneurship and HIV/AIDS so as to help them make informed decisions regarding their lives.

"Lack of accurate and adequate information about sexual and reproductive health leads young people to engage in risky behaviours and thus expose themselves to sexually transmitted diseases, HIV, teenage pregnancy and other problems," she added.

Haidar Salum, lead youth in Mwananyamala ward in Kinondoni District said the training which they have received through their groups, has greatly helped them widen understanding on knowing their values as well as utilise various opportunities that surround them.

As lead volunteer, Salum will be at the forefront to educate fellow young people on various issues including sexual and reproductive health to equip young people with self-awareness as they grow older making them to conduct better decisions throughout their life.

He also said the initiative will also reduce the number of unemployed youth who have been roaming in streets as the project has a component to train them on how to initiate income generating projects within their areas.



...the project adolescent girls and boys are trained on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) for them to make informed decisions



It's a fierce scramble yesterday for space in a Mwanza commuter bus at the city's Igombe bus stop which serves vehicles linking the main bus stand at Nyegezi to Buhongwa, Nyanshishi and Malimbe. The explanation was given as having too many people chasing too few buses and some buses not observing conditions laid down by the Land Transport Regulatory Authority (Latra). Photo: Vitus Audax

Minister: Fishing port project creates 570 jobs

By Guardian Reporter

LIVESTOCK and Fisheries Minister Abdallah Ulega has stated that the construction of Kilwa Masoko Fishing Port project has already created 570 jobs for youths who are working there from within and outside Lindi Region.

Minister Ulega made the remarks yesterday here during his visit to inspect the progress of the in Kilwa district, Lindi Region.

Being built by China Harbor Engineering Company Ltd

(CHEC), the project will cost the government 266bn/- upon completion.

He said that once the fishing port completed, it will provide employment for 30,000 people across various sectors.

"Today I came to visit this project and found that the youths are happy with the work they are doing. Youths from all over the nation will have the opportunity to work here; we expect that no fewer than 30,000 youths from various areas will find employment here.

We thank President Samia Suluhu Hassan for this project, which is a model for our nation," he said.

He also expressed satisfaction with the progress of the Kilwa Masoko Fishing Port, which has now reached 63 percent completion and is expected to be completed by February 2025.

Ulega noted that this fishing port, being built with domestic funds, is a model project being implemented under the sixth phase government led by President Samia.

"We should view this project as

a jewel in our eyes to ensure its sustainability, as once completed, it will boost the economy of Kilwa, the Southern region, and the nation as a whole," he said.

"I am pleased with the progress; we have made more than half of the way. It is important to ensure that the work is completed on time so that Tanzanians can see the value of their investment. Many thanks to our president, Samia, for deciding to build this project, which is a model for our nation," he elaborated.

Russian envoy to reinforce bilateral ties with Tanzania

By Joseph Mchekadona

RUSSIA's Ambassador to Tanzania, Andrey Avetisyan has reaffirmed his country's commitment to continue strengthening business relations to stimulate development.

Speaking during the opening of the second Russia-Africa Conference hosted by the Valdai Discussion Club, Avetisyan emphasized that Russia considers Tanzania as a key partner, highlighting the growth of their relationship over the past six decades.

The ambassador noted the conference was relevant amidst rapid global changes.

He pointed out that world politics, economies and technological competition are evolving, with countries increasingly focusing on sovereignty, self-sufficiency, and national and cultural identity.

He, however, said the new political and economic reality serves as the foundation for the emerging multipolar and multilateral world order and said this is an inevitable process, describing this process as inevitable, reflecting the cultural and civilizational diversity inherent in humanity.

He expressed optimism about the changes, emphasizing that the establishment of multipolarity and multilateralism in international affairs, including respect for international law and broad representation, facilitates collective problem-solving for the common good.

"The conference was very relevant, if we take the process ongoing in the World and in particular on the African continent, this (Africa) continent is emerging as a major player in international

affairs, countries of the Global South and East are gaining prominence and their role is growing since the Soviet times.

Goodwill Wanga, executive secretary of the Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC), highlighted the strategic commitment to enhancing cooperation between Africa and Russia demonstrated by the conference.

He noted that Tanzania is becoming an attractive ground for Russian businesses, particularly in agriculture and the digital economy.

Wanga also referenced the Russia-Africa forums of 2016 and 2023, attended by Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, as pivotal moments in the evolving relationship between Dodoma and Moscow.

He observed that the resurgence of the Russia-Africa partnership since the Cold War has been notable, and while this cooperation is not new, the emerging multipolar world presents both challenges and opportunities for Tanzania and Russia.

The TNBC chief further said the second Russia Africa conference of the Valdai Discussion Club has set a new stage for deeper cooperation between Tanzania and Russia.

"Tanzania regards Russia as a vital partner in trade, investment, and political cooperation. We will continue to seek closer ties to sustain the diplomatic relationship built over the past 60 years," Wanga said.

He added that Tanzania's sound economic policies and conducive business environment have enabled the country to surpass many other African nations in economic growth over the past decade.

New pact sealed to enrol more students in technology courses

By Correspondent Zuwena Shame

SIX companies and the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IITM) Zanzibar campus have signed Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) worth \$133,000 to offer scholarships for Tanzanian students who want to pursue various programmes in science and technologies this academic year.

The companies that sealed the pact include Alliance Insurance Corporation Ltd, Mo Dewji Foundation, Karimjee Foundation, Elgon Kenya, Vodacom, and Vikram Rao (an IITM Alumni).

The signing ceremony was held in Zanzibar's Bweleo area and witnessed by Lela Muhamed Mussa, Zanzibar Minister for Education and Vocational Training, Deputy High Commissioner of India, Manoj Verma, academia, government officials and head of corporates.

Speaking shortly after sealing the pact, Lela said that the existence of the college in the Zanzibar Isles is beneficial and with great success for students, it is the responsibility of parents and guardians to encourage children to study hard in science subjects, as the current job market relies more on the tech industry.

"As you are aware, stakeholders have committed to sponsoring students who face challenges with fees to study here. This is a great opportunity for students to come forward in large numbers and pursue tech studies to seize global job opportunities, as this institution provides world-class education," said Lela.

Lela said that scholarships should be a continuous initiative to support students who cannot afford fees but are eager to learn in such an institution. By doing so they can be motivated and promoted so they can study comfortably knowing that they are people who are supporting them.

"It's a fast-growing college because it just started last year with programmes in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence (AI). These are currently trending globally, giving our graduates significant exposure and connections, enabling them to compete in the global job market."

She added that many students would love to study science subjects, but they fear that they will not be able to go for further studies because of funds since there is a

Public and Private Partnership (PPP) on the government's side.

She said that students especially from secondary schools should be encouraged to take science subjects so that when they reach the higher level, they have support from sponsorships.

"Technology is crucial to any nation. Young Africans have brains and IQs therefore, invest in them by supporting them financially so that they study and become tech experts, and the country will be able to prosper. By being experts, they can also compete globally in the tech market," said Lela.

She stated that the institution made personal efforts to seek sponsors to support students after recognizing the need for graduates in tech matters both nationally and globally.

She mentioned that the government made substantial efforts to ensure that the institution, which is among the top ten in the world, is present in the country, and that the existence of this partnership will enable students to study on scholarships.

"I would like to urge other academic institutions to learn from the IITM Zanzibar campus because the graduates from here will be able to work in local companies and drive the wheel of development in our country," said Lela.

She added that big companies incur significant costs to bring in and hire experts from various countries, so this partnership will enable local graduates to secure employment within the country and even compete in the global job market due to the tech programmes offered at the IITM Zanzibar campus.

She said that graduates from the IITM Zanzibar campus will also involve internships from companies that are sponsoring students across the world therefore it's the graduate's responsibility to work hard and excel while working so that they can be employed directly and gain further development like getting a masters and PhD.

"The fund which has been donated is not little. It's much and I would like to urge other companies and other key stakeholders to provide funds according to their ability. They should spare money to support students through sponsorship, it's our duty to educate and double African skills" she added.



Mara regional commissioner Col Evans Mtambi (3rd-L) holds Uhuru Torch at the weekend as the ongoing annual cross-country Uhuru Torch Race entered Serengeti District. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

THE Minister of State in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Mohamed Mchengerwa said the successful implementation of socio-economic strategic projects was a result of improved working relations between public and private sectors.

"It is an undeniable fact, that the growing confidence and improved working relations of both public and private sectors have also minimized disputes among the business people," Minister Mchengerwa said on Monday when speaking on the sideline of the 15th of Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC).

Mchengerwa who is the Rufiji MP said the business and investment environment has also improved steadily in districts and regions as a whole.

"At the regional level, the regions have accomplished to define opportunities available, challenges facing them and comments on how to reduce costs of

Minister: RALG and TNBC to uplift regional, district business councils

doing business and investments," he said, noting that there was also an increase of projects being jointly implemented under public-private partnership (PPP).

According to the minister, the significance of Regional Business Councils (RBCs) and District Business Councils (DBC) compelled his office to facilitate the establishment of departments of business, investment, and industries in all councils nationwide.

In ensuring that regional and district business councils become more effective, he said his office has increased budget allocations to the offices of District and Regional Commissioners while providing capacity-building members to improve performance.

"We've tasked the DCs and RCs to organize regional and district business councils' meetings to be more responsible

and supervise the discussions and development of the private sector," he said.

He said RALG and TNBC would continue to give capacity building to all members and business people in all regions and districts so that they could supervise the councils professionally in line with TNBC guidelines.

"We will also continue to recognize the President's Award to regions and districts which coordinate well the councils in improving the environment to attract more businesses, investments, expand the tax base, and increase revenues," he said.

In the 15th TNBC Meeting, Dodoma Region won an award for being the best region for attracting more business and investment. The second and third awards went to the Dar es Salaam and Kilimanjaro regions respectively.



TANZANIA PORTLAND CEMENT PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY UNAUDITED RESULTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

The first half of the year presented a challenging market environment characterized by adverse weather conditions and projects on hold due to lack of funding. This translated into a market shrinkage compared to the previous year.

Overall, the company's revenue declined by 18% year-on-year. However, we have made substantial strides in operational efficiency, achieving positive outcomes in clinker incorporation, alternative fuel utilization, CO2 emissions and maintenance costs, among other areas.

Efficiency and process optimization played a vital role in efforts to optimize the costs to offset the decline in revenue. Our strong commitment to customer satisfaction and sustainability remains at the core of our business strategy.

Prospects

We are optimistic about market recovery in the coming months, weather conditions have softened, and projects should restart soon. Cost control will remain a priority in the coming months.

Appreciation

The Board would like to thank all its stakeholders for their support. We have every confidence that TPCPLC will continue to deliver value for the shareholders and community.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Hakan Gurdal
Chairman of the Board

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	2024 TZS '000	2023 TZS '000
Revenue from contracts with customers	201,575,441	246,284,758
Cost of sales	(152,530,052)	(166,235,904)
Gross profit	49,045,389	80,048,854
Other operating income	428,958	295,793
Selling and marketing costs	(1,701,687)	(1,468,800)
Administrative costs	(11,821,322)	(12,026,402)
Other operating expenses	(417,018)	(745,615)
Net gain on foreign currency translation	7,253,225	4,752,475
Operating Profit	42,787,545	70,856,305
Finance income	1,458,743	1,481,873
Finance costs	(436,623)	(308,890)
Finance income - net	1,022,120	1,172,983
Profit before tax	43,809,665	72,029,288
Income tax expense	(12,891,824)	(22,026,418)
Profit for the year	30,917,841	50,002,870

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2024

	2024 TZS '000	2023 TZS '000
ASSETS		
Non-current assets		
Property, plant and equipment	136,575,513	136,081,672
Intangible assets	842,665	797,217
Leasehold land	939,163	967,009
Right of use assets	171,005	2,669,129
Other non-current financial assets	649,000	728,000
	139,177,346	141,243,027
Current assets		
Inventories	84,798,541	103,507,384
Trade receivables	62,031,569	60,698,079
Other short-term operating receivables	28,469,631	14,650,144
Current income tax recoverable	9,197,950	324,060
Other current financial assets	-	300,000
Cash and bank balances	96,861,416	72,379,452
	281,359,107	251,859,119
TOTAL ASSETS	420,536,453	393,102,146
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity		
Share capital	3,598,462	3,598,462
Retained earnings	285,707,120	275,973,475
	289,305,582	279,571,937
Non-current liabilities		
Lease liabilities	202,013	202,595
Employment benefit obligations	5,590,521	5,308,978
Provision for quarry site restoration	4,637,226	4,440,123
Deferred income tax liability	8,052,392	8,624,404
	18,482,152	18,576,100
Current liabilities		
Lease liabilities	583	2,769,285
Employment benefit obligations	562,206	401,627
Provision for quarry site restoration	425,377	281,626
Current income tax payable	-	-
Trade and other payables	88,736,221	75,557,506
Provisions	10,583,245	13,049,775
Dividend payable	12,441,088	2,894,291
	112,748,719	94,954,110
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	420,536,453	393,102,146



Police officers participate in World Day Against Trafficking in Persons (July 30) awareness march, held at national level in Dodoma city yesterday. This year's theme is "Leave No Child Behind in the Fight Against Human Trafficking". Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Ex-SA President Zuma is expelled from ANC

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa's former President Jacob Zuma has been expelled from the African National Congress (ANC), the party he once led, after campaigning for a rival party in the 29 May general election.

The ANC's disciplinary committee found Zuma guilty of "prejudicing the integrity" of the party by joining uMkhonto we Sizwe (MK), and has given him three weeks to appeal against its ruling.

"His platform is dangerous, appeals to extremist instincts in our body politic and riles up a political base that may foment social unrest," the ANC said in a statement.

MK has said that Zuma was not informed of the decision taken by a "kangaroo court."

Zuma, 82, was an ANC veteran but fell out with the party after he was forced to quit as president in 2018 over corruption scandals. He has always denied any wrongdoing.

He had been suspended by the ANC in January after creating MK, which now sits in opposition to the ANC-led government in parliament.

In a statement, MK said it was shocked to learn from media reports that Zuma had been expelled.

The disciplinary proceedings were conducted "in a manner akin to a kangaroo court", the party said.

"It is a foundational legal principle that no person, not even those accused of a serious crime, should be punished or sentenced in their absence," it added.

The ANC's disciplinary committee held a virtual hearing, which Zuma refused to attend, saying he wanted to be physically present.

At a press conference confirming Zuma's expulsion, ANC secretary-general Fikile Mbalula said the party had refused to agree to Zuma's presence at the party's headquarters as he "wanted a rally".

"Even when they [MK supporters] were told that the disciplinary hearing was virtual they still came here. So it tells you that Jacob Zuma wanted a movie," he added.

Mbalula denied that Zuma had not been informed of his expulsion.

"[The] kangaroo court is that MK who are they to lecture people about a due process?" Mbalula said.

He added that the ANC did not think that at any point in its history it would have to deal with a former president "campaigning decisively against the party he was a member of."

South Africa's current President Cyril Ramaphosa replaced Mr Zuma in 2018, promising to clean up government. But in the 29 May elections, the ANC suffered its worst result in 30 years, pushing the ruling party to form a coalition to share power.

uMkhonto we Sizwe - meaning "spear of the nation" - became the country's third-largest party, largely by taking votes from the ANC.

It won almost 15 percent of the vote and obtained 58 seats in the 400-member parliament.

MK became the official opposition in parliament after the second-biggest party, the Democratic Alliance (DA), joined the coalition government.

Zuma was barred from being an MP because he was given a 15-month prison sentence in 2021 for contempt of court. He defied a court order to appear before an inquiry investigating corruption during his nine-year presidency. His arrest sparked the deadliest riots since the end of white-minority rule in 1994 and led to the deaths of more than 300 people.

And he now faces corruption charges over a 1999 arms deal. He has chosen an ex-judge, who was impeached for gross misconduct, to lead MK in parliament.

IMF approves 'landmark' \$3.4bn bailout for Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA

THE International Monetary Fund (IMF) has approved a bailout of \$3.4bn (£2.6bn) for Ethiopia to support its economic reforms over the next four years.

The Horn of Africa nation has been struggling with chronic foreign currency shortages and high inflation - largely blamed on the brutal two-year civil war in Tigray, which ended in 2022.

"This is a landmark moment for Ethiopia," said Kristalina Georgieva, the IMF's managing director, adding that it was "a testament to Ethiopia's strong commitment to transformative reform".

News of the deal came after Ethiopia floated its currency - which analysts say was a key step in securing the loan.

Monday's announcement saw Ethiopia's currency, the birr, lose nearly a third of its value against the dollar.

The IMF said it would immediately release about \$1bn to help Ethiopia's "balance of payments needs and provide support to the budget."

Ethiopia - Africa's second most-populous country - has also been in talks with its international creditors to restructure its debt.

In December it became the third African country in three years to default on its sovereign bond. After the war in the northern region of Tigray ended, other conflicts in Oromia and Amhara have put pressure on the spiralling economy.

Ethiopia's new IMF-supported economic programme is intended to stimulate private-sector led growth.

According to the IMF, this should allow for more spending on areas like health, education, investment and social safety nets.

Expanding the coverage and increasing support to the most vulnerable households was a key part of the government's reform agenda, it said.

"The IMF looks forward to supporting these efforts to help make the economy more vibrant, stable, and inclusive for all Ethiopians," said Georgieva.

It is also expected "to help catalyse additional external financing from development partners and provide a framework for the successful completion."

Conference scheduled for conservation of Mara Basin ecosystem

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE Lake Victoria Basin Commission, a specialized institution of the East African Community (EAC), a regional bloc, in collaboration with Maasai Mara University in Kenya, will convene a conference on the conservation of the Mara Basin ecosystem.

The conference will be held at the Maasai Mara University in Kenya on

Sept 14, featuring a theme of "Flowing Forward Together: Conserving the Mara Basin Ecosystem for Sustainable Biodiversity and Climate Resilience," said the commission in a statement issued on Saturday.

Lake Victoria Basin Commission, with headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania, aims to promote, facilitate, and coordinate activities of different actors towards sustainable development and

management of the natural resources of Lake Victoria.

According to the statement, the upcoming conference will focus on various themes, including environmental conservation and climate resilience in the Mara Basin ecosystem, natural resource management for inclusive socioeconomic development, and relevant knowledge, innovation, and technology in the conservation of the

Mara Basin ecosystem. It will be open to all researchers, students, and government officials from the EAC member states of Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan, and Somalia, as well as international researchers.

The Mara Basin ecosystem covers 13,325 square kilometres, of which, about 65 percent is located in Kenya and 35 percent in Tanzania.



Traders and members of special groups pictured in Mtwara yesterday undergoing financial education training conducted jointly by the Finance ministry and various financial institutions. Photo: Finance ministry

UN calls for urgent action to address climate change in Zambia

LUSAKA

THE United Nations (UN) in Zambia has called for urgent action to address climate change in the southern African nation, saying it was one of the most critical challenges of the time.

Beatrice Mutali, the UN Resident Coordinator, said the country needed a collaborative approach in tackling climate change by incorporating all stakeholders.

"Strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations is instrumental

in establishing a solid foundation for effective climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies in Zambia," she said during a meeting of a technical working group established as part of efforts to strengthen the voices of civil society organizations.

The UN representative said the initiative, supported by the United Nations Democracy Fund and implemented by the Center for Environment Justice, an organization whose goal was to address social and environmental injustices, represents a

significant advancement in enhancing Zambia's ability to cope with climate change by empowering civil society organizations to advocate for climate action and environmental sustainability.

Douty Chibamba, permanent secretary in the Ministry of Green Economy and Environment, said the effects of climate change in the country were evidenced by the drought faced during the 2023/2024 season which has resulted in crop failure and affected electricity generation.

He said the drought, which has been declared a national disaster and

emergency affecting 84 of the country's 116 districts, has resulted in water supply shortages due to increased power cuts.

Vincent Ziba, chairperson of the Center for Environment Justice, a non-governmental organization in Zambia, said the formation of the technical working group was a pivotal moment as it will enhance the climate advocacy capacity of civil society organizations through comprehensive training, stakeholder consultations, dialogues, knowledge sharing, and the improvement of advocacy frameworks.

Blueprint could just tender education to private sector

STRATEGISTS are understood to be working on a reduced blueprint for the education sector whose formulation is geared at attracting more private-sector investments.

This is going by recent remarks by the Education, Science and Technology minister, as he spoke at a meeting with private sector stakeholders in education.

He was emphatic that it was the government's intention to mobilise within the private sector to improve education.

The blueprint envisaged is expected to show what needs to be done and at what point, a sort of roadmap to realise that objective, though it is likely to be a challenging task owing to the contending targets.

It is the government's belief that private investors in the education sector can more satisfactorily address and resolve several ever-existing challenges than could be done through the creation of the Tanzania Education Fund (TEF).

For over a decade now, the government has been asking private sector stakeholders like companies private individuals to exercise a measure of charity and contribute to the fund, pleas that have been heeded to an extent.

However, ordinarily even charities are more forthcoming when they contribute to the uplifting of well-defined groups rather than merely adding to government budgeting as would be in contributing to TEF for ministerial needs.

It was complicated visualising what is likely to be achieved in making thorough consultations with various stakeholders, with a view to 'harmonising' taxes, levies and other matters facing private education investments.

It is hard to say what 'harmony' means in the first place unless it is to bring education taxation to the same level as health, and they are comparable as people pay for medical care in private hospitals just as they pay fees in private schools.

What education stakeholders

want is that schooling be classed as charity, whereas it is the mother organisation that has to be classified as charity first.

The blueprint framework comes in an ongoing reconstruction work for education as a whole, from practical skills orientation to technological transition.

Thus, an unsettled issue of what becomes of liberal academic orientation that bureaucrats now shun as irrelevant could be a moment of rethinking education in general.

The best way to uplift education in the country both in terms of attracting capital and moving to a generalised higher level in content provision is arguably to hand over schools and colleges to the private sector.

The government would thereafter work with the new operators towards realising specific objectives by large subsidies in a clearly accountable manner, like ensuring that all eligible girls attend school.

There was talk on how the government pushed a similar blueprint in the trade, industry and investment sector. It is however clear that the terms here are way different from those applicable to the business sector.

What improving the climate of investments demands is quantifiable and statistically examinable, while those tools can't be copied in education - this showing the importance of finding equivalent sources of motivation.

While government listens to the business community as it has to be satisfied to invest, school investors don't have the same clout with the government.

As such, the lobby can't change things unless the government itself wants things to change, and here it can give schools to the private sector to teach pupils in English and ensure that girls attend school, while also globalising the content and fostering skills. They would accept to take them up, absorb teachers and reorient them with state subsidies.

Forging bilateral ties in a more polarised world is complicated

DIPLOMATS have always had the unenviable task of making strangers and critics in far-off lands grasp their points of view of what particular countries see as vital.

African countries came into the international community fold during a relatively tolerable environment, where the big powers were in what can be described as a sustainable dialogue, with some substantially acknowledged preliminaries like safeguarding world peace.

The last two decades of the 20th century altered the situation - first with the collapse of eastern camp, largely based on ideals, different models of state-anchored economies. Right behind that came other destabilising forces.

Africa has not intensely participated in questioning the current world order save in its regular demand for a permanent seat in the United Nations Security Council.

The work diplomats have to link up with other countries seeking to enhance relations with this or that African country is chiefly meant to forge links with big powers. It is vital to put aside global issues and focus on strict bilateral links for win-win scenarios.

Africa is meanwhile not being pained in the same way as in the past as to its position on sharp divisions of alliances around the world, as its dependency level on foreign powers has decreased. Most big powers seek a measure of economic opportunity even just in military purchases.

That is exactly what Russia's ambassador to Tanzania underlined at weekend remarks at an institutional dialogue club during a Russia-Africa Conference.

The envoy was emphatic on his country's commitment to the strengthening of business links with Tanzania and other African states as an aspect of stimulating growth and development.

The envoy is quoted as having identified Tanzania as a key partner with which his country has had good relations over the past six decades.

Most African countries have some choice strategic partners in various fields - and not one partner for all intents and purposes.

For instance, Russia has ranked high in countries commonly offering overseas scholarships for Tanzanian students.

While impressions cannot always be relied upon, it is plausible that many youths went to eastern countries as they were handed scholarships.

Meanwhile, others go to Europe or America because their families were in a position to afford the relatively high costs involved instead of banking on auxiliary work, etc.

Things have changed dramatically in the intervening period, with current relations a mixed bag of uplifting memories and recent disappointments. In the circumstances, the level of success or failure in one's endeavours much depends on how well one plays one's cards.

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Tanzania's leap into global investment: Any lessons from China's achievements?

By Kettie Chipeta

TANZANIA stands at the threshold of a thrilling economic transformation, with select state-owned enterprises (SOEs) ready to venture into the dynamic world of international investment.

This initiative is more than a cautious experiment; it is a strategic move designed to make a significant impact on the global stage.

Envision Tanzanian firms extending their reach beyond national borders, tapping into new markets and driving substantial growth. This moment represents a pivotal opportunity for Tanzania to assert its presence internationally.

As we delve into this high-stakes endeavour, it is crucial to understand the mechanics of outward investment and its potential to revolutionise the country's economic landscape.

To provide valuable insights, let us explore how China has successfully turned outward investment into a global phenomenon, offering key lessons for Tanzania's forward-thinking SOEs.

When it comes to outward investment, China stands as an impressive example. Chinese SOEs have been venturing across borders with confidence, casting a wide net over global markets.

This impressive feat results from meticulous planning, strategic government backing, and a dash of daring ambition. China's SOEs have turned international investment into a grand spectacle, and their success offers a master class in global expansion.

China's strategy is a potent blend of government foresight, financial clout and sectoral focus. The Chinese government is far from a passive observer; it actively fuels its SOEs' global ventures.

Initiatives like the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) are not only about constructing infrastructure but also about opening up international markets for Chinese enterprises.

The Chinese approach to constructing ports and railways in Africa under the BRI demonstrates how strategic backing helps SOEs undertake large-scale projects with confidence.

Financial backing plays a crucial role. Chinese SOEs benefit from extensive state-backed financing, providing the resources needed to embark on substantial international ventures.

This financial strength allows them to pursue major projects and absorb potential risks, creating a robust platform for global investment.

Additionally, China's focus on strategic sectors like energy, infrastructure and technology ensures that its SOEs invest in areas aligned with national interests and global trends.

Chinese SOEs have made significant

investments in the energy sector, with projects like constructing power plants and oil refineries in developing countries. These investments not only secure energy supplies for China but also contribute to the host countries' infrastructure development, creating a win-win scenario.

Relationship-building is another key ingredient in China's success. Chinese SOEs invest in local development and infrastructure, which benefits the host countries and strengthens diplomatic ties.

This approach creates a favourable environment for their investments and enhances China's influence on the global stage.

The construction of the Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway in Kenya, financed by Chinese banks and built by Chinese companies, not only improved Kenya's infrastructure but also solidified China's economic ties with the country.

Now, let us shift the spotlight to Tanzania. As Tanzanian SOEs prepare to leap into the international arena, there is much to learn from China's playbook. Why should Tanzania dive into outward investment?

Let us explore the potential benefits in greater detail. Outward investment offers a golden opportunity for economic growth and diversification.

For Tanzania, this means reducing reliance on domestic markets and tapping into new, potentially lucrative arenas.

Imagine Tanzanian companies thriving in emerging markets, boosting their revenue streams and expanding their global footprint. This prospect could reshape Tanzania's economic landscape.

Investing in growing neighbouring markets like Kenya and Rwanda could open up new revenue streams and reduce economic volatility.

Access to resources is another enticing benefit. By investing in resource-rich countries, Tanzanian SOEs can secure essential materials and energy supplies. This strategic move ensures that Tanzania is not just a player on the field but a key participant in the global supply chain.

This can also help mitigate supply chain vulnerabilities and ensure a steady flow of critical resources.

Tanzanian SOEs investing in mining operations in Zambia could secure a stable supply of minerals essential for local industries. Technology and knowledge transfer are also on the table. Outward investments provide Tanzanian SOEs with the opportunity to acquire cutting-edge technologies and advanced management practices.

This influx of expertise can elevate their capabilities, making them more competitive on both local and global stages.

Imagine Tanzanian firms integrating advanced technologies and practices that drive innovation and efficiency, ultimately leading to a more robust domestic industry.

Outward investments can also

enhance Tanzania's global presence and strengthen diplomatic ties. By investing strategically, Tanzania can build international relationships that lead to better trade deals and cooperative ventures.

This enhanced global presence can pave the way for increased influence and opportunities on the world stage. Strategic investments in key regions could lead to favourable trade agreements and enhanced diplomatic relations.

Of course, outward investment comes with its own set of challenges. The costs and financial risks associated with international ventures can be significant.

For Tanzanian SOEs, the initial capital outlay and ongoing operational expenses can be substantial. Managing these costs requires careful planning and robust financial strategies. Tanzanian SOEs may need to secure funding through international loans or partnerships to finance their investments.

Cultural and management challenges are another hurdle. Operating in foreign markets involves navigating different business practices, legal systems and cultural norms.

Tanzanian SOEs must be prepared to adapt and overcome these challenges to ensure successful investments. This may involve hiring local experts, forming strategic partnerships and understanding local market dynamics. Establishing joint ventures with local businesses could facilitate smoother market entry and operational integration.

Political and economic risks are also important considerations. Investing in politically unstable or economically volatile regions can expose Tanzanian SOEs to potential pitfalls.

Thorough risk management and due diligence are essential to mitigate these dangers and ensure that investments are secure and sustainable. Conducting comprehensive risk assessments and developing contingency plans to address potential disruptions will be key.

Moreover, outward investments can strain domestic resources. It is crucial for Tanzanian SOEs to balance their international ambitions with domestic needs. Ensuring that local priorities and resources are not compromised will help maintain a sustainable growth trajectory.

Tanzanian SOEs should ensure that their international ventures do not detract from their commitment to local development and social responsibility.

So, what can Tanzania learn from China's global investment success? For starters, a strategic approach is essential. Tanzanian SOEs should align their international investments with national economic goals and sectoral priorities.

This focused strategy will help maximise the benefits and impact

of their investments. Prioritising investments in sectors that align with Tanzania's development goals could yield substantial economic returns.

Government support is another critical element. Just as China benefits from state-backed financial and risk mitigation mechanisms, Tanzania should consider establishing similar support structures.

This could include providing financial incentives, risk insurance and diplomatic assistance to help Tanzanian SOEs navigate the complexities of international investment. Government-backed support could play a crucial role in facilitating Tanzania's outward investment efforts and ensuring their success.

Building strong relationships with host countries is also crucial. By investing in local development and infrastructure, Tanzanian SOEs can create a favourable environment for their investments and strengthen diplomatic relations. This approach fosters a positive investment climate and enhances the potential for success.

Engaging in community development projects in host countries could enhance Tanzania's reputation and build goodwill. Adapting to local conditions is vital for overcoming challenges.

Tanzanian SOEs need to be flexible and responsive to all manner of business practices, legal systems and cultural norms in their target markets.

Engaging local expertise and forming partnerships with local businesses can be instrumental in navigating these complexities. Partnering with local firms can provide valuable insights and facilitate smoother market entry.

Finally, effective risk management is key. Tanzanian SOEs should conduct thorough due diligence, assess political and economic risks, and have contingency plans in place.

This proactive approach will help mitigate potential challenges and ensure that investments are both secure and successful. Implementing robust risk management frameworks will be essential for safeguarding Tanzania's international investments.

As Tanzania's SOEs prepare to make their mark on the global stage, the potential is immense. By learning from China's successes and navigating the challenges with a strategic and adaptable approach, Tanzania can turn its outward investments into a powerhouse of economic growth and international influence.

Here is to Tanzania's grand global

adventure - may it be as thrilling and transformative as China's own journey!

Kettie Lomaquala Chipeta is a freelance writer specialising in business analysis and strategic management. She is also an avid reader of The Guardian newspaper. kettieloma@gmail.com. +255 692 108 677.

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Drug abuse: LHRO helps youth grappling with drug addiction

EMPOWERING individuals with knowledge is not merely important; it is like throwing a lifeline to someone adrift in a stormy sea. Knowledge empowerment is important for both personal development and community strength.

In Bagamoyo District, Coast Region, an impactful educational initiative dedicated to raising awareness on the dangers of drug addiction is assisting individuals especially youth by providing them with education on their rights and the widespread societal effects of using drugs. Such kind of comprehensive approach results in a more informed and engaged community.

An example of such initiative is a project executed by the Life and Hope Rehabilitation Organization (LHRO)—an NGO dedicated to uplift those grappling with drug addiction. It is an example of how targeted support can transform lives and foster a healthier society.

Supported by the Ambassador's Fund for HIV/AIDS Relief (AFHR) with funding from the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), LHRO mobilizes a diverse coalition of stakeholders, including students, teachers, parents, religious leaders, government officials, police, doctors, lawyers and social welfare officers to collaboratively address the problem.

Zaka Nchimbi, is a former drug addict from Kisutu ward in Bagamoyo District who is currently working as a motorbike rider, told The Guardian that the knowledge he has received has transformed his life.

"Personally, I wasn't too much addicted by drugs; but some of my colleagues found themselves in a bad situation. I was shocked when I learned about the dangers and health risks of using drugs. Currently, I am enrolled for medication where we are provided with a daily methadone dose. I am thankful for the educative support from LHRO as I have been able to continue with my job", Nchimbi explained.

Raphia Azza, a teacher said they have welcomed the project since through the provided capacity building training; they are now conducting special educative sessions with pupils on the effects of using drugs.

"We normally spend time with students where we insist on them to avoid engaging with drugs. We were also educated on how to identify young people using drugs," she stated.

According to her, they have also been equipped with skills on how to understand pupil's behaviour, monitoring their actions and assisting them to stay away from dangerous groups.

A religious leader from Wazee Mosque in Magomeni ward, Haji Mwinyi, stated that the project has come at the right time as they have been passing on the acquired knowledge to Muslim believers during evening prayer sessions.

"Many young people have been affected by drugs; we normally remind parents on proper children upbringing because youth are the nation's workforce," he said.

Pastor Mathew Mwanjisi from Mount Zion Church



expressed his gratitude saying decisions by the NGO to provide education to his church followers has helped in changing the behaviour of many people.

Bagamoyo Officer Commanding District (OCD), Mushana Mujema, said that involving the police force in such projects is a significant step towards helping young people to avoid drug addiction.

He said one of the force's responsibilities is to prevent all the kinds of crimes, noting most of the crimes in the district are committed by drug addicts, particularly youth.

Mujema assured the public that they will continue to educate youth on the effects of using drugs and how to overcome addiction.

"We want drug addicts to change their behaviours to become assets to their families, communities, and the nation as a whole", he added.

Dr Kandi Lussingu from Bagamoyo District Hospital thanked

LHRO for initiating the project, explaining that it has significantly increased the number of addicts seeking methadone treatment at the facility.

She noted that in previous years, only a small number of addicts were enrolled for methadone dose, but the number has now increased to more than 700. She linked the increase in number of people seeking medication with the empowerment education as well as awareness campaigns conducted by the LHRO.

"I would like to thank the district's social welfare department, police gender desk, and other stakeholders for collaborating with LHRO in offering free education to our youth", said Dr Kandi, calling upon other stakeholders to provide youth with entrepreneurship education so that they are able to establish income generating activities.

Al-Karim Bhanji, LHRO Executive Director, said they started to execute the project in December last year, noting that they are

now implementing a second phase as the first one will be completed by end of this July. The third phase is scheduled for December 2024.

"We are running this project in five wards: Magomeni, Kiromo, Kisutu, Nianjema, and Dunda. We have already reached various groups and provided them with the skills and knowledge to abstain from drug use," Bhanji told The Guardian, noting since inception of the project, the organization has also provided education to pupils at Kiromo, Kizuni, Nianjema and Jitegeme Primary Schools as well as Mwambao and Asanary Secondary Schools.

LHRO has also provided education to officers at Magomeni Police Station, health care providers at the district hospital, Kiromo clinic, Buma shelters and bodaboda riders.

He said the organization collaborates with the Catholic Church, St. Elizabeth Parish, Mount Zion Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT) and drug addict camps.

He further explained that they have visited a number of mosques including Masjid Rahman, Wazee Mosque, Masjid Noor, and Masjid Rahman.

He said the education is provided through public meetings in villages, visiting schools and places of worship.

"Our wish is to see a society free from drug addiction; We also ensure that those addicted are enrolled for medication and have access to their rights because most addicts are stigmatized by both their families and society, leading to the perception that they are undesirable individuals.

CASHEWNUT BOARD OF TANZANIA



ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CASHEW INDUSTRY ANNUAL GENERAL STAKEHOLDERS' MEETING FOR YEAR 2024

The Cashewnut Board of Tanzania would like to inform all cashew industry stakeholders that the Annual General Meeting for year 2024 will be held on August 22nd & 23rd, 2024 from 08:00 a.m at the PSSSF Makole Dodoma City.

The guest of honor at the Meeting is expected to be the Minister of Agriculture Hon. Hussein M. Bashe (MP). Among other things, different topics will be presented at the conference including those related to the development of the Cashew Industry country wide.

Invitees are required to self-finance all expenses related to their attendance to this important Meeting including transportation and accommodation. The Cashewnut Board of Tanzania will provide food and refreshments during the meeting.

Official invitation letters have been sent to all invitees. Only Stakeholders who are officially invited will be allowed to attend the meeting. Those who do not have an official invitation from the Cashewnut Board of Tanzania will not be allowed to participate in the Meeting and the Board shall not be responsible for any inconvenience.

It is therefore compulsory each invitee to attend with his or her invitation letter.

**This announcement is issued by: -
DIRECTOR GENERAL
CASHEWNUT BOARD OF TANZANIA,
P. O. BOX 533.
MTWARA**



Nyati Mineral Sands Limited

ADVERTISEMENT

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST OF GOODS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

Nyati Mineral Sands Limited (**Nyati or the Company**) is a company incorporated in the United Republic of Tanzania with incorporation number 154424962. The Company is seeking expressions of Interest from reputable and qualified service providers with experience in Valuation for Compensation and Resettlement as well as implementation of the Resettlement Action plan (RAP) for the Project affected people (PAP) for the Tajiri Heavy Mineral Sands project (Tajiri) which is located in Pangani district in Tanga region. The services will be required from August 2024.

Interested and qualified parties wishing to provide their services in line with the above-listed request must submit the following documents to the Company for verification:

1. Certified copy of Certificate of Incorporation
2. Certified copy of Memorandum and Articles of Association
3. Registered office address
4. Proof of local content compliance
5. Certified copy of current Business Licence
6. Certified copy of Tax Clearance Certificate
7. Certified copy of TIN Certificate
8. Certified copy of VAT Certificate
9. Certified copy of BRELA search
10. Details of Company Representative / Contact Person
11. Latest audited accounts
12. CVs of proposed valuers and surveys
13. Valuation registration document of the company
14. Certificates of proposed valuers
15. Summary of company's experience on other large valuation projects in Tanzania, both in valuation and implementation (administration of compensation payments, management of grievances).
16. Overview of the key valuation methodology and implementation methodology (key steps, not detailed)

All enquiries and responses to this EOI must be submitted via the email below no later than 06 August 2024 at 17:00 hours East Africa Time.

Email: nyati@strandline.com.au
Nyati Mineral Sands Limited
Z0 Spaces - The Slipway
PO Box 105009
Mwasani Peninsular
Dar es Salaam

This expression of interest has been approved for publication by the Ministry of Minerals Mining Commission and the companies will have 5 working days to respond to this EOI.

By Bruce Wolpe

WILL his decision to step aside seal Joe Biden's legacy as US president? Three weeks ago, Biden (pictured) suffered a political catastrophe. Biden's team had been surprised that Donald Trump had agreed to an early presidential debate in late June, and under rules that favoured Biden: no studio audience, just the two candidates, and muted microphones.

Biden urgently needed to change the trajectory of the race. He was at best tied with Trump nationally, but slipping in the key swing states that determined the 2016 and 2020 presidential elections. He wanted to show that Trump was extreme, unhinged and unfit for office - a profound threat, in his eyes, to America's democracy.

Trump wanted to prove that Biden was physically and mentally infirm and unable to fulfill a second term in office, much less his existing one.

Then Biden froze, lapsed, drifted and muttered. Trump was able to execute his game plan perfectly.

In the days that followed, Biden immediately began haemorrhaging support from Democrats more than worried - terrified - that Biden would be unable to defeat Trump, and could cause the Democrats to lose the House and Senate, as well. Democrats were peering into an abyss.

Until Sunday morning in the United States, the Biden team was consistently and fiercely pushing back against calls for him to drop out. They insisted he would not be dissuaded from his view that he was the strongest per-

son to go after Trump and defeat him. Reports emerged that Biden was deeply hurt, angry and resentful of being challenged from within the party, and that he was not at all convinced by the polls showing him losing more key states than he won in 2020.

Biden saw no legitimacy in being denied the nomination when he won millions of votes in the Democratic primaries this year and virtually all the votes of the convention delegates. He vowed to resume campaigning after his bout of COVID.

It would take discussions with the most consequential leaders in the party to eventually persuade him to change course. These figures included former presidents Barack Obama and Bill Clinton, former House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, House Democratic Leader Hakeem Jeffries, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, and Jim Clyburn, a senior Black member of the House, whose endorsement of Biden helped seal his nomination for the presidency in 2020.

By Sunday morning, it was becoming clear to most everyone in the political world - including Trump and his campaign team - that Biden was terminal, and that he would surely lose if he did not leave the field.

Hours later, Biden stood aside. He finally got it. He said: A courageous, statesmanlike decision

Had Biden not retreated, and had he been defeated by Trump in the November election, he would have been excoriated for being so self-centred, hubristic and arrogant to believe he was more important than the cause of defeating Trump.

He would have been adjudged as a failed one-term

Joe Biden's legacy may have been stained had he not stepped aside



president because Trump would be able to enter office and destroy all the Biden programs and initiatives that came into existence during his presidency.

Indeed, Biden was regarded - and loved - by so many across the Democratic Party and the country because of what they saw in his half century of public service: his profound decency, his love for the country, his reverence for the military, and his determination to stop Trump and his assault on democracy.

If Vice President Kamala Harris now earns the Democratic nomination and then defeats Trump, Biden's decision to step back at a most critical moment in US history will be seen as both courageous and statesmanlike.

No presidential candidate from any major party has withdrawn from a campaign so late in the election cycle. What Biden did was truly unprecedented.

History will be the final judge

When it comes to assessing Biden's legacy, there will be much analysis and reflection on issues not cited by Obama. There will be criticism of the inflation that was unleashed post-COVID, and the ensuing interest rate rises that resulted in profound insecurity for tens of millions of Americans facing cost-of-living pressures.

The border between the US and Mexico was allowed, for much too long, to get out of control, fueling sentiment towards Trump's most explosive issue: immigration and crime.

There was also one profound crisis that hurt Biden's standing as an effective leader in foreign affairs and protecting America's national security.

In early 2021, Biden announced the US would withdraw its troops by September of that year. The ensuing collapse of the Afghanistan government and the takeover of the country by the Taliban forced a chaotic evacuation of American personnel and Afghans who worked on behalf of the US.

If Vice President Kamala Harris now earns the Democratic nomination and then defeats Trump, Biden's decision to step back at a most critical moment in US history will be seen as both courageous and statesmanlike.



REQUEST FOR INFORMATION PROCUREMENT REFERENCE NUMBER HJFMRI/TZ/02/2024

HJF Medical Research International, Inc. Tanzania (HJFMRI-T) collaborates with the Tanzanian Ministry of Health (MoH) and the President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) to implement two HIV/AIDS programs in the Southern Highlands zone and within the selected 21 Tanzania Peoples Defense Forces (TPDF) health facilities in Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar with funding from US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the US Department of Defense / Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (DOD / WRAIR).

HJFMRI Tanzania invites eligible vendors to submit information for the provision of the following services (see table 1, below).

Table 1: Lot and Category Description

Reference Number	Category Description	Location
Lot 1	Office and Residential Security Services	Dar es Salaam, Mbeya, Songwe, and Katavi
Lot 2	Car Rental Services	Dar es Salaam, Mbeya, Songwe, Rukwa and Katavi, Mwanza, Dodoma, Kagera, Ruvuma, Morogoro, Iringa, Arusha, Singida, Tabora, Njombe, Zanzibar, Shinyanga, Tanga and Coastal Region
Lot 3	Office Cleaning Services	Dar es Salaam
Lot 4	Branding Works	Dar es Salaam, Mbeya, Songwe, Rukwa and Katavi, Mwanza, Dodoma, Kagera, Ruvuma, Morogoro, Iringa, Arusha, Singida, Tabora, Njombe, Zanzibar, Shinyanga, Tanga and Coastal Region
Lot 5	Events Decorations	All regions of Tanzania

Note to Interested Suppliers:

This is not a tender process. The Request for Information (RFI) is issued for the purpose of obtaining information concerning available vendors, capacity of the vendors, market conditions and any other relevant information to allow HJFMRI-T better to understand the market for the determination of its requirements.

- Certificate of Incorporation / Registration, as applicable.
- Tax Identification Number (TIN).
- Value Added Tax Number (VAT), as Applicable.
- Active Business License.
- Current Tax Clearance Certificate.
- 3 Customers Reference Letters with active contacts

HJFMRI Tanzania does not intend to award a contract based on this solicitation or to otherwise pay for the information solicited. The organization reserves the right to defer or cancel the RFI without penalty.

The Selection and shortlisting of vendors for future RFP processes will be conducted through the Closed Competitive Tendering process as specified in the HJFMRI's Procurement Policy and Procedures. After receiving responses from interested vendors, HJFMRI-T will review and send RFP to selected vendors.

All RFI enquiries should be directed to Shanghvi@hjfmri.or.tz. Ask all questions before the deadline for submission of responses.

RFI Timelines:

Deadline for Questions: August 5, 2024
Deadline for Submission: August 13, 2024

Submission of Responses

The response in pdf format (including three references, corporate clients, business / company registration documents, tax compliance certificates, etc.) should be addressed to the Procurement Manager, HJF Medical Research International, Inc. Tanzania via email address Shanghvi@hjfmri.or.tz. The subject of email should read RFI for the Provision of [put the lot number and category description, see table 1 above].

Ground Floor, Block 5, Mlimani City Office Park, Sam Nujoma Road, P.O. Box 13303, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.
Email: info@hjfmri.or.tz, Phone: +255 222923713 / +255 222923714

PUBLIC NOTICE

We, Rohit Pawan Panjwani and Manraj Singh Bharya, hereby notify all concerned parties that, effective from 29th July 2024, we have ceased to be directors of the following companies registered in Tanzania:

- ARIA Commodities International Limited
- ARIA Industries East Africa Limited
- ARIA BIO-Industries International Limited

We hereby declare that we are no longer responsible or liable for any acts, transactions, dealings, or representations made by these companies or any affiliated entities of ARIA Commodities as of the aforementioned date. All inquiries, communications, and business matters should be addressed to the current management of the respective companies.

For any official communication, please contact us via email at: Manrajbharya@gmail.com

This notice serves to inform all stakeholders and the general public to govern themselves accordingly.

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJUAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI 09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

By XN Iraki

Kenya's new cabinet: Finance minister faces an uphill battle against corruption, unemployment and debts

KENYA faces difficult times ahead because of pressure to pay debts, create jobs for the youth, offer improved services to citizens and uproot entrenched corruption.

The tough journey on the new path begins afresh with the appointment of a new cabinet which takes office after weeks of unrelenting protests by Kenya's young population demanding better governance.

The protests were triggered by steep tax rises proposed in the 2024/25 Finance Bill 2024. Ensuing nationwide protests forced President William Ruto to withdraw the bill. This didn't stop the protests and President Ruto subsequently fired his cabinet with a promise to address a growing list of demands.

Now in their second month, the protests have regularly shut down businesses in the Kenyan capital Nairobi.

They are disrupting supply chains and incomes of mostly informal sector business which accounts for about 32% of Kenya's GDP. Many investors and tourists will also postpone their plans, denying the economy much needed stimulus.

The incoming Minister of Finance - working with parliament - must now deal with the aftermath of the now-withdrawn Finance Bill 2024 which sought to raise an additional KSh 302 billion. This is 7.5% of the country's KSh3.992 trillion budget presented before parliament in mid-June.

Deep cuts in spending are already before parliament in a supplementary bill that will be considered in a climate of shrinking tax revenues.

I have studied several aspects of Kenya's economy over the past decade. My view is the government faces the real prospect of missing its tax revenue target and may result in more borrowing and unpopular austerity measures.

The new treasury secretary, as the finance minister is known in Kenya, could respond in two ways.

First, he could find innovative and creative ways of raising tax revenue and creating new jobs. This might calm the Gen-Z storm.

Second is cutting government expenditure, which could trigger job losses and provoke more protests. This is accentuated by the feeling that current economic reforms including new or enhanced taxes are imposed by "outsiders". Farther protests could trigger a government clampdown on freedoms and rights and could stifle the economy, given the direct link between freedoms and economic growth.

The funding gap

The failure to raise the extra 300 billion shillings could affect or even cripple some priority projects. Treasury's room for manoeuvre could be further narrowed by calls to remove other unpopular taxes, including the affordable housing levy. The levy is calculated at 1.5% of the gross salary of an employee matched by a similar contribution by the employer. It also applies to business incomes. Added to this are calls to increase funding of universities and to stop further increases in the fuel price through increased road maintenance levy.

The government is under pressure to hire 46,000 junior secondary school teachers. The hiring of medical interns is till on course despite the funding crisis. In the farming sector, the government has committed to offset huge coffee and sugar sector debts owed by farmers and continue with fertiliser subsidies.

It has also promised to settle money owed to county government and increase funding to universities. All these are priority projects with political ramification as the clock ticks towards the 2027 election.

Government spending will be cut by 177 billion shillings and borrowing will rise by 164 billion shillings according to the supplementary budget. There are also plans to merge or dissolve 47 state corporations, reduce the number of advisers by 50% and cuts in non-essential travel by public officers. Budget lines for the president's spouse and that of deputy have been



Riot police secure a supermarket in downtown Nairobi that was looted and vandalised during the anti-tax protests.

removed.

In the meantime, Kenya is currently relying on the 2023 finance bill to collect taxes. The projected tax revenue stands at Ksh3.343.2 trillion, equivalent to 18.5% of GDP. There is a deficit of 3.3% of GDP, which is expected to rise with the shelving of the 2024 Finance Bill.

It's unclear if some government employees will lose jobs. When Kenya last faced an economic crunch, the International Monetary Fund imposed preconditions that included a mass layoff of civil servants and state corporation workers.

It's unlikely at any rate that scaling down of the government will be enough to reduce the budget deficit.

What happens next

I expect the government to continue borrowing to meet its spending - albeit at reduced levels. More government borrowing could raise interest rates and make credit access harder for the private sector and, by extension, slow down the economy.

But it's not all gloom and doom. Kenya is in line to get concessional loans from the World Bank and other multilateral bodies. The willingness of bilateral donors to fund Kenya during times of crisis was attested to during the Covid-19 pandemic.

It is also within the government's ability to start thinking beyond tax to economic reforms that will catalyse growth. How to make the country more attractive to investors and entrepreneurs should preoccupy the new treasury secretary. Deregulating the economy even further could unleash competition, innovation and growth.

This is key, given that value added tax is one of the core sources of public revenues in Kenya. It accounted for 24% of tax revenues generated in 2021 compared to 22% from personal incomes and 11% from corporate entities. If things return to normal and the government builds confidence in the economy, consumption

will go up and raise more taxes. The extra taxes will depend on economic growth and consumer sentiments about the future.

Addressing the Gen-Z and other generations' economic grievances and building more confidence in the economy will attract investors, expand existing businesses and create the jobs that are at the heart of Gen-Z demonstrations. Thinking long term, it seems Kenya must go through a renaissance, a rebirth in governance, leadership and even economics. I hope the question of where the government gets its revenue and its use will now overshadow politics.





RAIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One






BUSINESS

New Zan's collective investment scheme collects 10.38bn/-

By Guardian Reporter

TIMIZA Fund, the new collective investment scheme managed by Zan Securities Limited, has raised a total of 10.38bn/- on its debut sale, which is equivalent to 103.8 percent of the targeted 10bn/-, pushing more Tanzanians entrance into the capital markets.

Abdisalaam Issa Khatib, board chairman, Zan Securities Limited, said yesterday during the announcement of the initial units' sale results that the open ended unit trust scheme is part of implementation of the broking and investment advisory firm's five year strategic plan.

The former deputy finance minister said the objective of the new scheme,

which is under Mwangi Hakika Bank as the custodian bank, is to enhance financial and investment services, promoting financial inclusion and economic empowerment among Tanzanians.

He said the scheme's offer document and fund management contract were approved by the Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA) on April 15th, while the sale of units started from May 27th to June 26th this year.

According to Raphael Masumbuko, chief executive officer of the fund's manager, the scheme which set 10,000/- as initial investment has attracted 280 investors, of which at least 60 percent are retail investors.

Alfred Mkombo, the director of Research and markets development,



CMSA, said Timiza fund complied with laws and regulations governing capital markets as it is part of promoting financial inclusion as stipulated in the 3rd National Financial Inclusion Framework of 2023-2028.

"Activities on the capital markets are conducted in accordance with the laws, regulations and guidelines to ensure openness and rights to all players," he said.

"The capital markets enable the mobilization of finance and long term financial resources for

financing development projects. These funds can be obtained through the sale of shares, corporate bonds, institutional bonds, government bonds and units through collective investment schemes."

He said the Timiza fund's achievement is a testimony of investor confidence to the fund's manager and the capital markets at large.

"CMSA would like to assure the public that the capital markets are safe and sustainable and this is the result of increased public education by the

authority and other stakeholders as well as an enabling environment for investments," he said.

He said CMSA has lowered the amount of minimum investments to 10,000/- from 1m/-, which has attracted many people to invest in capital markets.

The CMSA director said the low risky mobilized funds will be invested in equities and securities markets and the investment certificates can be used as collateral for borrowing.

"The investment in the collective investment scheme is secure with low risk," he said.

David Mtenda, the investment officer, National Social Security Fund (NSSF), one of the institutional investors of the fund said good return of 13 percent per annum and the fund manager's good corporate governance are the main reasons that attracted the social security fund to invest.

Jagjit Singh, Managing Director, Mwangi Hakika Bank said; "the fund has passed its initial journey by surpassing its collections and this has shown high confidence of investment communities".

He said the fund provides liquidity for investors who desire to exit the fund, in forms of repurchase by the fund.

"This demonstrates that the money is not locked as you can get your money when you want it," he said.

TPA seeks Indian investors for port upgrades

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

IN a bid to construct new modern ports and upgrade existing infrastructures with automated yards and state-of-the-art equipment to facilitate trade, the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) is seeking investors to engage in Public-Private Partnership (PPP) initiatives.

This was announced over the weekend by Robert Soko, TPA's marketing manager, during a meeting with a delegation of Tanzanian and Indian business representatives from both the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) and the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry, and Agriculture (TCCIA).

The networking event was organized by the Indian High Commission in Tanzania.

Soko highlighted specific areas where TPA seeks investment from Indian investors, including Lake Victoria, Lake Tanganyika, Lake Nyasa, Mtwara Port, and Tanga Port, focusing on new port construction, port improvements, and passenger ship services.

"We need Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) from investors to build new modern ports at Kemono, Bukoba, Mwanza South, and Mwanza North for cargo handling, as well as to facilitate export and import trade and other activities," he stated.

In Lake Tanganyika, there is a need for investors to fund transport services that will purchase modern passenger ships to carry travelers to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Burundi, Zambia,



TPA Marketing Manager Robert Soko. Photo: Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

and facilitate connections between these countries for both commercial and social purposes.

Additionally, investors are sought in Lake Victoria to acquire modern ships for passenger transport and to build contemporary port terminals and warehousing facilities for storing goods, ensuring efficient cargo delivery and other logistical activities.

Expanding on Mtwara and Tanga Ports, he urged Indian business-

people to utilize both ports for trade facilitation and to invest in constructing new modern ports at Kisiwa Village and Mugawo Village in the Mtwara Region.

"We welcome you all to use our ports for export and import trade. We are ready to handle any business you have. Tanzania is a beautiful country, enjoying peace and political stability, and has maintained a good relationship with India since independence," he said.

The TPA facilitates trade and investments, easing the movement of goods, services, and people in Uganda, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Burundi, the DRC, Comoros, Southern Sudan, Rwanda, and other countries through Lake Victoria, Lake Tanganyika, and the Mtwara and Tanga ports.

Kunal Singhal, managing director of PHDCCI and

leader of the Indian delegation, added that they were in Tanzania to explore and expand the horizons of trade and investment between India and Tanzania.

"We are in Tanzania representing information and technology companies that provide end-to-end solutions for small and medium enterprises, including those dealing with educational institutions, pharmaceutical manufacturing, logistics, financial services, packaged food, pre-engineered buildings, and manufacturing, to see how we can invest in Tanzania or secure partners who can work together to facilitate trade between India and Tanzania," he said.

PHDCCI, acting as the "Voice of Industry and Trade" reaching out to more than 1, 50,000 large, medium and small industries, has forged ahead lev-

eraging its legacy with the industry knowledge across multiple sectors to take Indian Economy to the next level.

Manoj Verma, Charge d'Affaires a.i. at the Indian High Commission, added that the event was meant to strengthen economic and commercial ties between Tanzania and India. The PHDCCI delegation, consisting of various sectors, was in Tanzania to explore and expand the horizons of trade and investment between the two countries.

"As you know, India and Tanzania share a long history of friendship, cultural exchange, and economic cooperation. Our bilateral relations have been consistently strong, and meetings like this provide an opportunity to build upon our existing foundation to create new avenues for partnership and growth," he said.

African tax forum unveils continental tobacco tax landscape

By Correspondent Rachel Mkundia

THE African Tax Administration Forum (ATAF) has unveiled the 2023 edition of the African Tax Outlook (ATO), providing an in-depth and influential analysis of the tobacco tax landscape across the continent.

This seminal comprehensive report underscores the pivotal role of tobacco taxes in broadening the tax base and fostering sustainable domestic revenue mobilisation.

ATAF Executive Secretary Logan Wort (pictured) emphasized the importance of leveraging the insights from the ATO to drive re-

forms in tax administration and policy.

"By doing so, we can broaden the tax base, narrow tax gaps, simplify and improve fairness in tax systems, and enhance overall voluntary compliance," Wort stated.

Insights from the 2023 ATO indicate a notable recovery in GDP and tax revenue performance in 2022. The average nominal GDP growth improved to 13.13 percent in 2022 from 11.15 percent in 2021, surpassing the long-term average.

Revenue collections saw significant growth, rising to 20.95 percent in 2022 from 16.34 percent in 2021.

The average tax-to-GDP ratio also increased to 15.43 percent in 2022, with 69 percent of participating countries recording an increase compared to 2021.

Regionally, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) boasted the highest average tax-to-GDP ratio at 17.49%, followed by the East African Community (EAC) at 14.20 percent.

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) recorded ratios of 13.83 percent and 12.18 percent, respectively.

The 2023 ATO edition serves as a



comprehensive resource, offering evidence-based recommendations for tax administrations and policy-makers.

ATAF invites tax administrators, policymakers, and other relevant stakeholders to delve into the publication and utilize its insights for informed decision-making and improved revenue collection. Despite Africa having the lowest smoking prevalence compared to other World Health Organization regions, the report highlights a projected increase in the number of tobacco smokers, from 52 million in 2000 to 84 million in 2025.

The younger population significantly contributes to this rise, underscoring the need for effective tobacco taxation mechanisms.

This landmark analysis provides a foundation for future discussions and strategies, aiming to enhance fiscal stability and public health across the continent.

Final investment decision for Nyanzaga project set for 2025

By Guardian Reporter

THE Australia Securities Exchange (ASX)- and Toronto Securities Exchange (TSX)-listed Perseus has said that it expects to make a Final Investment Decision (FID) on Nyanzaga by the end of the 2024 calendar year, which would pave the way for project development to start early in 2025.

A Final Investment Decision (FID) and development aim of first gold production during the first quarter of 2027.

During the June quarter, the company also concluded an all-cash, off-market acquisition of ASX-listed OreCorp, giving Perseus control of the large-scale Nyanzaga project in Tanzania.

According to the DFS on Nyanzaga, completed last year, the proposed mine will be a substantial operation able to produce an average of 250 koz per annum over its first eight years of production - the life of mine is 10.7 years - with a peak gold production of 295 koz in Year 6.

The DFS estimates the capex at US\$474 million.

Nyanzaga is located in the Lake Victoria goldfield of north-western Tanzania, approximately 60 km southwest of the city of Mwanza on Lake



Victoria.

Nyanzaga will be the first significant gold mine to be constructed since the Buzwagi Gold Mine was erected 17 years ago and is now closed.

Meanwhile, Perseus Mining has reported gold production of 509 977 oz for the financial year ended June 30, which compared favourably with guidance of 491 000 oz to 517 000 oz.

Perseus's three operating gold mines, Yaouré and Sissingué in Côte d'Ivoire, and Edikan in Ghana, produced 120 929 oz of gold for the quarter ended June 30.

The weighted average produc-

tion cost for the quarter was \$947/oz, while the weighted average all-in sustaining cost (AISC) was \$1 173/oz of gold.

Gold sales for the quarter were 141 930 oz, at a weighted average price realised of \$2 117/oz.

Perseus's average cash margin for the quarter was \$944/oz, resulting in notional operating cash flow from all operations of \$117-million.

"These strong operating results... confirm, once again, Perseus's position as one of the world's better performing midtier gold producers in 2024," the Africa-focused gold miner states.

SPECIAL REPORT

Frauds linked to crops auctioned by cooperative unions - 2

By Francis Kajubi

WHILE farmers in the strategic cash crops value chain bask in good and favourable selling prices of their produce through Co-operative unions, it has been revealed that fraud and black market dominates the sale of the crops traded on the local market.

The 2022/23 Co-operatives audit report by the Cooperative Audit and Supervision Corporation (COASCO) states that in the Cocoa, Coffee and Tobacco cash crops in Mbeya, Kilimanjaro and Kagera regions there are unregistered bulk buyers who continues to purchase the crops from farmers without abiding to auction rules and procedures, which has led farmers into being paid low prices by the alleged bulk buyers.

The situation is caused by farmers' impatience in waiting for Cocoa markets organized through official auctions.

The report notes that despite the available guidelines, there are still existing black markets outside legal auctions as these trading processes are not transparent, which affect rightful payments to farmers due to low selling prices offered on the blamed auctions.

The situation has also led to farmers' Cocoa sales not to be featured in Co-operatives financial statements in accordance with the malpractices taking part in the alleged auctions.

However, during the auditing process, the auditor cannot find solid proof of payments if they have been made to legit members.

As for the coffee farmers, the report states that in the Mbeya and Songwe regions for the 2022/23 harvest season, a total of 11,931,670 kilos worth US\$33,403,102 (76.8bn/-) were auctioned.

The report points out that in the coffee business value chain there exist unregistered direct bulk buyers who purchase coffee from farmers at low prices.

"This situation is caused by the government particularly at the district council level allowing private buyers to directly purchase coffee from farmers. This situation may also lead AMCOS to selling on loss thus endangering the existence of the societies," reads the report.

In the Kilimanjaro region, advance payments are approved but there are no rules that guide AMCOS on the planning of the advanced payments and there is no indicative price.

Union leaders use information from previous auction markets and sometimes consult the Registrar of Cooperatives in approving selling price estimates for new seasons.

Thus, Co-operative unions might find themselves paying more or less to farmers compared to the prevailing market selling prices.

COASCO notes that tobacco has become one of the strategic cash crops cultivated in a few areas of the country.

Some of the regions where tobacco is grown the most are Tabora, Katavi, Shinyanga and Mbeya. The crop is cultivated by small-scale farmers with plots between one and five acres, with others owning more than that.

In the southern highlands, tobacco is grown in Chunya and Songwe districts.



In tobacco auction markets, the existing flaws include the lack of competition for the purchase of the crop. The tobacco market in the Mbeya region has only one licensed bulk buyer serving as a Premium buyer, thus denying farmers the right to decide when they should be paid after auctions.

"This situation is unfavourable to farmers if the buyer fails to timely pay the farmers because they lack an alternative customer to sell to," reads the report.

The report explains that the lack of competition resulting from the presence of a single buyer results in some farmers from the AMCOS to shy away from the societies that lent them inputs by opting to sell their harvests individually or through other AMCOS so that they can avoid paying the farm inputs debts.

Leaders and executives of AMCOS are not well educated on Co-operatives whereabouts thus it poses difficulties for them to manage the societies as required by law.

The situation normally results in some AMCOS spending a lot of money exceeding the estimated expenditure budget in fixing occurring challenges.

In the cashew nut value chain in Lindi and Mtwara regions there is a challenge of recording transactions in the sales books that take place when money has already been received but not involving the whole transaction processes taking place.

The situation leads to a lack of evidence

and accuracy of payments received or paid to farmers especially during the sales recording process.

The same shortfall further leads farmers into receiving lower payments compared to the amount stipulated in the auction prices so long as the amount of cashews received by the AMCOS differs from that offered on the auctioning.

"This situation can also affect the provision of accurate information on AMCOS's financial performance. The Cooperative Act No. 6 of 2013 section 55(2) emphasizes that every registered AMCOS should close their accounts and maintain accurate records within three months after closure of the financial year," reads the COASCO report.

As for the cotton value chain, it has been noted that there are challenges facing the crop collections and sales system across the AMCOS and bulk buyers.

There are monitoring weaknesses happening during the receiving of cotton at AMCOS, measuring and trading of the crop to local industrial buyers.

It has been noted that there are cotton digital weighing machines that do not meet the required standards by the Tanzania's Bureau of Standards (TBS) thus causing inconveniences with regular maintenance that attracts unnecessary costs for AMCOS to pay for the maintenance of the machines.

Agriculture Minister Hussein Bashe said that the mentioned challenges have been

worked on closely since 2022 and there has been success for farmers within the Cooperative unions to be paid favourable prices that are twice of outgrower farmers.

Biadia Matipa, General Manager Masasi-Mtwara Co-operative Union (MAMCU) Limited said the union is made up of 196 AMCOS in Masasi District Council, Mtwara District Council and Nanyumbu District Council with a total of 3,514 farmers.

She said that the union deals with cashew, sesame and legume cash crops.

According to her, in the 2023/24 harvest season that ended in January this year, farmers within the union sold one kilogram of cashew nut for 2,135/- and those outside sold at 1,350/- per kilogram.

"For sesame, those in the union sold at b3,967/- per kilogram while those outside sold at 3,560/-. For legumes a kilogramme was sold at 2,130/- while those outside sold at 1,950/-

The prices are based on the quality of the produce, which is contributed by the best farming practices, from harvesting to the processing of the produce," said Biadia.

Baraka Kiboye, General Manager Pamba Mara Co-operative Union (PMCU) Limited said that the union is made up of 237 AMCOS of which 46 own shares for 90 percent in the assets of the Co-operative. A share is sold to AMCOS for 100,000/-.

"Cotton farmers who are members of the 46 AMCOS with shares get the benefit of being paid twice. There are lump sum

payments and second installment payments. Those who are outside the AMCOS are only paid once on a lump sum," he said.

Kiboye said that in the 2023/24 harvest season, farmers sold a kilogram of cotton at an initial price of 1,060/- which rose to 1,300/- at the end of the season.

In the second payment round farmers with shares in the AMCOS were paid 150/- per every kilogram traded.

Charles Gishuli, Chairperson of the Tanzania Federation of Co-operatives (TFC) said that Co-operative unions are good tax payers.

"The Co-operative unions have paid more than 19bn/- to the Tanzania Revenue Authority in taxes and fees for various services for the past five years," said Gishuli.

Dr Benson Ndiege, Registrar and Chief Executive Tanzania Co-operative Development Commission (TCDC) said that farmers of strategic cash crops within the Co-operatives have been benefiting from favourable prices supported by the quality of their agricultural produce resulting from good management.

"As for Cocoa, farmers in the Co-operatives have gone far from selling a kilogramme for 12,500/- four years ago to 30,000/- last season.

The increase in the selling price is due to strategies for finding profitable markets carried out by TCDC in collaboration with Co-operative unions," he said.

Dr. Medard Kalemani, Chairperson of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry, Trade, Agriculture and Livestock said that the committee has influenced the increase in fertilizer subsidies from 180bn/- in 2023/24 to 300bn/- in the financial year 2024/25 with the aim of empowering farmers who are engaged in the cultivation of cash crops of which 65 percent are in Co-operative unions to easily access farm inputs.

"The budget for managing Co-operative unions in the financial year 2023/24 was 9bn/- whereas in 2024/25 an overwhelming 22.12bn/- has been approved by parliamentarians so that Co-operatives can strengthen their productivity and operations," said Dr. Kalemani.

To be continued.

Reviving progress: Electrifying connectivity redefined by SGR

By Correspondent James Kandoya

AFTER six decades of relying on the antiquated Meter Gauge Rail (MGR), Tanzania embarks on an exciting new chapter with the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR). This transformative project promises not only to rejuvenate the central line system but also to extend its reach far beyond.

Full operations of the electrified line are set to commence this Thursday, connecting Dar es Salaam with Dodoma, the nation's capital. This milestone follows successful trials and initial operations, as confirmed by Masanja Kadogosa, Director General of the Tanzania Railway Corporation (TRC).

Spanning over 2,000 kilometers, the SGR is being developed in six phases, a modern upgrade from the original MGR built by Germany in 1902. "It's a point of pride for all Tanzanians to have access to a state-of-the-art electric train, elevating our infrastructure on both the African continent and the global stage," Kadogosa emphasized.

By linking Tanzania's bustling business hub of Dar es Salaam with its administrative capital, Dodoma, the SGR is poised to catalyze a surge in trade and economic activity between these two key cities, fostering growth and connectivity like never before.

The introduction of electric trains is set to revolutionize travel between Dar es Salaam and Dodoma, slashing the journey time from the current eight hours by bus and twelve hours by the old meter gauge railway down to just three hours, according to TRC Director General Masanja Kadogosa.

Beyond mere convenience, this electrified railway line is poised to unlock a wealth of economic opportunities, bolster trade, enhance tourism, and stimulate industrial growth throughout the region. Kadogosa remarked, "This project is expected to be a game-changer, positioning Tanzania at the heart of the Central Corridor transport system that connects neighboring landlocked countries."

Time is a crucial element in development, and for haulers, traders, and various sectors opting for high-speed rail, the benefits are manifold. Enhanced efficiency will lead to improved customer satisfaction, as organizations demonstrate their capability to deliver services swiftly and effectively. This shift not only reduces logistics costs but also facilitates the seamless movement of people and goods, ultimately boosting competitiveness in the market.

Moreover, the project has generated significant employment opportunities, directly providing jobs for 20,000 Tanzanian youth while creating an additional 80,000 indirect jobs in sectors like agriculture and service delivery. This initiative has also injected billions of shillings into the economy through salaries for those directly employed, further underscoring the transformative impact of the SGR on Tanzanian society.

The SGR project offers a wealth of benefits beyond transportation,



Economists see SGR further spurring infrastructure investments. File Photo

notably facilitating the transfer of knowledge and technology to local engineers and technicians. This initiative empowers Tanzanians to effectively manage and operate the railway infrastructure, fostering a new generation of skilled professionals.

As a result, local contractors and engineers have gained invaluable experience in overseeing large-scale international projects, positioning them to take on future ventures like the SGR and beyond. "Empowering our local workforce and enhancing knowledge transfer will significantly reduce government expenditure on foreign experts," Kadogosa noted.

Communities along the corridor have also reaped the rewards of this initiative, receiving 17.8 billion shillings through corporate social responsibility initiatives. These funds have been

invested in vital projects, including the construction of schools and the financing of water, health, and environmental conservation efforts.

Under the leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan, the government envisions a transformative shift that not only revitalizes the economy but also enhances the travel experience for local citizens. The SGR project stands to create a fair and competitive economic landscape, leveraging Tanzania's geographical advantages to improve production scales and supply chains.

To date, the government has invested over 10 trillion shillings into this critical project, reflecting a strong commitment to enhancing transportation infrastructure and fostering sustainable economic growth.

With a remarkable speed of 160 kilometers per hour and the capacity to transport 17 million

tons annually, the SGR provides an economic advantage that can be harnessed to revitalize supply and distribution networks, enhance inter-regional passenger traffic, and generate jobs lost over the past decade.

Transport Minister Prof. Makame Mbwara emphasizes that the SGR could significantly enhance interactions among production, costs, and consumption, with its impact reverberating across various sectors of the economy, including construction and mining.

Reliable transportation is critical for efficiently collecting raw materials and distributing finished goods, eliminating barriers that currently hinder growth. This infrastructure empowers Tanzanian entrepreneurs to move commodities seamlessly across East Africa, unlocking new markets and opportunities.

Additionally, the SGR promotes geographical specialization, enabling different regions of Tanzania to optimize their resources and capabilities. This strategic alignment not only fosters economic growth but also ensures that each area can thrive within its unique strengths, paving the way for a more interconnected and prosperous future.

Through sectors like agriculture, fisheries, mining, and forestry, Tanzania has the potential to unlock economies of large-scale production.

The cost of production can be significantly reduced by establishing reliable transportation networks, which facilitate the efficient procurement of raw materials and labor while ensuring the swift distribution of finished goods.

Economists suggest that the SGR will catalyze further infrastructure investments, thereby transforming the livelihoods of communities along the Central Line corridor. "To fully harness these benefits, Tanzania must enhance its infrastructure investments in roads and inland waterways, in addition to improving port efficiency," remarked an economist who preferred to remain anonymous.

Moreover, this project stands to benefit the entire East African region by stimulating increased trade and investment within the strategically vital Central Corridor, fostering economic growth that transcends national boundaries.

Tanzanian, Indian businesses unite to raise investments

By Beatrice Philemon

TANZANIAN and Indian businesses gathered in Dar es Salaam over the weekend to explore investment opportunities in various sectors, including agriculture, finance, ICT, logistics, agro-processing, pharmaceuticals, and education.

Speaking at the event, Manoj Verma, Charge d'Affaires at the High Commission of India, emphasized India's commitment to being a reliable partner for Tanzania, especially as the country pursues economic diplomacy. "India is dedicated to supporting your journey of economic development, and our businesses are eager to bring expertise, innovation, and investment that can contribute to Tanzania's growth and prosperity," he stated.

Verma made these remarks last Friday while addressing a delegation of Indian business representatives from the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) alongside members of the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) at a Business Networking event organized by the High Commission of India to Tanzania.

Tanzania holds a special place for India, and our business and investment community is keenly aware of the rich potential for mutually beneficial trade and investment that exists. This awareness has led to an increase in business investment inquiries from India and visits from Indian business delegations to Tanzania in recent times.

India has consistently been one of Tanzania's largest trading partners, and we see tremendous potential for further growth. According to data from the Government of India, India-Tanzania bilateral trade reached \$7.9 billion in FY 2023-24, marking a 22 percent growth over the previous year.

"To our Tanzanian friends, the latest trade statistics reveal not only an increase in the volume of bilateral trade but also an improvement in the trade balance. Tanzanian exports to India have surged by 29.5 percent, reaching \$3.29 billion, making India the largest export destination for Tanzania. While India may not yet be the largest trading partner for Tanzania, it is certainly the



Manoj Verma, Chargé d'Affaires of the Indian High Commission in Tanzania, speaks at an event aimed at exploring investment opportunities in Tanzania. Photo: Beatrice Philemon

best trading partner," he stated. A total of 70 Tanzanian businesspersons and 10 Indian business delegations convened to explore and expand the horizons of trade and investment between India and Tanzania. Philipo Mrutu, Chief Executive Officer of Mrutu Agro-Solutions Company Limited, was among the Tanzania delegation who attended the event.

He expressed that his company, in collaboration with the Smart Agripreneurship Innovation Centre, aims to partner with investors from India to empower a total of 30,000 smallholder farmers, as well as women and youth, to become success-

ful entrepreneurs. Mrutu identified four key areas in which they would like to partner with Indian investors to support farmers: agribusiness, training, innovation and technology, and climate-smart agriculture.

Through entrepreneurship, coaching, mentorship, and capacity building, they will enable these individuals to establish their own enterprises and produce high-quality products for export to the Indian market and other countries around the world.

"We need to partner with Indian investors who can train our smallholder farm-

ers in Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), marketing skills, packaging, processing, and business skills so that they can establish their own enterprises to produce high-quality products for export to the Indian market and other countries around the world," he stated.

Elaborating on technology and innovation, he expressed a desire to partner with Indian investors to help Tanzanian farmers transition from traditional farming methods to new innovative solutions or technologies that can enhance efficiency, quality, and productivity.

"In partnership with Indian investors,

we can establish demonstration farms and assist farmers in learning how new technologies can improve their production and efficiency," he added.

Indian investors willing to partner with his company will find that it currently engages 30,000 smallholder farmers involved in cocoa, soybean, cashew nut, maize, avocado, vegetable, mango, poultry, and livestock farming across the country. Among these farmers, 80 percent still rely on traditional methods, particularly using hand hoes.

Bank foresees 10 billion/- pre-tax profit during 2024

By Francis Kajubi

After hitting a profit before tax of 6bn/- in the half of this year that ended in June, the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange listed Mkombozi Commercial Bank is projecting to hit 10bn/- at the end of this year

The bank's managing director Resipie Kimati, made the remarks at the 15th Annual General Meeting of shareholders regarding the bank's performance for the year 2023 held on Saturday in Dar es Salaam.

Loans issued by the bank have amounted to 140bn/-. The success has made the bank graduate from an Enterprise Growth Market (EGM) at the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) market to Main Investment Market Segment (MMIS).

The bank registered a net profit of 8.6bn/- in 2023 from 5.5bn/- in 2022. Loans issued have increased by 15 percent.

Customer deposits have increased by 20 percent which enabled the lending business to be highly efficient. Bank deposits amounted to 207bn/- in 2023 from 185bn/- in 2022.

"The operating costs ratio to income generated by the bank has increased to 62 percent. There has been a drop in non-performing loans to eight percent from 20 percent six years ago," he said.

However, he said the bank should record NPLs of less than five percent as required by the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) to win a privilege of issuing dividends to shareholders.

Last year the bank opened two new branches in the Arusha and Mwanza regions. Currently, the bank has a total of 13 branches across the country.

Digital and mobile money services have improved as for now there are 1,200 agencies nationwide. This success has led to a 25 percent increase in customers.

Archbishop Beatus Kinyaiya, Member of the Board of Directors at Mkombozi Bank said that the AGM was attended by approximately 600 shareholders, increasing from 400 shareholders last year.

"If the bank's performance continues this way, then we hope to extend dividends to the shareholders at the next AGM. The plan at hand is to open new branches in Mbeya and Geita regions and deploy more banking agents," said Kinyaiya.

Fortius Rutabingwa, Head of Research and Marketing Department, Orbit Securities Company Limited which has been the bank's consultant when it was placed under the enterprise growth market at DSE for a period of one year.

"The bank is considered as a corporate entity listed at the DSE because it has managed to generate profits for three consecutive years in a row. Orbit Securities will continue sensitizing shareholders about the growth of their bank," said Rutabingwa.

UZALO

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY

FROM 10:30 PM

ITV PGM SCHEDULE	
WEDNESDAY 31 July	
5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap: Laws of love 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Jungu kuu rpt 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Mjuzi zaidi 11:40 Maji Kilimanjaro 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:50 Our Earth 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Dakika 45 rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt 14:40 Mapishi 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 Music: The Base 18:00 Hapa na Pale 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Jarida la wanawake 19:00 Kipindi maalum: BOT 19:30 Soap: Laws of love 20:00 Habari 21:05 Abu Yako 21:55 Kipindi maalum: TanESCO 21:20 Kipindi maalum: Michezo Supa Jackpot 21:50 Ripoti maalum 22:30 Soap: Uzalo 23:00 Jiji letu 23:30 Music: The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap: Laws of love 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Shamba lulu 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Ripoti maalum 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Kipindi maalum: rpt: BOT 13:30 Art and Lifestyle 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Shamsam za pwani rpt 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Hapa na Pale 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Usafiri wako 19:00 Kipindi maalum: TMDA 19:30 Soap: Laws of love 20:00 Habari 21:05 Malumbano ya hoja 23:00 Jiji letu 23:30 Music: The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap rpt: Laws of love 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Usafiri wako 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi housing 11:20 Kipindi maalum: TMDA 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Kipindi maalum rpt: TanESCO 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Maisha ni nyumba 13:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na mahakama 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na mahakama 14:30 DW: Kilimanjaro rpt 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base (DJ Show) 17:30 Kisiam 18:00 Hapa na Pale 18:15 Maji Kilimanjaro 19:00 Shamba lulu 19:30 Soap: Laws of love 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipima Joto 23:00 Jiji letu 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
FRIDAY 2 Aug	
SUNDAY 4 Aug	
TUES 30 July	
THURSDAY 1 Aug	
SATURDAY 3 Aug	
WED 31 July	
THURS 01 Aug	
Frid 02 Aug	
Sat 03 Aug	
Sun 04 Aug	
WED 31 July	
THURS 01 Aug	
Frid 02 Aug	
Sat 03 Aug	
Sun 04 Aug	

If the bank's performance continues this way, then we hope to extend dividends to the shareholders at the next AGM. The plan at hand is to open new branches in Mbeya and Geita regions and deploy more banking agents

WORLD

Former president Zuma expelled from South Africa's ruling ANC

JOHANNESBURG

THE African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa on Monday confirmed that the country's former president, Jacob Zuma, has been expelled from the party after contravening the constitution.

Fikile Mbalula, the party's secretary-general, announced that the National Disciplinary Committee of the ANC found Zuma guilty of contravening the constitution by prejudicing the integrity of the ANC through "acting in collaboration with a registered political party."

"The charged member is expelled from the ANC," said Mbalula at the party's headquarters in Johannesburg, the largest city in South Africa.

Mbalula added that Zuma could appeal his expulsion within 21 days.

The issue began in December when Zuma announced that he would support the newly established uMkhonto weSizwe (MK) Party in the May 2024 general elections. The ANC suspended Zuma's membership in January and took him to its disciplinary committee. The formation of the MK Party, which garnered more than 14 percent of the vote in the elections, led to the ANC's



Former president Jacob Zuma, looks on at the Results Operation Centre (ROC) in Midrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, Saturday, June 1, 2024 following national elections. AP

loss of its majority for the first time since 1994.

Mbalula also said Zuma's negative remarks about the judiciary and other state organs had damaged the ANC's credibility.

"Former president Zuma has been running on a dangerous platform that casts doubt on our entire constitutional edifice. He has meted out a host of anti-revolutionary outbursts, including mischievously calling into question the credibility of our electoral processes without cause and discrediting the rationale of our judicial system," Mbalula said.

Zuma became the ANC's president

in 2007 following the party's elective congress and later served as South Africa's president from 2009 to 2018 when he was recalled before completing his term. In July 2021, Zuma was jailed for contempt of court after failing to comply with a court order to appear before the state capture inquiry, which investigated widespread corruption and malfeasance that occurred during his administration.

The MK Party has complained about how Zuma's disciplinary process was conducted, comparing it to a "kangaroo court." It added that Zuma will consult his lawyers about the next course of action he will take.

King Mohammed VI celebrates a quarter century of achievements and challenges

RABAT

KING Mohammed VI yesterday celebrated the 25th anniversary of his accession to the throne, highlighting efforts to consolidate Moroccan identity, ensure social cohesion and strengthen Morocco's position on the international stage.



In his speech to the nation the King (pictured) highlighted some of his milestone achievements since he took over the reign such as economic and development projects as well as social programs to achieve social cohesion and enable citizens to get access to basic services.

He also focused on his gains in terms of territorial integrity and enhances Morocco's standing as an influential player and a responsible, reliable partner at the regional and international levels.

He expressed his gratitude to God for the political, institutional, economic, and social achievements of his reign.

The King also underscored the ongoing challenges, particularly the issue of water exacerbated by drought and climate change.

He emphasized the importance of good governance, the prompt implementation of water transfer projects, the construction of dams, and the acceleration of desalination plants. "Six consecutive years of drought have had a profound impact on water reserves and groundwater, making the water situation more and more fragile and complex. To address this situation, which many regions are suffering from, especially in rural settings, I have instructed the authorities concerned to take urgent, innovative steps in order to avoid water shortages."

The speech also addressed Morocco's support for the Palestinian cause, the King's commitment as President of the Al-Quds Committee to provide urgent aid to Gaza, and the promotion of a sustainable solution based on the two-state solution.

He further praised the efforts of all the nation's vital forces and paid tribute to the Royal Armed Forces and security services for their dedication to defending national unity and preserving the country's security.

Agencies

PM Modi asks Industry to compete with the govt in creating jobs and investments

NEW DELHI

ADDRESSING the leaders of Indian Industry PM Narendra Modi highlighted the achievements of his government over the last ten years. PM Modi (pictured) said India is currently the world's fastest-growing major economy and in the last ten years the country's budget has increased three times to Rs 48 lakh crore from Rs 16 lakh crore.



PM Modi said, "When in 2013-14 the last budget of Dr Manmohan Singh's government was presented, it was Rs 16 lakh crore. Today, in our government, it has increased by three times and reached Rs 48 lakh crore."

Addressing the Industry at the inaugural session of 'Journey Towards Viksit Bharat: A Post Union Budget 2024-25 Conference' organised by CII at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi, PM Modi said that capital investment, known as the most productive medium of resource investment, has seen significant growth in his term compared with last government.

PM Modi said that in 2004 when the UPA government assumed power, their first budget's capital expenditure was Rs 90,000 crore. In their 10-year rule, the UPA government was able to increase capital expenditure to Rs 2 lakh crore. Now, in 2024, it is more than Rs 11 lakh crore.

"In ten years, from 2004 to 2014, the capex somehow doubled, but in our tenure, the capex has increased by more than five times," PM Modi said.

PM Modi also highlighted that, India's focus on key sectors of the economy. He shared that, compared to the previous government, the current government has increased the railway budget by 8 times, the budget for highways has also increased by 8 times, the agriculture budget has increased by more than 4 times, and the defence budget too is increased by more than 2 times.

For the MSME sector, PM Modi stated that in 2014, MSMEs who were earning Rs 1 crore, had to pay presumptive tax. Now, MSMEs earning up to Rs 3 crore can avail this benefit. In 2014, MSMEs earning up to Rs 50 crore had to pay 30 per cent tax. Now, it is 22 percent.

On corporate taxes, he shared that in 2014, companies used to pay 30 per cent corporate tax. Now, companies with income up to Rs 400 crore are paying 25 per cent corporate tax.

ANI

Nearly a quarter of adolescent girls suffer partner violence

GENEVA

AROUND a quarter of adolescent girls who have been in relationships have endured physical or sexual violence, a World Health Organization study said on Tuesday, calling for more prevention actions.

The WHO analysis published in the Lancet medical journal was based on surveys from thousands of adolescent girls aged between 15 and 19 from 154 countries and areas. It showed that 24 percent of them had been subjected to intimate partner violence at least once, with 16 percent reporting it in the past year.

Lead author Dr Lynnmarie Sardinha said the analysis was motivated in part by a concern that younger women were "falling through the cracks" and not receiving support.

"I was extremely surprised to see what a huge percentage of adolescent girls basically are already being subjected to violence, even before their 20th birthday,"



Women chant the word "justice" during a demonstration protesting the kidnapping and killing of an 8-year-old girl, in the main square of Taxco, Mexico, March 28, 2024. AP

she told Reuters. "We are behind where we should be."

The data was based on surveys conducted between 2000 and 2018.

Sardinha said data gathered since was still being verified and appeared to show there had been only a "very slight decline".

Acts of violence counted in the survey included kicking or hitting as well as any unwanted sexual act, such as rape or attempted rape.

The data, broken down by country and region, showed a high correlation between violence and women's rights, with states where girls and women had limited access to education and unequal inheritance laws showing higher violence levels.

Rates were highest in Oceania followed by Africa, with 49 percent of girls reporting intimate partner violence in Papua New Guinea and 42 percent in Democratic Republic of Congo, the analysis showed. The lowest rate was Europe where 10 percent reported incidents.

Dr Pascale Allotey, director of WHO's Sexual and Reproductive Health and Research department, said: "Given that violence during these critical formative years can cause profound and lasting harms, it needs to be taken more seriously as a public health issue - with a focus on prevention and targeted support."

Trump launches ad blitz to try to slow Harris surge

WASHINGTON

REPUBLICAN presidential candidate Donald Trump's campaign will launch a \$10 million advertising blitz in six battleground states this week as it tries to counter a surge of voter enthusiasm and donations for his Democratic rival Kamala Harris.

It is Trump's biggest ad buy since January, when he was fighting off Republican rivals for the party's nomination. Trump's campaign did not respond to requests for comment, but the blitz comes as Harris' candidacy has changed the race.

Since President Joe Biden dropped out last week and endorsed Harris, she has rapidly consolidated support within the Democratic Party and from big-money donors. She has also sparked a newfound energy among groups such as young voters that Biden had been struggling to win over.

After months of attacks on Biden's fitness for office, Trump's campaign has had to pivot to find a new message to use against the younger and more dynamic Harris, 59, less than 100 days until the Nov 5 election.

On Monday, Trump, 78, released an ad on his Truth Social platform using Har-



This combination of pictures created on July 22, 2024 shows US Vice-President Kamala Harris and former US president and 2024 Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump

ris's own words from old interviews, campaign events and debates to try to portray her as an extreme liberal out of touch with everyday Americans, particularly in the Rust Belt.

In response, Harris accused the Trump campaign of lying about her record.

"Vice-President Harris has been a key leader in working across the aisle to pass the Biden-Harris administration's historic, popular agenda," said Harris spokesperson Sarafina Chitika.

Since she emerged as her party's can-

didate, Harris has focused on Trump's felony convictions in a New York hush-money trial and the other criminal charges he faces, and portrayed him as responsible for a wave of anti-abortion measures in Republican-led states around the country.

A super PAC supporting Trump, MAGA Inc, kicked off a parallel ad blitz when it said last week it will spend \$32 million in three states with new ads criticizing Harris.

Unlike presidential campaigns, there

are no limits on donations to super PACs, meaning they often have more money to spend. But they are not permitted to coordinate with campaigns on strategy.

Future Forward, a Democratic super PAC, said it is launching a \$50 million effort to back Harris in Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, the six states seen as pivotal to deciding the election because their voting preferences can swing either way.

Harris' campaign said on Sunday that it raised \$200 million in new campaign funds last week.

While Harris is well known, her policy positions are not.

"She has a second chance to make a first impression," said pollster Evan Roth Smith of the Democratic polling firm Blueprint.

But the danger for Harris lies in whether the Trump campaign can define her in voters' minds before her campaign can make it to the airwaves, he said.

Brian Schimming, chair of Wisconsin's Republican Party, said Republicans are moving to do just that.

"It's about letting people know that if you didn't like Joe Biden, you're really not going to like Kamala Harris," he said.

Agencies

Clash between European, Oceanian rowers, China aiming for breakthrough

PARIS

AUSTRALIA and New Zealand collected five out of 14 rowing golds on offer at the Tokyo Olympics, and will continue to challenge the dominance of European rowers at the upcoming Paris Olympics.

As the reigning Olympic champions in the men's four and the women's four, the Australian rowing team at Paris 2024 will face a challenge from Britain, the 2024 World Rowing Cup overall winner in these two events.

Led by two-time Olympic champion Helen Glover, the British boat is heading for the top of the podium in the women's four. At the 2023 World Rowing Championships held in Belgrade of Serbia, Britain finished first in the men's four, followed by the United States and New Zealand in second and third place respectively.

At the Tokyo Olympics, Kerri Gowler and Grace Prendergast of New Zealand came from behind to win the women's pair title, and their compatriots were also

crowned in the women's single sculls and men's eight.

In 2022, Prendergast announced her retirement from professional rowing at the age of 30, which inevitably affected the team's overall strength in the Paris Olympic cycle. However, New Zealand's rowers still demonstrated their competitiveness at a high level in the women's single sculls and men's four.

The Netherlands is a notable force at Paris 2024, as Dutch rowers triumphed in a number of

events at the 2023 World Rowing Championships, including the women's single sculls, women's pair, women's four, men's double sculls, and men's quadruple sculls.

Reigning world champions Stefan Broenink and Melvin Twellaar of the Netherlands, who took silver in the men's double sculls at the Tokyo Olympics, have dominated the event in the last two years, and their major rivals in Paris may be Italy's pair of Luca Rambaldi and Matteo Sartori, as well as Ireland's duo Daire Lynch and Philip Doyle.

Olympic champions Ancuta Bodnar and Simona Radis of Romania remain favorites in the women's double sculls, while 25-year-old Radis is also competing in the eight. Other powerhouses such as Germany, Norway, Croatia and Canada are also in good form to chase for Olympic glory.

China seized its second Olympic rowing gold medal in the last edition of the Games, as Cui Xiaotong, Lyu Yang, Zhang Ling and Chen Yunxia led all the way to finish first in the women's quadruple

sculls. The quartet also clinched gold at the Hangzhou Asian Games last year, but they need to deliver their best performance in Paris for a podium finish.

Chinese rowers will also participate in the women's double sculls, men's double sculls, women's four, and women's lightweight double sculls, striving for new breakthroughs on the Olympic stage.

The Paris 2024 rowing competitions will take place at the Vaires-sur-Marne Nautical Stadium from

Xi meets Italian prime minister, calls for upholding Silk Road spirit

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping met with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni here on Monday.

Noting that China and Italy are at the two ends of the ancient Silk Road, Xi said the time-honored friendly exchanges between the two countries have made significant contributions to the overall exchanges and mutual learning between Eastern and Western civilizations, and to the progress of humanity.

The Silk Road spirit of peace and cooperation, openness and inclusiveness, mutual learning and mutual benefit is a shared treasure of China and Italy, Xi said.

He said that amid accelerating global changes unseen in a century, countries will either progress together through connectivity and unity, or retreat separately through closure and division. China and Italy should uphold and promote the Silk Road spirit, view and develop bilateral relations from a historical dimension, strategic height and long-term perspective, and push their relations to go steady and far.

Xi said the healthy and stable development of China-Italy relations is in line with the common interests of both countries and their peoples. Despite the ongoing profound changes in the international landscape, China's commitment to valuing and developing relations with Italy has not changed, the nature of win-win cooperation of China-Italy relations has not changed, and the friendship between the two peoples has not changed, he added.

Xi called on both sides to carry on the tradition of friendly exchanges, and continue to understand and respect each other's development paths. Noting that China and Italy have complementary industrial advantages and represent opportunities for each other, Xi said both sides should adhere to mutual openness and cooperation.

The third plenary session of the 20th Communist Party of China Central Committee has just concluded, and China will continue to promote high-level opening up, inject strong impetus into Chinese modernization, and bring new opportunities for expanding cooperation with Italy and other countries, he added.

Xi said China is willing to work with Italy to optimize and upgrade traditional cooperation in trade and investment, manufacturing, technological innovation and other fields, and to explore cooperation in emerging areas such as electric vehicles and artificial intelligence.

He noted that China welcomes Italian companies to invest in China and is willing to import more quality products from Italy. It is hoped that Italy will also provide a fair, transparent, secure and non-discriminatory business environment for Chinese companies to develop in Italy, he added.

Both sides should cherish the achievements of cultural exchange and mutual learning, promote cultural inheritance and innovation, and enhance amity between the two peoples, he said.

Xi said China supports Italy in hosting the 2026 Winter Olympics and hopes that Italy will provide convenient visa measures for Chinese citizens traveling to Italy.

Xi stressed that in a world of economic globalization, only by upholding openness and cooperation in global industrial and supply chains can win-win develop-



Chinese President Xi Jinping meets with Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, who is on an official visit to China, at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing, capital of China, July 29, 2024. Xinhua

ment be achieved. China adheres to the path of peaceful development and never seeks hegemony, and is willing to share development opportunities with other countries, he added. It is hoped that Italy understands and supports China's development

concept and plays a constructive role in promoting dialogue and cooperation between China and Europe, and in actively promoting the positive and stable development of China-EU relations, said Xi.

Meloni said that as countries with

an ancient civilization, Italy and China have always appreciated and learned from each other. The current international situation is undergoing profound changes, and China -- as an important major country -- plays an irreplaceable role in ad-

dressing global challenges.

Italy attaches great importance to China's international standing and role, and is willing to carry forward the time-honored Silk Road spirit, foster a closer and higher-level partnership with China, open up a new chapter for the comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries, and make new contributions to world peace and progress, she said.

Meloni said Italy adheres to the one-China policy and hopes to strengthen dialogue and cooperation with China, tap the potential for cooperation, deepen bilateral cooperation in such fields as trade, investment, electric vehicles and artificial intelligence, strengthen people-to-people exchanges, and encourage more Italian products to enter the Chinese market.

Italy opposes decoupling and protectionism, and is willing to play a positive role in further deepening and consolidating EU-China relations, Meloni said.

The two sides issued a 2024-2027 action plan on strengthening their comprehensive strategic partnership. Xinhua

Paris 2024 Breaking Preview: Europe, North America, Asia set to lead in Olympic debut

PARIS

THE Place de la Concorde in central Paris will host the first-ever breaking competition in Olympic history on August 9 and 10, with 32 dancers from 15 countries and regions competing for men's and women's gold medals.

The lineup for the breaking event at the Paris Olympics consists of continental champions, top-ranked athletes from two Olympic qualifying events, and wildcard entries.

With origins in North American street culture, breaking - also known as breakdancing - has gained global popularity, especially in Europe and Asia, which is reflected in the lineup for the Olympic event - France, Japan and the United States will each have four participants (two men and two women), while China will field three competitors (two women and one man).

Dutch dancer Lee Di-ouf secured his Olympic spot by finishing first in both qualifying events. America's world champion Victor Montalvo



Chinese breakdancer Qi Xiangyu (L) and Zeng Yingying pose for photos at the Olympic Qualifier Series in Budapest, Hungary, June 23, 2024. Xinhua

and European champion Danis Civil of France are also top contenders.

Japan's Shigeyuki Nakarai (Shigekix), who won gold at the Hangzhou Asian Games, earned a direct ticket to Paris, while young talent Hiroto Ono (HiroIO) ranked third in the qualifiers and is a strong medal hopeful.

South Korea's Kim Hong-yul (Hongten), 39, advanced by finishing second in the qualifiers. With a career spanning over 20 years and multiple Red Bull BC One titles, Kim's vibrant style has made him a fan favorite.

China's sole male participant, 19-year-old Qi Xiangyu (Lithe-ing), has emerged as a rising star. He won

the Outbreak event in Slovakia in July 2023, marking the best result for a Chinese male breakdancer. Qi also earned a bronze medal at the 2023 Hangzhou Asian Games and a silver at the Paris Olympic qualifying series in Shanghai.

China's Liu Qingyi (67i) known for her powerful and explosive style, won the women's title at the Outbreak street dance competition in August 2022, becoming the first Chinese athlete to win a top international breakdancing event. Two months later, she earned the runner-up at the 2022 World Breaking Championships to clinch China's first-ever medal in this event.

In 2023, Liu clinched the gold in

women's breaking at the 19th Hangzhou Asian Games to secure her spot at the Paris Olympics.

Japanese breakdancers Yuasa Ami (Ami) and Fukushima Ayumi (Ayumi) dominated women's events with their agile and graceful styles. Both have extensive competition experience.

Several young male dancers also make waves. Born in 2007, Dominika Banevic of Lithuania (Nicka) won the 2023 World Breaking Championships. French teenager Sya Dembele (Syssy), also born in 2007, finished fourth in the qualifiers.

Breaking made its debut as a competitive sport at the 2018 Buenos Aires Youth Olympic Games. In 2020, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Executive Board approved the inclusion of breaking, along with skateboarding, sport climbing and surfing, at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

However, breaking will not feature at the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, as it was not selected by the organizing committee.

"There was a decision of the [Los Angeles] organizing committee of what we have seen for breaking. And I think what you could not only feel, but experience is that we appreciate breaking very much. We had it in the Youth Olympic Games in 2018, and this was leading the way then to Paris," said IOC President Thomas Bach.

Xinhua

'Relationship between India and America is bigger than QUAD'

LONDON

AT a time when the Quad Foreign Ministers held a meeting in Tokyo, the United States said that its relationship with India is not restricted just to the security bloc; the bilateral engagement between the two nations is spread much wider across multiple domains.

In an interview with ANI, the US State Department's Hindustani spokesperson, Margaret MacLeod said, "I think the relationship between India and America is bigger than QUAD. QUAD is just a multilateral, which focuses on a particular region but when we talk about the bilateral ties between India and the United States, we are working on critical emerging technologies, we are engaged in Exercise Malabar, we are working on people-to-people ties, we are investing in the education sector, all this is strengthening our ties."

The State Department official not only highlighted the strong people-to-people connection between India and the US but also talked at length about how the US views India's role in the bloc.

"India and America are working together on a lot of new technologies. We are also working together in the field of education. Our relationship is very strong. We also have the Indian diaspora here in the US which is a

living bridge and is contributing immensely to the ties between the two nations," MacLeod said in an interview that was conducted virtually.

She also underlined how Open RAN (Radio Access Networks) has better reliability and comes at better prices, noting that this will be a great opportunity for the Indian technology industry.

"If you look at today's joint statement, India was seen in an important role...It will also be very interesting thing to know for Indians that they support Open RAN," MacLeod said.

It is pertinent to note that the Quad Foreign Ministers recognised the transformative power of critical and emerging technologies in their joint statement, which was released on Monday, to support sustainable development in the Indo-Pacific.

"We continue to advance the development of a trusted, secure and robust telecommunications network, and promote supplier diversification, Open Radio Access Networks (Open RAN) and joint projects such as the Open RAN deployment in Palau, where Quad countries have collectively secured extensive investments in Open RAN trials, core network replacement, and capacity building, the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting Joint Statement read, according to Australia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. ANI

What does change in candidates mean for US elections?

WASHINGTON

WITH U.S. President Joe Biden's recent withdrawal from the 2024 elections, myriad uncertainties lie ahead in the race to the White House.

The shift began last month, after critics blasted the president for what they said was his poor performance in the debate against GOP challenger Donald Trump.

The criticism reached a boiling point, with a growing number of members from Biden's own party calling on the president to step aside.

Now, Vice President Kamala Harris is expected to receive the Democratic Party's nomination to run for president. But the waters are murky and it's difficult to see ahead. "I think the switch has reset things to where they were before the debate -- a very close race with a slight Trump lead," Christopher Galdieri, a

political science professor at Saint Anselm College, told Xinhua.

"We won't really know where things are until things settle down with Harris's running mate choice and the Democratic convention," Galdieri said.

CHALLENGES FOR TRUMP

Trump has several challenges ahead. "The Harris nomination creates a serious problem for Republicans because they spent millions saying how bad it is to have an old president, and now their candidate is the old guy in the race," Brookings Institution Senior Fellow Darrell West told Xinhua.

Trump is still figuring out how to attack Harris and does not have a consistent message the way his campaign did against Biden, West said. Harris's campaign has gar-

nered 200 million U.S. dollars in donations in the first week of the White House campaign. The rapidly increasing donations show that "Democrats are also united," West noted.

Prior to this week, Trump was running on the discontent people have had throughout the Biden administration. "I think that's a weaker play now that Biden himself is no longer on the ballot," Galdieri said.

Moreover, at 59 years old, Harris is much younger than Trump, which could go a long way with young voters, experts said. Clay Ramsay, a researcher at the Center for International and Security Studies at the University of Maryland, noted that Harris has inherited all the money of the Biden campaign.

She has also inherited experienced people and a large ground operation to get out the vote, Ramsay told Xinhua.

CHALLENGES FOR HARRIS

Harris has been the number two person in an unpopular administration. In a Gallup poll conducted between July 1-July 21 -- almost entirely before he announced withdrawal from the 2024 presidential race -- Biden received a 36 percent job approval rating from the American people, his lowest to date.

Galdieri said Harris could struggle being blamed for the same things voters blamed Biden for. Indeed, the last few years have seen surging prices for food, rent and the purchase of homes. Millions of migrants continue to illegally surge over the southern U.S. border -- a crucial issue for Americans.

Christian Holland, an IT professional outside of Washington, told Xinhua: "People see Harris as an extension of Biden" and won't vote for her.

Harris's far left record could also prove to be an obstacle for her. She served as California attorney general and as a senator representing the blue state. Harris was criticized by conservative media for voicing support for the "defund the police" movement in June 2020, amid the riots that terrorized residents of cities nationwide for months. That occurred before she was vice president.

Moreover, she's been a low-profile vice president, and might not do well in terms of name recognition, experts said.

By sharp contrast, many are embracing Trump as a candidate who has shown courage under fire during an attempted assassination earlier this month.

After a bullet grazed his ear, a defiant Trump stood up and yelled "Fight! Fight!" to supporters at a rally, while blood

ran down his face. Images of the event have grabbed headlines worldwide, and garnered sympathy even from Trump's enemies.

Ramsay said Harris's most important weakness is that anything she does and says that looks "unprepared" will be seized upon.

If that occurs, "she will be labeled as a lightweight, and not just by Trump's side -- much of the U.S. media won't give her a chance either," Ramsay said. In Friday's RealClearPolitics' average of polls, Harris trailed Trump in the key battleground states Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Arizona and Georgia.

In Wisconsin and Michigan, Trump led only by 0.7 percentage point and 1.0 point, respectively. That's well within the margin of error. But Trump led Harris in Arizona at a hefty 6.4 percent, and in Georgia with a sizable 4.5 per-

cent. In Pennsylvania, Trump led by 3.0 percent. Xinhua



By sharp contrast, many are embracing Trump as a candidate who has shown courage under fire during an attempted assassination earlier this month

SPORT



United States head coach Steve Kerr gestures in a men's basketball game against Serbia at the 2024 Summer Olympics, Sunday, July 28, 2024, in Villeneuve-d'Ascq, France. (AP Photo)

Talent-rich US men's Olympic basketball team still figuring out how to get the most out its roster

VILLENEUVE-D'ASCO, France

THE question was apt, but at the same time a little flabbergasting for Stephen Curry to ponder.

Could he envision a scenario in which Kevin Durant, who shined in the U.S men's basketball team's Olympic-opening victory over Serbia, might continue to come off the bench?

"We're talking about Kevin Durant as a sixth man," Curry replied. "That tells you how good this team can be."

Highlights were plentiful for the U.S. in the Serbia win. LeBron James awed with his signature one-handed dunks and celebratory flexes. Durant had a nearly perfect shooting night in his first official basketball game in two months because of a calf strain.

And everybody - who played that is - scored.

That's because just as eye-popping was that Jayson Tatum - the newly minted highest-paid player in the NBA - and Tyrese Haliburton, who recently signed franchise record contract himself, didn't see the court.

It illustrates the embarrassment of riches that exists for a team that says it's still figuring out how best to utilize its talent.

"We're still trying to build identity around who we are with this 12-man group," Curry said. "It's important to stay focused on not just getting a win, but how we do it."

Coach Steve Kerr said aside from it being

almost impossible to give sufficient minutes to 12 players in a 40-minute game, the idea of sitting Tatum in particular struck him as just as unfathomable. "It seems crazy. I thought I was crazy when I looked at everything and determined these are the lineups I wanted to get to. Jayson's first team All-NBA three years in a row. He's one of the best players in the world."

So good that Kerr said on Monday that Tatum will play when the team plays South Sudan on Wednesday.

Complicating Kerr's decision-making going forward is that Durant's contributions off the bench continued a trend that started during the exhibition portion of the leadup to the Olympics, in which the reserves have provided needed jolts for a team prone to slow starts and turnovers. The turnover total was 17 against Serbia.

And that, too, is the result of trying to find the proper rotations on a roster layered with skill.

Curry even acknowledged being nervous before making his Olympic team debut. It showed at times when he was beaten on a couple of back cuts on defense and had another turnover on an inbounds pass.

But he also thinks the answer to fixing those issues is not getting in their heads about it.

"It's just a matter of everybody being ready to do what you're asked to do, because every game is going to be a little different," Curry said. "You can pick any five of us 12 and it's a Hall of Fame lineup out there. We just have to play like it." **AP**

Mwananyamala referral hospital advocates for exercise to combat non-communicable diseases

By Enock Charles

MWANANYAMALA Referral Hospital has called on society to increase efforts to exercise to lower the risk of non-communicable diseases.

According to the hospital, lack of exercise is a significant factor contributing to the rise in conditions such as stroke, diabetes, high blood pressure, kidney and liver diseases, and obesity.

Speaking at the launch of Mwananyamala Week aimed at encouraging people to exercise in Dar es Salaam last Sunday, the hospital's Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Zavery Benela, stated that 40 percent of the patients treated at the hospital annually suffer from non-communicable diseases.

He urged the public to increase their physical activity.

"In our Emergency Unit at Mwananyamala Referral Hospital, the majority of the patients we have received over the past two months have either been accident victims or individuals who have suffered a stroke due to high blood pressure or diabetes," Dr. Benela said. "Aside from accidents, these other issues are lifestyle-related and can be prevented

through regular exercise."

During the Mwananyamala Week, the hospital will promote sports and provide education on their importance. Hospital staff will participate in various activities, including football, basketball, music, tug-of-war, sack races, and even chasing chickens.

In addition to promoting physical activity, the hospital, in collaboration with other institutions such as Amana and Temeke referral hospitals, will offer free health testing and counseling services to the public. Dr. Benela encouraged people to take advantage of these services.

Kinondoni District Commissioner Saad Mtambule, the guest of honor at the event, emphasized the government's commitment to cooperating with health institutions like Mwananyamala Hospital to promote sports and reduce the incidence of non-communicable diseases.

He commended Mwananyamala Hospital for setting a positive example.

By integrating exercise and community health initiatives, Mwananyamala Referral Hospital aims to improve public health and reduce the burden of non-communicable diseases on the healthcare system.

SPORTS

Mokwena sees Azam FC as strong CAF Champions League contenders

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

AZAM Football Club faced a tough challenge in their recent friendly match, succumbing to a 4-1 defeat against Moroccan giants Wydad Athletic Club at the el Bacchir Stadium in Mohammedia, Morocco.

The match, held on Monday as part of Azam's pre-season preparations, highlighted areas for improvement as they gear up for the upcoming season.

Wydad AC showcased their attacking prowess with goals from Mohamed Rayhi, Mounir El Habach, Chouaib Fardi, and Mohamed El Ouardi. Azam FC's solitary goal came from Senegalese defender Cheikh Sidibé, who converted a penalty.

Despite the loss, the match provided valuable experience for the Tanzanian side as they prepare for their CAF Champions League campaign.

Rhulani Mokwena, the newly appointed head coach of Wydad AC, praised Azam FC's performance despite the scoreline.

"It was a very good game. Azam FC showed strong opposition. We managed to win 4-1, but it was the right test for us as we prepare for the new season," Mokwena commented. His positive remarks underscored the competitive nature of the friendly match.

Discussing Azam's prospects in the CAF Champions League, Mokwena, the former Mamelodi Sundowns tactician, expressed confidence in their capabilities.

"Azam FC is a good team with a very technical bench. The players are committed and possess high quality. With my experience in the CAF



Newly appointed Wydad Athletic Club coach Rhulani Mokwena. Agencies

Confederation Cup and CAF Champions League, I believe they will present strong opposition and perform well in the tournament," he said.

Azam earned their spot in the CAF Champions League by finishing as runners-up in the Tanzania Mainland Premier League last season, trailing champions Young Africans. This opportunity marks a significant milestone for the club as they represent Tanzania on the continental stage.

Preparing for their preliminary fixtures against Rwandan club APR FC, Azam aim for success. Should they advance, they will face either JKU of Zanzibar or Egyptian giants Pyramids FC. The club's aspirations are high as they strive to make a mark in the prestigious competition.

Highlighting individual talent, Mokwena

praised Azam midfielder Feisal Salum.

"For me, Feisal is a very unique player in this continent. Not only is he an exceptional footballer, but he also has a great personality. He is a very nice person, and I also appreciate Azam FC," Mokwena stated, emphasizing the player's importance to the team.

The friendly match against Wydad AC was the third in Azam FC's pre-season camp in Morocco. Previously, they secured a 3-0 victory against Union Yacoub El Mansour on July 20 and drew 1-1 with Union de Touarga on July 27. These matches have been crucial in fine-tuning their strategies and building team cohesion ahead of the new season.

Following their stint in Morocco, Azam will return to Tanzania before heading to Rwanda to face Rayon Sports in another friendly match. This continuous engagement in friendly matches is part of their rigorous preparation for both domestic and continental competitions.

Azam's new season will kick off with the Community Shield semi-final match against Coastal Union on August 8 at the New Amaan Complex in Zanzibar.

The match will set the tone for their competitive journey, as they aim to achieve both national and continental success in the 2024/25 season.

Azam FC unveil squad numbers ahead of 2024/25 season

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AHEAD of the 2024/25 Premier League season, Azam Football Club have confirmed several changes to their squad numbers.

Under head coach Youssef Dabo, Azam are poised for a challenging season as they aim to improve from last year's second-place finish, trailing champions Young Africans by eleven points.

The Chamazi-based club have bolstered their squad with eight new signings. The arrivals include attacking midfielder Franck Tiesse, defender Yoro Mamadou Diaby, midfielder Ever Meza, striker Jhonier Blanco, striker Adam Omar Adam, and midfielder Nassor Saadun.

Additionally, defensive midfielder Mamadou Samake from CR Belouizdad and attacking midfielder Cheickna Diakite from AS Real Bamako have also joined the ranks.

The housekeeping continues as Azam

has now updated their shirt numbers for the coming campaign following changes in Dabo's squad.

- Yoro Mamadou Diaby: The Ivorian international centre-back, the first new arrival at Chamazi, will don the number 3 shirt.

- Franck Tiesse: Fellow Ivorian Tiesse, who joined from Stade Malien, will wear the number 18.

- Ever Meza: The Colombian midfielder signed from Leones has been assigned the number 22.

- Jhonier Blanco: Another Colombian, striker Blanco, will take up the number 15.

- Cheickna Diakite: The number 8 will be worn by Diakite.

- Mamadou Samake: Defensive midfielder Samake will take on number 13.

- Adam Omar Adam and Nassor Saadun: The only local arrivals, Adam and Saadun, will share the numbers 7 and 29, respectively.

Azam's current list of shirt numbers is not final and remains subject to change, especially with the transfer window still open. The updated squad numbers reflect the club's strategic preparations for the upcoming season, aiming to compete fiercely on all fronts.

The NBC Premier League rules when it comes to shirt numbers are far from strict. Any number between one and 70 is allowed as long as it is unique within the squad. Numbers 1-30 are typically taken by first-team players.

Players can only change their squad number during pre-season or if one is sold or loaned to another club in the January transfer window.

Azam FC supporters eagerly anticipate the start of the new season, confident that the refreshed squad and strategic planning will bring success. With these new additions and changes, the team looks ready to challenge for the top spot and close the gap with their rivals.



Sara Makera (C) from Arusha, the first prize winner of the 21 kilometers race sponsored by Vodacom Tanzania under the women's category, poses with Prime Minister Kassim Majalwa and NBC Bank CEO Theobald Sabi (L) at the climax of the NBC Dodoma Marathon 2024 that was held on July 28, 2024, in Dodoma. Photo: Correspondent

Drone-spying scandal: Canada challenges 6-points deduction by FIFA at Paris Olympics court

PARIS

CANADA appealed against being docked six points by FIFA in a drone-spying scandal at the Paris Olympics women's soccer tournament, and a verdict is expected hours before the team plays its last group-stage game Wednesday.

FIFA punished Olympic defending champion Canada on Saturday – and banned coach Bev Priestman and two assistant coaches for one year – for allegations of using a drone to spy on opponent New Zealand's practices.

The expected legal move by the Canadian soccer federation and Olympic body was formally registered Monday by the Court of Arbitration for Sport in a fast-track case.

CAS said it aims to have an appeal hearing Tuesday with its panel of three judges giving a verdict by midday Wednesday. The coaches' bans are not part of this case.

"The appeal is based on the disproportionality of the sanction," the Canadian soccer federation said in a statement, "which we believe unfairly punishes the athletes for actions they had no part in and goes far beyond restoring fairness to the match against New Zealand."

Canada plays Colombia in Nice on Wednesday night and needs to

know where it stands before the game starts.

The deduction by FIFA wiped out Canada's points earned by winning its first two games against New Zealand and France. Canada stunned France 2-1 on Sunday with a second-half comeback capped by winning goal in the 12th minute of stoppage time.

Canada could still advance to the quarterfinals in the 12-team tournament even with a loss in court and win on the field Wednesday. Two third-place teams in the three groups will go to the knockout stage.

Canadian officials have said no player was involved in any alleged cheating, which they suspect has been a systemic problem potentially over years.

Priestman, who coached the team since 2020, has apologized and said she is "absolutely heartbroken for the players."

She stepped aside from being involved in the opening game against New Zealand last Wednesday – also a come-from-behind 2-1 win – and was removed from the Olympics by Canadian officials before the FIFA verdict.

The 38-year-old English coach could yet appeal to CAS against her FIFA ban as an individual.

AP

World Cup bidders give FIFA their detailed plans in Paris to host the tournaments in 2030 and 2034

PARIS

ON the sidelines of the Paris Olympics, FIFA has been doing business with its future hosts of the men's World Cup including Saudi Arabia.

FIFA said on Monday it received in Paris the formal bid books from leaders of the seven member federations which are the exclusive bidders for the World Cups of 2030 and 2034.

The 2030 World Cup is being co-hosted by Spain, Portugal and Morocco plus three South American neighbors – Argentina, Paraguay and inaugural 1930 host Uruguay – who will each stage one of the tournament's 104 games.

Saudi Arabia is the only candidate for the 2034 World Cup which was fast-tracked by FIFA last year.

The two bids are set to be confirmed at a Dec. 11 online meeting of FIFA's 211 member federations.

First, the proposed World Cup project plans must be detailed in hundreds of pages which FIFA aims to publish later this week. They must include plans for stadiums, hotels, training fields, transport and national security.

"FIFA will thoroughly assess the bid books and publish its evaluation report" due in the last quarter of the year, the world soccer body said in a statement.

World Cup bidders also must now submit to an assessment of their human rights obligations to host the tournament. FIFA was invited in May to work with independent experts to assess the candidates.

FIFA's human rights policy was introduced eight years ago after it awarded the 2018 and 2022 editions to Russia and Qatar, respectively, and was first applied for the 2026 tournament candidates.

The United States, Canada and Mexico will co-host the 2026 World Cup, the first with 48 teams instead of 32. They beat rival bidder Morocco in a 134-65 vote decided in 2018 in Moscow.

AP

Liverpool are undergoing 'post-Klopp reset'

By Nizaar Kinsella

LIVERPOOL chief executive Billy Hogan says the club are undergoing a "post-Jürgen Klopp reset" under new head coach Arne Slot and the Reds' revamped football structure.

The club have implemented several changes behind the scenes at Anfield since Klopp, who won seven major honours in nine years, announced his departure in January.

Slot, 45, has replaced the German but Liverpool's parent company, Fenway Sports Group (FSG), has brought back former executives Michael Edwards and Julian Ward, who left in 2022, to build a new structure overseeing strategy for principle owner John W. Henry and the organisation's president Mike Gordon.

Hogan, who leads the business operation on Merseyside, told BBC Sport that Klopp's departure has "provided an opportunity for a reboot or reset and maybe to look at how things operate going forward."

Hogan, who is known to have a close personal bond with Klopp, added: "Jurgen departing was a seismic decision but clearly the right decision for him and his family, so by extension the right decision for the club."

"He was very clear about leaving the club in a better place than where he found it and I think he has done that. The timing of his announcement gave us an opportunity to go through a proper process."

Behind the scenes, Liverpool have appointed Richard Hughes from Bournemouth as the sporting director and Pedro Marques from Benfica as the technical director, which Hogan says will bring "new energy and vision."

Hughes and Marques will focus solely on transfers and supporting Slot but FSG will continue to explore a multi-club structure after insurmountable issues caused talks with French club Bordeaux to collapse.

Hogan said it was "sad" Bordeaux have filed for bankruptcy as alternative options are "something being looked at by Michael Edwards". **BBC**

Wanted by Europe's top clubs - who is Benfica teenager Neves?

By Adam Millington

IF your club gives you a release clause in excess of £100m, it's usually a sign you're something special. That could very well be the case for Joao Neves, the young Benfica midfielder who is expected to make a big move this summer.

Neves, 19, has reportedly attracted interest from Manchester United and Arsenal, but it is Paris St-Germain who are being spoken about as his most likely destination.

The teenager has already helped his boyhood club to a league title and played at a European Championship before turning 20.

Will Neves follow the likes of Bernardo Silva, Ruben Dias and Enzo Fernandez to become another of the Lisbon giants' great exports?

Neves, a Benfica academy graduate, got his opportunity in the starting XI thanks to Fernandez's departure.

The youngster only made his debut on 1 January 2023 before Chelsea spent a British record on bringing Argentine midfielder Fernandez to the Premier League on transfer deadline day later that month.

"Without Enzo we dipped in quality," explains Filipe Ingles, from the podcast Benfica FM, who feared the title might be slipping from the Eagles' grasp.

Boss Roger Schmidt turned to Neves in the run-in and the midfielder repaid that faith with a goal in a 2-2 draw with rivals Sporting that proved crucial in securing the league for the first time in four years.

"Next game we won, were champions and Joao Neves was the hero that saved the day in the dying moments," says Ingles.

Neves has gone on to make 50 Primeira Liga appearances, starting 33 of those, while scoring four times and registering one assist.



Joao Neves was part of Portugal's team at Euro 2024. Agencies

"He became a staple in the starting XI and was probably our best player all season," adds Ingles. "There were games where the manager and the team was booed, but not him. Never him. Because Benfica fans see him as one of ours and he always plays well and gives everything."

The midfielder also made his international breakthrough and has so far featured nine times for Portugal, including in two of their Euro 2024 matches.

"What to expect from Joao Neves?"

Neves is often used as more of a deep-lying playmaker, making the fourth-most passes into the final third of any player in Portugal's top flight last season and winning the third-most tackles.

"A lot of people in Portugal see a comparison with Joao Moutinho," says Ingles, who also likens his style to Xavi or Andres Iniesta.

"He's that kind of midfielder that seems to do everything well - the

passes, the position, the first touch, the balance.

"You see that he's always running and thinking about the game, never relaxes a minute, is never out of position. And he's very, very comfortable with the ball."

Neves is only 19 and has not even played two full seasons of top-flight senior football, but Ingles says he has proved to be "incredibly mature".

"He got in the starting XI at the most tense games," he adds. "And it felt like he had been in that position for 10 years."

"His mother died a few months ago and some days later he was playing, despite Benfica telling him he could mourn her."

Neves was also the player to front up after what Ingles call an "embarrassing" 5-0 defeat by Porto last season.

"He was the one that came and talked to the fans after the game," he says. "Not [Nicolas] Otamendi, not [Angel] Di Maria. He was the

one that came to talk to the press."

"Is now the right time to move?"

Benfica president Rui Costa confirmed a bid had been made for Neves when speaking to Portuguese newspaper A Bola, but did not reveal who had made the approach.

"There is a proposal on the table which is being evaluated and is being discussed," said the Portugal legend.

"But at this moment, Joao Neves remains a Benfica player. It's not that I want to hide the ins and outs because I understand that Benfica fans want to know whether Joao will be leaving or not."

In response to reports that Neves would only leave for his £10m release clause, the president added: "I never said that Joao Neves would only leave for his release clause and therefore, those claims are false."

Ingles fears any move may also be coming too soon for the player - but believes it may be easier for him to settle in France's Ligue 1 than the Premier League.

"Despite his maturity, I think he's making the same mistake as Joao Felix, Goncalo Ramos or Renato Sanches: he's leaving too soon," he says.

"I don't know if he's ready yet. And as with Darwin Nunez, it's another thing to be good in the Portuguese league, it's another in the top five leagues."

"Here if you're good, you stand out. In England, everybody around you is as good or better, so you struggle. He's very small and I don't know if he would cope with the physicality of the Premier League."

So is he destined for the very top? "I would gamble that he will be a very good player, make a very good career, but will never be a world class player," adds Ingles. "But who knows, he's only 19."

BBC

Calafiori 'ready to pack bags' after first Arsenal talk

By Nizaar Kinsella

ARSENAL manager Mikel Arteta says defender Riccardo Calafiori was "ready to pack his bags" and join the club as soon as the pair spoke.

The versatile Italy defender, 22, signed from Bologna for a fee of up to £42m including add-ons, and quickly joined his team-mates in Philadelphia before a pre-season match against Liverpool on Wednesday.

Asked what impressed him most about Calafiori, Arteta said it was the Italian's willingness to join Arsenal amid potential competition from other clubs.

"It was great when I spoke to him one or two times and that was when I didn't know if we could do it or not," he said at Philadelphia's Union's Subaru Park.

"He was adamant, 'Let me know when you are ready, my bags are ready and I just want to come to Arsenal'. Those were his words."

"When you have that feeling with a willingness and determination to make us better. We should be really proud of that."

Arteta added that Calafiori won't be rushed to play against Liverpool at Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia but could be available to play "a few minutes".

This in the city made famous by fictional boxing champion Rocky 'the Italian Stallion' Balboa, with Calafiori saying he hopes to see the famous Rocky steps and statue, before going on to explain why he moved to Emirates Stadium.

"I spoke for almost two months with the coach and [sporting director] Edu," Calafiori said.

"It was really tough [that the negotiations took a while]. But I am here and need to keep improving day by day in training. I was really convinced to come here. For me, it is the best project that I could have to improve as a player."

"There were other clubs but I don't care anymore. I am here and I want to win trophies. This is the best project



Riccardo Calafiori has joined Arsenal from Bologna after a breakthrough Euro 2024 with Italy. Agencies

because the team is young and can win trophies. My mentality is to win.

"I can play in different positions, I don't care where but I just want to play. I was here in January to watch Arsenal versus Crystal Palace. As soon as I am really fit, I hope to help the team."

Midfielder Emile Smith Rowe wasn't in training, as he travels to complete his 34m switch to Fulham. Arteta refused to speak about a deal which is still being finalised but said Arsenal's incoming business is close to being finished.

"We have already identified where we need to improve, in meetings in February and March," he said.

"If we can, we will try to strengthen the team. But so far I am really happy with what I have."

"We don't expect to do anything like [a big Declan Rice deal] at the moment."

BBC

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Wanted by Europe's top clubs - who is Benfica teenager Neves?

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Gamondi happy with Yanga's pre-season performance in South Africa

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans head coach Miguel Gamondi has deemed their South Africa pre-season tour a success, expressing satisfaction with the team's performance in all the games.

The Young Africans squad returned from South Africa early yesterday after playing three friendlies.

Their first friendly in South Africa was a 2-1 defeat against Germany Bundesliga outfit FC Augsburg.

In their second game, Young Africans beat South African Premier Soccer League side TS Galaxy 1-0 in the Mpumalanga Premiers Cup tournament.

Gamondi's side wrapped up their Southern trip with a comprehensive 4-0 victory over Kaizer Chiefs, coached by former Young Africans gaffer Nasreddine Nabi.

"I am very happy with the three games we played. The Augsburg game was good, but it was so early for us. Against TS Galaxy, we played with all the players, and this last game was very good. It was important for us and even for the Young Africans brand because playing international games is very good.

"At the beginning, I was not convinced to do this pre-season because there are a lot of risks and you can't work well as you can do here, but it was a successful trip.

"In general, it was a very good learning experience for the players. The most important thing for me was we went toe-to-toe, we played attacking football and created chances. We did not park the bus," said Gamondi.

Young Africans will compete on all fronts in the new season, including the Premier League, Federation Cup, Community Shield, and CAF Champions League.

They will kick off their 2024/25 campaign with a Community Shield semi-final match against arch-rivals Simba on August 8.

A week later, Gamondi and his charges will take on Burundi's Vital'O in the first Preliminary Round of the CAF Champions League, hoping to make it to the group stage back-to-back for the first time in their history.



TO NIGHT @ 9:00

MJADALA

EATV TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Mpera Mpera
13:30 Kali Za Wana
13:55 Dandao Za Michezo
14:00 5SPORTS (I)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
16:00 Zote Kuntu
16:55 Dandao Za Michezo
17:00 5SELKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kali Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (I)
21:00 MJADALA
21:30 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 EATV SAA 1

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shopping process.

eastafrica RADIO

05:00 Supa Breakfast
09:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
19:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

Fadlu Davids optimistic about preseason progress



By Correspondents Michael Mwebe & Seth Mapoli

SIMBA head coach Fadlu Davids has expressed his satisfaction with the ongoing pre-season training camp in Egypt, highlighting the progress made so far.

Simba have played three matches during the tour, securing victories against Saudi Arabia's First Division side Al-Adalah, and Egyptian sides Telecom and Canal SC.

Davids (pictured) shared his thoughts with the club's media department after their last game against Al-Adalah, expressing happiness with the preparations and progress made during their three-week stay in Egypt.

He is hopeful his squad will benefit significantly from their time abroad as they prepare for the start of the 2024/25 campaign on August 8 against arch-rivals Young Africans.

"I am very happy that there are no injuries. We had Yusuph Kagoma, who trained the first week and then had a slight niggle, so he is the only one who has missed the last two weeks. We will have him back next week, so thankfully there are no complications," Davids said.

"Everybody is coming through with their match minutes and how we periodize their load. Yes, we got the results today, but that is not as important in these friendly matches as the process.

"How we are improving our defensive actions, how we are improving our attacking fluidity, and whether the players can build non-verbal communication, knowing which space to take, how to attack, which runs to make, and where the ball is going next," he added.

"And then it becomes fluid. We have this synergy among the players. We are slowly building step by step. I think now in the third week we have gotten to a point where we have covered a lot of tactical work.

"Sometimes it is about repeating and refreshing the work that we have done and also introducing new things step-by-step in terms of how we want to do it.

"Sometimes it's about our defensive and midfield lines, how we can connect them and play as a unit with the ball. So a lot has been done, a lot has been achieved in this camp," Davids concluded.

Meanwhile, the Msimbazi Street-based side was expected to arrive home later yesterday to make final preparations for Simba Day, which is set for August 3.

Simba have faced challenges in recent seasons, underperforming in the Premier League, CAF Champions League, and Federation Cup. However, the arrival of Davids and the registration of new players bring renewed hope for a successful upcoming season.

The team's recent victories in Egypt have bolstered this optimism.

During their time in Egypt, the Tanzanian Embassy provided substantial support to the team. The Tanzanian Ambassador to Egypt, Major General Richard Mutayoba, attended the final game against Al-Adalah FC. After the match, he expressed his gratitude and extended his best wishes to Simba for the 2024/25 season.

Next on Simba's agenda is 'Simba Day', which will take place on Saturday. This event offers fans the opportunity to witness their newly revitalized team in action. Simba will face APR FC from Rwanda, a team that recently reached the final of the CE-CAFA Dar Port Kagame Cup held in Dar es Salaam.

Last season's 'Simba Day' friendly match saw the hosts secure a 2-0 win over Power Dynamos of Zambia. The game, held at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, was a highlight of the club's 15th Simba Day anniversary celebrations. The upcoming match against APR FC is highly anticipated, as fans look forward to seeing the new team's performance.

Following 'Simba Day', the side is set to compete against their long-time rivals, Young Africans, in the semi-finals of the Community Shield tournament. This match will take place on August 8 at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium at 7:00 PM.

Simba will enter this game with positive memories, having previously defeated Young Africans in a penalty shootout after a goalless draw in the last Community Shield final held in Tanga at the Mkwakwani Stadium.

The recent victories and the upcoming matches signify a period of optimism and high expectations for Simba.

Alliance Caravans triumph in thrilling 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup final

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

DAR ES SALAAM cricket giants, Alliance Caravans, have clinched the 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup tournament's title after garnering a five-wicket defeat of Aurobindo AKSC in the final in the city last Sunday.

The Leaders Club ground, located in Kinondoni District, was packed to capacity as cricket fans from across the city witnessed an electrifying conclusion to the 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup.

In the gripping final, hosts Alliance Caravans emerged victorious over last year's runner-up Aurobindo AKSC, securing their fourth tournament title with a dramatic finish.

The highly anticipated clash was graced by Manoj Verma, Charge d'Affaires of India's High Commission to Tanzania, who was the chief guest of the final.

His presence added a touch of grandeur to what was already a monumental occasion in Dar es Salaam's sporting calendar.

Aurobindo AKSC's cricketers won the toss and chose to bat first, but their decision quickly backfired. The team was reeling after losing both openers, Abhik Patwa and Jumanne Mohamed, with a paltry 10 runs on the board.

The departure of the tournament's top run-getter Patwa, dismissed for just two runs by Alliance Caravans' Johnson Nyambo, was a severe blow to Aurobindo AKSC.

Despite the setback, Ajith Augustin - deployed at number three - scored a valuable 39 runs off 30 balls before falling to Alliance Caravans' captain Akhil Anil.

Though Riziki Kiseto's 20 runs off 18 balls and a useful partnership between Arslaan Premji (12 runs off 14 deliveries) and Seif Athuman (18 runs off 14 deliveries) provided some resistance, Aurobindo AKSC struggled to build momentum.

They were ultimately bowled out for 127 runs on the last ball of their innings.

Justin Thomas was the standout bowler with three wickets, while Nyambo and Akhil Anil contributed with two wickets apiece.

In reply, Alliance Caravans' innings started poorly with two quick wickets falling and just seven runs on the board.

A powerful sixer executed by opener Prakash Nair on the first ball of the innings set the tone, Alliance



Cricketers making the 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup tournament's champions, Alliance Caravans, pose with the trophy along with chief guest, Charge d'Affaires of India's High Commission to Tanzania Manoj Verma, and Petrofuel Group's Chief Managing Director Satish Kumar, whose company is the tournament's title sponsor, upon the completion of the showdown's final in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB

Caravans' supporters though had to endure a tense period as their team struggled with the bat.

The innings gained stability thanks to a crucial 66-run partnership between Amal Rajeevan (55 runs off 56 balls) and Kassim Nassoro (30 runs off 32 balls).

Their resilience and skill kept Alliance Caravans in the game despite the Aurobindo AKSC bowlers' best efforts to maintain the pressure.

Ultimately, Jerry Mathew and Adersh Dileep were the cricketers who guided Alliance Caravans to victory, finishing the chase by the end of the 19th over.

The victory marked a record fourth title for Alliance Caravans, reinforcing their dominance in the tournament's history.

In recognition of stellar performances showcased by some participating cricketers, several awards were presented to them after the game.

Rajeevan was named the final's Ras Logistics Man of the Match for his exceptional batting.

The consistent performer, Nassoro, had his pivotal partnership earning him the final's Medinova Moment of the Match.

Darpan Jobanputra received the TATA Emerging Player of the Tournament award, while Mathew was honoured as the Automark Best Bowler.

The in-form Patwa, the senior national men's cricket team skipper, was awarded the Colourflex Best Batter prize.

Anil of Alliance Caravans received the Alliance Champion of Champions award, and Mohamed Jawed of Park Mobile Lions took home the Bajaj Man of the Series award, which included a Bajaj Boxer motorbike.

The Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup con-

cluded with a thrilling final that showcased remarkable cricketing skills and fierce competition.

Alliance Caravans' victory solidified their legacy in the tournament's storied history, while Aurobindo AKSC will look to regroup and come back stronger after yet another narrow defeat in the final.

The tournament is an annual T20 cricket competition organized by Caravans Cricket Club, geared towards raising cricket standards locally.

Petrofuel is the title sponsor of the Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup tournament. Other sponsors include Alliance Insurance, Ras Logistics, Medinova Healthcare, Automark, Pepsi, Ashton Media, MFI-Vertiv, Jiuzhou, SmardTV, Intek-Korea, ASAS, Colourflex, and Delaware.

Aurobindo, Balakrishna Foundation, Park Mobile, Harab Motors, Flashnet, Generics, Econo Lodge, Azania Bank, Horizon Teleports, TATA, The Works, MO Bajaj, and Seaciff Hotel are also the showpiece's sponsors.

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Flexibles by David Chikoko

