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TANZANIA

TUESDAY 6 JULY, 2021

National Pg 3 Govt happy with NSSF, PSSSF record











Vice President Dr Philip Mpango (in black mask) pictured yesterday having a word with NBC Bank executives, including managing director Theobald Sabi (C), retail banking director Elibariki Masuke (R) and corporate affairs and government relations manager William Kallaghe (2nd-R), during a tour of the bank's pavilion at the ongoing Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair. Photo: Guardian

VP promises new revenue mode to push more exports

By Getrude Mbago

VICE President Dr Phillip Mpango said yesterday that the government plans to review its income and expenditure systems to come up with a new one which will stimulate exports of locally manufactured products.

He expressed this intention at the official launch of the 45th edition of the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF), directing government agencies like the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), the Tanzania Medical Devices Authority (TMDA), the Fair Competition Commission (FCC), the

Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OSHA) and others to continue working to remove all levies and taxes that are thwarting business growth.

"The new revenue system should stimulate trade and business as well as boosting sales in the international market. The respective agencies should work collaboratively to ensure that traders benefit from fair market opportunities," he stated.

The VP demanded that agricultural institutions and related agencies move to ensure that they furnish the Tanzania Trade

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South Africa police await new court orders to arrest Zuma

Johannesburg

SOUTH Africa's police minister yesterday said he was awaiting court instructions on whether to arrest former South African president Jacob Zuma, who has been given a 15-month jail term for contempt of court.

The country's top court last week convicted Zuma for contempt and ordered him to turn himself in by end of Sunday to start his sentence. If he failed to do so, the police would be told to arrest him within the following three days.

But Zuma on Friday lodged a last-ditch application to halt execution of the arrest order. The application will be heard in a High Court chamber today.

"We hope that we will be getting the clarification, because when we were given the instruction there were no other legal activities taking place," Police Minister Bheki Cele told reporters yesterday.

Zuma (79) has also pleaded with the Constitutional Court order to reconsider and rescind its decision to jail him. That challenge will be heard on July 12.

Speaking from his rural home on Sunday night, Zuma said he would not hand himself to the police by the set deadline

because of the pending court applications. There is "no need for me to go to jail today," he reporters at his Nkandla homestead in Kwa-Zulu Natal province, where hundreds of his supporters are camped outside in solidarity.

"They cannot accept papers and expect me to go to jail," he said, referring to his legal challenge of the sentence.

The defiant politician has repeatedly attacked the judiciary and did not hold



back from lashing out again.

"I'm very concerned that South Africa is fast sliding back to apartheid-type rule," he

"I am facing a long detention without trial," he said. "Sending me to jail during the height of a pandemic, at my age, is the same as sentencing me to death."

The Constitutional Court, in a historic ruling last week, handed Zuma the 15-month term after he snubbed a judicial probe into the theft of state assets under his tenure.

His nine years in power were stained by scandal and allegations of graft, ending disastrously in 2018 when he was forced out by the ruling African National Congress (ANC) and replaced as president by Cyril

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TIC amazed at 'floods of nvestors not seen before'

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE government's pro-business approach is increasingly attracting investors, with the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) registering 235 new projects in the past three months.

TIC Executive Director Dr Maduhu Kazi told reporters at the 45thedition of Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF) that the country is regaining investors' trust as some of them who shifted their businesses to other countries are now coming back.

This year there has seen a flood of investments not seen in the last five years, with many investors expressing faith in the friendly business environment put in

I can assure Tanzanians that the situation is very attractive

place by the sixth phase government. Many have been registering trading and industrial projects, he stated.

"As for now the situation is excellent and has never been like this," he stated, elaborating that TIC has registered 235 projects in three

from making considerable **Apart** contributions to the country's economic growth, investments have spurred large employment opportunities for the youth and skilled individuals across the country, he said.

"As for now, we have not yet prepared our statistics, but we shall publish them for the public to show Tanzanians that we now have

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Commuters on board a packed Dar es Salaam Rapid Transit bus, but most without the widely recommended masks – as a precaution against Covid-19. Correspondent Miraji Msala's roving camera captured this scene yesterday.

Ex-presidents, premiers elated at mega power project progress

By Guardian Correspondent

A delegation of retired national leaders yesterday expressed satisfaction with progress in the implementation of the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project (JNHPP) along the Rufiji River in Coast Region.

The delegation comprising of former presidents Ali Hassan Mwinyi and Jakaya Kikwete together with three former prime ministers who toured the project were elated at the stage that construction work has reached. The retired premiers are Cleopa Msuya, John Malecela and Mizengo Pinda.

They together advised residents residing near the project area to follow instructions from experts on how to use the dam water so as to protect the environment.

Kikwete asked responsible authorities to look closely at how to control environmental damage around the project area, underlining that those residing near the

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VP promises new revenue mode to push more exports

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Development Authority (TanTrade) with the relevant production information on various export crops to be shared with traders.

He further called on manufacturers, traders and entrepreneurs to enhance the quality of products, along with investing in packaging and branding so as to win national and international markets.

"If we want to access and grab national and international opportunities, we should first adhere to standards and certification, apply discipline and make sure that we invest in quality packaging and branding of our products," he pointed

Tanzanians need to utilize market opportunities available in the East African Community.(EAC) zone, he said, elaborating that this needs making good use of digital space and social media platforms to search for market opportunities and marketing the local products.

further wanted institutions organising exhibitions to focus on achieving goals highlighted in the theme of the respective year.

"We want to see more positive outcomes produced as results of the trade fair. If the exhibitions are meant to stimulate trade and economic growth, then let us stick to that and have closer follow-up if the goals are to be met," he said.

He emphasised on the need for public institutions regulating investment to remove bureaucracy and corruption as that more investments are attracted into the country.

The government will continue to create a conducive environment for doing business in the country, he said, after visiting a number of local and foreign pavilions.

"In this context, the government will not tolerate officers found to be thwarting investment efforts. We want to see more investors coming in and initiate big investment projects for the country's development, he declared.

He also wanted employers to pay their workers well and as per the country's laws and furnish contracts so as to enable them to deliver and thus achieve development

"I have been informed that there are employers who have been paying their workers very little amounts and not submitting their contributions to social security funds. These employers have also not been paying required," he stated,

warning that this should be addressed "We want you to change," he insisted, elaborating that the government will continue monitoring the matter closely as there are reports that some employers have been torturing their workers.

"This is against the law," he said. commending Tantrade and implementing partners for the job well done in making the annual exhibition an exceptional event in the region.

"We have huge hopes with the private sector as it is the driver of the country's economy. So there is a need to invest heavily in productive sectors such as agriculture and industries," he said.

Tantrade board chairman Dr Ngw'anza Kamata said that DITF has distinguished itself as the premier trade exhibition countrywide, attracting hundreds of local and international exhibitors alongside thousands of visitors attracted by waves of new products and innovations on display.

The exhibition has drawn over 3000 exhibitors from inside and outside the country. There were 76 exhibitors from 15 countries including the United States (US), China, Kenya, Ethiopia, Syria, Ghana, India, Pakistan, EU, Rwanda, Burundi, Egypt Singapore, Indonesia and the Comoros.

After 45 years of its existence, the DITF or Sabasaba serves as a major driver to industrialization as it provides opportunities for large, medium and small business to showcase and market their products, innovations and technologies locally and with international partners that are part of this annual occasion, he stated.

The trade fair is a catalyst for economic growth as it leads to increased income through the creation of jobs across sectors, the board chairman noted.

"We should ensure that our people have employment so as to constitute a market for the products produced in the country. If people do not have income, arising from having jobs, then it will be difficult to have sustainable business," he elaborated.

The trade fair started in 1962 as the "National Agricultural Trade Fair" and then changed to the National Trade Fair in 1963. In 1977, the exhibitions was revamped and renamed as the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair, he

All participants and sponsors of the exhibitions must be commended for their support and contributions to making the trade fair roll out proceed to higher levels, he added.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussen Ali Mwinyi addresses residents of Donge-Chelechele in North 'B' District during a road project inspection tour yesterday. With him include North Unguja regional commissioner Ayoub Mohamed Mahmoud and Zanzibar Works, Communication and Transport minister Rahma Kassim Ali. Photo: Zanzibar State House

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dam must use the dam water correctly.

He recalled that back when serving as Energy minister and responsible for supervision of the Pangani and Kihansi hydropower projects, where the government in collaboration with the community had successfully managed water sources.

"I commend the late President John Magufuli for his wise decision to start implementing this huge project, thus making the dreams of the founding father of the nation–Julius Nyerere come true," he

Mwinyi said that what we are seeing here today is a clear indication that Tanzania has a number of qualified experts in the sector."

On his part, Mizengo Pinda underscored the need to protect rivers flowing into the dam as well as proper management of the discharged water, where he suggested for participation of the Rufiji Basin Development Authority (RUBADA) and Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT).

This involvement would pave the way for agricultural activities to be carefully planned within the vicinity of the project, he advised.

Malecela noted that once completed, the JNHPP would spur economic growth as the country would have enough electricity for

Ex-presidents, premiers elated at mega power project progress

operating bigger numbers of industries, to make preparations for the removal of where the southern circuit agricultural sector is uppermost.

In his turn, Msuya said that the project should be widened to include putting in place new irrigation infrastructures, meanwhile as the project has so far been completed by 54.3 percent, in the view of responsible authorities.

Meanwhile the government has announced that the first consignment of electricity transformers to be used in the generation of 2,115MW of power from JNHPP has arrived in the country.

Minerals minister Dr Medard Kalemani yesterday witnessed six transformers being offloaded at the Dar port and issued instructions that they should have been delivered at the project site by next Monday.

after inspecting the Speaking transformers, Dr Kalemani said the aim of his trip at the port was to ensure all procedures for their removal from the port are completed in time to enable the JNHPP contractor to finalise the installation of the transformers as planned.

He also directed ministerial experts women.

the consignment right away as staying long at the port would delay the pace of construction. A total of 29 transformers are needed in the project and six have already arrived.

The remaining consignments are expected to arrive on July 15, August 15 and September 15 by lots, whereas the ministry has dispatched a team of experts outside the country to inspect the turbines to satisfy itself they are made according to standards, he said.

He projected that May 2022 will see the start of trial runs in the installation of turbines, readying for formal inauguration of power generation the following month.

Recently, the parliamentary standing committee for Energy and Minerals said gender inequality was a noticeable shortcoming in the implementation of the major power project.

In its report tabled last month, the committee found that out of the 7,132 workers employed in various departments of the project, only 263 (four per cent) are

NMB Bank Plc acting chief internal auditor Benedicto Baragomwa (L) briefs Vice President Dr Philip Mpango (R), who was on a tour of the bank's pavilion at the ongoing 45th edition of the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair yesterday. Photo: Guardian

TIC amazed at 'floods of investors not seen before'

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investors flooding the country. I can assure Tanzanians that the situation is very attractive," he declared.

TIC has begun allocating investment areas to investors for the establishment of industrial parks, procuring four extended areas on which big investors can build factories, he elaborated.

More Tanzanians with capital need to invest in various sectors since indigenous investors are accorded with greater tax relief compared with foreign investors, he urged.

has been educating Tanzanians on projects that they can invest in and procedures to follow, he said, citing the fact that on several occasions, President Samia Suluhu Hassan has emphasised on the need to regain the trust of investors by tackling hurdles investors face in start up and operational environment.

In April, when swearing in permanent secretaries and heads of public institutions at the State House in Dar es Salaam, President Samia directed the ministries and institutions responsible for

In the 45th edition of DITF, TIC all kinds of bureaucracy and desist from corrupt acts.

The president deplored the fact that investors were closing their businesses and shifting to other countries because they could no longer trust the public authorities.

Investors had learned to view Tanzania as an 'unpredictable' country for long term business, as moods decide investments conditions like tax and work permit uncertainties.

Despite setting up a one-stop center at the TIC, where institutions and agencies responsible for investment and trade to remove investment processes are located

in one place, investors had to walk there to get business certificates and permits.

Last month, the government said it has installed an electronic system for application and processing of work permits that will see issuance of permits within 24 hours.

William ole Nasha, the Deputy Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Investment) said through the online system, applicants will be required to upload and attach all the required documents for approval wherever they are, without having to visit the ministry's offices

Geita police hold man for suspected murders of lover and her daughter

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

THE police force in Geita Region is holding Petro John, resident of Masota village in Bukombe District over suspicions of murdering Esther John (28) and her girl child-Winfrida Masumbuko (13) for allegedly failing to pay him upkeep expenses he incurred when she was his lover.

The suspect is alleged to commit the murders after which she is said to have buried the bodies in the forest near rice fields.

The suspect told the police that he decided to claim the upkeep expenses from his lover because he suspected she had got another lover.

This was recounted here at the weekend by Geita Regional Police Commander, Henry Mwaibambe when addressing newsmen and added that after interrogation, the suspect confessed to have committed the two murders and went to show the place where he had buried their bodies.

The RPC said the suspect claimed that Esther was his lover and for a long time he was keeping her at great cost and that he asked her to pay back the expenses since she had found another man.

He said the deceased failed to pay back the expenses, hence the suspect, on the material day asked her to help him harvest rice in his farm, but on the way he attacked District.

and killed her in front of her child. He added that the suspect decided to also kill her child on the spot in order to conceal evidence,

the murder that he committed on

the same day and place.

RPC Mwaibambe said the incident happened on June 18 this year and was reported at Runzewe Police Station.

He added that the deceased was a widow following the death of her husband, and added that on June 29 they discovered Winfrida's death and immediately the suspect was arrested and interrogated and confessed to the murders.

"We sent a team of police officers to the area where the bodies were allegedly buried and found their remains and took samples for

In another incident, RPC Mwaibambe said two children died at Ikobe Village in Mbogwe District and 10 others admitted tom Igula Health Centre after eating food that is suspected to be poisoned.

RPC Mwaibambe named the deceased from the incident that occurred on July 3 this year as Manyilizu Joseph (6) and Bertha Mateso (5), both of who were claimed to have eaten food that was allegedly poisoned at a wedding event in the house one Kasongwe Luswigilo in Ikobe Village, Ilolangulu Ward in the

South Africa police await new court orders to arrest Zuma

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Ramaphosa.

Despite his notoriety, he commands support among many

grassroots ANC members, who recall his sacrifice in the struggle against apartheid, in which he spent 10 years on Robben Island.



Minerals minister Doto Biteko (L) has a word with Barrick Bulyanhulu goldmine workers at the company's pavilion at the ongoing Dar es Salaam

Govt happy with PSSF and NSSF performance

By Guardian Reporter

JENISTER Mhagama, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Coordination, Parliamentary Affairs, Employment, Youth and People with Disabilities), has expressed satisfaction with the performance and achievement of the two social security funds - NSSF and PSSSF.

According to her, during the 100 days of President Samia Suluhu Hassan in office, there have been big achievements in the management of the two social security funds.

She made the remarks yesterday during her visit at the "Ushirikiano" pavilion which is

funds at the on-going 45th Dar es management assessment and Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF) at Mwalimu Julius Nyerere grounds in Dar es Salaam.

"As the minister responsible for management of these funds, I feel very pleased that in the 100 gays of President Samia's leadership, more than 100bn/- has been dished out by the PSSF to pay retirees while the NSSF continues to do better in finalising the debt that had existed by increasing collection of contributions from its members reaching 100bn/- per month," she said.

Mhagama added the directed government has

used by the two social security officials of both funds to make come up with a sustainable system that will not create chaos and cause hardships to retirees.

> She said that President Samia praised NSSF Director General, Masha Msomba who at a very short time since his appointment, the fund has done wonders in collecting contributions reaching 100bn/- each month.

> PSSF Director General, Hosea Kashimba said their collaboration in using one pavilion for service provision have made easy for retirees of both Funds to be attended to.

"From 2018 to June 30th 2021

a total of 144, 0000 retirees have been paid their benefits and we pay monthly pensions on 25th of each month without delay, so we are doing very well, and I would like Tanzanians to understand that," said Kashimba.

NSSF Director General Masha Mshomba said the pace of the Fund's growth has been fast, adding that in the past few years the Fund was worth 3trn/- but by June 30 this year, according to unaudited accounts, there is about 5.2trn/-.

"We continue to promise President Samia of our great efforts to enrol members from both the private and the informal sectors," he explained.

NBAA to F4, F6 students: Choose courses carefully

By Getrude Mbago

THE National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBAA) has urged young college graduates, Form Four and Form Six leavers to pick the most marketable courses when going for higher learning studies for them to enjoy their future.

The board points out accounting, auditing and other allied courses as among the most marketable courses in the employment sector.

Speaking yesterday in Dar es Salaam at the ongoing 45th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF), NBAA executive director Pius Maneno said it has been observed that people who opt to study the courses on issues of finances and auditing eventually find no hurdles in searching for employment.

He went further and called upon youths with dreams of becoming professional accountants or auditors to register with NBAA for various courses and then acquire CPAs to become best accountants in the market.

"We are now enrolling new students, so it's my call to the youths, especially females who are few compared to males, to come and join the profession," added.

In addition, the director said the board has also developed a new online system to allow students stakeholders conduct applications wherever they are instead of spending time and money seeking for services at the board's offices.

Maneno said that earlier, students, stakeholders and members had to travel miles away from upcountry to Dar es Salaam or Dodoma seeking for the services.

According to him, the presence of this online system gives the board's stakeholders the opportunity to register, apply, check status, process payment and access results online.

He said that the effective use of this online system will increase performance, efficiency and integrity to the public, private and general public as a whole.

The director detailed that the board offers a number of courses like Certificate and Diploma in IPSAS, Accounting Technician Certificate (ATEC), Diploma in Accounting/Accounting Finance (NTA level 6).

"The board will strengthen its efforts with the professional colleges in the country to ensure that they enroll more graduates to cater the country's demand," he added.

The NBAA boss further challenged employers to abide by the laws of the country and employ certified public accountants, to avoid unnecessary frauds in their companies.

Maneno also wanted accountants and auditors to live up to their professional oaths and not just take it as a fashion, leading to massive mismanagement of public finances.

NBAA is an examining body for the accountancy professional qualifications. However, NBAA does not train candidates who are preparing to sit for its examinations, but is collaborating with a number of training institutions, both public and private institutions to train candidates for its examinations. Training can either be on full time or on part time basis, depending on one's choice.



elebrating 50 years

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

RFQ Title: Printing NICMS Tools and QR Code RFQ Number: 2021-K07/01

Date of Solicitation: 6th July 2021 Closing Date: Thursday, 15th July 2021, 11:00am (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)

Submission Date and Time: 15th July 2021 Questions and Clarifications: Due by 12th July 2021 Estimated Delivery/ Performance Date: 15th August 2021.

Pact Inc. is an international non-profit organization with its headquarters in Washington, D.C. Pact serves communities challenged by poverty and marginalization because we envision a world where everyone owns their future. To do this, we build systemic solutions in partnership with local organizations, businesses, and government. Our goal is thriving and resilient communities where those we serve are heard, capable, and vibrant.

Pact Tanzania now invites quotes from eligible registered vendors to print and distribute NICMS to 81 councils and QR codes with below specifications.

Type of item for printing	Number of items	Specifications	
National MVC Monthly Service Delivery Tracking Form (Form #2).	7,600	Triplicate (White, Yellow, Pink) Perfect binding; include 2 pages guide instruction (double-sided) at the beginning of the book. The serial number on the top (use Letter of the form nam before the serial number). Legal, Perforated,1x3x50 B/W: Cover full color 350gsm	
National MVC Monthly Summary Report Form (Form #3).	5,500	Triplicate (White, Yellow, Pink) Perfect binding; include 2 pages guide instructions (double-sided) at the beginning of the book. The serial number on the top (use Letter of the form name before the serial number) A3 Paper Size, Perforated,1x3x60, cover full color 350gsm	

LOT2: Printing QR Code

Specifications	Quantity
Paper size: A4	800,000 QR codes in ~145,000 Pages, in 81 booklets.
Color: Black and White	
QR codes printed in sticker format.	

Please note, each lot that the dealer/vendor is interested in must be a separate submission. Interested vendors should request for the full Terms of Reference (ToR) through email to ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org before Friday 12th July 2021.



Achievevments Forum 2021

25 June 2021



Turning achievements into recognition

Europe Business Assembly and Academic Union Oxford are proud to announce that John Bura - CEO of BQ Contractors, Tanzania – received the title 'Honorary Professor of Academic

Union Oxford'. The title was established by Academic Union, Oxford with the support of the Club of Rectors of Europe Conferment of this title is a symbol of credit and expression of honor to people, who are promoting social and intellectual progress of modern society, integration and empowerment in the field of science, culture, business, economy, development of innovative processes in the

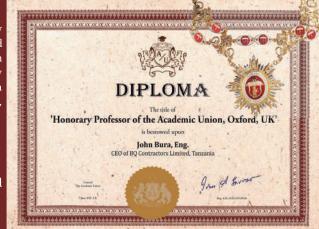
BQ Contractors Limited is one of national integrated contracting firms providing construction solutions to industrial plants, power and energy sector particularly in oil and gas. The company is actively involved in all aspects of construction in mechanical, civil, building and electrical. Over the years, BQ Contractors has evolved with the community within which operates. BQ Contractors grown to being better in what they do, now aspiring to expand service to East and Southern African market. Under guidance of John Bura the company has become an equal opportunity employer, training and retaining exceptional talents who are committed to individual growth and diversity. BQ Contractors has enhanced community development initiatives in education, health as well as social and youth sports.

Offering a unique blend of ideas and inspiration, the Achievements Forum focuses on the issues most relevant to today's open-minded businesspeople, stimulating new thinking and motivating action, whilst also offering a great opportunity for high-level networking. The main emphasis of the event was on achievementsin the quality and management spheres and models of excellence. Acclaimed national leaders in economy, business, healthcare and science gathered to share and learn from each other for business improvement, positive social transformation and regional progress.

The Honorary Professor title was presented on 25 June at the Online Platform The Achievements 2021 within the online Achievements. The platform is dedicated to the promotion of the activities and successes of prominent regional companies and their TOP-managers, international recognition, assistance to entering new markets and search of potential partners, marketing, and PR-support of the winners and their brands.

Participant interest gave rise to interview devoted to philosophy of the brand management and the balance between modern technologies, high quality services and eco-friendly awareness with John Bura, CEO of BQ Contractors,

Europe Business Assembly congratulates John Bura with receiving the Honorary Professor of the Academic Union, Oxford title and wishes new achievements and prosperity!



New free legal counsel agency launched in Dar

By Henry Mwangonde

A new legal network to support families on law issues as well advocate increased women and girls access to justice on right based issues such inheritance and genderbased violence has been launched.

The legal support network on family law issues is part of a project dubbed Mwanamke Imara' implemented by the Tanzania Network of Legal Aid Providers (TANLAP) aimed at ensuring that families remain a safe place and a basic unity of production within the community officials said during the virtual launching

Among other things the network will work towards developing a code of conduct for family law lawyers, judiciary and bar association consideration, advocate for creation of family law courts in the country and review laws that are outdated.

Speaking during the ceremony, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional affairs said in his speech read on behalf by Griffin Mwakapeje the Director of Public Legal Services this was a milestone in addressing legal challenges facing

"Practices of violence not only affects women but it also affect the whole family and the efforts that stakeholders have been doing have resulted into review of

various laws," he said.

He said the government has been doing various efforts to address some of the challenges including ending gender based violence adding that the movement should also involve eradicating bad culture and traditions that derail efforts to develop strong families.

Under the component of access to justice of Mwanamke Imara project, TANLAP will establish a platform where lawyers will be equipped with proper and current legal skills and approaches in dealing with family law disputes.

It will also be a pool of lawyers who will be engaged and facilitate various capacity building training interventions in the

For her part TANLAP board chairperson Dr Hellen Kijo Bisimba said the presence of multiple legal institutions in the pool was an indication of a good job ahead saying it was going to facilitate timely justice and address gender based violence.

TANLAP Mchereli Director Machumbana said the preoject is implemented in collaboration with Tanzania Women Lawyer Association (TAWLA), Kilimanjaro Women Information Exchange and Consultancy Organization (KWIECO) and Women in Law and Development in Africa (WiLDAF) implementing in Tanzania mainland (Mbeya, Njombe and Kilimanjaro).



By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE government in Morogoro District has permitted small miners in Maseyu village, Gwata ward to continue with their activities after having resolved land ownership conflict and mining licence that has lasted five years.

The conflict that pitted mining investor - Otta Mosha and Hamis Lawei, a farmer spurred the government to halt gold mining activities in the area causing more than 400 small miners to be out of work.

before the District Speaking Commissioner Albert Msando, Mosha said he came to the village to prospect for gold, hence he bought the 51–acre area in

He said after securing the area he was surprised to see same people invading the area and started mining activities.

For his part, Hamis Lawei said he bought 16-acre area from one Mwita Maselo since 2009 and later other miners came up and entered into contract with him and began mining.

"My area is of 16 acres and bought it for farming purposes but after a long time, came up other miners who wanted to mine for gold, as we continued mining,

came up Mosha, claiming that it was his area," said Lawei.

After the long tug-of-war, Morogoto DC Albert Msando, a lawyer by profession inspected documents in possession of these people for their legality.

DC Msando said after going through the documents he discovered that the 16-acre area was legally owned by Hamis Lawei and his two brothers while Mosha has a legal mining licence for the same area.

He called on the two sides to jointly enter into agreement to divide a certain percentage of income from mining instead of continuing with the tussle.

He said in the agreement plan, the investor who currently mines will take 70 per cent of the income while the one with the mining licence will receive 5 per cent, while the owner of the area will get 25 per granted a mining licence, but was later cent without taking into consideration of the mining costs.

> "The land owner - Lawei will get 26 per cent and should be part of the investment, and if possible he should be the area's manager, and since Mosha has agreed to relinquish the area, has agreed to get 5 per cent because he owns the mining licence up to the end of its validity of five years," said DC Msando.

> Thereafter DC Msando allowed mining activities in the disputed area to resume.





INVITATION FOR SUPPLY OF FOREST GARDEN ITEMS

The Clinton Development Initiative (CDI), an initiative of the Clinton Foundation in partnership with the Forest Trees For The Future (TFTF) are implementing Forest Garden project in Iringa and Kilolo Districts. The project aims at providing families with sustainable food sources, livestock feed, products to sell, fuel wood and up to a 400% increase in their annual income. The CDI in Iringa under the auspices of the TFTF now invites interested suppliers to apply for the supplying and delivery of Forest Garden Items as presented in the table below:

Item No.	Item Description	Qnty	Unit
1	Biodegradable trees sacs	6992	Packs

The invitation to supply the said items shall be valid for a period of seven days from the date of appearing in the newspaper. Interested supplier must submit a letter of application giving quotes for the items in full. Late applications shall be rejected. Applications will be opened at the below address on Wednesday June 14th, 2021 10:00am in the presence of the suppliers who wish to attend. CDI reserves the right to accept or reject any applications, and to cancel the procurement process and reject all applications at any time prior to award of Contract, without obligation to inform the affected supplier/s of the ground for CDI action.

Send sealed application letter with quotation to:

Country Agribusiness Manager Clinton Development Initiative I Clinton Foundation Hailey Selassie Street Gangilonga Area P.O Box 792 Iringa Tanzania



Tanzania Investment Centre director general Dr Maduhu Kazi (L) presents a gift to Economic Processing Zones Authority (EPZA) director general John Mnali, who visited the TIC pavilion at the ongoing Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair yesterday. Photo: Correspondent

TANIPAC to procure, distribute modern equipment to detect and prevent aflatoxin

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Initiatives for Preventing Aflatoxin Contamination (TANIPAC) has announced that it will procure and distribute modern machinery to detect and prevent contamination of aflatoxin in agricultural produce to key institutions in the country.

The initiative is part of TANIPAC's plan to strengthen capacity to crops-related institutions in mitigating aflatoxins.

According to TANIPAC Project national coordinator, Clepin Josephat, the program will see the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) and Zanzibar Food and Drugs Authority (ZFDA) supplied with the advanced analytical equipment.

Aflatoxin are a family of toxins produced by certain fungi that are found on agricultural crops such as maize (corn), peanuts, cottonseeds, and tree nuts.

Moreover, he unveiled that the plan was also to procure and install investigation machines at the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI- Ilonga and Naliendele Centres) as well as Zanzibar Agricultural Research Institute (ZARI).

"The focus is to improve the institution's ability to investigate, detect and put far from consumption all crops that have been affected by aflatoxins," Josephat explained.

Divulging more developments in fighting against aflatoxins in the country, he said plans are also afoot to procure at least 10 modern crops screening equipments to be installed at plant health service units (agricultural units) at all boarders within the country.

"We want to ensure there's no any exportation, neither importation of any crop cargos that have been affected by aflatoxins, "he insisted.

He observed that aflatoxin remains a serious challenge in Tanzania, as it is in most countries, saying the pandemic was denying Tanzania to market her agricultural produce to profitable international markets, but also it has so far caused several human deaths in the country.

"Aflatoxin is a known carcinogen and the leading cause of liver disease and liver cancer in Tanzania --and reduces the country's export earning potential," he expressed.

He said aflatoxins in crops resulted from several factors, chiefly poor awareness among the farmers to battle with effects of climate change, and lack of knowledge and facilities for crops storages.

"The youths will be selected in all districts of the country with an eye to ensure farmers in all regions and districts are in access to obtain the vital crops storage facilities at their vicinity and at affordable prices," he added.

Tanzania is a leading producer of maize and groundnuts in the East African region, accounting for two per cent of world production.

However, the crops are highly susceptible to fungal infestation and aflatoxin contamination which affects the health of consumers.

In an effort to fight against fungal infestation and aflatoxin contamination the Ministry of Agriculture penned down three deals and two MoUs with different companies for the execution of the Tanzania Initiative for Preventing Aflatoxin Contamination (TANIPAC) project, worth US Dollars 35.3 million (about 81bn/-).

which is implemented by the government in collaboration with Global Agriculture and Food Security Programme (GAFSP) is to minimize aflatoxin occurrence in the food system through an integrated approach in the maize and groundnuts value chains.

The major objective of (TANIPAC) project

The project is operating in the regions of Morogoro, Manyara, Mtwara, Ruvuma, Dodoma, Tabora, Kigoma, Mwanza, Simiyu and Geita.



Home Affairs minister George Simbachawene addresses residents of Pwaga village in Mpwapwa District yesterday, chiefly on what he said was an ongoing countrywide operation by police meant to tame crime. Photo: Home Affairs minis

Stakeholders urge engagement for inclusive data collection

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

AS Tanzania approach the end of the process of collecting the third Biennial Review (BR), data collection and reporting tools, stakeholders from Non State Actors (NSA) have called for the government to ensure collected data reflects the real situation on the ground.

The stakeholders including Non-State Actors (NSA) and the farmers said the data must cover well the indicators and reasonable investments in agriculture are located as per CAADP Malabo Declaration.

Project Manager for scaling up public investment in agriculture which is under Actionaid Jorum Wimmo and Aneth Kayombo from ANSAF said the data and recommendations provided by the farmers should be integrated into policies, regulations and plans.

The stakeholders who collected the data from the field recently, said the exercise if conducted with third eye on the challenges and achievements facing small holder farmers, it will improve the report.

The NSA were involved and trained to fill the country performance reporting Templet to be submitted to RECs and subsequently

people working at the grassroots level such as the small holder farmers, and extension officers.

The BR Report is the powerful instrument for advocacy at the continental, regional and national level for triggering the necessary policy actions for agricultural transformation in Africa by 2025.

During the first technical coordination meeting in 2021 urged AUC to consider improving the entire coordination process of the 3rd Biennial Review (BR), more specifically, bring needed support in terms of training on the BR process and related tools of data collection and better understanding of some new indicators.

Throughout the process of BR process, members of the working groups including CSOs, and women farmers organizations have been conducting critical analysis to inputs the 3rd BR technical report. Therefore, Actionaid conducted value addition biennial toolkit to equip non-state actors with knowledge, analytical skills, monitoring and tracking and engage in the implementation of the CAADP Malabo Declaration.

The stakeholders team immediately started to deploy the value addition toolkit

They said there is a need to involve local in six districts to generate, collect and collate evidence that tracks progress made in the implementation of the CAADP Malabo

> Commenting on the Biennial Report on the implementation of the Malabo Declaration she said Dainess Mtei, CAADP focal person in Tanzania from the Ministry of Agriculture said since when Heads of States made commitments on implementation of Malabo Declaration, Tanzania has been reporting on the progress made after every two years.

> Tanzania has been implementing the commitment set in Malabo declaration through TAFSIP and other National initiatives such as the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT), Marketing Infrastructure, value addition and Rural Finance Programme.

> She said that the current ASDP II is compliant with recommitment set in Malabo Declaration and TAFSIP priorities and it has four main components namely sustainable water and land use management, enhanced agricultural productivity and profitability and ccommercialization and value Addition. Also in the lit are sector enablers, coordination, and monitoring and

Tobacco-buying company dishes out 280m/- for construction of dispensary

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

JTI, a tobacco buying company has provided 280m/- for the construction of a dispensary at Misaya village in Ubagwe ward, in Ushetu District, Shinyanga Region.

The village has more than 3,000 residents and since independence it has never had a health centre, and women had to deliver babies at home supervised by untrained midwives, the situation that endangered the lives of pregnant women and

Speaking here at the weekend at the event to inaugurate the dispensary's construction, JTI Project Manager, Oscar Luoga said the company has provided the funds after acknowledging farmers' contribution from selling and buying their

He said they have provided 465m/- out of which 280m/- was for construction work, 35m/- for medical equipment and 150m/- for construction of a water dam that would assist the villagers of water supply during dry seasons.

Kahama Cooperative Union (KACU) Chairman, Emmanuel Charahani said they will continue to

mobilise other firms buying tobacco in the District to plough back to the people some of the profit they get.

Esta Bundala, a resident of the village said as of now, pregnant women are forced to deliver at home due to lack of health centres near them using traditional midwives.

She said pregnant women are charged up to 15,000/- as motor cycle fare to travel to the Ulowa Dispensary while others are forced to use bicycles, and added that during rainy seasons, roads become

Earlier, submitting his report on maternal health, Ushetu District Medical Officer, Dr Nicodemus Senguo said there was little awareness for women to attend clinic, the situation that increases maternal deaths for those delivering at home.

He called upon traditional midwives to stop conducting deliveries at home, they should advise them to go to health centres where there are medical experts qualified for the job.

Kahama District Commissioner, Festo Kiswaga praised ITI for providing 465m/- for development activities of Ushetu District residents and called on other firms to emulate the firm.

Bashe: M-Kilimo electronic system will connect farmers with extension officers

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has registered 1,979,662 farmers and 6,840 agricultural extension officers in the M-Kilimo electronic system aimed to expand its scope to serve farmers and other agricultural stakeholders in the country.

Five regions - Morogoro, Njombe, Mara, Tabora and Kilimanjaro are leading in registration of farmers in the M-Kilimo that has started identifying the country's farmers.

This was revealed here at the weekend by the Agriculture Deputy Minister, Hussein Bashe, as he addressed reporters on the M-Kilimo system and how it works.

Bashe said farmers who have registered in the system have been able to communicate, including posing questions and receiving answers on production and market challenges

registered agriculture officers of all levels beginning with those in the regional secretariat, local councils, ward and village governments.

"The system will help to gauge the performance of extension officers as it will indicate every advice they give to farmers," Bashe added.

He explained that the government's aim is to make sure all farmers are registered in the system, stressing that all regional heads should supervise the registration exercise.

Apart from the five leading regions, he said those far behind in the registration include Coast, Iringa, Mtwara, Tanga and Arusha.

He said the main benefit in the M-Kilimo system is to simplify communication between farmers, herders, fishermen and extension officers, to help the former access to markets for their markets, as well as

they face. He said the system has also connecting them to other stakeholders in the value chain.

> However, he said despite great success, the system faces some challenges including network glitches in some areas of the country, but added that his ministry was communicating with the relevant authorities to deal with the issue.

> Otherwise, he said, the ministry will continue to facilitate extension officers in using the system including providing them with smartphones according to the ministry's priorities in its 2021/22 budget.

> M-Kilimo coordinator from the ministry's training and extension services division, Rajab Mkarange said the new system is a digital system that helps farmers to communicate with extension officers to solve various challenges they face, and called on the farmers to cooperate in registering themselves in the system.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

SOS Children's Villages Tanzania is a local non-government organization affiliated to SOS Children's Villages International, a worldwide child care and protection organization that provides orphaned and destitute children with a permanent home and educational opportunities. Established 60 years ago, SOS Children's Villages International the umbrella organization, currently has Children's Villages and other projects in 135 countries around the world. Globally, it runs the SOS Children's Village Programme which has two main arms, i.e. Family Based Care based at SOS Children's Villages and Family Strengthening Programmes supporting families in local communities. SOS has been working in the United Republic of Tanzania since 1991, and implements its programs in the following locations Zanzibar, Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Iringa. SOS Children's Villages Tanzania seeks to recruit a suitably qualified candidates to fill the following vacant positions.

: Alternative Care Coordinator (1 Post)

Duty station: Dar es Salaam Reporting to: Program Manager

MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES.

- Providing strong effective leadership to the affairs of the Children's Village.
- · Leading the SOS community comprising of children, youth, SOS mothers, supporting the children's educational, emotional development and physical needs.
- Managing the planning and activity programs, as well as the financial and administrative function of the SOS Children's
- Ensure Child protection and safeguarding mechanisms in Village community
- · Monitor Children and Youth academics and performances in collaboration with mothers/parents.
- Representing the Village in the local community, creating local networks that support the Children's Village program. • Being a role model for the children, youth and mothers..
- This candidate should have knowledge and skills on partnership building with various stake holders such as Government officials, NGOs, FBOs as well as with the private sector
- In cooperation with the Program Director, he/she should be able to design and implement the project proposals in order to enhance resource mobilization in the village
- A working knowledge on HR and performance management

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCES:

- Degree in Social work or Sociology.
- 4 5 years of relevant professional experience at management level.
- Experience in working with children/youth environment will be added advantage. Ability to work independently, self-organize, use initiative, keeps commitments and meets deadlines.
- The candidate should possess the emotional stability to lead and guide the large community of children and youth, by
- maintaining the required high standards.
- Mature personality (male or female), stable socially and emotionally.
- Strong interpersonal and team skills. Fluent in English and Swahili.
- Computer literacy

Note: The position requires the Alternative Care Coordinator to live within the SOS Children's Village.

Nafasi Ya Kazi : Mama Msaidizi wa SOS Children's Villages

Kituo cha Kazi : Mwanza (Nafasi Moja) Anaripoti Kwa : Mratibu wa Malezi Mbadala

Majukumu ya kazi ya mama msaidizi.

- Kuhakikisha ustawi wa mtoto kupitia malezi
- · Kujenga Mazingira ya Kusisimua na yenye Usalama na upendo ambayo yanamfanya kila mtoto awe na utulivu, furaha na uhuru wa kuelezea furaha au matatizo yake.
- Mama msaidizi ni kiongozi mkuu wa kaya, na anakuwa mfano wa kuigwa kwa watoto, kwa tabia yake nzuri, uvumilivu na kwa kuwaheshimu watu wengine na anaongoza kaya yake kulingana na kanuni za SOS na anaheshimu mchango wa wafanyakazi wengine kama vile Mkurugenzi wa Kijiji.
- Mama msaidizi ana wajibu kwa ajili ya usimamizi wa nyumba yake na shughuli muhimu ndani ya nyumba yake
- Mama msaidizi ana wajibu wa kuwajengea fursa watoto kuwa huru zaidi na kuwajibika.
- Kuendeleza familia kwa upendo, ulinzi, uaminifu na usalama kwa wototo atakaokabidhiwa kwa muda wote.
- Kumjenga kila mtoto katika familia na kumsaidia katika ukuajai wa kiafya, kimwili, kiakili, kijamii, kiutamaduni na ustawi wa
- Kuwa jengea uwezo wa kujitegemea na watoto wanaowajibika kwa jamii husika.

Sifa za Muombaji

- Awe na elimu si chini ya Sekondari
- Awe hana majukumu makubwa ya kifamilia, asiwe na watoto wenye umri chini ya miaka 12
- Awe yuko tayari kuishi katika Kijiji cha SOS kama mama wa watoto wanaohitaji malezi.
- Uwezo wa kuongea kwa lugha ya Kiingereza ni sifa ya ziada.
- · Kama hana cheti cha sekondari awe na cheti chochote cha malezi ya watoto au barua yoyote ambayo inamthibitisha kuwa amekuwa akijihusisha na malezi ya watototo wanaofanana na hawa.
- Mama aliyemaliza kidato cha nne atapatiwa kipaumbele.

To apply for this position, send your application letter by email describing how your experience, qualifications and competencies make you the right candidate for this position. Enclose ONLY detailed and updated CV with telephone contacts, email address and details of at least 3 referees. Only contacted candidates for the interview will submit copies of academic, professional certificates and passport size photo. This advert can be obtained on our website http://www.sos-childrensvillagestanzania.or.tz. Closing date is 19th July 2021. To apply please send to;

> The National Director SOS Children's Villages Tanzania. Dar es Salaam, Tanzania recruit.sostanzania@sos-tanzania.org

Please Note: SOS Children's Villages Tanzania is an equal opportunity employer and committed to keeping children safe from abuse and harm, therefore candidates applying for this post will be subject to child safeguarding recruitment procedures and checks.

Only short listed candidates will be contacted



BE PART OF THE EXCITING "SOS FAMILY"

Do you want to inspire people and at the same time contribute to a more productive, inclusive and sustainable society? We have a place for you to be part of the big SOS family, as a voluntary National Association Member. We are currently in the process of selecting the National Association Members. Do join us on our mission to help the people in need. Come and take place in an exciting journey to transform lives for the better.

SOS Children's Villages is a child focused, non-governmental organization providing care and support to children who have lost parental care or at risk of losing parental care of their biological family. SOS Children is Villages, Tanzania, is a member of SOS Children's Villages International, the largest private organization for children all over the world. In Tanzania, there are four SOS Children Villages under the SOS Family Care programme i.e. in Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Zanzibar (Unguja). Other programs include; Family Strengthening, Advocacy, Education and Youth Empowerment. SOS Children's Villages Tanzania implements its programs in six location i.e. Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Iringa, Mwanza, Pemba and Unguja.

Every child belongs to a family and grows with love, respect and security.

We build families for children in need, we help them shape their own futures and we share in the development of their communities.

Our Values

- Courage We take action.
- · Commitment We keep our promises.
- Trust We believe in each other.
- · Accountability We are reliable partners.

Mission of the role:

The National Association members will be responsible for election and voting in the leadership of the organization, support the organization in fulfilling its strategic goals, receive information of the organization's progress by any means of communication, actively attend the general meeting and participate in all organization activities, as they may be required.

Key roles of the association members:

- Receive and endorse the Chairperson's reports.
- Approve the audited financial statements.
- Nominate and elect the national board members.
- Appoint and approve auditors for the next year. • Elect and appoint an independent nomination committee that undertakes new recruitment of members.
- Partake on national association activities upon invitation.
- Approve changes in the statutes and authorize major transactions such as mergers and dissolution of the

Personal qualities, values and attitudes:

Personal qualities and values:

- · A collaborator valuing the contributions of others, able to create a supportive and safe environment for others in the organization.
- Capacity in crisis management, with proved resilience and stamina in times of internal or external crises.
- "Outside the box" thinker.
- · Bold enough to take decisions that will help the organization move forward and thrive.
- An Individual with no criminal records.

Attitudes:

- Passionate with solution based approaches for positive outcomes.
- Ready to contribute expertise, experience and know how to support the organization.
- · Empathic attribute that promotes inclusivity and empowerment.
- A strong belief on meritocracy over paternalistic
- Enthusiastic about innovative approach and change management for strong performance.

Minimum Requirements for association members:

- · He/she should have knowledge of SOS Children's Villages and given his/her support before, or is willing to be a friend of SOS.
- · He/she is committed to the SOS Children's Villages' vision, mission, and values.
- · He/she should be persons of topmost integrity with the ability to effectively probe and offer advice and solutions to complex organizational challenges.
- · He/she should be an individual who is free from any conflict of interests that can violate the organization's constitution, national laws and, regulations. · He/she has competencies in one or several of the
- following areas: children's rights and child-care practices, social and children's issues in the country and general management / management of non-profit organizations. He/she should be an individual who will devote
- adequate time to the affairs of the organization to support the general strategic direction. An individual with the unquestioned capacity to
- represent the core interests of the organization both within and without. He/she must have a general knowledge of the UN
- convention on the right of the children. He/she should be able to pay annual membership

Minimum Skills Required:

- A form four leaver to University / Tertiary / College levels graduate.
- Proven work experience in working and engaging with programmes to support vulnerable groups.
- Experience in engaging with children related programmes / projects.
- · A track record in working with inclusive programmes. • Strong interpersonal skills and ability to communicate
- with people from different backgrounds. · Fluency in Kiswahili and ability to communicate in
- Ability to comply with our child safeguarding policy.

SOS Children's Villages Tanzania holds strict child safeguarding principles and a zero-tolerance policy for conducts of sexual harassment, exploitation and abuse in the workplace. Parallel to technical competence, recruitment, selection and hiring decisions will give due emphasize to assessing applicants value congruence and thorough background checks, police clearance reference check processes.

How to Apply:

If you have passion to be part of the global movement to give a loving home to children please submit a 1-page Curriculum Vitae which indicates age, academic qualifications and experience and a brief motivational letter with at least three (3) traceable referees, applications should be sent electronically to Member. Association@sos-tanzania.org.

All applications should be submitted not later than 19th July,



















Government vows to consolidate bilateral relations with France

By Francis Kajubi

THE government has reaffirmed its commitment to continue working closely with the French government not only on economic and other diplomatic related issues but also on facilitating French and Kiswahili literacy growth with the intention of strengthening interaction of people from the two

Speaking at the graduation ceremony for 25 staff members at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation held last Friday in Dar es Salaam, who underwent a three weeks training in French language and culture to master their skills, Ambassador Anisa Mbega, Director Diaspora Unit at the Ministry, said the training has been a testimony to achieving strong relations of the two countries.

Mbega said the specialized course to the staff in the Ministry of Foreign Affair and East African Cooperation has also exposed the diplomats to basic French tradition, customs and cultural experiences that would make them co-exists and fit in any French community across the world.

"I am confident that the language course they have just finished will improve communication and interaction between the French embassy staff in Tanzania and the other French speaking community. The ministry will keep working hand in hand with the French embassy especially the Alliance Francaise that have organised the training.

The training has not only mastered your skills in French literacy but also explored more on

issues of mutual interests important to our bilateral relations. The end of this first batch of the course paves way for the preparation of the next batch and many more in the future," said Mbega.

According to her, much has been achieved from the two countries' bilateral relations due to strong commitments of their governments. The relationship is today witnessing an increased volume of trade and investments, strengthened development corporations through humanitarian aids and loans, tourism and education.

"With the establishment of diplomatic consultations, I am sure that our countries shall have regular consultations on a broader spectrum of issues based on common interests for mutual benefits of our countries and people," she added.

On his part, Ambassador of France to Tanzania, Frederic Clavier said that the official visit to Paris of the Vice President Dr Philip Mpango is a testimony to the excellency of the two countries bilateral relations.

"To date, 26 countries in Africa and over 150 million Africans speak French. Africa is thus the continent with the most French speakers in the world. One out of nine Africans speaks French. The certificates I am handing over to you are therefore a testimony of the excellent and long lasting cooperation between France and Tanzania.

I am sure that on a personal level, these diplomas will allow each of you to have access to greater responsibilities and to have a career worthy of your qualifications and efforts in practicing your profession," concluded Ambassador Clavier.



Members of Tumejitambua farmers' group based at Bwenda village in Musoma Rural constituency at work in their cassava farm, which also serves as a "field class", as found at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Over 80 villages in Mbarali District have electricity - official

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbararli

ABOUT 82 villages out of the 102 in Mbarali District, Mbeva Region, have been connected with electricity while the process to reach out to the remaining 20 is underway, it has been said.

According to the manager for Tanzania Electricity company (Tanesco) in Mbarali Nicodemus Kapange they are now working on ensuring that the remaining services.

Kapange said the company was working on the matter as a way of dealing with conmen who identify themselves as officers from Tanesco.

He said the indicative price for connecting electricity was 27,000/and that it takes 30 days for one to get the services after paying.

"We are in the final process to connect our customers in all the 102 villages but we are also working

who pretend to be officers from Tanesco," he said.

He said so far the agency has

changed 232 poles which are 32 metres long and removed 234 trees which were approaching electricity

District Commissioner for Mbarali Reuben Mfune asked the Tanesco official to address blackouts in the

"I know you are doing a great job

villages are reached out with the on dealing with these people which is encouraging and I know this will take us to a better position of ending blackouts," he said.

> In another development, Mfune said the government has issued 500m/- for the construction of a district hospital.

For his part the Chief Medical Officer for Mbarali Dr Godfrey Mwakalila called upon wananchi to take precautions against Corona by conducting exercises to make their bodies strong.



Pupils of Kandasikira Primary School at Shambarai in Simanjiro District in jovial mood at the weekend, brandishing books the Mgutwa Secondary School management had just presented to them. Photo: Correspondent Gi

By Guardian Correspondent, Simiyu

THE Tanzania Cotton Board (TCB) has launched a new campaign that aims to increase cotton production from 200kgs to 1,000kgs per hectare.

The campaign was launched yesterday by Agriculture Minister, Prof Adolf Mkenda at Kijereshi Village in Busega District, Simiyu Region.

Speaking at the event, TCB Managing Director Marco Mtunga said the main problem in the cotton production was not the price as farmers say, but small production.

He said many farmers in the country have been applying great physical efforts in crops' production

instead of skills. He said TCB, through the strategy

TCB inaugurates campaign to boost cotton production has mobilised itself to make sure it had been researched on to benefit of cotton per acre," Kilembeka changes the production system, and farmers.

added that in the coming cotton season, the aim is to reach 300,000 tonnes from 122,000 tonnes this

"Our farmers produce 175 to 250 kgs of cotton per acre, we want them to reach 1,000 kgs per acre," Mtunga said.

Centre of Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI-Ukiriguru), Ereniko Kilembeka appealed to fertiliser and pesticides are farmers to use various expertise applied in time, a farmer can being provided by the centre which harvest from 1,000 to 1,000 kgs

He said in the strategy TARI-Ukiriguru has come up with a new strategy in large scale cotton production that include 30cm space planting, which he said is used by farmers to increase cotton production.

"This new planting system Acting Director of the Ukiriguru increase crops harvest from the field as it has 44,444, cotton seedlings per acre, and if proper

For his part, a cotton farming expert from TARI-Ukiriguru Centre, Dr Paul Saidia told the minister that some farmers in Mwanza, Mara, Shinyanga and Simiyu regions have started applying the new space planting system and seen its benefits.

Speaking after launching the campaign, Prof Mkenda said the government has mobilised itself in this area as it has increased its budget allocation from 603m/- to

Mlimba District to set aside special budget for Mobile Clinic Project

By Correspondent James Kandoya

MLIMBA District Council in Morogoro Region is planning to set aside a special budget to facilitate sustainability of the "Mobile Clinic Project" which is implemented to reduce maternal and child mortality rate in the area.

The 18-months project was earlier implemented by Plan International whose target was to increase immune coverage to expected mothers and children less than five years old, especially in places that are far from health facilities.

Mlimba council director Stephano Kaliwa made the statement over the weekend here when Plan international was handing over the project to the government.

The event was held at St Francis Hospital in Ifakara Town.

During the ceremony, the council also received one vehicle that will be used to carry healthcare providers to the field.

"We thank Plan International for working tirelessly to ensure expectant mothers and children below five years are prevented from vaccine preventable diseases. We have planned to set funds from our own sources to ensure the sustainability of the project to reach more people," he added.

He said the vehicles donated by the Plan International will be used for the intended goals adding that it will help to reach more people especially in marginalised places.

Engineer Kaliwa reaffirmed the council's commitment to continue collaborating with Plan international and development partners.

"Plan international has shown the way, I call other partners to join hands by volunteering and initiating other projects," he said.

Project director from Plan International Esteria Soka said the Mobile clinic project was implemented between January 2020 and June 30 this year.

She said the project goal was to

complement the government efforts to reduce maternal deaths and children below five years in Mlimba and Kilombero districts.

The director said the project was implemented in collaboration between the organisation and the district council through the health directorate in places that cannot be reached to ensure expected mothers and children below five get all recommended vaccines.

"Although today our project has come to an end, it doesn't mean that the organisation will close up all its activities, we are currently in the process of submitting proposals to work out other emerging challenges," he assured. Ahmed Ramadhani, project

coordinator said the project was implemented in 18 wards, 36 villages and 48 sub-village where 13 wards were in Mlimba council and 5 in Ifakara town council.

He said during its implementation, the project increased immune coverage from 89 percent in 2019 up to 99 percent this year.

The project has also helped to eliminate epidemic diseases like measles and rubella as well as reducing maternal deaths and child mortality from 19 in 2019 to 7 deaths in 2021.

"We are also proud that the project has increased community awareness on the importance of vaccines to mother and children and distributed vaccines to the health centres offering the services. As a result the maternal deaths and children mortality rate dropped," he said.

He said the mobile clinic project also procured medical supplies worth 82m/- to enhance services in various health centres in Mang'ula, Mngeta and Chita. The support enables the centres to conduct surgeries to pregnant mothers.

In addition, the project also procured over 20 motorbikes to ensure community health workers penetrate and reach the targeted group in unreachable areas.

Guardian

IN MEMORY OF DR. OMAR ALI JUMA

He left while his contribution was still needed

If he had time what would be his Last Will?

By Ally Mwinyikai

MAN of the people, renowned for his good reputation in his entire life, and hence he should be remembered after his departure from the earth. Lips of people who had an encounter with him will never cease to utter plausible phrases in his favor; and his deeds shall remain in the scriptures for future generations. Late Dr. Omar Ali Juma, the then Tanzania's Vice President was a man of the people, and that is why we commemorate the legacy he left to Tanzania by outlining the good he had accomplished during his lifetime.

Today marks 20 years since he left Tanzanians suddenly. He died on July 4, 2001 unexpectedly and without bidding farewell to his people. The tragedy of the death of Dr. Omar brought great sorrow and shock whose waves shall take a very long time to subside.

"Tanzania's Vice President, Dr. Omar Ali Juma has died of a heart attack;" the then Tanzania's President Mr. Benjamin Mkapa had announced through TBC state radio. He said, "Dr. Omar had died suddenly at 11.45 p.m. (20.45 GMT)" and declared a seven-day period of national mourning. It was a megaton bomb shell that, were it not for the high-level of political maturity of Tanzanians, would have triggered insidious motives that could culminate into devastating their highly-valued unity.

"He was my Chief Aide, a trustworthy, hardworking and modest man," President Mkapa said and added, "he has left a huge gap in the leadership of our nation."

Dr. Omar was a trusted friend and close ally of President Mkapa and had been his Vice President since that Tanzanian leader came to power in 1995. He was seen as a possible successor to Mr. Mkapa when he would step down in 2005.

People always believe that human and soon withers. Life is short because a person does not know the time of his departure from the earth. The flower of life of Dr. Omar which had blossomed brightly and gave off a fragrance of hope

faded suddenly that night, without even sensing his sickness. All that

happened was a testimony that the scriptures of Allah were irresistible. Dr. Omar was in the forefront in propagating fairness and justice among the people and we continue to remember him and supplicate to Allah for His mercy to him.

He was born on June 26, 1941 in Chake Chake Pemba and died on July 4, 2001 in Dar es Salaam. He attended primary school education between 1949 and 1957 at Chake-Chake Boys' School. From 1957 to 1960 he was at Euan Smith Madressa Secondary School (the now Haile Selassie Secondary School) in Unguja, where he attained an Ordinary Level School Certificate. In 1960, he joined the Moscow State University and was awarded with an Advanced Level Certificate in 1962; and seven years later, at the same college, he attained a Bachelor's Degree in Veterinary Medicine and Surgery.

In 1969, he joined Cairo University for a one-year post-graduate certificate course in Animal Production and Health. In 1976, he attended a one-year course for a Postgraduate Diploma in Tropical Veterinary Medicine at the University of Edinburgh. In 1982, he joined the University of Florida in the United States for a short course in Veterinary Science; and two years later, he attended University of Reading for a Livestock Economics course. On his return, he joined the Kivukoni Ideological College in Tanzania.

In fact, there is a lot to be said and talked about him, in and out of Tanzania, by all those who knew the late Dr. Omar as a leader who held great national responsibility in both Governments of Zanzibar and the United Republic of Tanzania until he was deceased.

During his lifetime, Dr. Omar held various leadership positions since 1967, when he was appointed as Assistant life is short, like a flower which blooms Veterinary Officer in Zanzibar. Other positions he had held are Veterinary Officer in Charge in Pemba; Senior Veterinary Officer; Livestock Officer; Director of Livestock Department before he was appointed as Principal



Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Zanzibar in 1984; a position he held up to January 25, 1988 when he was appointed Chief Minister in the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar.

It is clear that the positions he had held as a leader in the civil service bear witness to the capability he had in providing services to the community in the interest of the nation as a whole. For more than 34 years of his 60-years life span - spending more than half of his life - Dr. Omar was incessantly promoting his philosophy geared towards

cementing the foundations of unity encompassing patriotism, peace, love, solidarity, tolerance and forgiveness.

Dr. Omar was furious with the people who promoted selfishness, discrimination, ethnicity and nepotism. Despite holding many leadership positions, he did not like to compete for positions. Wherever he sensed potential qualifications of leadership,

he put others ahead of himself. He showed this by his words and deeds in various places. This stance became salient in 1990 when his name was proposed by Mwalimu Nyerere, the then CCM's Chairman, at a nomination CCM Central Committee (CC) meeting to be a sole candidate for the Zanzibar Presidency post. Dr. Omar, with all humbleness, announced that he would not run for the office in the October general elections of that year.

To the great surprise of many, Dr. Omar, who by then was the Chief Minister of Zanzibar, pleaded to the CC for nomination of another candidate, for the reason that he wanted to gain more experience and further strengthening himself politically.

In the development of democracy in the country, as the Vice President of Tanzania in 1999, he came all out urging his fellow political leaders to avoid being unwillingness to relinquish power until the people got tired of them to the extent of being stoned by them.

Just one year after making the remarks, Dr. Omar decided to contest for the Presidency of Zanzibar in the 2000 General Elections. However, at the final stages, he decided otherwise and withdrew his intention, after finding out that there were many more qualified candidates who had come out to contest for the post.

These three incidents are enough to portray Dr. Omar as a man who was a 'politician'. He was a 'leader' in the political stance. Under his leadership, he avoided overreacting to any political squirm. He weighed prudently whatever words he uttered to make them at par with his audience. At all times, when he addressed the public, he portrayed a jovial mood, instilling his tenure of office, Zanzibar made the intended messages to the hearts great strides in sports, especially in of his applauding audience. He was humorous, so much so that even in the strengthened and provided strong face of doubt and skepticism,

Moreover, he was a gentle,

=laughter and prevailed, indicating a sense of unity and cooperation among the people. The familiar phrases he used, though sometimes colloquial, captured attentions of his listeners who in most cases memorized them for future use in their everyday life.

Being initiated in Islamic culture, Dr. Omar was far from deceit, cheating and fraud. Hence, he lived as a beloved leader of people of all faiths; he was not the least racist, racial, or genderbiased. He did not know how to hate committee for sports development of or despise anyone because of one's religious or political orientation. His canonic agender and ambition was to unite people of his nation.

Throughout his life, he aspired to see Zanzibar as an important trading center for East and Central African countries - reflecting on the Islands economic status in the 19th Century. The statement he made was that Zanzibar could be the Dubai of Africa. As the Chief Minister, he spearheaded transformation of the tourism industry ushered in Zanzibar in 1986, through taking advantage of international cooperation initiative and harmonizing fate, and had he known that after just a various aspects of the economy; thus, laying solid foundations for economic development in Zanzibar. His intention was to accelerate the development of the people of Zanzibar and Tanzania as a whole, for the benefit and prosperity of the whole nation.

In laying that foundation, Dr. Omar was among the founder leaders who decided to demarcate free economic zones at Fumba, Unguja and Micheweni, Pemba, aiming at developing them to attain the goal of making Zanzibar the Dubai of Africa.

Dr. Omar strongly emphasized the issue of promoting and developing education standards by Tanzanians and education in various fields.

He was of the opinion that without generous, peaceable man and was many young people having higher neither arrogant nor tyrant. He was not education, the intended national development would be a day-dream. real sense of the word. He used all his He believed that self-sufficiency in strength as a leader to build the unity professionals in various fields was of Tanzanians. Many people liked the the only weapon that would enable behavior of the late Dr. Omar in his the nation to become economically prosperous and politically independent. In addition to addressing political

and economic issues, the late Dr. Omar was also a great sports fan. In his lifetime, he was very close to Zanzibar sportsmen and sportswomen. During football. Various football clubs were

=opposition to big teams. Among ululations the soccer teams that made a name at that epoch were Small Simba, Annur, Nyuki, Shangani, Mlandege, Black Fighters, Everton, Malindi, Jamhuri, Ujamaa and Africana. Football rose to the level that enabled Malindi team to reach quarter-finals of the African Cup of Nations in 1994 and the semi-finals of the CAF Cup in 1995.

Among the most plausible things he had done that will always remain in the hearts of Zanzibar sportsmen and women is the formation of a special in Zanzibar, known as Saidia Zanzibar Ishinde (SAZI). It was through his ingenuity that, for the first time ever, in 1995, Zanzibar won the East African Challenge Cup.

The late Dr. Omar, as the Chief Minister, initiated the Zanzibar debate to join the International Football Association (FIFA) in 1992, believing that Zanzibar had the potential to make strides in football if Zanzibar was given an opportunity to stand on her own feet as a country after being given the status of being a member of FIFA.

Had Dr. Omar been aware of his few minutes he would have to part with this temporary world to go and lead an eternal life, he would surely make his Last Will to Tanzanians, pleading to them to build the unity of the Nation of Tanzania and to stop stupid vying for

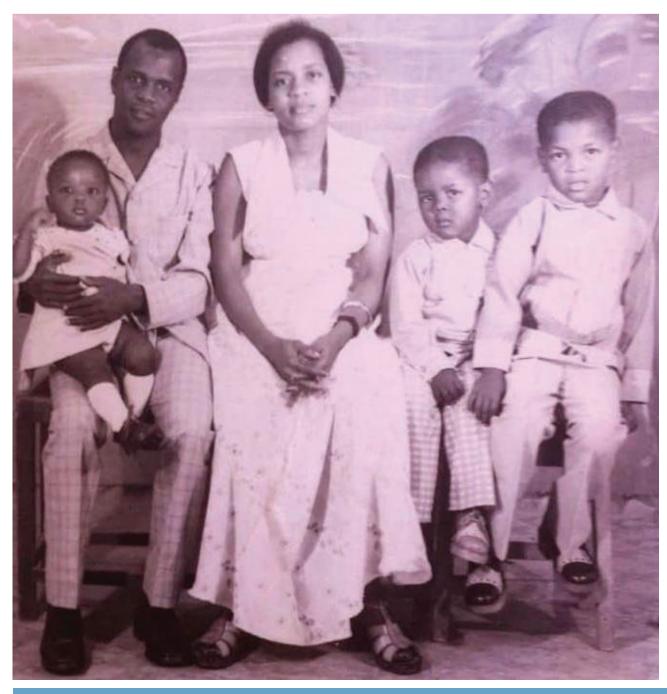
He would make such Last Will based on the ideology he believed in, which was consistent with his conduct. In his lifetime, Dr. Omar was eager to see all Tanzanians love and respect each other. He earnestly believed that all Tanzanians are brothers living in one united state. He was of the opinion that even when people differed on issues of personal, let alone national interest, they still had a chance of sitting together to rectify faults for the sake of continuing to work together in building their nation.

All that being said, the only way to honor the late Dr. Omar Ali Juma is to emulate his esteemed reputation. Pemba Island should take a lion's share in this venture; just because that is Dr. Omar's home place. And during his life he used whatever effort he possessed to see to it that his brothers and sisters in that Island led a peaceful life full of love, solidarity, happiness and tranquility

- even when there were apparent political upheavals, Dr. Omar used what he had in his power to fix the situation to normalcy.

=So in his honor, Tanzanians should live as brothers, and even if they differ, they should not come to hurt each other. Let Tanzanians inherit Dr. Omar's integrity by continuing to talk, laugh and cooperate with each other in enhancing the development of the

Tanzanians should remember and honor Dr. Omar through accelerating the fight against ignorance, poverty and environmental degradation. These were some of the things that irritated him the most and he was determined to deal with them.





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Taking A New Look At The News **ESTABLISHED IN 1995**

Competition in fertiliser supplies ought to promote our agriculture

guidelines in the agricultural sector as in other spheres, the government has lifted controls on fertiliser imports, allowing traders to ship in the input without the usual bidding through the fertiliser Bulk Procurement System (BPS). This was affirmed at the weekend by Agriculture minister Prof Adolf Mkenda, who said that the decision has been made to curb skyrocketing prices occasioned by low production. The rice rise in the international market has to do with the Covid-19 pandemic, which thus complicates benefits of bulk importation.

While the new move is being explained by the government from international market dictates and how it affects local procurement and pricing, there are wider reasons, already noticed in relation to sugar importation, and is also being applied - seemingly - to oil supplies. It amounts to putting into question the benefits of bulk procurement not as a method but as a policy, as it eliminates competition at the source and demands that traders exercise competition only at the end of the supply chain, which is disingenuous. The contrary is what used to happen, that traders figure out how to mark up prices, and it is unclear if wrong or fake fertiliser was part of bulk procurement or came into traders' hands by other sources. It can be locally manufactured and added to monopoly supply, etc.

For one thing, bulk procurement diminishes what can be called the brand effect, when everything comes down to being stamped by the regulatory authority as well as the standards offices, and little else besides. Value chains on the other are typically outstretched from the producer, often a multinational firm. which selects a local agent who may

another change of also deliver for other suppliers or other kinds of goods (like a general merchant) depending on his sources of capital or business design. That is why for ten years or more there is scant increase in fertiliser production, as those who are charged with regulation work with local producers to tailor their profit requirements by bulk importation.

> The minister for instance said that for the 2020/21 season the requirements stand at 718,052 tonnes of fertiliser while actual procurement reached 82 per cent up to end of May, which rapidly implies fighting for the produce at the end of the supply chain. This obviously induces unnecessary cost hikes for farmers, and despite explanation at that level, that Covid-19 hindered production in foreign countries, those who follow business reports on global television will scarcely be satisfied with that explanation. Farms are mechanised, factories are mechanised as well.

> If the matter is put down clearly enough, bulk importation and import controls generally hinder expansion of input production as it basically seeks to protect local producers, and often it is the same producers who buy cheaply and combine with their own produce (often of poorer standards) and then sell at monopoly prices. That was the case for sugar, purchasing nearly expiring sugar from Brazil or elsewhere at nearly throw away prices, and then sell at anything above the usual price; in 2016 it reached 5,000/- per kilo in far off regions, due to an artificial shortage. What is true of sugar is true of edible oil importation, fuel importation and now fertiliser importation, same logic. Liberalisation of the market creates real competition and price advantages, not monopoly supply and price hiking.

Let International Day of Cooperatives see greater synergy among service institutions

Day International Co-operatives, which falls on the first Saturday of July every year and is meant to highlight the contribution made by co-operatives across the world has its ups and downs depending on the policy line locally and internationally. Most of these days of commemoration were raised in the past .decade in the United Nations General Assembly at the instigation of various UN agencies concerned with those spheres to which the days are dedicated. They were trying to recover the spirit of cooperatives, or workers' solidarity underlined by May Day, all of which fret under globalisation.

For one thing, the origins of these days are often an epoch that is now well eclipsed except by some dedicated pursue of how it started, for instance the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) was formed early Julyin 1895, and from 1927 is started to be observed on the first Saturday of July. That was during what is now called the second industrial revolution, as it was just unfolding around the world - that is, moving from machinery based on the steam engine to carbon fuels like diesel and petrol. It means a whole breadth of productive activity was being sidelined, and big producers threatened small ones, etc.

This situation was already being put under threat in the decades following World War II, and in 1973-4, a series of rises in crude oil prices to four times their pre-October 1973 levels destabilised even modernised industrial production in Europe and North America. The spirit of cooperatives generally shifted to the developing countries where ruralbased cooperatives unify millions of small producers worried about market dictates by inputs suppliers or purchasers of their crops. The postindependence governments became custodians of the cooperative spirit at first, and then combated them as alternative power sources.

Trying to fit in cooperatives in what the rural sector is doing today is both relevant and outdated, for producers and sellers of whatever commodity can trace or check information on markets even on mobile phones, not the peasant directly but purchasing agents, stockists, exporters, etc. Having information on one's fingertips changes needs from cooperative unions where interests can be represented to decision makers (who then have a monopoly of allocation of goods and services on a produce) to links, liaisons and good offices. Having a cooperative unit could make a group of producers credit worthy, collectively.

An illustration of this situation is the manner in which NMB Bank is rolling out health agro-sector insurance policy, in the sense that neither the bank nor cooperative societies are individually in a position to cater for health insurance needs of farmers. In the old days such a link would be impossible as the amount of paperwork needed and filing, storage and references would be unmanageable, as would the costs be for the bank, but things have changed. Cheap commodities make it possible for minimal payouts to a facility like the one designed by NMB Bank, using cooperatives, make people hold health insurance.

This spirit can be used in other sectors, especially where universal campaigns are being pursued where the issue is to 'leave no one behind.' It is possible to find two strategically placed stakeholders, using minimal funds from customers and allocating minimal capital for the scheme to work. It can be done, if both sides play a part, with goodwill.

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Nigeria, Israel and the harrowing lessons of violent conflict

By Dakuku Peterside

S with every human endeavour, there is always a way out. The time to look for that way is now.

... we must learn is that when you want to destroy yourselves, the world will watch you, and you will still not be the primary concern of many... The real casualties are the Palestinians and the Israelis. Nigeria should learn from this. When we allow conflict to engulf Nigeria, we will be the ones to suffer all the consequences.

Perhaps no conflict in the world has lasted so long, generated as many news headlines, or engendered as much controversy the Israeli-Palestinian one. This conflict has received a lot of international attention, and it usually inflames passion from both the supporters of Israel and of Palestine. Most Christians usually support the Israelis for different reasons. On the other hand, an overwhelming majority of the Palestinians are Muslims, so they have support from a vast population of Muslims worldwide.

However, despite the high degree of international attention every Israeli-Palestinian conflict generates, the skirmishes are widely misunderstood. While Israelis and Palestinians and their respective supporters trade accusations, many outside observers remain confused by the conflict's complexity and are perplexed by the passion it arouses.

The latest fighting between Israeli and Palestinian militants in Gaza began on May 10, after weeks of rising tension between the two nationalities in East Jerusalem, which culminated in clashes at al-Aqsa, a holy site revered by both Muslims and Jews. Hamas began firing rockets after warning Israel to withdraw from the site, triggering retaliatory airstrikes.

Media reports indicate that, "in the Gaza Strip, Israeli strikes have done enormous damage to buildings and civil infrastructure, bringing down several apartment and office towers and levelling government buildings, service facilities such as schools and banks, homes, and security compounds, including several police stations. As of 13 May, Hamas had fired over 2,000 rockets and mortars at Israel (several which misfired, and most of which Israel intercepted with its Iron Dome air defence system, but some of which landed in Tel Aviv and other urban areas); and Israel had carried out hundreds of air and artillery strikes. Hamas's firepower, both in terms of number of rockets and their reach, far surpasses earlier

has been swift and devastating, making this episode's destruction more comparable to the four earlier Gaza wars - in 2006, 2008-2009, 2012 and 2014 - than any of the flareups in between."

There have been talks of One-State and Two-State solutions. Most observers favour the Two-State solution. This essentially means creating two states for two peoples, Israel and Palestine. On paper, the Israeli state would have a Jewish majority, thus remaining a Jewish state, and the Palestinian state would have a Muslim Arab majority.

However, there are problems with this, mainly with regard to borders and the status of Jerusalem. For Jews, Jerusalem is the holiest city in the world -- it is where the First and Second Temples of antiquity stood, on what the Jews now call the Temple Mount, and where the Western Wall stands as a remnant and reminder of the Second Temple. For Muslims, Jerusalem is the third holiest city, because it is where Muhammad ascended to heaven -- and since the 7th century, it has been the site of the gilded Dome of the Rock and the al-Agsa Mosque, which are also also located at top of the Temple Mount. For Christians, Jerusalem is where Jesus was crucified and it contains the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, which, according to tradition, holds the two holiest sites in Christianity the locations of the crucifixion and Jesus' empty tomb.

The world has been horrified by images of Arab women and children and Israeli civilians killed in the conflict. Both parties should stick to the rules of engagement to minimise the loss of lives and wanton destruction of properties. International mediation led by the United States should not appear to take sides, as was the case during the Trump administration. That was not helpful.

Given the activities and agitations of secessionist groups in Nigeria in recent times and the various conflicts with ethnic and religious undertones, what lessons can Nigeria learn from the Israeli-Palestinian brouhaha? What must we do to avoid a similar fate of either the Israelis or Palestinians?

It should be clear to the leaders of the Israelis and the Palestinians that unless they embrace peace and work out a viable way to exist side by side rancour-free, their children and generations unborn would inherit an environment of hostility, fear, angst, and permanent conflict. They should heed the call for a ceasefire immediately.

There are significant similarities between the Israeli-Palestinian

escalations, and Israeli retaliation nationalities in Nigeria today. Land is entirely accurate. Each statement is a vital issue of contention between the Israelis and the Palestinians. Land and the perceived attempt to force people out of their lands are some of the critical issues at the root of the agitations in Nigeria. History has shown that people are usually inflamed and emotional when encroachment or displacement from their original homelands arises. Furthermore, isolation and rivalry for influence and access to resources define the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The tension in Nigeria today equally revolves around the positioning for power of different ethnic groups and their being denied headway by others in this regard, or their inhibition in having greater access to national resources.

Given the activities and agitations of secessionist groups in Nigeria in recent times and the various conflicts with ethnic and religious undertones, what lessons can Nigeria learn from the Israeli-Palestinian brouhaha? What must we do to avoid a similar fate of either the Israelis or Palestinians?

The first lesson is the danger of cultivating and solidifying lines of suspicion and hatred among people of different ethnic identities. This often leads to sowing seeds of generational crisis that will not go away. This is evident in the apparent suspicion among all the ethnic groups in Nigeria. This suspicion has held Nigeria hostage for years. It has led to ethnic champions calling for the secession of their nationalities from Nigeria (Biafra, Islamic State of West Africa, Niger Delta Republic and Oduduwa State). Besides, Nigerians judge all appointments on an ethnic basis and every nationality clamours to obtain the ultimate political power and believes that whoever gets it has dominion over the others. That is why the presidency of Nigeria is not given to the most qualified person but to someone from a preferred ethnic group at any given point in time. This undermines the well-bieng and prosperity of the nation. The hatred and suspicion among ethnic groups have never been as high in our history than it is now, except during the civil war. A cursory look at the Israeli-Palestinian conflict shows the cost of ethnic hatred and suspicion. May Nigeria never become like that.

The second lesson is the danger of reducing complex issues to simplistic, competing, single narratives. The Palestinians claim that Israelis are occupying their territory; the Israelis claim that Arab countries want to wipe them out of existence, and that Palestinians (especially the group, Hamas) are conflict and the crises among ethnic terrorists. None of these narratives

summarises how each side views the conflict. Still, when this narrative is sold to the population of each side as the only and ultimate truth, they consider the opposing view as false and see people from the other side as enemies. This is even made worse by various hate speeches and hate propaganda peddled by both sides. Nigerians must eschew all forms of hate speech. Those clamouring to secede from the country should not use words that dehumanise other Nigerians who are not from their ethnic group or who do not believe in their cause. When humans are called 'cockroaches and rats', then Rwanda-style ethnic cleansing is loading. Hate speech along the line of ethnicity and religion can only dovetail into war.

The third lesson for Nigeria is that sub-national groups must learn to live side by side in peace, enjoying an equal measure of freedom and prosperity and de-emphasise areas of discord. Anything that creates the impression that one group is trying to dominate another can lead to untoward consequences. With all of Israel's military might, Palestinians do not mind dying, instead of allowing what they deem as the domination of Israel and annexation of their land. The solution to issues like this is never the use of force. No power will make people who feel dominated stop agitating for what they may rightfully or wrongly regard as freedom. The Nigerian government should encourage dialogue and use force only when it is inevitable in dealing with secessionist elements in the country.

The situations of conflict both in the Middle East and Nigeria may look complex, and the solutions may look farfetched. But as with every human endeavour, there is always a way out. The time to look for that way is now.

The fourth lesson is for leaders to know that people are not stupid, and they can read in-between the lines to isolate strategies that the dominant power uses to achieve its military objectives. For instance, one can argue that Israel benefits from conflating the Palestinian struggle for freedom with Hamas' Islamist ideology and indiscriminate rocket fire at residential areas. It can use the latter to justify responding with even greater force, highlighting the severe power imbalance between the two sides and the dodging of responsibility for its attacks on civilians. It is claiming that Hamas, a designated "terrorist" organisation, is using Gaza residents as "human shields" for its military facilities.

Dakuku Peterside is a policy and leadership expert.

Is a college degree necessary?

was recently on a round table discussion and a lady in her 50s asked if she should earn a college diploma so she could work as a caterer.

Well, that's a large decision to make, especially for someone with massive life experiencea

But her query was one that many individuals at different stages of their professions have: "Do I need to go back to school to progress my career?"

I always counsel people in this scenario the same thing: don't take out a ransom amount in student loans until you know you'll be able to repay them.

For many who rely on social security to get them through retirement, this is a terrible situation, so consider twice before enrolling in a costly degree program. To pursue a degree or not to pursue a degree, that is the question.

If you want to pursue a career in business, you'll need a college diploma to get a job with a major corporation. A bachelor's degree, on the other hand, is today's equivalent of a high school diploma. Fortunate of unfortunately enough everyone has one, you'll need at least a master's degree to stand out literally!

On the other hand, returning to school as per this lady's' case is not necessary if you wish to freelance or start your own business. It's all about using knowledge to get results in this scenario where she wants to pursue the cluttery business. Mind you in the entrepreneurial world, it's all about performance, what you can deliver. Credentials, academic papers are irrelevant. ing it's also important to pay be a good fit for their team. Udemy, Coursera, and EdX are exattention to how you write Make your objectives clear.



amples of online sites where you can learn business skills for free and apply the knowledge in real life. Also, people who wish to progress professionally but haven't had formal skills training since college would benefit from online learning platforms that enable the development of cutting-edge skills without going back to school.

However, when job hunt-

your résumé, many people send old-fashioned CVs that are nothing more than lists of facts and dates don't let that be vou.

That isn't the way to stand out. Companies are interested in your qualifications and the value you bring to the table not facts and figures. Help them see the big picture by integrating your experiences into a story about why you'd

This not only exhibits your skill set and problem-solving ability, but it also demonstrates the precise value you'll offer to the organiza-

The interaction becomes richer and more engaging, and you stand a better chance of being hired than if you just handed in a standard résumé.

As a whole, in today's work environment, having marketable skills and being proactive about your continuous education is essential. On the other hand, as a piece of advice to this lady, formal education is not a requirement for professional success. But, in order to construct a fulfilling career around the work she enjoys, she must be willing to seek out learning opportunities, develop skills and apply what she has learnt.

I believe this will drive performance



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Families search for loved ones gone missing in post-war El Salvador

SAN SALVADOR

HE pain that María Estela Guevara feels over the disappearance of her niece Wendy Martínez remains as intense as it was four years ago, when she learned that the young woman, then 31, had vanished without a trace in eastern El Salvador.

"I still feel the same pain, I want to know what happened to her," Guevara, 64, who has always considered Wendy her daughter because she raised her from a very young age after she was orphaned, told IPS be-

Guevara's plight is shared by thousands of families in El Salvador who have lost relatives who simply failed to return home one day and were never heard

At least 2,383 complaints of missing persons were reported in 2019, against 2,457 in 2018, according to the report Desaparición de personas en El Salvador (Disappearance of people in El Salvador), published in April by the non-governmental Fundación de Estudios para la Aplicación del Derecho (Foundation of Studies for the Application of Law - FESPAD). The document covered the period 2014-2019.

The phenomenon has been occurring for years in a highly polarised political context in which the governments in power have sought to downplay the problem in order to show that they are efficiently fighting crime, and the political opposition has sought to draw attention to it.

A grieving process that never ends

Wendy went missing on Sept. 30, 2017 in San Miguel, the capital of the eastern department of the same name. She was studying cosmetology and that day she left at 7:00 a.m. to fix the hair of several clients.

"She said she was coming home again at 11:00 a.m. to give her nine-year-old daughter lunch, but she never returned," Guevara said. "I kept calling her until 12:00 at night, and she never answered."

Disappearances - nothing new in El Salvador

The phenomenon of disappearances is not new in this Central American country that was torn apart by a bloody civil war between 1980 and 1992, which left some 75,000 dead and 8,000 missing.

In the wake of the armed conflict, El Salvador has experienced a maelstrom of violence, mainly at the hands of youth gangs that over time have grown into powerful organised crime groups that control significant chunks of territory in this poverty-stricken country of 6.7 million people.

Gangs have historically been behind many of the cases of missing persons, as they attempt to leave no evidence of their crimes, said analysts consulted by IPS, but without ruling out the involvement of other actors in recent years.

"There is certainly a high probability that this pattern (of gangs) will continue," lawyer Zaida Navas, legal head of State of Law and Security at Cristosal, an NGO that works to defend human rights in Central America, told IPS.

She added: "But disappearances are also the result of murders in cases of femicide, and executions by or-



One of the flyers pasted on a tree in the city of Sonsonate, in eastern El Salvador, which on Jun. 28 called for help to find Flor Maria Garcia, 33, missing since March. The next day, the young woman's body was found in a vacant lot near Cojutepeque, the city in the centre of the country where she lived with her husband, Joel Valle, arrested as the main suspect in the case of femicide.

ganised crime groups that are not necessarily gangs, and also due to personal disputes.'

One of the latest femicides was the high-profile case of Flor María García, 33, who had been missing since

That day, her husband Joel Valle reported to the authorities that Flor María was missing. According to him, she had left home early in Cojutepeque, a municipality in the central department of Cuscatlán, to head to the capital, San Salvador.

Valle, a dentist, said Flor María had gone to pick up materials for the dental clinic where she worked as his

But in a twist to the case, authorities arrested Valle on Jun. 25 as the main suspect in his wife's disappearance, and charged him with the crime of disappear-

"We always had doubts about him; we as Flor's family knew that she suffered psychological and economic violence in her home," her brother, Jorge Garcia, told IPS a few days after Valle was arrested.

He added: "We found it strange that the day she disappeared, he, Joel, only sent us a WhatsApp message at about 7:00 at night, asking if she was with us, in Sonsonate," the city where Flor María was originally from, in the west of El Salvador, and where her family still lives.

The authorities found Flor María's remains on Jun.

29 in a vacant lot on the side of the road near Cojutepeque, under tons of dirt and gravel.

The charges will be changed from disappearance of persons to femicide, the authorities said.

"I should have warned my sister, I should have insisted that she leave him when the incidents of psychological and economic, and even physical, violence occurred," Garcia added.

It is no consolation, but Flor María's family will be able to give her a religious burial and begin the mourning process.

However, many other families have no sense of closure, as long as their relatives remain missing.

The numbers game

Given the strained relationship between the government of Nayib Bukele and his political opponents, the issue of missing persons has once again gained national prominence, with the president defending his security programme, the Territorial Control Plan, as the reason for the drop in murder rates.

But his opponents say that while it is true that homicides have declined, cases of missing persons are on the rise.

According to government figures, homicides have dropped significantly since Bukele took office in June 2019 and began to implement the plan. When the government took office, there were 50 murders per 100,000 inhabitants in El Salvador, a rate that has dropped to 19 per 100,000, said

Minister of Justice and Security Gustavo Villatoro in a television interview But establishing how many people are missing in the country, and whether the number is increasing, decreasing or remaining steady when

comparing time periods, is not an easy task, said analysts consulted

This is true above all because there is no official census of cases, but three separate institutions keeping track of figures that are sometimes in line with each other and sometimes quite different: the National Civil Police, the Attorney General's Office and the Dr. Roberto Masferrer Institute of Legal Medicine, and each one handles its own data based on the complaints received.

"I think the most honest - although I don't know if the most rigorous - answer is that the official figures allow us to conclude that we have a partial view of reality, historically," lawyer Arnau Baulenas, legal coordinator of the José Simeón Cañas Central American University's Human Rights Institute, told IPS.

He clarified that he was not only referring to the current Bukele administration, but that this has been a problem for decades.

A report by the Efe news agency. based on official figures, stated at the end of May that in the first four months of 2021, reports of missing persons had increased by 112 percent compared to the same period in 2020, climbing from 196 to 415.

"But it is very difficult to assess whether the increase in complaints filed actually means there are more cases, because there is a counterargument: that people are reporting cases more because they see that the authorities are taking action," Baulenas said.

He added, however, that "Such a sharp rise would indicate that disappearances have indeed increased."

Bukele, for his part, said on Mar. 26 that as homicides have gone down, investigators are better able to investigate other crimes.

40 homicides as three homicides a day," he said in reference to the drop in the daily murder rate. Meanwhile, María Estela Gue-

"It is not the same to investigate

vara does not lose hope of one day finding out what happened to Wendy on that day in September 2017.

"Her little girl is now 13 years old, and she still has hopes that her mom will come home, she tells me not to remove things from Wendy's room, in case she comes back," said Guevara with a heavy voice.

UN ready for breakaway nations but the pace remains slow

UNITED NATIONS

HEN the United Nations renovated its building at a cost of over \$2.1 billion, as part of a seven-year refurbishing project back in 2014, the seating in the cavernous General Assembly hall was increased from 193 to 204-primarily in anticipation of at least 11 new member states joining the world body sooner or later.

But the pace of new member states joining the UN, primarily from half a dozen breakaway regions dominated by separatist movements, has remained slow.

East Timor, described as the first new sovereign state of the 21st century, broke away from Indonesia and joined the UN in May

The UN played a significant role in supporting the democratic process in the country, now known as Timor-Leste. The UN Transitional Administration in East Timor (UN-TAET) was deployed from 1992 to 2002 to administer the territory, exercise legislative and executive authority during the transition and support capacity-building for self-government.

Meanwhile, the Republic of South Sudan (population: 11.3 million), which seceded from Sudan, was the last of the 193 UN member states, joining the world body in July 2011.

But at least one potential mem-



South Sudan's national flag (centre) flies at UN Headquarters following its admission as the 193rd Member State.

ber state- Kosovo- has been come realities, a lineup of new knocking at the door trying to seek admission rather unsuccessfully primarily because of opposition from one of the permanent members of the UN Security Council (UNSC).

The UN's relatively new member states, beginning in the 1960s, included Singapore (1965), Bangladesh (1971) and six republics, including Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Slovenia, resulting from the break-up of Yugoslavia in the 1990s.

U.N. member states may include potential breakaway regions, including Kurdistan, Western Sahara, Chechnya, Abkhazia, Catalonia, Scotland and Palestine-not forgetting Tibet and Taiwan whose membership will be shot down by

China, a veto-wielding permanent

member of the UNSC.

But currently the most likely candidate is Tigray which is moving towards an independent state after nearly eight months of fighting against Ethiopian military forces, described as one of Africa's Still, if political fantasies be- most powerful, this time backed

by Eritrea.

If it does happen, Ethiopia would have generated two breakaway states: first Eritrea which became independent of Ethiopia in 1993, and now Tigray, with a population of 7.1 million.

The Tigray Independence Party (TIP) has long campaigned for secession from Ethiopia which it described as an "empire".

Debretsion Gebremichael, the leader of Tigray, was quoted by the New York Times as saying, "even if the conflict ends soon, Tigray's future, as part of Ethiopia, is in doubt".

In the Times report on July 4, Gebremichael said "The trust has broken completely. If they don't want us, why should we stay?". Still, he added, nothing has been decided because "It depends on the politics at

Linda Thomas-Greenfield, US Ambassador to the UN, told reporters on July 2 the Security Council has held six closed-door meetings "and the situation in Tigray has not improved."

She said the open meeting last week was the first opportunity to show that African lives matter as much as other lives around the world.

"But an open meeting is not enough," she said, pointing out that "what we need to see is action on

"We need to see a ceasefire that is permanent; that all of the parties agree to. We need to see the Eritrean troops return to their own border. We need to see unfettered access for humanitarian workers. "We need to see accountability for the atrocities that have been committed."

"And at this moment I just want to express, again, our sympathy for the many losses of lives, including for MSF (Doctors Without Borders) staff who were killed recently," she declared.

Meanwhile, the Brussels-based International Crisis Group (ICG) says the Tigray People's Liberation Front is in control of most of the Tigray region, including major towns.

William Davison, ICG's Senior Analyst, said the Front has achieved these gains "mainly through mass popular support and by capturing arms and supplies from adversaries."

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said last week he is deeply concerned with the present situation in Tigray.

"It is essential to have a real ceasefire paving the way for a dialogue able to bring a political solution to Tigray." He said the presence of foreign troops is an aggravating factor of confrontation.

"At the same time, full humanitarian access, unrestricted humanitarian access must be guaranteed to the whole territory. The destruction of civilian infrastructure is totally unacceptable," he declared.

Modern slavery: How consumers can make a difference

FEW people want to buy products that involve the exploitation or enslavement of the workers who make them - but that's exactly what most of us do on a daily

Estimates reveal that there are 40.3 million people in slavery worldwide as part of a US\$32 billion business. Extreme labour exploitation and other forms of modern slavery are embedded within the supply chains of many of the products and services that we choose to consume regularly, such as laptops, mobile phones and clothing.

This raises important questions: how responsible are we for the slavery that is directly connected to our consumption, and what role should consumers play in reducing the demand and supply of products and services made by exploited workers?

On the one hand, the few examples of government legislation - including the UK's 2015 Modern Slavery Act - clearly place some level of responsibility on consumers to be informed, to act, and to make choices that help to eradicate modern slavery. These actions include reporting suspected instances of exploitation and boycotting known products of slavery.

In contrast, however, others are increasingly arguing that it's not up to consumers to police modern slavery. Commentators such as Sarah O'Connor and Emily Kenway remind us that the causes of slavery are systemic, embedded within the processes and structures of commerce and governance. They rightly suggest that slavery and forms of extreme labour exploitation cannot be reduced without addressing the structural role of government and business.

Consumer-citizen action

Global supply chains are complex and generally not visible or well understood by consumers. So asking them to take responsibility for how products are made may let businesses (who do understand this) and governments (who do have the power to change things)



Estimates reveal that there are 40.3 million people in slavery worldwide as part of a US\$32 billion business

business do need to do more to address slavery in production systems through, for example, greater transparency. but where does that leave the role of the consumer?

Focusing on UK consumer understanding of modern slavery, our research highlights a more complicated and active role for consumers in challenging the exploitation of workers who produce the goods and services they con-

It points to the broader observation that shoppers are often "complicit" when it comes to the social and envi-

off the hook. Government and ronmental consequences of their consumer choices. Indeed, we find that consumers are not ignorant of the risks of slavery and extreme labour exploitation. More worryingly still, some consumers explicitly express their indifference towards such issues.

Reviewing the Modern Slavery Act and similar legislation reveals how our current system relies on consumers to report and boycott instances of slavery as a key mechanism in the overall eradication plan. We agree with the likes of Kenway that shifting responsibility away from businesses and governments and on to the consumer risks relieving these powerful players of their duties and commitments.

Yet, should this argument be used to negate all attempts to mobilise consumers? While it's right to be suspicious of attempts to pass the buck on to consumers, we argue that removing all responsibility from consumers and insisting that the realm of consumption remains a seemingly benign and apolitical arena is not a useful way forward either.

The considerable consumer inertia in response to scandals in the UK such as Boohoo which saw the company accused of sourcing its clothes from factories with poor health and safety records and paying staff less than the minimum wage - illustrates a need to sensitise consumers to the slavery in their consumption, and to elevate their power to act. This may be framed as calling on consumers to take positive citizenship action (lobbying) or negative action (boycotting).

It is important to recognise that consumer-citizens are not unfamiliar with taking action on important issues. For example, the understanding that we have environmental responsibilities as consumers is well rehearsed. It is ac-

cepted that "we must place on the consumer at least some of the responsibility for making the economy sustainable", as Tim Jackson writes in Material Concerns: Pollution, Profit and Quality of Life.

Imagine action on climate change that didn't include a role for consumers in taking some level of responsibility for their own impact through the consumer choices they make. Changing how we consume is a vital link in transitioning to a cleaner and more just society, even though businesses are disproportionately responsible for carbon emissions. It should be no different when we consider modern slavery.

While we don't support the shifting of unrealistic levels of responsibility on to consumers when it comes to ridding society of modern slavery, our research does point to an important role for consumers, revealing that they do want to take action - just not on

They want to be partners in this modern slavery equation, particularly with business and government. Greater consumer interest, involvement and action over modern slavery is bound to raise more, not fewer, questions about the role and responsibilities of other groups involved, leading to greater transparency.

MONDAY

05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM

09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA

13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO

16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA

18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME

20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI

14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101

18:00-18:10HRS HABARI

21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS

22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI

MCHAGANGANYIKO)

TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME

05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM

09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA

13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO

16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA

18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME

14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101

18:00-18:10HRS HABARI

21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS

22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI

MCHAGANGANYIKO)

WEDNESDAY

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

18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME

21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

18:00-18:10HRS HABARI

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY 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 SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO

22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME

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

SUNDAY

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

18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI

01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO 👩









11

Guardian

Teenage girls happy with HPV vaccines

By Felister Peter

TEENAGE girls in Mbeya and Songwe regions are optimistic with the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) vaccine as they are now protected and will not suffer and perhaps die from cervical cancer.

Cervical cancer is a leading cause of cancer death among women in lowand lower-middle-income countries. More than a half-million new cases and 266,000 deaths occur annually, with most of the deaths occurring in these countries.

"We saw nurses coming at our school, our health teacher announced that girls aged between 13 and 14 years should gather in one of the classes; we were first educated on various health issues including the importance of being vaccinated for cervical cancer before the nurses administered the vaccine. Back home, my parents were also happy about the news," said Annah Ribona, a Form Four student at Vwawa secondary school in Mbeya.

Ribona added: "I don't want to die of cervical cancer; I want to live long so that I can accomplish my life dreams."

Another student from the school, Shukrani Mbwire (Form Four) thanked Ihpiego Tanzania for supporting the nation's HPV vaccination campaign in their region because apart from being protected from cervical cancer, they are also benefitting with other integrated services such as eye testing, reproductive health and nutrition education.

Jhpiego is implementing the project in collaboration with the government through President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) and Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children with funding from and UNICEF Tanzania.

Mbwire called upon other teenage girls who have not received the vaccine to ensure they do so for the betterment of their health.

"The vaccine is good because I couldn't develop any side effects after receiving the jabs; I got both the first and second dose," she added.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends two doses of HPV vaccine for girls aged 9 to 14 years, and three doses for girls aged 15 years and older and those who are immune compromised or HIV positive.

A Public Health Nurse at Mbozi district hospital, Beatrice Msukwa told the Guardian that most of the people are now aware of the vaccines as they normally conduct public education to both, the community and students before administering the jabs.

"In our outreach programmes, we visit villages and schools to educate them on cervical cancer and the need to protect girls by ensuring they receive the vaccines," said Msukwa adding there are 188 primary schools and 63 secondary schools in the district.

Veronica Luwumba is a nurse-midwife at Ruanda health center in Mbeya city council, she said the target this year aw to vaccinate 460 girls, but they have so a total of 472 school girls have received the first dose between January and June this year. She said plans are to provide the second dose in August, 2021.

"Of the number, there are two girls who are HIV positive. One of them was traced through our HIV care and treatment clinics (CTC)," she noted. According to her, the HPV+ programme under Jhpiego has improved their skills because previously, when the vaccination exercise was introduced in the country in 2018, they were just administering it without providing education and other integrated health services to eligible girls.



The World Health Organisation (WHO) recommends two doses of HPV vaccine for girls aged 9 to 14 years to protect them from cervical cancer. Photo: Courtesy of Jhpiego.

ministered the first does to 1,800 girls, but only 970 of them were vaccinated for the second dose. He said that this year (January - May) they provided the first dose to 1,450 girls while only 700 girls received the jabs for the second dose.

The target this year is to vaccinate 1,796 girls, he added.

In April 2018, Tanzania launched the HPV Vaccine following the success of jab in the pilot phase in Kilimanjaro Region.



We saw nurses coming at our school, our health teacher announced that girls aged between 13 and 14 years should gather in one of the classes; we were first educated on various health issues



for a living planet°

CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – Eol

CONSULTANCY TO DEVELOP ENVIRONMENTAL SOCIAL SAFEGUARD FRAMEWORK FOR WWF SEASCAPE PROGRAMME AREA (TANZANIA)

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Background: The World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) is an International Non-Governmental Organization that deals with conservation of nature through environmental management and conservation programmes. Its mission is to stop the degradation of the Planet's natural environment and to build the future in which humans live in harmony with nature. WWF Tanzania Country Office (WWF TCO) through Marine Programme is currently implementing a project called "Strengthening Marine Protected Areas Management in Rufiji, Mafia and Kilwa Districts in Tanzania" funded by Blue Action Fund (BAF) commonly known as RUMAKI-BAF. The project is a 5-year project being implemented by WWF Tanzania Country Office in partnership with WWF Germany, Wetlands International East Africa, coastal communities and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania through the Vice President's Office (VPO) and the Ministries of Livestock and Fisheries and Natural Resources & Tourism.

Project: The project consists of four work packages (WPs), namely; (WP 1) Improved management effectiveness of Mafia Island Marine Park – MIMP, (WP 2) Improved management effectiveness of Rufiji Delta Mangrove Forest Reserve, (WP 3) Strengthening Collaborative Fisheries Management Areas - CFMAs and (WP 4) Designation of Man and Biosphere (MAB) Reserve in the Rufiji-Mafia-Kilwa Seascape. The four work packages have been objectively designed to ensure marine protected areas and associated buffer zones within the seascape are more effectively managed to maintain and improve ecological value and livelihoods for nature and people. This consultancy assignment is a cross cutting initiative with the following objectives:

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The overall objective of the consultancy: To rollout the Environmental and Social Safeguard Framework (ESSF), more specific the social impact assessments in critical sites such as Protected Areas (PAs), CFMAs and Delta mangroves in the RUMAKI Plus Seascape area. The specific objectives are listed in the ToR.

The duration of the consultancy work is three months (90 days, working days spread within the proposed period) including contract signing date. The expected starting date of the assignment is 15th August 2021

Applicant Requirements: A suitable candidate for this assignment should possess the following qualifications:

Master's Degree or PhD in Natural Resource Governance, Social Science, Environmental Science and other related discipline. The following additional skills will be considered:

Development of adaptive ESSF screening tools;

Experience in assessment and management of Environmental and Social Risks:

Proven experience on undertaking the similar assignment

Knowledge and skills in Social Accountability of Natural Resource projects and programmes; Experience in Human Rights Based Approaches (HRBAs), Gender equality as well as rights holders and

duty bearer's concepts; (vi) Knowledge on national and related global policies and directives on Environmental Social Framework

Knowledgeable and aware of cultural sensitivity, norms and traditions

(viii) Proven experience in producing high quality report by integrating scientific and social aspects.

(ix) Evidence of similar assignment previously conducted by the consultant(s); Ability to align with the core values of the WWF organization policies and standards available at:

https://wwf.panda.org/discover/people_and_conservation/advancing_social_policies_and_principles/

Submission of Application Documents: Application from interested Consultant (s) should include:

- (i) Letter of expression of interest;
- Technical proposal including the design of the process and methodology, data collection procedure and analysis, and timeline;
- (iii) Financial proposal; and
- (iv) A detailed CV describing a consultant's preparedness, experience & expertise in conducting similar consultancy in his/her previous assignments with 3 referees.

Interested applicants are required to submit their electronic copies of application (full proposals – Technical & Financial) to the procurement email; procurement@wwftz.org

Please, direct all your applications to:

Secretary,

Procurement Committee,

World Wide Fund for Nature - Tanzania Country Office,

Off Mwai Kibaki Road, Kiko Street Mikocheni,

P.O.Box 63117 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Email: procurement@wwftz.org

Detailed Terms of Reference is accessible through www.panda.org/jobs

- Evaluation of the tenders will be done based on WWF procurement guidelines.
- WWF Tanzania is not bound to accept any lowest or highest proposal submitted.
- All applications should reach us by or before 11 am EAT on Friday, 30th July 2021
- · Only successful applicant shall be contacted.



and Vaccination Officer (DIVO), Moses Katamba commended the residents for a good cooperation as most of the parents have been supporting them in identifying as well as ensuring that eligible girls receive

Katamba added in 2020, they ad-

"We went through capacity build-

ing trainings; we have also outlined

plans for continuation of the vacci-

A health teacher at Chalangwa

primary school, Nuru Mwatujobe said: "We prefer vaccinating the

girls at school because we can also

reach a good number of them at

The teacher added that apart

from the teenage girls, parents are

also happy with the vaccines as

they all want their children to be

protected from cervical cancer. She

said this year (January-May) they

have provided the first dose of HPV

to 11 girls, whereas in 2020 they suc-

cessfully vaccinated 11 girls with the

nation exercise even after

once."



Save the Children

Invitation to Tender and Prequalification Construction Works

ITT/SCITZ/2021/015

Save the Children (SCI) is the world's leading independent organisation for children. We save children's lives; we fight for their rights; we help them fulfil their potential. We work together, with our partners, to inspire breakthroughs in the way the world treats children and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives.

Save the Children (SCI) has set aside funds for the construction works to be done in Zanzibar (Unguja and Pemba) as detailed below. SCI through this process, will also set Framework Agreements (FWAs) with several construction companies for upcoming construction works in other regions including Tanzania Mainland.

Therefore, Sealed bids are invited from reputed contractors, registered in the United Republic of Tanzania for the construction works to be done in Zanzibar (see table below) and FWAs for upcoming construction works in other regions in the Tanzania mainland.

Lot	Description	Quantity	Location
Lot 1	Construction of 10 rooms block toilets	4	Different schools in Unguja
Lot 2	Construction of 10 rooms block toilets	4	Different schools in Pemba
Lot 3	Construction of Handwashing facilities	14	Different schools in Unguja
Lot 4	Construction of Handwashing facilities	14	Different schools in Pemba

To obtain a complete set of Tender documents with detailed technical specifications please send your request through email address: Tanzania.logsshared@savethechildren.org.

Please submit a Complete and sealed tender document marked on top "ITT/SCITZ/2021/015 - Construction Works and Prequalification" to the Save the Children Tanzania Country Office at the below address not later than 4.30 pm on 27th July 2021.

Tender Committee,

Save the Children Tanzania Country Office 257 Kiko Avenue, Mikocheni A, Mwai Kibaki Road Dar es Salaam – Tanzania.

Save the Children reserves the right to accept or reject any application or part thereof, and is not bound to give reasons for its decision.

FEATURES

Guardian

By Tegbaru Yared, researcher, Horn of Africa Security and Analysis, ISS Addis Ababa.

ESPITE some delays, 21 June saw Ethipia hold its sixth national elections since the downfall of the Derg regime and the reconfiguration of the state along ethno-regional lines in 1991. Although the 2005 polls had an element of competitiveness, none of the past five elections was free, fair and competitive.

Partly due to Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali's much-lauded reformist zeal, this election was anticipated to be a democratic way out of Ethiopia's authoritarian past. But despite efforts to reform laws on political parties' registration and election code of conduct, reconstitute Ethiopia's National Election Board and open up the political space, the elections were far from competitive. They were peaceful, though.

Close to 38 million Ethiopians (78%) registered to vote. Two major opposition parties from the largest and most populous Oromia region boycotted the polls, and there was no voting in three of the country's 11 regions. Preliminary results suggest that the ruling Prosperity Party will secure a landslide victory at the federal and regional houses.

Given its political divisions and historical social cleavages, many observers argue that the election is just one step in the right direction for Ethiopia. Other robust political mechanisms will be needed to resolve the country's structural ills.

The elections were postponed twice due to Covid-19 and other logistical, security and associated reasons. Some opposition parties contested the postponement on procedural grounds.

This led the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) to hold regional elections in Tigray in September 2020. This was done despite the federal Parliament's extension of the federal and regional governments' term until Covid-19 no longer posed a public health threat.

The TPLF had been a member of the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front but withdrew from the ruling coalition in November 2019, objecting to its merger with the Prosperity Party. The federal government and TPLF would

Ethiopia's election was peaceful, not competitive but stark political divides endure



The President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Sahle-Work Zewde (C) casts her ballot in the general elections at a polling station in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 21 June 2021. (File photo)

later engage in violent confrontations, which are ongoing.

Political divisions, ideological incoherence in the ruling party and a fragile security apparatus have made the transition to democracy difficult. Incidents such as the murder of popular Ethiopian singer Hachalu Hundessa widened the cleavages and led to the arrest of some political leaders. Despite the 2018 promises of political reform, efforts to democratise have been disrupted by episodes of state repression.

The fundamental fault line in Ethiopia is the lack of agreement among political elites about the nature of the state – both past and present.

Before the elections, these fault lines were revealed by ethnonationalist parties such as the TPLF, Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) and Oromo Federalist Congress (OFC) on the one hand, and the nationalist Ethiopian Citizens for Social Justice (Ezema) on the other. Others like the Prosperity Party, National Movement of Amhara (NaMA) and Balderas for Genuine Democracy opted to strategically use both ethno-nationalist and nationalist

The OLF and OFC boycotted the elections, citing their political

leaders and members' detention and concerns about electoral irregularities. This deprived the election of competitiveness and a level playing field. It also means the poll brings the country no closer to resolving major differences about the nature of the Ethiopian state.

Despite pressure from the international community to prioritise national dialogue and postpone the polls, elections went ahead in all but the Tigray, Harari and Somali regions. In the first two, security concerns prevented voting, and in the third, irregularities and defective ballots were cited.

Many expected Ezema, Balderas and NaMA to pose a serious challenge to the Prosperity Party in Addis Ababa and the Amhara region. Yet the ruling party is poised for a landslide victory. Some party members attribute this to the Prosperity Party's popularity, citing the high voter turnout. Others link it to the approval and charisma of Abiy himself.

A senior analyst of Ethiopian politics told ISS Today that other factors could also be at play. These include the ruling party's effective mobilisation of the electorate through its party structure, its promises of social and economic prosperity and voters' desire for peace, security and stabil-

Major opposition parties have submitted official complaints to the National Election Board alleging, among others, voter and intimidation, observer undue police presence around polling stations and local administrators' interventions in the voting process. In the Oromia region, Abiy's home state, the OLF and OFC parties didn't participate, so the electorate's political marketplace lacked competing ideologies and outlooks.

Hence the winner can only be legitimate in technical terms. If it achieves victory, the Prosperity Party can hardly claim a popular mandate to reconcile the country's structural divides along ideological

Given the political cleavages still looming over the Ethiopian body politic, the Prosperity Party shouldn't read too much into the election results. It should focus on stabilising the country, stopping intercommunal conflicts, managing inflation, engaging the opposition and initiating an all-inclusive national dialogue. This could earn it popular legitimacy.

Besides being peaceful, the other legacy of the

polls and Abiy's political reform is the institutional stature of the National Election Board. With all its limitations, the board could become an impartial arbiter. Led by former opposition figure Birtukan Mideksa, it has done a commendable job while projecting its independence, rigour and impartial-

Achieving this wasn't

easy, though. At times the public had to appeal for Abiy's intervention to ensure regional administrations cooperated with the board's technical and logistical demands. Despite bureaucratic and capacity hurdles, the board tried to create a level playing field, establish clear rules and procedures and conduct a credible election. So far it seems to have met the expectations of many critical observers. Guaranteeing its independence and capacity could help consolidate Ethiopia's democratisation process.

Ethiopia is a decisive player in the Horn of Africa and the diplomatic capital of the continent. Now that elections are over – barring those in Somali and Harari on 6 September – Ethiopia should prioritise inclusive national dialogue and reconciliation to deal with its security challenges. **DM**

China makes pursuing common good for world its mission and undertaking

By He Yin

N celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China (CPC), the country held an art performance titled "The Great Journey" at the National Stadium in Beijing on the evening of June 28, during which a show under the theme of "shared future" was staged, embodying China's idea of building a community with a shared future for mankind and reflecting the CPC's sense of responsibility in striving for humankind's progress.

"Over the last century, the CPC has striven forward against all odds in a relentless pursuit of happiness for the Chinese people, rejuvenation for the Chinese nation, and the common good for the world. As a result, the Chinese nation has achieved a great transformation from standing up to growing rich, and to becoming stronger, and has thus made a notable contribution to human civilization and progress," said Chinese President Xi Jinping in a keynote speech at the Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2021, who stressed the CPC's mission and undertaking of pursuing the common good for the world.

As July 1 this year marks the centenary of the CPC, many political party chiefs, government officials, and friendly personages



An art performance titled "The Great Journey" is held in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China (CPC) at the National Stadium in Beijing, capital of China, June 28. (Xinhua)

in the world have sent wishes to the Chinese political party. They believe that the CPC is "an important driving force in building a balanced international order and maintaining peaceful coexistence of civilizations", and that "the vision of a community with a shared future for mankind proposed by Xi has brought hope for building a free, just and beautiful

The CPC has always aspired to make new and greater contributions to humankind. From "China should make a major contribu-

tion to mankind" to "The Chinese people not only pursue a good life for themselves, but also work for common interest and harmony of the world," the CPC has become more determined to pursue the common good for the world and made the connotations of the vision increasingly rich with the development of the party itself and the country.

The CPC, the ruling party of China, has not only made a solemn oath of pursuing the common good for the world, but taken actions to put such an idea into practice.

China has proposed the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, and incorporated adhering to the path of peaceful development into constitutions of the country and the CPC. Making opening-up a fundamental national policy, the country has joined in almost all universal intergovernmental organizations and acceded to over 500 international conventions. It suggests building a new type of international relations and a community with a shared future for mankind, and upholds the universal values of peace, development, fairness, justice, democracy and freedom. The country has joined hands with other countries in the construction of the Belt and Road, while actively participated in the reform and building of the global governance system. China has made major contributions to world peace and development with practical efforts.

On the international stage, the CPC always represents a rational voice and an anchor of stability, said Shahbaz Sharif, president of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz, adding that Xi's vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind has promoted world peace and devel-

The CPC has led the Chinese people onto a path of socialism with Chinese characteristics, and diversified the routes to modernization for developing countries, laying a foundation for pushing world peace and development and building a community with a shared future for mankind.

"We must also see that China's development will create more opportunities for the world. We will draw on our own practices to explore the law governing the evolution of human society, and share with other countries what we have learned. We do not want to "import" models from other countries, nor do we want to "export" the Chinese model, still less will we ask other countries to copy the Chinese practice," said Xi while addressing the CPC

in Dialogue with World Political Parties High-Level Meeting on December 1, 2017.

The CPC shares with the world its dividends in both economic development and ideas and philosophies, which is of use for all countries, especially developing countries, in exploring a development path that best suits their national conditions.

The path of socialism with Chinese characteristics provides a new route to modernization for developing countries, and this institutional innovation is a contribution to the diversity of human civilization, according to Victoria V. Panova, managing director of the National Committee of BRICS Research of Russia.

The CPC's great struggle together with the Chinese people in the past century has shone through the annals of history, and its great contributions to the peace and development of mankind are obvious to all.

No matter how the international circumstances may change, China will continue to play its part in building world peace, promoting global development, and defending international order, and contribute even more to enhancing the common well-being of human beings and building a community with a shared future for mankind.

People's Daily



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CURRENT NEWS KCB teams up with NEEC, SIDO to equip young graduates with entrepreneurship skills



TOP VIEW Green Gold Farms lands \$1.6m to tackle Ghana's food imports challenges



VIEW FROM THE TOP

Top4 developing insurance financial products by 2025

Zanzibar to adopt digital payment system for clove farmers this fiscal year

By Smart Money Reporter

LL payments being made by Zanzibar Government to clove farmers this year will be done through their mobile phones as the Isles moves Ltowards digitization of all payments. ■

Zanzibar's Minister for Trade and Industrial Development, Omar Said Shaaban said last week when launching the new payment system for clove farmers through Zantel's Ezypesa platform that cash payments to the farmers and other groups which do business with the state have ceased.

"From this year onwards, the government will use digital payment system and no payments will be given in cash and we want all Zanzibar residents to accept and understand the changes," Shaaban said also launching this year clove harvesting season in Pemba.

According to him, the government has decided to use digital payment solutions and revenue collections as provided by Ministry of Finance this fiscal year saying the move is also aimed at improving efficiency and security.

He urged Zantel to improve the digital payment system so that it is user friendly and accessible at all times so that farmers easily withdraw their money. "We are aware that the system is still new to us, it might be challenging, but the challenges will be resolved with time" he added while urging Zantel and People's Bank of Zanzibar to ensure the payment system is reliable.

Briefing the minister on Ezypesa payment system, Zantel's Chief Financial Officer, Azizi Said Ali said the company's goal is to ensure that customers get quality and affordable digital payment services to align with global



The Minister of Trade and Industrial Development for Zanzibar, Omar Said Shaaban (L), listens to Zantel's chief financial officer, Aziz Said Ali, who was briefing him on Ezypesa digital payment system which will be used to pay clove farmers during its launch in Wete District of Pemba Island last week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

transaction trends.

"The world is changing very fast when it comes to digital transactions, particularly in procurement of goods and services. Zantel through Ezypesa has it all and we constantly improve our

services to meet growing market needs," Ali said.

He commended Zanzibar State Trading Corporation (ZSTC) for signing an agreement with Zantel aimed at digitizing clove farmers' payments in the main

growing region of Pemba Island. Ali urged the farmers to subscribe with Ezypesa so that they can start receiving cash directly on their mobile handsets when ZSTC releases payment.

"Once money is received into

the accounts of ZSTC, the Ezypesa platform will transfer the payments directly to farmers who have registered with the service and they will be alerted of the payment via an SMS message," he explained.

Speaking at the same event, Northern Pemba Regional Commissioner Salama Mbarouk Khatib said ZSTC is the only institution mandated to buy cloves in the Spice Islands hence farmers should ensure firm contacts with the state commodities company. "I also urge ZSTC to buy from farmers directly to avoid fraud and ensure that they are not cheated through use of tampered weighing scales," Khatib said.

Permanent Secretary at Ministry of Trade and Industrial Development, Dr Islam Seif Saleh said the introduction of the digital payment system is implementation of the current government's promise to improve standards of living among farmers in particular and all Zanzibaris in general.

Dr Saleh insisted that the government will ensure that ZSTC remains an exclusive buyer of the cloves in the isles saying legally such dealings should be done through auctions.

"The government is vigilant and well organized to ensure it stops clove smuggling. I urge farmers and middlemen to be patriotic and stop engaging in smuggling of the commodity to neighbouring countries," he added while warning would be smugglers of risking jail terms.

"We have come up with this digital payment system because bulky cash payments are risky to farmers and their families," Dr Saleh noted saying Zantel's Ezypesa platform in collaboration with PBZ provide a better mechanism for the payments.

Mobile loans feel the pinch of new 20pc excise duty

NAIROBI

BORROWERS of digital loans will bear the brunt of the 20 percent tax on fees and commissions earned on bank credit that took effect on July 1. All or a significant portion of fees charges on mobile loans provided by KCB, NCBA (M-Shwari), Absa Kenya, Co-operative Bank and Equity are considered as facilitation fees.

This means that the entire loan or a huge proportion of it will attract the 20 percent fee, increasing the cost of mobile digital advances by a larger margin compared to ordinary bank credit. Fees that attract the excise duty in a normal bank loan such as processing charges account for an average 1.5 percent of the overall lending rate, reflecting an additional tax equivalent to 0.3 percent.

But the additional tax is higher for a facility like M-Shwari whose 7.5 percent facilitation fees will see

its duty charges increase by 1.5 percentage points, pushing the monthly cost of the product to nine percent. "The cost of mobile loans will be higher compared to the normal loans because charges for digital products are dominated by fees," said a CEO of one of the top banks who sought anonymity.

KCB in text messages to its customers on Friday afternoon said that loans advanced through the KCB M-Pesa will now attract a fee of 8.64 percent, up from 7.35 percent. The NCBA Group said that all loanrelated fees and commission will be subjected to the 20 percent excise tax, including M-Shwari and the overdrafts feature Fuliza – products the bank co-owns with Safaricom .

The increase of the loan fees comes a day after President Uhuru Kenyatta assented to the law returning the 20 percent tax on all fees and commissions, prompting banks to pass the increased cost to borrow-

The excise duty on normal loan fees will see banks pay the Kenya Revenue Authority more than Sh7 billion annually, making credit costlier as lenders transfer the burden to borrowers. But the taxman looks set to generate more from the digital loans because they generate bigger fees and are costlier than conventional credit.

Before the new tax, borrowers paid a facility fee of 7.5 percent for the M-Shwari loans, amounting to an annualised interest rate of 90 percent. On Fuliza, the fee is 1.083 percent daily or 395.2 percent annualised, underlining the high cost of using the short-term credit services regularly.

The Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) quoted the average annual commercial bank lending rate at 12.08 percent in April. The CBK will regulate



The cost of mobile digital loans will increase by a larger margin compared to ordinary

monthly interest rates charged by the digital mobile lenders and borrowers' non-performing loans if a proposed law before Parliament is adopted.

The regulator will, among other things, approve increases in digital lenders' rates and other loan charges as well put a ceiling on non-performing loans at not more than twice the defaulted credit. Tens of unregulated micro-lenders have invested in Kenya's credit market in response to the growth in demand for quick loans.

Their proliferation has saddled borrowers with high interest rates, which rise up to 520 percent when annualised, leading to mounting defaults and an ever-ballooning num-

ber of defaulters.

From having little or no access to credit, many Kenyans now find they can get loans in minutes via mobile phones.

The push to control the activities of digital lenders comes nearly two years after Kenya removed the legal cap on commercial lending rates.

The cap, which was introduced in September 2016, slowed down private sector credit growth as commercial banks turned their backs on millions of lowincome customers as well as small and medium-sized businesses deemed too risky to lend to.

The subsequent credit crunch triggered an appetite for digital loans, attracting unregulated micro-lenders to Kenya's credit market.

Global sukuk issuance may hit US\$155bn this year, S&P says

LONDON

GLOBAL sukuk issuance is set to increase to as much as \$155 billion in 2021, or 11 per cent more than \$139.8bn last year, driven by low interest rates and abundant liquidity, according to S&P Global Ratings.

The ratings agency said a more conservative outlook could be in the range of \$140bn. Sukuk worth a record \$167bn was issued in 2019. A continued economic recovery, vaccination campaigns in most Islamic finance countries and oil prices of about \$65 a barrel this year will also support growth in sukuk issuance, the rating agency said in its market report on Monday. "Taken together, these factors point to stronger sukuk market performance in 2021 compared with 2020," said Mohamed Damak, global head of Islamic finance at S&P.

Global sukuk issuance stood at \$90.6bn in the first half of the year, slightly more than \$86.4bn recorded in the six months to the end of June 2020. The market's performance was propelled by Sharia-compliant bond sales in Malaysia, Saudi Arabia and Oman. The sultanate returned to the market after issuing conventional debt in 2020.

The market was also supported by a higher primary issuance volume, which rose by 20 per cent in the first

half of 2021. "Absent an unexpected geopolitical event, a significant drop in oil prices or a shift in liquidity conditions on global capital markets, we expect sukuk issuance will continue to rise," said Mr Damak. However, issuance volumes in Bah-

rain, Indonesia, Turkey and the UAE

declined. In Turkey, the decline was

mainly due to the rise in local currencydenominated issuances while the UAE's sukuk sales dropped as the country adopted new Sharia standards. "Despite higher oil prices and lower fiscal deficits, we expect that some sovereigns in the Gulf Cooperation Council

will continue to tap the market to fund their economic diversification programmes," S&P said. It also expects bank and corporate

issuance to "continue to support sukuk market performance" in the second half of 2021, after a muted activity in 2020 when companies preserved cash at the height of the pandemic and deferred capital expenditure. Sukuk worth about \$20bn is set to mature in the second half of this year, some of which will probably be refinanced through the market, S&P said.

Central banks around the world have introduced monetary stimulus measures last year to support the banking sector and help stabilise financial markets as part of their efforts to soften the



blow of the pandemic on their econo-

Interest rates, which have been set near or below zero in many countries, are expected to remain low this year and beyond as the world economy continues to recover. The International Monetary Fund expects the global economy, which last year slid into its worst recession since the Great Depression, to expand by 6 per cent in 2021.

The \$2.4 trillion Sharia-compliant finance industry is expected to register "low to mid-single digit growth" in 2021. It grew by 11.4 per cent in 2019 on the back of higher-than-expected sukuk issuance, according to S&P Global. The industry is expected to hit \$3.69tn in 2024, according to Refinitiv and a report by the Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector.

Sustainability-linked and green sukuk

issuance will also support the global Islamic bond market in the second half of this year. However, the volume of such Sharia-compliant instruments is expected to remain limited, S&P said on Monday.

During the first half, the Islamic Development Bank issued sukuk worth \$2.5bn and said it would use 10 per cent of the proceeds to finance green projects, with 90 per cent earmarked for social development programmes. Malaysia also issued a \$1.3bn Islamic bond that included an \$800 million sustainability tranche.

"Although these types of instruments may appeal to investors with ESG [environment, social and governance] objectives - and we expect to see more of them - we think that they will be the exception rather than the norm," said

Global shopper confidence surging as consumers move back to stores - study LONDON

SHOPPERS are beginning to return to physical stores in significant numbers as pandemic measures lift around the world, according to a new global research report by Mood Media, an on-premise media solutions company.

A follow-up to Mood Media's Shopper Sentiments: A September 2020 Global Mood Survey, this new study, entitled 'Shopper Sentiments: A June 2021 Global Mood Survey', was carried out by Censuswide and surveyed more than 8,000 consumers across four major markets - the US, UK, China and France. The report found that four out of five (80%) consumers now feel either 'somewhat' or 'very comfortable' visiting physical stores, up from 71% in 2020.

Three in five (60%) consumers surveyed expect their shopping habits to be back to pre-pandemic levels by or before the end of this year, while one-fifth (21%) of respondents report their shopping habits have already returned to pre-pandemic levels. These findings and predictions for physical stores are bolstered by the fact that only 5% of respondents across the US, UK, China and France reported not feeling 'comfortable at all' about returning to stores.

Scott Moore, global chief marketing officer (CMO) at Mood Media, said: "We're experiencing a healthy buzz as shops reopen to a 'new normal' throughout the world. Consumers are eager to get back into stores to experience the joy of shopping again. "This new study validates what we are seeing and hearing every day - both online and offline play an important role in retail, oftentimes in harmony with one another. That balance is now returning with solid foot traffic in shops around the world."

Allure of omnichannel

Revealing what global shoppers have missed most about the physical shopping experience during lockdown - largely pointing to benefits that don't exist when shopping online - nearly half (45%) said it was the experience of 'touching and trying on' items on the spot that they missed most when stores were closed.

SMART MONEY

Guardian

KCB joins hands with NEEC and SIDO in arming young graduates with skills in entrepreneurship



NEEC's executive secretary, Beng'i Mazana Issa, speaks at a past event.

By Francis Kajubi

HREE hundred young entrepreneurs from six regions in Tanzania country who have been trained by Vocational Education and Training Authority under KCB Bank Tanzania sponsorship have since been linked to established business owners for mentorship.

The young entrepreneurs who have graduated from a six month 2jiajiri Youth Entrepreneurship Training Programme at VETA in Dar es Salaam are from Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Kilimanjaro, Morogoro, Mwanza and Zanzibar, are currently undergoing a three day orientation course.

In collaboration with National Economic Empowerment Council and Small Industries Development Organization, KCB has allocated 100m/- to finance the graduates' entrepreneurship counselling and mentoring.

Speaking at the opening of orientation course in the commercial capital this week, NEEC Executive Secretary Beng'i Mazana said that the young entrepreneurs were picked from colleges and universities

in 2019 and handed over to VETA for theoretical training.

"During this orientation session, the graduates will learn how to manage and expand their businesses through mentorship during the next six months incubation period.

They will later be attached to big companies during the incubation period to acquire more skills on business management," said Mazana. She said the trainees have already received training on food production, tailoring, graphic designing, truck mechanics, cosmology and hair dressing but also hotel management.

Addressing the trainees, KCB Bank Tanzania's Managing Director, Cosmasn Kimario encouraged them to carefully learn and be patient if they want to succeed.

"The majority of youth get into entrepreneurship hopping for quick success which is not always true, I would like to advise you to be patience in running your businesses.

True success comes after a long period of hard work," Kimario said.

KCB's Head Marketing and Corporate Affairs, Christina Manyenye backed her boss by saying that the project targets to encourage youths join entrepreneurship to employ themselves as jobs are increasingly scarce in the market.

"I would like to see all of you go and explore all the opportunities out there for through your industry attachment because they are successful established enterprises," Manyenye said while adding that KCB has for over 20 years of dealing with entrepreneurs in the country.

KCB's Head of Treasury, Paschal Machango seconded Manyenye's observation saying the bank has been working in collaboration with NEEC.

"We are also planning to start equipping youth with required skills for the construction industry. We generally aim at empowering about 4,000 youth with such skills in the next three years," Machango said.



Jenister Mhagama (C) Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disability), exchange ideas with director general of Public Sector Social Security Fund, Hosea Kashimba (R) and his National Social Security Fund counterpart, Masha Mshomba after she visited their joint pavilion at the ongoing 45th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

MTI placed in final liquidation, 8000 more Bitcoin traced

CAPE TOWN

COLLAPSED Bitcoin scheme Mirror Trading International (MTI) was placed in final liquidation this week by the Cape

This comes as liquidators revealed that they had managed to track down roughly 8 000 additional Bitcoin, on top of the 1 281 Bitcoin recovered from Belize-based broker FX Choice and sold for about R1.1 billion.

An additional 8 000 Bitcoin at current market prices is worth about R4 billion. Liquidators believe they will be able to track down more of the estimated 29 000 Bitcoin that flowed into MTI. This would make it easier to chase down funds the liquidators believe rightfully belong to the insolvent estate. Anyone opposing this has until August 31 to file their replying affidavits.

Speaking to Moneyweb after the final liquidation was handed down, joint liquidator Riaan van Rooyen urged MTI members to lodge claims with the liquidators, saying they need not fear that they will be required to pay contributions to the insolvent estate.

Aiming to recover as much as possible

"We obviously want to recover as much money as possible for members, particularly the elderly and the vulnerable. It's important for members to know that they will not be required to pay into the estate just because they benefitted from withdrawals. It merely means that their claims will be reduced by the amount that they have already received in terms of withdrawals. If they paid in for example, R3O 000, and withdrew RIO 000, this means their claim against MTI would be reduced from R3O 000 to R2O 000."

Covid lockdowns permitting, the liquidators plan to launch a national road-show to contact as many members of MTI as possible and to assist them in lodging their claims. The chief beneficiaries of MTI's multi-level marketing scheme were the founders and early adopters, including 50% shareholder Clynton Marks, who opposed the liquidation of the company and argued that there were good prospects of rescuing the company by other means.

Some of the MTI leaders earned more than R100 million from the scheme, according to a data dump by a group called Anonymous ZA, and liquidators will be hunting down what they believe is undue enrichment. Some of the leaders of MTI, including Marks, are believed to have made hundreds of millions of rands

Green Gold Farms secures \$1.6m to tackle Ghana's food imports challenges

ACCRA

GOLD Farms, a Ghanaian agritech startup, has completed raising US\$1.6 million from Absa Bank Ghana, Diaspora Capital, Channel Ventures, EPMT Fund, and a number of early-stage seed investors.

Green Gold Farms is tackling the problems of poverty, lack of economic opportunity, and malnutrition, and related illnesses in Northern Ghana through large-scale agricultural production.

Despite abundant amounts of land, diverse agro-ecological richness and plentifully available labour, the majority of the two million people living in Northern Ghana are food-insecure. Limited economic opportunities leave many precariously close to the poverty line of \$1.90 per day.

Ghana currently imports over US\$2.4 billion worth of food annually. Such a high food import bill contributes to the country's large trade imbalance, depletes its foreign exchange reserves - critical for paying off foreign debt, and essentially exports jobs overseas. Additionally, imported food is typically more expensive and of lower quality.

For example, some imported frozen poultry products have been sighted to be over ten years old and preserved with harmful substances, which are toxic and known to cause serious health problems.

"It's a shame that we have so much rich, arable land in this country, but are unable to put it to productive use," says Green Gold Farms' CEO, George Boakye Sarpong. "Most farmers don't have access to capital or modern farming equipment, which would enable them to scale their production.

Thus, they remain subsistence farmers, perpetually trapped in the cycle of poverty. As a result, we [Ghana] spend scarce resources importing food that we should be growing domestically."

The capital raised will allow Green Gold Farms to invest primarily in capital equipment to scale up production of organic and non-GMO crops such as maize and soybeans;

generate large numbers of well-paying, sustainable jobs; and launch an outgrower program for smallholder farmers.

The company has partnered with local communities to secure over 60,000 acres of fertile land in the Northern and Eastern Regions of Ghana.

The company will use its huge land concessions to engage in commercial-scale food production and, in the process, create tens of thousands of jobs, boosting the regional and national economies.

These land partnerships have already created over 400 well-paying jobs, the bulk of which have gone to women and youth from these partner communities.

Commenting on the deal, Grace Anim-Yeboah, Business Banking Director at Absa Bank Ghana, noted that the bank is committed to its critical role being an agent of economic change, growth, and development.

"We are excited to be playing a key role in shaping Ghana's agricultural sector and connecting fast-growing companies, such as Green Gold Farms, with our financial resources and services. This will help the company fulfill its bold ambitions of revitalizing commercial farming in Ghana sustainably."

Green Gold Farms is also developing an innovative out-grower scheme that allows smallholder farmers to lift themselves out of poverty by training them on regenerative agriculture best practices, enabling them to produce on larger plots of land, and providing them with all of the necessary inputs and mechanization.

Over time, the company aims to cede its primary production to these smallholder farmers and move up the value chain into processing and, eventually, into manufacturing.

The company is attempting to develop and scale a sustainable food production model in partnership with the public and private sector that can be applied to developing countries around the world to help lift billions of people out of poverty and to do it in an environmentally sustainable manner.



Green Gold Farms' CEO, George Boakye Sarpong.

CURRENTNEWS

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Top4 developing insurance financial products by 2025

By Petrus Mare

PROBABLY at the top of the core financial needs, private medical scheme is important. And I will have to add dread disease cover as one of my 3 risk management priorities. Medical aid is expensive, but the consequences of not having any cover can be devastating. Many people make the mistake of choosing next year's medical scheme option on last year's expenditure. Your health situation can change overnight so make sure you choose the most comprehensive cover available.

Medical scheme membership with dread disease cover

At the very minimum have a hospital plan in place that covers you and your dependents at 100% of the medical scheme tariff. You will still however be liable for scans, scopes, and procedures out of hospital so be sure to have some understanding of the financial risk prior to deciding. An added dread disease cover is also non-negotiable. A recent study showed that with woman above 15 years old, 15 million are at a risk of developing cervical cancer. Cervical cancer is the most common and kills more woman than any other form of illness in Tanzania. With today's demanding society, fast paced lifestyle and cut-throat deadlines this is not to be messed with.

Income protection

If you had an ATM machine in your your income on the 25th of each month, so you do not over-insure. do you believe it would be worth insuring



for mechanical failure? Becoming disabled is your greatest financial risk, even with no dependents it is critical to protect your income. You would not want to rely on others to support you.

Income protection typically pays out after a certain waiting period, the longer the wait the less the premium. Do not expect the cover to pay out a 100% of your income, usually 75%. This should suffice since the core purpose of income protection is to support your rehabilitation, or to help you find an alternative occupation to replace your income.

Another important aspect to remember is for your financial living room that consistently spat out planner to take into consideration your group/company benefits Dar es Salaam based financial

Income protection application's can be difficult, Insurer's realpetrusplanning@gmail.com

need to have a full understanding of your current medical conditions, any occupational risk's, a comprehensive understanding of your employment and recreational activities. It is possible to take out temporary and permanent income protection through a single policy.

The underestimated emergency fund

Many a times we place laser focus on Life Insurance as well as Retirement Planning, which is essential on your path to financial stability and success, yet we underestimate the value and importance of an emergency fund.

As you start your professional career and start analyzing insurance needs and start laying the foundation for wealth creation, do not overlook the need for a well-managed and appropriately structured emergency fund. You can use various resources to cater for this i.e. An access bond on your property, your savings account with your bank or an accessible investment like a unit trust. Always know the pros and the cons of the source you choose to use.

When emergencies arise; co-payments with Medical Schemes, excesses with your Short-Term Insurer or even as we have seen during this pandemic, financial instability, the need to have accessible capital in times of need has become vital. Want a springboard to wealth creation? Do not underestimate the emergency fund.

Petrus Mare (pictured) is a advisor. He can be reached on:

Anglo knew of lead danger at Zambian mine, doctor says

LUSAKA

A DOCTOR said Anglo American Plc was aware of the danger lead poisoning posed to employees and commissioned a study into its impact in a community close to a Zambian mine where he worked.

The claim bolsters a lawsuit in which a group of Zambian women and children allege Anglo caused widespread lead poisoning from the Broken Hill mine it had a stake in until 1974 in the northern city of Kabwe. They are demanding compensation and a clean-up of the area. Anglo said while it had an interest in the mine it wasn't the owner or operator, without giving more precise detail. "Conflating Zambia Broken Hill Development Company with Anglo American is simply incorrect," it

"The mine management were certainly aware of the risk of lead poisoning to its employees, the blood levels of all staff were checked regularly," Ian Lawrence, who worked as a medical officer at the mine in 1969 and 1970, said in a supplementary affidavit that's been added to the case. "I became deeply concerned at the number of deaths amongst children under the age of five in the residential township where local employees lived."

Lawrence's affidavit was submitted in April, six months after the case was brought to South Africa's High Court. He said the delay was because it was not feasible to visit a notary public in the midst of the coronavirus

The invariably high levels convinced me that the problem was very serious," he said. Lawrence said contaminated dust from the mine blew into the township where, in addition to being breathed in, it settled on gravel where children played, and contaminated foodstuffs and cooking utensils. Lawrence, who now lives in England, said he didn't understand why an investigation hadn't been carried out and oversaw the taking of about 500 blood samples to test for lead contamination.

Within the month of him submitting his findings to management, a Professor Lane and Dr King from Manchester University arrived to investigate the problem, he said. He never saw their report. "We believe it is widely accepted that any responsibility in relation to the Kabwe mine site belongs elsewhere being with the actual owners and operators of the site and those who operated the site post nationalization 50 years ago," Anglo said in a response to queries.

Law firms Leigh Day and Mbuyisa Moleele, who are representing the plaintiffs, said in a statement that Anglo claims not to have any documents "of relevance pertaining to the operation of the Kabwe Mine," including the Lane/King report. The firms said evidence they have from the Zambian state mining archives shows the documents would have been copied to Anglo's then head offices in Johannesburg. Anglo said the documents were handed over to the state mining company when it was nationalized.

100,000 people

A hearing to consider Anglo's request for an extension so that it can file its response is being heard in the Gauteng division of the High Court on Monday and Tuesday. Anglo said it has been denied access to crucial documents.

The case was filed by 13 plaintiffs on behalf of an estimated 100,000 people. The group lawsuit is the latest over Anglo American's decades of mining in southern Africa. In 2018, it and five other companies paid about \$390 million to settle a class action by former gold miners suffering from the respiratory disease

Anglo held an interest in the Kabwe mine, at one stage the world's biggest lead operation, from 1925 to 1974, when it was nationalized by the government. While the operation about 100 kilometers (60 miles) north of the Zambian capital, Lusaka, was eventually shut in 1994, output during Anglo's ownership accounted for about two-thirds of the lead that now contaminates the area, the law firms said. Anglo said the state company's own records show that the worst period of lead pollution was likely post 1989.

Lead poisoning can cause health problems ranging from learning difficulties to infertility, brain damage and, in some cases, death. In a 2019 report, Human Rights Watch said that a third of the population of Kabwe, or more than 76,000 people, live in lead-contaminated areas. The lawsuit was filed in South Africa because at the time of the mine's operation Anglo was headquartered in Johannesburg.

Commodity traders harvest billions while prices rise for everyone else

NEW YORK

DOUG King set up his hedge fund in the early days of the commodity super-cycle in 2004. It was perfectly timed: voracious Chinese demand lifted the price of everything from oil to copper to record highs. Investors flooded the commodities sector. At the peak, King's Merchant Commodity Fund was managing about \$2 billion. But the boom ended abruptly after the 2008 global financial crisis and the onset of the US shale revolution. Prices plunged, big institutional money got out and many specialist hedge funds

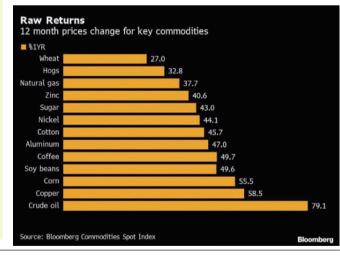
Fast forward more than a decade and King is having one of the best years of his career: a broad-based commodities boom has pushed up his hedge fund nearly 50% this year as raw materials from steel to soybeans hit multi-year highs. Commodities are back, and from pension funds to physical commodity traders, everyone is making money. The question now is whether it's a temporary snapback from the pandemic or signals a longer-term shift in the structure of the global economy. King is in no doubt. "We are facing a structural inflation shock," King said. "There's a lot of pent up demand, and everyone wants everything now,

For the first time since the pre-crisis years before 2008, the commodities boom means central banks are fretting about inflation. The rally will have a political impact, too. With oil back at \$75 a barrel, Saudi Arabia and Russia are back in the driving seat of the global energy market – a remarkable come back from negative prices just over a year ago. The boom is also an unwelcome development for policymakers tackling the climate crisis: rising commodities prices will make the shift more expensive.

China, reliant on raw materials imports to feed millions of factories and building sites, is so nervous the government has tried to force prices lower, threatening crackdowns on speculators and releasing strategic stockpiles. It's worked to some extent – copper has given up all its gains this year- but prices across the complex remain robust: iron ore is still near a record, US steel prices have tripled this year, coal has risen to a 13-year high and natural gas prices are on a tear.

Even after the recent pullback, the Bloomberg Commodities Spot Index, a measure of 22 raw material prices, is up 78% from the March 2020 low when the pandemic first hit. And crude oil, the global economy's most crucial commodity, keeps powering higher as the world emerges from lockdown and the OPEC+ alliance puts a lid on supply. Benchmark Brent prices are up 45% this year, prompting traders and Wall Street banks to talk again about the potential for prices to surpass \$100 a barrel for the first time since 2014.

As prices have surged, so has Wall Street's interest. The annual Robin Hood investor conference, which every year congregates hedge fund luminaries from Paul Tudor Jones to Stanley F Druckenmiller and Ray Dalio, featured a panel on commodities earlier in June – the first time in at least five years the conference has found time to discuss raw materials.



DUBAI

EMIRATES, one of the first global airlines to pilot the IATA Travel Pass in April, now offers the IATA Travel Pass solution to customers flying to 10 cities and plans to extend it to all routes across its network in the coming weeks.

In addition, Emirates has also partnered with Alhosn, the official UAE application for COVID-19 related contact tracing and health documentation, to offer its customers greater convenience and smoother journeys.

Adel Al Redha, Emirates' Chief Operating Officer said: "Over the past months, we have really accelerated our biometric, contactless and digital travel verification projects to provide our customers with even greater convenience and assurance when they fly with Emirates."

Al Redha added, "From our biometrics path at Dubai International (DXB) to initiatives like the IATA Travel Pass and integrations with the health authority databases, these projects deliver multiple benefits from better customer experiences to the reduced use of paper, and improved efficiency and reliability in travel document checks. We are grateful for the support from

Emirates expands IATA travel pass implementation

the authorities and our industry partners in the successful deployment of these projects which strengthen Emirates and Dubai's world-leading aviation capabilities."

Emirates customers flying between Dubai and the following cities: London, Barcelona, Madrid, Istanbul, New York JFK, Moscow, Frankfurt, Charles De Gaulle, and Amsterdam; can now use IATA Travel Pass to access the latest COVID-19 related travel information including the location of PCR test labs, and manage their COVID-19 travel documentation such as vaccination and latest PCR test results. Passengers on these flights will receive an SMS and email with the activation code and instructions on downloading the IATA Travel Pass app.

The airline is progressing on plans to rollout the IATA Travel Pass solution across its global network. Since trials began, Emirates has worked closely with IATA and its partners to enhance the IATA Travel Pass experience based on customer feedback. The IATA Travel Pass app is now available to both iOS and Android users, and can also be used by customers with non-biometric



Emirates' chief operating officer, Adel Al Redha.

From July, Emirates will integrate the Alhosn app with its check-in systems, expanding on its existing integration with the Dubai Health Authority (DHA). This enables

customers travelling from the UAE to benefit from the quick and convenient digital retrieval and verification of COVID-19 medical records, regardless of where in the UAE they had completed their vaccination, or COVID-19 PCR and antigen tests.

Customers who opt to allow access their COVID-19 related health information via the Alhosn app for travel purposes can rest assured that once checkin formalities are completed, information related to their COVID-19 medical records will be immediately discarded from the Emirates systems.

Emirates customers can travel with confidence that every care has been taken to ensure their comfort and health, with comprehensive bio-safety protocols at every step of the journey, generous and flexible booking policies, and complimentary multi-risk travel insurance including COVID-19 cover with every flight.

The IATA Travel Pass is a digital solution developed by the airline industry body, the International Air Transport Association (IATA). It aims to provide governments, airlines, laboratories and passengers with up-to-date information on COVID-19 related regulations, and facilitate the secure flow of necessary information amongst all stakeholders.

Alhosn is a joint initiative between the UAE Ministry of Health and Prevention and local health authorities and is endorsed by the National Authority for Emergency and Crisis Management. It is the official UAE COVID-19 results app and provides quick access to COVID-19 test results and vaccination information.

Guardian

WORLD

Ex-leader Jacob Zuma compares S. African judges to apartheid rulers

NKANDLA

SOUTH Africa's ex-president Jacob Zuma lashed out on Sunday at the judges who this week gave him a 15-month jail term for absconding from a corruption inquiry, comparing them to the white minority apartheid rulers he once fought.

Zuma spoke at his home in Nklandla, in a rural part of Kwazulu Natal province, where hundreds of his supporters, some of them armed, were gathered to prevent his arrest.

"The fact that I was lambasted with a punitive jail sentence without trial should engender shock in all those who believe in freedom and the rule of law," Zuma told journalists.

"South Africa is fast sliding back to apartheid rule.'

The constitutional court sentenced Zuma on Tuesday for contempt of court for failing to appear at a hearing in February of the inquiry led by Deputy Chief Justice Raymond Zondo. On Saturday it agreed to hear his challenge to the jail term, suspending it until

after a hearing on July 12.

The sentence was seen as a sign of just how far Zuma, once revered as a veteran of the struggle against white minority rule, has fallen since embarking on a presidency beset by multiple sleaze and graft scandals between 2009 and 2018.

Earlier on Sunday, gunshots rang out across Nklandla, as some of his supporters fired their weapons into the air, while others danced with spears and ox-hide shields -- the traditional weapons of Zuma's Zulu nation.

"I fought and went to prison so there must be justice and the rule of law. No honest person can accuse me of being against the rule of law," Zuma told journalists.

'Unfair, Biased'

The former president's legal woes have divided the ruling African National Congress between his camp and that of his successor, President Cyril Ramaphosa.

Zuma gave in to pressure to quit and yield to Ramaphosa in 2018. He has since faced was deputy president. He de-



Former South African President Jacob Zuma

inquiries into allegations of corruption dating from his time as president and before.

The Zondo Commission is examining allegations that he allowed three Indian-born businessmen, Atul, Ajay and Rajesh Gupta, to plunder state resources and traffic influence over government policy. He and the Gupta brothers, who fled to Dubai after Zuma was ousted, deny any wrongdoing.

Zuma also faces a separate court case relating to a US\$2 billion arms deal in 1999 when he nies the charges. On Sunday, the former president reiterated his view that he is the victim of political witch hunt and that Zondo is partial.

"Judge Zondo began to ... treat me unfairly and with bias," Zuma

The 79-year-old has applied to the court for the sentence to be annulled on the grounds that it is excessive and could expose him to COVID-19, which "would put him at the highest risk of death".

He told a news conference on Sunday that he had not been vaccinated against COVID-19.

Almost half a million of Russians get anti-**COVID-19 jabs daily, says minister**

MOSCOW

The current tempo of the anti-COVID-19 vaccination in Russia is on a five-fold increase compared to early spring and almost half a million of Russians receiving anti-coronavirus jabs daily, Industry and Trade Minister Denis Manturov told TASS yesterday.

"We have reached today a figure of almost half a million," Manturov said. "This is a significant increase if compared to reported figures of 80,000-100,000 in March."

"Our previously forecast number of vaccines envisaged 30 million doses per month including the export needs and this is what we said in May," the minister continued. "It will all depend now on how fast the domestic market of the vaccination grows.'

Manturov stated earlier that 36.7 million doses of the vaccine against the novel coronavirus had been already commissioned in Russia and 30 million doses were planned to be rolled out in July.

"This is why we need to secure a strategic stock [of the vaccines] in the regions," the minister said. "Today, we must first of all, provide in full for the needs of our Health Ministry.'

To date, four anti-coronavirus vaccines have been registered in Russia: Sputnik V and Sputnik Light from the Gamaleya National Research Center for Epidemiology and Microbiology, EpiVacCorona by the Vector State Scientific Center of Virology and Biotechnology, and CoviVac vac-

Vaccines Sputnik V, EpiVacCorona, and CoviVac are twocomponent, Sputnik Light is a one-component vaccine.

cine by the Chumakov Federal Scientific Center.

The second component of Sputnik V is administered after 21 days, EpiVacCorona is injected with an interval of no less than 14-21 days, while CoviVac is introduced with an interval of 14 days.

Russia's Sputnik V vaccine has been approved for use in 67 countries totaling over 3.5 billion people. More than 30 nations have already launched mass vaccination campaigns using Sputnik V. The Russian vaccine boasts a 91.6% efficiency rate, which is confirmed by the data published in the Lancet medical journal.

South Korea in talks with vaccine

SOUTH Korea is in talks with mRNA vaccine makers in-

cluding Pfizer (PFE.N) and Moderna (MRNA.O) to produce

COVID-19 shots in the country and is ready to offer the capac-

ity to make up to 1 billion doses immediately, a senior govern-

The plan, if agreed, would help ease tight global supply

of COVID-19 vaccines, particularly in Asia which lags North

America and Europe in vaccine rollouts, and put South Ko-

rea a step closer to its ambition to become a major vaccine

South Korea already has deals to locally produce three

coronavirus vaccines developed by AstraZeneca Oxford Uni-

versity, Novavax, and Russia. It also has a vaccine bottling

"We've been holding frequent talks with big pharmaceu-

"There are only a few mRNA vaccine developers - Pfizer,

Moderna, CureVac and BioNTech. Thus there's a limit to how

tical companies to produce mRNA vaccines," Lee Kang-ho, director general for the global vaccine hub committee under

South Korea's health ministry, told Reuters in an interview.

makers to produce up to 1b jabs

JAKARTA / JERUSALEM

ment official said.

manufacturing centre.

and packaging deal with Moderna.

CPC leadership has created 'future-proof' China, says Malaysian politician

KUANTAN

CHINA'S shift from policies that prioritize economic growth to more balanced and sustainable development as well as its successful containment of the COVID-19 pandemic has created a "futureproof" China, said a Malaysian politician.

Lee Chean Chung, treasurer general of Malaysia's People's Justice Party, started to understand modern China from a visit to the small commodity hub Yiwu in Zhejiang Province some six years ago.

"Yiwu is a very vibrant city, bustling with a lot of cars, peo- to visit Leishenshan Hospiple from around the world, so tal that was built in 10 days it's more like a global city be- and Wuhan is back to normal cause I can see that the people are coming from all over the world to conduct trading activities," Lee (pictured) told Xinhua in a recent interview. Since then, Lee has visited

China multiple times, to the big cities like Beijing, Shanghai and Hangzhou, as well as places like Guangxi and Yunnan which have close exchanges with Malaysia.

Lee's most recent visit to China was in last year when he was invited by Peking University to attend an executive program for three months. During that stay in China, he witnessed how the COVID-19 pandemic had been brought under control.

"China at large has managed to curb and control the pandemic very well," he said. "I was given the opportunity when I visited in October ... that is really amazing."

Lee said China's "robust" governance model under the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC) has bol-



stered his understanding of decades-long policy as "a

For Lee, "a future-proof" China is an apt way of describing the country, and he hoped China's model could bring more benefits to the world.

China is "a vibrant place with more reform and opening-up," Lee said, hailing the

combination of rapid development with equitable distribution.'

Lee was also impressed by the openness and willingness to exchange ideas by the Chinese officials he met.

"I think they were all very professional and also very

open-minded and at the same time willing to have a lot of exchanges on our ideas and on our ways," said Lee.

"It is not just imposing something on you but more like a two-way exchange. I truly appreciate that, and I think for Asia and also for the world, we need more partnership and collaboration," he said.

As a state assemblyman for central Pahang state, Lee's constituency lies near the Malaysia-China Kuantan Industrial Park, part of the "twin parks" model between the two countries (the other park being the China-Malaysia Qinzhou Industrial Park). Lee has helped set up a local association to boost cooperation as well as trade and investment in the parks.

Lee said the parks are a "win-win situation not just for the people but also for both countries." Xinhua

much they can produce to meet global demand... South Korea is keen to help by offering its facilities and skilled human resources," Lee said.

Malaysia Malaysia will begin administering Pfizer-BioNTech shots to adolescents who are at higher risk of severe COVID-19 due to underlying medical conditions, according to Science Minis-

ter Khairy Jamaluddin yesterday. Malaysia expects to have enough data to consider proceeding with inoculating healthy adolescents after it completes the national vaccination program.

Thailand

Thailand's Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-Ocha will isolate at home for a week after he came into close contact with a person who later tested positive for coronavirus during events held to mark the reopening of resort island Phuket to vaccinated foreign tourists.

The premier, who has received two AstraZeneca vaccine doses, will continue his work as usual, including closely following the coronavirus outbreak situation in the country, according to Anucha Burapachaisri, a government spokesman.

"The prime minister has not tested positive for the virus so far, and will continue to conduct tests," Anucha said in a statement Monday. "He will still carry out his duties as nor-

mal and will monitor developments closely."

VATICAN CITY

POPE Francis is doing well following intestinal surgery, the Vatican said on Sunday after the 84-year-old pontiff was hospitalized for the first time since his election in 2013.

Spokesman Matteo Bruni said in a statement that the pontiff "responded well" to the surgery, which was done under general anaesthesia and which the Vatican had said earlier had been scheduled and not prompted by an emergency. He gave no further details

about the surgery or how long it lasted and did not say how long the pope would remain in Rome's Gemelli hospital.

The pope entered the hospital early on Sunday afternoon of people in St. Peter's Square

Pope doing well after intestinal surgery - Vatican and the statement was issued

iust before midnight Rome

Francis underwent surgery for symptomatic diverticular stenosis of the colon, a condition where sac-like pouches protrude from the muscular layer of the colon, leading it to become narrow. The operation was carried out by a 10-person medical team.

In addition to causing pain, the condition can lead to bloating, inflammation, and difficulty in bowel movement. It tends to affect older people more.

The pope appeared to be in fine health several hours earlier when he addressed thousands



for his Sunday blessing and announced a trip to Slovakia and Budapest for September read more.

The sprawling Catholic-run Gemelli hospital and medical

school in the northern part of Rome traditionally treats popes and a part of its 10th floor is permanently reserved for

As he does every year in July, Francis already had suspended all of his general and private audiences for the month. The surgery appeared to be timed to coincide with a period in which he has only one public commitment - his Sunday blessing in St. Peter's Square.

Unlike his predecessors, he stays in the Vatican and has never used the sprawling papal summer estate in the Alban Hills south of Rome.

Francis is sometimes short of breath because a part of one of

his lungs was removed following an illness when he was a young man in his native Argentina.

which causes pain that radiates from the lower back along the sciatic nerve to the legs. The condition, for which he

He also suffers from sciatica,

receives regular physiotherapy, forced him to miss several events at the beginning of this vear and has led him on occasions to walk with difficulty.

Last year, a bad cold kept him from taking part in a week-long Lenten retreat with senior aides south of Rome.

In 2014, a year after he was elected pope, Francis was forced to cancel several engagements because of what was believed to be a stomach ailment.

World's longest desert-crossing expressway starts operation

THE Beijing-Urumqi Expressway, the world's longest desert-crossing expressway, fully opened to traffic on June 30 after its last section in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region was put into operation. The expressway, also known as G7 expressway, is now the fastest road linking northeast, north and northwest China.

The expressway is the seventh national expressway originating from the capital city of Beijing. Totaling 2,822 kilometers, it crosses six provincial-level regions including Beijing, Hebei province, Shanxi province, Inner Mongolia autonomous region, Gansu province, and Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region.

The Beijing section of the expressway was opened on May 24, 2014, and the section linking Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region's Linhe and Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region's Baigeda started operation about three years later. The section opening this time has a total length of 515 kilometers, and goes in two directions with four lanes where vehicles can run as

much as 120 kilometers per hour. It is the first expressway in Xinjiang built under public-private partnership, as well as the longest operational expressway opened at one go in China.

The expressway marks the completion of the north channel of the Silk Road Economic Belt, and will give a strong boost to Xinjiang's economic and social development, said Da Wenbin from China Railway Construction Investment Group Co., Ltd., who's in charge of the Beijing-Urumqi Expressway project. It is a road to wealth, unity and happiness, he added.

Crossing Ulan Buh Desert, Tengri Desert and Badain Jaran Desert, the Beijing-Urumqi Expressway shortens the journey between Beijing and Urumqi, capital of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region by nearly 1,300 kilometers. It is a witness to the mutual assistance and solidarity among the people of all ethnic groups along the route.

Over 20 years ago, Zhang Xinjian went from his hometown Hubei province in central China to Xinjiang In-

ternational Grand Bazaar in Urumqi to sell dried grapes, where he came to know Sulayman Memetimin, owner of a copper handicraft shop. The two developed ironclad friendship during the past two decades and are calling each other "family".

In 2019, Sulayman wanted to move his shop to a better location in the grand bazaar. It was Zhang that lent him 60,000 yuan (\$927.95) to make it happen.

This year, when Zhang was having the interior of his new shop decorated, Sulayman

also went to help. "

Xiao Yumei was once an impoverished villager living in Disanbu village, Huai'an county in northwest Hebei province, whose livelihood has been significantly improved after the opening of the Beijing-Urumqi Express-

Xiao's house is only half an hour's drive from the Huai'an exit of the expressway. In recent years, under the assistance of local poverty alleviation cadres, an e-commerce platform was established to help local farmers sell millet,

and four processing plants and a cooperative have been built. Nearly 60 percent of local millet production is processed and sold by the plants and cooperative.

"Now the millet is sold to Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, and becomes a great ingredient of milk tea and fried millet," Xiao said.

According to her, the expressway and e-commerce are helping her family gain over 10,000 yuan a year from the millet business alone.

People's Daily

Zambian traders benefiting from medicinal spices during COVID-19 pandemic

IT has become a daily practice for 38-year-old Doreen Nyoya, a resident of Lusaka, Zambia's capital, to buy fresh spices and make a concoction for her family in an effort to avert flu-

"I make sure each one of my three children takes a hot cup of ginger drink every evening before they go to sleep so as to prevent colds. It also helps to boost the immune system. I prepare and serve this every day after work," said Nyoya, a security officer.

She went on to explain how the concoction is made and mentioned that she sometimes adds garlic and lemons to it whenever resources permit.

Reports suggest that the use of medicinal plants has increased during the COVID-19 pandemic period.

Interactions with Lusaka-based traders revealed that spices with medicinal elements sales have more than doubled during the COVID-19 period and sellers are continuously running out of stock.

Traders dealing in herbs and spices are realizing substantial returns from their merchandise in general and

from ginger and cinnamon in particular, which are common ingredients for homemade remedies in urban communities of Zambia.

"I am always running out of ginger and cinnamon these days. The two herbal spices are selling like hotcakes," said Nabange Basopo while holding the last pack of the dry ginger and dry cinnamon

The 23-year-old Basopo who trades from Kamwala trading area in Lusaka, attributed the rise in demand for ginger and cinnamon to the herbal spices' medicinal properties, which according to her are well documented.

She however stated that the use of medicinal plants and spices to treat suspected cases of COVID-19 should not be encouraged as proper diagnosis and treatment of the virus can only be done by health experts.

"I always implore customers not to let their guard down just because they have access to homemade remedies. One still has to continue observing social distancing, wearing facemasks as well as sanitizing or washing hands with soap and water," Basopo said.

Naomi Kakoma, a 27-year-old trader at Lupili market in Lusaka Mandevu's ginger.



Naomi Kakoma, a 27-year-old trader at Lupili market, sells fresh ginger in Lusaka, Zambia, on June 27, 2021, Interactions with Lusaka-based traders revealed that spices with medicinal elements sales have more than doubled during the COVID-19 period and sellers are continuously running out of stock. (Xinhua)

compound, also indicated that she was among those that are gaining a lot in terms of profits from the sale of

"In terms of profits, I am making three times more than I used to last year from the sale of ginger," Kakoma

Like Basopo, Kakoma was also quick to point out that communities should continue to adhere to health measures aimed at preventing the further spread of COVID-19, adding that claims that homemade remedies can cure COVID-19 only delay proper diagnosis and treatment of the condition.

"I have made it a point to sell facemasks along with herbal spices. The idea is to let people know that the use of medicinal plants alone is not enough according to health experts. They also need to wear facemasks particularly when they are in public spaces," Kakoma said.

And 24-year-old Dalitso Zulu who manages a shop that among other things sells a wide range of herbal spices at Mandevu market in Lusaka, said the increase in demand for spices presents huge opportunities for agri-

"For me, the fact that the shop is constantly running out of spices like ginger, cinnamon, garlic as well as a few others that have gained popularity during this period means that there are opportunities in the growing and processing of herbs and spices in Zambia," Zulu said.

Lavrov excoriates Kabul, NATO over IS making territorial

MOSCOW

THE Islamic State (IS, outlawed in Russia) terrorist organization is swallowing up territories in Afghanistan amid NATO's withdrawal from the region and an irresponsible approach by a number of officials in Kabul, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said Friday.

"It is important to shine the spotlight on Afghanistan, where IS members are actively concentrating their forces, and they do so, taking advantage of an irredeemably drawnout process of hammering out real peace negotiations. We are worried about this, because IS is actively acquiring territories - mostly in Northern Afghanistan, right on the borders of countries that are our allies, amid the irresponsible behavior of some officials in Kabul and amid the hasty withdrawal of NATO, who is unable to report the achievement of at least some goals," he said.

Lavrov noted that Russia holds consultations with CSTO member states in order to ensure security in Central Asia amid IS' ramped-up activities.

"Of course, we seek to persuade political circles about the need to stop dragging out the negotiation process, and that agreements on a transitional government must be achieved," the top diplomat noted. "We are also doing it within the socalled 'extended troika' of Russia, China, the US and Pakistan."

NATO's pullout from Afghanistan began on April 29, and it is supposed to end this fall, based on an agreement between the US and the Tali-

Rescuers in Japan hunt for 80 missing after deadly landslides

RESCUERS in Japan searched vesterday for 80 people believed to be missing two days after landslides tore through the seaside city of Atami, destroying houses and burying roads under mud and rock.

The official death toll from the landslides that hit early on Saturday is four, according to Atami city

spokesperson Hiroki Onuma, while down to a bay. It is famous for a hot the number of missing had come down from 113 earlier.

Two people were found alive and unharmed on Monday, the NHK public broadcaster reported.

"My mother is still missing," one man told NHK television. "I never imagined something like this could happen." Atami, with a population of 36,000, is 90 km southwest of Tokyo, set on a steep slope leading springs resort.

The landslides are a reminder of the natural disasters - including earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and tsunami - that haunt Japan, where the capital Tokyo is to host the summer Olympics beginning this month.

By yesterday, the number of rescuers at the disaster site had risen

Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga said police, firefighters and members of the military were doing all they could to help with the search.

"We want to rescue as many vic-

tims ... buried in the rubble as soon as possible," Suga told reporters.

A 75-year-old man had a lucky escape when the house across from his was swept away. The couple liv-

ing there are missing.

an emergency shelter.

The landslides were triggered by torrential downpours - with some areas receiving more rain in 24 hours than they would usually get for the whole of July.

About 130 buildings were affected in Atami. Chief Cabinet Secretary Katsunobu Kato called for vigilance, with the ground so saturated and weakened that even light rain "This is hell," the man said from could prove dangerous.

China's Qinghai-Tibet Highway on 'Roof of the World' leads people to prosperity

DRIVING along the Qinghai-Tibet Highway, an artery on the Tibetan Plateau known as "Roof of the World" in western China, one can enjoy the magnificent scenery of grasslands, salt lakes, Gobi desert, mountains and desert, and travel past the Qinghai Lake, Chaka Salt Lake, Kunlun Mountains, and other tourist destinations.

Impressive as it is, the construction of the highway was even more formidable and monumental.

In the 1950s, constructors fought their way through mountains and cliffs, plateaus and glaciers, as well as mud puddles and marshes, and completed the Golmud-Lhasa section of the Qinghai-Tibet Highway in just less than eight months.

In doing so, they created a miracle of building a highway on the Tibetan Plateau that has an average altitude of over 4,000 meters, and ended Tibet's history of no modern highways.

The constructors of the Qinghai-Tibet Highway have made a remarkable achievement, and finished a splendid chapter in the history of the People's Republic of China.

Decades have passed since the highway was completed, but the challenges tackled by the constructors, as well as their extraordinary accomplishment will never be for-

More importantly, the trail



Photo shows the Qinghai-Tibet Highway. File photo

blazing spirit of the constructors has been passed on from generation to generation, which is injecting strong impetus to the economic and social development of the regions along the highway.

Mohe camel farm in Ulan county, Haixi Mongolian and Tibetan autonomous prefecture of southwest China's Qinghai province witnessed how the Qinghai-Tibet Highway has boosted local develop-

As the first state-run camel farm of China, the farm made huge contribution to the construction of the highway, and its workers left numerous footprints on desolate Gobi desert and vast snow-capped mountains to transport mate-

Last year, the camel farm registered an income of 8.67 million yuan (\$1.34 million) from animal husbandry, and sold 500 tonnes of local mut-

"The spirit of our former generations is encouraging us to surmount difficulties and strive for innovations," said Zhang Cunhu, curator of a museum of the camel farm.

The spirit of the Qinghai-Tibet Highway constructors is generating infinite power, and it is indicated by the stories shared by Zhao Fuchang, a cadre in Bayin village, Ulan county.

"We will always remember the sacrifices made by the constructors, and to bring a better life to the local communities is the only way to delight them," Zhao told People's Daily.

Under the support of the Communist Party of China (CPC) committees and governments at all levels, transportation, healthcare and farming problems of the Bayin villagers have been gradu-

ally solved since 2013. Thirty-five households in Bayin village were relocated to a new site near the Chaka Salt Lake along the Qinghai-Tibet highway. Running agritainment facilities and tourism businesses, they made the resettlement area a welloff village. Last year, their per capita disposable income reached 17,000 yuan.

People's Daily

Settlement agreed to release ship that blocked Suez Canal



This photo taken on March 29, 2021, shows a tugboat pulling the Panama-flagged MV 'Ever Given' container ship after it was fully dislodged from the banks of the Suez Canal. (AFP)

ISMAILIA

THE owners and insurers of the Ever Given container ship that blocked the Suez Canal in March said on Sunday a formal settlement had been agreed in a compensation dispute, and the canal authority said the vessel would be allowed to sail on July 7.

The Suez Canal Authority (SCA) has held the giant ship and its crew in a lake between two stretches of the waterway since it was dislodged on March 29, amid a dispute over a demand for compensation by the SCA.

The Japanese-owned Ever Given had become stuck in high winds and remained wedged across the canal for six days, disrupting global trade.

"Preparations for the release of the vessel will be made and an event marking

the agreement will be held at the Authority's headquarters in Ismailia in due course." Faz Peermohamed of Stann Marine, which represents owner Shoei Kisen and its insurers, said in a

The SCA said the settlement contract would be signed on Wednesday at a ceremony, and that participants would be able to watch the ship leaving.

Stann Marine gave no details of the settlement.

Osama Rabie, the SCA chairman, said the canal will receive a tug boat with a pulling capacity of about 75 tonnes as part of a settlement, without mentioning any other details.

"We preserved the rights of the authority in full, preserved our relationship with the company and also political relations with Japan," he told a private TV channel on Sunday evening.

The canal earned revenue of US\$3 billion in the first six months of 2021, up 8.8% compared with the same period last year, despite the Ever Given accident, Rabie said. Shoei Kisen and its insurers said last month they had reached an agreement in principle with the SCA.

The SCA had demanded US\$916 million in compensation to cover salvage efforts, reputational damage and lost revenue before publicly lowering the request to US\$550 million.

Shoei Kisen and the ship's insurers had disputed the claim and the ship's detention under an Egyptian court order.

Earlier on Sunday, an Egyptian court adjourned hearings in the compensation dispute to July 11 to allow the canal and the ship's owner to finalise the settlement, court sources and a lawyer said. **Agencies**

Philippines orders probe after military plane crash kills 50

BY BLOOMBERG

MANILA - Philippine authorities ordered on Monday an investigation into the crash of an Air Force plane that overshot a runway killing 47 soldiers on board, three civilians on the ground and injuring

Some passengers on the Lockheed C-130 jumped free seconds before the plane crashed and burst into flames on the weekend, officials cited witnesses as saying.

The aircraft, carrying recently graduated troops bound for counter-insurgency operations, had been trying to land at Jolo airport in southern Sulu province. read more

All 96 passengers on board had been accounted for, with 49 military personnel injured as well as four civilians on the ground, military spokesman Major General Edgard

Arevalo said.

In a news conference, Arevalo said the plane was in "very good condition" and had 11,000 flying hours remaining before its next maintenance was due.

"We are determined to find out what really transpired in this very tragic incident, because according to available information the aircraft followed the specified protocols," he said.

Defence Secretary Delfin

Lorenzana ordered an investigation into the country's worst military air disaster in nearly 30 years.

The military command said the soldiers were flying to the provincial airport of Jolo from Laguindingan, about 460 km to the northeast, to be deployed to their battalions.

The army in the sprawling Philippine archipelago has been fighting a long war in the area against Is-

lamist militants from Abu Sayyaf and other factions.

There was no sign the plane was brought down by insurgent fire, officials said.

"We assure our people that we are transparent and the results of the investigation (will be made) available when completed," added Arevalo, saying that authorities were still searching for the flight re-

corders. Jolo airport has 1,200-metre runway that usually takes civilian turboprop flights though occasionally some military flights, according to a Civil Aviation Authority of the

The Lockheed aircraft had only recently arrived in the Philippines and was one of two provided by the U.S. government through the Defense Security Cooperation Agency, a government website said in Janu-

It quoted an Air Force spokesman as saying the aircraft would boost capability for heavy airlift missions.

The website C-130.net said the plane that crashed had first flown in 1988. The model is a workhorse for armed forces around the world.

The Philippines armed forces have a patchy air safety record. Last month a Black Hawk helicopter crashed during a training mission, killing six people.

Agencies



den Mr UK Dar Marathon's organizing committee member, Nelson Mrashani.

Malaika Music Band now set to perform at Mr UK Dar Marathon

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

PROMINENT Dar es Salaam dance music troupe, Malaika, is expected to entertain patrons at the maiden Mr UK Dar Marathon which is slated for the end of this month at Leaders Club in Dar es

Shedrack Profil, Mr UK Company's Finance Officer, said the city's other popular dance music troupe, Mapacha Watatu band, will also perform and there will be more entertainment from various Disc Jockeys (DJs).

He said the event, which will be held under the theme 'Run Towards Investment', is organized by Mr UK Sports

The official noted that more than 100m/- the organizers hope to raise from the race will be used for operating children that are receiving treatment for hydrocephalus and spine bitide at Muhimbili Orthopedic Institute (MOI).

The marathon will involve three events, Half Marathon, 10km and 5km.

He said the aim of the marathon is to help children suffering from hydrocephalus and spine bitide and, at the same time, promote investment through sports.

The official noted that during the event there will be exhibitions of various products and services.

"We are urging people from all walks of life to come and take part at the Mr UK Dar Marathon which will be held on July 24, there will be lost of entertainment, Malaika Band, which is headed by Christian Bella, and Mapacha Watatu, which is under Jose Mara, and various DJs, will entertain people, the money raised will be handed over to MOI," he said.

Former President, Jakaya Kikwete, is expected to be the guest of honour at the maiden Dar Mr UK Marathon.

Other dignitaries at the event will include Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Innocent Bashungwa, Minister for Industry and Investment, Kitila Mkumbo, and other top government

Recently, the Mr UK Sports Agency's official said they are delighted that former President, Jakaya Kikwete, and many top government officials have accepted to take part at the event whose proceeds will help children at MOI.

He promised Mr UK Sports Agency's continued support to social and economic development in the country.

John Hagu, a representative of one of the sponsors of the event, Agro Fresh Limited, said they are committed to reaching out to a lot of needy children in the country through

"I'm from Agro Fresh Limited, one of the sponsors of this year's Mr UK Dar Marathon, we are delighted to be part of the group of companies supporting needy children through sports. We promise to continue supporting," he said.

A MOI neurosurgeon, Juma Mzimbiri, thanked Dar Mr UK Marathon for helping needy children in the country.

Mzimbiri disclosed the money which will be raised will help 100 children suffering from the mentioned diseases to be operated and get to normal condition.

The Mr UK Dar Marathon's organizing committee member, Nelson Mrashani, disclosed cash prizes to be handed over to winners, saying in 21km (both male and female), top 10 winners will be awarded 1m/

The event's runners-up will take home 700,000/- apiece and third-placed athletes get 500,000/- apiece.

He said there will also be cash prizes for those who will end fourth to 10th in both

Mrashani stated: "The cash prizes are very attractive as top 10 winners in 21km in both men and women categories shall be awarded, while in 10km race there will be trophies."

"The other good thing is that all those who will compete will receive medals, another unique aspect in our race is that winners in 21km in both categories, who will reach 60 minutes in men and 70 minutes in women, a 1m/- awaits each of them," he said.

Azam FC in pursuit of victory in remaining Premier League fixtures

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

AZAM FC assistant coach, Vivier Bahati, has said that they are still confident of doing well in their upcoming Vodacom Premier League matches so they can collect three points in each of the fixtures.

The Dar es Salaam side is sitting third in the top flight standings after playing a total of 32 matches, notching 64 points, Simba leads the Premier League with 73 points.

Azam FC settled for a 0-0 draw with Namungo FC in the previous league game, the former also lost a place in the Federation Cup final with a 1-0 loss to Simba in the last four stage.

The highly competitive Federation Cup match was played at Majimaji Stadium in Ruvuma.

Simba midfielder, Luis Miquissone, notched the winning goal, making the most of a quickly taken free kick by Bernard Morrison.

Simba got the free kick a few meters outside Azam FC penalty area as fullback Bruce Kangwa fouled Morrison.

Bahati said: "The fight is still going on and every player knows that we need to win the remaining matches so the main thing is to see to it that we win."

"Fans should continue to support us as every player knows what we need, it's important to do

The side had, in the past few months, noted there is a great challenge for it to win the top flight's title this season due to the wide points' margin between them and Simba.

Simba has played a total of 30 matches, whereas Azam FC has featured in 32 ties.

According to Azam FC information officer, Thabit Zakaria, it is difficult for the team to win the top flight title due to the margin.

The official stated: "It is very clear that it is difficult for us to win the league title due to Simba still having three games in hand."

Zakaria noted: "But that doesn't make us lose hope, we will continue to fight until in the last game.'



Azam FC players participate in training in Dar es Salaam recently to shape up for the Vodacom Premier League. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

SPORTS

Azam FC ropes in Zambian midfielder



By Correspondent Ismail Tano

AZAM FC has sought to go for reinforcement early on, given the club has roped in Zambian midfielder, Charles Zulu.

Zulu that had earlier been playing for South Africa Premier League squad, Cape Town City FC, passed medical tests at Azam FC and has officially signed a contract to join the outfit.

Azam FC has continued to prepare for the next season and last weekend unveiled the midfielder, who is going tipped to improve the squad.

A statement from Azam FC stated: "We are pleased to announce that we have successfully signed Zambian midfielder, Charles Zulu, on a two-year deal from Cape Town City FC of South Af-

"We signed him after reaching an agreement with Cape Town City FC, where he was playing."

"Zulu, whose agent is Nir Karin, will start serving Azam FC next season, prior to landing in South Africa he was playing for Zambian giants, Zanaco FC."

Zulu, who made a total of 14 appearances in one season at Cape Town City FC, contributed to one goal and two assists at the squad.

The midfielder makes his way to Tanzania to join Azam FC on a two-year

deal, as the Tanzanian club has confirmed the signing of the 25-year-old Zambian midfielder.

Zulu played as a winger for Cape Town City FC and could have scored more goals if he had made more appearances in his debut season, but he now has a new club to prove himself to in his role as winger.

Azam FC has confirmed the signing of Zulu on their social media accounts.

The Dar es Salaam outfit posted: "We are happy to inform you that we have succeeded in capturing the signature of Zambia international, Charles Zulu, for a two-year contract from Cape Town City FC of South Af-

Azam FC are currently sitting third in the Vodacom Premier League, behind Simba SC in first place, and Yanga in the second place.

Cape Town City FC has also confirmed the player's departure from the club as they took to Twitter showing off pictures of Zulu putting pen to paper in his new Azam In another development, Azam FC striker Prince Dube

is likely to miss two league games due to a stomach ache. The striker has already missed two league matches and one Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) against Simba due to stomach problem. Commenting on the announcement, Azam FC infor-

mation officer, Thabit Zakaria, said the striker had been given two weeks off to recover.

"Dube is suffering from chronic abdominal pain and has been given a two-week break so that his health can improve to serve Azam in the remaining two matches will depend on the progress of his health," Zakaria noted.

The Azam FC official said the team's doctors are fighting to ensure the player returns to the pitch to

finish the remaining two matches, the club will confront Simba and Ruvu Shooting.

Zakaria said despite their attacking line-up having many players, Dube's presence in those two matches is significant given the player's record since joining their team this season has been impressive.

Dube is one of the Vodacom Premier League's leading goal scorers after posting 14 goals, John Bocco of Simba has posted the same number of

Dube, who has recently extended his contract with Azam FC, will serve for two years.

He also has three goals in the Federation Cup, with Azam FC exiting the competition in the semifinal following a loss to Simba SC.

Simba SC will lock horns with Yanga in the showpiece's final in Kigo-

Mtibwa Sugar now optimistic of notching wins in Premier League

MTIBWA Sugar FC will be hoping to win their remaining two Vodacom Premier League games to remain in the top flight.

The Morogoro-based side, which has 38 points from 32 games, is expected to play its two final games away at Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma.

Mtibwa Sugar will, on Wednesday, face Dodoma Jiji FC in a match, which had earlier been postponed, and the former's final top flight game will see them lock horns with JKT Tanzania on

information officer, said it will be a tricky trip for his club to Dodoma considering that the league has reached a crucial stage where each team want to win.

He said the two games will, to his club, be treated as a final.

"We have rectified our shortfalls, the two games are going to be a final to us, we will play our lungs out, the players know the importance of winning," he

He, however, expressed confidence that they will win the two games, saying it will be suicidal for the team to drop points at this final stage.

league, we need the six points at all cost and at the same time pray that others lose, we know it will be tough but we are confident of notching good results," he

Mtibwa Sugar are coached by former Gwambina FC head coach, Badru Mohamed, who has experienced mixed

The team, under Badru, has managed three wins against Tanzania Prisons, Mbeya City FC and Mwadui FC, lost to Namungo FC and settled for draw with Dar es Salaam's Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC.

SPORTS

Guardian

Argentina-Brazil final is possible, but more Messi magic may be needed

By Tim Vickery, ESPN South America correspondent

SOME people are making a fuss about the fact that Lionel Messi has 76 goals for Argentina, just one fewer than Pele's total for Brazil, which is the record for South American male players. Others are making a fuss about the prospect of Copa America glory propelling Messi to another world player of the year award. The man himself, however, is unlikely to be concerned with either topic.

Messi has only ever seen individual awards as the consequence of successful work in a collective context. It is all about the team and now, more than at any other time in his career, the team is Argentina (and not just because, strictly speaking, he does not have a club after his Barcelona contract expired).

He could have been forgiven for throwing in the towel on international football after the shambles that was Argentina's 2018 World Cup campaign, which ended at the round-of-16 stage. Instead, he has gone all in.

For years there was an air of aloofness around Messi, with his self-contained nature said to intimidate other Argentina players. But beginning with the 2019 Copa, he has been different; a vocal, encouraging captain and leader, integrated into the team both as a human being and as a footballer.

Messi dovetails with midfielders Giovani Lo Celso and Rodrigo De Paul and is developing a relationship with centre-forward Lautaro Martinez. Argentina are a better team than at any time since the 2016 Copa America Centenario and, having reached the latest edition's semifinals, are two games away from a first senior title since 1993. Messi, meanwhile, is two games away from his first senior international title.

Both games will be very difficult, however. Argentina must first get past Colombia on Tuesday and if they do, unless there is a major shock in the other semifinal, will take on Brazil four days later in Rio. In that scenario, the Albiceleste will have to beat the last two teams to have beaten them: Two years ago, Colombia and Brazil earned 2-0 wins in the Copa group stage and semifinals respectively.

Against Colombia, Messi and Co. are in for an epic battle with defensive midfielder Wilmar Barrios, one of the best man markers in the game. There is something of the young Javier Mascherano in the 27-year-old, who is quick across the ground, tough in the tackle, crisp in his passing and loves nothing more than a battle.

The two nations met in a World Cup qualifier in Colombia just before the Copa began. Amazingly, Barrios started on the bench and Colombia quickly caved, conceding two goals in the opening eight minutes. They had to chase the game, and risked leaving themselves open to the counter, but Barrios came on at half-time.

While he dealt with the danger by to organizing things in front of his centre-backs, Colombia could concentrate on attack and levelled the scores with the last attack of the game, claiming a vital point on the road to Qatar 2022. Argentina's defence buckled in the end, and Colombia are set up for a repeat performance on Tuesday.

Coach Reinaldo Rueda appears to have given up on having a playmaker, with the best that Edwin Cardona can hope for is a run off the bench if Colombia are chasing the game.

As such, Barrios will be joined in the middle by another defensive midfielder, while Juan Guillermo Cuadrado will return after suspension to carry out his double role on the right, coming inside to mark and going outside as a winger.

Luis Diaz will attack from the left and Duvan Zapata will lead a two man front line, seeking to bully an defence that looked in danger of leaking against Ecuador in the quarterfinals, when a 3-0 Argentina win was slightly deceptive. They have only scored three times in five games, but Colombia will be quick, direct and physical.

In the other last-four game, on Monday, host nation Brazil will expect to have fewer obstacles against a Peru side lacking the outstanding Andre Carrillo, who was somewhat harshly sent off in the quarterfinal after playing a heroic role against Paraguay.

There is considerable recent history between Brazil and Peru. Five years ago in Foxborough, Mass., a 1-0 win for Peru in the Copa Centenario group stage five years ago condemned Brazil to a humiliating elimination and brought down the curtain on the second reign as coach of Dunga, paving the way for Tite to take charge,

Peru have since won again on American soil -- a 1-0 September 2019 friendly triumph in Los Angeles -- but the spoils in competitive games have gone to Brazil, who won two World Cup qualifiers in Lima and have three wins in Copa America play: 5-0 in the group phase and 3-1 in the final two years ago, as well as -- most recently -- a 4-0 mauling in this tournament's first round.

In the absence of Carrillo, it is hard to see how the Peruvians can stop that run of defeats, not least because Brazil are on the bounce from a disappointing quarterfinal display, where Tite clearly picked the wrong team against Chile.

His 4-4-2, with Gabriel Jesus and Richarlison wide and Neymar and Roberto Firmino central, left the team outnumbered in midfield—the formation is more suited to attacking games—but the coach's half-time introduction of an extra attacking midfielder immediately solved the problem when the substitute, Lucas Paqueta, scored the game's only goal.

Moments later, Gabriel Jesus was sent off and his absence through suspension should make it easier to accommodate Paqueta from the kickoff on Monday night, when Peru's biggest ally would seem to be the deplorable state of the pitch at Rio de Janeiro's Nilton Santos stations.

Tite pleaded that another venue be found for the semifinal, to no avail. CONMEBOL have been spooked by the poor playing surfaces, though, and the Maracana has been relaid ahead of Saturday's final, in the hope of producing a pitch worthy of a great occasion featuring Neymar and Messi, or maybe even Zapata.



England's run down to Southgate, players breaking away from the past



Gareth Southgate's approach has resulted in a squad that is at ease in tournament situations. (Agencies)

By Gabriele Marcotti, Senior Writer, ESPN

AFTER nearly a quarter-century living in England and covering the national team for much of that time, I can tell you that this run to the semifinal feels different. (In a good way, I hasten to add, though obviously that does not mean they will win Euro 2020; history shows they usually do not end up with a trophy.)

Make no mistake about it, some things are the same. Few countries, at least among the bigger nations, have the ability to go from ecstasy to dejection based on a single result, for example.

Win and you will hear pundits and fans -- at least those who make the most noise -- talk about how deep down, England can beat anyone and how everyone with Three Lions on their shirt is "world class," or, as they like to say, "thereabouts." Lose and they are inept no-hopers at best, a spoiled, ungrateful bunch of disinterested stains on the national character at worst.

This is not to say media and supporters in other countries do not get carried away when they excel, or turn into angry villagers with pitchforks and torches when they underperform. They certainly do; it is just that there is not normally the 180-degree turnaround from game to game.

But while that part has not changed about England, what has is a lot to do with the man leading the team, Gareth Southgate, and a little to do with the sort of players who comprise his squad. Here are five ways in which this side is different.

1. Southgate is likeable and humble and normal

England's manager is probably more relatable than any of his seven permanent predecessors. Let's remind ourselves that the list includes a guy who lost his job after saying he believed in reincarnation and that people with disabilities were being punished for sins in a former life (Glenn Hoddle), a guy who quit out of the blue in a postgame interview at Wembley (Kevin Keegan), a guy who had an affair with a Football Association employee and who was duped by a man dressed as a wealthy Sheikh (Sven Goran Eriksson), a guy who quit because the FA forced him to strip his captain of the armband (Fabio Capello) and a guy who had to leave after a single game because of an undercover sting that saw him talk about "bypassing rules" to register players (Sam Allardyce).

Now, there is context and another side to all of the above, and none of it means the aforementioned were worse managers than Southgate; in fact, from a purely footballing perspective, most were arguably better. But it does mean that the current England boss has managed to avoid controversy and drama to a degree that others did not. Moreover, he has done it while being humble and ear-

nest, traits that folks find appealing.

2. Southgate is not unduly influenced by the media

Whether it is playing Kieran Trippier at leftback (and not playing Ben Chilwell at all), sticking with Kalvin Phillips in midfield, making Raheem Sterling a fixture or starting Bukayo Saka against Germany, Southgate has made a series of decisions that most might describe as well outside popular wisdom. The same popular wisdom, that is, which compelled previous managers to shoehorn Frank Lampard, Steven Gerrard and, occasionally, Paul Scholes into the same midfield.

Nor does Southgate freak out when performances leave critics unsatisfied, like the O-O draw against Scotland or the second half against Czech Republic in the group stage, the latter of which saw England contrive to register O.O Expected Goals (which is frankly difficult to do).

He has a plan, he sticks to it and he knows that, while short term he might be judged by how well his teams play (and therefore risk a media battering), long term he will be judged by how far they advance in tournaments (so far, so good).

Southgate gets a basic concept that others seem to miss: Club football — with its 38-game league season—generally rewards teams that attack and play well, creating more than they concede. Tournament football, on the other hand, is a different animal, where risk-taking is discouraged.

France won at the last World Cup by essentially sitting deep, not conceding and waiting for superstars at the other end to do something special. England have not quite gone that far -- and may not, given Philips is no Paul Pogba, Declan Rice is no N'Golo Kante, Sterling is no Antoine Griezmann and there is not a Kylian Mbappe in sight -- but the concept is not dissimilar.

3. England's players look like they want to be there

After most tournament disappointments in past years, the English media would run their inquests about what went wrong. This would be a familiar process. The coach's decisions would be criticised (always) and, usually, there would be a grand theory, sometimes involving an individual scapegoat, like David Beckham in 1998 or David Seaman in 2002 or Wayne Rooney most of the time, and sometimes noting a collective dereliction of duty.

Inevitably, another of the sub-themes to come up was whether these players really wanted to wear the Three Lions and whether there were internecine rivalries that ripped the group apart. Eriksson famously remarked how players would eat and hang out with their club teammates, other managers have talked about how players felt "less protected" with England than at club level and others still noted how players felt it was a "chore," given the environment around the national team.

And when things went awry, there was, punctual as ever, a story making its way into the national media. Maybe if England get beaten by Denmark on Wednesday the cycle will be repeated.

I don't think so, though, because there were none

after the World Cup semifinal defeat to Croatia in 2018, and every indication is that unlike in past expeditions, there is no poison in this England camp. Credit for that goes not just to Southgate, but also to this group of players.

4. This group has the right blend of leaders and foot soldiers

There is no question that, in terms of strength in depth, particularly in attacking positions, this England is as strong as any non-French speaking team in Europe. But there is also humility to the players Southgate has entrusted most over the past few weeks. There are very few alpha male, eyes-on-me, superstar types among the regulars, compared to yesteryear.

Rice, Phillips and Jordan Pickford watch the Champions League on TV. The three Man City players are important to their club side without being indispensable, partly because of Pep Guardiola's strong collective ethos, partly because of the talent around them. Mason Mount is not an A-lister yet. Luke Shaw plays for Man United, but has had his share of setbacks. Harry Maguire is a natural leader, but was at Hull City until the age of 24.

The one exception is Harry Kane, who has been carrying Tottenham on his back for many years, but in terms of ego and personality, he will not be mistaken for Zlatan Ibrahimovic anytime soon. It is a blue-collar team for a blue-collar style of play, with plenty of talent and gamechangers rotating in and out from the bench, whether it's Jadon Sancho or Phil Foden or Jack Grealish or Saka. This is not a side built around two or three individuals – arguably, Kane apart, though even then you saw him go for long stretches with no service and he did not complain – and that makes it different.

5. Success breeds success and confidence

This also feels different for the simple reason that many of the players know what national-team success looks like. England have reached the semifinals of major tournaments just six times, with Southgate and much of this squad having done it twice, just like Sir Alf Ramsey and Co. in 1966 and 1968.

England had gone more than 20 years without reaching the last four of a competition, before Southgate took them there in Russia. It does not mean the pressure is off, but it is not insignificant, because once a cycle begins, it is hard to slow down.

Once you have experience actually achieving something meaningful, it becomes easier to do it again. This England team does not play with swagger, but the players do seem to have a quiet confidence. And that can be even more important.

Southgate's England have managed to break the feedback loop of drama and disappointment. Not by necessarily playing better football or by having better players - at least in terms of the ones who actually make it onto the pitch -- but in the way they carry themselves and the way the environment in the camp projects beyond them.

It may not be entirely down to the manager. It may be the players. It may be the fans and the media who, after 18 months of pandemic, are just a little more chilled out and happy and wanting to highlight the positives.

It also may or may not be enough to win the Euros, but it is a darn sight different from the past.



Guardian www.ippmedia.com

England's run down to Southgate, players breaking away from the past

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Darts officials in Arusha appeal for boost from local companies

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

AS darts events are being revived in Arusha, the officials of Arusha Regional Darts Association (ARDA) here are now also appealing for support from members of the community as well as sponsorship from local companies to boost the sport.

"Operating costs are escalating and ARDA does not have any form of investments," explained the Arusha Regional Darts Association's Chairman, Tareto Kitali.

The official pointed out most of darts players play on a voluntary basis and incur all expenses related with competitions, including transport, practice and equipment.

Speaking during a two-day darts bonanza, held at the Usa-River Darts Club arena in Meru over the weekend, Kitali, who once also served as Tanzania Darts Association (TADA)'s Vice-Chairman, was of the view that the board game is still an important form of recreational sports, which needs to be promoted in order to ferry the events beyond the region, nationwide and missile into international

Five clubs participated in last weekend's Arusha Darts Bonanza in Meru, including Magereza, Usa-River, Mapigano, VIP, and Ngaramtoni Darts Club.

Magereza Darts Club of Kisongo clinched the event's title, followed by Usa-River Darts Club, with Mapigano Darts Club coming third.

Darts player, John Massawe from Ngaramtoni Darts Club, was named the bonanza's best player, while Joachim Jacob from VIP Club became the second-best, Haruna Issa from Magereza Club finished third among this list.

"The Usa-River-held bonanza was staged in preparation towards the Regional Darts League planned for the next month," the ARDA

The ARDA Propagation Secretary, George Massawe, insisted that a series of these events aim at reviving the sport's interest among

Massawe remembered with melancholy the past years when firms used to support and sponsor darts events in the country and make the sport popular across the nation, saying he wished that era would

thing was to revive defunct or dormant darts clubs so that the annual TADA calendar can also be brought back to life, starting with national events in Dodoma in the near future.

The TADA Secretary General, Victor Kimambo, said the main

12:00 MPYA

12:30 Msosi Kitaani (r)

13:00 Wanawake Live (r) 13:30 Kali Za Wana

14:00 DK 10 za Maangamizi

14:30 BBall Kings Highlights (r) 15:00 Funguka

15:30 5SPORTS (r) 16:30 #HASHTAG

17:00 5SELEKT

17:55 Kurasa

18:00 eNewz

18:30 Music/Soap 19:00 EATV SAA 1

19:45 MJADALA

20:00 DADAZ (r)

TONIGHT @ 9:00



Nirvana explores the hottest trends in fashion, beauty, art and lifestyle as well as interviews with notable people from the entertainment, art and fashion industries.

Simba SC focuses on KMC FC game



Simba SC players participate in training in Dar es Salaam recently to shape up for the Vodacom Premier League. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

SIMBA SC head coach, Didier Gomes, has said his team's focus is now on tomorrow's Vodacom Premier League's clash against Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Simba SC play away to KMC FC tomorrow and the coach said after his outfit's 1-0 defeat to age-old rivals, Yanga, on Saturday, the focus is on the game against KMC FC.

"The results on Saturday are water under the bridge, it is painful but life has to go on and we are now focusing on our Wednesday match, my players are covering from the defeat and hopefully by Wednesday they will be ready," he

Gomes said he is optimistic of and I analyzed Simba's weaknessseeing his side collect maximum points on Wednesday.

"We are determined to collect maximum points, our aim is to defend the Premier League's silverware and I'm hopeful of that," he said.

Habib Kondo, KMC FC assistant coach, said he watched the Simba SC against Yanga match and he has analyzed Simba's strength and weakness and expects good results for his outfit in tomorrow's game.

He, however, said the match will be tough as Simba will come

out with all guns blazing. "We expect a tough match but the players are ready for the match, the good thing is that I

es and strengths. I am working on a game plan which will see my team collect maximum points,"

Both KMC FC and Simba recorded unfavorable results in their previous Premier League

They both lost their clashes, as KMC FC went down 1-0 to Dodoma Jiji FC, Simba lost 1-0 to Yanga.

The KMC FC is sitting sixth with 42 points from 31 games while Simba holds the first spot in the league table with 73 points from 30 matches.

In this season's last game bringing together KMC FC and Simba, the game ended with Simba winning 1-0 courtesy of John Bocco's have watched Simba play Yanga goal.

Juma Mgunda out to help Coastal Union survive relegation

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

COASTAL Union head coach, Juma Mgunda, has said that his team's preparations for the remaining Vodacom Premier League matches are well underway and they believe they will get positive results.

The Tanga side's next league clash will see them confront league leaders Simba SC at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on July 11.

Coastal Union are set to do so, as Simba SC succumbed to defeat in their game against Yanga at the same venue on Saturday.

Simba will lock horns with Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC at the venue on Wednesday.

Mgunda said preparations for their game against Simba SC, which will be played on July 11, are going well, and they believe they will get positive results. The tactician pointed out the

competition is fierce and every team needs a victory, but the need for three points for his squad is very high, so they will make sure they beat Simba in order to keep their Premier League survival hopes

Mgunda disclosed: "The players are doing well as every player knows that we need a win in our remaining matches, we have to fight, so, our fans should continue to supporting us.' "Everyone needs to see that we

restore confidence in our remaining games and that is possible especially considering that each team needs to get three points," he added.

Coastal Union currently sits 17th on the league log with 34 points, with relegation looming.

The North East Tanzanian team will hope they win their next fixtures while other teams drop points in order for them to remain in the country's top flight football.

Mgunda's side are without a win in their last five matches, witnessing four defeats in a row before posting a draw in their last match at home against Tanzania Prisons at Mkwakwani Stadium.

Simba SC faced all sort problems during their league fixture against Yanga when they lost 1-0 to the lat-

It has been Simba's third league defeat of the season although they are still on top of the league with 73 points after 30 games, three points ahead of Yanga, who are on 70 points with 32 games played.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



