



GOVERNANCE



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LAW



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SPORTS WEEKEND

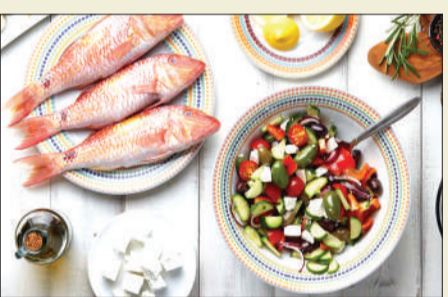


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Samia recalls Busisi last moments with Mfugale

By Getrude Mbago

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday recalled her last moments with late engineering guru Patrick Mfugale, saying they discussed a number of projects whose implementation he was to oversee.

Speaking at the engineer's official funeral at the Karimjee Hall in Dar es Salaam where senior government officials paid last respects, the president described Mfugale's contribution to the development of infrastructure

“Engineer Mfugale served in the public service for 45 years, demonstrating diligence and an innovative spirit. We should learn from him to ensure that we too leave a positive mark wherever we are,” she added.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan pays her last respects to engineer Patrick Mfugale at Karimjee grounds in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The Tanzania National Roads Agency (Tanroads) CEO, who died in Dodoma city on Tuesday, is due for burial at his home place in Iringa Region. Photo: State House

in the country as with little parallel.

“We last met at the Kigogo-Busisi Bridge construction site in Mwanza region and he told me that he had completed designs for Dodoma city ring road as well as Msalato International Airport,” she

said, describing him as a leader who had sound vision.

She said that the government has lost a strong and hardworking leader who served in various high-level positions in the public service, making remarkably positive impact in the country.

The nation has also lost a

competent and patriotic servant who has left a rich legacy of dedication and hard work in the public service, she stated.

“Engineer Mfugale served in the public service for 45 years, demonstrating diligence and an innovative spirit. We should learn from him to ensure that we too

leave a positive mark wherever we are,” she added.

Scores of top government officials, relatives, close friends, community leaders and private sector notables were among the mourners.

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‘Forgeries, truancy, frauds choking the public service’

By Henry Mwangonde

FORGED academic papers, truancy and embezzlement of funds are some of the reasons employees in the public sector get fired.

In its annual general meeting held in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the Public Service Commission said that in the 2019/2020-2020/2021, it handled 626 appeals lodged by sacked civil servants for various reasons.

Apart from the aforementioned three, other reasons that prompted employers to dismiss employees from their jobs are taking up further

“There are those who were not satisfied with the decision by the commission and decided to appeal to the President’s Office and in total there were 59 and out of that number, the president agreed with the commission on 52 appeals and disagreed on seven appeals,” he said.

studies without permission, giving false personal information and lacking basic requirements for employment.

Briefing reporters, the head of communications at the commission, Richard Cheyo said other reasons are failure to produce form four certificates, negligence as well as integrity issues.

“There are those who were not satisfied with the decision by the commission and decided to appeal to the President’s Office and in total there were 59 and out of that number, the president agreed with the commission

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KIGAMBONI PROJECT PLOTS NOW SHIFT TO MUNICIPALITY

By Guardian Reporter

KIGAMBONI district authorities were yesterday handed 20,000 plots project m after a directive a given to the Commissioner for Lands to stop managing the project and hand it over to the municipal council.

The handing over yesterday as in line with the directive by William Lukuvi (pictured), the Minister for Lands, Housing and Human

Settlements Development, to ensure that the plots are safeguarded from invaders.

The fast-growing enclave in Temeke district became a district in 2015, and has since then had to face invaders who carved out project land to develop it.

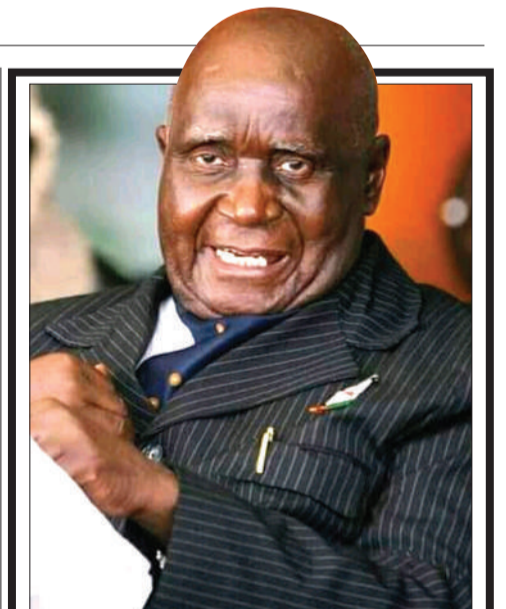
The ministry said in a statement yesterday that the land plots were officially handed over by an Assistant



Land Commissioner in Dar es Salaam, Idrisa Kayera to Kigamboni Mayor Ernest Mafimbo.

Kayera acknowledged that the

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Zambians bid Kaunda farewell waving white handkerchiefs

LUSAKA

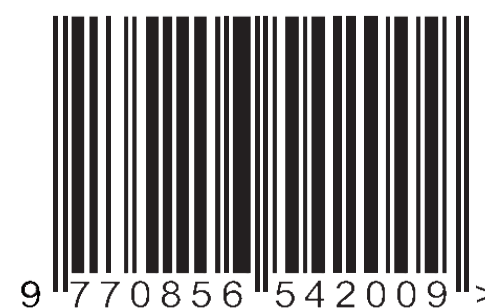
A STATE memorial service for Zambia's first president, Kenneth Kaunda (pictured), was held yesterday with a 21 gun salute and a fly-past by the air force.

Kaunda died last month, aged 97, after suffering from pneumonia.

He was one of the last of a generation of African rulers who fought colonial rule, and became president after Zambia gained its independence in 1964.

The service is being held at a stadium in the capital, Lusaka, where foreign

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Vice President Dr Philip Mpango has an audience with Dr Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, who doubles as United Nations Under-Secretary General and UN Women Executive Director, moments after he made a presentation at the General Equality Forum in Paris on Thursday on Tanzania's commitments. Photo: VPO

Samia recalls Busisi last moments with Mfugale

FROM PAGE 1

Representing development partners and investors, JICA Tanzania top official Yamamura Naofumi said Mfugale's legacy at TanRoads had many aspects, like his having designed and managed the construction of a number of roads and bridges as well as formulating a management system for bridges.

"We sincerely express our sorrow at his passing. He was a wonderful friend to us; we have worked closely with him to implement various projects in the country," he said.

Mfugale, who was serving as Tanzania National Roads Agency (Tanroads) CEO, died on Tuesday at the Benjamin Mkapa Hospital in Dodoma after a short illness.

It was reported that he fell

suddenly ill while in a work meeting and was rushed to the hospital, but efforts to save his life failed.

Born in Iringa Region in 1953, Mfugale had his primary education at the Consolata Fathers Primary School in Iringa town (now municipality) and obtained his secondary education certificate at Moshi Secondary School in 1975.

He then pursued - and got - his first degree at Rocky University in India in 1983.

He was employed by the Ministry of Works in 1977 and was widely recognised as a bridge specialist.

During his tenure as CEO of Tanroads, Mfugale supervised the implementation of over 1,400 construction projects countrywide.

Mfugale was registered as a professional engineer in 1992

the next year he was appointed ministerial director of regional roads.

In 1994-1995, he received his second degree at Loughborough University, Braunschweig, in the UK.

While in the UK, in 1995 he came up with a special system of supervising bridges in Tanzania that was called 'Tanzania Bridge Management System'.

In 2003 he got the Distinguished Engineering Accomplishment Award and was appointed chief engineer (bridges) in the country.

In 2014 he was registered as a consultant engineer and a member of the Tanzania Engineers Association.

He spent most of his time as a bridge specialist and designed the 178-meter Malagarasi bridge, whose

construction cost some 300bn/-.

The bridges whose construction he oversaw include Mkapa Bridge straddling Rufiji river, Umoja Bridge connecting Tanzania and Mozambique over the Ruvuma River, Rusumo Bridge in Kagera Region, Kikwete Bridge over Malagarasi River and Nyerere Bridge at Kigamboni, Dar es Salaam.

Officials credit Mfugale with the designing and supervision of national roads with a total length of 36,258 kilometers.

They add that he was also chairman of the construction team charged with the ongoing implementation of the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project as well as a member of consultation teams for big power projects in the country.

'Forgeries, truancy, frauds choking the public service'

FROM PAGE 1

on 52 appeals and disagreed on seven appeals," he said.

The commission found out that there is gross abuse of labour laws, rules and guidelines among civil servants and employees especially in the handling of disciplinary issues by employers.

During the meeting which ended yesterday, the commission said it had received and acted upon 107 appeals brought before it.

The commission found that some employers took time to take action to handle issues raised by their employees, contrary to what the law requires.

"We also found that some employing authorities fail to form investigation committees to prove allegations leveled against their employees on time, and also failed to properly present the charge sheets to the commission," he said.

The commission in some cases found that civil servants were tasked for disciplinary issues a

year before retirement, urging employers and employees in the public service to adhere to law provisions, as it requires efficient delivery of services.

The commission's remarks echo recent findings in an investigation which found that 1,664 unqualified civil servants were appointed or promoted in acting capacity in senior positions across the country.

Deogratious Ndejemi, the Deputy Minister in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance) made this observation in Parliament at a recent question and answer session.

There was a challenging situation by employers in government institutions promoting unqualified civil servants without permission from the Permanent Secretary as required by the law.

This situation makes the civil servants stay on acting positions for a long time, he had stated.

Billions of people will lack access to safe water, sanitation and hygiene in 2030

GENEVA

2030' presents

BILLIONS of people around the world will be unable to access safely managed household drinking water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services in 2030, according to a new report from the World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

The report estimates on household access to safely managed drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services over the past five years, and assesses progress toward achieving the sixth sustainable development goals (SDGs)

Titled, Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) report - Progress on household drinking water, sanitation and hygiene 2000 - 2020 - it intends to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all by

Dr Tedros Adhanom

Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General said: "Handwashing is one of the most effective ways to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases, yet millions of people across the world lack access to a reliable, safe supply of water. Investment in water, sanitation and hygiene must be a global priority if we are to end this pandemic and build more resilient health systems."

UNICEF Executive Director Henrietta Fore said: "Even before the pandemic, millions of children and families were suffering without clean water, safe sanitation, and a place to wash their hands. Despite our impressive progress to date to scale-up these lifesaving services, the alarming and growing needs continue to outstrip our ability to respond."

Kigamboni project plots now shift to municipality

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handing over carries out a recent directive the minister that the municipality be given the project land.

"The municipality is expected to protect the land and use it in accordance with the Kigamboni district land use plan," the assistant commissioner noted.

After becoming a district in 2015, Kigamboni drew up its own land use plan and as the ministry had just started surveying the plots, it decided that it was prudent to hand the zone to the new local authority, he stated.

"As land planning and enforcement of proper use is in the ambit of local authorities, we believe that Kigamboni municipality will do a better job to protect and utilize this land parcel," he affirmed.

The project earlier billed 20,000 plots project includes 15,000 plots zone sprawling across Gezaulole, Vijibweni, Muongozo, Kibada and Kisola wards.

On his part, mayor Mafimbo said there is a need for a signed agreement between the ministry and the municipality on how to proceed with the project to avoid misunderstandings with various stakeholders in the future.

That sentiment was shared by the chairman of the Kigamboni town planning committee, Sanya Bunaya who is also councilor Kimbiji ward.

With the change of the project implementing agency, challenges are likely to emerge especially when it comes to evicting those who invaded the area, he stated.

"It would be easier for the municipality if land parts embedded with conflicts like those that require compensation are clearly indicated," he asserted.



National Assembly Speaker Job Ndugai (R) exchanges greetings with former Controller and Auditor General Prof Mussa Assad in Dodoma city yesterday shortly after attending an event to mark the 60th anniversary of the National Audit Office. Looking on (3rd-R) is CAG Charles Kichere. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

Zambians bid Kaunda farewell waving white handkerchiefs

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dignitaries are paying tributes.

Inside the stadium, many Zambians also waved white handkerchiefs in tribute to the former leader who was rarely seen without one.

After his death, the government declared three weeks of national mourning, with all forms of entertainment suspended. His body was also taken around the country

for members of the public to pay their respects.

Zambia's President Edgar Lungu has also declared public holidays for the days of the memorial and the funeral - which will be held in private next week.

Among those at yesterday's ceremony were the leaders of Kenya and Ghana, as well as South Africa's President Cyril Ramaphosa, who shared images of the day on

social media.

Kaunda - popularly known as KK - was a strong supporter of efforts to end apartheid in South Africa. He was also a leading supporter of liberation movements in Mozambique and what is now Zimbabwe.

Speaking at the ceremony, African Union chairman Moussa Faki Mahamat said Kaunda was a "giant among men" and "the last of

the founding fathers who delivered independence to more than just his own land".

"Had it not been for the selfless efforts of his generation I would not be before you today as the African Union would not exist," added Mr Mahamat. "We are forever indebted to Kenneth Kaunda and the people of Zambia."

Kaunda rose to prominence as a key figure in what was then

Northern Rhodesia's independence movement from Britain in the 1950s.

He was nicknamed by some "Africa's Gandhi" for his non-violent approach to activism.

As head of the left-leaning United National Independence Party (UNIP), Kaunda then led the country through decades of one-party rule. But his popularity at home waned as he became increasingly

autocratic, and he stepped down after losing multi-party elections in 1991.

In later life, Kaunda turned his attention to the fight against HIV after one of his sons, Masuzyo, died from an AIDS-related disease.

"We fought colonialism. We must now use the same zeal to fight AIDS, which threatens to wipe out Africa," he told Reuters news agency in 2002.



Embattled former Hai district commissioner Lengai ole Sabaya (in glasses) and his co-accused just about to board a Prisons bus under heavy security ready for trip back to Arusha city's Kisongo Prison yesterday. This was shortly after the Arusha Resident Magistrate's Court adjourned the hearing of a case against them until July 16. The case involves economic sabotage and four other charges. Photo: Correspondent Allan Isack

PM says ID cards for small traders have earned the govt over 46bn/-

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has collected 46.71bn/- since the beginning of the distribution of Identity Cards from petty traders, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa told National Assembly yesterday.

On the same note, 2,335,711 traders have been reached with the services since the IDs started being distributed.

Speaking when winding up the 2021/22 budget seating of the National Assembly MP Majaliwa said the government started improving the IDs to increase value.

"Moreover, the government has now designed IDs with features which were issued in March this year which will allow them to access loans from the financial institutions," he said.

According to the PM the government evaluated the process of issuing the identity cards so that they have in place a system and a mechanism whereas the improved version will not only allow the petty traders to operate in a conducive and pleasant environment but also qualify for loan access.

The PM said the sixth phase government under president Samia Suluhu Hassan values investors saying this was the reason it was conducting policy change to facilitate investment.

Other areas to be looked at by the government including availability of drugs in hospitals, control the spread of covid-19 and other issues.

In December 2018, the late President John Magufuli directed RCs to issue the

IDs to petty traders so that TRA could identify them and stop harassing them since they will be recognized by the government.

The 20,000/- worth ID cards which are renewable annually are given to traders running a business with a maximum profit turnaround of 4m/-.

He noted that the move will broaden the country's tax base which by that time stood at just 12.8 per cent against a population of over 50 million. Kenya's tax base stood at 18.5 percent against a population of 40 million and Rwanda, which has 11 million people, has a tax base of 15.8 percent.



Moreover, the government has now designed IDs with features which were issued in March this year which will allow them to access loans from the financial institutions

VICE President underscores need for African countries to strengthen unity

By Correspondent James Kandoya

VICE President Dr Philipo Mpango has underscored the need for African countries to strengthen unity and collaborations so as to spur cross border trade for sustainable development.

The VP made the remarks at the 12th Mwalimu Nyerere Intellectual Festival held at the University of Dar es Salaam on Thursday with a theme "Reflections: Pan Africanist National Sovereignty, Unity and Democratic Governance: Challenges of consolidating the African polity".

In his speech read by the Prof Palamagamba Kabudi Minister for Foreign Affairs and East Africa Cooperation, Dr Mpango said due to poor collaborations some countries prefer to trade with other countries far from the continent while forgetting their

neighbours.

Dr Mpango said that all what African countries face right now is the result of disunity and less priority among the member states, so reinforcing unity is important

"If African countries have strong integration, it is so easy for one country to trade with another country within the region contrary to what is experienced now," he said.

He said member states could exchange products among the member states, thereby improving the market and economy.

He however said that the Tanzania government had worked out challenges that seemed to be barriers or nuisances to the union. VP said the EAC countries have jointly agreed to establish the federation adding that a team formed had already stated its duty. "A special team will soon

come to the country to collect views from the people, so give them cooperation," he said.

The distinguished Chair Prof Emeritus Issa Shivji pointed out that the ongoing debate about the constitution is very important to push the government to fast-track the process.

He said without having a debate on it, it will not be easy to make it realistic in the projected time, noting that the constitution was very important for the country's development.

Prof Shivji said the debate should be extended downward at village levels to increase community awareness about the importance of the constitutions.

He however said, poor integrity among the officials was one of the big challenges saying even those who are in power do not follow it accordingly.

"While doing that, we need to

change our people's minds and know the importance of the constitution and not for the election process only," he said.

Few days ago, Samia Suluhu Hassan put to rest the debate on a new constitution, saying her priority was to stabilize the country's economy.

"Let's give ourselves more time,

as we continue building up our economy. I don't say that (the call for) constitution is less important but we still have a lot of things to do as we strive to strengthen our economy," she said during her meeting with editors at the State House in Dar es Salaam. "We want to continue bringing in more investors and creating more jobs," she

stressed, noting the nation must prioritize economic recovery amid uncertainties brought by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The president was responding to a question from the media over her position regarding the shelved new constitution writing process, which kicked off during the fourth-phase government.



National Ranching Company Ltd (Narco) general manager Prof Peter Msoffe (R) pictured in Dodoma city on Thursday receiving a handing-over report from Masele Shilagi (L), who has been acting in position. Looking on is Stephen Michael, the Livestock and Fisheries ministry's acting director of production and marketing. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

NARCO eyes investment in innovative strategies

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Ranching Company Limited (NARCO) has vowed to invest in innovative strategies so as to transform operations and enable the company to operate commercially.

Prof Peter Msoffe, NARCO chief manager made the pledge in Dodoma during office handover event with the former acting chief manager Masele Shilagi.

He said that the government wants the company to be the centre of expertise in all aspects concerning ranching. "To ensure this success, the com-

pany has to invest in quality meat production, quality livestock production, training of experts and pastoralists, commercialization and thus has the ability to pay dividends to the government," he said.

He said the state company will invest heavily in settling enough grazing areas in all districts within the country.

Prof Msoffe noted that with at least 14 well established ranches, scattered in different regions, NARCO has a key role to produce improved livestock species, as well as other vital animal's related products.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT

Telegrams: UHAMAJI Simu: 027-2751957, 027-2752284, 027-2752285 FAX: 027-2752 EMAIL: rco@emigration.go.tz REF: MSON/REG/SH/001 CHIEF EDITOR.

THE REGIONAL IMMIGRATION OFFICE, P.O. BOX 1048, MCHIA, KILIMANJARO DATE: 30/6/2021

RE: APPLICATION FOR CITIZENSHIP

Notice is hereby given that: MR GULSHAN KUMAR KEITH BOX 488 MOSHI-KILIMANJARO

Whose picture is provided above, is applying for Tanzania Citizenship to the Minister for Home Affairs. That any person who has any reason why citizenship should not be granted to the applicant, should send a written and signed statement of facts to the:

COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF IMMIGRATION SERVICE, P.O. BOX 512 DARE ES SALAAM

FOR: REGIONAL IMMIGRATION OFFICER

118341801

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- Minimum Qualification: Diploma
- Experience Level: Mid management-level
- Experience Length: 10 years
- Nationality: Tanzanian citizen

Role includes:

- Ensure correct scheduling of pre-planned maintenance to achieve maximum availability of assets through the direction of the Maintenance staff minimising asset down time
- Develop & execute strategies to ensure that asset down time is minimised & that appropriate post mortems are carried out so that lessons learnt / corrective actions can be incorporated into future strategies
- Develop strategies to ensure improved efficiency, reduce asset down time & ensure maximum utilisation of resources
- Leading the maintenance team on site
- Ensuring all equipment is maintained in accordance with defined standards
- Ensuring spare parts and resource availability
- Assist in the development of maintenance procedures
- Ensure daily job cards, time sheets and other documentation are completed as per company policy
- Asset management and reporting through the computerized maintenance system
- Continuous improvement initiatives
- Ensuring health and safety standards are maintained
- Mentoring and training subordinates

Experience:

- Minimum 10 years' proven experience in Drilling/Mining industry within Tanzania
- Strong diagnostics skills
- Workplace assessor accreditation (desirable)
- Diploma of Management (desirable)
- Strong low voltage electrical experience
- Strong mechanical & hydraulic skills
- Sound people management skills
- Good written & verbal communication skills
- Strong organisational & negotiation skills
- Ability to demonstrate preventative maintenance skills, maintenance planning and develop strategies.
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- Demonstrated knowledge of HSE & Training systems

This is a hands-on operational role, based on 14- & 7-Day roster, 12-hour shift work, locations will be mine site based and security checks will be done prior to commencement.

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Vesensia Kagombora (R), a director with the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (Ruwas), briefs Water minister Jumaa Aweso (L) at the agency's staff meeting held in Tanga city on Thursday. Under discussion were ways to improve the delivery of potable water service to the public. Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchalla

PCCB names public institutions, agencies leading in corruption

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) in Dodoma Region yesterday named public institutions leading in corruption allegations as local government authorities (39 per cent) and the lands department (19 per cent).

The list includes the education, health and police with all having 6 per cent. There are also corruption allegations within institutions in the private sector whereas 7 per cent of the people have complained.

Addressing journalists, PCCB Head in Dodoma, Sosthenes Kibwengo urged executives in the mentioned institutions to ensure justice in provision of services, insisting the anti-graft agency is keenly watching over them.

He explained that in the education sector, PCCB officials revealed some cheating incidences at some colleges whereas some lecturers and dishonest servants collude with students in leaking exams.

The official noted that there are also theft of public funds in various auctions whereas

the government loses about 150m/-. He said in each of the auctions, the government is supposed to get 1m/- per day, but only 400,000/- is deposited in state coffers.

The bureau also revealed some negligence by government executives and contractors in implementing various development projects in the sectors of health, education and construction. He said a total of 20 projects worth 1,775,763,746/- were inspected across the region.

"There some cases of public funds embezzlements in some projects with some executives failing to properly supervise the jobs. In some areas, there were reported theft incidences whereas construction materials worth 41,850,000/- were stolen," he said adding the bureau managed to recover more than 215m/-.

He said that in an inspection at the Tanzania Electrical, Mechanical and Electronics Services Agency (TEMESA), the officers revealed that a total of 101 spare parts worth 87,785,000 were stolen from a number of vehicles.

Petra Diamonds revamps board and appoints business veterans

By Guardian Reporter and

Agencies

UK-BASED Petra Diamonds has shaken up its board with the appointment of business veterans Deborah Gudgeon, Alex Watson and Johannes Bhatt as non-executive directors a month after it agreed to pay compensation for dozens of people who allegedly suffered human rights violations at its Tanzanian diamond operation.

Petra, which mines diamonds at the Williamson diamond mine in Mwadui, Kishapu District, Shinyanga Region and the Cullinan mine outside Pretoria, said it had appointed Gudgeon as chairperson designate of the audit and risk committee.

Gudgeon currently serves as the non-executive director and chairs the audit committee of global steel and mining firm Evraz plc.

Petra said it had appointed Watson and Bhatt as non-

independent non-executive directors.

Non-executive chairperson Peter Hill said: "I would like to welcome Deborah, Alex, and Johannes to the board of Petra; together they bring a wealth of experience, complementing those of our existing directors, and their appointments leave the board well placed to take the company forward".

Last month Petra agreed to a settlement of £4.3 million (R85m) over human rights

abuse claims at its Williamson Diamond Mine in Tanzania mine. The group said the settlement relating to claims brought by London-based legal firm Leigh Day was reached on a no-admission liability basis.

It said the settlement included the sum to be distributed to claimants Leigh Day, a contribution to the claimants' legal expenses and significant funds, which Petra had committed to invest in programmes dedicated to pro-

viding long-term sustainable support to the communities living around the Williamson mine.

Petra's investigation into the allegations of alleged human rights violations established that there had been 12 confirmed deaths of illegal diggers, with the likely deaths of four others.

It also found evidence of many incidents of aggression on the side of the illegal diggers as security providers at the mine. It said these in-

cidents of aggression sometimes resulted in injury to individuals on both sides, and damage to property and equipment, including vehicles used by the Tanzanian Police Force and Zenith Security.

"The company, board and management are greatly saddened and concerned by the findings of the investigation and we all regret the loss of life, the injuries and the mistreatment of illegal diggers that the investigation has

found to have taken place," Hill said last month.

He added that the company had put in actions to reduce the risks of future incidents occurring.

In May 2020, Leigh Day notified Petra that it had issued claim forms in the High Court of England and Wales on behalf of 71 anonymous individuals for alleged breaches of human rights, personal injuries and also deaths suffered at and surrounding the mine arising from the security op-

Zanzibar farmers urged to grab opportunities in spices farming

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

FARMERS in Zanzibar have been required to grab opportunities provided in spices farming whose crops' prices were currently high in the foreign market.

The call was issued by the Spices Project Manager for Unguja Zone, Khadija Juma, as she was participating in the distribution of vanilla seeds at Kizimbani area, Unguja West Region.

She said the Spices Project aims to enable farmers to cultivate various crops for income generation and it aims to reach 57,974 people, 55 per cent of who are women in Unguja.

Haji Abdallah Abeid, a vanilla farmer said he has been growing

the crop via traditional means, but after he was educated and expertise from agricultural officers, he was now using modern methods.

He said vanilla is harvested once a year and grows well in Unguja and Pemba islands with fertile soil.

Ali Juma Seif, supervisor of Spices Crop growing, including vanilla said the crop is now the saviour for farmers due its current high price.

He said in foreign market a kilo of vanilla now fetches around 1.6m/- and big buyers are European and Asian countries.

The Zanzibar Spices and Horticulture Project is sponsored by the EU and aims to benefit 57,974 farmers in both Unguja and Pemba, 55 per cent of who are women.



Tourists from Germany have a close view of vanilla bean plants when visiting a spice farm at Kizimbani on the outskirts of Zanzibar municipality yesterday. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

The Zanzibar Spices and Horticulture Project is sponsored by the EU and aims to benefit 57,974 farmers in both Unguja and Pemba, 55 per cent of who are women

Govt sets aside over 18bn/- for connection of electricity services to 42 villages in Kondoa

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has set aside over 18bn/- for connection of electricity services to 42 villages within Kondoa District, Dodoma Region.

The villages are those which were left behind during implementation of phase two of rural electrification programme under the Rural Energy Agency (REA).

Energy minister Dr Medard Kalemuni made the statement when speaking at the launch of

REA phase III (second round) at regional level, an event which was held at Itaswi village on Thursday. The project in the 42 villages will be implemented by Ok Electrical and Electronics Service Ltd.

"Dodoma Region has its 387 villages connected to power services, out the available 565 villages. We are closely supervising the contractors to make sure that all residents in the 187 remained villages enjoy electricity services," said the minister.

Minister Kalemuni advised the residents to ensure proper installation of gadgets as well as wiring for the houses to facilitate connections.

The minister asserted that the government is working day and night to make sure that the whole country is connected to electricity not only for domestic use but encouraging investors who wish to come to the country by generating enough power for industries.

Chairman of the Rural Energy Board - REB, Julius Kalolo

said the government intends to connect all the villages countrywide to the national grid by December 2022 and that all divisions by 2025.

According to him, electrification of the villages would spur economic development as villages would be able to establish income generating activities as well as attracting investors in the agricultural and livestock sectors.

He said once the number of investors in the livestock sub-sector increases, villages would

benefit immensely because they will be sure of the market for their domestic animals. He said electricity services would also benefit artisanal miners because some of them require electricity to efficiently execute their duties.

REA Director General, Eng Amos Maganga said that establishment of the agency has resulted in major reforms in the country's energy sector especially in rural areas whereas the availability of electricity has increased from 518 villages (4 per

cent) in 2007 to 10,312 villages (84 per cent) in March this year.

Eng Maganga linked the successes with the government committed to invest in the Rural Electrification Fund (REF) since 2008. He added that from that period to date, over 3.5bn/- have been injected into the fund to facilitate implementation of power projects in rural areas.

"We have so far connected all the district in the country; a total of 3,225 wards out of the available 3,956 enjoy power

services, equivalent to 82 per cent," he noted.

Kondoa District Commissioner, Hamis Mkananchi commended the government for a job well done in the energy sector, specifically rural electrification.

He appealed for the government to fast track connection of electricity services to the remained villages to enable residents to venture into income generating projects, thus improving their welfare

TanTrade: Manufacturers must adhere to foreign buyers' terms

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIA Trade Development Authority (TanTrade) has advised manufacturers of various products in the country to abide by conditions in manufacturing and selling of products sold in foreign markets in order to capture these markets.

Addressing a meeting for stakeholders engaged in the production and on-line sale of meat and avocado products that brought participants from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar and UAE, TanTrade deputy general manager Masha Hussein said the meeting aims to discuss steps in selling the products to the

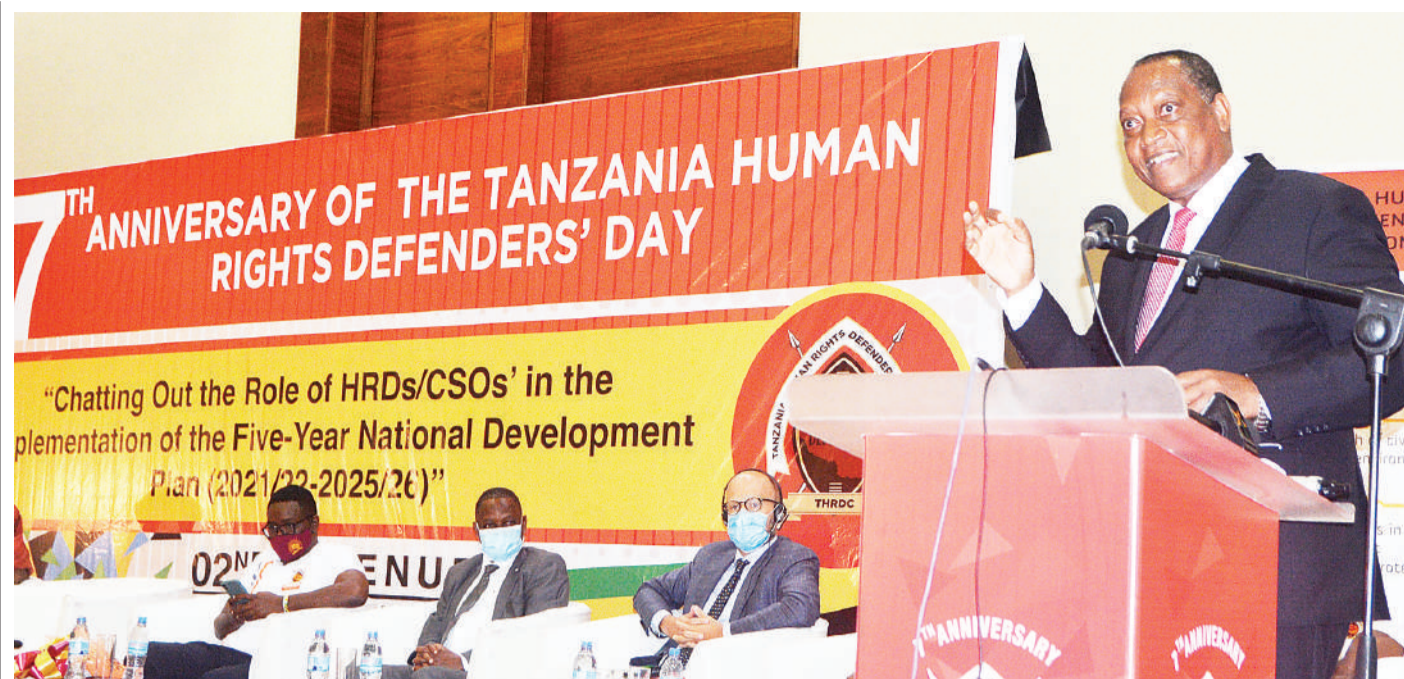
concerned countries.

There was still the problem of lack of knowledge in preparing packages that adequately show the products' contents in regard to foreign bound goods.

"And that is why we must first give education to the traders to enable them comprehend various strategies to grab these opportunities," he said.

Despite Tanzania being home to large numbers of livestock, the volume of meat being exported was negligible.

"Their response to grab opportunities is huge, but the problem comes in observing the set conditions for sellers of the products to foreign countries," he added.



Constitutional and Legal Affairs minister Prof Palamagamba Kabudi speaks at an event to mark the seventh anniversary of the Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Day. It was held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Support farmers' groups, DEDs directed

By Correspondent Allan Ntana, Tabora

EXECUTIVES in district councils across the country have been directed to ensure that they use the 10 percent retained from their own collections to support farmers' groups to improve agricultural activities and production.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture Hussein Bashe made the order when opening the

World Cooperatives Day held yesterday here at the Nane Nane grounds.

He said the government has projected to build the nation of producers hence set strategies to promote agricultural activities, so the 10 percent located by district councils should also benefit farmers' groups.

Bashe noted that the agricultural sector contributes more than 26 percent of the national income, for this extent if farmers

will be capacitated, they will be able to produce more crops hence heave their income and enable the government to benefit.

He clarified that if the strategic crops such as cotton, cashew nut, sunflower, tobacco and coffee will be fully managed and utilized, can contribute to the national income up to 5 trillion/- per annum.

Bashe briefed that in order to have productive and sus-

tainable agricultural activities the government has been supporting cooperative societies so as to empower them socially and economically.

"The government has deliberately set out to support farmers through their cooperative societies as an important tool to accelerate social and economic development of the communities in the country," he said.

He reinstated that from now

onwards producers will not strive any more for bank loans for their inputs, instead suppliers will facilitate each and everything and will be paid after harvests.

Bashe wanted the cooperatives leaders to stop mistreating, exploiting and misusing cooperatives resources for their own benefits, adding that such behaviours will not be tolerated.

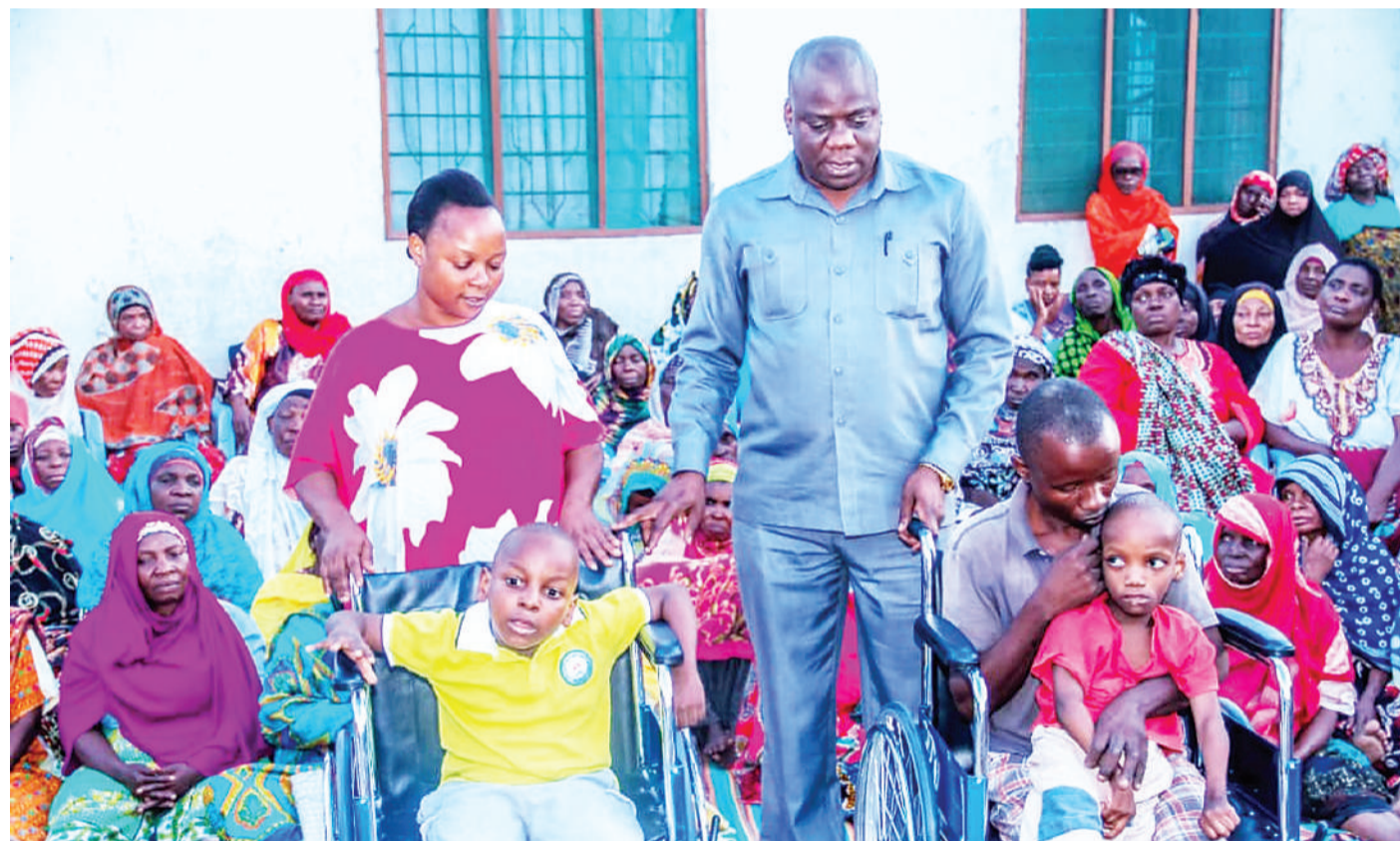
In order to make the World

Cooperatives Day be profitable to many farmers and other stakeholders in the entire country, he said the commemoration will be held for 3 consecutive years in the particular region.

Dr Benson Ndiege, National Registrar for Cooperative Societies said cooperatives is an important tool to promote low income communities, hence advised cooperative leaders to change their manners.

Kagera Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS) Prof Faustin Kamuzora commented on a good job done by the government in collaboration with Tanzania Federation of Cooperatives (TFC) to promote farmers through exhibitions.

He said cooperative development means development of people, hence called for many people to visit the exhibition area so as to learn from fellow producers.



Dar es Salaam mayor Omary Kumbilamoto (in blue suit) joins children with disabilities and members of the public in a photo at Vingunguti Majengo Kisima in the city yesterday moments after handing over wheelchairs to the children. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Govt outlines practical measures to boost sunflower production

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu, Dodoma

THE government has outlined three major practical measures to boost Sunflower production and productivity saying it has embarked on short term measures to curb shortage of edible oil in the country.

Opening a two-day symposium of Tanzania rural producers forum (JUWAVITA) in Dodoma on Thursday, Minister for agriculture Prof Adolf Mkenda said while long term measures are being taken to boost oil palm production in Kigoma and elsewhere in the country, it is also supporting Sunflower strategic crop to end edible oil shortage in the country within a very short time.

Tanzania require a total of 570,000 metric tonnes of vegetable oil but current production stands at 40 percent of the required edible oil while 60 percent is actually imported which cost approximately 443 bn/- annually.

Therefore, he said the government has decided to boost sunflower crop by facilitating farmers with hybrid record seeds, providing extension services and

ensuring good contracts between investors, large farmers or sunflower edible oil manufacturers and the farmers.

Elaborating further, he said there are good improved seeds in the country but they are not enough. Currently there is huge shortage of sunflower improved seeds, therefore, the government will import them to meet internal demands. "We want these sunflower edible oil manufacturers to operate hundred percent throughout the year," he said.

He also said that to ensure productivity, the government is going to improve agro extension services and that's why large share of the agriculture budget has gone to extension services so that the farmers can be better advised on good agricultural practices to increase production. "I advice that you form groups and the government will facilitate extension services," he said.

Commenting on contracts, the minister said that the government will facilitate good contracts between sunflower edible oil manufacturers and the farmers. "We shall ask these manu-

facturers or large farmers how many famers they want, how much improved seeds they want and sign contracts. Some contracts will require the farmers to pay back after harvesting their crops.

"These contracts will require farmers who are ready, genuine and willing to grow the crop, this means that the farmers will examine himself or herself whether to grow the crop or not but he cautioned that once the farmer signs the contract, it will be binding," he stressed.

He said there is a donor who has agreed to provide subsidy and called on other donors to come in to help farmers produce the crop profitably.

In another development, the minister stressed on the need for smallholder farmers and other rural producers to work hard to produce more goods and raw materials saying experience has shown that shortage of raw materials has derailed development of many manufacturing industries.

"We had honey processing industry in Coastal region but it was closed due to lack of raw materials. I urge you to work hard to produce

more to feed our local industries and export some, and if there is any challenges let us know," he said.

Parliamentary committee on agriculture, Livestock and water Christina Ishogoma urged the participants to work hard, follow advice from experts to increase productivity.

For his part Executive Director for Agriculture Non State Actors Forum (ANSAF) Audax Rukonge said that the conference aimed at sharing research findings related to crop production, livestock, fisheries, hunters and fruits gatherers.

Specifically the participants want to discuss issues related to agri inputs, access to knowledge and extension services and also the key challenges, and bolster key recommendations related to policy and tax and technology issues.

"At the end of the day we want to identify market opportunities and key policy impediments different players are facing. We think these are very important issues when it comes to production, processes, value addition and securing local, regional and international markets," he said.

Stakeholders emphasize need for Digital Rights and Freedoms Act

By Getrude Mbogo

A Pan-African Social Enterprise-Paradigm Initiative (PIN) in collaboration with various local stakeholders is calling on the government to enact a Digital Rights and Freedoms Act so as to safeguard Tanzanians rights in the digital space.

Paradigm Initiative is a social enterprise that works to connect underserved young Africans with digital opportunities, and ensures protection of their rights.

Speaking during the 2021 Tanzania Stakeholders Forum on Digital Rights Legislation in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday, Ekai Nabenyo, programme officer at Paradigm Initiative said there is an urgent need to create an empowered civil society and digital rights community for the country to be able to safeguard its citizens' digital rights.

The two-day forum brought together 25 stakeholders drawn from civil society, academia, legal fraternity and the media to discuss among others a new proposed digital rights and freedoms bill.

He said that the Paradigm Initiative together with local stakeholders are leading efforts to champion a digital rights and freedoms bill in Tanzania to complement the existing cyber laws in the country. Similar discussions on a similar Bill are currently ongoing in Cameroon, Malawi, Zambia and other countries in Africa.

He said the Bill seeks to protect internet users in Tanzania from infringement of their fundamental freedoms and to guarantee the application of human rights for users of digital platforms and/or digital media.

"In Tanzania, these efforts began in 2020 and it is our hope that with the new political administration and with the support of different stakeholders and all Tanzanians, the proposed law will see the light of day in the very near future. We also note that there are already discussions in Tanzania around a privacy law and we urge the executive and parliament specifically to expedite the process of such laws to guarantee data protection and unhindered enjoyment of digital rights among all Tanzanians," he said.

Nabenyo said: "As a Pan-African digital rights organisation, we have been at the forefront of promoting collaborations between governments and civil society in Africa. Such collaboration resulted in the introduction of the Digital Rights and Freedoms Bill in various African countries including Nigeria," he said.

He said that to fulfil it, the organisation together with local partners will proceed to engage parliamentarians and government officials to discuss ways through which we can collaborate to enact this Bill into law.

"Our team of digital rights stakeholders drawn from lawyers, academia, civil society, media, active citizens and government officials will work together to further fine-tune the Bill and provide the much needed guidance during the public participation processes," he said.

Nabenyo said the organisation call on Tanzanians to support this Bill and contribute their positions during the public participation processes to be initiated by the Parliament of Tanzania and the relevant government department.

It is noteworthy that the Bill presents liberal and progressive proposals which, if enacted into law, will definitely safeguard the digital rights and freedoms of all Tanzanians.

"The next step in the process is the sustained engagement of all relevant stakeholders in Tanzania, including the government to ensure that the bill that will be presented to the parliament represents the views of the people of Tanzanians," Nabenyo concluded.

The organisation's coordinator Peter Mmbando said that the discussion also aimed to go through and look at the digital policies and laws between Tanzania and Nigeria.

"Participants also got an opportunity to hear how other countries like Nigeria and Kenya are implementing policies and laws on digital rights, media people were captivated by the importance of reporting development issues including digital space and its proper use," he said.

Mmbando noted that the expansion of Africa's digital landscape means that the internet is fast becoming a human right and affects a lot more people.

"It is my plea to all internet users to ensure that they adhere to rules and laws laid by the country. But whenever there are laws, reviews and changes, the public should come forward to provide their opinions," Mmbando said.

He added that across its regional offices in Cameroon, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, Zambia, Zimbabwe and beyond, Paradigm Initiative works to connect under-served African youth with improved livelihoods through our digital inclusion and digital rights programs.



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Inspector General of Police Simon Sirro displays copies of booklets on guidelines on exposing and preventing crime. This was at a safety and security assessment meeting with police and executive officers at ward level held in Arusha yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Tumaini Mafie

AGRA launches 4th edition of Agribusiness Deal Room

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

THE fourth edition of the Agribusiness Deal Room has been launched at a virtual event organised by the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA).

The Agribusiness Deal Room is a match making platform at the annual AGRF Summit that convenes different stakeholders to facilitate partnerships and investments in African agriculture. The Deal Room specifically supports governments and companies with access to finance and partnership opportunities.

Since it was founded in 2018, the Deal Room has directly provided over 400 companies with targeted investor matchmaking and hosted more than 800 companies to explore networking opportunities.

It has also supported 17 governments with investor engagements. Over the last three years, public and private actors have jointly presented an aggregate capital of US\$ 11 billion in investment opportunities at the Deal Room.

"The huge potential of the agricultural sector on the continent remains unmet, with agriculture being the engine of African economies. We designed the Deal Room to build the capacities of SMEs while at the same time connecting them with sources of financing. We are looking for investments and partnerships that will unlock the sector's potential across the continent."

Dr Fadel Ndiame, Deputy President, AGRA.

Providing keynote remarks Dr Beth Dunford, incoming Vice President for Agriculture, Human and Social Development at the African Development Bank said that across the continent, there is a growing class of "agripreneurs" who are looking for investment, partnerships, technical knowhow and financing to scale up their business.

"The African Development Bank is excited to grow its partnership to this initiative. The Agribusiness Deal Room compliments our efforts to expand finance for agribusiness to enable SMEs to grow and attract new and innovative sources of sustainable capital," she said.

This year, the AGRF Agribusiness Deal Room will focus on addressing the challenges in agricultural lending to SMEs and investments towards government flagship priorities, as one of the strategies for meeting the objectives of continental and global frameworks including the 2021 UN Food Systems Summit, Africa's Agenda 2063, the Malabo Declaration, the Sustainable Development Goals, and the UN Climate Change Conference (COP26).

"Kenya welcomes investors and is well positioned to provide you with the right tools and dedicated support to ensure that your investment projects remain sustainable and profitable," said Dr Moses Ikiara, Managing Director of the Kenya Investment Authority.

Iringa smallholder farmers drilled on modern agricultural practices

Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

AT least 3,825 smallholder farmers in 15 villages of Iringa District Council have benefited from a special project aimed to capacitate them with more skills on modern agricultural practices that are useful in mitigating the effects of climate change.

Dubbed 'Climate Smart Agriculture' (CSA) the three-year project (2019-2021) has also benefited 1,900 farmers indirectly with their livelihoods changing for better.

The project has been imple-

mented by Care International Tanzania in collaboration with other partners such as Wageningen University (WU) and Research, Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), and the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT).

Speaking during the Project's close-up meeting yesterday here, Director of Programmes at CARE International-Tanzania, Haika Mtui said climate change is serious venom which continues to upset efforts by many farmers in the country, but also disrupting the country's economy.

"We had decided to imple-

ment the project after realizing that most smallholder farmers, who actually play major role in food production sector in the country are subjected to several challenges due to effects of climate change, and unfortunately, they also far from access and financial muscle to adopt best technologies and recommended agro practices to battle effects of climate change," she said.

She said with soybeans and maize being picked as the project's model crops, the initiative which consumed up to 256.9m/-, built capacity among the farmers on how best to adopt CSA,

crop rotation and conservation agriculture, being in efforts to help them mitigate effects of climate change.

She observed that, it is projected that by the year 2025, at least 15,000 million farmers in Tanzania are expected to be seriously affected by effects of climate change, hence a need for joint intervention to silence the pandemic.

Detailing over the positive outcomes of the recently phased-out project (CSA Super Project) which primarily based more on the women smallholder entrepreneur farmers in Iringa rural, Mtui said the project

successful managed to train the farmers to improve products and productivity in the cultivation of soybeans and maize, the vital economical and food crops that flourish well in the region.

"Apart from introducing them to improved seeds, recommended planting spacing, application of fertilisers and pesticides, we also empower them to form special groups (SACCOS) whereby we link them to numerous financial institutions to acquire different loans, in terms of money and agro machineries, but we have also connected them to assured markets for marketing their produce," she

bragged.

Moreover, she said the three-year initiative has successfully managed to reduce malnutrition among the children in the Iringa DC, through capacitating the beneficiary households how to cook varied soybeans foods and feed their children a balanced diet.

"We also trained them on several useful matters pertaining to gender equality as well as parenting, the development which played a key role to reduce the number of divorces and relevant cases at gender desks within different villages where the project operated," she added.

Prof Joseph Hella from the department of Food and Resource Economics at the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) said Tanzania has been endowed with high potentials for the cultivation of soybeans but the country has yet to benefit from the sector.

In his presentation, titled 'Soya Value Chain in Tanzania, Challenges and Suggestion for Improvement', the Don underscores over the need for conduction of serious research in order to breed improved seeds for soybeans, as well as assisting the farmers to enter into contract farming.



Information, Culture, Arts and Sports deputy minister Pauline Gekul, who is also legislator for Babati Urban, addresses residents of the constituency's Sigino ward on Thursday shortly after listening to their grievances. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

TBS directs manufacturers, traders of carrier bags to adhere to regulations

By Guardian Reporter, Mwanza

THE Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has directed manufacturers and traders of plastic wrappers and alternative carrier bags to ensure that they produce and supply products that meet legal standards or else face stern legal measures.

Joseph Ismail, TBS manager in Lake Zone made the call here during the stakeholders training on guidelines, legal requirements that should be adhered when engaging in the carrier bags business.

"We have therefore brought together manufacturers, distributors of approved plastic bag wrappers and alternative bags to discuss and remind them how they can comply with the standards requirements so as to protect the environment and the consumers," Ismail said.

He said that if stakeholders and traders will not be well trained on the rules, regulations and laws governing the plastic wrappers and alternative bags production, importation and supply, it will affect the country's revenues, environment and consumers health due to the influx of substandard products.

TBS standards officer Johnson Kiwia said some of the dishonest traders have been importing or producing substandard bags as well as unlabelled bags

which are also against the law.

He said that some of the criteria for the alternative carrier bags that they must show trade mark, should be recyclable, carrying capacity and certified by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS).

Kiwia said regulation also imposes stern penalties to individuals and institutions that will be found guilty of contravening the regulations where manufacturing or importation of prohibited plastic bags and plastic wrappings.

"So, we are sending a warning to all manufacturers; importers and distributors in neighbouring countries to adhere to the new standards for their benefit, those who will violate the law requirements should be ready to face the consequences," he emphasized. Kurwijila Athumani, markets secretary in Mwanza Region commended TBS for organising the training as it has helped participants to widen understanding on rules and regulations government plastic wrappers and alternative carrier bags.

He pledged to continue strengthening relations with TBS so as to ensure that more producers and suppliers of the bags are reached with the right education on what to adhere to when engaging in the business.

By Correspondent Friday

Simbaya, Iringa

Local organizations in Iringa have embarked on a campaign to use religious leaders in the provision of civic education on nutrition.

The move is part of efforts to support a directive by President Samia Suluhu Hassan that regional governments take a leading role in food production to fight stunting in children.

During a planning meeting

with religious leaders, the manager for Save the Children in Iringa, John Masenza said they have decided to engage religious leaders in the fight against stunting to convey nutrition education to communities in the region.

He said that religious leaders have a great opportunity to change the behavior and attitudes of believers and societies in general in the issues of nutrition, and eventually contribute to reducing malnutrition for children under

'Clerics needed for nutrition education'

five.

Masenza explained that through their five-year sustainable nutrition project (2018-2023) implemented in Iringa, Kilolo and Mufindi districts, they believe it will contribute to reducing the problem by at least 15 percent, considering that Iringa Region has a 47 percent stunting rate.

"Iringa Region is one of the regions in the country

that has a problem of stunting where the region has 47 percent, and us as development partners in collaboration with other stakeholders we can work together to solve the challenge in Iringa," he said.

The sustainable nutrition project which is funded by the USAID is aimed at strengthening nutritional systems for the main beneficiaries who are women

at bearing age, children under five and young people in the peer group, who are prospective parents in the near future.

For her part, Iringa Regional Nutrition Officer, Neema Mtekwa said that in order to avoid the effects of malnutrition, people should be encouraged to eat food with a balanced diet from the recognised five categories of food.

To improve nutrition in babies and young children, breastfeeding is important for the health of children, with parents needing to use health care advisors to monitor the development of children and child safety, to help reduce the impact of malnutrition, she stated.

There are some challenges of combating the problem of malnutrition in the region, like shortage of human resources and money that

affects the implementation of nutrition interventions. The community has not been accessed by education or nutritional counselling officers exhaustively, she stated.

Other challenges are the participation of the men in child care and nutrition, parents and guardians going to drink local alcohol (ulanzi) that affects care, protection and children's nutrition, the aid worker lamented.



Members of Parliament on a tour view the footprints of ancient humans in Olduvai Gorge - deep inside the Ngorongoro Conservation Area - in Arusha Region on Thursday during their local tour. Photo: Correspondent Happy Shayo

Uganda navigates oxygen shortage crisis amid pandemic's third wave

By Kizzi Asala

AS Uganda undergoes its third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, the demand for refilling oxygen cylinders has drastically increased.

Oxygen provider Roofings Group previously refilled around 40 to 50 cylinders of oxygen per day -- depending on demand, but now refills almost 400 cylinders daily.

The stark difference in demand is attributed to hospitals treating coronavirus patients being in need of the life-saving gas during the health crisis.

Stuart Mwesigwa, the business development manager at Roofings Group outlines the current state of affairs.

"At the moment I'd say we are able to supply according to the demand because on average of 300 to 400 cylinders per day. All that is coming in we are able to refill them at least in a maximum of eight to twelve hours.

"However, if it escalates I am sure we could hit our maximum capacity in that maybe we won't be able to do so much. Before COVID, we could produce maybe like for 40 to 50 cylinders depending on the demand."

Uganda sees 79,434 confirmed cases of COVID-19 with 989 deaths -- as reported by the World Health Organization, and records 52,382 recoveries.

As of June 28, a total of 937,417 vaccine doses have been administered in the East African nation.



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World Bank project to boost higher education

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

THE World Bank has allocated \$425 million to support the expansion of higher education in the country.

The allocation will be done as part of the World Bank's Higher Education for Economic Transformation Project.

According to Dr Roberta Malee Bassett, a senior education specialist at the World Bank, about 80% of the funding will be used to boost enrolments and to improve the quality of teaching at Tanzanian universities.

But the ongoing expansion of Tanzania's upper secondary education, with a current gross enrolment ratio of 7 percent is expected to put pressure on the tertiary education system to admit more students.

According to the government's predictions, the demand for higher education is expected to surge to at least 482,000 places by 2030 and, in this case, the World Bank says, there is an urgent need for expansion of university education in Tanzania to accommodate the growth.

Annual enrolment numbers at Tanzania's higher

education institutions grew from about 112,000 in 2016-17 to more than 210,000 in 2017-18, thanks to improvements in infrastructure and initiatives to provide higher education loans, but then dropped again as the government closed down some programmes at private universities because of quality concerns.

Tanzania's tertiary gross enrolment rate of 3.1 percent is one of the lowest in Eastern Africa and lags behind Kenya's 11.5 percent, Ethiopia's 8.1 percent, Rwanda's 6.2 percent and Uganda's 4.8 percent, according to UN-

ESCO.

Bassett says the overall quality of post-secondary education in Tanzania is also low and does not adequately prepare university graduates for current and future formal jobs or self-employment.

The World Bank notes that "many lecturers are not trained in the use of the latest technical developments and global knowledge in their fields, and use outdated, mostly lecture-based teaching methods, limiting the development of adequate competencies among students".

Although the Tanzanian

economy needs more skilled workers, many university graduates have struggled to find jobs.

The reasons for this include a mismatch between the skills that are taught and those that are in demand on the labour market. Curricula and teaching and learning facilities in Tanzania are often outdated, the World Bank says.

In terms of the project, several public universities have been selected to become high-quality centres of learning that will focus on priority areas.

These universities include

the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences, the University of Dodoma, the Moshi Cooperative University, the Dar es Salaam University College of Education, the Mkwawa University College of Education, the Sokoine University of Agriculture, the Mbeya University of Science and Technology, the University of Dar es Salaam and the Open University of Tanzania.

Bassett says 14 priority areas have been selected based on the key disciplines required to build the country's industrial economy and propel its development agenda.

These areas include en-

gineering and technology, information communication and technology, material sciences, health sciences, urban and environmental engineering and technology and renewable energy. Others are water resources, climate change, agriculture, wildlife conservation, tourism and hospitality, academic industry linkages, humanities, and education.

The challenge is to build a higher education system with the capacity to provide skills and create jobs for the growing number of young people entering the labour market each year.

Awareness of social security benefits attracts huge crowds to Dar trade fair

By Guardian Correspondent

ACTIVITIES at the ongoing 45th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF) continue to gather momentum across scores of pavilions by Tanzanian and foreign exhibitors.

For its part, the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) is showcasing its own range of services including by providing awareness of social security services and resolving queries for members and stakeholders flocking to its pavilion.

Bahiru Gwile, one of the hundreds of members who have visited the Fund's pavilion says he registered with NSSF through the informal sector scheme and has continually managed to keep his monthly savings growing.

"I call upon my fellow youths and all other groups of people who have not yet registered with NSSF to do so because of the various benefits available, among them relating to old age and therefore enabling members to lead a happy life in old age," he said in an interview at the venue of the world-famous fair.

NSSF Principal Benefits Officer Stella Kabyemera meanwhile explained that the Fund started to provide services to members and other stakeholders at this year's exhibition, which is running under the theme: 'Industrialisation for Job Creation and Sustainable Trade'.

The Fund is using this year's edition of DITF to inform and sensitise members of the public on the importance of social security services.

The thrust is on the products and services on offer, queries relating to members' contributions and benefits as well as issuance of membership cards to members.

The Fund is also providing awareness of social security issues to private and informal sectors such as entrepreneurs, farmers, pastoralists, fishermen, small miners, food vendors and motorbike taxi operators, popularly known as boda-boda.



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Rukia Zuberi (L), a senior ICT official with NSSF, pictured at the DITF yesterday attending to a member out to get an update on his contributions to the Fund. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Zanzibar govt urged to establish maritime spatial planning system

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Zanzibar government has been urged to establish a maritime spatial planning system to facilitate informed and coordinated decisions on how to use marine resources sustainably.

Deputy Principal - Planning, Finance and Administration at the Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute (DMI) Dr Tumaini Gurumo made the call on Monday this week when introducing her book on Blue Economy that was preceded by training to librarians.

Dr Gurumo said the spatial planning system can be used to analyse and assess the need for ocean space by current and future human activities.

She said it can be used to assess the cumulative impacts in space and time of current and future economic developments on ecological processes in ocean areas and their resources.

The don said the system will identify special areas of investments such as seabed exploration; fishing, seafood processing and aquaculture, Deep Ocean Water Applica-

tions (DOWA) and marine services.

"The premise of blue economy recognizes the importance of the ocean, seas and inland waters as indispensable vehicles for sustainable economic development."

"The governments should prepare the roadmap involving all stakeholders of the oceans, related activities and marine environment in order to implement the concept effectively," she said.

She added: "It must also work hand in hand with stakeholders that include, intra governmental agencies,

local communities, parastatals agencies, non-governmental organisations and the private sector.

She said apart from that, it must take practical lessons from countries which have already started implementing the concept like South Africa and Mauritius.

Citing Mauritius, the don said establishment of a ministry that is solely dedicated to ocean related activities including economy, resources, fisheries, shipping and outer islands.

Furthermore, this should be in line with the setting up of the National Fishing Fleet.

She added that South Africa established Operation Phakisa, which was a government initiative to unlock the ocean economic potential of South Africa. It also established Ocean Economy Laboratory in 2014, to develop an integrated approach to ocean governance to support and facilitate inclusive growth.

Dr Gurumo said countries like Seychelles for instance, developed a blue economy roadmap in line with its National Development Vision as well as the Seychelles Sustainable Development Strategy (2012-2020).

The don pointed out that both the union and Zanzibar governments must take steps towards a blue economy including resources, mainstreaming, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

The Aquaculture Association of Tanzania (AAT) president Geoffrey Rucho said "We need to promote the blue economy by practicing sustainability instead of jeopardizing future generations," he said.

He said that the blue economy had been described as the frontier of African renaissance, with the potential to create wealth, promote trade, gener-

ate economic growth and transform lives.

The annual rate value of the African maritime industry was estimated to have reached us \$1 trillion.

Canada High Commissioner to Tanzania Pamela O'Donnell said that "We need to build friendlier environment to make sustainability of the marine resources."

She said promoting the blue economy was also very important for tourism and overall country's development, adding that without making or setting goals, nothing can be achieved.

The Guardian

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SATURDAY 3 JULY 2021

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

Let us review Latra vehicle permits, online application

IT is uncertain how many motor vehicle operators are chafing under regulations introduced by the Land Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA) but what those in Manyara Region are saying ought to light up some hard thinking by regional administrators and others. They are complaining loudly about failure to provide them with emergency permits to transport passengers to destinations outside the region, as they are required to use an online system to obtain such permits. It is not a habitual event but this problem earlier came up with bus transporters in Dar es Salaam, about online bookings.

Reports say that on Wednesday there was a meeting of bus owners in the region where the official guest, Babati DC Lazaro Twange invited views and complaints from the participants. They were appealing to the DC to intervene in the issue after LATRA shifted to online application for permits, saying that bus operators don't work online. But the problem starts at that point, that there is little reason why each bus trip should be allowed or permitted by a regulatory agency outside a narrow zone where it is supposed to operate, so a driver can't just accept a request for a trip; he must beg.

The meeting may have used up some valuable time discussing how many drivers can operate a computer to download forms, fill them and file them electronically, and then wait for LATRA to answer. While the technology appears to be an act of modernisation, the regulation isn't anything modern but the '1984 phenomenon where 'Big Brother' sees everything and knows everything, or must permit everything for it to happen. One wonders why LATRA

has to introduce regulations about a group of people hiring a vehicle say from Karatu to Moshi; why must they seek a permit to travel?

As the traders underlined at the meeting, the whole purpose of the online application system is to foster bureaucracy, by removing the right to travel and instituting permits to move around, as if the country was under a Covid-19 lockdown, or Manyara Region was in a state of emergency. Even if there are explanations as to how this system was introduced, it belongs to the usual impediments to do business, whose rationale isn't revenue per se but bureaucratic prerogatives. There was another report from Dar es Salaam where police patrols at around midnight swoop kiosks, fine 200,000/- or 100,000 and issue receipts of 20,000/- for 'wrong parking.' Reporting such incidents is assured to be fruitless.

No movement of a group of people using a registered bus with a specific route it plies is done without seeking LATRA permission. It means people can't move early for a funeral trip, or just when they are ready, until some official receives online application, perhaps charges a fee, it is paid, and they are allowed to move. And all this is outside any budgets, but it is consensually agreed upon at the district level, because they are seeking for revenue sources, as well as extra-revenue sources. The issue is that the country is now freer than it was before, in which case bureaucrats are also freer with their designs, so long as they have a licensing or regulatory mandate, whether it is the police, LATRA or any other executive agency. Even with the talk about the constitution how do we check extra-constitutional fiat?

Herders seeking State House audience a daunting moment

EFFORTS by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to meet representative of various groups of Tanzanian society are likely to reach a high moment and even a raised pitch if current liaison offices to bring about a meeting between the president and the livestock herding community bear fruit. As things stand, it isn't a matter of whether but when the meeting will be arranged, be it at the Magogoni State House or at Chamwino, as a few such meetings are on the drawing board. A meeting with herders presents clear challenges and some indubitable policy opportunities.

The tone that herders' representatives seeking for a meeting with President Samia adopted concerning the need for such event was unapologetic and somewhat militant. They said herders came out with a call that they should not be forgotten (in the series of meetings between the president and sections of society) as they have longstanding issues worthy of a presidential audience. It was at a forum to commemorate 20 years of implementation of the current land regime, having considerable grievances "because the laws as well as pronouncements made by political leaders have not resolved their grievances." Most people believe it isn't the land law that is the issue but herders.

The background feature is that general land and reserved land in the country are governed by the Land Act of 1999, adjacent to the Village Land Act of 1999 which governs land that belongs to villages.

The civic groups that bring together the livestock community and portions of development partners, like the Tanzania Land Alliance (TALA) which organised the mid-week forum airing the meet for a meeting with the president. A TALA activist from Shinyanga region said he trusts that the challenges facing

them could be solved if they meet President Samia.

In a language format that many in civic or conservation organizations identify with, but hardly any agro-economists and planners, he said such a meeting will enable the president to recognize their plight, including being disregarded by political leaders "who hand out wrong instructions to them as if livestock keeping activities have no contribution to the national income." That must relate to forceful removal from national parks and game reserves, and removals of livestock herders invading various districts (as they aren't traditional residents there).

There are also apparent bureaucratic misdeeds like high levy charges plus confiscation of their animals, despite that livestock welfare is the premise of upkeep and prosperity of the herding community. The point they wish to raise is equal sharing of land resources, which is not likely to match with expectations either of the president or those around her. The issue is whether any organizational solutions can be put across that will do justice to the herders, and take clear concerns of those who are utterly offended by the wandering herds, destroying crops, game parks.

That is why current thinking on land and development will be vital in solving those issues. Were it possible that President Samia has a workable model of land occupancy and livestock rearing which is easy to translate into law and economically productive, it would help. The government needs to abrogate collective land occupancy which discriminates herders, instituting individual occupancy of land, which means a herder lives in a particular area, and takes a bank loan (or their cooperative) to put up a well and water their herds. That would stop incessant migration.

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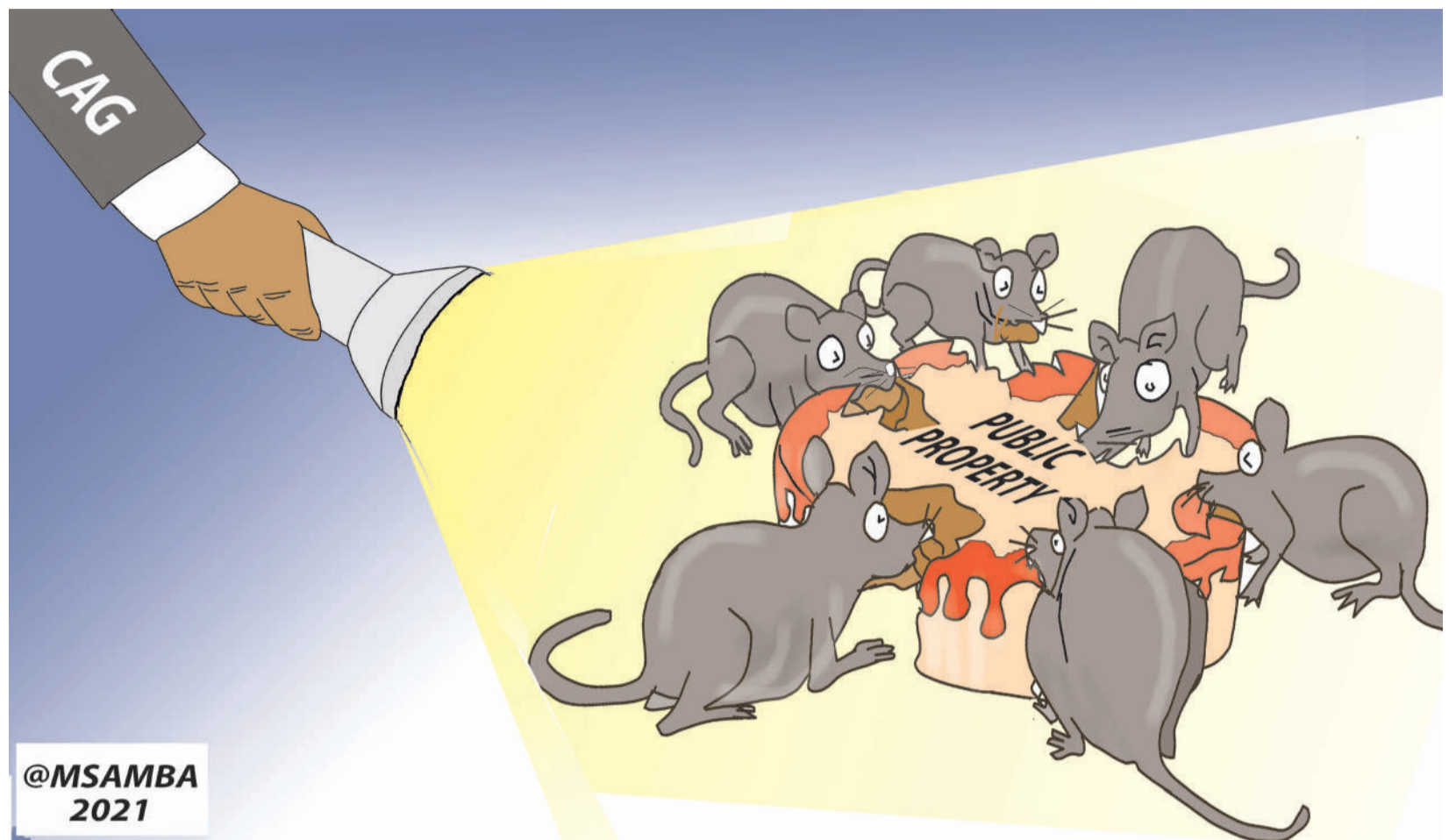
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Carrying a gun is a civilised act: Disarming of civilians will give criminals monopoly on force

By Jonathan Deal

PEOPLE opposed to guns claim that guns drive homicides, but is this a suitable explanation for the murder rate in South Africa? Is the gun an invention that fosters evil behaviour, or do humans possess a capacity for evil that predates modern firearms?

Guns have been part of society for more than a thousand years, when they first appeared as bamboo tubes that propelled a type of spear. In contemporary society, quite apart from the traditional use of guns for hunting, sport shooting and self-defence, it is a gun – or perhaps the threat of the application of a gun – that underpins the rule of law, lending ultimate enforceability to the decision of a court or the defence of a national border.

As attractive as the prospect of a world without any guns may be to anyone of the view that an ideal society is gun-free in every respect, it is simply unrealistic. The South African Police Service, metro police, SA National Defence Force, prisons units, anti-poaching units in national parks, border patrols and the commercial security industry rely on guns to back up their authority.

We protect our ministers, assets, celebrities and visiting dignitaries with guns, we lawfully use guns for hunting and competitive sport shooting and we rely on them for self-defence against a life-threatening attack. Whether we like it or not, guns are intrinsic to civilisation. A firearm removes the disparity in physical strength, size or numbers between a potential attacker and a defender and is realistically the only personal weapon that puts a 60kg woman on an equal footing with a 120kg attacker.

German author Marko Kloos argues that force has no place as a valid method of social interaction. Kloos maintains that the only thing that effectively removes unlawful force from the menu is the personal firearm. If one considers that the sum of all human interactions can be reduced to either reason or force, it follows that when the norms of civilised society fail to uphold the rules by reason or oral persuasion, the rules are broken or enforced using any weapon or by threatening to use one.

People opposed to guns claim that guns drive homicides, but is this a suitable explanation for the murder rate in South Africa? Is the gun an invention that fosters evil behaviour, or do humans possess a capacity for evil that predates modern firearms?

In 14th-century England, long before guns were around, the homicide rate was estimated to be around 110 per 100,000 in a population of about 2,500,000 – that is more than three times South Africa's current homicide level in a population that was 24 times



smaller than the population of South Africa today. Many murders take place without a gun.

The capacity for evil in animals confirms instances of sadistic cruelty – from a cat playing with a mouse prior to killing it, to chimpanzees who will systematically cannibalise their young, and it is clear that a similar capacity is present in every human.

Ben Wilson of the University of the Highlands and Islands in Inverness, UK asserts that "arguably the real mystery lies not in the origin of 'evil' behaviours but in the fact that humans now generally view these [unsocial] behaviours as distasteful – even though deception, selfishness and other 'evil' traits appear to be widespread in nature, and generally beneficial for the survival of genes, animals and species".

John Armstrong, a British writer and philosopher at The School of Life, sees a gulf between human aspiration for justice and ethics and the laws of nature. Often we feel that something that is "evil" is against the natural order of things, or, as Armstrong puts it, "at odds with everything one might hope for". But perhaps the opposite is actually true: it is "bad" behaviour that is natural and successful. "What's surprising is how amazingly well (though still very imperfectly) human beings have tried to reverse this natural arrangement," he says.

The anti-gun establishment asserts that physical confrontations are made more lethal by a gun.

In any physical confrontation the winner is the physically superior participant. Thus, any human with an evil intention against another and the determination to make it happen will find a suitable weapon. In countries where public gun possession is severely curtailed or banned, criminals turn to other methods of murder. Take as examples the experience of mass stabbings in Japan and knife-related crimes in the United Kingdom, where (in the UK) 43,516 knife crime offences were recorded in the 12 months ending March 2019 – an 80% increase from the low point in the year ending March 2014. Japan, coincidentally, is one of the countries recently lauded by Police Minister Bheki Cele as not permitting civilian gun ownership.

In France on Bastille Day 2016, 31-year-old Tunisian Lahouaiej-Bouhlel, denied access to a gun, simply rented a 19-ton refrigeration lorry and drove it into crowds of holidaymakers on the Nice beachfront, killing 86 people and injuring 458 others.

Disarming lawfully armed civilians in a society like South Africa will afford criminals a force-monopoly within which to ply their trade of robbery, rape and murder.

Most certainly a gun makes it easier for an attacker, but the converse is true for the defender, and it is well established that criminals prefer unarmed victims. The fact that possession of a firearm makes it more convenient for a criminal to do his job doesn't establish a good reason to disempower his victims

by disarming them. It is irrational to conclude that disarming law-abiding citizens will lead to the disarming of criminals – especially in South Africa with the abundance of stolen military and state small arms in circulation in our region.

Cele, releasing crime statistics to Parliament in 2018, had to admit that police had "dropped the ball" and that South Africans were living in a war zone in a country that wasn't at war. Since then murder and violent crime have increased. The murder of a woman by an armed male spouse is a tragedy, and so is the raping and murder of innocent people who are strangers to their attackers. Attacks by criminals on strangers greatly outnumber instances of intimate partner femicide.

Finally, it should be borne in mind that a spouse with murderous intent may find an alternate means to kill his wife.

Kloos neatly frames the conclusion of this opinion: "When I carry a gun, I don't do so because I am looking for a fight, but because I'm looking to be left alone. The gun at my side means that I cannot be forced, only persuaded. I don't carry it because I'm afraid, but because it enables me to be unafraid. It doesn't limit the actions of those who would interact with me through reason, only the actions of those who would do so by force. It removes force from the equation... and that's why carrying a gun is a civilised act."

The urge to prove yourself

SEOUL

WE always talk about motivation, success, and leading a phenomenal life. Social media, movies, books are full of content that says you gotta get up and prove yourself or else succumb to leading a mediocre life.

So, what, may I ask, is a mediocre life?

By today's definition of a successful life, our parents' lives and their parents' lives before them would be considered mediocre. My father was a highly successful man by today's standards until he wasn't. The highly successful life attracted health problems, many frenemies and thieves.

When he lived a life that many would now consider unsuccessful, he was happier -and his health improved. He balanced his priorities and lived simply.

My mother raised us against almost unfair odds. Someone once asked my sister what work my Mum was involved in before she "retired". The lady was shocked that my mum had never "worked" outside the house. Yet you cannot dismiss the energy, dedication, patience, and perseverance it takes to raise seven kids.



She sewed all our clothes herself, cooked everything from scratch, and had neither blender nor vacuum cleaner- and most crucially- no disposable diapers to lighten her load.

Our grandparents and

parents never felt the urge to prove themselves to anyone. If they fed, clothed, and educated their kids or more importantly raised their kids to have good morals and an honorable character they considered themselves suc-

cessful. Their families were central and they made a point to reach out whenever they could.

Fast forward to today and all am seeing is PROVE YOURSELF! See, I believe

that the only person you have to prove yourself to- if you must prove yourself at all- is yourself.

I abhor the messages being portrayed that in order to be successful you must sacrifice: a good night's sleep;

you must hustle until your signature becomes an autograph, that on your way to greatness, you must trust no one and certainly depend on no-one.

I am appalled at the messages being bombarded at our young ones. Especially from this brutal education system that places more emphasis on grades than skills, on working 'hard' instead of working smart. A system that has no consideration for our children's mental health.

That play, rest, and balance are for those who live in abroad. This is why there are no extra curriculum activities P. E. lessons or Drama Clubs or variety shows or in our schools anymore.

Life is all about balance. It is about being present to appreciate whatever moment you are in. What have we been sold to? Mediocrity is when you exchange your wellbeing, your health

and time spent with those you love in pursuit of being 'king'. We must review our goals and renew our intentions.

What are we running around for?

What will make us feel satisfied at the end of our life?

There is also this ridiculous statement that you should do each day as if it were the end of your life. If it were the end of my life today, I would not spend it chasing accolades, in front of a computer or stuck with people or a job I don't particularly like just so to be seen that I am not living a mediocre life.

Getting the PhD should not be an end in itself and neither should be making seven or eight figures. Not when it means I have no time for connection, God or my health.

Motivation, self-help and all that is helpful there can be no doubt.

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Driving Africa's energy future with AfCFTA agreement

LONDON

LAUNCHED this New Year's Day, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement will create the largest free trade area in the world measured by the number of countries participating.

The pact connects 1.3 billion people across 55 countries with a combined gross domestic product (GDP) valued at US\$3.4 trillion. It has the potential to lift 30 million people out of extreme poverty, but achieving its full potential will depend on putting in place significant policy reforms and trade facilitation measures.

The agreement is meant to reduce all trade costs and enable Africa to integrate further into global supply chains, eliminating 90 per cent of tariffs, focusing on outstanding non-tariff barriers, and creating a single market with free movement of goods and services.

Cutting red tape and simplifying customs procedures will bring significant income gains. Beyond trade, the pact also addresses the movement of persons and labour, competition, investment, and intellectual property.

The scope of AfCFTA is sizable. The agreement will reduce tariffs among member countries and cover policy areas such as trade facilitation and services, as well as regulatory measures such as sanitary standards and technical barriers to trade.

It will complement existing sub-regional economic communities and trade agreements in Africa by offering a continent-wide regulatory framework and by regulating policy areas such as investment and intellectual property rights protection that have yet to be covered in most sub-regional agreements in Africa.

The World Bank says AfCFTA can provide a spark for the region. It estimates that, by 2035, implementing the agreement would contribute to lifting an additional 30 million people from extreme poverty and 68 million people from moderate poverty.

Real income gains from full implementation of the agreement could increase by 7 per cent, or nearly US\$450 billion. As African economies struggle to manage the consequences of Covid-19, AfCFTA can provide an anchor for long-term reform and integration.

"The AfCFTA is a critical response to Africa's developmental challenges," says Wamkele Keabetswe Mene, the pact's Secretary General, adding: "It has the potential to enable Africa to significantly boost intra-Africa trade and to improve economies of scale through an integrated market."

"It has the potential to be a catalyst for industrial development, placing Africa on a path to exporting value-added products and improving Africa's competitiveness both in its own markets and globally."

"It also sends a strong signal to the international investor community that Africa is open for business, based on a single rulebook for trade and investment."

"The global economy is on the brink of a new industrial revolution, driven by new-generation information technologies such as the Internet of Things, cloud computing, big data and data analytics, robotics and additive manufacturing. All of this presents challenges and opportunities for the AfCFTA."

Building on rich resource base

One of the industries that can benefit from AfCFTA is the energy sector, both the traditional oil and gas operators as well as the growing number of renewable



enterprises.

Much like the rest of the world, Africa is embarking on an energy transition but with oil and gas and mineral resources accounting for more than 75 per cent of the continent's exports. With the potential for growth in oil and gas high, it will still have a role to play in the short and mid-term.

Estimations vary but recent figures put Africa's proven gas reserves at 487.7 tcf with proven oil reserves in the region of 125 billion bbl. However, trade barriers such as high import tariffs have left many African countries vulnerable to the international market, which resells its resources at higher prices.

The AfCFTA will potentially end this practice as oil and gas producing countries will benefit from global markets as well as the domestic market.

Focusing more on growing intracontinental oil and gas trade will give countries autonomy to govern their international trade agreements, which have often left African countries on the losing end.

Analysis indicates that the AfCFTA will make room for the generation of GDPs that can positively impact African economies, create employment, and impact infrastructural development.

While this is a necessary benefit that will positively impact Africa, it is already a continent plagued by corruption, which has resulted in the delayed development of essential infrastructure required to facilitate the ease of trade through the AfCFTA.

Driving the energy transformation

For African countries, the green energy transition presents both opportunities and challenges. On the one hand, the huge energy deficits in production and

access, combined with abundant renewable energy resources, can underpin a relatively rapid and encompassing shift to green energy.

On the other hand, challenges related to access to finance, investment risk and the absence of needed technical and human capacities may impede this transition.

According to the International Energy Agency, over 600 million people in Africa have no access to electricity and a further 900 million cannot access clean cooking energy.

These figures do not however tell the entire story as there is significant variation across countries. For example, in South Sudan the percentage of the population with access to electricity is as low as one per cent, while countries such as Egypt, Algeria, Libya and Tunisia can boast 100 per cent access.

The South African Institute of Economic Affairs claims that this disparity is shaped by several factors, including state capacity, quality and effectiveness of existing policy and institutional frameworks, and the ability of countries to tap into global knowledge and

resources.

In its policy brief 'Accelerating Green Energy Transition in Africa Through Regional Integration', the SAIIA states that individually, most African countries lack financial, technical, and human capacities needed to fully implement a green energy transition.

It says this indicates an important role for some collaboration, both between African countries and with external partners, to enable Africa to address its energy deficit.

While many modalities for financing African green energy transition have been highlighted in the policy discourse, two recent trends seem promising in fast-tracking the transition process.

First is the AfCFTA, which promises to build regional market for goods and services, with free movement of persons and investment.

By consolidating small, poor, and fragmented African countries into one strong market, the agreement can change the dynamics in terms of access to funding, human capital, and technology for the green energy sector. The second important trend is the evolving

Europe-Africa relationship.

A regional approach to addressing the African energy deficit is not new, as regional power pools already exist through which African countries manage power generation and distribution.

The AfCFTA directly and indirectly addresses these challenges, which will both improve the prospect of regional power pools succeeding as well as greatly accelerating towards green energy.

First, the AfCFTA intends to scale investment in regional infrastructural projects and, given that renewable energy is a significant component of regional power pools, this can accelerate the transition to green energy.

The second phase of negotiations is centred on protocols for cooperation on investment, intellectual property rights and competition policy. This provides for national and continental investment as well as support for existing investment promotion agencies like the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa.

Lessons from Covid-19 pandemic for reporting on the climate crisis

By Osama Gaweesh

THE Covid-19 pandemic has brought home many truths about journalism. It refocused the attention of newsrooms on readers' needs, forcing media practitioners to use science and data in their stories, and also report on what is going right - to lift morale.

It worked. The majority of news organisations saw a spike in traffic, subscriptions and public interest in the news during the spring and summer of 2020.

However, the audience growth is slowing down - and newsrooms are looking for the next big topic that could keep the public engaged.

Looking at the increase in climate stories and new climate news product launches in the industry this year, it seems that many organisations are betting on climate change coverage to be the next opportunity for audience growth.

But what makes them think so? The Times and the Sunday Times, the Financial Times and some other publishers in the UK told Journalism.co.uk that an increase in climate stories stems from a strong audience demand shown in reader surveys and audience data.

But it is not that simple, according to Wolfgang Blau -visiting research fellow at the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, who spoke recently at News-wired and who is leading an in-depth study on the topic.

"Climate change, the climate crisis or the environment as a broader term are always amongst the top five topics audiences would like to hear more about," he said,



adding however that there is a difference between what readers say they want and the content they will actually consume.

Like Covid-19, climate change is a difficult topic to report on in an engaging way. It is highly complex, it requires some degree of scientific knowledge, it is barely tangible, it is not new and, most importantly, it is gruesome and can leave people feeling helpless and doomed.

But for all the negatives, the pandemic has forced an important change in the newsrooms.

"The Covid-19 situation is unique in that this was the first time that the science desk domi-

nated the newsroom for such a long stretch of time," said Blau.

He added that several science editors intimidated him that they felt much more integrated in their newsrooms than before.

According to Blau, the editors also get routinely asked now by other desks to check their stories for scientific accuracy before publication. It was also important to get the facts right to disempower Covid-19 denialists, which is not dissimilar from what is happening with climate change.

Another similarity between the Covid-19 pandemic and the climate crisis is that both affect people locally and need to be dealt

with locally, but they can only be overcome in a joint global effort.

And, just like Covid-19, climate change permeates every sector in the world and can be covered by any beat - from the economy to current affairs, to sport to fashion. For this reason, Blau said, about 80 per cent of news organisations he surveyed plan to increase their climate coverage in the near future.

According to his findings, one-third of news organisations surveyed increase the budget and staff of their existing science desks, while a slightly larger share of news organisations are setting up new climate desks in addition to their existing science teams.

A less common but more cost-efficient strategy for news organisations is to create virtual climate hubs where journalists from different desks meet regularly to collaborate on stories and projects.

Another issue is the balance between the desire to influence public awareness and trying to avoid be-

ing seen as an activist. Impartiality, after all, is one of journalism's most cherished values.

But think about it. During the pandemic, journalists had to convey messages such as "wash your hands", "wear a mask", "do not cough at your neighbour", or "stay two meters apart", because this was necessary to save lives.

These often passionate calls to actions were rarely seen as journalists practising activism. But many journalists told Blau that when covering the climate crisis or the need to curb carbon emissions they were either worried about being seen as activists or were told by their superiors to make sure they did not come across as such.

"It's a surprisingly foggy situation for many journalists, but this can be solved," said Blau, elaborating: "Most reputable news organizations have a code of ethics that clearly defines conflicts of interest.

"News organisations should now also give clearer guidelines on what sets out activism from journalism especially so that younger editors don't have to second-guess themselves and feel empowered to cover the climate crisis more frequently."

Perhaps the biggest challenge is to keep climate change in the news. The three main criteria of newsworthiness -recency, vicinity and simplicity - go out of the window.

Climate change is not new and, especially if you live in the UK, it tends to be seen as something that is worse in other parts of the world.

And, it is certainly not simple to convey. "When it bleeds, it leads" also does not quite work - as climate change is a process rather than a killer event.

Blau explained that, for most of the time, reporting is a retrospective activity - we talk about what just happened or is happening right now. The farthest we tend to look into the future is a few months or years - for instance, when talking about an election.

But with climate change, we need to get used to working with speculative science that looks 20, 30 or 40 years into the future and discusses political strategies and 'Green Deals' that have to reach just as far.

There is also the challenge of translating the climate crisis into a language that can be understood and into stories that readers can relate to in their everyday lives.

The conversation now needs to move on from whether climate change is human-made or not. What matters is which solutions we should pursue and who in the end will carry the cost of reorganising and retooling our societies and economies in time.

And to cover these big questions, concluded Blau, should be a great opportunity for journalism.

journalism.co.uk.



CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Foundation pushes for wider uses of improved stoves across Tanzania in climate change fight

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE Morogoro-based Sustainable Holistic Development Foundation (SUHODE) has called on the government to make it mandatory to use of improved cooking stoves in all households and institutions.

Foundation's executive director Frank Luvanda made the call here yesterday when speaking with this paper on what the government should do to mitigate the impacts of climate change-related issues.

He said the idea is meant to reducing biomass consumption for cooking hence reduces destruction of natural forests, water sources, and wildlife habitats.

"The negative impacts of climate change are manifesting vividly in the recent years as compared to years before 1990s."

As of 2021 it is reasonable to assert that our country's economy and people's livelihood is highly vulnerable to adverse impacts of climate change and to extreme weather events which are already present in most parts of the country in the form of excessive drought, unpredictable rainfall pattern, flooding, emergence of new diseases, food insecurity, and increased climate variations that have never been before. In many parts of the country rainfall patterns have changed bringing challenges to farmers, pastoralists, and fishers hence diminish and bringing harm to their economic interventions.

According to the IUCN Species Report, 2018, these extreme weather events pose greater challenges to ecosystems hence threaten the well being of plants and animal species. "It should be noted that Tanzania is one among countries in the world where species are declining." Declining of species both in flora and fauna is a dire indicator that our ecosystems are undergoing some levels of degradation which require attention to address underlying causes of such degradation. It is evident that natural forests are declining, water sources are declining, and some wildlife species are declining as well. There are many factors that lead towards forest loss and declining of wildlife species and water sources.

SUHODE Foundation under support from the WWF Tanzania and SIDA will continue to constructively engage with the Tanzanian government to ensure many rural and urban households uses improved cooking stoves



to save our ecosystems and people's livelihood.

Citing the Global Forest Watch Index Report, in 2010 Luvanda said that Tanzania had 24.7 million hectares of tree covers equivalent to 26% of its land area. In 2020, Tanzania had lost 186 ha of tree cover equivalent to 67Mt of CO₂ of emissions. And from 2002 to 2020, Tanzania lost 30.3kha of humid primary forest, making up 1.2% of its total tree cover loss in the same time period. Tree loss is high in Pwani, Lindi, Morogoro, Tabora, and Mtwara.

"These data from the Global Forest Watch 2020 show categorically that environmental degradation in Tanzania needs to be addressed seriously through various ways that could reduce and bring down such quick and undesired degradation of ecosystems," said Luvanda, one of the long-time environmental activists.

According to him, destruction of natural forests means also destruction of water source, wildlife habitats, and wildlife species. According to WWF's The Living Planet Index of 2020, population sizes of mammals, birds, fish, amphibians and reptiles have seen an alarming average drop of 68% since 1970s.

"It is therefore crucial at this moment to address underlying causes that have led to such decline of wildlife species as per the WWF's Living Planet Index Report of 2020. High rate of environmental destruction in many parts of the world including Tanzania can be summed up in one word "ecocide" which can be defined as 'the mass destruction of the environment' or destruction of the natural environment by deliberate or negligent human actions," Luvandasaid, adding: "It's time to revolutionize the fight against destruction of natural forests, water

sources, and wildlife habitats which may lead into the climate crisis and ecological disasters."

SUHODE Foundation, under support from the World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) and Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) implement several interventions related to energy-based portfolio that aims at reducing biomass consumption for cooking at household and institutional levels particularly those using firewood and charcoal for cooking. Under the same project SUHODE is also introducing other renewable energy technologies and options to local communities in rural areas where access to modern energy is a challenge. Under such support, SUHODE Foundation is training local communities on how to build affordable improved cooking stoves starting with Mchakama and Ngea villages.

Based on the current experience,

affordable improved cook stoves have proved to reduce biomass consumption particularly firewood at more than 50% reduction.

The reduction of biomass consumption is partly associated with improving thermal efficiency which is higher in improved cooking stoves at 20% to 40% thermal efficiency as opposed to traditional three stone cooking stoves which have less than 15% thermal efficiency. Reduction of biomass consumption particularly firewood and charcoal for cooking means a lot to the conservation of natural forests, water sources, and wildlife habitats.

It also means reducing indoor pollution and saving time to women who in most Tanzanian rural societies are the one responsible for collecting firewood for cooking.

Based on Tanzanian context, forest loss and degradation of water sources is partly attributed to energy demand in the form of charcoal and firewood; illegal wildlife trade manifested through illegal logging, extraction of timber and poles; encroachment farming, expansion of human habitats, and overgrazing, he said.

"Declining of wildlife species is partly associated with poaching, overexploitation, destruction of wildlife habitats, and the negative impacts of climate change. It is therefore crucial to undertake serious measures to address these underlying factors that lead to loss of natural forests, water sources, and wildlife species. It should be noted that species are critical for the survival of the planet."

African women propose 10-year plan for gender equality in Africa at Generation Equality Forum

PARIS

THE proposed Kinshasa Declaration, launched yesterday at the Generation Equality Forum has outlined concrete actions for African Union member countries to advance gender equality in Africa by 2030.

The proposed Kinshasa Declaration called for doubling the number of women's organi-

zations that can access funds from national economic stimulus programs and external funding.

Adelegation of African women was led by Gisèle Ndaya, Minister of Gender, Family and Children of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Julienne Lusenge, gender expert on the Panel of Experts in charge of accompanying President Félix-Antoine Tshisekedi

Tshilombo during his presidency of the African Union for 2021/2022.

One of the key recommendations of the declaration is to campaign for a quota system of at least 40 percent of women

Minister of Gender, Family and Children of the DRC, Gisèle Ndaya said the declaration offers concrete proposals for member countries of the African Union.

She highlighted that: "One of the key recommendations of the declaration is to campaign for a quota system of at least 40 percent of women, including 10 percent of young women under 35 years of age in national government bodies, and in elective and nominative positions, by 2030, in order to increase the rate of women's participation in decision-making bodies on the

African continent."

Julienne Lusenge, member of the Panel of Experts in charge of accompanying the DRC during its chairmanship of the African Union for the year 2021/2022 said: "This proposed declaration makes a crucial contribution to the AU Strategy for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment by proposing concrete actions and

tools for measuring success towards gender equality in Africa by 2030." According to her, the proposed declaration, calls for the development and strengthening of human rights and culture of peace curricula in at least 50 percent of primary and secondary schools, including the integration of age-appropriate information on existing laws, conventions, and action

plans with a focus on gender equality and positive masculinity by 2030."

The proposed Kinshasa declaration, drafted during the Conference on Gender Equality held in Kinshasa on June 10, is the result of a large mobilization of pan-African groups including youth, civil society, researchers, government officials, activists and international organizations.

THRDC tables recommendations to govt about tax compliance

By Alima Nkwong, HMC

TANZANIA Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) has tabled a number of recommendations to the government including the provision of paid tax data so as to facilitate tax compliance for the Non Profit Organisations.

Speaking during an empowerment workshop to Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) on tax compliance yesterday in Dar es Salaam, THRDC National Coordinator Onesmo Olungurumwa highlighted that it is important for CSOs to get this data because it will help them to know the tax amount they contribute to tax revenues in Tanzania.

He also stressed that the government should consider removing some tax penalties and additional tax rates levied on CSOs due to the delay in complying with the tax payment adding that only the delayed tax be reclaimed.

"CSOs delay in paying because is out of their control since most at times they rely on donor funds and instead of paying only the delayed tax they are also subjected to additional tax charges due to the delay" he emphasized

Olungurumwa also suggested that civil society be detached from the Skills Development Levy (SDL) given the reason that the CSO used tax free money from other countries and don't need to be exposed to other taxes given the role that they play in the society.

On his part, Richard Kayombo representing Tanzania Revenue Authority General Commissioner underscored that their intention as TRA is to create normality in terms of tax compliance and also to ensure that CSOs pay what they are supposed to pay on time and as well have a better understanding across all the membership.



THRDC national coordinator Onesmo Olungurumwa presents recommendations to Tanzania Revenue Authority stakeholders during empowerment workshop for CSOs in Dar es Salaam on Thursday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

"We have handled reasonable areas of operation like the interpretation of the laws, respect of taxes that apply to charitable organizations" he said while identifying other areas attached to the law which he said are yet to be dealt with.

He added that in the past they used to be a misinterpretation of the law which he said could be the cause of some misunderstanding about the different taxes to pay which later on became a hurdle for

the civil society.

"Understanding the law is very important and due to this misinterpretation some of them end up having penalties and interest charged on what was not paid which is now a problem to them" he intoned

Kayombo also advised CSO to follow the due process by also addressing their suggestion to the tax force and that applies to issues to do with policies.

One of the Officers of the accountability in Tanzania Program, Rehema Tukai advised the non-profit making organizations to continue engaging with THRDC who could also assist them on how to deal with tax compliance issues, since they work in collaboration with TRA.

TRA Regional Manager-Kinondoni Tax Region Masawa Masatu who was also a facilitator in the working session encouraged NGOs to know their rights and obli-

gations as a first step to overcome the challenges as charitable organizations.

"They need to know how many days it will take for you to be asserted or for your application to be processed. That is why we are here to make sure they know their rights" he said, adding that they also need to know their obligations so that they can comply without any problem.

By Jonathan Widder

What kind of journalism do we need when a crisis hits?



WHEN the coronavirus pandemic swept the world more than a year ago, I thought: Okay, that's it. Now is not the time for the positive, constructive topics as we typically collect them with Squirrel News.

What was unfolding was just so much more important, and dire - exponentially growing infection figures, sudden curfews even in democracies, images from overloaded intensive care units, coffins stacked on top of each other.

What a mistake it was! It took me - and many others - some time to realize that the pandemic would last for quite a while and that we shouldn't just sit back and watch everything go up in flames. Instead, we should try to help find a way out of it.

As the crisis worsened and the more haphazardly many politicians acted, the clearer it became that there was something we didn't have enough of: solutions alongside high-quality in-depth reporting on them.

More solutions-focused reporting might have saved lives. I read reports in German media about successful contact tracing efforts in countries in Asia that we could learn from.

This included one about South Korea in the beginning of 2020 and another about backward contact tracing in Japan at the end of the year. Not many more.

But why were there so few such reports? Perhaps relatedly, contact tracing efforts in Germany struggled during the pandemic.

The consequences have literally been fatal, as identifying infections and at-risk contacts is vital for curtailing the spread of the virus. This was especially so during the first year of the pandemic.

The better it works, the more infections can be avoided and the more lives can be saved. More

solutions-focused reporting could have helped improve the public's knowledge of these approaches, and placed more pressure on politicians to act accordingly.

As a citizen, I would also love to see a shift to a more active style of politics. But where could this come from? Could the media and the public accelerate - or encourage - it? And if they could, what would be the driving force, if not solutions-focused journalism?

The nature of the Covid-19 crisis has facilitated this type of journalism. The issues around the pandemic were relatively easy to grasp: there is a clearly defined problem - the virus - and, with vaccines, one ideal solution.

There has been significant learning among the public about virology and infectious diseases, a surge in expert-led podcasts, and extensive debates surrounding the necessity of short and medium-term solutions, like wearing masks and social distanc-

ing. The Guardian (UK), for one, reportedly "upped their constructive coverage from two or three solutions stories per week to two or three per day."

Finally, another perspective. We launched Squirrel News in June 2020, just a few weeks after the first wave of high Covid-19 infection rates, lockdowns and overwhelmed emergency rooms around the world.

It was eye-opening to see how our curated solutions-focused collection of reporting helped readers manage during these trying times. However, the need for this type of journalism existed long before the pandemic. This also becomes obvious in many reviews of Squirrel News in app stores.

One of the words we come across again and again is "finally". Readers have explained to us how our constructive approach has helped them navigate the crisis.

Some German TV journalists who visited us for a shoot a few

months ago admitted that they were happy to cover something positive for a change.

They noted how they were "tired" of having to report only topics with high levels of drama and conflict, chiefly to attract high numbers of viewers.

Had they visited a little later, I would have sent them a link to this recent study on solutions journalism that shows how it outperforms purely problem-based reporting in many ways.

One of the most poignant reactions - which has even led to collaboration on a forthcoming podcast - came from Los Angeles-based writer and comedian Ed Crasnick, who has infused his comedy with a focus on mental health.

Having stumbled upon Squirrel News, Crasnick reached out, explaining what our little news operation has provided him.

"I love Squirrel News is because it's changing your mental health without talking about mental health," he said, adding: "They should make everyone read this kind of news. And I'm not even talking about the stories; it's the headlines alone already. They're called

headlines for a reason - they go directly into your head."

Although the historical origin of the word "headline" might be different, I think I prefer Crasnick's definition. It describes with utmost clarity one key impact of solutions-focused journalism. A reader who contacted us in January expressed a similar opinion, writing: "I think everyone should know about you. What you have started could contribute to a positive change in society, in the long term."

Others wrote, for instance, that "the concept is great because finally something is being done to counter the flood of bad news that provokes feelings of powerlessness, resignation and fear". Or they just described Squirrel News as "a pleasant change from the negative reporting that generally prevails". Even others pointed out that they "enjoy reading the news again" after years of avoiding it.

Jonathan Widder is the founder of Squirrel News, a curated platform and app for solutions-focused news. Prior to that, he has helped launch several media startups.

Xi rallies Party for 'unstoppable' pursuit to national rejuvenation as CPC celebrates centenary

BEIJING

THE Communist Party of China (CPC) on Thursday celebrated the 100th anniversary of its founding, as its top leader declared the achievement of a milestone development goal and announced that the Chinese nation is "advancing with unstoppable momentum toward rejuvenation."

Addressing a grand gathering at the iconic Tian'anmen Square, where CPC forefather Mao Zedong proclaimed the birth of the people's republic, Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, hailed the Party's success over the past century and called on the whole Party to continue its hard work and carry out "a great struggle" to achieve national rejuvenation.

Xi delivered a nationally-televised speech from Tian'anmen Rostrum before a 70,000-strong crowd. The historic event also witnessed a chorus of Party songs, a flypast of fighter jets and helicopters, a 100-gun salute, and a flag-raising ceremony.

Xi, also Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission, declared that China has realized the first centenary goal of "building a moderately prosperous society in all respects."

"This means that we have brought about a historic resolution to the problem of absolute poverty in China, and we are now marching in confident strides toward the second centenary goal of building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects," Xi said.

HISTORICAL INEVITABILITY

Reviewing the past 100 years, Xi said the Party has united and led the Chinese

people in achieving great success in the new-democratic revolution, socialist revolution and construction, reform, opening up and socialist modernization, as well as for socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era.

In 1921 when the CPC was founded, it had just over 50 members. Today, with more than 95 million members in a country of more than 1.4 billion people, it is the largest governing party in the world and enjoys tremendous international influence.

Xi paid tributes to CPC forefathers including Mao Zedong and Deng Xiaoping, as well as revolutionary martyrs who died for the Party's cause.

"All the struggle, sacrifice, and creation through which the Party has united and led the Chinese people over the past hundred years has been tied together by one ultimate theme - bringing about the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation," Xi said, adding that this prospect "has become a historical inevitability."

The ceremony was presided over by Li Keqiang, and attended by Li Zhan-shu, Wang Yang, Wang Huning, Zhao Leji and Han Zheng - all members of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee, as well as Vice President Wang Qishan.

At the event, Wan Xiang, chairman of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Committee of the Chinese Kuomintang, read a congratulatory message on behalf of the eight non-CPC political parties in China, the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce, and personalities without party affiliation.

Over 1,000 young people, who are representatives of the Chinese Communist Youth League and Young



Pioneers, conveyed their congratulatory message through a recitation at Tian'anmen Square, expressing the younger generation's commitment to the CPC's cause.

"I feel very honored," said Wang Fangyanni, a 22-year-old university student who watched the celebrations on the spot. Wang gained full membership of the CPC in April.

Xi's one-hour speech captured the Party's tremendous success over a century.

Under the Party's leadership, the country has lifted nearly 800 million people out of poverty over the past four decades. China is now the world's second-largest economy, the largest recipient of foreign direct investment, and boasts one of the world's largest consumer markets. Its GDP has exceeded the 100-trillion-yuan (about 15.47 trillion U.S. dollars) threshold.

Many people have experienced a significant improvement in their lives.

Bao Xianjie is one of them. A member of the Tu ethnic group, she relates the CPC centenary with changes in her home county in northwestern Qinghai Province, which has recently cast off poverty.

"When I returned home in recent years, I saw big changes: expressway has been opened, traffic is made convenient, and everyone's life is getting better," Bao told Xinhua at Tian'anmen Square.

Yang Pin-hua, an ethnic singer from Taiwan who has been living in Beijing for 14 years, was also in the audience at the square.

Having traveled to more than 70 mainland cities with large ethnic popu-

lations, Yang said he has seen those places undergoing tremendous changes over the years. "The Party's support has reached every village and every ethnic group."

EVEN STRONGER PARTY

In his address, Xi laid down principles that must be followed on the journey ahead.

The firm leadership of the Party must be upheld, he said, calling it the foundation and lifeblood of the Party and the country, and the crux upon which the interests and wellbeing of all Chinese people depend.

Vowing to remain committed to combating corruption and root out "any viruses that would erode its health," Xi said the CPC must continue to advance the great new project of Party building.

"We must unite and lead the Chinese people in working ceaselessly for a better life," he added.

"Any attempt to divide the Party from the Chinese people or to set the people against the Party is bound to fail. The more than 95 million Party members and the more than 1.4 billion Chinese people will never allow such a scenario to come to pass," he said.

Xi stressed continuing to adapt Marxism to the Chinese context.

NO PREACHING, NO BULLYING

Xi said efforts to uphold and develop socialism with Chinese characteristics must be continued. In doing so, the Party has "created a new model for human civilization."

The Party is eager to learn what lessons it can from the achievements of other cultures, and welcomes helpful suggestions and constructive

criticism, Xi said.

"We will not, however, accept sanctimonious preaching from those who feel they have the right to lecture us," he said.

Xi added that the Chinese nation does not carry aggressive or hegemonic traits in its genes. "We have never bullied, oppressed, or subjugated the people of any other country, and we never will."

But the Chinese people will never allow any foreign force to bully, oppress, or subjugate us, he said.

"Anyone who would attempt to do so will find themselves on a collision course with a great wall of steel forged by over 1.4 billion Chinese people," Xi said, as the crowd present at Tian'anmen Square burst into thunderous applause and cheers.

Xi underlined elevating the armed forces to world-class standards to achieve greater capacity and more reliable means for safeguarding national sovereignty, security and development interests.

He also called for making efforts to strengthen the great unity of the Chinese people.

Resolving the Taiwan question and realizing China's complete reunification is a historic mission and an unshakable commitment of the CPC, Xi said, vowing resolute action to utterly defeat any attempt toward "Taiwan independence."

"No one should underestimate the great resolve, the strong will, and the extraordinary ability of the Chinese people to defend their national sovereignty and territorial integrity," he said.

Xinhua

RATIBA YA VIPINDI
JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI YA DUNIA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOT LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.05 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.15 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI YA DUNIA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOT LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.05 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.15 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI YA DUNIA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOT LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.05 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.15 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI YA DUNIA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOT LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.05 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.15 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI YA DUNIA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOT LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.05 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.15 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI YA DUNIA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOT LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.05 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.15 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One

ACTIVIST

Meet the 9-year-old Durban boy who is dedicating his birthday to planting trees

DURBAN

Romario Valentine (9) from Umhlanga, Durban, has been an eco-warrior for the past four years and has dedicated every weekend to cleaning beaches and protecting the planet. "He cleans the beach every week for one hour without fail," his mom, Delsha Moodley (36), tells YOU.

The chirpy youngster has carried out 163 beach cleanups, helped 990 endangered birds at Umgeni River Bird Park in Durban during lockdown last year and he's the ambassador for several international environmental groups.

"I've also arranged for 26 trees to be planted on four continents and I recently teamed up with the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification to help land degradation and biodiversity in Africa," says Romario.

Romario's love for conservation started when he was just six years old, after he landed the role of an Orca in a school play. To learn more about what his role would entail, the little boy researched the species. "I discovered that Orcas were endangered. So, I decided to do something about it by cleaning the beach weekly," he says.

Delsha adds: "Even though he discovered we don't get Orcas in Durban - they're mainly found in Antarctica - he decided to continue cleaning the beach

and getting as many pollutants out of the ocean as he can. He's kept to that ever since."

Romario made history by becoming the youngest ambassador for Ocean Sole, a Kenyan environmental organisation that promotes marine conservation by recycling old flip flops discarded in the ocean and turning them into art.

"I feel honoured to be given the opportunity to represent Ocean Sole. They've recycled over 750 000 flip flops. Ocean Sole and I both raise awareness by creating eco art out of pollutants," says Romario, who plays chess and codes for fun. Delsha and his dad, Clive (54), are just as proud of the achievement.

"The ocean and nature are obviously his passion. He does his part to educate and raise awareness through his campaigns and online. "We're so honoured and the best we can do is guide him and pave the way for him to continue his journey because this is his passion," Delsha says.

For his 10th birthday on 26 July, Romario hopes to plant 250 trees for the deforestation programme run by the Zeitz Foundation. "The roots of an acacia tree contain nitrogen and bacteria that make the soil fertile. It is also a source of food for giraffes, inyalas and black rhinos," he explains.

"Fertile land is important for food se-



Durban environmental activist Romario Valentine.

curity, sustainable jobs and habitat restoration. I like to support their programme to help slow down global warming and protect wildlife," he adds. Romario has also launched a Backabuddy campaign to raise funds for abandoned African grey parrots at Birds of Eden in Cape Town.

The youngster says he draws his inspiration from leaders such as Barack Obama, Nelson Mandela, Kenyan environmentalist Dr Wangari Maathai and, of course, his parents. "I admire my mom and dad - they motivate me, buy me art supplies and educate me on the environment and nature. My mother was the first person to clean the beach

with me."

Romario's next big plan is to write his autobiography. "I want to publish my life story in a book to encourage children to help nature and to continue to raise awareness for conservation of the ocean and biodiversity in order to leave a legacy for other children and generations to come."

For now, Romario is encouraging

kids to do everything they can do to save the planet. "You are never too young to help nature. I encourage children to plant trees, not to litter, to recycle, re-use and only buy things they need. World leaders need to involve children in their environmental goals too. I would like to see an international children tree planting day."

COVID-19

Fate of office wear sellers as Kenyans work from home

NAIROBI

For a glimpse of how her menswear business will fare, Margaret Mainge nowadays checks Nairobi's traffic jam.

Before the Covid-19 pandemic, the hours-long snarl-ups annoyed her, but not anymore. More cars on the road, she says, now mean more people travelling into the Central Business District, hence more walk-in buyers.

"Nowadays, whenever I get to town without getting caught up in traffic, it worries me because that's a sign I may not sell," she says. "When we spend two hours or more on traffic, as busi-

nesspeople it gives us hope that people are going to town and there is a good chance we will make sales for the day."

Ms Mainge who runs two stores in Nairobi's Biashara and Moktar Daddah streets, sells men's executive suits, neckties, and office shoes, with most of her clients being lawyers and corporate personnel in their 40s and above.

For many years, her Canali designer suits have been her number one seller. But the sales of the suits took a dip in 2020 when offices closed and her customers cooped up in their study rooms, working from home. The

apparel industry and a slew of malls were battered as thousands of Kenyans stayed home and a litany of dress-up events, from weddings to conferences, were cancelled or postponed.

"Before the pandemic, I used to sell about 200 suits a month, on average. When Covid-19 closed offices and parties, the sales went down by half with most of my clients switching to casual wear that really sold well," she says.

Her suits, retailing at Sh18,000, were fast-moving because of the light material used, ideal for the city's weather. Then working from home changed

everything. Suit sellers are hardly alone in struggling during the work-from-home era. Just a few months before the pandemic hit, Caribbean Shoes House had opened the third store following booming business in 2019.

The sale of their branded shoes, 'Caribbean' that ranges from sports to office wear, manufactured in Spain and Italy, were good. On average, the three stores could sell between 100 to 300 pairs of office shoes a month, with the cheapest retailing at Sh11,000.

"The year [2020] started pretty well with us recording impressive sales from January to March

especially for office shoes. Our oldest branch was recording an average turnover of Sh500,000 to Sh600,000 a month due to the numerous numbers of seminars and conferences held countrywide. But in April, we only managed to 50 pairs in the three stores," says Jane Kanye, a sales representative.

Ms Kanye says she started noticing a change in dress code; buyers wanted to mix and match casual and office wear. Customers came in dressed in jeans or khaki trousers, a t-shirt with blazers, then bought office shoes rather than sneakers. A discounted sale also grew their

numbers. "The sale played part in our recovery especially last December when we sold over 600 pairs of shoes," Ms Kanye adds.

For Wow Collection, a store that deals with all kinds of women's wear from suits, handbags, shoes, jewellery and other accessories imported from Turkey, business has been bad. "Most of our clients are in white-collar jobs. When Covid-19 first struck, the sales went down to about 30 percent. Previously, most clients would spend between Sh18,000 to Sh20,000 or even more at a go," says Susan Munyua, a saleslady.

She says with people still working from home, she no longer gets many buyers matching items; a bag, a suit and shoes. "Buyers are no longer picking the complete set as before. There are not many events that would warrant a new outfit," she adds.

Office-wear apparel is a tough industry to be in right now, but Ms Munyua remains optimistic. "The situation is getting better compared to the months when we could open and only sell to one client in a week, who could buy just a bag or a blouse. The business is at 50 percent of pre-pandemic levels," she says.

Things to know after Rwanda gives the green light for medical marijuana

KIGALI

A new Ministerial Order governing cannabis and its products in Rwanda was gazetted on Monday, June 28, creating a framework for the growing, processing and medical use of cannabis in the country.

Marijuana or weed as it's popularly known is a multi-billion dollar industry and believed to be among the most valuable cash crops from an economic value perspective. Below are some highlights in the Ministerial Order including requirements for sector stakeholders.

Licensing for operations
Individuals and firms interested in any of the processes relating to cultivation, distribution and use of cannabis will be required to apply and receive prerequisite licensing by competent authorities and must only undertake operations at places of business of those establishments or at such other places as may be approved by the competent authority.

According to the law, eligible persons for the activities related to cannabis provided for by the Order are investors or any other persons committed to performing any activity of cultivation, processing, importation, export and use of cannabis and cannabis products, for medical or research purposes.

Not for recreational purposes

The new order does not in any way have provisions for cultivation, processing or use of cannabis for recreational purposes in the country. Persons found to use, cultivate or sell marijuana outside the set order will be considered to be handling narcotics which is punishable by law.

Medical use only
The new ministerial order has provisions for medical use of cannabis and cannabis products in the country but noted that it can only be made on condition that they are prescribed by a specialist medical doctor.

For this purpose, the order specifies that a specialised

medical doctor is one whom the Ministry of Health has given, in writing, the authority to prescribe cannabis and cannabis products for use by a patient.

Types of licenses
According to the ministerial order, the cannabis value chain will have specific roles with up to eight licenses and permits required. Types of licenses and certification include: cultivation license; import permit for seeds, genetic materials and other planting material; export permit for seeds, genetic materials and other planting materials.

Other licenses and permits include: cannabis and cannabis products processing license; cannabis and cannabis products import permit; cannabis and cannabis product export permit. Other certifications and permits are finished cannabis and cannabis products registration certificate and research license. The licenses provided will have a validity of a period of a renewable 5 years renewable.



A dish of Mediterranean diet filled with oily fish.

Eating a Mediterranean diet with lots of oily fish can greatly reduce migraines

BALTIMORE

Eating a Mediterranean diet filled with oily fish could be the key to reducing migraines, according to a new study. Researchers from the National Institute on Aging in Baltimore, US, wanted to test the effects of fatty acids found in certain foods on the severity of migraines.

Pain-regulating molecules, known as oxylipins, are found in both Omega-3 and Omega-6. However, those from Omega-3, found in oily fish and certain nuts and seeds, have pain-reducing effects, while those from Omega-6, found in refined vegetable oils, have pain-amplifying effects.

Dr Christopher Ramsden and his team of colleagues recruited 182 patients who suffered from migraine headaches for between five and 20 days a month to each follow one of three randomly assigned diets. One of the food plans involved raising Omega-3 but keeping Omega-6 fatty acids the same; another raised Omega-3 and lowered Omega-6; and a third controlled diet that included typical levels of both fatty acids.

Each of the diets was kept as similar as possible, with the only difference being the main source of protein - extra portions of oily fish for those with higher Omega-3 levels - and the type of oil or butter being used. Published

in the British Medical Journal, the research found that both of the diets with added Omega-3 increased levels of a pain-reducing oxylipin, compared with the controlled diet.

Researchers also found the frequency of migraines to be significantly reduced by the diets, by 1.3 headache hours a day and two headache days a month for those in the high-Omega-3 group, and by 1.7 headache hours a day and four headache days a month for those eating a high-Omega-3, low-Omega-6 diet. The diets did not reduce the severity of participant's headaches, however, although some recorded instances of shorter headaches.

LULLABIES

SA mom writes book series to help children 'understand their feelings'

JOHANNESBURG

The purpose of the book series is to allow parents, teachers, and caregivers an opportunity to begin conversations with children about emotions and life experiences. The purpose of the book series is to allow parents, teachers, and caregivers an opportunity to begin conversations with children about emotions and life experiences.

A local mother of two has taken it upon herself to help our little ones identify and manage their emotions amid the Covid-19 pandemic by writing a read-along book series aptly named Little Books, Big Feelings that reminds them that feelings are universal and they are not alone.

A 2020 study revealed that the pandemic can often have

consequences on the mental health of children and adolescents due to isolation from their peers, uncertainty regarding their future and the stress surrounding the health of their family members and friends. The study detailed that children could be experiencing feelings of fear, anxiety and sadness and often lack the language and maturity to understand and vocalise their emotions.

Lesley Scott, who is the author of the Little Books, Big Feelings series, told Parent24: "I was inspired to write the books after speaking to friends and family with younger children and realising that the uncertainty around Covid-19 and the lockdown was causing the children anxiety."

With recent the movement of South Africa to Level 4 lockdown, given the third wave of the pandemic, schools have been ordered to have shut their doors by Friday 2 July, leaving many children with a bundle of feelings they cannot quite express and parents at a loss as to how to reassure their children.

"I believe that it is important for both children and adults to understand their feelings," Scott explained. "If we are able to identify and describe the emotion we are feeling, we can take steps to regulate that emotion."

The book series contains 4 books, namely: I Have Butterflies in my Tummy: a little book about anxiety, My Heart is Heavy: a little book about sadness, Sunshine in my

Smile: a little book about happiness, and I've Lost my Calm: a little book about anger.

Scott described the book series, which is ideal for children between the ages of 4 and 9, as both a resource and a "helpful tool" to navigate through the emotions that may come up during these uncertain times by "giving emotions a voice."

The books were illustrated by character design and illustration artist Rachel Rossouw, who embraced the Little Books, Big Feelings project and contributed her talents for no upfront payment. The books will shortly be available in Afrikaans and isiXhosa, and are currently available on Amazon both in English and Italian.



Lesley Scott and her daughter enjoying one of the books.

CAUTION

Students cautioned against violating Covid-19 measures as holidays begin

KIGALI

As students begin their holidays, they are being urged to be vigilant and protect themselves and their communities against coronavirus that has been rampant in the country over the past few weeks.

This call was made on Thursday, July 1, by different officials as the students began their phased repatriation to home districts, an exercise that will take four days and will be carried out in accordance with Covid-19 safety measures.

The exercise is being jointly carried out by the education ministry through the National Examination and School Inspection Authority (NESA), Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Authority (RURA), Rwanda National Police, the Ministry of Local Government and commuter transport companies, among others.

Students from different districts that are headed to or transiting through Kigali were being received at Kigali Stadium in Nyamirambo from where they were put on homebound buses,

while others were picked from there by their families.

"We are advising the students who are going to their families not to flout Covid-19 preventive measures. That is why no effort was spared to ensure their safe return to their families. We are also using the opportunity to urge them to observe these measures when they get home," said Anthony Kulamba, the general manager in charge of transport regulation at RURA.

He added: "The students who are going home today (Thursday) are from all districts of Kigali City, then Huye, Gisagara, Nyamagabe and Nyaruguru in Southern Province, Rutshiro, Karongi and Rusizi in Western Province and Bugesera in Eastern Province. The rest will go home from tomorrow until Sunday."

As students arrived at the stadium, each had their temperature taken and had to wash their hands before being directed to the buses to their respective home districts. Guides were on hand to ensure social distance is

maintained within the vicinity of the stadium and each student had to keep his or her mask properly on. Buses were lined up according to their designated routes. "We mobilized as many buses as possible to ensure students are transported in proper condition," Kuramba said.

"We have also urged drivers to remind students to maintain all preventive measures during the journey. As they return home for holidays, it's not time to meet with their friends. Buses will get them to their home districts from where the directors of education will coordinate their safe return to their families," Kuramba says.

All students will return home for their end-of-year holidays other than those in candidate classes who will remain at school until their exams are done. According to the timetable, the exams will take place from July 12 starting with Primary Leaving Examinations.

Bernard Bahati, Director General of NESA says "This activity of dispatching students to their families is

not being done for the first time, but we are now more stringent to ensure they return in safety of the rampant virus."

"The students who remained at school preparing for their national exams are also being mobilized to maintain measures against Covid-19 as they revise. Fortunately, those staying at school are few and so social distance will be adequately observed."

No student missed exams

He added that no students missed their third term exams due to the new Covid-19 guidelines, adding that all non-candidates students have completed their exams, except those with special cases in different schools.

A directive was issued by the Prime Minister on Tuesday, June 29 ordering non-candidate students to return home starting July 1 owing to the spike in Covid-19 cases mainly in the City of Kigali. However, NESA officials say that all students have since completed exams and only waiting for their report cards, which they can get

at a later stage. Meanwhile, parents and students who spoke to The New Times made the assurance that they will ensure the holidays pass in relative safety of the pandemic.

Joselyne Uwimbabazi, a parent who had come to pick her child who studies at the College Immaculee Conception Save in Gisagara District told The New Times that; "We came here to pick our children. We miss them but the preventive measures must be observed as well; no hugging. We will continue to protect them and urge them to avoid unnecessary movements." Similar sentiments were echoed by students who promised to take the lead in maintaining Covid-19 measures.

"The term was good, apart from this pandemic, we concluded all exams and we will wait for the results at home and we shall continue playing our role in preventing the spreading of Covid-19," said Edmond Ndikumana, who studies at APADE in Kicukiro District. He was headed to Kayonza District, where his family lives.

Alice Umumarungu, a student at ETO Nyamata in Bugesera District told The New Times that; "we have kept ourselves safe from the virus while at school; we are masked up, we have been washing our hands and maintained social distance. We will continue to do this at home in order to protect ourselves and our families."

According to the calendar by the Ministry of Education, the students from Nyanza in Southern Province, Rubavu and Nyabihu in Western Province, Rwamagana, and Kayonza in Eastern Province and Gicumbi and Rulindo in Northern Province will depart on Friday, July 2.

On Saturday, July 3, the students from Nyagatare, Gatsibo, Kirehe, and Ngoma in Eastern, Ruhango in Southern, Musanze and Gakenke in Northern Province will go home too. The last day of departing students to their families is on Sunday, July 4, when the students from Muhanga and Kamonyi in Southern, Burera in Northern and Ngororero in Western will be getting home too.

STAY-YOUNG

'Reverse' ageing by three years through lifestyle and diet changes - study

NEW YORK

Following a healthy lifestyle and diet, including specific nutrients, for just eight weeks may 'reverse' the ageing process by three years, a new study has found.

The US study by Helgott Research Institute and published in Impact Journals LLC provided recommendations on diet, sleep, exercise, relaxation, supplemental probiotics and phytonutrients to 40 healthy males between 50 and 72 over an eight-week period. The results showed a biological age reduction of over three years in all participants. Researchers noted that since ageing was the primary driver of chronic disease, the results of the study were significant in the goal to slow down ageing and live healthier and longer.

Lead study author Dr Kara Fitzgerald said: "The combined intervention programme was designed to target a specific biological mechanism called DNA methylation, and in particular the DNA methylation patterns... identified as highly predictive of biological age." DNA methylation patterns, which track the accumulation of damage and loss of function to cells, tissues, and organs, are one of the ways scientists understand ageing.

"What is extremely exciting is that food and lifestyle practices, including specific nutrients and food compounds known to selectively alter DNA methylation, are able to have such an impact on those DNA methylation patterns we know predict ageing and age-related disease," said Dr Fitzgerald. Participants followed a diet of fruits and vegetables, lean meat and fish with a high intake of nutrients such as vitamin A, C, D, curcumin and green tea. They exercised 30 minutes a day, five times a week, did stress reducing breathing exercises for 20 minutes twice a day and slept for at least seven hours every night.

Leading epigeneticist and study co-author, Moshe Szyf, said: "This study provides the first insight into the possibility of using natural alterations to target epigenetic processes and improve our wellbeing and perhaps even longevity and lifespan." Health expert Vanessa Ascencio said a healthy lifestyle, a balanced diet supported by supplements, regular exercise, stress management, relaxation, and restorative sleep are essential to living a longer and more youthful life.



Green tea extract Origine 8 is good to reverse ageing.



Rwandan students heading home for holidays from Kigali Bus Station.

INFLUENCER

Saudi actress Fatima Al-Banawi named new Cartier ambassador for the Middle East

PARIS

Actress and filmmaker Fatima Al-Banawi, who hails from Saudi Arabia, was named by Cartier as its latest ambassador for the Middle East region. Over the weekend, the French jewellery house unveiled its latest high jewellery collection, entitled Sixieme Sens par Cartier, at Lake Como in Italy. The glittering event was hosted by Cyrille Vigneron, president and chief executive of Cartier, Egyptian actress Yasmine Sabri, filmmaker Nadine Labaki, and Princess Deena Aljuhani Abdulaziz, a Saudi entrepreneur and former Vogue Arabia editor, who were all joined by Al-Banawi in her new role. One of the high jewellery pieces from the new Sixieme Sens par Cartier collection. Courtesy Cartier

Al-Banawi is not only a writer, actress and filmmaker, but she also graduated from Harvard University with a master's degree in theological studies, specialising in women, gender and Islamic studies, and holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Effat University in Jeddah. On a self-declared mission to "[unearth] personal, social and universal meanings through art", according to her website, Al-Banawi rose to fame in 2016, for her role in Barakah Meets Barakah, which showed at the Berlin International Film Festival and was Saudi Arabia's entrant for Best Foreign Language Film at the 89th Academy Awards. In 2018, she was named by Time magazine as a Next Generation Leader, for co-founding The Other Story Project in Saudi Ara-



Actress Fatima Al-Banawi attends the premiere of "Barakah Meets Barakah" at the 2016 Toronto International Film Festival at The Elgin on September 16, 2016 in Toronto, Canada.

“She’s a woman with many strings to her bow, as, in 2017, she was also selected for a Nike advertising campaign to highlight Arab pioneers, while later that same year she was involved in a Tedx event in Saudi Arabia.”

bia, which has gathered almost 5,000 true stories from strangers and turned them into productions, including short film A Blink of an Eye. More recently, her acting work has included the Egyptian Netflix series Paranormal and Al Shak (The Doubt), which she co-wrote, directed and starred in, all from her home during the pandemic in 2020, according to IMDb. She's a woman with many strings to her bow, as, in 2017, she was also selected for a Nike advertising campaign to highlight Arab pioneers, while later that same year she was involved in a Tedx event in Saudi Arabia. At the start of 2020, her first feature film project Basma was chosen by the Red Sea Festival, while her short film, Until We See the Light, was one of five films by Saudi female directors to be highlighted in a project focused on the achievements of women from the kingdom.



Scarlett Johansson revealed she will launch the beauty line in 2022.

NEW-BRAND

Scarlett Johansson to launch 'clean, accessible' beauty line come next year

NEW YORK

Scarlett Johansson is set to join the ranks of A-list stars branching into the beauty business. Following in the footsteps of Kylie Jenner, Jennifer Lopez and Jessica Alba, the actress announced she will launch a beauty line, which is expected to hit shelves next year.

The Black Widow star, 36, has not yet revealed the name of her company, but announced it will launch in 2022. "I've been fascinated by the transformative power of beauty since I was a child," Johansson told WWD fashion and beauty website.

"My mother instilled in me a passion for self-care from my early teenage years. Several years ago, I took a step back from my beauty deals with the goal of creating something true to me. The result is a clean, accessible approach to beauty." The actress has previously fronted campaigns for L'Oreal Paris and Dolce & Gabbana's fragrances and cosmetics.

Her brand will be funded by private investment firm The Najafi Companies, which also backed beauty companies by two fellow actresses: Tracee Ellis Ross's Pattern Beauty range and Millie Bobby Brown's line Florence by Mills. Johansson is teaming up with Kate Foster, who has worked on beauty lines for Victoria's Secret and Juicy Couture, to found the brand.

"I met Scarlett almost two years ago. She shared her brand vision with me and right away, I was thinking about how we could turn it into a reality," Foster told WWD. "It has been an incredible experience working alongside her and we are thrilled to have the support and partnership of The Najafi Companies to help the brand achieve its full potential."

No further details have yet been shared on what the line might contain, such as whether it will be skincare or cosmetic-based, but Foster promised the brand "fills a void in the market and addresses a true consumer need."

Johansson follows the likes of American singer Halsey, who launched her make-up line About-Face earlier this year, as well as superstar Rihanna, whose multibillion-dollar Fenty Beauty brand was first released in 2017.

“I met Scarlett almost two years ago. She shared her brand vision with me and right away, I was thinking about how we could turn it into a reality,” Foster told WWD. “It has been an incredible experience working alongside her and we are thrilled to have the support and partnership of The Najafi Companies to help the brand achieve its full potential.”



UZALO
MONDAY - FRIDAY
STARTING 7:30 PM

SATURDAY 3 July	14:15 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	12:00 Al Jazeera	11:55 Habari za saa	21:10 Mzengwe
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	14:55 Habari za saa	12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt	12:00 Al Jazeera	21:30 Kipindi Maalum: Vodacom
6:00 HABARI	15:00 Meza Huru	13:00 Dakika 45 rpt	12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco	22:00 Mjue Zaidi
6:40 Kumekucha	16:30 Watoto Wetu	14:00 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	12:55 Habari za saa	22:15 Bongo Movie:
7:00 Habari	17:00 The Base	15:00 Meza huru rpt	13:00 Jajina rpt	00:05 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
8:00 Al Jazeera	18:00 Jiji Letu	16:30 Watoto Wetu	13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt	
9:00 Watoto wetu	18:10 Abu yako rpt	17:00 The Base	13:55 Habari za saa	
10:00 Shika Bamba 5	18:15 Igizo: Mzengwe	18:00 Jiji Letu	14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt	
10:30 Mjue Zaidi rpt	18:30 DWTV: Kesho leo	18:15 Mapiishi	14:15 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	
11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt	19:00 Alya ya Jami	18:30 Ijue Sheria	14:55 Habari za saa	
12:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo	19:30 Soap: Uzalo	19:00 Kipindi Maalum: TMDA	15:00 Meza Huru	
13:00 Korean drama rpt: Jumong	20:00 Habari	19:30 Soap: Uzalo	16:00 Watoto Wetu	
13:45 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	21:05 Dakika 45	20:00 Habari	17:00 The Base (DJ Show)	
14:00 Igizo: Rebeca	22:00 Telenovela: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	21:00 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco	17:30 Kisiamu	
16:20 Igizo: Rebeca	23:00 Habari	21:30 Kipindi Maalum: Kufurika Zwa Tanganyika Katavi	18:00 Jiji Letu	
17:00 Shamsam za Pwani	23:30 The Base	22:10 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin	18:15 Mjue Zaidi rpt	
18:00 Jiji Letu	00:30 Al Jazeera	23:00 Habari	19:00 Shamba lulu	
18:15 Korean drama: Jumong	02:00 DWTV	23:30 The Base	19:30 Soap: Uzalo	
19:00 Jungu Kuu		00:30 Al Jazeera	20:00 Habari	
19:30 Shika Bamba		02:00 DWTV	21:05 Kipima Joto	
20:00 Habari			23:00 Habari	
21:00 Igizo: Rebeca			23:30 The Base	
21:30 Art and Lifestyle			00:30 Al Jazeera	
22:00 ITV TOP 10			02:00 DWTV	
22:45 Hawavumi lakini wamo				
23:45 Soap: Uzalo rpt				
00:30 DWTV				
SUNDAY 4 July				
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi				
6:00 HABARI				
6:40 Kumekucha				
7:00 Habari				
8:00 Al Jazeera				
09:00 Kipindi Maalum: Mashindano ya Kuogelea				
14:00 Tamasha la Michezo				
15:30 Mwangaza				
16:30 ITV Top 10				
17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo				
18:00 Jiji Letu				
18:15 Mapiishi				
18:30 Matukio ya wiki				
19:30 Igizo: Rebeca				
20:00 Habari				
21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko				
21:10 Mzengwe				
21:30 Kipindi Maalum: Vodacom				
22:00 Mjue Zaidi				
22:15 Bongo Movie:				
00:05 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin				
MONDAY 5 July				
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi				
6:00 HABARI				
6:40 Kumekucha				
7:30 HABARI				
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo				
8:55 Habari za saa				
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo				
9:30 Soap: Uzalo				
9:55 Habari za saa				
10:00 Watoto wetu				
10:55 Habari za saa				
11:00 ITV Top 10 rpt				
11:55 Habari za saa				
12:00 Igizo rpt: Rebeca				
12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanzania Yetu				
12:55 Habari za saa				
13:00 Mjue Zaidi				
13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt				
13:55 Habari za saa				
14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt				
TUESDAY 6 July				
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi				
6:00 HABARI				
6:40 Kumekucha				
7:30 HABARI				
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo				
8:55 Habari za saa				
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo				
9:30 Soap: Uzalo				
9:55 Habari za saa				
10:00 Watoto wetu rpt				
10:30 Jungu Kuu rpt				
10:55 Habari za saa				
11:00 The Base rpt				
11:55 Habari za saa				
12:00 Igizo rpt: Rebeca				
12:30 Alya ya jami				
12:55 Habari za saa				
13:00 Ripoti Maalum rpt: Kuzama kwa Ardi Mtwara				
13:40 Shika Bamba rpt				
13:55 Habari za saa				
14:00 Shika Bamba rpt				
14:15 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin				
14:55 Habari za saa				
15:00 Meza huru				
16:30 Watoto wetu				
17:00 The Base				
18:00 Jiji Letu				
18:10 Yu wago				
18:15 Igizo: Mzengwe rpt				
18:30 Uchumi na biashara				
19:30 Soap: Uzalo				
19:30 Soap: Uzalo				
20:00 Habari				
20:00 Kipindi Maalum: Tanzania Yetu				
21:00 Kipindi Maalum: Tanzania Yetu				
21:30 Chetu ni chetu				
22:15 Telenovela: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin				
23:00 Habari				
23:30 The Base				
00:30 Al Jazeera				
02:00 DWTV				
WEDNESDAY 7 July				
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi				
6:00 HABARI				
6:40 Kumekucha				
7:30 HABARI				
8:00 Al Jazeera				
9:00 DWTV Journal				
9:30 Soap: Uzalo				
10:00 Watoto Wetu rpt				
10:30 Uchumi na biashara rpt				
11:00 The Base rpt				
THURSDAY 8 July				
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi				
6:00 HABARI				
6:40 Kumekucha				
7:30 HABARI				
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo				
8:55 Habari za saa				
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo				
9:55 Habari za saa				
10:00 Kumekucha Kishindo				
10:30 Soap: Uzalo				
10:55 Habari za saa				
11:00 Watoto wetu rpt				
11:55 Habari za saa				
12:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: TMDA				
12:30 Ijue sheria rpt				
12:55 Habari za saa				
13:00 Shamsam za Pwani rpt				
13:55 Habari za saa				
14:00 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin				
14:55 Habari za saa				
15:00 Meza huru				
16:30 Watoto Wetu				
17:00 The Base				
18:00 Jiji Letu				
18:15 Mapiishi				
18:30 Jajina				
19:00 Usafiri wakio				
19:30 Soap: Uzalo				
20:00 Habari				
21:00 Malumbano ya hoja				
23:00 Habari				
23:30 The Base				
00:30 Al Jazeera				
02:00 DWTV				
FRIDAY 9 July				
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi				
6:00 HABARI				
6:40 Kumekucha				
7:30 HABARI				
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo				
8:55 Habari za saa				
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo				
9:30 Soap: Uzalo				
10:00 Habari za saa				
10:30 Soap: Uzalo				
10:55 Habari za saa				
11:00 The Base rpt				
SATURDAY 10 July				
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi				
6:00 HABARI				
6:40 Kumekucha				
7:00 Habari				
8:00 Al Jazeera				
9:00 Watoto wetu				
9:30 Shika Bamba 5				
10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt				
10:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt				
11:15 Habari za saa				
12:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo				
13:00 Korean drama rpt: Jumong				
13:45 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin				
14:00 Igizo rpt: Mzengwe				
16:20 Igizo: Rebeca				
17:00 Shamsam za Pwani				
18:00 Jiji Letu				
18:15 Korean drama: Jumong				
19:00 Jungu Kuu				
19:30 Shika Bamba				
20:00 Habari				
21:00 Igizo: Rebeca				
21:30 Art and lifestyle				
22:00 ITV TOP 10				
22:45 Hawavumi lakini wamo				
23:45 Soap: Uzalo rpt				
00:30 DWTV				
SUNDAY 11 July				
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi				
6:00 HABARI				
6:40 Kumekucha				
7:00 Habari				
8:00 Al Jazeera				
09:00 Watoto Wetu				
10:00 Soap: Uzalo rpt				
11:35 Bongo Movie rpt				
14:00 Tamasha la Michezo				
15:30 Mwangaza				
16:30 ITV Top 10				
17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo				
18:00 Jiji Letu				
18:15 Matukio ya wiki				
20:45 The Monday Agenda				
21:30 Capital Prime News				
22:00 Kipima Joto				
00:00 Al Jazeera				

WORLD

J&J says its COVID-19 vaccine neutralises Delta variant

BRUSSELS

JOHNSON & Johnson (J&J) said that its single-shot coronavirus vaccine neutralizes the fast-spreading Delta variant and provides durable protection against infection more broadly.

The company said in a statement Thursday that recipients of its vaccine produced strong neutralizing antibodies over the course of at least eight months against all variants including Delta, which was first seen in India and has been spreading around the globe.

"We're extremely happy, actually, and confident there's no need for the booster at the moment and we're protected against different strains," said Johan Van Hoof, J&J's global head of infectious diseases and vaccines, in an interview.

The shot neutralized the Delta variant within 29 days of a first dose, and protection matured and improved over time, the company said.

With the latest data in hand, Van Hoof said J&J doesn't believe people who have been given its vaccine should need a booster within a year of having gotten it. "And if a boost is needed," he said, "we don't think we'll need to change the formulation."

Global tally

Coronavirus cases worldwide exceeded 182.65 million while the global death toll topped 3.95 million, according to data compiled by Johns Hopkins University.

EU

Europe's drug regulator said on Thursday



This March 6, 2021 file photo shows vials of Johnson & Johnson's COVID-19 vaccine at a pharmacy in Denver, the United States. (AP)

the COVID-19 vaccines approved in the European Union (EU) offered protection against all coronavirus variants, including Delta, but called for active monitoring by vaccine manufacturers to stay alert.

"Emerging data from real-world evidence are showing that two doses of vaccines are protective against the Delta variant, and data from the laboratories are showing that the antibodies from the vaccines are able to neutralize the Delta variant too, so this is reassuring news," said Marco Cavaleri, European Medicines Agency's (EMA) head of vaccine strategy, during a press briefing.

The EMA is also studying whether the double dose of the vaccine was enough to protect or whether a booster dose was required, according to Cavaleri.

Currently, the EU has four COVID-19 vaccines authorized: those from Pfizer and BioNTech, AstraZeneca and Johnson & Johnson.

Also on Thursday, the EU's Digital COVID Certificate officially came into force, allowing EU citizens and residents to have their pass issued and verified across the bloc.

The certificate will facilitate travel, helping to exempt holders from restrictions such as quarantine.

US adds Turkey to list of countries using child soldiers

WASHINGTON

THE United States on Thursday added Turkey to a list of countries that are implicated in the use of child soldiers over the past year, placing a NATO ally for the first time in such a list, in a move that is likely to further complicate the already fraught ties between Ankara and Washington.

The US State Department determined in its 2021 Trafficking in Persons (TIP) that Turkey was providing "tangible support" to the Sultan Murad division in Syria, a faction of Syrian opposition that Ankara has long, supported and a group that Washington said recruited and used child soldiers.

There was no immediate reaction from Turkey on the move. In a briefing call with reporters, a senior State Department official also made a reference to the use of child soldiers in Libya, saying Washington was hoping to work with Ankara on the issue to address it.

"With respect to Turkey in particular...this is the first time a NATO member has been listed in the child soldier prevention act list," the State Department official said. "As a respected regional leader and member of NATO, Turkey has the opportunity to address this issue - the recruitment and use of child soldiers in Syria and Libya," she said.

Turkey has carried out three cross-border operations in Syria against the so-called Islamic State, as well as US-backed Kurdish militia and has frequently used factions of armed Syrian fighters on top of its own forces.

Some of these groups have been accused by human rights groups and the United Nations of indiscriminately attacking civilians and carrying out kidnappings and lootings. The United Nations had asked Ankara to rein in these Syrian rebels while Turkey rejected the allegations, calling them 'baseless'.

Turkey, through proxies and its own armed forces, has also been involved in the Libyan conflict. Ankara's support has helped the Tripoli-based government reverse a 14-month assault from eastern forces backed by Egypt and Russia.

Governments placed on this list are subject to restrictions, according to the State Department report, on certain security assistance and commercial licensing of military equipment, absent a presidential waiver.

It was not immediately clear whether any restrictions would automatically apply to Turkey and the move raised questions whether it could derail Ankara's ongoing nego-

Russian Embassy in US rejects allegations in involvement in cyberattacks

WASHINGTON

THE Russian Embassy in Washington rejected the alleged involvement of Russian state structures in cyberattacks on various objects in the United States and beyond, contained in a joint document of US and UK special services published on Thursday.

"We strictly deny the involvement of Russian government agencies in attacks on government and private facilities in the United States and abroad", the statement said.

According to the statement, "We emphasize that fighting against cybercrime is an inherent priority for Russia and an integral part of its state policy to combat all forms of crime. A wide range of law enforcement instruments is used for its implementation.

Given the global nature of cyber threats which recently have increasingly become a challenge to strategic stability, the most effective way to combat them is to ensure active interaction between relevant state agencies of the two countries".

"On September 25, 2020, President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin proposed a comprehensive program of measures to restore Russian-American cooperation in the area of international information security.

Among other things, it was proposed to maintain continuous and effective channels of communication between the competent authorities of the two countries," the embassy recalled.

The Russian Embassy hopes that "the American side will abandon the practice of unfounded accusations and focus on professional work with Russian experts to strengthen international information security, and in this context, on joint efforts to combat cybercrime.

Besides, it's high time to put things in order on the American soil, from where constant attacks on critical infrastructure in Russia emerge".

Earlier on Thursday, the US National Security Agency, the US National Cyber Security Division, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the UK National Cybersecurity Center published a joint document claiming that Russia's Main Intelligence Directorate "from early 2019 to early 2021" carried out hundreds of cyberattack attempts around the world against government and private targets. The Russian side has repeatedly denied involvement in any malicious activity in cyberspace.

Xi's speech is testimony to CPC's achievements, confidence

HONG KONG AND WANG XU IN TOKYO

THE remarks of top leader Xi Jinping at the centenary celebration of the Communist Party of China on July 1 testify to China's success under the leadership of the CPC and its will to fulfil people's mandate for national rejuvenation, experts say.

In a keynote speech during the commemoration ceremony marking the CPC centenary at Tian'anmen Square in Beijing, Xi, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, announced: "Through the continued efforts of the whole Party and the entire nation, we have realized the first centenary goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects... and we are now marching in confident strides toward the second centenary goal of building China into a great modern socialist country in all respects."

Oh Ei Sun, senior fellow at the Singapore Institute of International Affairs, said that China has set a good example for the rest of the developing world. "China has become a moderately prosperous society. That's no small feat for a developing country which has the world's largest population."

Noting Xi mentioned that China would continue to work with countries under the aegis of the Belt and Road Initiative, Oh said this is a "welcome development" and he hopes that China will double its trade and investments with its neighbors.

George Siy, chairman emeritus of Association of Young Chinese-Filipino Entrepreneurs in Manila, said "China under the Communist Party of China is proving to be one of humanity's greatest miracle

stories and a viable, dynamic model of development for nations around the world."

"His direct message of guidance and inspiration to the youth signals that although much challenges remain, there's much optimism to look forward to," said Siy. "Inevitably this will have a reverberating effect on the rest of the world, and if done correctly, will usher in new models, levels of development and progress for billions more people around the world."

China has, thus emerged as a confident, determined and committed nation with the realization of the first centenary goal of becoming a "moderately prosperous society", said Karori Singh, Emeritus Fellow and former director of the South Asia Studies Centre at the University of Rajasthan in India, adding that Xi's oration is "full of confidence, applause, determination and commitment of the Chinese society".

"China's success hinges on the CPC," said Kin Phea, director general of the International Relations Institute of Cambodia at the Royal Academy of Cambodia. He said Xi's speech attached great importance to the role of the CPC and the unity between the CPC and Chinese people, both at home and overseas, as a mighty force to bring about the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation.

"Over the last century, the CPC has remained true to its original aspiration and mission of pursuing the well-being of the Chinese people, leading them in an arduous and never-ending struggle that has resulted in fundamental changes not only in the destiny and future of the Chinese people and nation, but also in the destiny and future of the peoples



Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission, delivers an important speech at a ceremony marking the 100th anniversary of the founding of the CPC in Beijing on Thursday. (Xinhua)

and nations in the region and the world," said Phea. Haruo Nishihara, former president of Waseda University in Japan, said the development of China is a constant work in progress and he is lucky to be a witness of it. "I have visited China 89 times and have seen the transformations of many places, from rural to urban society," the 93-year-old legal scholar and educator said.

Nishihara said numerous CPC members are leading the way forward and what gives each new generation purpose is to take up the unfinished work of the previous one and to carry it further than anyone might have thought possible.

Xi, also Chinese president and chairman of the Central Military Commission, said China welcomes helpful suggestions, but will not accept sanctimonious preaching.

Xi said the Chinese people will never allow any foreign force to bully, oppress, or subjugate them. "Anyone who would attempt to do so will find themselves on a collision course with a great wall of steel forged by over 1.4 billion

Chinese people," he said.

Henry Chan, visiting senior research fellow at the Cambodian Institute for Cooperation and Peace, a think tank in Phnom Penh, said the most important message is that any attempt to split the CPC from the Chinese people will not work. "The CPC is going to lead the Chinese people to fulfil the historical mandate that the people expect," he said.

"The message is very clear that the Chinese people are determined. In the face of foreign challenge, they are confident that the Chinese way of socialism is going to work," said Chan.

Singh in India said it is clear from Xi's speech that "China will never allow any sectional or spatial divide to flourish and thus emphasized rejuvenation of the Chinese nation."

"Moreover, China has a clear perspective of revitalizing different sectors of the economy and harmonizing diverse perspectives to realize the second centenary goal of modern advanced prosperous society before the given time line," Singh said.

"The success of China's development model under the 100 years of the CPC is a model for developing countries like the Philippines," said Austin Ong, founding president of the Philippines-China Friendship Club, noting the Southeast Asian country is also a direct beneficiary of China's global role and good-neighbor policies.

"The 21st century challenges will need a whole-of-humanity approach that no one country can solve alone. China's role under CPC leadership will be more important than ever for the world to recover and progress together," said Ong.

Irfan Shahzad Takalvi, founding president of the Eurasian Century Institute, a think tank based in Islamabad, said the speech showed the confidence of the CPC. "This confidence is about having a very successful, viable, workable and feasible model for the governance of a state," he said.

"Without the CPC, there would be no new China and profound transformation of the Chinese nation," said Talat Shabbir, director of the China-Pakistan Study Centre at the Institute of Strategic Studies, Islamabad.

"Xi's speech is manifestation of CPC's achievement for a powerful and prosperous China," he said, noting Xi highlighted that the Party has addressed the issue of eliminating poverty in China, which is a major contribution to mankind.

"The CPC as a party is a huge example to cite and its achievements are undoubtedly commendable," said Shabbir. "If China wishes to move ahead and lead the world, it needs to continue the path set by CPC and its dynamic leadership." **Xinhua**

CPC member spent 36 years carving through mountains to bring water to his village

HUANG Dafa, a member of the Communist Party of China (CPC), has spent 36 years building a canal in Caowangba village, Zunyi, southwest China's Guizhou province, solving water shortage that had hindered the village's development for generations.

Hidden within mountain ranges, Caowangba village (now Tuanjie village under Bozhou district of Zunyi) had long been troubled by water shortage, a crucial reason why locals were trapped in poverty.

For thousands of years, the local people mainly lived on

corn, and rice was a luxury only for special occasions like the Chinese Lunar New Year, for there was not enough water to sustain the crop, as suggested by a well-known ballad in the village.

Huang (pictured) was born in Caowangba village in 1935. He joined the CPC when he was 23 years old, and was elected as the chief of the village in the same year. It was at that time that he promised to build a canal for the village. Since then, the official had led his fellow villagers in struggling to open up a water channel deep in the moun-

tains.

However, building a canal in the mountainous village was easier said than done. Due to the lack of technology and equipment, they simply conducted measurement with the help of bamboo poles; without cement, they used yellow mud on trench walls instead; and as no floodway or canal cover was built, the fragile canal would be easily ruined by floodwater.

Despite such challenges, Huang hadn't intended to give up. Instead, he learned water conservancy knowledge and technologies on his



own and from others. Whenever he heard there were reservoir and ditch projects under construction in other regions, he would rush there to seek experience.

In the spring of 1992, Huang led villagers into the mountains again for the construction of the canal. He would march into the mountains together with a team of over 200 people almost every day. A construction team drilled grooves in cliffs in the front, while villagers carried earth to build retaining walls in the back.

The hard work of Huang

and his fellow villagers eventually paid off. In 1995, the 7,200-meter-long canal, with 2,200 meters of branches, began to supply water. It passes through three mountains, three precipices, and three cliffs, and spans three villages and more than 10 villagers' groups.

On the day when the canal was officially put into use, local people crowded around it, and celebrated the hard-won success with rapturous applause, firecrackers, and a hearty feast. For villagers in Caowangba, a millennia-long dream finally came true.

When villagers asked Huang to give a speech, he was so overwhelmed with emotions that he stood there in silence for a long while and couldn't help but shed tears of happiness and excitement.

Thanks to their strenuous efforts, villagers in Caowangba have managed to draw water from the canal, build terraced fields, and gradually shake off poverty. Today, as their income grows with each passing day, they are marching toward a happier and more comfortable life.

People's Daily

The culmination of one century is the start of the next

IN 1921, 13 people met in Shanghai. Representing a little over 50 people across China who believed that communism would save the country, they formed one of the many political parties or forces hoping to stitch a divided China back together.

One hundred years later, as Chinese President Xi Jinping and the leadership of the Communist Party of China (CPC) gathered at Tian'anmen Square in Beijing on Thursday, the CPC is the world's largest political party with more than 95 million members.

It has transformed China from a nation on the brink of collapse to the second largest economy in the world. Under its leadership, China moved from the periphery of international affairs to the center of it, inspiring admiration in some and apprehension in others.

The past century of evolution has been by no means smooth. From being a party seeking a place within China's political discourse, arming itself against foreign invasion, fighting and winning a civil war and ultimately to governance, it has been a trial-and-error process in which the Party shifted its policies and incorporated modern mechanism into governance.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been the latest test. The entire nation was mobilized to suppress the virus's spread.

More than 39 million CPC members stood at the front line against the virus. Thirteen million volunteered. Nearly 400

members lost their lives.

People are the heart of the Party's political power. It is a piece of wisdom and a commitment made on that fateful day in 1921.

The prosperity and welfare of the general public is what drives the Party and its policies. The country's social security system has now covered more than 1.3 billion people. In 2021, the country has rid itself of extreme poverty.

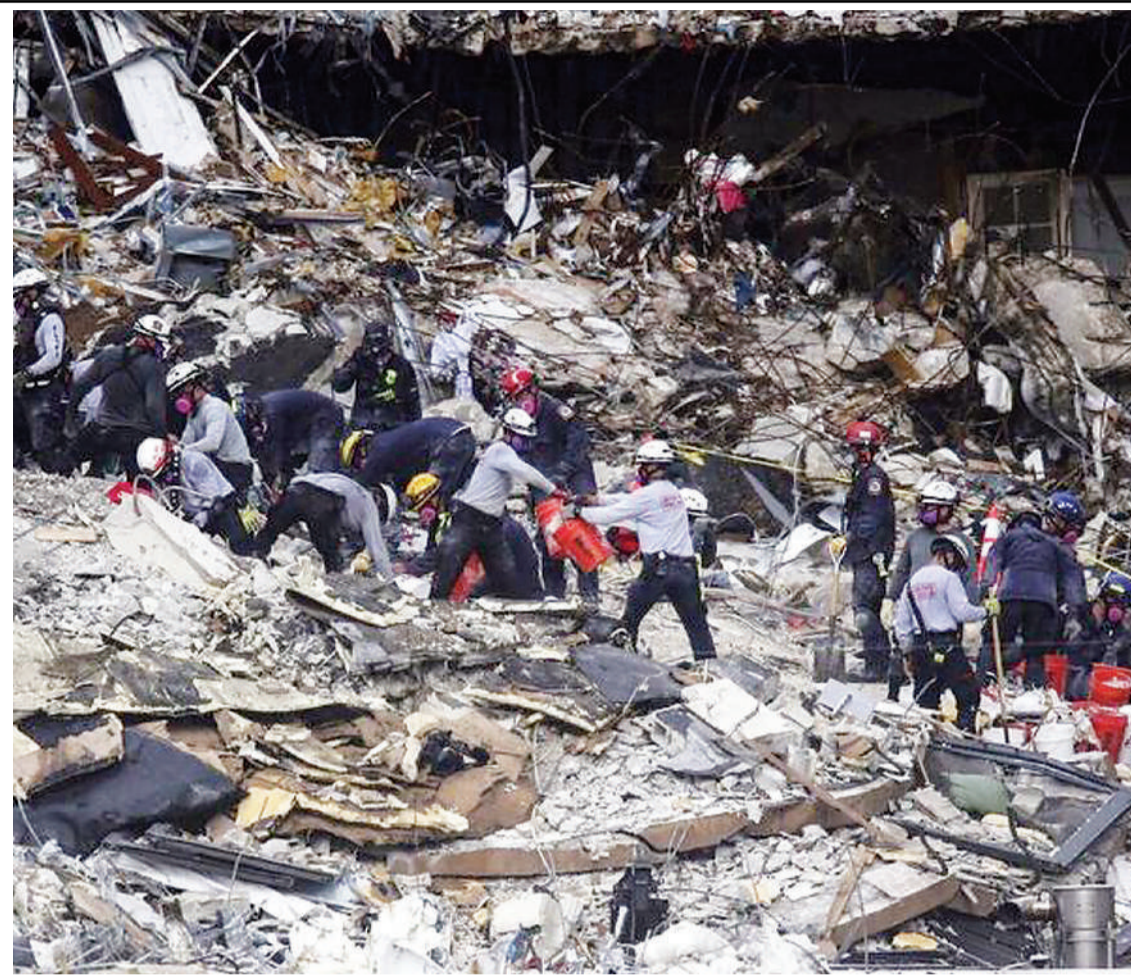
The number of Chinese people lifted out of poverty in the past decades account for more than 70 percent of the global total.

As President Xi noted in his speech on Thursday, it is a "historical resolution" to a long-standing problem in China.

The people-centered political philosophy and an efficient and adapting government that can mobilize quickly in the face of unanticipated events are what sustain the CPC's popularity with the public.

A Harvard study spanning a couple of decades finds satisfaction with the central government among the Chinese people is much higher than U.S. citizens' support for their government.

While many confuse the centralized authority with authoritarian rule, or distort the CPC as unresponsive to the public's demand, the Party and the government have found their footing in leading China in a way that is different to any model of governance in the world. **CGTN**



Search and rescue teams look for survivors at the Champlain Towers South residential condo in Surfside, Florida, June 29, 2021. (AP). We ran this photo but with the wrong caption in yesterday's issue, an error we sincerely regret. EDITOR

World Bank financing for COVID-19 vaccine rollout for developing countries exceeds 4 billion USD

KAMPALA

THE World Bank announced Wednesday that it is providing over 4 billion U.S. dollars for the purchase and deployment of COVID-19 vaccines for 51 developing countries, half of which are in Africa.

According to a statement posted on the global financing institution's website, more than half of the financing comes from the International Development Association, the Bank's fund for the world's poorest countries, and is on grant or highly concessional terms.

Since the start of the pandemic, read the statement, "the World Bank Group has approved more than 150 billion dollars to fight the health, economic, and social impacts of the pandemic."

The financing package is flexible and countries can use the money to acquire doses through COVAX, the Africa Vaccine Acquisition Task Team (AVATT), or other sources, it said.

The finances can also be used to strengthen the health systems such as vaccine cold chains, training health workers, data and information systems, and communications and outreach campaigns to ensure vaccination acceptance.

According to the statement, the World Bank is partnering with the African Union and the Africa Centers for Disease Control (Africa CDC) to support the AVATT initiative with resources to allow countries to purchase and deploy vaccines for up to 400 million people across Africa.

Ethiopia's Tigray isolated, hindering humanitarian access - UN

UNITED NATIONS

ETHIOPIA'S Tigray region is isolated and unpredictable with no flights or road transportation in or out and electricity and telecommunications cut, UN humanitarians

said on Thursday.

"Major towns, including Mekelle, Adigrat, Adwa, Axum and Shire, remain calm, but there are unconfirmed reports of clashes in the southern and northwestern zones," the UN Office for the Coordination

of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said. "Despite this, humanitarian partners continue to operate, in line with humanitarian principles," OCHA said. "The UN Migration Agency delivered fuel to operate water pumps, as well as firewood

for cooking in a few displacement sites in the Mekelle area, benefiting several thousand people," said Eri Kaneko, associate spokeswoman for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. "The United Nations and its humanitarian partners continue

to bring water into Shire and displacement sites in Mekelle," she told reporters at a regular briefing. An international non-governmental organization provides medical services in Samre town, in the southeastern zone.

Chinese farmer creates 'green Great Wall' in desert

SHI Guangyin, a farmer in Dingbian county, Yulin city, northwest China's Shaanxi province, has recently received the July 1 Medal, the highest honor in the Communist Party of China (CPC), for his outstanding contributions to desertification control.

Residents in Yulin had long been plagued by heavy winds, floating sand, and barren land mainly due to the Maowusu Desert, China's eighth largest desert, located between Yulin city and Ordos of north China's Inner Mongolia autonomous region. The desert accounts for 56.1 percent of the area of Yulin city.

In the 1950s, local people in Yulin started to tame the desert by afforestation. So far, 93.24 percent of the desertified land in the city has been put under control, all the 8.6 million mu (about 573,333 hectares) of quicksand in the city has been fixed or semi-fixed, and large areas of exposed sand can barely be spotted now, to which Shi has contributed a considerable part.

At the beginning of 1984, after China rolled out policies to encourage individuals to sign contracts with the government to combat desertification, Shi entered into a contract with the local government for desertification control of 3,000 mu of land, becoming the first person who signed such a contract in Yulin.

Over the past more than 30 years, a group of local people led by Shi have braved innumerable trials and hardships and planted and kept alive



Shi Guangyin, an exemplary individual who leads efforts in afforestation and combating desertification in northwest China's Shaanxi province, checks pinus sylvestris in a shelter forest. (File photo)

more than 53 million arbors and shrubs in 250,000 mu of barren sand and alkali beaches, finally building a "green Great Wall" that stretches more than 50 kilometers at the south of the Maowusu Desert.

The "green Great Wall" has completely changed the harsh natural conditions of the area and yielded significant social, ecological, and economic benefits.

While fighting desertification, Shi has also tried to help families in straitened circumstances and bring benefits to local residents. He came up with over 1.2 million yuan (\$185,760) to build two schools and an ecological relocation village, and provide financial assistance for more than 300 households.

Because of his contributions and devotion to desertification control, Shi has been awarded honorary titles including China's "national

model worker," "national desertification control hero" as well as "outstanding farmer" by Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. He is also called "Uncle in the Desert" by local people.

For desertification control, Shi and his family moved to Sidahao village, with the largest area of barren sand in Haiziliang township of Dingbian, in 1984, and began planting trees there. Although over 85 percent of the trees he planted survived that year, 90 percent of the saplings were swallowed by wind erosion and sandstorm merely one year or two later.

Instead of being discouraged by the setbacks, Shi realized that he was being foolhardy to start off for the task with only enthusiasm but the right methods. He therefore consulted technicians at the forestry bureau of Dingbian about desertification treatment, and learned from the

experience of Hengshan district of Yulin and other places in controlling sand.

After acquiring and adopting scientific methods, Shi and his team set up 800 kilometers of sand-protecting barriers on 6,000 mu of barren sand, and eventually brought the survival rate of the saplings they planted above 80 percent.

By the end of 2004, the 250,000 mu of barren sand and alkali beaches Shi had been working on had seen a grass and forest coverage of over 90 percent, reflecting effective management.

After 2000, considering that the shrubwoods he planted before have a short lifespan and low economic and ornamental value, Shi started to transform such low-yielding forests. He has so far planted over one million high-quality species, which are mainly pinus sylvestris.

To make desertification control be carried on for generations, Shi set up a company that adheres to a development strategy featuring controlling and utilizing barren sand and follows a path that links the company with rural households and various bases, aiming to increase people's income while fighting desertification.

With such strategy and path, Shi established more than ten economic entities, including pasture, dairy farm, purified water factory, as well as tourist attraction. His company now sees an annual income of over 3.4 million yuan from ecological subsidies and economic benefits of plants grown under trees. **People's Daily**

Russia expects Iran nuclear deal to be back in effect before July 14, says spokeswoman

MOSCOW

RUSSIA expects that the talks on the return of the US to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) will be successfully completed by the sixth anniversary of the Iran nuclear deal - July 14, Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova told a briefing on Thursday.

According to her, sizable progress has been seen at the talks on the Iran nuclear deal in Vienna.

"Over these three months, the delegations have managed to achieve substantial progress in coordinating the parameters and modalities of the process to restore the JCPOA.

They also managed to determine the response and the sequence of the moves that the US and Iran are to make, as well as to analyze how the corresponding commitments will be for-



malized and their checks ensured," she added.

Along with the revision of restrictions against Iran imposed by the US, it is a priority to "restore as soon as possible the verifying activity of the IAEA in Iran to the degree envisaged by the Joint Plan of Action," she said.

These agreements have no sensible alternative, "and without them security measures are getting more vulnerable," the diplomat stressed.

Meanwhile, no practical moves are seen from the US for now of abandoning its policy of pressuring Iran, Zakharova added.

The future of the Iran nuclear deal was called in

question after the United States' unilateral pullout in May 2018 and Washington's unilateral oil export sanctions against Teheran.

Iran argued that all other participants, Europeans in the first place, were ignoring some of their own obligations in the economic sphere, thus making the deal in its current shape senseless.

This said, it began to gradually scale down its commitments under the deal.

Iran and the international quintet have been holding face-to-face talks in Vienna since April on restoring the Iranian nuclear agreement to its original shape: the lifting of US sanctions from Iran and Washington's return to the deal.

Also, participants in the JCPOA have been holding separate consultations with the US delegation without Iran taking part.

EU Digital COVID Certificate officially comes into force

BRUSSELS

THE European Union's Digital COVID Certificate officially came into force on Thursday, allowing EU citizens and residents to have their pass issued and verified across the bloc.

By Wednesday evening, 21 out of the 27 EU member states, as well as Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein, were connected to the system's network while the others were technically ready and joined the system on

Thursday.

Some countries already began using the new health certificate in June. According to the European Commission, all member states should now be in a position to issue and accept the pass.

The EU Digital COVID Certificate is free and should be recognized by all 27 member states as well as Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Iceland and Norway.

The certificate will facilitate travel, helping to exempt holders from restric-

tions such as quarantine.

The EU had said it was in talks with several other countries, such as Britain and the United States, over mutual recognition and operation of COVID-related documents.

The certificate applies in three situations: it attests whether a person has been vaccinated against COVID-19, whether they have had a recent negative test, or whether they are considered immune having previously contracted the disease.

Global tax overhaul endorsed by 130 nations as deal gets closer

BY BLOOMBERG

THE world took a big step toward sweeping changes to global taxation as 130 countries and jurisdictions endorsed setting a minimum rate for corporations along with rules to share the spoils from multinational firms like Facebook Inc and Alphabet Inc's Google.

After years of missteps and setbacks, the deal brokered in negotiations at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development sets the stage for Group

of 20 finance ministers to sign off on an agreement in principle at a meeting in Venice next week.

That could mean implementation as soon as 2023 of rules that would curtail tax avoidance by making multinational companies pay an effective rate of "at least 15 percent" and give smaller countries more tax revenue from foreign firms.

A "small group" of nations "have not yet joined"

the plan, the Paris-based OECD said in a statement Thursday. That includes Hungary and Ireland, which has attracted some of the world's big businesses with low taxes.

Several key countries that had been question marks agreed to the terms, including India and Turkey, according to the OECD. The technical details may leave room for further concessions to developing econo-

mies.

The broad agreement Thursday averts another stumble that could have proved fatal for efforts to rework tax rules, given only a short window of opportunity to get a global deal approved by the US Congress and other national parliaments.

'Fair Share'

US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen lauded the news,

saying it was "an historic day for economic diplomacy."

Yellen, in a statement Thursday, declared that an international "race to the bottom" on corporate tax rates that robbed countries of revenue needed for infrastructure, education and other needs had moved a step closer to ending.

"In the United States, this agreement will ensure

that corporations shoulder a fair share of that burden," she said. "We have a chance now to build a global and domestic tax system that lets American workers and businesses compete and win in the world economy."

The absence of Ireland and Hungary from the deal could yet create problems for the European Union to implement the plans. Ireland's finance minister

Paschal Donohoe said last month that any deal on a minimum rate must meet the needs of "small and large countries, developed and developing."

French Finance Minister Bruno Le Maire said he would spend the coming week before the G-20 meeting redoubling his efforts to convince reluctant European countries to "make the necessary efforts to join an historic agreement that very broadly brings together the states of the planet."

Agencies

SPORT



Yanga's attacker, Fiston Abdoulrazack. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

Yanga striker says ready to take on Simba SC

By Correspondent Ismail Tano
YANGA striker, Fiston Abdoul Razack, has said that he is well prepared for their Premier League game against Simba SC and is looking to tormenting the later.

Fiston's statement has come ahead of the top flight match between the traditional rivals, which takes place this Saturday at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

In the top-flight's first phase tie bringing together the teams, they were locked to 1-1 draw.

Fiston noted: "I'm safe, I have no problem, I keep praying to God to be safe on the day of the match to help my team come out victorious."

He stated: "I am confident my team will post victory because we are well prepared and we are confident."

Yanga's leadership has also made it clear that their side will notch victory against Simba due to preparations they have made while urging their traditional hometowns not to change the tie's kick off time.

It should be noted that the July 3 match was originally scheduled for May 8 but it was canceled after the Tanzania Football Federa-

tion (TFF) stated that there was a change of kick off time.

The May 8 match was scheduled to kick off at 5pm but just hours before the game was played, an information from TFF through the information officer, Clifford Ndimbo, stated that the game's kick off time had been moved to 7pm.

Yanga made it clear that they will not play, since it was against the rules.

Yanga spokesperson, Antonio Nugaz, has made it clear that they are not afraid of Simba but the important thing is kick off time should not be changed.

The official revealed: "We hardly doubt our squad and in our remaining matches we believe that we will do well without any doubt."

"The main thing is that they do not change the kick off time, they ought to follow the procedure that has been set and there are no margins," he said.

In the league standings, Yanga, led by head coach, Nasreddine Nabi, is sitting second with 67 points while Simba leads the rest with 73 points.

Seven clubs for national junior swimming championships

By Guardian Reporter
SWIMMERS from seven clubs today compete in the national junior championships at the Champion Rise swimming pool in Dar es Salaam.

The championships will feature 157 swimmers according to Tanzania Swimming Association (TSA) secretary general, Inviolata Itatiro.

Inviolata mentioned the clubs as Dar es Salaam Swimming Club (DSC), Bluefins, Taliss, FK Blue Marlins, Lake Swim Club, Mwanza Swimming Club and Champion Rise.

The swimmers will compete in various swimming styles in different age categories.

She said there will be four age categories for swimmers to compete in the event.

The categories, U-7, 8-9 years, 10-11 years, and 12 years, are eligible for the event that has been sponsored by Kilombero Sugar Company Limited, Tanga Fresh and Super Doll.

She said Freestyle, Backstroke, Butterfly, Breaststroke and Individual Medley are styles that would be contested by the swimmers.

Apart from the individual events, the swimmers will compete in relay to make the total of 82 disciplines.

To spice up the event, TSA has included open age events to enable younger swimmers of different ages to show their ability by competing against older ones.

There will also be an open 400m and open 200m Freestyle swimming for girls and boys, as well as a 200m Individual Medley.

"All preparations are complete and we are expecting to see thrilling event due to the fact that most of the swimmers have been prepared very

well and ready to compete," Inviolata noted.

"Points will be allocated for the first-to-10th winners. The top swimmer will get 20 points, second-16 points, third-14 points, fourth-12 points, fifth-10 points, sixth-eight points, seventh-six points, eighth-four points, ninth-two points, and 10th-one point," she said.

She said swimming coaches have been busy training their swimmers, some of whom are out and out to break 80 national swimming records.

According to Inviolata, the event further gears towards introducing up-and-coming swimmers to competitive swimming, and providing them with experience.

She disclosed the TSA has also adopted the maximum-possible number of disciplines to help in gauging the skills of up-and-coming swimmers.

She also said that TSA has organized the juniors event to promote the sport, as well as give international exposure and experience to budding swimmers.

This will also help the swimmers to improve their personal best (PB) times.

"The competition is a continuation of TSA's mission to promote swimming in Tanzania," Inviolata said.

According to her, trophies will be presented to the top three swimmers in each age group, while medals will be given to the top three swimmers.

The medals are Gold, Silver and Bronze for the first, second and third-placed swimmers respectively.

SPORTS

Challenge of three arch rivals ties make or break for Yanga's organizational resolve

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

OFFICIALDOM and fan-zone in the Jangwani Street outfit's fraternity are facing a severe test, an exam the sort of which rarely comes around with similar intensity, namely an enthralling prospect of three matches with archrivals Simba SC lodged at the end of the street, at Msimbazi.

The club house beehive has done all it could to avoid eye contact with Simba lest it blinks first, as eye contacts are proving to be fraught with dangers of failing to live up to expectations of putting up not just a challenge but even undo expectations.

With their rivals that prospect is off the table but it is paining to imagine how dearly Yanga wish for it.

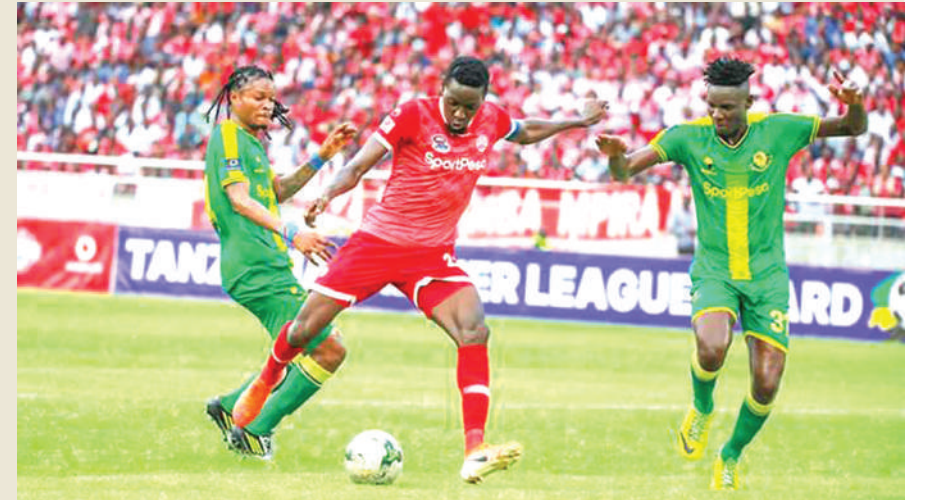
Thus the psychological situation at Jangwani Street has been pained and paradoxical in the least, first wishing that they meet with their end of the street rivals in the hope of 'teaching them a lesson,' and then when opportunity came up in the regular league fixture slightly over a month ago, they zealously grabbed an opportunity for a no-show.

The quizzing as to why the soccer federation postponed the match was simply disingenuous, avoiding the one simple reality that a major state event would have been disturbed by having the two sides on the pitch, grabbing attention from the proceedings. A change of kick off came.

To ascertain that the club leadership had actually grabbed a chance to run away from the pitch, a club spokesman started a minor furor that Yanga will not field a team on July 3, for any reasons he would have wished to cite, but hopefully the Morrison saga wasn't an aspect of his reasoning.

His colleagues or rather seniors soon denied his affirmations and it was clear the match would proceed as expected, the only issue being as much certainty on the part of the fans that they shall win over Simba, just as Simba fans were debating, after the return match with Kaizer Chiefs why they failed to score five goals, who erred or why!

At the moment Yanga fans and leadership are battling with contesting sentiments - not ideas, really - as to how the club should be organized, since the old fashioned sponsorship model is by and



Simba SC forward, John Bocco (C), takes a shot in front of Yanga's midfielder, Papy Tshishimbi (L), and defender, Said Juma, in a previous season's Vodacom Premier League's duel, which took place in Dar es Salaam. Yanga won 1-0.

large finished.

It was a situation where city businessmen pour cash into the club, apart from premier league proceedings, and the club leadership has the use of the cash, answerable only to their executive committee and finally the fans or members.

It is such that the furnisher of funds is expected to feel privileged to be known among the fans and his name being cited in talking shops at street corners or airwaves, and on no account is it conceivable that he demands accountability. How can 'the people' be answerable to a few capitalists?

This is precisely the traditional mood in the club, where for instance in 1975 the club was torn between 'raizoni' and 'kandambili,' that is, high-sole (male) shoes and slippers, in short, between the 'haves' and the 'have-nots.'

The popular epithet 'people's team' underlines this same divide, where members elect leaders and they respond to them, not a situation - as is now nearly becoming the reality - where they merely elect board members.

That is why, despite impressions that the club is gearing towards adopting a company format, this epithet underlines that all is not well, but there may be no way out, so they adopt it.

Thus the three matches that the city rivals are going to play, unless 'the people's team' refuses to play the second or third fixture (first in the league, then the FA Cup final, followed by the pre-season Charity Cup encounter) are likely to be the big moment in deciding how the club will be run.

The better the show that the Yanga side will put up in the first and then the other two matches, the more convincing the leadership will be to the fans, that is, to continue with a semblance of the present form of organization.

Conversely, the heavier the club side is punished on

the pitch, the less convincing the leadership will be, and thus it paves the way for a company format to be adopted, as any thorough beating shall discredit the leadership.

Yet it is also possible that this first match decides nearly everything - that people make up their minds in such a way that it becomes difficult to change them later.

But that will follow precisely the same logic, in that if the match is battled to a draw the leadership will have won, or if it is marginally defeated there will be things to say about the referee, TFF, etc.

But if the margin is significant the leadership will be sitting on a dry branch, and any of these results will not only affect the mood in coming marches but also the mood about the leadership being affected by coming matches.

As Yanga have an adversary in the Simba forward Bernard Morrison, the chances of this being an animated encounter with thrills, tears, are higher.

Dar es Salaam Derby: Can Yanga delay Simba SC coronation?

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AFTER last weekend's thrilling Federation Cup semi-finals, the focus returns to Vodacom Premier League with an enormous top of the table tie between Yanga and Simba SC, nicknamed 'Dar es Salaam Derby'.

Simba SC can wrap up the Premier League title if they overcome Yanga at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam today.

The permutations have long been clear. Beat rivals Yanga at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium this Saturday and Simba will be crowned Premier League champions for the fourth time in a row.

It is a prospect to send shivers down the spine of Yanga fans and, conversely, one Simba fans will be desperate to realize.

Simba spokesman, Haji Manara, has upped the ante by requesting their rivals to remain behind after the final whistle to give the champions a guard of honour.

"I also hope after the game, Yanga will remain on the pitch to give champions of Tanzania Simba a guard of honour," Manara boastfully stated in a pre-match press interview ahead of the derby.

For any Simba fan, the prospect of wrapping up the Premier League title at home against their bitter rivals is a tasty prospect. Could there be a better way?

It would not top the triumph of 2012, that 5-0 historic triumph in the last day of the season remains the biggest derby defeat in recent times. But it would come mighty close.

Simba with their aesthetically-pleasing, dominating style of football are just waiting to be crowned champions, and the fixture schedule happens to be against Yanga at the first possibility is a rare opportunity.

Yanga made a better fist of challenging Simba this season than Azam FC but, with a potential twelve-point gap to make up, have failed to exert any real



Simba SC winger, Luis Miquissone (C), negotiates his way past Yanga's wingers, Farid Mussa (L) and Tuisila Kisinda, when the clubs locked horns in a Vodacom Premier League (VPL) clash held at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam in 2020. The teams settled for 1-1 draw. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

pressure on coach Didier Gomes' side.

A win for Yanga would end their rival's unbeaten run of 22 matches, in all likelihood even a win for coach Mohamed Nabi's side would not be enough to end the procession to the title that is happening at Msimbazi Street side.

It would, however, delay and avoid the guard of honour scenario. If nothing else that offers plenty of motivation for Yanga.

Deep down and away from the usual derby bragging, Yanga are more concerned with keeping hold of second place from Azam FC in the race for CAF Champions League qualification.

Only three points separate them from Azam FC as they look set to consolidate the second-place position.

For coach Nabi, it also opens up an opportunity. Victory would, at the very least, give Nabi something to point to, the smallest of consolation prizes for the wounded Yanga fans to grasp.

It also buys him time. After losing his first big game against Azam FC, the Tu-

nisian coach knows he would be walking on a thin line if he suffers a second straight big game loss.

Nabi's men are ending the season strongly. They are unbeaten in their last six matches, winning five in a row after the 1-0 loss to Azam FC.

They are in the final of the Federation Cup, preparing to face Simba at Lake Tanganyika Stadium in Kigoma on July 25. And the team is beginning to gel.

Waziri Junior scored his first Yanga goal in almost six months in his outfit's thrilling 3-2 win over Mwadui FC last month.

Midfielder Feisal Salum is excelling for both club and country, providing a creative link for the team and finally adding offensive contributions to his game.

Yanga would also draw inspiration from the fact that they have not lost to Simba in the two derbies this season.

The last two Dar Derby matches ended in a stalemate and, in spite of Simba being the better team on paper, both were cagey games with few clear-cut chances.

Messi's Barcelona contract held up by La Liga financial rules - president

BARCELONA president Joan Laporta says La Liga's financial fair play rules are holding up Lionel Messi's signing a new deal with the club.

Messi, 34, became a free agent for the first time in his professional career on Thursday as his €500 million (\$594m) contract with Barca expired at the stroke of midnight on July 1.

La Liga president Javier Tebas has warned the Catalan club they must make cutbacks to be able to register any new Messi deal ahead of next season.

"We want him to stay and Leo wants to stay; everything is on track," Laporta told Onda Cero on Thursday.

"We still have the financial fair play [issue] to sort out ... we're in the process of finding the best solution for all parties."

Barca had the biggest salary cap in Spain prior to the pandemic at €671m (\$796m) per year but, as of March, that had been almost halved to €347m (\$412m).

The clear-out began last summer with the departures of Luis Suarez, Arturo Vidal and Ivan Rakitic, but Barca need to further reduce their wage bill to be able to register Messi's new deal and their four summer signings: Sergio Aguero, Eric Garcia, Memphis Depay and Emerson Royal.

So far, Barca have only been able to move on fringe players during the transfer window, with Juan Miranda, Jean-Clair Todibo, Matheus Fernandes and Konrad de la Fuente all departing. Left-back Junior Firpo is set to move to Leeds United, too.

However, the club have hit a brick wall when it has come to getting rid of big earners. There has not yet been any movement on Neto, Samuel Umtiti, Philippe Coutinho or Miralem Pjanic.

Sources at the club say they expect things to speed up once Euro 2020 and the Copa America end, while they're also studying other ways to reduce the wage bill.

Any money Barca bring in from transfers could also help increase their salary cap for next season.

Messi's last four-year deal, which expired on June 30, was worth over €500m (\$594m) combining signing on fees, his salary, bonuses and image rights.

Barca cannot afford to pay him at the same rate and are exploring ways to compensate him over a longer length of time to ensure he doesn't have to take too big a pay cut.

Options include continuing to pay him in an ambassadorial role if he chooses to leave Barca for Major League Soccer in a couple of years, as he's expressed he would like to, and the chance to return to the club after that in a backroom role.

Messi was first officially registered as a Barcelona player 20 years ago, in 2001, and since then he has always been contracted to the club.

He asked to leave last summer but was told no by then-president Josep Maria Bartomeu. Since then, Laporta has replaced Bartomeu and ESPN explained on Wednesday that Messi, as a result, has grown open to extending his stay at Camp Nou.

Manchester City and Paris Saint-Germain have been following the situation over the past six months, but neither look set to make a serious play for the Argentina international.

However, the significance of Messi becoming a free agent didn't go unnoticed, with former club Newcastle's Old Boys inviting him back on social media, while Brazilian minnows Ibis Sport Club promised him "the worst time in the world" if he joins them.

(Agencies)

Denmark dreaming of 1992 repeat but facing dangerous Czech side



Czech coach Silhavy (L) and Denmark boss Hjulmand (R) are both looking to end long waits for their nations to reach a major semi-final. (Agencies)

BAKU DENMARK will be dreaming of following in the footsteps of the side who claimed a shock European title in 1992, but standing in their way of a semi-final place at Euro 2020 today are the Czech Republic, who have sent them packing before.

The Danes were in danger of an early exit after group-stage losses to Finland and Belgium, the first of which was overshadowed by star player Christian Eriksen suffering a cardiac arrest on the pitch.

But, roared on by a raucous Copenhagen crowd, they thrashed Russia 4-1 to finish second in Group B, before travelling to Amsterdam to thump Wales 4-0 in the last 16.

Denmark have not reached a major tournament semi-final since lifting the trophy 29 years ago, when they initially failed to qualify but were late replacements for Yugoslavia.

"It's a chance that we might never have again," coach Kasper Hjulmand said ahead of today's last-eight match against the Czechs in Baku.

"It's many years' work for lots of people. We want to make the most of this chance."

The Scandinavians have gone from strength to strength in the tournament and know victory in Azerbaijan would set up a last-four meeting with either England or Ukraine at Wembley.

Youngster Mikkel Damsgaard has shone since taking the place of Eriksen in the second group match, scoring a wonderful opening goal against Russia.

"The match against Wales was the biggest of my career," he said.

"The next match will be the biggest match I have ever played, so it's getting even crazier all the time for me."

Hjulmand is expected to have a full squad to choose

from, with the exception of Eriksen, although RB Leipzig forward Yussuf Poulsen may only be fit enough to play for an hour.

The last time Denmark reached a major quarter-final was at Euro 2004, where they were beaten 3-0 by a Czech Republic side inspired by Pavel Nedved and two goals for Milan Baros.

"I had a really bad experience watching the match at Copenhagen Town Hall Square," Danish defender Mathias Jorgensen told uefa.com.

"At the time, we all believed we would easily get past them. And that turned into an awful and, as I remember, rainy day in Copenhagen."

- Czechs angry about Baku trip -
The Czechs produced an

excellent display to beat the 10-man Netherlands 2-0 in Budapest last time out, but have expressed their frustrations about having to play in Baku.

A packed Puskas Arena, including 7,000 Czech fans, saw them beat the Dutch, but it will be far more difficult for supporters to travel to the Azerbaijani capital.

"You fly a distance like this to Baku only to play in front of an empty stadium, now that we saw the atmosphere in Budapest," said midfielder Petr Sevcik.

"We are all sad about it. But that's how things are this year, we can't do anything about it."

Jaroslav Silhavy's men have reached the last eight at a major championship for the first time since 2004, when they lost to Greece in the semis, by conceding only two goals in four games while relying on in-form striker Patrik Schick.

The Bayer Leverkusen man has netted four times already, including one of the all-time great Euro goals against Scotland, to sit just one behind Cristiano Ronaldo in the race for the Golden Boot.

Schick is the only player still in the tournament to have scored four goals or more and is aiming to become the second Czech, after Baros, to finish as European Championship top-scorer.

"Of course we would like Pata to win the Golden Boot. We'll do our best to help him," Sevcik said.

AFP

'Let it flow': Referees praised for Euro 2020 officiating

LONDON REFEREES at Euro 2020 have for once largely stayed out of the limelight, with fewer controversial decisions than normal, as they pursue the popular trend of "letting the game flow".

There have been fewer fouls and bookings and the players spent more time with the ball in play during the group stage, official data has shown.

Players, coaches and pundits alike have mostly agreed the officiating has been beneficial for the game.

"I am absolutely elated, this is how we would like to see football," said former Manchester United, Benfica and Lazio winger Karel Poborsky. "The criteria for fouls have moved but nobody abuses that. And then, all referees have the same approach, no matter who they are, and that's great and it helps football a lot."

UEFA Referees' Committee chairman Roberto Rosetti says the plan was not to make referees whistle fewer fouls.

"Our role is to take the correct decisions. We are very happy to see that there are fewer fouls at the moment," said the former Italian referee.

The number of fouls given in the tournament reached an average 22.4 per game in the group phase, down from 25.3 at Euro 2016, while the number of bookings fell to 2.7 from 3.6 per match.

The time that players actually played football rose to almost 59 minutes per game from 56-and-a-half minutes in 2016.

- 'Correct balance' -
Data has also shown how VAR, used at a Euro for the first time, has changed the game.

The number of penalties awarded in the group stage grew to 14 at Euro 2020, from seven in the first 24-team Euro in 2016, as VAR was used to assess 179 incidents in 36 games.

"We need to find the correct balance in relation to VAR intervention, because our target is to keep football like it is," said Rosetti. "The objective is to intervene for clear

and obvious mistakes - minimum interference for maximum benefit."

Just like with any referee, passions over VAR tend to depend on whose side people are on.

Belgium cried foul when referee Felix Brych decided not to use the technology after a tackle on Kevin De Bruyne in the last-16 game against Portugal.

The Manchester City player limped off the pitch and is an injury doubt for Friday's quarter-final against Italy.

"The VAR is very important when you need to judge a millimetre offside but it is strangely absent when it comes to flagrant fouls worth a red card," claimed Belgian daily La Derniere Heure.

But Italian defender Giovanni Di Lorenzo hailed the technology.

"We can see that it is used less often at the international level, only in really unclear situations," said the Napoli player. "I think this is better because in Italy they use it too much perhaps and maybe we should take an example here."

- 'Glorious summer' -

But it is still the men with the whistles who matter most, and they have changed tactics as well, as former English referee Mark Halsey wrote for caughtoffside.com.

"Refs have been smiling with the players, having a laugh with them, but they've had no problem when they've had the opportunity to exercise their authority," said Halsey.

"What it's about is these referees setting their tolerance levels. We can see how they're not being overly aggressive or officious, they're engaging with the players at all times, and players respect that."

Czech defensive midfielder Tomas Holes also praised the refereeing.

"I totally second the change in the trend, that they allow some rougher tackles," said the Slavia Prague midfielder. "I would also like the referees to officiate like this in the Czech league."

AFP

Mbappe's underwhelming Euro 2020 will drive him to improve

By Julien Laurens, ESPN Correspondent

INSIDE the France dressing room at Romania's National Arena in Bucharest, it was early Tuesday morning, when Kylian Mbappe stood up.

Just a few minutes earlier, the 22-year-old had missed a penalty to condemn Les Bleus to a last-16 exit from Euro 2020 that looked impossible when they held a 3-1 lead against Switzerland entering the last 10 minutes of the game, only to let slip the two-goal advantage.

Mbappe was the fifth French spot-kick taker, but when goalkeeper Yann Sommer saved his shot, the world champions' tournament was over. Now, in front of coach Didier Deschamps, the rest of the staff and his teammates, Mbappe apologised. There was sadness in his voice, he was distraught. It was far from the arrogant image he can sometimes convey.

On his phone were tens of messages. From his dad, of course, who was in the stands and had an argument with Adrien Rabiot's mother, when she opined that Mbappe junior was arrogant. There were others: A couple from France president Emmanuel Macron, who wanted to console the forward, and from the likes of Arsene Wenger, Paris Saint-Germain president Nasser Al-Khelaifi and club teammate Neymar.

Mbappe also said sorry on social media, via a message sent around 3 a.m. His family was allowed to visit the France team hotel and other players also had visitors, but the atmosphere was gloomy. All that talent and a waste of a tournament. Deschamps tried to stay positive, saying: "Respect yourselves. Never forget what you have achieved before," but it meant little to his hurting stars.

This was supposed to be Mbappe's tournament and he badly wanted it to be. He has grown so much from the promising wonderkid, who lit up the 2018 World Cup final with two goals, and wanted to show that he could own an entire competition, but the stat line - no goals and one assist in four games, with France winning just once and exiting early - is unflattering.

But while the figures do not lie, they do not reflect the whole picture. Mbappe was very good against Germany, gifted the biggest chance of



Kylian Mbappe will be a star for many years, but is facing adversity for arguably the first time as a professional. (Agencies)

the game to Karim Benzema against Hungary and had good moments against Portugal, including winning a penalty.

He was involved in France's first two goals against Switzerland, with an assist on the first and a great back heel to play in Antoine Griezmann to lay on the second. So much more was expected, however, and he should have done better. He will, for instance, think for a long time about the chance he had in extra time, when he unexpectedly shot with his left foot and the effort went wide.

So what happened? Was Mbappe too confident? Probably, but that is his strength. Did he put too much pressure on himself? He relishes the big moments and wanted them at this tournament. He wanted to be the

star. He wanted to be the one taking the decisive penalty.

Did he not have the right attitude? He was frustrated by Olivier Giroud's pre-tournament comments, when the veteran striker hinted Mbappe was not passing him the ball, and spoke to the media in a press conference to express his feelings.

The departure through injury of his best friend in the squad, Ousmane Dembele, was another setback and sources have told ESPN that Mbappe was occasionally on his own, slightly apart from the group. His in-game partnership with Karim Benzema was France's best asset, but maybe their off-pitch relationship was too strong and they isolated each other from the rest of the squad.

Was he tired? He felt weary against

Portugal and looked exhausted at the end of normal time against Switzerland, but he might not have been the only one; Deschamps is already looking at what went wrong and under scrutiny is the heavy fitness work done before the start of the tournament.

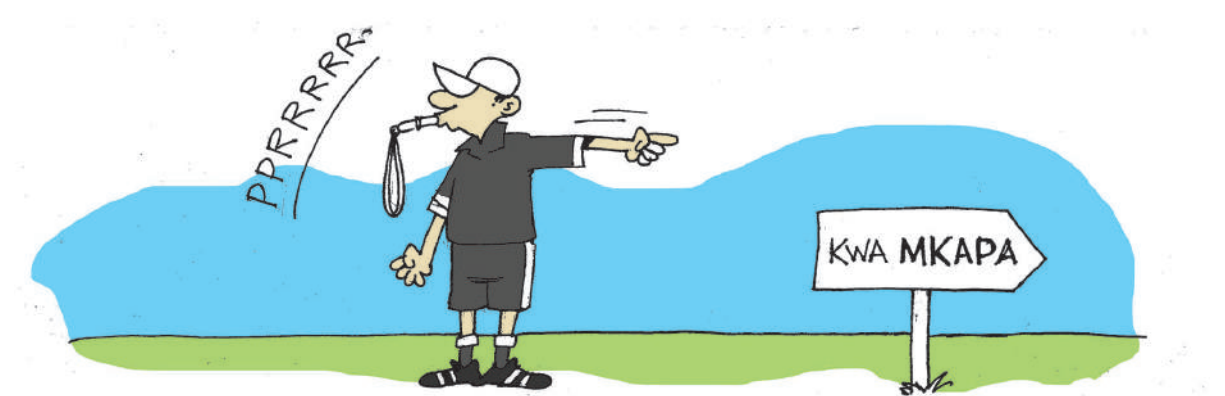
Did uncertainty over his club future play on his mind? In the next few weeks, Mbappe will opt to stay at PSG - and extend the contract that expires after next season - or leave. He will take his time to decide and is talking to Al-Khelaifi directly about the situation, but what is certain is that, had there been an earlier resolution, it would have been one fewer possible distraction.

Mbappe will take this experience like a failure and, not only does he hate to fail, he is not used to doing so. Since his debut as a 16-year-old at Monaco, he has succeeded in pretty much everything, but not this time. In that, though, he was far from alone; France had other issues.

Mbappe cannot solely be blamed for the early, embarrassing exit, even if he missed the final penalty. Yet the criticism directed toward him is part of the process for a top player. After all, he was dreaming of a great tournament, with goals and performances to put his name right at the top of the Ballon d'Or candidates, and much was expected.

His private plane was ready for him and his family to go on holiday. He needs a rest after a draining season that effectively began on the same day as the previous one ended. There are questions that need to be answered, but for now, Mbappe will take a proper break and try to forget about football and Euro 2020.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

**Denmark dreaming of 1992 repeat
but facing dangerous Czech side**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) Secretary General, Wilfred Kidao (2nd R), hands over this season's Women's First Division League (WFDL) best player prize to Ilala Queens' Jacqueline Joseph after the showdown's final, which took place in Dodoma mid this week. Others are (L-R) Tanzania Women's Football Association (TWFA)'s Acting Chairperson, Somoe Ng'itu, and Dodoma's Fountain Gate Schools' Director, Japhet Makau. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

AS Vita Club striker willing to join Yanga

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

THE DR Congo's AS Vita Club's forward, Fiston Mayele, has confirmed that he is in talks to join Tanzania's Yanga.

The 27-year-old Mayele has confirmed the reports, after such reports linking him with a move to Yanga had faded for two weeks.

Mayele was mentioned in Yanga's registration process for the next season's Mainland Premier League and CAF Champions League.

The Congolese striker noted he has many offers in hand from clubs in Algeria, Tunisia, Qatar and Saudi Arabia, but he is eager to join Yanga of Tanzania.

Mayele said: "I want to play in Tanzania, so far I have received many offers from several countries in Africa, but I give Yanga priority because I know what they need from me."

In the 2020/21 season, the striker scored 15 goals for AS Vita Club, becoming one of the brightest players in the DR Congo's Linafoot League.

Yanga are already set to complete the signing of AS Vita Club right full-back, Djuma Shaban, and he could arrive in Tanzania at any time after the 2020/21 season ends later this month.

The Yanga leadership is committed to registering players with competitive status at all times, in order to achieve the goal of restoring the honour of winning the Mainland Premier League silverware, which has been in the hands of their traditional rivals, Simba, for three consecutive years.

Hassan Bumbuli, Yanga's information officer, moreover noted the return of the outfit's defenders Abdallah Shaibu 'Ninja' and Yassin Mustafa would provide an opportunity for the club's technical bench to have a wider scope to decide who should in the first team against Simba SC.

Shaibu and Mustafa had returned to the club's training session with other players, which was taking place at Avic Town venue, Kigamboni in Dar es Salaam.

Bumbuli said: "Our progress is good, and our players Abdallah Shaibu 'Ninja' and Yassin Mustapha, who were injured for about eight weeks, have returned, so there will be a wider option for the technical bench in the defensive position."

Regarding today's clash against Simba, Bumbuli has warned soccer followers that it will be a normal game like any other league fixture.

He told them that if Yanga do not have pressure on the game, they will fight the same way they do in the top flight, unlike Simba SC who will be looking for three points to fulfill their championship dreams this season.

Bumbuli added: "It's a normal game, like any other game as the players are playing 11 rounds, except this is a clash against rivals, and our opponents will be under a lot of pressure than us because they want to clinch the silverware."

"As for Simba's spokesperson Haji Manara's statement asking the TFF to, if possible, bring the silverware to the stadium those are mere words and if we decide to speak we have strong words. Our players will impress," the official noted.

Simba SC will lift Premier League silverware for the fourth consecutive year if they either win or draw with Yanga.

Simba SC currently leads the Premier League standings with 73 points, followed by Yanga with 67 points and Azam FC in third place with 64 points.

Shree Kutchi Leva cricketers lift 2021 DC Gymkhana Cup's Division A tourney trophy

By Guardian Reporter

SHREE Kutchi Leva Patel Sports Centre (SKLPSC) cricket team has won 2021 Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Gymkhana Cup Division A tournament's silverware, cruising to 51-run victory over outfit in the, which took place in the city recently.

The SKLPSC had the opportunity to take the crease first and recorded 137 runs, losing eight wickets in 20 overs.

Openers, Dinesh Rabadiya and skipper Naran Vekariya, put spirited displays to show as the squad got off to a good start.

Vekariya was explosive, given the cricketer notched 56 runs, nailing three fours and two sixes.

He had the SKLPSC reaching 102 runs after 15.3 overs by the time he was sent back to the pavilion.

Fellow opener Dinesh notched 15 runs consisting of a boundary.

The team seemed to have struggled to keep off K&P Constructions side's bowlers, with several key players facing early dismissals.

Top order batsman Vipul Pindoria chipped in with 10 runs, fellow cricketers, Vinesh Gorasiya and Ramesh Dabasiya, could not last long at the crease, failing to notch two-digit figures.

Ghanshyam Gondaliya ended with 16 runs not out cracking one six, he forged unbeaten stand with Navin Dabasiya, with the latter scoring three runs not out.

Naran Kerai made his presence felt for a few overs, posting 12 runs.

The K&P Constructions outfit bowler, Harish Munuganti, ended with an impressive figure, notching two wickets, as was the case with fellow bowler Lakshmikanth Sukavasi.

Chasing 138 runs to post victory became a challenging feat for K&P Constructions' squad, which recorded 86 runs all out in 18 overs.

Opener Hema Suryakant Mullanpudi put encouraging showing as he notched 23 runs which included a four.

The cricketer to some extent waded off SKLPSC's early onslaught, seeing to it K&P Constructions' squad reach 62 runs after 13.6 overs.

Fellow top order batsmen had brief spells, putting K&P Constructions' side in difficult position when it came to mounting successful chase.

Captain Sukavasi and Suman Emuru saw to it K&P Constructions cricketers are still in with a chance to reach the target, recording 21 runs apiece.

Sukur Basha and Shaik Abdul Shaheel's quick dismissals meant K&P Constructions' team's efforts to reach the target ended in vain.

Ghanshyam Gondaliya and Naran Vekariya mercilessly tore K&P Constructions team's batting unit to shreds, seeing to it that SKLPSC keep the opponents in check.

Gondaliya and Vekariya notched four wickets apiece, making sure SKLPSC confidently defended their score.

Vekariya received Man of the Match prize for his scintillating all-round performance.

The SKLPSC booked a place in the final after edging Upanga Sports Club by one wicket in the first of the last four clashes.

The K&P Constructions side made it to the final with a 26-run win over one of the tournament, Caravans Cricket Club, in the second semi-final.

The SKLPSC has, as a result, clinched its first piece of silverware in regional club tournaments in recent years.

Former Simba SC Chairman asks club to repeat 2007 feat



Hassan Dalali

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

FORMER Simba Sports Club Chairman, Hassan Dalali, has said that the team's senior players have promised to see the outfit win their Vodacom Premier League game against Yanga to repeat the 2007 record.

Dar es Salaam's Benjamin Mka-pa Stadium is today expected to host the tie after the previous one, which was scheduled to be played at the venue on May 8, was called off due to a change of kick off time which was rejected by Yanga on the grounds that it was against the league's rules.

The former Simba leader noted that the game against Yanga has a lot of pressure, which makes many people unable to calm down, but he believes the Simba will win and clinch the top flight's trophy, the same way they did in 2007.

He stated: "In 2007 we played Yanga at the Jamhuri Stadium in Morogoro, we beat them and lifted the Premier League's trophy in what was seemingly a final, the

clash was tough, I was the Simba's Chairman."

He noted: "It is a great pleasure for Simba to defeat Yanga and lift silverware, so, I believe it is going to happen despite the fact that it will be a tough game for both sides."

"At the time the league was being played at the centers and the teams were few, if you lose you are relegated and it was the final game, we won on penalties as either squad did not score after the regular time," he stated.

In the game played on July 8, 2007 records show that 90 minutes ended with the outfits level on 1-1 and in the penalty shootout Simba won 5-4.

If Simba win this Saturday, the outfit will clinch this season's Premier League's top honour as the 76 points they will collect will not be registered by their closest challengers, Yanga, now sitting second with 67 points, as well as third-placed Azam FC with 64 points.

Dar es Salaam's Police Force

has stated that it is planning to strengthen security in the match.

The game will kick off at 5pm, with Simba turning out to be the tie's hosts.

A statement from the Police noted that they have planned to deploy enough troops in each of the stadium's areas.

The match normally attracts the attention of many fans of the sport in the country due to the prominence of the outfits.

Police has also issued a ban on fans entering the Stadium with either drinking water bottles or any other drink, and weapons, pleading that fans are ought to stay in places they are supposed to.

The Police has also issued a warning to those who want to take their children to the stadium, noting children have to be left at home.

This will be the two clubs' second meeting this season. In the first meeting, the teams were locked to 1-1 draw.



Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Sports Club (SKLPSC) cricketers and a section of their family members pictured with silverware shortly after they had lifted the 2021 title with a win over K&P Constructions squad in the final held in the city recently. PHOTO: DARES SALAAM CRICKET

Flexibles by David Chikoko

