



National Pg 3

PM warns minerals smugglers



National Pg 4

Climate change threat to economy



Opinion Pg 9

Start the Week with Cynthia Stacey



PAGE 13

Sabotage suspects set to be freed

Consider releasing those confessing, ready to pay - JPM

The move means that all the suspects facing unbailable economic sabotage charges now have an opportunity to negotiate their freedom with the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP)

By Henry Mwangode

PRESIDENT John Magufuli yesterday advised judicial authorities to hold talks with all remandees held in connection economic sabotage charges so that those confessing and ready to pay up be released by next week.

This could mean the return to civilian life of some accused persons now held in various remand prisons in the country, including those facing money laundering and tax fraud charges.

The president made the appeal when speaking in Dar es Salaam at the swearing-in of senior public officials he recently appointed to various positions, some as ambassadors and regional administrative secretaries.

"Now that the DPP (Director of Public Prosecutions) and the Solicitor General are here, let me request you and others who are working on criminal justice that there are people who have been in remand for economic sabotage for years," he said.

"They are suffering, I keep watching them on television being taken to court. If they are ready to confess and commit themselves to return the money, consider them for release - and negotiations to that effect should run from tomorrow to



This is how the proposed 15 billion/- modern bus stand at Nyegezi in Mwanza city is expected to look when construction is completed in two years' time. Sources have named the contractor as Mohamed Build Construction Company Ltd, intimating to The Guardian from Mwanza that preparations to pave the way for the work have started - this including the demolition of structures standing on the premises earmarked for the project. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TURN TO PAGE 2



WB funding for interconnecting Mozambique and Malawi grids

MAPUTO

The World Bank has approved grants and loans totalling 57 million US dollars for the project to interconnect the Mozambican and Malawian electricity grids.

According to a World Bank press

release, the Bank's Board of Executive Directors decided on last week to provide Mozambique with a 42 million dollar grant, and Malawi with a loan of 15 million dollars, both from the International Development Association (IDA), that part of the World Bank group that provides soft loans and grants for the world's poorest countries.

The release adds that Mozambique is expected to receive a grant of 24 million dollars from a Norwegian trust fund administered by the World Bank and a grant of 20 million euros (22.1 million dollars) from the German government.

The project, says the release, will



TURN TO PAGE 2

NGOs petition wants EAC fee defaulters suspended

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE East African Civil Society Organizations Forum has filed a petition seeking the suspension of the East African Community (EAC) member states that default on membership fees.

In the petition filed by the forum in Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi and Tanzania and dispatched to the Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly, Martin Ngoga over the weekend, CSOs want the treaty for the establishment of the EAC to provide for suspension of any EAC state defaulting in the remittance of mandatory membership fees.

The petition was signed by Martha Makenge, the forum's Acting Chief Executive Officer and Programme Coordinator and delivered to the

Uganda had by June 2019 paid US \$ 6.3 million, equivalent to 76 percent, whereas in total the EAC secretariat had received US \$ 29.7 million in membership fees from the member countries

EAC Secretary General, Ambassador Liberat Mfumukeko.

The first member state that would be suspended under the petition would be the group's newest member, South Sudan, which until June 2019 had paid nothing in EAC membership fees. Burundi would be in danger as it has paid US\$ 408,548 in membership dues, equivalent to five percent of the required fee, the petition indicated.

So far Kenya has remitted \$ 8.2 million which is 98 percent of its arrears, followed by Tanzania with US \$ 7.4 million remittances, around 89 percent of the required US \$ 8.4 million annual membership fees for the Arusha-based regional body. Rwanda has remitted US\$7.3million, which

TURN TO PAGE 2

Mwanza Region fills gaps in measles, rubella, polio drops for under-fives

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

THE Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children in collaboration with various stakeholders has embarked on a national vaccination campaign for measles, rubella and polio targeting all children under the age of five.

The vaccination campaign comes around as many children were not vaccinated against the



diseases when many vaccination centres failed to attain the 100 percent vaccination target.

The coordinator of the vaccination for Mwanza Region, Amos Kiteleja said in a statement that the multitude of children who are not protected by vaccination every three to four years can cause eruption of measles.

"Various researches conducted in the country

TURN TO PAGE 2

Sabotage suspects now set to be freed

FROM PAGE 1

next Saturday," he added.

The move means that all the suspects facing unbailable economic sabotage charges now have an opportunity to negotiate their freedom with the DPP.

President Magufuli urged DPP Biswalo Mganga, who was at the ceremony, to immediately start negotiating with the suspects in question.

He said it was possible that some of those who have been in remand for more than three years or so are willing to ask for forgiveness and directed the government team to negotiate with them and agree as to how they would pay the money they were associated with.

"They should also swear that they will never repeat such offences," the president intoned.

High-profile individuals behind bars facing economic sabotage and money laundering charges include investigative journalist Eric Kabendera and prominent businessmen Harbinder Singh Sethi and James Rugemalira.

Sethi and Rugemalira are facing 350bn/- economic sabotage and money laundering charges, while Kabendera is charged with abetting organised crime and evading 173.2m/- in taxes.

Others battling unbailable economic sabotage charges in court include former Tanzania Revenue Authority commissioner general Harry Kitilya.

Kitilya and former Stanbic Bank head of investment banking Shose Sinare, former Stanbic chief legal counsel Sioi Sumari and former Finance ministry senior officials Bedason Shallanda and Alfred Misana are charged with organised crime, forgery, falsifying documents, obtaining money by false pretences, money laundering and occasioning the government a 12bn/- loss.

The president's appeal comes at a time when the government is proposing plea bargaining in the criminal justice system so as to allow defendants in criminal cases to plead guilty at first

hearing in return for withdrawal of charges or a more lenient sentence.

The Written Laws (Miscellaneous Amendments) (No 4) Bill that was introduced in the National Assembly for its first reading on 26 June seeks to amend the Criminal Procedure Act (CPA) to accommodate the changes.

The system is accepted in several countries, in part to help reduce the backlog of cases in courts, alleviate prison congestion and ensure timely delivery of justice.

Dr Magufuli said firing and hiring constituted one of the presidential tasks he finds hectic, tasking and challenging, urging the newly sworn-in public officials to work diligently.

"Sometimes I just feel compelled to fire and hire. For instance, in Morogoro there was need to make it a 'demonstration' region by firing all officials - from the RC to ward executive officers. It does not make sense for the Prime Minister to move all the way to Morogoro to reveal unbecoming acts by municipal officials," he said.

He said he sacked Morogoro regional commissioner Dr Kebwe Steven Kebwe for underperformance "as he did not act when required to do so".

Dr Magufuli also took issue with Dar es Salaam regional authorities on the Coco Beach project, saying they have been using a huge amount of money relative to what needs to be done there.

The Kinondoni municipal authorities have set out plans to spend to the tune of 14 billion/- renovating the Coco Beach amusement facility.



The Head of State was speaking in Dar es Salaam at an event to swear in senior public officials who were recently appointed to various positions including ambassadors and Regional Administrative Secretaries (RAS)



Mineral processing expert John Ngenda (2nd-R) briefs Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa at the Second Gold Technology Exhibition held at Kahangalala grounds in Geita Region yesterday. Others: Minerals minister Doto Biteko (3rd-R) and Geita regional commissioner Robert Gabriel (R). Photo: PMO

FROM PAGE 1

show that rubella disease still exists and has affected many newly born babies, causing permanent defects," he said, noting that 85 percent of babies who reach nine months get vaccinated against measles.

He said many children did not receive at least one vaccination dose against measles and rubella from 2016 to 2018, so the aim is to attain 90 percent vaccination rate and above.

From 2013 to August 2019 a total

Mwanza Region fills gaps in measles, rubella, polio drops for under-fives

of 503 polio samples were taken and there weren't even one who had the disease, and this is good indicator that Mwanza region is free from polio.

Sengerema District Commissioner Emmanuel Kipole appealed to public officials in all eight district councils of

the region to ensure that vaccination is freely available and benefits the whole region.

"The aim of the vaccination campaign is to prevent and combat preventable diseases through vaccination on all children under five years," he said.

Vaccination is necessary even if the children had been vaccinated through traditional procedures. It is the responsibility of all public officials involved in the campaign to conduct the work thoroughly and professionally, the DC added.



George Simbachawene (R), Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and the Environment), plants a commemorative tree at St Peter Claver Secondary School in Dodoma Region at the weekend. Left (foreground) is the school's headmaster, Rev Buberwa Karongo. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

NGOs petition wants EAC fee defaulters suspended

FROM PAGE 1

is 87 percent of its arrears.

Uganda had by June 2019 paid US \$ 6.3 million, equivalent to 76 percent, whereas in total the EAC secretariat had received US \$ 29.7 million in membership fees from the member countries.

It was intended that the East African Community should be getting total

annual fees amounting to US \$ 50.3 million from the six EAC member states, but the remittance is currently clocking at 59 percent.

Juba owes the community a total of US \$ 19.3 million being this year's membership fees plus arrears.

The East African Civil Society Organizations Forum (EACSO) in its dispatch to the Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly stated

that it was perplexed by the failure of the partner states to meet their financial obligations to the EAC.

"That effectively breaches the Finance and Appropriation Acts of the Community consistently. Delayed remittances and failure to achieve 100 percent compliance is detrimental to the survival of EAC," the petition underlined.

"The average aggregate contributions

of 2018/19 were a mere 59 percent to the EAC, which is already suffering zero percent budget increase for almost a decade," it reads in part.

"EACSO undertook a small survey of the performance of the EAC Budget and remittances from the partner states as a fact finding mission to establish where the problem of our beloved EAC is coming from," it added.

DONET lands 40m/- from FCS to support implementation of youth programme

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

DODOMA Environmental Network (DONET) have received at least 40m/- from the Foundation of Civil Society (FCS) to support implementation of a special youth economic empowerment programme in six villages of Chamwino district, Dodoma region.

The timely initiative, set to attract the youth from the age between 18 and 35, focuses to impart the young group with key knowledge on how to realise, utilise and hence benefiting from different economic opportunities available in their respective areas.

Giving a press briefing over the project, executive director of DONET, Joshua Mshuda, said among others, the

program aimed at silencing the spate of rural-urban migration among the youth in the district.

"Experience proves that in Dodoma region most of the youth in rural areas have a tendency flocking to town to seek for green pastures, a poor move which is attributed by lack of awareness over diverse economic opportunities which are available in their respective areas," he expressed.

He named the villages where the program will be implemented as Msanga, Nzali, Membe, Dabalo, Chilonwa and Igamba.

Mshuda urged the youth in the respective villages to ensure they use the opportunity bravely in order to escape from the shackles of poverty by stimulating different economic projects.

WB funding for interconnecting Mozambique and Malawi grids

FROM PAGE 1

interconnect the Mozambique and Malawi transmission systems to enable both countries to engage in bilateral and regional power trade in the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP).

"The new Mozambique-Malawi Regional Interconnector project will establish a transmission link between the two countries to meet increasing electricity demand in Malawi and create opportunities for trading in the SAPP," said Dhruva Sahai, the Task Team Leader of the project.

The project includes construction of a 218 kilometre, 400 kV high voltage alternating current transmission line, grid connections, and associated infrastructure including substation

works.

The new line will start at the Matambo substation in the western Mozambican province of Tete, and end at Phombeya substation in Balaka District in southern Malawi.

"With these investments, Malawian households, businesses, and farmers will benefit from increased access to reliable electricity services, that are vital to improve the country's productivity and competitiveness in the domestic and regional markets," says the release, while the Mozambican electricity company, EDM, "will receive additional hard currency revenues, which could be utilized for the country's ongoing domestic electrification efforts".

AGENCIES

PM Majaliwa warns minerals smugglers

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has warned people including unfaithful business people involved in the smuggling minerals out of the country to stop forthwith, as the government is very watchful and will have no mercy to pounce on them.

He said the government has removed Value Added Tax (VAT) of 18 percent and withholding tax of 5 percent to miners for all minerals sold at the local auctions established as a move to enhance production by small miners so as to increase GDP.

The PM issued the warning yesterday when officiating at the Technology and Investment Exhibition at CCM Kahangalala grounds in Geita town. He said for those who will disregard the warning they will be dealt with accordingly.

The PM said the government will continue to solve various challenges faced by small miners including the use of obsolete mining technology and smelting. "I call upon the stakeholders to use the investment opportunity by starting mining equipment and smelting businesses," he said.

The PM also used the occasion to remind mining stakeholders that during its 16th meeting, the 11th Parliament discussed and approved the Minata convention on mercury on the gradual reduction the use of mercury by 2030.

He said the aim of the agreement is to start reducing and finally abandon altogether the use of mercury in smelting, especially by small miners.

In another development the PM said for a long time there have been challenges facing small miners who undertake their activities without having the correct geological data, thereby causing many of them to mine just by guesswork, including adhering to local beliefs.

"Hence I urge stakeholders in the mining sector especially small miners to use the research and data by Geological Survey of Tanzania (GST) so as to get the correct data including experts' opinions," he said.

He said apart from allocating areas for small miners by using data from GST and Stamico, the Government has continued to prepare literature to show areas where minerals are to be found.

He said the government has established centres as examples in various areas in the country to offer training to small miners on the subject of mining. He said the centres will also be places for mineral and mining equipment exhibition.

He said the motto of the exhibition "Minerals are necessary for growth of the industrial economy, we must invest in mining technology for better production and to protect our minerals markets" goes in conjunction by the CCM's 2015-20 manifesto which among others, directs the government to supervise and to ensure investment in areas that increase minerals value so as to contribute to the GDP.

On his part, the Minister for Mines Doto Biteko said as of now the government and mining companies respect each other because the companies now follow government directives and abide by the laws.

Doto said before the establishment of mining auctions in the country gold production in the country stood at 101 kgs per month, but now the production is 1,974kgs.

The Minister said the discipline among Tanzanians in the buying and selling gold has pulled in dealers from neighbouring countries because there is no more conning or theft.

He has therefore asked the mining companies to issue large tenders to local people and companies instead of giving small tenders to local companies.



Dodoma Regional Police Commander Gilles Muroto shows journalists in Dodoma city yesterday minerals and gemstones he said had just been impounded from suspected smugglers. Photo: Correspondent Renatha Msungu

'Govt to harmonise EAC and SADC customs regulations

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government now wants to harmonise the East Africa Community (EAC) customs regulations with those of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) so as to eliminate non-tariff barriers.

The Minister for Works, Transport and Communication engineer Isack Kamwelwe said over the week end when opening the Tanzania Truck Owners Association (TATOA) annual general meeting held in Dar es Salaam.

He said the move further aimed at eliminating other challenges including vehicle weight control act and its regulation that initially mentioned as one of the big challenge.

Furthermore, the move will attract more volume of tonnages and on so doing increase more revenues to the nation.

Kamwelwe said upon completion it will enable smooth facilitation of transporters from the country to the SADC region which has a huge potential market.

"Harmonization of EAC laws to cope with those in SADC was also a topic in our recently SADC meeting held in Dar es Salaam. We are on the process of ensuring the law and regulation governing trade in the EAC are harmonized to facilitate smooth trade in the region," he said.

He however reaffirmed the government commitment to continue collaborating with transporters reminding them to be abide by laws to avoid delays and unnecessary disturbances.

In another development, Kamwelwe said the government has set fund to build bigger tanks that can store fuels in bulky to reduce time ship docking to offload fuel and

increase the capacity to store tonnage of fuels

He said the process moves concurrently with expansion of depth of berths at the port of Dar es Salaam to increase revenues.

"I would like to inform the public that the government has already opened a tender to expand the depth of berth 8,9,10 and 11 to increase more bigger ships to dock," he added.

For her part, the TATOA chairman Angelina Ngalula appealed to the government through Tanzania revenue authority (TRA) to wave customs warehouse rent for bulky cargo.

She named some of the barriers as unpredictable business environment caused by inconsistency decision and unharmonised laws and regulation within EAC and SADC.

Others were multiple levies from different authority's disintegration system, and failure to use discretion power provided by EAC to facilitate SADC transit trade.

"We call on the government to extend free transit period to at least 90 days for bulky import cargo including fuel and 120 days for export attraction," she recommended.

He said once all these were over, it will attract volume of 2.45 million tonnes which can increase up to US\$ 400 million.

Ngalula said already there were huge potential the need to be utilized of 1 tonnes millions of fertilizers, 100,000 tonnes of tobacco, 350,000 tonnes of sulphur and 4 tonnes millions of minerals.

Further recommended to government through TRA Band TPA to allow bagging of sulphur outside the port as well as wave customs warehouse rent on bulky cargo as well as allowing bulky sulphur.

Shein praises ZRB, TRA for increase in revenue collection

By Guardian Reporter

THE Zanzibar President and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council Dr Ali Mohamed Shein has praised the revenue collection institutions saying it has reduced dependence on the government budget in implementing development projects.

Dr Shein said this on Saturday at a function to mark 20 years of the Zanzibar Revenue Board (ZRB) that took place at ZRB headquarters in Mazizini, Zanzibar Town.

He said revenue collected by ZRB and the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) during financial year 2018/19 of 727b/- has enabled the government to reduce its dependence of the budget from 30.3 percent for in FY 2010/2011 to 5.1 percent in 2019.

Dr Shein said the level proves how his government has realized the goals set by the Chama cha Mapinduzi for 2015-2020 paragraph 68(d) that recognized the two institutions' ability to collect 800b/- by 2020/2021.

He added: "When he ascended to the presidency in 2010, revenue collected by both ZRB and TRA averaged 13.5b/- per month, while ZRB alone was collecting 8.7b/- per month."

He said his government has been able to implement its various strategies by improving the management and capacity in revenue collection, and added that by FY 2014/2015 over 16.7b/- was collected.

He said because of the satisfactory achievement in revenue collection, the

government has been able to improve the welfare of the workers fourfold, to pay community pension to every elder person who attains 70 years of age, as well as to improve various social services including health and education.

Said he: "Whenever we make developments to our infrastructure such as roads, ports and airport, or buy medical equipment as well as other services including subsidy to agricultural inputs, it is proof that that our revenue collection has gone up"

He said simplifying revenue collection is important especially in educating the wananchi on the existing tax laws so that they fully adhere to them.

He said ZRB called upon staff and workers in revenue collection institutions to continue working diligently and with patriotism.

On his part the Minister for Finance and Planning Amb. Mohamed Ramia called upon ZRB staff to work professionally so as to confront various challenges in the revenue collection environment.

The ZRB Commissioner General Joseph Abdalla Meza, said at different times the ZRB management has been reminding staff the importance of executing their duties diligently and avoid corruptive tendencies.

"When he ascended to the presidency in 2010, revenue collected by both ZRB and TRA averaged 13.5b/- per month, while ZRB alone was collecting 8.7b/- per month."

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Luhaga Mpina (pictured) has appointed Dr Pius Lazaro Mwambene to be acting Chief Executive Officer of Tengeru Livestock Training Agency (LITA) after he revoked the appointment of Dr Kejeli Athumani Gillah who was acting at the position.

A statement issued by the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries at the weekend said Dr Mwambene's appointment began September 21 2019.

The statement said the Minister's decision is derived from the powers conferred to him under sections 9(1) and 9B(1) of The Executive Agencies

Mpina appoints LITA CEO and suspends accountant

Act (CAP 245) and amendments thereto of 2009.

Before his appointment Dr Mwambene was Ag. Assistant Director of Extension Services in the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Livestock Division.

Last week Mpina suspended LITA Chief Accountant at Buhuri, Tanga, Dominick Stephen for claims of forging signatures of officials and fraudulently obtaining 8m/- government money.

The Minister said the officer was involved in fraud practices for a long time but there were no disciplinary action taken against him, hence he has decided to take action himself.

In the circumstances the Minister directed the official be suspended and the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) to immediately launch investigations on the official including the entire network involved.



FEZA SCHOOLS

NURSERY 2020 INTAKE

Be Better Educated...

INTERVIEW DATE

28TH SEPTEMBER 2019

09.00 AM

APPLICATION FORMS AVAILABLE AT:

FEZA NURSERY SCHOOL MIKOCHENI
 0712 339 268

www.fezaschools.org

info@fezaschools.org



Zanzibar Second Vice President Seif Ali Iddi (2nd-R) visits the Zantel booth in Dar es Salaam at the weekend on the sidelines of the just-ended Southern African Development Community (SADC) ministerial roundtable. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

EAC states taking integration resolve atop Mt Kili

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

THREE representatives from the East African (EAC) member states have started a six-day Mount Kilimanjaro expedition to take the stickers and logos of the bloc's socio-cultural integration JAMA Fest 2019 to the highest peak of the mountain.

The trio from Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda who left on Saturday morning will also put the stickers and logos of Tanzania's Urithi festival, which celebrates cultural diversity across the country at Uhuru peak which is 5,895 metres above the sea level a move aimed at promoting local and international tourism.

JAMA Fest is an acronym for Jumuiya ya Afrika Mashariki Utamaduni Festival, the Kiswahili for the EAC Arts and Culture Festival which aims to promote regional socio-cultural integration through arts and culture by providing a platform to showcase culture as a primary driver of regional integration.

Speaking during the start of the expedition at Marangu gate, the coordinator of festivals in Tanzania from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism (MNRT), William Mwita explained that, JAMA Fest came to life after the EAC Council of Ministers in September 2011 directed the EAC Secretariat to organize regular festivals of the kind, and Rwanda was consequently selected to host the first edition of the Festival in 2013, with Kenya hosting the 2015 edition and Uganda the 2017 edition.

"JAMA FEST It is envisaged the

festival will be held biennially and hosted by Partner States rotationally, and the 2019 edition of the Festival is themed 'Cultural Diversity: A Key Driver to Regional Integration, Economic Growth and Promotion of Tourism,' Mwita explained.

He further explained that, the Festival which will take place at National Stadium from 22 to 29 September this year will feature a carnival, art exhibitions, a symposium, live performances, films, literary works, a fashion show and tradition games.

"The two festivals JAMA FEST 2019 and the URITHI festival which is a Tanzanian national cultural and heritage festival will take place at National Stadium in Dar es Salaam from September 22 to 29, but URITHI Festivals will last for more days," coordinator explained.

He added the festival will start in Dar es Salaam and will later take place in the regions to promote tourism.

"I ask the regions to use arts to promote tourist sites in their respective areas, this will boost government revenues," he noted.

He named the trekkers who will take the logos and stickers to the Roof of Africa and their countries they are coming from in brackets as Anitha Brown (Tanzania), Joel Acana (Uganda), Luka Waiganjo (Kenya), and the Traditional Clothes Designer Jocktan Makeke (Tanzania).

The expedition through Marangu has organized by the Moshi-based tourism firm-African Spoonbill Tours and Safaris.

Pull up your socks, PM tells NIDA in Geita

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Identification Authority (NIDA) has been called to ensure the wananchi, especially in rural areas at least get ID card numbers of their registration before the expiry date of the registration exercise.

This directive was given by the Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa on Saturday when speaking at a public rally held at Geita district hospital grounds at Nzela village.

The PM said giving the wananchi their ID numbers would enable them complete their registration even after the expiry of the exercise, which is end

of December this year.

The premier said the government has supplied NIDA with modern electronic equipment so as to quickly finish the exercise successfully but the pace is far from satisfactory as many wananchi have yet to get their IDs which means the pace of biometric SIM Card registration is also slow.

"NIDA, I have visited Morogoro Rural but many complaints are being leveled against you, what's wrong with you? Why the slow pace?," he asked the Geita District NIDA Registration Officer, Paschal Saro who defended himself by saying so far they have enabled 340 SIM cards registered biometrically, and

already 330 ID numbers have been issued to various applicants.

Saro told the PM that the complexity of the citizenship of some wananchi is one among the reason for the slow pace.

The prime minister pleaded with the wananchi to be vigilant for their country by immediately informing the relevant authorities of people who apply for national IDs while they are not citizens.

He said in some border regions that are home to refugees the government has confiscated firearms which people are not entitled to own, and added that the arms must have

been smuggled into the country by unscrupulous people.

Earlier, the PM inspected the ongoing construction of Geita district hospital at Nzera village and was pleased by the step taken by the Member of Parliament of Geita Rural Constituency, Joseph Musukuma who provided modern medical equipment for the hospital.

He congratulated Musukuma for his kind heartedness extended to his constituents. He said the equipment were modern and in fact they are fit to be at regional referral hospitals, but decided to send them to the people.

Climate change threat to economy, peace, says environment minister

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

MINISTER of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment), George Simbachawene has called on environmental stakeholders to do more to counter effects of climate change which he said directly affect economic activities, social well-being and threatens peace.

Speaking yesterday during World Peace Day commemoration held in Dodoma, Simbachawene who was the chief guest said that climate change is largely a result of human activities.

At the commemoration on the theme 'Take Action Against Climate Change for Sustainable Peace', he said that such activities lead to rising temperatures, decreasing rainfall, drying up of water sources and increasing human, animal and plant diseases.

"Climate change is largely a result of human activities including climate change, deforestation, deforestation and agricultural and non-conservation farming activities that contribute to climate change," the minister said.

He made clear that in addition to the impact of these changes the rest of the world is also affected by developing countries including Tanzania and this is due to the fact that our economic growth depends largely on economic activity.

In this context the Minister noted that in order to address the challenges as a country we need to adapt to climate change in order to withstand and avoid disasters caused by it.

The minister also cautioned that the disasters caused by the situation lead to economic and social losses that contribute to escalating poverty and even social conflicts.

"The source of the peaceful disappearance of some areas is the cause of climate change and if people change their needs if the water cannot accept the death they will have to use any power to fight it.

"If the climate changes to cause a lack of water the people will struggle with the limited search available and in search of it they will have to quarrel

and cause violence so peace is closely linked to climate change," he said.

Simbachawene pointed out that the Government recognizes the importance of the environment and has continued to make significant efforts to conserve and manage the environment by initiating various projects, including the construction of a sea wall in the Coast.

Also drilling of wells and the purchase of large water storage tanks, training and distribution of water-efficient stoves to poor households as well as the construction of rainwater harvesting systems.

The minister added that the Government in collaboration with key stakeholders, is implementing a project to combat land degradation and increase food security in arid areas.

According to the minister, major projects aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and greenhouse gases including the construction of Dar es Salaam Rapid Transport lanes, highway construction, increasing environmentally friendly energy production and in particular the implementation of the Julius Nyerere Hydro-power of 2115 megawatts are undertaken.

Another project is that of tackling climate change in rural areas through ecological systems, a project to build the capacity of coastal communities to withstand climate change.

On the other hand, Minister Simbachawene urged the international community to focus on responding to the climate change crisis by noting that our economy depends on environmental activities.

On his side United Nations (UN) Tanzania Representative, Amon Manyama praised the Government for its efforts to protect the peace especially in tackling climate change.

He said that it is a good thing to take concrete steps to address the challenge and that peace is the cornerstone of the establishment of the UN so we can ensure that these efforts are sustainable



Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Paul Makonda (R) presents an award to Mwalimu Commercial Bank Plc CEO Richard Makungwa in Dar es Salaam at the weekend in appreciation of the bank's support towards the development of the education sector. This was at a prize-giving ceremony for schools and students based in the region that have done especially well in this year's primary and secondary school national examinations. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Group provide free cataract surgeries for sight impaired Maasai

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

WHEN special health and eye clinics were conducted in six remote villages of Monduli district, in Arusha region. According to a report the nomadic Maasai residents in the area suffer no other major medical conditions apart from eye ailments.

The non-government, youth focused organisation of Vijana Assembly, in conjunction with Lions Clubs of Arusha and Dar es Salaam, carried out free eye clinics for nearly 1000 residents in the six villages mapped within the remote Lepurko Ward of Monduli district, over the weekend, where eye problems and sight impairment, stood out as leading medical problem among the pastoralists.

Held at the Losimingori village, the

free eye testing exercise benefitted around 800 people from Nanja, Lepurko, Mbuyuni, Duka-Moja, Eng'arooji and Losimingori villages, as well as areas surrounding the precincts.

The director of Vijana Assembly, Mbayani Tayai said they have decided to undertake eye services in the mostly nomadic Maasai community because the residents of the villages led a lifestyle which was rather destructive to their eyes and sight.

"I grew up in these villages, where people get dust, flies, contaminated water and strong sunlight hitting directly onto their eyeballs and as the result, many suffer eye problems and related illnesses," pointed out Tayai.

Tayai explained that, the eye clinics were conducted by Vijana Assembly, in association with Tanzania Diabetes

Association (TDA), Peri-Urban Ambulatory Nexus Tanzania (PANETA) and the Lions Clubs of Arusha and Dar es Salaam.

The organizations linked with the Saint Elizabeth Catholic Hospital (Kwa Father Babu), in Arusha, in case of serious eye ailments that may need surgical operations, such as Cataract, but even this further medical referral for patients, was offered free of charge.

Bhavika Sajan from the Lions Club of Dar-es-salaam, said apart from the medical testing, they offered free glasses to people who need them, some medications and eye drops as well as footing hospital bills to the patients referred to hospitals for treatments.

"Of all the ailments we tested, the Maasai do not really seem to suffer

diabetic conditions or obesity, but when it comes to eye problems it is almost disaster for these communities," stated Sajan.

On his part, Manish Chavde of the Lions Club of Arusha, said they anticipated huge challenge as far as reaching out to the nomadic pastoralists; "Because we understand that they usually live very far apart and are constantly on the move, but the huge turnout we experienced during the clinics was encouraging," he added.

One of the patients tested during the free clinics, was Eliphas Lengima, who hailed from Losimingori. He admitted that eye problems really dogged them, "But upon being fitted with a pair of glasses, suddenly I can see clearly as well as being able to read perfectly."



Dr Laurean Ndumbaro, Permanent Secretary in the President's Office (Public Management and Good Governance), addresses public servants at Ifakara in Morogoro Region yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Bayer absorbs Monsanto to create new establishment for new agric revolution

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame in Arusha

WHILE the world seems to shift attention towards organically grown food, scientists have pointed out that, with the global population on the rise, it is high time new technology in crop production gets hatched to avert future food crisis.

Eric Bureau is the executive director of Bayer East Africa, which is part of the global scientific research and agro-chemical manufacturer, who was on view that combined efforts between scientist and agro-input establishments is the only solution towards modern farming targeting to address future food shortages.

"The world population will be hitting the 10 billion mark, come the year 2030 but the arable area for farming keep shrinking because we now have more people, competing for residential spaces, manufacturing plants, infrastructure and grazing land, leaving very little area for food production," pointed out Bureau.

He was on view that, in the wake of concerns that the global population is rapidly increasing while arable land for crop production keep shrinking, Agro input manufacturers should be teaming up with scientific research institutions to

come up with solutions to intercept future food shortages.

For instance, the giant scientific researcher and global producer of chemicals and medicine, Bayer, has just completed the US \$ 66 billion acquisition of one of the largest, agricultural inputs establishment, Monsanto targeting to create a mutual merger which will create new focus in food production.

Bayer has likewise absorbed all the Monsanto operations in Kenya and Tanzania; "Effective from the 1st of November 2019, Bayer Life Science Tanzania, subject to relevant regulatory approvals will transition all its operations to Monsanto Tanzania Limited," said Bureau.

Laurent Perrier, the Managing Director of Bayer Life Science Tanzania affirmed further that "We hope to end all trading activities of Bayer Life Science Tanzania by 31st of December 2019 and complete the closure of legal entity by the fourth quota of 2020," he said.

As far as Bayer is concerned, the merger targets to drive agriculture to the next level in both Tanzania and entire East African Region. The outfit will now have 40 employees in Tanzania according to Anthony Maina the Bayer Communications officer in East Africa.

Envoy pledges to work with Tanzania to achieve SDGs

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

INDONESIAN government has pledged to work together with international communities including Tanzania to navigate challenges in achieving the world's sustainable development goals (SDGs).

This was said in Dar es Salaam over the weekend by the Indonesian envoy to Tanzania, Prof Ratlan Pardede during the 74th anniversary of the Independence of the Republic of Indonesia.

He said Indonesia's commitment on SDGs reflects clearly own position as the current non-permanent members of the UN Security Council.

More importantly, Indonesia stands ready to work together with all of our partners to enhance the economic well being through collaboration in trade and investments.

He said Indonesia and Tanzania relations have always been positive and it is my sincere believe that it will remain positive forever.

"This positive atmosphere also reflects on the promising outlook that Indonesia and Tanzania will enjoy from our cordial relations", he said.

The envoy said Indonesia and Tanzania with all its potential would surely able to develop stronger economic relations that benefit our people.

He also said in the efforts of bringing closer cooperation between our two continents, in August 2019, the Indonesian Government has convened the Indonesia-Africa Infrastructure Dialogue (IAID) where Tanzanian delegation led by Mohamed Ramia Abdiwawa, Minister of Finance and Planning of Zanzibar attended the event.

According to him during that event, Indonesia and African countries reached 822 million USD worth of business deals in which four came from Tanzania.

Port Liquid Terminal in Zanzibar, clove leave oil distillation factory, pharmaceutical trade and cooperation.

In addition to that he said the dialogue also acknowledged the investment of soap and body lotion factory in Dar es Salaam.

He noted that to follow up the outcome of the infrastructure dialogue, Rini Soemarno, Indonesia's Minister for State Owned Enterprises has concluded her working visit in Zanzibar three days ago.

He said the visit also shows the commitment of Indonesia to work together with all of its partners in particular Tanzania.

Prof Pardede said during her visit in Zanzibar, Minister Rini Soemarno had a brief discussion with Dr. Ali Mohamed Shein, President of Zanzibar where they shared the importance for both parties to maintain the good communication and momentum between the parties.

"With all the efforts that our people have put together to elevate Indonesia-Tanzania bilateral relations, the Embassy expects more visits from both sides to establish more concrete economic cooperation between our two countries" the envoy said.

Last year, trade volume between Indonesia and Tanzania increased exponentially. From 303,4 million USD in 2017 to 334 million USD in 2018, there is an increase of 10 percents.

It is also worth to mention that last year mark the increase of Tanzania's export to Indonesia from 26 million USD in 2017 to 71.5 million USD in 2018. There is an increase of 63 percent.

However, we are still not satisfied with the figure, as it does not reflect the true potential of Indonesia and Tanzania, the ambassador said.

For that reason, Indonesia stands ready to do more trade with Tanzania.

He said Indonesia encourages Tanzania to embark on a new page of trade cooperation to open up more economic opportunities for both of our countries.

Indonesia with the population of 260 million, GDP of 1.04 trillion USD and member of G20, 16th largest economy in the world and predicted in 2030 will be among the top five world's economy.

Indonesia should be Tanzania's next partners in trade and investment from Asia.

Throughout our 55 years of diplomatic relations, Indonesia and Tanzania are bound by shared interests and shared values.

For the past couple of years, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia has extended scholarships for university degrees to more than 1000 students from 71 Developing Countries and countless short courses and technical courses where Tanzanian students and professional in private as well as public sectors were among the beneficiaries.

Enhanced Role of Finance in the Lives of Young People

Tanzania's youth, defined as 15 to 35 year olds as per the Tanzanian Youth policy, hold great potential for financial service providers. The recent Bridging the Age Gap report by FinSights Lab, an initiative by the Financial Sector Deepening Trust (FSDT), has

found that the demographic distribution in Tanzania presents huge potential for financial service providers in the country. As Tanzania's current youth segment moves into adulthood, it brings with it high literacy and education (43% of 25-35 year olds have

technical or tertiary education), and a willingness to adopt new technologies such as smartphones, digital payments and new apps.

In the report, FinSights Lab found that the uptake of formal financial services is highest at around 35 years of age, and is

low below the age of 25. By not offering the products and support that cater to young adults, the demographic dividend is being missed. In this report, FinSights Lab calculates that tackling the gap in uptake of financial services for the youth segment offers a promising market worth TZS 61.1 billion per year for mobile money providers, and TZS 232 billion for banks. New products which can tap into the unique needs and barriers of the youth market have the potential to capture this market.

It is in this context that FinSights Lab is accepting fresh applications from financial service providers who require support in driving the uptake and usage of financial services. In this application round, financial service providers will bring their ideas for the youth segment to the platform and will draw from the broad array of expertise available in FinSights Lab to appropriately research, design, test, and scale appropriate financial solutions for young people in Tanzania. FinSights Lab is very interested to hear about any high-potential solutions, or problems identified in the youth market, and encourages innovative and brave thinking.

FinSights Lab encourages all financial service providers with an interest in the youth market to apply. More details on the application and on FinSights Lab can be found on the FinSights Lab website, at www.fsdtd.or.tz/finsightslab/. Should you have any queries or require an in person appointment with FinSights Lab, send all inquiries to finsightslab@fsdt.or.tz

For further details on the Bridging the Age Gap Report, FinSights Lab's report can be found at: www.fsdtd.or.tz/category/publications



Call for Applications

Achieve Market Performance Through FinSights Lab

Do you want to learn about how to think of the youth market differently, and to match your products to its needs? Are young adults a major target market for you? Are you looking to build an effective product or solution that is catered to young adults? Do you want to improve an already existing product or solution which is underperforming?

If you answered yes to any of the questions above, then FinSights Lab can support you. FinSights Lab is a solutions-driven interactive research platform, set up by the Financial Sector Deepening Trust (FSDT) to support the financial services sector in Tanzania. FinSights Lab is designed to be flexible and nimble, providing solutions fast and at low cost. It brings together world-class expertise in behavioral design, data science and experimentation to bring a more action-oriented approach to solutions development. FinSights Lab has the experience and skills to carry out research, design and testing activities for clients in the financial services sector. By bringing these skills to the market, together we can create the innovation needed to disrupt Tanzania's financial services.

FinSights Lab has supported private sector financial services clients to design effective solutions for underperforming products, policies, or solutions. FinSights Lab is now opening a new application round to the market, in which we are calling for potential clients who are looking to offer solutions that cater to the youth segment (ages 16-35). FinSights Lab will support clients in this round through:

1. **Understanding** the problem using existing and bespoke research;
2. **Designing** solutions with the client to hit the youth market;
3. **Testing** the effectiveness of the solutions, and;
4. **Scaling** the most effective solutions to reach the desired impact.

To shed some light and insight on the terrain that the FinSights Lab platform is looking to venture into, some of the challenges confronting young people and their overall access to finance include:

- **Phone ownership:** There is a 15 percentage point gap in phone ownership between 16-24 year olds and 25 to 35 year olds (who are the most included age group)
- **ID ownership:** Only 56% of 16-24 year olds have some form of ID; thereby, leaving the remainder short of key Know Your Customer (KYC) requirements in gaining access to formal financial services
- **Lack of collateral:** With land being the key form of collateral for formal credit, among young people aged 16-24, only 1% have a title deed; thus, leaving the remainder locked out of formal credit channels

- **Poor financial health:** As a collective, the financial health of young people is 10 percentage points lower than the average of all other age groups.
- **Low levels of economic engagement:** Compared to other population segments, 37% of young people are dependent (vs 13% across other age groups) and on average, their monthly income is 40% that of other age groups

Specific population segments that the FinSights Lab platform is interested in developing solutions for include but is not limited to:

- Boda Boda drivers
- Bajaj drivers
- Machinga merchants
- House help
- Female traders

We invite your organization to submit your application to FinSights Lab, outlining the youth (ages 16 -35) focused market challenge you would like to resolve. For more details on FinSights Lab and the application process, please visit: www.fsdtd.or.tz/finsightslab.

The deadline for applications is 23 October 2019. Separately, if you would like to understand more about how to think of the youth market differently and more broadly, about the FinSights Lab platform, kindly RSVP with finsightslab@fsdt.or.tz for a half-day workshop that will be held on 11 October 2019. To read FinSights Lab's Age Gap Report, visit: www.fsdtd.or.tz/finsightslab

For further enquiries, please contact finsightslab@fsdt.or.tz

AMDT commended for supporting farmers to reap the benefits of sunflower production

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

SINGIDA Regional Commissioner Dr Rehema Nchimbi has commended the Agricultural Markets Development Trust (AMDT) for its contribution in scaling up sunflower farming value chain.

RC Nchimbi made the praise here last week when speaking to AMDT board members, who visited the region to see the success and challenges facing the sunflower and maize project, which is being executed countrywide.

Dr Nchimbi said the efforts made by AMDT in partnership with the non-governmental organizations such as FAIDA MALI—a market facilitator—are of great importance to the Singida region, as they have stimulated and made the residents know the importance of sunflower farming.

According to her, the organizations have influenced young men and women engage in cultivation of the crop stimulated increased production that contributes to reduction of imports.

“Many young people believe in urban life, not knowing that many economic opportunities exist in the agricultural sector, so I urge young people in my region to see the need to emulate the example of their young counterparts who have started and seen great success through sunflower farming” she said.

RC Dr Nchimbi added that, through the region, despite its reliance on other economic activities, sunflowers are a strategic raw materials that stimulate the establishment of industries.

Sunflower farmers visited by the AMDT board members, have thanked the institution for the training on agribusiness, the use of improved seeds, the importance of crop insurance and

how to increase the value of their crops.

For instance, Felister John, a sunflower farmer from Mangida village said she has been involved with sunflower farming for a long time and has seen successes through farming.

She said in her first years of crop cultivation, she did not see any benefits until he was soon able to receive training on how to make a productive crop, using the best and most quality seeds.

“After the trainings I now see the benefits of sunflower, because I use the best seeds that give me the better yields, and even loans because financial institutions trust me of the type of farming I do,” she said.

Jasmine Chumi of Msenga village said: “I have been able to bring by children to better schools through sunflower farming.”

She also managed to build modern house by (village standard) in the village due to sunflower farming.

FAIDA MALI Project Manager, Christopher Mkondya said in collaboration with their sponsors, the AMDT institution, they have focused on improving marketing systems in the sunflower crop in Singida Region.

“We aim to make sure the farmers make good use of systems by encouraging the use of hybrid seeds, but also to enable the farmers to access services such as crop insurance, as well as getting loans from financial institutions for purchasing inputs as well as enabling processors to develop their technologies,” Mkondya said.

Sunflower production project, which is being funded by the AMDT programme is expected to benefit approximately 32,000 farmers in Ilamba, Mkalama, Ikungi, Itigi and Singida municipality.



Foreign Affairs, East Africa, Regional and International Cooperation minister Prof Palamagamba Kabudi (R) welcomes Airtel Tanzania managing director Sunil Colaso in Dar es Salaam at the weekend for a briefing on the newly launched Airtel Money seamless transaction in East Africa. Left is the firm's Corporate Affairs director, Beatrice Singano. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Tunduru

TOURISM stakeholders have called for an improvement of road infrastructures on the tourist attraction sites available in southern Tanzania.

They made the call over the weekend when speaking at the meeting which involved members of the Mbarang'andu Wildlife management area (WMA), government officials and tourists who visited Mwembesi forest reserve located 90 from Tunduru District headquarters in Ruvuma Region.

One of the members of Mbarang'andu WMA, Salumu Masoud said that southern Tanzania's regions are rich in tourist destination sites including Mwembesi forest reserve which is under the Tanzania Forest Service

Tourism stakeholders suggest upgrading of road infrastructure to attraction sites

(TFS), which has been receiving good numbers of tourists.

Recently, the forest reserve received more than 50 tourists from different parts of the world, the situation that shows that if roads heading to the site are improved the number would be more than that, he said.

Masoud suggested the need for the government to empower all the tourist destinations available in the area, which are rich in biodiversity.

A Lukumbule villager, Oswald Michael appealed to the government to build road from Tunduru to Mwembesi

forest reserve, which is a home to a wide range of wild animals—buffalos, antelopes, lions and elephants.

For his part, TFS manager in Tunduru District Denis Mwangama said Mwembesi forest reserve is surrounded by 11 villages—Mtina, Angalia, Mwenge, Jiungeni, Michesi, Lukumbule and Imani. Others are Amani, Chiungo, Mea, Mtwaro and Mischela. On its south, the forest is bordered Ruvuma—Tanzania-Mozambique border.

He also described environmental degradation as one of the serious challenge thwarting conservation

efforts of the forest reserve.

According to him, shifting cultivation, wantonly tree felling and poaching are among the serious human activities threatening the survival of the forest and its flora and fauna, which are key aspect in tourism.

For his part, manager of PAMS Foundation in southern zone, Maximilian Jenès commended the move by local authorities to organize the meeting with tourists who visited the area. He said the move will help in scaling up tourism in the area and the country at large.

CCBRT launches institute's 25th anniversary

By Guardian Reporter

THE Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT) has outlined its achievements attained in the last 25 years since started operating in Tanzania.

CCBRT Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Brenda Msangi revealed this last week when speaking during an event to launch the institute 25th anniversary.

Established in 1994, CCBRT was meant to seek out individuals with cataracts in Dar es Salaam and refer them to local healthcare facilities for treatment and later it was realised that there was a desperate need for comprehensive disability care that extended beyond cataracts.

Msangi said that through people with disabilities services, CCBRT serves about 100,000 patients annually and 160,000 women and children through maternal, newborn and child health project.

Started with 15 staff, but now the institute has more than 400 staff in Dar es Salaam and Moshi.

She said that from its roots in small-scale community-based rehabilitation for people with disabilities, CCBRT has grown to become the country's largest provider of disability and rehabilitation services.

She said that during the institute's commemoration CCBRT will conduct various activities, which include free clinics, blood donation and health awareness to the public.

With 400 staff, CCBRT hospital now offers different medical treatment services in eye, cleft lip/palate, club foot, rehabilitation, ear, nose and throat, physiotherapy, maternal and newborn healthcare services.

She said: “Recently, we started offering dialysis services.”

She said that establishment of rehabilitation services to children with cerebral palsy at the Moshi-based centre in 1996 is one of the CCBRT's achievements.

Others according to Msangi include establishment of CCBRT hospital in 2001. The facility offers eye, bones, fistula, and correction of deformities of bones or muscles

In 2004, CCBRT established private services, in 2005, the institute established physiotherapy and rehabilitation

In 2008, CCBRT introduced advocacy unit and girls centre, which trains women recovering from fistula surgery in screen-printing, sewing, beading and crochet.

In 2009, CCBRT's sister organization—Kupona Foundation was founded in the United States. The foundation mobilises resources and builds strategic partnerships to support the continuation and sustainable growth of CCBRT's programmes. In 2011, maternity and newborn hospital was built.

She however commended different stakeholders for the technical, financial, academic and moral support to the institute.



Water deputy minister Jumaa Aweso (foreground) moves in style when addressing a rally in Ikungi District, Singida Region, at the weekend mainly on plans by the government to implement water projects in the district. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Embassy of the United States of America

U.S. MISSION DAR ES SALAAM VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The U.S. Mission in Dar es Salaam is seeking eligible and qualified applicants for the positions below.

1. Position Title: Information Management Assistant

Vacancy Number: DaresSalaam-2019-035

2. Position Title: Housing Clerk

Vacancy Number: DaresSalaam-2019-036

A copy of the complete position description listing all duties, responsibilities and qualifications required is available at:

<https://tz.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/>

HOW TO APPLY:

Applicants MUST follow instructions in the notice on the website: Failure to do so will result in an incomplete application. Previous applicants do not need to reapply.

Only Shortlisted candidates will be contacted only via email.

CLOSING DATE: Information Management Assistant - September 30, 2019

CLOSING DATE: Housing Clerk - October 7, 2019



Finance and Planning minister Dr Philip Mpango presents a copy of the Tanzania Bankers Association code of conduct to NMB Bank Plc acting managing director Filbert Mponzi (L) in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Right is the association's chairman, CRDB Bank Plc CEO and managing director Tanzania Abdulmajid Nsekela. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Makonda commends Global education link for supporting region's education sector

By Guardian Reporter

THE Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner, Paul Makonda has commended Global Education Link for its tremendous contribution in education sector in the country

Makonda made the remarks over the weekend during the ceremony to award best performing schools, teachers, students and District Executive Officers who performed well in the national examinations results

He said Global Education Link is an institution which recognises its role and it has been a potential partner to the region's education sector in Dar es Salaam Region and the country at large for the contribution, adding that it is the reason for the institution's success story.

"Global Education Link have very good people and they are doing wonders in our countries' education and I think that is the reason why they are archiving better every day," said RC Makonda

The Dar es Salaam Education Officer, Hamis Lissu, also commended Global Education Link for their contribution in education sector and it is the institution that donated trophies for the event and it has contributed a lot in Dar es Salaam

"Global Education Link is our good partner in Dar es Salaam and had awarded trophies of this event and that they have been doing many things to support the education sector in Dar es Salaam. We are very proud of them I congratulate you very much," said Lisu

On his part, Global Education Link Executive Director, Abdulmalik Mollel congratulated Makonda for his vision in education sector adding that he is the one who raised the region performance at national level and emerged number one for the consecutive three years from 2006.

Mollel said since Makonda became Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner has put in place different strategies to boost the education sector in the region and all strategies had been implemented and made the region shine in the national examinations results

"This success does not come from the air, it is because of the efforts by Makonda since he came in office he had

put different strategies and he had been implementing them," said Mollel

Either, Mollel promised that Global Education Link will continue collaborating with the government and Dar es Salaam region to make sure quality education in the country is improved to the needed level. "Due to the government efforts we don't talk about shortage of teachers or desks any more. Now we are talking on how provide quality education which will be in line with industry development," he said.

"We need to make sure our students attain education that would help the national vision to become middle income country and industrial development," he said. The company has successfully managed to link more than 5,000 students with universities abroad since its establishment in 2016.

Recently, Global Education many students who wish to study abroad nowadays to make their dreams come true.

She said the company has set plans to make follow ups for students to link them with different universities abroad to know their developments and challenges facing them.

She said they also visit different secondary schools to advise students which kind of courses they wish to take up at their universities. "We also make follow up of their development while abroad and after universities education we also follow them to know their developments and what they are doing and advice them properly, she said.

Regina said every student who go abroad further education through their company they do all the processes for enrollment, Visa application, passport and all government permits to allow him or her to travel abroad.

"After all procedures of travelling we look for air tickets and usually our students use single flight when they go abroad for studies you can find that one flight has more than 50 students going abroad with our staffs to help them," she said.

She said in order to know what their students are doing while at the universities abroad, they have special system to make follow ups to know their performance at the universities and their conduct and advice them accordingly.

SDA donates 24 dust bins worth 6m/- to Morogoro municipal council

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa,

Morogoro

THE Seventh Day Adventist Church (SDA) has donated 24 dust bins worth 6m/- to Morogoro Municipal Council as part of the church's support to the municipality hygiene and sanitation programme in the municipality.

The church had also planted 1000 trees on the Uluguru Mountain ranges as part of complementing government's efforts to conserve the area.

The support is part of the church to

celebrate five years of pastoral healing services of the Southern Tanzania Union Mission of Extravaganza, which brought on board thousands of worshippers from 18 Tanzanian regions and Eastern African countries. The similar event was held in Dar es Salaam five years ago

Archbishop of SDA Church in Southern Tanzania Union Mission, Mark Malekana handed over the facilities to Morogoro municipal mayor Paschal Kianga.

The archbishop said the donation is part of the church's commitments to

wards supporting cleaning campaign in the municipality.

He also revealed that members of the church almost youth planted trees along Uluguru mountain ranges to restore vegetation on the area which is an important water sources in the country.

The Archbishop said that apart from the support, the church has been offering medical services in health centres almost across the country.

For his part, Morogoro Municipal Mayor Kianga, thanked the church for the sanitary facilities saying: "SDA

church plays a great in supporting development of the region. Churches, including this of the Seventh Day Adventists make a great contribution to our nation, I assure you that the government will continue cooperating with you," he said.

He said that the facilities will help to address challenges related to hygiene and sanitation in the municipality.

The SDA's southern portion of Tanzania comprises the East-Central Tanzania, South-East Tanzania, and southern highlands conferences.

Govt challenged over proposed national day for women and girls with disabilities

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

AT LEAST 180 members of Tanzania Women Parliamentary Group (TWPG) convened in capital city to hear multiple problems facing physical challenged Tanzanians, and proposition for the national day for women and girls with disabilities.

The two day event, organized by Ikupa Trust Fund in partnership with UNWO and Legal Service Facility (LSF), among others majored over discussions of diverse technical and advisory issues, with an eye to advance the rights and status of women and girls with disabilities.

It was raised during the event that, women with disabilities often experience inequality at workplaces as regard hiring and promotion standards as well as training and retraining.

Poor access to capital loans, education and other vital humanitarian and social services were among key challenges aired by majority of the disables during the forum.

However, they detailed that, the barrier to education faced by women and girls with disabilities in the country include the attitudes of others towards the disables' ability to learn, but also, for other factors.

"For example, parents often feels that their disables daughters will be assaulted or attacked to simple basic things such as not having access to basic hygiene in a school setting, such as access to menstrual pads and other devices. So there are a whole variety of issues that cause barrier for us in going to school," expressed Safina William, one of disabled girl who featured in the event.

Speaking earlier during her opening remarks, chief guest, deputy speaker of the National Assembly Dr Tulia Ackson, underscored the need for more intervention to fight against all forms of discrimination, atrocities and Gender Based Violence (GBV) against disable communities from across the country.

She said the fifth phase government was at fore front to ensure for equity treatment of all citizens, including people with disabilities.

Dr Ackson challenged financial institutions in the country to set conducive environment of rolling -out capital loans towards women with disabilities.

She said, apart from facing different forms of violence and discriminations, physical handicapped women in Tanzania have also been crowded -out from accessing capital loans to enable them venturing into varied income generating activities.

"That's why the government through the parliament has directed all municipalities to set aside at least 2% from their budget to support disable communities in their respective areas," she informed.

She added that the government in partnership with development partners was working round the clock to put and improve infrastructures for supporting disable people at all key social service provider institutions, ranging from

schools, banks, and hospitals.

"We are aware that people with disabilities still faces hard times to get services in many social services providing institutions due to lack of relevant facilities like absence of sign language assistance," she expressed.

Apart from hailing the presented proposed idea of having the national day for women and girls with disabilities, she

pledged to push for the key idea, saying the day, if accepted and endorsed, will play major role in advocating for the rights of disables communities.

For her part, Deputy Minister for State, Prime Minister's Office, Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Labour, Employment, Youth and Disable, Stella Ikupa, hailed President John Magufuli for giving disable people friendly

treatment and consideration.

She urged parents with disable children to ensure their children are attending to school, saying education is the only promised way of silencing discriminations and atrocities against disable communities.

The annually staged forum was attended also by a total of 100 different development partners as well as members from gender

desk.

leaders of disable women groups from regions with high rate of violence against women and girls with disabilities.

Statistics depicts regions with high number of disables persons as Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Manyara, Shinyanga, Simiyu, Singida, Kigoma, Mara, Rukwa, Arusha, Ruvuma and Dodoma.

SAFER BULK CASH DEPOSIT. NOW A REALITY.

TELLER 1

TELLER 2

EXIM AT WORK TODAY FOR TOMORROW

Cash Deposit Machine

Our Bulk Cash Deposit machine rids you of the hassle of visiting bank branches and waiting in long queues. It empowers you to make bulk deposits easily and at your convenience, making sure your needs are met and leaving you with time to do more.

#BeyondBanking

Kindly contact call centre 0800 780 111 for more information.
Visit www.eximbank.co.tz for more information.

EXIM BANK
Innovation is life

EAC fashion plan useful but real demand matters most

INNOVATIONS are coming up among member states of the East African Community (EAC) as to how to push the regional textile industry to become sustainable. The key driver of these innovations is the feeling that it is illogical to produce plenty of cotton and sell it raw, and then import second hand clothes for mass consumption. Still tinkering with that facility is a powder keg first in commercial relations with some developed countries, and other issues.

An EAC Secretariat organ named the Sectoral Council on Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment (SCTIFI) has declared Fridays as 'Afrika Mashariki Fashion Day' during which East Africans are encouraged to wear attires manufactured in the region. A session of the council also declared the 1st Week of September as 'Afrika Mashariki Fashion Week' to be held annually, alongside EAC Trade Fair and Exhibition for designed textiles or garments for the region.

Noticeably the ministerial session of the 36th SCTIFI was chaired by Rwanda's Minister for Trade and Industry, Soraya Hakuziyaremye, whose country pursued a lone policy of banning imports of used clothes especially from the United States, while other EAC member states backed down. There was a plan in 2016 to wean the region from dependency on used clothing imports, but the new US administration raised a clear threat in 2017 against any such plans. Still banning such imports was unlikely to be popular with consumers, unable to buy designer textiles and garments, at best a niche product also for exporting.

EAC states have approved the Cotton, Textile and Apparels (CTA) Strategy, by adopting its Final Draft and Implementation Roadmap, on the basis of sources at the meeting in Arusha.

Two techniques appear to be working at the EAC Secretariat, the 'hard' option of adopting standards that will erode the ground for importing most of the used clothing, and a 'soft' option of marketing local textile products via fashion week and exhibitions. It is still an experimental line.

It was all the same unclear whether SCTIFI was seeking protection of budding industries in the region or inserting itself in the wider African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCTA) process. The council urged EAC partner states producing cotton to set up national cotton lint buffer stock mechanisms to ensure all year-round availability of locally produced cotton lint for spinning mills. That has to do with local synergies, helping to attract capital into textile industries.

That is why the meeting's resolutions and the future path it projects remained rather unclear as both the protective and free trade elements in current trade negotiations and policy making remained tied together, as they are for each of the partner states. There is a technical problem however, tied with nationalist sentiments that in order to develop we should remove imports and produce our own clothing, whereas that would lead to disturbances as most people can't afford new clothes, and would severely cut their range of choice. So the matter should be looked at from diminishing taxes and non-tariff barriers so that prices of new or designer models come down and their use spread faster.

That sort of approach doesn't project a revolution in industrialization but it ensures that the growth of the sector is sustainable. Compelling users to adopt 'wear East African' is plausible at upper social levels, so the markets should continue being open. A niche fashion market can spread fast as well.

Medical Credit Fund, NMB loans venture laudable move

A LOAN facility targeting private medical facilities has been unveiled of late, bringing together the Medical Credit Fund, a branch of PharmAccess Foundation medical group charitable initiative has been unveiled or picking up speed in Tanzania, as it appears that the group is well planted in East Africa. A publicity write up for the fund towards the end of last year said that 2018 was ending on a celebratory note for Medical Credit Fund. The non-profit health fund dedicated to health SMEs in Africa had issued its 1000th new loan for the year, a large number of loans it said was due to a new product.

The specific product at issue was called Cash Advance which the write up said uses the digital revenues of healthcare providers to secure and repay loans, and in the current initiative the NMB has decided to team up with MCF to reach out to private medical care by that same business model. There is a degree to which the model is related for instance to Uber taxi services, in that it is the digital aspect of the business which assures its sustainability, not splitting cash on the ground. It presumes that private health facilities will get cash from clients without much hassle.

Going through the write up, which is now being put into practice in Tanzania as well, the mother company, PharmAccess says that its vision is a world where everybody is connected to affordable healthcare through mobile technology.

It says that mobile technology has disrupted virtually every industry, creating transparent business models that drastically cut transaction costs while putting the end user at the center. That precisely is the positive aspect about the facility, that is kicks out the

cheating.

PharmAccess expresses its core philosophy rather easily that "crucially, a person with a mobile phone is a person with a voice. With a simple piece of technology in their hands, those who were typically excluded can participate in the types of services and exchanges that many of us take for granted. This is why PharmAccess believes that new digital platforms like M-TIBA hold the key to democratizing healthcare." So far it is our northern neighbours who have been making use of this facility, now starting to catch up this side of the border, as plenty of the network is shared.

To illustrate that the model works, the facility has loaned out the equivalent of \$292,000 (more than 600m/-) in ten Cash Advances in Kenya, which the write up says have been crucial to managing cash flows especially when insurance payments are delayed. "Short term working capital needs have been bridged by Cash Advances," it said, highlighting timely salary payments to hospital staff and restocking of its medical stores until of course its own remittances are released, in this case say by the National Insurance Health Fund (NHIF). It makes life easier.

On that account as well, it is clear that private hospitals will be more receptive of insurance cover by NHIF and the Community Health Fund (CHF) when such a mechanism is in place, as delayed insurance payments frustrate private health care providers. In the same line of 'ease of doing medical business,' it is likely NHIF will be responsibly engaged in the leveraging context unlike when hospitals line up individually to look for payments, as then they have to counter check the sums repeatedly. The digital facility will ease things in private medical care and life as a whole.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757154767
General line: 0745700710
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Manager Sales and Marketing: KAUTHAR DSOUZA
0767223311
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: www.ippmedia.com
epaper.ippmedia.com



By Kadiker Rex Dahn

IN the Liberian academic culture, one of the things that I find quite disturbing is the conferring of honorary doctorate degrees by universities and colleges. Some, if not most of these institutions' lecturers are not that voiced in academia and, that a number of these institutions were accredited "under the table" without proper verification, while others are living in past academic glory.

Amazingly, for the lack of fear of academic crime, some of these institutions in question continue to deceive their honorary recipients and the public. As of now, Liberian universities and colleges do not have the academic authority to grant honorary doctorate degrees.

Consequently, President George Weah's honorary doctorate at Cuttington University, Vice President Jewel Howard Taylor's honorary doctorate at St. Clement University College, Education Minister Ansu D. Sonii's honorary at Starz College, and many others, are deception at the highest level. Such an effort is meant to entice and deceive recipients.

This article will argue that President Weah, Vice President Taylor, Minister Sonii and others, who are proudly masquerading as doctors, because they received honorary doctorate from Liberian universities are no doctor at all; they were enticed and deceived.

Discussions

Some Liberians in and outside of government both past and present have demonstrated and continue to demonstrate that they are not content with their academic statuses.

As a result of the dissatisfaction, they falsely and misleadingly seek ways and means to bestow on themselves the honorary doctorate degree. What these academic hustlers and conferring institutions failed to realize is that in academia, there are criteria in conferring and receiving an honorary doctorate degree; there are strict guidelines to follow.

Any violation of these guidelines is a mockery of the system, and self-deception at the highest level. As best international practice dictates, the first of these guidelines requires that the institution in question to confer the honorary doctorate degree in one form or another, should offer an actual doctorate in certain discipline.

In other words, the conferring institution as part of their academic program, should and must be offering doctorate to their students. If on the other hand, that institution does not offer doctorate degree to their students, one must ask, by what authority does such an institution have to grant honorary doctorate degree?

One cannot give what one does not have. Is the conferring of an honorary doctorate in Liberia meant to entice

Honorary doctorate: President Weah and others both enticed and deceived



President George Weah



Vice President Taylor, Minister Sonii

recipients for funding purposes or, as we say it in Liberian terms, the institution to be in good rapport with the recipient? Something is inherently, and terribly wrong within the academic community in Liberia.

Nowhere in our Liberian Constitution that requires that in order to be considered for appointed or elected position, one must, be a doctorate holder. If this proposition is true, we wonder why those in government are fascinated with honorary doctorate even at the point of making mockery of themselves, and our politicized academic system?

Consider this: people refer to President Weah as Doctor, Doctor because he received honorary doctorate from Cuttington University and that of the University of Liberia. Do people really in their right minds believe President Weah to be Doctor, Doctor? Let me be emphatic here: President Weah's achievements as well as those of Vice President Taylor and Minister Sonii warrant receiving honorary doctorate, but the current granting institutions are not clothed with the academic authority to do so.

Arguably, our contention is that the lack of an academic authority by any university in Liberia to confer such honor invalidates President Weah so-called Doctor, Doctor Titles.

Imagine all of Liberian universities and colleges, including community colleges conferring honorary doctorates. Will the nation not be producing a contaminated and corrupted academic society where our country's doctorates will only be in name, but actualizing those doctorates with respect to competence and expertise will be remote?

Certainly, it would. We maintain that it is an academic crime for financial reasons to entice, distort and deceive honorary recipients when those academics in question as of now are not clothed with the academic authority to do so.

This concern is not only about

those in government, because our Liberian churches are also inundated with the need for this honorary doctorate degree. Some of our churches at times invite pastors and bishops, especially from those ones from Nigeria to participate in a church program.

At the end of such a program, the Nigerian Pastor or Bishop will confer an honorary doctorate degree to their protégé, and subsequently, that church will have a "Reverend Doctor." Here again, Liberian clergymen and women are making mockery of themselves and the church for which Christ died.

We wonder why our politicians, before election or appointment in government, were not called doctors to impress the Appointing Power or electorates, but suddenly, after appointment and election, they are concerned about such a title? To our church leaders, one does not have to be a reverend doctor before becoming a good church leader or the ability to accurately exegetic the Bible.

Bestowing such a title without going to through normal processes invalidates the distinction between the church and the corrupt world. Church leaders as ambassadors of Christ must be above reproach.

Conclusion

This article is not meant to demean President Weah, Vice President Taylor, neither Minister Sonii and others, who have climbed the honorary doctorate ladder at Liberian universities and colleges. Our efforts are also intended to remind our Liberian academic institutions to guard against continuously conferring honorary degrees, especially considering the academic culture in the country.

Frankly, President Weah and others who have received honorary doctorates for "monetary gains" were enticed and deceived by their conferring institutions, because these institutions fully know that at the moment, they do not have the academic authority to do

so. Certainly, calling President Weah Doctor, Doctor is a mockery, because people, who utter such title, say it with the tune and comprehension of duplicity, dishonesty and deception. Consequently, it could be appropriate for President Weah and others to reject, recant and return those questionable honorary doctorates to their givers just like how former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf rejected and refused to accept honorary doctorates from any Liberian university.

We urge all Liberian universities and colleges to stop the enticement and deception in conferring an honorary doctorate since Liberian higher academic institutions as of now, do not have the academic authority to do so. We urge Liberian media to desist from calling President Weah Doctor, Doctor, because that conferment was done under the canopy of enticement, deception and lack of an authority.

Since Liberian academic institutions as of now do not have the academic authority to confer an honorary doctorate, one must ask, what happens since the honorary has already been conferred?

Keep posted for our next article under the topic: Can Cuttington University and University of Liberia Revoke President Weah's Honorary?

About the author: Kadiker Rex Dahn holds a PhD in Historical, Philosophical and Social Foundations of Education from the University of Oklahoma. He also holds two Masters respectively from University of Oklahoma and Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in the United States.

He once served as a Deputy Minister of Education and Deputy Director General, National Commission on Higher Education. He is an author of the book, "Learning from the Lives of Exiled Liberians: An Oral History from 1979-2006. He is a member of the North America Scholar Consortium, Membership with Highest Honor.

Start the week with Cynthia Stacey

The shame of Coco Beach... Will there be another?

JAMBO, greetings for the week. And, yet again, today's topic is Coco Beach at Oysterbay in Dar es Salaam, since it's in the news once more - just as it has been often over the years. And a photo in the press a few days ago with the caption 'geared up for a facelift' shows some of the degradation of a once pristine beach with its tranquility destroyed... But can development 'UN-destroy' it?

The government recently criticised Kinondoni municipal authorities for not improving Coco Beach. However, given the municipality's often discreditable history, it's rather like expecting the poacher to turn gamekeeper and start saving the animals.

I've been involved with this issue for over two decades, and have hung on like a dog with a bone, achieving nothing - and with the bone lost along the way. Nevertheless, I'm still depressed at the inevitable outcome of development in this area, even if it's only 'remedial', and I hope it doesn't mean ugly and inappropriate structures going up also.

This is because this had been a perfect unspoiled beach area, but has been rapidly damaged by those running the squalid hotel over the years. But there's been more than one group of players in this sorry set-up who've left a lasting legacy.

Anyway, I'm not alone in thinking that a misguided policy of large-scale beach developments, well run or not, can also result in other vandalised coastlines.

But let's recall the background to this particular example, which definitely wasn't development but more like environmental sabotage... What a pity that's not a criminal offence.

Some years ago, whilst driving around the peninsular with visitors from Britain, they asked us why so much land in the area had been cleared, and hoped it wasn't for more high-rise building apartments. And I jokingly told them, "...well, this is possibly due to dodgy doings",



Now slowly being improved, Coco Beach area at Oyster Bay in Dar es Salaam. This was a once pristine zone, but the hotel operating on it nearby caused rapid degradation of the surroundings and shoreline once it started operating. (File photo)

and we all laughed.

A week or so after my guests' departure from Tanzania, this land clearance 'project' was exposed in the media, and was as dubious as it appeared, revealing malpractices from Kinondoni Municipal Council land officers, though the fruits of their misdeeds were later revoked.

Surprisingly, defending their action at the time, the then Lands minister said that "the area has been lying idle because the council lacked resources

to develop it"...whilst, not far away in Oyster Bay, a different sort of land grab had been successful at Coco Beach.

Over twenty years ago, this was a gleaming expanse of pearly white sand, a perfect example of an unpoluted tropical shoreline. For the benefit of occasional swimmers, the Dar es Salaam City authorities had operated a small shower and toilet facility, but decided to put it up for tender with the proviso that the same services be maintained.

A long-term user of this little bit of paradise, I went away for some time and, on returning, was shocked

to see a bar and hotel operating on the now filthy rubbish-strewn site.

The then City Commission ordered the business to be closed down and, attending the court case, I asked in 'The Guardian' of August 12, 1996, "...Will (City) Commissioner Charles Keenja be forced to back down on the Coco Beach hotel issue now that the construction has been opened...?"

Six months later, and amid even greater environmental degradation, the ex-bathroom was doing a roaring trade. Eventually, after attending another court case, I penned a small report in another news-

paper on August 10, 1998, part of which stated "...The Coco Beach hotel case finally came to an end in a city Court as magistrate Fatuma Kiwanga ordered its Director Alphonse Buhatwa to pay a 45,000 sh fine and to close it down, which is what the commission had been trying to achieve for some time."

The closure duly happened, and I went off again... returning only to find the hotel fully operating once more and, by 2010, it had expanded into a filthy run-down settlement, with the destruction of the area complete.

So why was this shanty town slum, best described as Masaki's Manzese in the making, now under the auspices of Kinondoni Municipal Council, as opposed to being bulldozed, which should have been done a long time ago?

The entire saga of this ugly blot on the coastal landscape has been a visible testament of failure by the authorities to protect fragile resources. It shows also that some of what has often passed for development here has at best been the result of inept decisions or, at worst corruption in action or more often than not a combination of both.

Here it's not just wildlife that's endangered but the nation's coastline has also long been under siege and its areas of natural beauty are threatened. But if large waterfront projects are given the go-ahead, there'll be fewer leisure areas for local people, who'll begin to wonder: "Can we afford to visit that expensive beach-front park where we used to walk on the sand for free?"

...This is because the more public beaches are taken over by private investors, the more they'll become permanently de-commissioned to those unable to afford visiting them.

Mwalimu Nyerere did not want mass tourism in the country chiefly because of its impact on the people, but how much do today's decision-makers in the relevant government departments care for the views and interests of the citizens?

...Well, President John Magufuli does care, and I've just recalled that when he assumed power, he ordered that Coco Beach be taken over and put right for the enjoyment of the citizens.

This cancelled out a few of the worries I had, on seeing a media headline reading: "Investors fail to develop beach - Government moves in". I had wondered, were they (a) the 'GOODIES' to the rescue - out to restore the area to what it was and keep it natural, or (b) the 'BAD-DIES' as in ...now let's develop this beach properly...big time...where's the cement?!

...Let's pray for (a)... Hallelujah!

Inciting harm against those who hold opposing political views is undemocratic

By David Bilchitz

IT is simply unacceptable in a democracy to advocate hatred or incite people to harm others with different political views. Advocacy of hatred and incitement to harm inhibits contestation and is inherently undemocratic in its very nature.

Is it acceptable to incite harm against those who hold diametrically opposing views? This is a crucial question for the construction of a truly democratic society in South Africa.

Democracies are noisy and argumentative places: there are strongly felt disagreements that take place - yet, to enable an environment in which every individual equally can express their views, it is necessary to ensure that individuals do not fear violent reprisals. It is thus legitimate for democratic societies to place legal limits on a discourse that incites violence or other serious harms against those who hold differing views.

The disagreement between those who support the state of Israel and those who oppose its existence and/or occupation of post-1967 Palestinian territories (and treatment of Palestinians there) is often very heated in South Africa. The identities of individuals are often felt to be at stake in these debates and, as a result, they provoke strong rhetoric and confrontations. This charged context was the setting for an important case that will come before the Constitutional Court this week and help determine the boundaries of legitimate speech in South Africa.

The case concerned statements made by Bogani Masuku, Secretary of the International Relations Arm of Cosatu, at a time of heightened violent conflict between Israelis and Palestinians which left about 1,200 Palestinians and 13 Israelis dead. In light thereof, there were various heated online engagements that took place. In one of these, Masuku wrote that "every Zionist must be made to drink the bitter medicine they are feeding our brothers and sisters in Palestine. We must target them, expose them and do all that is needed to subject them to perpetual

suffering...".

A month later Masuku addressed a rally organised by the Palestine Solidarity Committee at the University of the Witwatersrand. During the course of his address, Masuku made a number of statements which included the following: "... any South African family who sends its son or daughter to be part of the Israel Defence Force must not blame us when something happens to them with immediate effect" and "Cosatu is with you, we will do everything to make sure that whether it is at Wits, whether it is at Orange Grove, anyone who does not support equality and dignity, who does not support rights of other people must face the consequences even if it means that we will do something that may necessarily cause what is regarded as harm..."

The South African Jewish Board of Deputies lodged a complaint with the South African Human Rights Commission and contended that these statements targeted the Jewish community and constituted hate speech. Masuku responded by saying he

had no intention to target anyone for their religion or ethnicity - what he targeted was a political ideology, namely Zionism.

The Human Rights Commission found that the statements made by Masuku did constitute hate speech against the Jewish community. This finding was confirmed in a judgment of the Equality Court which ordered Masuku to make an unconditional apology to the South African Jewish Board of Deputies.

This judgment was overturned in a very troubling judgment of the Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA). Apart from failing adequately to capture the existing law relating to hate speech, the judgment found that, since Masuku had targeted "Zionists" instead of Jews, his speech did not constitute hate speech. Further, Masuku's speech, while hurtful and inflammatory, remained within the bounds of constitutional protection. This judgment is deeply flawed for several reasons - I elaborate on one central defect below.

The SCA appeared to find that incitement to harm individu-



GLOBAL EROSION OF DEMOCRATIC NORMS



ideology that differed from his should be harmed. Yet, it is simply unacceptable in a democracy to advocate hatred or to incite people to harm others with different political views.

If individuals are subject to the incitement of physical violence - or serious social or psychological consequences - against them for holding their opinions, they will either change them or not express them. Preserving the ability of individuals to have different views - even on matters that are controversial - is central to our valuing of freedom as well as the capacity of individuals to decide for themselves on matters of belief and conscience. Advocacy of hatred and incitement of harm against those who differ also inhibits contestation and thus is inherently undemocratic in its very nature.

The SCA seemed worried that hate the speech provisions, if interpreted too expansively, can inhibit free speech. Nothing I have said undermines the importance of free speech nor the imperative to construe its limits expansively: at the same time, the incitement of harm against individuals or groups - whether because of their ethnicity or religion or because of their opinions and beliefs - should not be permitted in a democracy.

Robust challenges of points of view are completely acceptable: if Masuku had utilised the platforms he occupied to advocate for the rights of Palestinians, to highlight injustices perpetrated by Israel, and to critique the perspectives of those who supported Israel's actions, there could have been no complaint. The problem was that he went further: he made threats and suggested that supporters of Israel should be harmed. That goes beyond what should be permissible free speech in a democracy.

It is to be hoped the flaws in the SCA judgment will be corrected by the Constitutional Court.

als for holding a political ideology is legitimate as opposed to incitement on the grounds of religion or ethnicity. Now, it is far from clear that Masuku's comments were not targeted at Jews - his identification of a specific neighbourhood and the practice of sending children to fight in Israel's army would, in all likelihood, include only Jews in its net.

However, even if Masuku only intended to target "Zionists", his speech should not be tolerated in a constitutional democracy. Masuku clearly and expressly said that individuals who hold a particular

Peace without justice: A threat to Liberia's emerging democracy

By Simeon S. Wiakanty

AMBASSADOR Juli Endee, Executive Director for the Crusaders for Peace, has said peace without justice is a threat to the country's emerging democracy.

Ambassador Endee made these remarks recently when her institution made a presentation of Imillion Liberian dollars to Women in Peace Building Network (WIPNET) as the winner for the 2019 George Weah Peace Prize in Monrovia.

The George Weah Peace Prize is an annual award given through the Kukaturon (meaning we are one), it is also a peace festival that organizations in Liberia are recognized for promoting peace, reconciliation and security. The award further recognized President George M. Weah efforts and roleplayed in terms of fostering peace in Liberia during the 14years of civil crisis which destroyed thousands of lives and properties.

Endee said if Liberia must move forward there is a need to respect the rule of law and access to justice which is cardinal to the growth and development of every nation. "There can be no genuine peace without justice, let us make sure that justice prevails for all not for one," she emphasized.

She said to also keep the peace, the truth must be told, because if you can not say the truth; absolutely you are not a peacemaker. She urged the government to investigate the recent incident in District #15 and persecute anyone found liable for the violence.

She told citizens to denounce the culture of violence and promote peace, adding citizens should to do away with what she termed as branding all of Liberia's activities as negatives, adding that there are a lot of positive things that happened in Liberia than bad.

"Liberia is contributing to the sub-region and the world at large positively, people try to paint everything about the country negatively, and there are good people in Liberia that are making more positive impact than the bad ones, how can we say that we are peacemakers, then we say to the world do not support Liberian then?" She asked.

She said Liberians who claims to be



Liberians who claim to be patriotic are not showing patriotism and leadership. It is not about the government because the government refers to you, me and the rest including you that are sitting here

patriotic are not showing patriotism and leadership. "It is not about the government because the government refers to you, me and the rest including you that are sitting here," she noted.

She further acknowledges that there are issues in the country is faced with but disagreed with those Liberians who are calling on the international community to stop supporting Liberia.

Endee stated that the KUKATURNON Peace Festival started 18 years ago during the leadership of former President Charles Taylor and up to current President George Weah, stressing that it will go beyond President Weah's Administration.

According to her, 16 years ago Liberia signed the Accra Peace Accord that ended the Liberian Civil war during which time the Women in Peace Building Network played a very active role.

According to her the KUKATURNON Peace Festival has another program called the Mano River Union Women Conference, highlighting that every year they will organize the KUKATURNON Peace Festival, noting that they will have the Mano River Women Conference where women will share their experiences from the various MRU countries, which she said could help in maintaining peace in their respective countries. Queen Juli Endee said part of the experienc-

ing sharing would concentrate on health, drugs abuse, and domestic violence, among others. She further disclosed that the KUKATURNON Peace Festival has been accepted and adopted in the MRU countries for the sake of iprotecting the peace and stability of the MRU Region. Madam Endee said other MRU countries would shortly conduct KUKATURNON Peace Festivals, indicating that all started from Liberia.

The National Coordinator of Women in Peace Building Network Belphe Morris who extolled the organizers of the KUKATURNON Peace Festival for recognizing the work of the Women in Peace Building Network in Liberia and the West African Region.

The award was the first major recognition from the Liberia Government, something which she said is worthy of commendation.

She commended President George Weah for his efforts to promote peace and stability of the Country including the support to the peace prize.

She reaffirmed her organization's commitment to protecting the peace and stability of Liberia, she quickly pointed out that while it is true that peace must be maintained, her institution will not compromise any issue that will violate the rights of women including other abusive acts

perpetuated by heartless men. Madam Morris noted that women have the ability to mitigate the effects of any form of violence and ensure that the country is peaceful.

Liberia officially the Republic of Liberia, is a country on the West African coast. It is bordered by Sierra Leone to its northwest, Guinea to its north, Ivory Coast to its east, and the Atlantic Ocean to its south-southwest. It covers an area of 111,369 square kilometers (43,000 sq mi) and has a population of around 4,900,000. English is the official language and over 20 indigenous languages are spoken, representing the numerous ethnic groups who make up more than 95 per cent of the population. The country's capital and largest city is Monrovia.

Liberia began as a settlement of the American Colonization Society (ACS), who believed black people would face better chances for freedom and prosperity in Africa than in the United States.

The country declared its independence on July 26, 1847. The U.S. did not recognise Liberia's independence until February 5, 1862, during the American Civil War. Between January 7, 1822, and the American Civil War, more than 15,000 freed and free-born black people who faced legislated limits in the U.S., and 3,198 Afro-Caribbeans, relocated to the settlement. The settlers carried

their culture and tradition with them. The Liberian constitution and flag were modeled after those of the U.S. On January 3, 1848, Joseph Jenkins Roberts, a wealthy, free-born African American from Virginia who settled in Liberia, was elected Liberia's first president after the people proclaimed independence.

Liberia was the first African republic to proclaim its independence, and is Africa's first and oldest modern republic. It retained its independence during the Scramble for Africa. During World War II, Liberia supported the United States war efforts against Germany and in turn, the U.S. invested in considerable infrastructure in Liberia to help its war effort, which also aided the country in modernizing and improving its major air transportation facilities. In addition, President William Tubman encouraged economic changes. Internationally, Liberia was a founding member of the League of Nations, United Nations, and the Organisation of African Unity.

The Americo-Liberian settlers did not relate well to the indigenous peoples they encountered, especially those in communities of the more isolated "bush". The colonial settlements were raided by the Kru and Grebo from their inland chiefdoms. Americo-Liberians developed as a small elite that held on to political power, and indigenous tribesmen were excluded from birthright citizenship in their own land until 1904, in an echo of the United States' treatment of Native Americans. Americo-Liberians promoted religious organizations to set up missions and schools to educate the indigenous peoples.

In 1980 political tensions from the rule of William R. Tolbert resulted in a military coup during which Tolbert was killed, marking the beginning of years-long political instability.

Five years of military rule by the People's Redemption Council and five years of civilian rule by the National Democratic Party of Liberia were followed by the First and Second Liberian Civil Wars.

These resulted in the deaths of 250,000 people (about 8 pc of the population) and the displacement of many more, and shrank Liberia's economy by 90 per cent. A peace agreement in 2003 led to democratic elections in 2005, in which Ellen Johnson Sirleaf was elected President. National infrastructure and basic social services were severely affected by the conflicts, with 83 per cent of the population now living below the international poverty line.

The Pepper Coast, also known as the Grain Coast, has been inhabited by indigenous peoples of Africa at least as far back as the 12th century. Mende-speaking people expanded westward from the Sudan, forcing many smaller ethnic groups southward toward the Atlantic Ocean. The Dei, Bassa, Kru, Gola, and Kissi were some of the earliest documented peoples in the area.

South Africa pushes for trade in endangered wildlife

By Andreas Wilson-Spath

SOUTH Africa, DRC, Namibia and Zimbabwe believe they should be able to sell threatened wildlife species on global markets, just like mass-produced trinkets.

The South African government, together with those of the DRC, Namibia and Zimbabwe, is proposing measures which, if enacted, could open the door to the international trade in elephant ivory, rhino horn and other endangered species.

In a submission to the eighteenth conference of the parties (CoP18) to CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) to be held in Switzerland in September 2019, the countries argue for a major overhaul in the way in which the organisation operates. They believe they should be allowed to sell threatened wildlife species anywhere in the world in the same way that mineral resources and mass-produced plastic trinkets are traded on global commercial markets.

The changes to CITES they are asking for would pave the way for southern African countries to legally sell stockpiled ivory and rhino horn, which would put immense pressure on wild animal species already under severe threat of long-term extinction.

Unfair treatment?

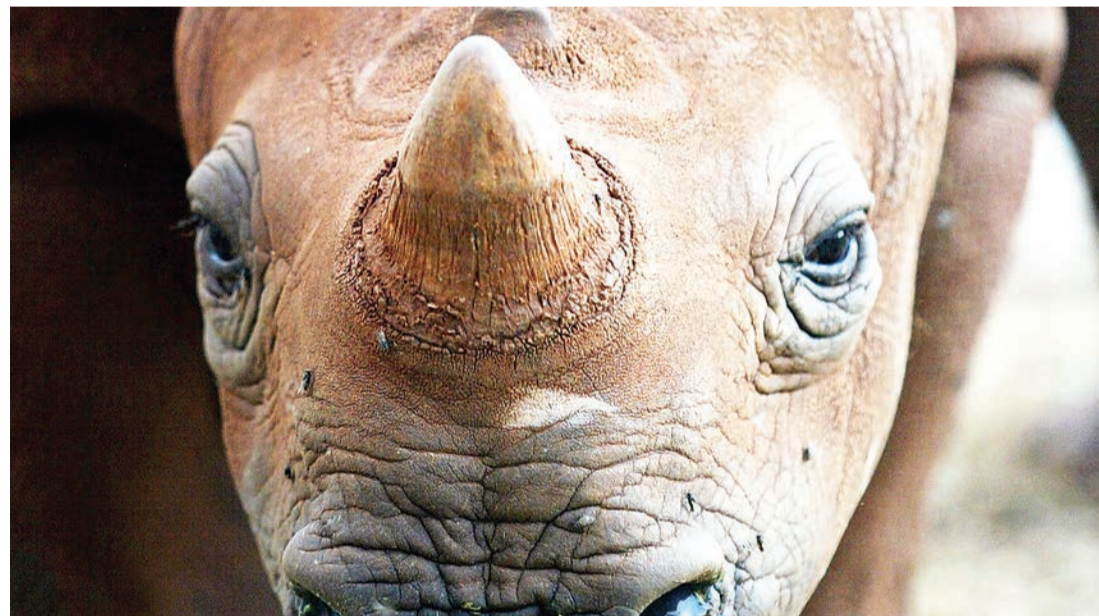
One of the proposed amendments would make it easier to move species from one CITES Appendix to another. Animals and plants listed in the organi-

sation's Appendix I are effectively barred from commercial international trade, while those on Appendix II can only be traded under special circumstances. The countries suggesting the changes claim to be victims of discriminatory CITES procedures, contend that trade prohibitions have not put an end to the illegal trade in wildlife products like rhino horn, and claim that "more and more species that are well protected in southern Africa and demonstrably sustainably used" are being "targeted" by "proposals from outside the southern African region" for transfer to Appendix I.

Making it faster and easier to move species such as elephants and rhinos from appendices that restrict trade is clearly one of the intended outcomes. The authors of the document argue that "progress has been extremely slow" on this front.

Other recommendations would bring CITES more in line with the World Trade Organisation's General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), a neoliberal regulatory regime that facilitates unfettered access to global markets for commercial goods and services. South Africa and its partner countries claim CITES "provides for discrimination" and offers "no provisions against unfair trade practices". They evidently believe that what they consider to be "discriminatory and trade-restricting measures" enacted by CITES could be successfully challenged under GATT rules.

According to Mary Rice, the executive director of the Environmental Investigation



Agency (EIA), "the relationship between GATT and CITES has been explored at multiple CoPs between 2006 and 2013". "The parties to CITES rejected all recommendations submitted through that process, so we believe that no review is needed," Rice said.

The proposal isn't the only one pushing for trade liberalisation. Namibia wants the current protections on its population of southern white rhinos to be lowered, while Zambia, Botswana, Namibia and Zimbabwe want to be allowed to sell ivory internationally and Eswatini argues it should be permitted to trade in rhino horn.

But not all African governments agree. In sharp contrast to southern African proposals, 10 countries further to the north, including Kenya, Ivory Coast and Gabon want all African elephants to be moved to Appendix I in order to protect the species as a whole. Elephant

populations in South Africa, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Namibia are listed in Appendix II. Conservationists contend that it makes little sense to classify animals of the same species in different appendices just because they happen to be found within the boundaries of a particular country, especially if those species are migratory and in overall decline across the continent, as is the case for elephants.

Anti-poor?

Charges that CITES is neo-imperialist, neo-colonialist and "definitely not pro-poor", because its anti-trade policies deprive rural communities of the opportunity to "realise the full economic value of their wildlife resources" and starve conservation programmes of funds, would sound less hollow if they didn't come from governments that have consistently shown themselves to be deeply cor-

rupt, captured by powerful corporate interests and ineffectual at addressing some of the most basic grievances of their citizens - from crippling poverty to the non-delivery of services.

The sale of wildlife products in these countries is much more likely to benefit political elites and their cronies than the rural poor whose poverty the authors' of the document invoke.

In a similar vein, their assertion that trophy hunting in southern Africa is "well-regulated" is extremely dubious in light of South Africa's sordid record of canned lion hunting and the illegal killing of Cecil, Zimbabwe's most famous lion in 2015, to name just two relatively high-profile examples.

As has become routine for ardent supporters of trophy hunting - an elite activity if ever there was one - they ignore the fact that non-consumptive ecotourism provides consistently higher economic benefits for a

larger base of people than commercial hunting.

What's more, there is mounting scientific evidence that killing wildlife for trophies is not possible without detrimental effects on herds and populations.

Sustainable use or profit-driven exploitation?

In essence, the countries proposing these changes to CITES are upset that current rules prohibit them from deriving profits from wild animals which they consider to be valuable products that they should be entitled to harvest and sell as they see fit. They consider their autonomy unfairly restricted by regulations imposed on them by "ever so many armchair critics and self-proclaimed experts".

At the most fundamental level, at the heart of this matter is a longstanding dispute over what is meant by "sustainable use" of wildlife. In a modern-day equivalent of enclosure, the countries proposing the changes to CITES consider all wildlife found within their borders to be their property and a commodity that they should be allowed to produce, harvest and sell competitively in markets around the world just as they are permitted to trade in ore and agricultural produce.

They contend that they are able to do so "sustainably" - without doing harm to, or causing the extinction of, species. Concerns about the conservation of wild animals in their natural habitat feature little in this view.

To them, there is no discern-

ible difference between species of wildlife and domesticated livestock, and they insist both should be exploitable as products for financial profit.

South Africa is one of the best examples of this philosophy in action.

Over the past decade or so, the government, guided by economists promoting extreme free-market policies and the unrestricted commodification and commercialisation of nature, has succeeded in crafting laws and regulations that explicitly lay out this interpretation of sustainable use, for instance in the case of lions and rhinos.

The government-supported industry of breeding lions in captivity in South Africa provides an illustration of the outcomes of this philosophy.

Supposedly proud of its global wildlife conservation status, the country now hosts more of these caged and commodified lions than live in its national parks and nature reserves.

The problem is that wild animals are not the same as commercial goods and lions bred in captivity for the sole purpose of becoming targets for wealthy trophy hunters and a ready supply of bones for the market in traditional Chinese medicine, are neither capable of surviving in the wild nor have any conservation value whatsoever. In fact, one could argue that they are no longer truly lions in an ecological sense.

An extinction crisis Arguments by South Africa and others to expand international wildlife trade must be seen in the context of dire warnings from the scientific community.

'Fighting gender-based violence as fresh cases continue to emerge'

By Guardian Reporter

VIOLENCE against women and children is becoming a common occurrence, an everyday thing. Barely a day would pass in Zanzibar without an incident involving gender based violence, be it in a rural or urban setting.

It is still widely believed that many cases go unreported. The numbers of reported incidents, however, keep rising.

Women in Zanzibar experience a variety of forms of violence including battery, sexual abuse and exploitation, rape, defilement (rape of a child) and incest.

Gender experts say the root causes of GBV can largely be narrowed down to inequality for women and the associated violence and harmful and controlling aspects of masculinity that result from patriarchal power imbalances embedded in much of Africa's traditional and cultural beliefs.

This imbalance often leads to pervasive cultural stereotypes and attitudes that perpetuate the cycle of GBV.

The dependency syndrome, whereby women depend on the perpetrators of violence for survival, puts survivors in vulnerable situations.

Authorities in Wete District in Pemba North Region are aware of the challenge and they are trying to embrace various approaches to end GBV, which takes the form of physical, mental, social or economic abuse against a person because of that person's gender and includes violence that may result in physical, sexual or psychological harm and suffering to the victim.

It may also include threats or coercion, or the arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether in public or private life.

Wete District Commissioner, Khatib Khamis Mwadini described GBV as a challenge to the island's socio-economic development that needs more players to chip in and eliminate the uncivilized behavior in the community.

"As government, we're aware that the war is yet from over. But, this war isn't a one-man show. It needs collective efforts from different stakeholders as GBV perpetrators seems not ready to let go this

barbaric acts," says DC Mwadini, when speaking recently at the meeting organized by the Tanzania Media Women Association (Tamwa-Zanzibar).

The meeting was meant to extensively discuss and assess challenges facing the anti-GBV committee in the island, which forms part of the Zanzibar Archipelago.

"I am wondering as why gender-based violence cases are increasing despite all the initiatives on the ground. Something is wrong somewhere...this isn't the culture of Zanzibaris. This crime is now becoming out of control," he says, warning perpetrators stop from doing so.

DC Mwadini says: "It is an uphill task that needs collective efforts from different players starting from parents at the family level, teachers at school level, and local government leaders at the community level."

He however reveals that presence of the special committee can be one of the solutions towards ending GBV in the district and other parts of the Island, "but it cannot work alone. More players are needed to provide the needed support if we're to win this war against GBV."

"There are people who have continued to embrace these negative cultural beliefs by making GBV as a norm. This is not acceptable. So, it's the task of the anti-GBV committee to address these barbaric behaviors in our community."

The DC calls on ordinary people, local government leaders to chip in the war against the menace which depicts ugly picture for the clove-rich Island.

"The District government is working hard to fight with GBV, but collective efforts are needed to address the challenge, which is growing on daily basis," says Mkufu Faki Ali, District Administrative Secretary

DAS who is in-charge of running of the day to day government activities in the district, views the increasing number of GBV cases is a result of moral decay, which caused by a number of factors including globalization.

But, Abdalla Yahya, Resident Magistrate at the Wete Resident Magistrate Court suggests the anti-GBV committee to carry out a study and establish the root cause of the problem as GBV cases have



Some of the participants who attended the meeting organized by Tanzania Media Women Association (Tamwa-Zanzibar) recently in Wete District, Pemba North Region. The meeting was meant to discuss and assess challenges facing the anti-GBV campaign in the Island. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

kept on increasing in the district and Zanzibar in general.

"Failure for family members to attend in court sessions to provide evidences are among of the challenges that makes most of GBV cases doesn't reach to an end," he says, noting: "These are some of the issues that fuel GBV."

District officer in-charge of women and children affairs, Siti Suleiman Juma pointed fingers on some public leaders who are 'protecting' GBV perpetrators, something that deny the victims to get justice.

"It's high time for leaders to come out and support the war against women and children abuse," she suggests.

A health practitioner, Fatma Kheir Pandu cited lack of special medical doctors dealing with GBV cases in health facilities as a challenge when it comes to dealing with the survivors.

"There are health centres, which have no special doctors, the situation that gives GBV victims hard times as they are forced to stay in queue for long time as they wait for services," she says, citing Mkono kwa Mkono as one of the health

centers facing the problem in the district.

Siti encourages parents to rush to health facilities once their children are being raped instead of rushing to police.

According to her, GBV cases have been increasing on daily basis whereby in August alone 'Mkono kwa Mkono' health center received 22 cases, the number which is higher as compared to last year.

Wete Town Council assistant director Ramla Omar Saleh suggests the need for stern penalties against the perpetrators to save women and children from traumatic experiences caused by the violence.

This is not choice, but a must if we're to achieve sustainable development goals (SDGs) by 2030 on gender equality and empower all women and girls, the director says.

"We can only win this campaign only if we committed and commitment is needed if we're to win this battle. People should be ready to report GBV cases to the responsible authorities, who also need to take serious step to ensure the victims get the desired justices," says Fat-hiya

Mussa Said, coordinator of Tamwa-Zanzibar in Pemba Island.

"This is a serious war. Everyone should pull up his/her socks if we're to bring change in the society," she suggests.

Launching the anti-GBV project, implemented by Tumaini Jipya Pemba organization, Pemba North Regional Commissioner, Hemed Suleiman Abdalla called legal practitioners to deal with people who are trying to cancel out cases related to women and child abuse.

"I want to see perpetrators being prosecuted and survivors get justice," the RC told the gathering.

In 2018, a total of 942 GBV cases were reported to the Police Gender and Children's Desks in Zanzibar, a slight decrease from the 1,041 cases reported in 2017.

Zanzibar government is currently working on a National Plan of Action to end violence against Women and Children (NPA-VAWC), 2017-2022, which signifies a commitment to end all forms of violence against women and children.

Fourth industrial revolution scrutinised from African perspective

By Guardian Reporter

A WISE man once said that change is the only constant in life. He couldn't have been distant from the truth.

The world as we know it is currently being shaken up by the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) with new technologies and innovations such as drones, artificial intelligence, virtual reality, robotics and block chain. Skeptics harbour their doubts, believing that advances in technology will lead to machines and robots replacing human beings, rendering large numbers of the population jobless.

By the same vein, optimists maintain confidence that there is enormous potential for developing countries to leapfrog along their development trajectories.

In reality, however, there are subtle distinctions when analyzing technological trends between developed and developing countries, with emphasis on Africa.

As Dar es Salaam prepares to host Fourth Industrial Revolution Week event (popularly known as Africa 4IR) organized by Sahara Spark on the early week of October this year, focus will be on the prospects and constraints of the 4IR to emerging economies in Africa.

The event will look at to what extent is this new Industrial revolutions relevant to Africa where there is a large informal economy, limited public infrastructure, where technical skills levels are low, and advanced technology can be found in only a few sectors that are dominated by foreign multinational companies and staffed by expatriate workers.

The week will also look at relevance of policy development towards Africa 4IR in the region given its young population profile, and emerging skill shortages in key sectors.

Adam Mbyallu of Sahara Venture, organisers of Sahara Sparks week, said among the major events during this week will be a high level workshop on Fourth Industrial Revolutions where by the panel will dissect all forms of the neo technology including the blockchain.

"The event will share case stories

from other governments that have been well developed in adoption of technology including adoption of e-governance in Estonia," he added.

The country he noted, has managed to move basic services into a fully digital mode.

"This means that things can be done for citizens automatically and in that sense invisibly increasing efficiency, security and transparency while saving time and money. We believe that, through this workshop the government and other actors could find the technology useful and come up with effective action plans on its adaptations," he said.

For the continent to make the most of 4IR, she will need concerted efforts to address issues of accessibility, affordability and the application of technologies. The main challenge is in acquiring relevant technologies which are protected by patents and highly concentrated in a handful of countries.

But Africa can still use open-source technologies such as blockchain.

Blockchain is billed as the next General Purpose Technology (GPT) like the wheel, steam engine, electricity, semiconductors and the internet before it.

The only difference is that unlike previous GPTs, blockchains will spread far more rapidly throughout the world due to the global communication infrastructure.

Imagine a day where the identity and reputation of your business is instantly accessible to potential investors; where the jewelry that you imported to your shop is securely traced all the way back to the mine; or where all the citizens of a country are on a central, secure, transparent ledger and where trust is absolute. That is the promise of blockchain.

Its most famous implementation up till now is Bitcoin. First introduced in 2009, it is the first example of what proper implementation of blockchain technology can achieve. Ethiopia has recently started working with the Swiss-based Cardano Foundation to use blockchain technology to enhance trade in the country's biggest export item - coffee beans.

By using blockchain to record,



track and trace coffee beans from local farmers, the initiative is expected to provide consumer confidence about their source and purity. Producers can receive an increased return on their labor, as consumers will then be ready to pay a premium for the end product.

In technical terms, a blockchain is a decentralized, distributed, consensus driven, pseudonymous ledger of transactions. For the first time in history, it allows us to store value in digital form.

Each computer on the blockchain is called a node. And these nodes have the characteristic of being both decentralized and distributed.

This means that control of the system rests with all the nodes, instead of a few. It makes the blockchain fault tolerant, attack resistant and collusion resistant.

This also means that nodes in a "trustless" network generate trust by themselves and hence allow for disintermediation of middlemen.

Blockchain records are also immutable. Once a block is created, it is linked to all the blocks that come after it. This means that if you wanted to change the 3rd block in a blockchain with 100 blocks, you would have to change ALL the blocks starting from the 3rd to the 100th block.

They can be both decentralized and secure because they rely on the participants in the network themselves to verify the transactions. This happens through the "consensus" of the participants to mitigate what is known as the Byzantine General's problem. This is a situation where some nodes in the system are mali-

cious and try to insert false entries into the ledger and have to be prevented from doing so.

Blockchains also provide transparency. Every node in the network can trace the chain of blocks (ledger of transactions) all the way back to the genesis block. That means, no matter how many transactions are added to the blockchain, the records can always be traced all the way back to the starting block.

This enables a level of transparency that was previously hard to achieve in traditional systems and almost impossible in decentralized and distributed ones.

Non-Permissioned blockchains are ones like Bitcoin where anyone can join the network by mining to validate transactions. They rely mostly on Proof of Work mechanisms (PoW) to validate transactions. This consensus mechanism makes the nodes in the network expend computer resources to add new blocks to the blockchain.

Any participant who wants to enter a false transaction into the ledger has to have the majority of the computer power in the system to make his transactions go through. This discourages such behavior as the resources that have to be spent to do this are far more than the payoff (in Bitcoins for example). This is how, in effect, cryptocurrencies work.

Permissioned blockchains are those where participants are pre-selected to be part of the network from the outset. These are applicable in industry settings where participants in the value chain don't want outside parties to be privy to their informa-

tion. It allows different industries to tailor and implement blockchains to their needs.

Due to the intensely connected nature of the world today, blockchain as a technology has the potential to have far reaching impacts in a relatively short amount of time. They can disrupt industries throughout the economy - even in emerging markets.

Cryptocurrencies like Bitcoin and Ethereum have demonstrated the secure application of decentralized technology as a store and transfer of value.

Tracking physical goods through the supply chain is one of the most touted applications of blockchain technology.

Firms like Everledger are trying to implement this by tracking high value items like diamonds throughout their lifecycle on a global scale. Since goods provenance is a major problem in developing countries, this may be a key area of focus in terms of implementing blockchains.

In addition, blockchains have also been used for innovative applications like delivering development aid to those in need across the world. The World Food Program (WFP) used blockchain technology to disburse aid to Syrian refugees in Jordan.

If international development organizations implement token based systems to disburse development aid, it will bring about a massive change in transparency and reduce misappropriation and corruption.

Blockchains have the potential to change how services industries ranging from financial institutions to legal establishments work. It could enable services transactions to happen seamlessly in a decentralized, secure and fast way.

If implemented properly, it would aid in institutional development by automated legal procedures, customs payments, ownership transfers, business transactions and allowing widespread disintermediation across industries.

To this day, records of ownership, citizenship and other forms of identity are stored in centralized databases to keep them secure. However, this poses a problem of tampering because of the intermediaries involved.

TC RA and NIDA launch awareness campaign for Sim cards registration

By Guardian Correspondent, Tabora

HUNDREDS of people in Tabora municipality over the weekend came out in big numbers at the campaign aimed at enhancing public knowledge and awareness on the ongoing countrywide biometric Sim cards registration.

The campaign is being conducted by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) in collaboration with the National Identification Authority (NIDA), mobile phone operators and police through cybercrime department.

So far, the campaign has reached 15 regions since it started four months ago.

Acting head of TCRA in central zone, Joseph Kavishe said the registration campaign is an opportunity for Tabora residents to get their simcards registered.

The campaign, according to Kavishe, is meant to ensure that more Tanzanians are registered as projected.

In this initiative we want to ensure that mobile phones are safe and users should feel secured, he said, revealing that the campaign also focuses on providing knowledge and awareness about communication related issues through collaboration with key stakeholders for the purpose of bringing in solutions of arising challenges.

"We are also working with security organs such as police force in ensuring that the public is fully aware of cybercrime and other crimes associated to telecommunications," he said.

Through the TCRA campaign, people are informed on the wise-use of mobile phone technology.

"We want to see that people are aware of the do's and don'ts when using their mobile phone gadgets."

Kavishe said that TCRA was well prepared and dedicated to reach all people across Tanzania and offer them knowledge on how to use communication gadgets.

We are also working with security organs such as police force in ensuring that the public is fully aware of cybercrime and other crimes associated to telecommunications.

Returning to Sierra Leone that we take for granted: My experience

By Sulaiman Momodu

IN the first part of this piece, I told you about how some people think it is very scary to decide to return to Sierra Leone at this time when "de gron dry" is almost like unwanted music hitting the country's airwaves. The "artistes"? Hard-pressed patriots who struggle daily to eke out a living.

In the final part of this article, I will continue with my experience of trying to settle down and how the family is finding the new environment and the new way of living.

Arriving during seasonal rains, we were hopeful that there was accommodation waiting for us and we will have a roof over our heads. The rent had been paid in full on our behalf by a family member for which we remain grateful. We were all looking forward to seeing the new home for the first time and to get down to the business of making it a lovely home. All was set until a few days before our arrival when we got word that the landlord was bereaved and was left with no alternative but to accommodate some people in the house. Well, we were deeply sorry about the landlord's bereavement. A new date was set for us to get the keys, unflinchingly.

Upon arrival in Freetown, some family members accommodated us and gladly shared the little they had. Superb African generosity. Two days after, we went to the provinces, where we spent a few days. As the landlord had promised, we returned to Freetown expecting to receive the keys to our accommodation. But wait a minute, was there another story to be told? You guessed right. The landlord had a new excuse, and then another story and then another. My patience ran out. Thanks to Alusine Sesay, Concord Times editor, we managed to locate people who helped us in finding a place where there will be no come tomorrow, come tomorrow, come tomorrow.

Having lived in Freetown for some years before travelling beyond borders, I am familiar with the sufferings most tenants usually contend with from some unscrupulous house owners. Some years ago, a so-called chief (I call him thief) in one of the areas in Lumley collected my hard-earned cash with a promise to rent an apartment. He said the occupant was moving out the next day so let me pay quickly before other interested people take it up. I was a student and rather naïve in that I trusted people too soon until they proved otherwise. Poor student that I was, I parted with the little I had. What happened next? Come tomorrow, come tomorrow, come next week, come next week. This went on for several months until one unknown boy called me one day to inquire why I was always going to that compound. Initially, I wondered what his interest was but thought - ok let me tell him. Next? The boy dropped a bombshell. "The man you gave your money to is my father," said the youngster. "I thought I should let you that he has no place to rent. That is what he does to people". Expressing deepest gratitude to the boy, I went over to the apartment to cross-check



Our week was incredibly busy and crowded, spending more time doing workshops in primary schools and universities, engaging with the private and government officials, and hosting at the pitch events with local incubator hubs.

of the apartment probably waking up the occupants. A heavily built man came out and asked what the issue was. Rather boldly I asked him why he had not left the apartment. Surprised by my enquiry, he said whosoever had told me that he was leaving the apartment had deceived me. My next action? Straight to Lumley police station to report the thief (not chief).

Returning to Freetown brings back memories of old realities. Kroo Bay and other places continue to be flooded as Freetown residents habitually blame government after government for the effects of their actions.

Good, bad or ugly, the question is - is Sierra Leone not our home? Are we going to disown our mouth because it stinks? Of course not. In the first part of this piece, I asked: What in your life are you taking for granted? Food? Water? The toilet? Your spouse? Your children? The air you breathe? Your health? Or are you taking life itself for granted thinking you will never lose it?

To many people deciding to return home seems a very courageous decision but the question I always ask them is - when will it ever be the most appropriate time? Regardless of who is in power or our circumstances at home, one thing will remain constant. We cannot run away from our nationality. In my travels to many places, the first question most people usually ask me is - where are you from?

In previous articles, I had categorically stated that if you really want to be a journalist and maintain your integrity, stay away from partisan politics and you will see clearly and speak freely on issues that easily make our country an embarrassment.

The truth is that the previous government was full of kleptomaniacs. Their motivation? Loot. Opinions are usually divided on how to deal with corrupt individuals. Tell people to cough up what they have illegally swallowed, it is immediately called witch-hunting. My take? A clear conscience should not fear any commission that is in the interest of the land that we love.

The good thing about the ongoing commission is that it is serving as a check to stealing with impunity. If the SLPP government is excited to investigate those who were in power, they must

As we settle down back home, the experience has been shocking to the kids who do not understand why we should have no power at home from time to time or why we have abundant rainfall but our taps are sometimes dry.

The point is - if we admire efficient services and good infrastructure in other countries, we must understand that it takes a lot of effort, sacrifice, and discipline to have even a happy home let alone govern a country where corruption is systemic. Sierra Leone is no doubt a beautiful country. We have unfortunately made her look ugly. Let us change the narrative, please.

My views and perceptions on issues from years of international service, and above all putting God first in all things I do, sometimes brings me into conflict the views of most people who do not respect principles and values. What is wrong is wrong and what is right is right.

It is said that education is not the learning of facts but rather the training of the mind to think. My encouragement to all is - let us think positively about how we will create a new generation, first in our homes, and let us be committed to change and stop taking our country for granted. Best wishes!

About the author: Sulaiman Momodu is a former editor of Concord Times newspaper. He has also worked for United Nations peacekeeping and humanitarian operations.

Sierra Leone officially the Republic of Sierra Leone, informally Salone, is a country on the southwest coast of West Africa. It is bordered by Liberia to the southeast and Guinea to the northeast. Sierra Leone has a tropical climate, with a diverse environment ranging from savanna to rainforests, and a total area of 71,740 km² (27,699 sq mi) and a population of 7,075,641 as of the 2015 census. The capital and largest city is Freetown, and the country is divided into five administrative regions, which are further subdivided into sixteen districts.

Sierra Leone was a British Crown Colony from 1808 to April 27, 1961 when it achieved independence, but periods of political turbulence have marked its recent history. On 19 April 1971, Siaka Stevens' government abolished Sierra Leone's parliamentary government system and declared Sierra Leone a presidential republic, creating a one party state from 1978 to 1985. The current multiparty democratic constitution of Sierra Leone was adopted in 1991 by the government of President Joseph Saidu Momoh, just as the rebel group Revolutionary United Front, led by former imprisoned Sierra Leone army officer Foday Sankoh, launched a brutal civil war.

On April 29, 1992, the military overthrew President Momoh, and Sierra Leone was under Military rule from 1992 to 1996. Sierra Leone returned to a democratically elected government when the military Junta under Brigadier General Julius Maada Bio handed the presidency to Ahmad Tejan Kabbah of the SLPP after his victory in the 1996 Sierra Leone presidential election. However, on May 25, 1997, the military overthrew President Kabbah. In February 1998, a coalition of West African Ecomog armed forces led by Nigeria reinstated President Kabbah, and executed the leaders of the coup after a trial by military court. In January 2002, President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah announced the ending of the civil war with the help and support of Ecomog, the British government, the African Union, and the United Nations. Sierra Leone has had an uninterrupted democratic government from 1998 to present.

Sixteen ethnic groups inhabit Sierra Leone, each with its own language and customs. The two largest and most influential are the Temne and Mende. The Temne are predominantly found in the northwest of the country, and the Mende in the southeast. Comprising a small mi-

rior areas undergoing tribal wars and conflicts over territory. In 1562, the English initiated the Triangle Trade when admiral Sir John Hawkins of the Royal Navy transported 300 enslaved Africans - acquired "by the sword and partly by other means" - to the Spanish colony of Santo Domingo on Hispaniola in the Caribbean Sea area of the West Indies islands, where he sold them.

Early colonies

Following the American Revolutionary War, the British evacuated thousands of freed African-American slaves and resettled them in Canadian and Caribbean colonies and London, which gave them new lives. In 1787 the British Crown founded a settlement in Sierra Leone in what was called the "Province of Freedom". It intended to resettle some of the "Black Poor of London", mostly African-Americans freed by the British during the war. About 400 blacks and 60 whites reached Sierra Leone on 15 May 1787. The group also included some West Indians of African descent from London. After they established Granville Town, most of the first group of colonists died, owing to disease and warfare with the indigenous African peoples (Temne), who resisted their encroachment. The 64 remaining colonists established a second Granville Town.

Following the Revolution, more than 3,000 Black Loyalists had also been settled in Nova Scotia, where they were finally granted land. They founded Birchtown, Nova Scotia, but faced harsh winters and racial discrimination from nearby Shelburne, Nova Scotia. Thomas Peters pressed British authorities for relief and more aid; together with British abolitionist John Clarkson, the Sierra Leone Company was established to relocate Black Loyalists who wanted to take their chances in West Africa. In 1792 nearly 1200 persons from Nova Scotia crossed the Atlantic to build the second (and only permanent) Colony of Sierra Leone and the settlement of Freetown on 11 March 1792. In Sierra Leone they were called the Nova Scotian Settlers, the Nova Scotians, or the Settlers.

The Settlers built Freetown in the styles they knew from their lives in the American South; they also continued American fashion and American manners. In addition, many continued to practice Methodism in Freetown. Black settlers in Sierra Leone enjoyed much more autonomy in that they were more politically engaged. Black immigrants elected different levels of political representatives, "tithingmen", who represented each dozen settlers, and "hundreders" who represented larger amounts. This sort of representation was not available in Nova Scotia.[31] The initial process of society-building in Freetown, however, was a harsh struggle. The Crown did not supply enough basic supplies and provisions, and the Settlers were continually threatened by illegal slave trading and the risk of re-enslavement.[32] In the 1790s, the Settlers, including adult women, voted for the first time in elections.[33] The Sierra Leone Company, controlled by London investors, refused to allow the settlers to take freehold of the land. In 1799 some of the settlers revolted. The Crown subdued the revolt by bringing in forces of more than 500 Jamaican Maroons, whom they transported from Cudjoe's Town (Trelawny Town) via Nova Scotia in 1800. Led by Colonel Montague James, the Maroons helped the colonial forces to put down the revolt, and in the process they secured the best houses and farms.[34]

On 1 January 1808, Thomas Ludlam, the Governor of the Sierra Leone Company and a leading abolitionist, surrendered the Company's charter. This ended its 16 years of running the Colony. The British Crown reorganised the Sierra Leone Company as the African Institution; it was directed to improve the local economy. Its members represented both British who hoped to inspire local entrepreneurs and those with interest in the Macauley & Babington Company, which held the (British) monopoly on Sierra Leone trade.

History

Archaeological finds show that Sierra Leone has been inhabited continuously for at least 2,500 years,[18] populated successively by societies who migrated from other parts of Africa. The people adopted the use of iron by the 9th century and by 1000 AD agriculture was being practised along the coast.[20] The climate changed considerably and boundaries among different ecological zones changed as well, affecting migration and conquest.[21]

Sierra Leone's dense tropical rainforest and swampy environment was considered impenetrable; it was also host to the tsetse fly, which carried a disease fatal to horses and the zebu cattle used by the Mande people. This environmental factor protected its people from conquests by the Mande and other African empires.[21][22] This also reduced the Islamic influence of the Mali Empire but Islam, introduced by Susu traders, merchants and migrants from the north and east, became widely adopted in the 18th century.

European trading

European contacts within Sierra Leone were among the first in West Africa in the 15th century. In 1462, Portuguese explorer Pedro de Sintra mapped the hills surrounding what is now Freetown Harbour, naming the shaped formation Serra da Leoa or "Serra Leoa" (Portuguese for Lioness Mountains).

The Spanish rendering of this geographic formation is Sierra Leona, which later was adapted and, misspelled, became the country's current name. Although according to the professor C. Magbaily Fyle this could have been a misinterpretation of historians: according to him, there has been evidence of travellers calling the region Serra Lyoa well before 1462, the year when Sintra first arrived. This would imply that the identity of the person who named Sierra Leone still remains unclear.

Soon after Sintra's expedition, Portuguese traders arrived at the harbour. By 1495 they had built a fortified trading post on the coast. The Dutch and French also set up trade here, and each nation used Sierra Leone as a trading point for slaves brought by African traders from inte-

rior areas undergoing tribal wars and conflicts over territory. In 1562, the English initiated the Triangle Trade when admiral Sir John Hawkins of the Royal Navy transported 300 enslaved Africans - acquired "by the sword and partly by other means" - to the Spanish colony of Santo Domingo on Hispaniola in the Caribbean Sea area of the West Indies islands, where he sold them.

Following the American Revolutionary War, the British evacuated thousands of freed African-American slaves and resettled them in Canadian and Caribbean colonies and London, which gave them new lives. In 1787 the British Crown founded a settlement in Sierra Leone in what was called the "Province of Freedom". It intended to resettle some of the "Black Poor of London", mostly African-Americans freed by the British during the war. About 400 blacks and 60 whites reached Sierra Leone on 15 May 1787. The group also included some West Indians of African descent from London. After they established Granville Town, most of the first group of colonists died, owing to disease and warfare with the indigenous African peoples (Temne), who resisted their encroachment. The 64 remaining colonists established a second Granville Town.

Following the Revolution, more than 3,000 Black Loyalists had also been settled in Nova Scotia, where they were finally granted land. They founded Birchtown, Nova Scotia, but faced harsh winters and racial discrimination from nearby Shelburne, Nova Scotia. Thomas Peters pressed British authorities for relief and more aid; together with British abolitionist John Clarkson, the Sierra Leone Company was established to relocate Black Loyalists who wanted to take their chances in West Africa. In 1792 nearly 1200 persons from Nova Scotia crossed the Atlantic to build the second (and only permanent) Colony of Sierra Leone and the settlement of Freetown on 11 March 1792. In Sierra Leone they were called the Nova Scotian Settlers, the Nova Scotians, or the Settlers.

The Settlers built Freetown in the styles they knew from their lives in the American South; they also continued American fashion and American manners. In addition, many continued to practice Methodism in Freetown. Black settlers in Sierra Leone enjoyed much more autonomy in that they were more politically engaged. Black immigrants elected different levels of political representatives, "tithingmen", who represented each dozen settlers, and "hundreders" who represented larger amounts. This sort of representation was not available in Nova Scotia.[31] The initial process of society-building in Freetown, however, was a harsh struggle. The Crown did not supply enough basic supplies and provisions, and the Settlers were continually threatened by illegal slave trading and the risk of re-enslavement.[32] In the 1790s, the Settlers, including adult women, voted for the first time in elections.[33] The Sierra Leone Company, controlled by London investors, refused to allow the settlers to take freehold of the land. In 1799 some of the settlers revolted. The Crown subdued the revolt by bringing in forces of more than 500 Jamaican Maroons, whom they transported from Cudjoe's Town (Trelawny Town) via Nova Scotia in 1800. Led by Colonel Montague James, the Maroons helped the colonial forces to put down the revolt, and in the process they secured the best houses and farms.[34]

On 1 January 1808, Thomas Ludlam, the Governor of the Sierra Leone Company and a leading abolitionist, surrendered the Company's charter. This ended its 16 years of running the Colony. The British Crown reorganised the Sierra Leone Company as the African Institution; it was directed to improve the local economy. Its members represented both British who hoped to inspire local entrepreneurs and those with interest in the Macauley & Babington Company, which held the (British) monopoly on Sierra Leone trade.

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT

In this puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start

WORD FIT

3 Letter word: IRE, NOR, ARI,
4 Letter word: IDES, GENS, ROAD, STUD, FAIL, MANY
5 Letter word: TEASE, LOESS, GRIEF, EVADE, VIGOR, AEGIS, TOMBS, MAYOR, STEER, SLAVE
7 Letter word: GRENADE, DENSITY, TRAINEE
8 Letter word: IDEOLOGY

THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD = 067 =

Clues: Across

1. Large pink wading bird (8)
8. Past tense of feed (3)
9. The first residence of humankind (4)
11 "One who struggles with God" (6)
12. Encourage somebody (5)
14. mountain in northwestern Turkey (3)
15. Soul (6)
16. Capital city of Cyprus (7)
19. Elevated railroads (3)
20. Make picture (4)
21. tourist resort in southeastern Florida (5)
24. Largest country in East Africa (8)
26. Bend under weight (3)
27. Then (3)
28. Public room for relaxing (6)
29. Lake in southeastern Africa (5)
31. Somebody in charge (4)
33. Try hard (6) 34. Stake (4)

Down:

1. Somebody emotionally close (6)
2. Referred to "the dark continent" (6)
3. Grassy field (6)
4. Opinions (5)
5. Not locked (4)
6. Capital of Myanmar in 1531 (4)
7. Punitive (5)
10. hemispherical roof (4)
13. Berlin is the Capital and largest city (7)
15. Agony (4)
17. Contact picture area (4,3)
18. Picture (5)
22. South Africa in apartheid era (6)
23. Meeting in south africa (6)
24. Label (3) 25. Stop (5)
26. crawling organism with shell (5)
30. Set of words sung (4)
32. Put, place (3)

RISK-COVER

NBC advises truck owners to use its loan insurance cover against risks

By Guardian Reporter

TRUCK owners will be better cushioned against risks if they make use of National Bank of Commerce's newly launched business insurance loan.

Addressing Tanzania Truck Owners Association members during their 2019 annual general meeting in Dar es Salaam during the weekend, NBC's Director of Business Banking, Elvis Ndunguru said that the product has been in place since last months is meant to support the government's initiatives in strengthening the transportation sector.

The loan insurance cover which range between 1m/- and 3bn/- came into effective about a month ago. The insurance loans are offered at all NBC branches across the country. The bank has so far disbursed 5bn/- through the new loan scheme since the product came to market. About 20,000 beneficiaries are targeted in this scheme as of the end of December this year with 50bn/- allocated for the purpose.

"The loans are available at an affordable interest rate and don't need collateral to secure the insurance loan. We are committed to continue



Minister for Works, Transport and Communications, Isack Kamwele (L) talking to National Bank of Commerce's Director of Business Banking, Elvis Ndunguru (C) and other employees of the bank during a Tanzania Truck Owners Association annual general meeting in Dar es Salaam during the weekend.

supporting government's efforts in growing rapidly this important sector," Ndunguru said.

Meanwhile Ndunguru said in a bid to ease transactions with the state, NBC has been working with the government through its electronic payment system to enable the public pay for services and tax to Treasury and other public utilities. "So far, more than 100 public institutions

are working with NBC in this way," he added.

Through digitization, the Dar es Salaam based lender has more than 2,000 agents across the country backed by 2,500 point of sales machines which are directly connected to Government Electronic Payment Gateway (GePG).

Engineer Isack Kamwele, Minister of Works, Transport and Communications, who graced

the event, commended NBC for playing an important role to back development of the transport sector.

"NBC used to work closely with large enterprises but now is going for the semi and mid size entrepreneurs. We have signed already an MoU with the bank that allows them to have their services at all offices of Tanzania Posta Corporation across the country," Kamwele noted.



Azania Bank's Mwaloni Branch Manager, Sasa Miligwa (R) hands over part of 15 tons of cements donated by the bank to Serengeti District Commissioner, Nurdin Babu being support towards construction of the district's hospital at an event which took place last week in Mugumu. Looking on from left are Serengeti District Executive Director, Engineer Juma Hamsini, Serengeti Member of Parliament, Marwa Ryoba, District Administrative Secretary, Qamara Cosmas and the district's CCM Chairman, Jacob Begha. Photo courtesy of Azania Bank.

CONSULTATION

Police, bar owners discuss measures against drink-driving

KIGALI

RWANDA National Police (RNP) held a meeting with owners of bars and nightspots on Friday and discussed joint measures against drink-driving, serving alcoholic beverages to minors and noise pollution.

The meeting, which brought together about 40 owners and managers of bars and entertainment spots in Kigali, was held at the RNP General Headquarters in Kacyiru and presided over by the Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIGP) in charge of Operations, Felix Namuhoranye.

DIGP Namuhoranye urged them to "look beyond monetary gains" and "care about people's lives." "Don't just look at your business, the number of bottles one has emptied that day or night and how much money you have made; don't have a drunk customer who will leave your premises to go and die in an accident or kill other people on the road," DIGP Namuhoranye said.

He urged them to "be cautious and responsible" to prevent their customers from accidents caused by drunkenness and be good ambassadors of

road safety. "Police officers can't be at all drinking joints, but you can equally play that part. Protect your customers; build a system where any of your clients will not drive when drunk. By protecting your clients you will be protecting your business as well, otherwise, you will count how much you have made today and lose both people and money that would have kept coming, that way the country loses as well," DIGP observed.

He warned that putting people's lives in danger for personal gains will not be tolerated, and emphasized legal action against anyone found serving alcoholic beverages to those aged below 18 years.

"Serving alcohol to minors is a serious offence punishable by the law. In case you doubt the age of your customer, ask for their national identity card." The law relating to the protection of the child, in its article 27, states that a person, who sells alcoholic beverages or tobacco to a child, causes or encourages a child to drink alcoholic beverages, to smoke or to go to bars commits an offence.

Upon conviction, he or she is liable to imprisonment for a term of not less



Bar owners and officers of the National Police on Friday met to discuss joint measures against drunk-driving and serving alcoholic beverages to minors.

than three months but not exceeding six months and a fine between Rwf100,000 and Rwf200,000. They were also reminded to pin posters in their joints with the words: "Don't drink and drive" and "It's prohibited to serve alcohol to anyone below 18 years of age."

Participants committed to working with the Police against drink-driving and in promoting road safety in general. The meeting was in line with the ongoing 52-weeks of the national road safety campaign dubbed 'Gerayo Amahoro' launched in May. It

CLARIFICATION

CRJE explains controversy facing its subcontractor in Temeke

By Guardian Reporter

MISCONDUCT allegations facing Chinese contractor, CRJE East Africa Limited are actually related to its subcontractor, SEGA Y Engineering and Construction Company Limited, the Chinese contractor said.

In a statement to refute the allegations currently circulating on social media which accuse officials of the company in Dar Es Salaam of attempting to bribe journalists who were following a story on casual worker's rights, CRJE said it's the subcontractor's employee who was involved.

"As CRJE we don't condone any acts of corruption and bribery against journalists and condemn this attempt by our subcontractor to engage in such illegal actions. As a company that abides by local and international laws, we are disturbed by these serious allegations," the Chinese conglomerate said.

The company which is currently undertaking a number of feeder roads construction projects in Temeke Municipality said the casual workers who were once employed by CRJE were transferred to the lo-

cal contractor, SEGA Y as required by regulations.

"The affected casual workers who have genuine demands are not working for CRJE any longer but the local contractor. The confusion being made on social media might have been a result of CRJE being the main contractor and site owner," the company added.

The statement further stated that it has engaged the subcontractor in discussing the plight of the casual workers who have been complaining against poor pay and lack of contracts which denied them pension benefits after completion of the projects.

"On September 17, CRJE and SEGA Y representatives met with labour officials in Dar es Salaam to discuss the plight of the casual workers and an agreement was reached to address the demands by October 16 this year," the company added.

It further said the casual workers payments have already been adjusted to 12,500/- per day with immediate effect while arrears for those eligible will be paid after computation of individuals work period which is under-

way. The statement concluded by advising journalists to seek information relating to the company from relevant official company sources.



As CRJE we don't condone any acts of corruption and bribery against journalists and condemn this attempt by our subcontractor to engage in such illegal actions. As a company that abides by local and international laws, we are disturbed by these serious allegations

ADVICE

PM counsels Geita regional authorities to work with EPZA

By Guardian Reporter, Geita

GEITA regional officials have been advised to work closely with Export Processing Zones Authority (EPZA) in allocating a land bank where private investors can come and establish industries. Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa yesterday when he visited the EPZA pavilion before launching the second Minerals Expo taking place in Geita that most industrialised countries succeeded after allocating enough land to attract investment.

"Making arrangement of industrial areas is important in enhancing efficiency in attracting new investments necessary to speed up industrialisation and attaining rapid economic growth," Majaliwa said.

According to EPZA, the total capital investment through the Export Processing Zones and Special Economic Zones projects hit US\$2.6 billion generating export revenue worth US\$1.3 billion and over 50,000 jobs created by January this year.

Geita Regional Commissioner Robert Gabriel assured the PM that his region will work closely with EPZA to make land arrangements to attract more investment in industries from both the public and private sector.

"We will engage closely EPZA in attracting investors for industrial development in our region which is the reason we invited them to participate at this mineral exhibition," Engineer Gabriel noted.

He pointed out that exporting raw goods is no longer acceptable in the currently global economy because it amounts to exporting jobs while providing a huge market for imports of finished goods. The minerals rich Lake Zone region's gold sales have more than doubled to over 500 kilograms per month following stringent measures put in place by authorities aimed at containing smuggling.

A Senior Investment Promotion Officer at EPZA, Panduka Yonazi said the authority will provide Geita region with expertise in establishing the land bank, issuance of licenses as well as define benefits that investors can accrue by establishing industries through SEZ and EPZs. Yonazi said the region is better placed to mineral processing industries such as smelting and refining plants through EPZs which guarantee exports of 80 percent of the processed products. "But these industries will also create jobs while contributing to boosting government revenue," he added.

COURTESY CALL

Minister Kabudi backs Airtel's seamless transaction across EA region

By Guardian Reporter

RECENTLY introduced Airtel Money services across East African Community countries has attracted the attention Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Professor Palamagamba Kabudi.

Prof Kabudi said in Dar es Salaam during a meeting with Airtel Tanzania Managing Director, Sunil Colaso, that allowing Airtel

Money transactions to other EAC countries is good for integration.

He told Colaso who paid him a courtesy call to brief him on the current development where Airtel Money users from the EAC countries will be able to transact across borders.

"This partnership between Airtel Tanzania and other Airtel operators in Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda will help to boost business be-

tween the four countries as it will be easy to pay through an integrated Airtel Money system," he said.

The Minister said that the fact that traders will not be forced to carry huge sums of money when travelling across borders is a major development as it is not only safe but also efficient and free from intrusion.

"We as government welcome this move by Airtel Tanzania and we pledge to continue

cooperating especially on such integration matters so we can boost regional trade with neighbouring countries within East Africa," he added.

On his part, the Airtel Tanzania's Colaso said the company believes that enabling transactions between Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda and Tanzania will make it more convenient for individuals to trade easily across borders.

"Airtel East Africa cross border service is also affordable with the most competitive fees com-

pared to other international money transfer methods," he said. He said so far Airtel Money customers are already receiving money directly into their mobile phones/wallet from Airtel Tanzania's sister operators in Zambia and Malawi and from several other money transfer operators across the world including, Qatar, Oman, South Africa and United Kingdom, among others.

LIQUIDATION

Vodafone Zambia cash-strapped up for sale

LUSAKA

CASH-strapped Mobile Broadband Limited, trading as Vodafone Zambia, has formally announced the sale of the company after failure by its shareholders to recapitalise the firm amid stiff competition in Zambia's data market.

Zambia has 16 ISPs including Liquid Telecom Zambia, Hai, Zamtel and Paratus Telecommunications, a subsidiary of Namibia headquartered Paratus Group Holdings, according to the latest report from the Zambia Information and Communications Technology Authority (ZICTA).

Vodafone Zambia struggled to maintain operations a year after it entered the local market in 2016 and cited financial distress. In July 2019 the company issued a statement announcing that the delay in recapitalising the company by the shareholders resulted in network outages in Lusaka and the Copperbelt region.

The company said the financial distress triggered a petition by employees to the High Court in Lusaka for business rescue. This led to the appointment of the Business Rescue Administrator Luwita Sayila as the company embarked on the process of acquiring new shareholders.

This led to the introduction of a business rescue plan which covered the comprehensive restructuring of the company's affairs including business,

property, debt and other liabilities, and equity. Sayila has since issued a notice inviting bids to secure new ownership.

Sayila said interested bidders may acquire a complete set of bidding documents as of 2 September 2019 upon payment of a non-refundable fee of US\$760, adding that bids must be received by 27 September 2019.

"Mobile Broadband Limited hereby invites interested parties to participate in the open bidding tender for the sale of the company. Mobile Broadband Limited reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding or not award the contract at any time prior to contract award," reads an excerpt from the notice.

Mobile Broadband Limited hereby invites interested parties to participate in the open bidding tender for the sale of the company. Mobile Broadband Limited reserves the right to reject any and all bids, declare a failure of bidding or not award the contract at any time prior to contract award



Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Professor Palamagamba Kabudi (R) welcomes Airtel Tanzania Managing Director, Sunil Colaso to his office in Dar es Salaam during the weekend. Left is Airtel Tanzania Corporate Affairs Director, Beatrice Singano. Photo courtesy of Airtel.



Phoenix Tanzania Assurance Company Limited's Human Resources Director, Mubarak Kibarabara (L) handing over part of food stuffs, clothes and school materials and cash to Head of Hisani Orphanage at Mbaga in Dar es Salaam which the company donated. Right is Head of Finance at Phoenix, Godfrey Badeleva. Photo: Guardian Photographer.

CONFLICT

Fate of ARM Cement in limbo as battle returns to court

NAIROBI

A COMPANY in receivership is like a sick patient who needs to go under the knife urgently lest his chances of survival diminish.

And as cement-maker Athi River Mining (ARM) Loading... case heads to court Monday, the firm will have been under 13 months of management and counting as warring parties seem bent on keeping its fate in limbo.

According to a report by Apex Capital on the state of cement in Kenya, ARM and East Africa Portland Cement are no longer churning out notable quantities of the building material. The decline in production is mainly attributed to operation challenges.

"ARM Cement and East African Portland Cement Company, are currently experiencing some problems that have led to ceasing of production," Apex Capital

said.

The court battle between Jaswant Rai of Rai Cement and his business rival, Narendra Raval of National Cement, has stalled the sale of ARM Cement past the expiry of receivership, having been placed in administration on August 17, 2018. The uncertainty has made Stanbic Bank to threaten to freeze salaries for the company's 1,000 workers.

Both parties agree that at the current state, the cement maker is sinking further into the ground. An affidavit filed in court by former ARM owner, Pradeep Paurana, who had been retained by the receivers as the general manager, claims that the administrators, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), have run down the plant and allowed key talent to leave.

"Poor planning, slow decision making and failure to engage with management requests as

well as what I believe is understanding of critical items and operations for a cement plant, have caused preventable loss and damage to ARM," Paurana says in the affidavit.

PwC, on their part, reckon that while the fight over ARM assets drags in court, the company will choke up more losses and may lose its Tanzania subsidiary, Maweni Limited, which is being sought to be attached by creditors.

The cement-maker risks stopping its operation if it fails to renew its licence, and given the significant fixed costs incurred each month, it will accumulate more losses and higher financing costs as well as deterioration of the plant, which investors claim has not undergone maintenance for years and would require up to Sh2.5 billion to optimise it.

National cement

The administrators also fear that National Cement may walk out of the deal, given the uncertainties which may come at a cost of breaking contract. Paurana accuses PwC of burning through cash advanced to keep the business, paying themselves Sh134 million (\$1.34 million) and Sh184 million (\$1.84 million) to consultants advising on the sale of the cement maker.

PwC, however, says it has deployed more than 20 professionals on a mostly full-time basis at the cement manufacturer's various sites and locations.

According to Pradeep, the secured creditors have extended Sh448 million (\$4.48 million) for the company and its subsidiaries which have gone to settle management fees rather than company operations.

"The administrators have paid

themselves and the consultants an aggregate sum equivalent to over 70 per cent of the sum that they claim has been funded by secured creditors," he says. Pradeep said consumables and spares have taken up Sh154 million (\$1.54 million) while employee-related costs are currently at Sh464 million (\$4.64 million) for its 1,000 workers.

The parties are trying to make a case on the urgency to close the ARM deal, with creditors stating that they may no longer be willing to fund the operations of the company while its future is straddled with uncertainty.

"The court mandated administration period was a year and, accordingly, the funding was committed for this period, which lapsed in August 2019," Stanbic said. ARM was placed under a 12-month receivership on August 17, 2018. PwC filed a notice of mo-

and opposition member) Tendai Biti," the organisation stated.

The ruling states that "the Finance Regulations, 2018 which are contained in SI of 2018 are invalid and hereby set aside." This has triggered debate in Zimbabwe over the implications of the ruling, particularly because parliament fast-tracked the promulgation of the Finance Act of 2019, which also makes provision for the tax.

While Ncube has since confirmed the levy would remain in effect, Biti also said the government would use the Finance Act to defend its course of action.

Ncube was quoted in an official statement as saying: "The judgement will not affect the collection and levy of the Intermediate Money Transfer Tax because the collection of the tax under that Statutory Instrument was subsequently validated

by parliament under the Finance Act No.1 of 2019." As a consequence, the 2% tax will continue to be levied, Ncube added.

In April 2019 the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority said revenue collections from the Intermediate Money Transfer Tax amounted to US\$242.84-million against a target of US\$150-million during Q 2019. "The revenue head contributed 14, 55% of total collections during the quarter," the state organisation clarified.

A substantial portion of the revenue generated via the tax is from mobile money transactions, which, according to the Zimbabwe Central Bank, remains the dominant payment platform. Concerns have been raised over alleged abuse of platforms by agents who charge premiums of up to 50% for funds withdrawal from mobile wallets.

RESISTANCE

2% tax on electronic transactions stays says Zim government

HARARE

ZIMBABWE'S Finance Minister Mthuli Ncube said the 2% tax on mobile money and electronic transactions will remain in place despite a High Court ruling this week against the legal instrument behind the levy.

The intermediate levy on all electronic transactions is part of austerity measures implemented by Ncube to generate more revenue for the state. The Zimbabwe Lawyers for Human Rights (ZLHR) announced that High Court judge, Justice Zhou had set aside Statutory Instrument 205 of 2018 which had introduced the mobile money and electronic transactions tax.

"High Court Judge Justice Zhou has set aside SI205/2018 on the 2% transaction tax. The case was argued by (former Finance Minister

and opposition member) Tendai Biti," the organisation stated.

The ruling states that "the Finance Regulations, 2018 which are contained in SI of 2018 are invalid and hereby set aside." This has triggered debate in Zimbabwe over the implications of the ruling, particularly because parliament fast-tracked the promulgation of the Finance Act of 2019, which also makes provision for the tax.

While Ncube has since confirmed the levy would remain in effect, Biti also said the government would use the Finance Act to defend its course of action.

Ncube was quoted in an official statement as saying: "The judgement will not affect the collection and levy of the Intermediate Money Transfer Tax because the collection of the tax under that Statutory Instrument was subsequently validated

by parliament under the Finance Act No.1 of 2019." As a consequence, the 2% tax will continue to be levied, Ncube added.

In April 2019 the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority said revenue collections from the Intermediate Money Transfer Tax amounted to US\$242.84-million against a target of US\$150-million during Q 2019. "The revenue head contributed 14, 55% of total collections during the quarter," the state organisation clarified.

A substantial portion of the revenue generated via the tax is from mobile money transactions, which, according to the Zimbabwe Central Bank, remains the dominant payment platform. Concerns have been raised over alleged abuse of platforms by agents who charge premiums of up to 50% for funds withdrawal from mobile wallets.

down because it expired in nine months, exposing the administrators if the court process dragged longer. The administrators were also concerned that the guarantee was not provided to cover costs and damages if the consortium lost the case.

"The guarantee is not issued by Paurana but by an entity referred to as the consortium, which include Jaswant Rai Group of Companies. Our client has well founded concerns that inclusion of third parties who are not in court affects the quality and validity of the guarantees," the rejection letter by Walter Kontos read.

O & M lawyers for the Rai Consortium wrote back to the administrators stating that the tycoon has been part of the case and that the orders had not specified that Pradeep would be the one to put in the money.

The guarantee was turned

CRISIS

US retailers forced to shut 7,000 stores in first half of 2019

NEW YORK

US retailers shut more stores in the first half of 2019 than in previous years as they face bankruptcies, trade tariffs and online competition with more pain ahead for brick-and-mortar businesses.

Retailers shut 7,000 stores in the first six months of the year, exceeding the total store closures of about 6,000 in 2018, according to accountancy and business advisory firm BDO. Closures are expected to double in 2019. Weak holiday sales in 2018, impact of tax reforms, the US government historic shutdown in January and poor weather forced physical retailers out of business.

"The pace of retail bankruptcies in 2019 to date is accelerated compared to what we observed in late 2018," the firm said in its bi-annual report. "In the first half of the year, most retail bankruptcy filings resulted in an asset sale and/or liquidation."

The industry has taken a hit from a year-long trade war between the US and China that has sparked concerns for slowing global economic growth. The Trump administration has slapped a 15 per cent on Chinese consumer goods such as televisions, apparel, bed linens, smart watches and footwear, triggering concerns retail sales could shrink. Most closures were apparel specialty stores, followed by footwear and general merchandise stores.

Clothing stores accounted for about 36 per cent of total store closures in the first half of 2019, up from 14 per cent in 2018 overall, according to Coresight Research. Footwear retailers accounted for about 28 per cent of closures, compared to 8 per cent last year, and general merchandise stores comprised approximately 14 per cent of closures, an increase from 2 per cent in all of 2018.

Most of the store shutdowns were due to bankruptcy filings as retailers grappled with too much debt, over-expansion, private equity pressures and the fast pace of industry changes, the report said.

The decline in physical stores came as consumer spending decreased during the spring after a cut in tax refunds in 2019, forcing retailers to offer deep discounts to move merchandise. Simultaneously, US tariffs on Chinese goods forced some retailers to increase prices to maintain profit margins, which then hurt retail sales.



People pass a GameStop store in lower Manhattan in New York City. GameStop has announced that they will be closing between 180 and 200 stores before the end of the fiscal year due to a drop in sales.

The US National Bureau of Economic Research estimates that higher tariffs will add an annual cost of \$831 on the average US household. A lower income will likely reduce the budget for spending on retail items. The strain on retailers during the first half became clear as US companies cut 42,000 jobs, most of them in

the retail sector.

In response to all these pressures, many retailers are dropping their traditional flagship stores and opting instead for smaller-sized outlets in major urban areas, BDO said. "Flagship stores no longer generate the volume of sales needed to justify the cost," the report said, "Through

their closures, retailers hope to offer an omnichannel brand experience while reducing the effect of onerous leases."

Coresight Research estimates a total of 12,000 store closures during 2019, most of which will result from retailers going out of business or reducing their physical footprint.

Despite the bankruptcy filings and store shutdowns, retail sales have "remained solid" in the first half of the year due to a strong US economy, record low unemployment and rising wages, but BDO warns the outlook is still challenging.

"While positive economic factors lead us to believe that the risk of a significant downturn in the retail sector is slim for the remainder of 2019, retailers should remain cautious heading into 2020," it said. Any additional trade tariffs are likely to "have an adverse impact" on the US economy and retail sales while consumer debt has hit record levels.

INCENTIVES

Corporate tax reduction will be a shot in the arm for Indian export sector

NEW DELHI

EXPORTS from India are expected to get a boost from the government's surprise announcement to slash corporate tax rates, which will help boost the competitiveness of Indian companies globally, as lower taxes bring them at par with some of their Asian competitors, analysts say.

The relief could not have come sooner for Indian companies, struggling to maintain profitability under the weight of heavy corporate taxes, and sets up the foundation for India to achieve its ambitious target of tripling its exports to \$1 trillion in the next five years.

"It's a prudent move to reduce the corporate tax rates because it moves India to parity with its regional peers, thereby, removing one of the biggest issues hampering manufacturing and exports," says Suvodeep Rakshit, the senior economist at Kotak Institutional Equities, based in Mumbai.

The decision to lower tax rates is not only boost Indian exports, but is also a shot in the arm for Asia's third-biggest economy. India's gross domestic product (GDP) growth slowed to more than a six-year low of 5 per cent in the April to June quarter, according to the latest government statistics, which alarmed businesses and investors alike.

In response, India's finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday said that the government is cutting the basic corporate tax rate for domestic firms to 22 per cent from 30 per cent, while for manufacturing firms, set up after October 1 of this year, the applicable taxation rates would be even lower -- at 15 per cent, down from the previous 25 per cent for new firms.

The stock markets in India surged on the announcement as investors and companies welcomed

the news. A cut in taxes was something business leaders have long been yearning for. And while the government unveiled a series of measures in recent weeks aimed at propping up the country's flagging economy, the latest move is seen as the boldest decision yet that New Delhi took to address the problem.

Despite everything what the government has done, economists, however, are still questioning whether India will be able to meet its fiscal deficit target of 3.3 per cent for the current financial year. Skepticism aside, being among the biggest beneficiaries of the latest stimulus package, India's manufacturing and exports sectors can help to boost the economy and create much needed jobs to bring the unemployment levels down.

"We are certain that this big bang reform will kick-start the economy," says Ajay Piramal, the chairman of Piramal Group, a Mumbai-headquartered conglomerate, which has interests ranging from healthcare to packaging. Surplus funds available to companies can be invested in capital expenditure and acquisition of talent. India can be "very competitive" on the back of the government's tax initiative, he said.

Bringing costs down can help India grow its exports as it becomes a more attractive market for other countries to purchase goods from. In addition, the reduction in rates for new manufacturing companies is likely to encourage more businesses to launch, which in turn could boost the number of goods flowing out of India as production activity increases. Official figures show India's exports reached \$330 billion in the financial year to the end of March, a small fraction of \$2.6tn of Chinese exports last year.



ISIDÍNGO MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM

I T V

SATURDAY 21 Sept

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:00 Habari
8:00 Al Jazeera
9:00 Watoto wetu
10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt
11:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt
11:45 Usafiri wako
12:30 Series rpt: The Slingshot
13:45 Kesho leo rpt
14:15 Igizo rpt: Utelezi
14:45 Igizo rpt: Pigo la moyo
15:15 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe
15:30 Igizo: Mjumita rpt
16:00 Mr Tanzania
17:00 Shamsam za Pwani
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi
18:30 Igizo: Ahadi
19:00 Sanaa na wasanii
19:30 Jungu Kuu
20:00 Habari
21:00 Shangweka
21:30 Kesho leo
22:00 Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja
22:15 Hawavumi lakini wamo
23:00 Isidíngo rpt
01:30 CNN International

SUNDAY 22 Sept

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:00 Habari
8:00 Al Jazeera
09:00 Watoto Wetu
10:00 Isidíngo
11:45 Aibu Yako
11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt
12:30 Tamasha la Michezo
13:30 Jukwaa la fikra rpt
17:30 Mr Tanzania
17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi
18:30 Mizengwe rpt
18:45 Matukio ya wiki
19:30 Igizo: Pigo la moyo
20:00 Habari
21:05 Biko
21:10 Mizengwe
21:30 Mjue Zaidi
22:15 Bongo Movie: Friends
00:30 Series rpt: The Slingshot

MONDAY 23 Sept

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 Habari
6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo

9:30 Isidíngo
9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto wetu
10:30 Igizo rpt: Utelezi
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Kimya Milele
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Jungu kuu rpt
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Mjue Zaidi
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Kipindi maalum rpt: Mwanzo mzuri
14:15 Series rpt: The Slingshot
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza Huru
16:30 Watoto Wetu
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:10 Aibu yako rpt
18:15 Mapishi rpt
18:30 Kesho Leo
19:00 Afya ya Jamii
19:30 Isidíngo
20:00 Habari
21:05 Dakika 45
22:00 Insta Bet
22:15 Ripoti maalum
23:00 Habari
23:30 The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 CNN International

TUESDAY 24 Sept

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 Isidíngo
09:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto wetu
10:30 Shamsam za pwani
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Shamsam za pwani
11:25 Igizo: Mjumita
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Afya ya jamii rpt
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Uchumi na biashara
13:30 Kipindi Maalum: Tafakari rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Kipindi maalum rpt: Nyumba ni chuo
14:15 Ripoti maalum rpt
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza Huru
16:30 Watoto wetu
17:00 The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Korean Drama: The Great

queen Seonduk
18:55 Jarida la wanawake
19:30 Isidíngo
20:00 Habari
21:00 Tanzania yetu
21:30 Chetu ni chetu
22:15 Series: The Slingshot
23:00 Habari
23:30 The Base
00:30 CNN International

WEDNESDAY 25 Sept

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30 Isidíngo
9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto wetu
10:30 Korean: The Great queen Seonduk
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Korean: The Great queen-Seonduk
11:15 Shangweka rpt
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt
13:00 Dakika 45
14:00 Series rpt: The Slingshot
15:00 Meza huru
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mizengwe rpt
18:30 Igizo rpt: Ahadi
19:00 Ijue Sheria
19:30 Isidíngo
20:00 Habari
21:00 Aibu Yako! Hata wewe?
21:10 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco
21:40 Kipindi Maalum: Ripoti maalum
22:15 Series: The Slingshot
23:00 Habari
23:30 The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
2:00 CNN International

THURSDAY 26 Sept

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 Isidíngo
9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto wetu
10:30 Igizo rpt: Utelezi
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Igizo: Utelezi
11:15 Kipindi maalum rpt: Ripoti maalum

11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Ijue Sheria
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Sanaa na wasanii
13:30 Tanzania yetu
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Mr Tanzania Rpt
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza Huru
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi
18:30 Jagina
19:00 Usafiri wako
19:25 Kipindi maalum: Nyumba ni chuo
19:30 Isidíngo
20:00 Habari
21:00 Jukwaa la fikra
00:00 The Base
01:30 CNN International

FRIDAY 27 Sept

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
8:55 Habari za saa
09:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30 Isidíngo
9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto wetu
10:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo
11:30 Usafiri wako
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Jagina rpt
13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt
14:15 Mr Tanzania rpt
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza huru -live
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 The Base
17:30 Ibada ya kiislamu
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mizengwe rpt
18:30 Shamba lulu
19:00 Uchumi na biashara
19:30 Isidíngo
20:00 Habari
21:05 Kipima joto
23:00 Habari
23:30 The Base
00:30 CNN International

SATURDAY 28 Sept

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi

6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:00 Habari
8:00 Al Jazeera
9:00 Watoto wetu
10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt
11:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt
11:45 Usafiri wako
12:30 Series rpt: The Slingshot
13:45 Kesho leo rpt
14:15 Igizo rpt: Utelezi
14:45 Igizo rpt: Ahadi
15:15 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe
15:30 Igizo: Mjumita rpt
16:00 Mr Tanzania
17:00 Shamsam za Pwani
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi
18:30 Igizo: Ahadi
19:00 Sanaa na wasanii
19:30 Jungu Kuu
20:00 Habari
21:00 Shangweka
21:30 Kesho leo
22:00 Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja
22:15 Hawavumi lakini wamo
23:00 Isidíngo rpt
01:30 CNN International

SUNDAY 29 Sept

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:00 Habari
8:00 Al Jazeera
09:00 Watoto Wetu
10:00 Isidíngo
11:45 Aibu Yako
11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt
12:50 Bongo Movie rpt: Friends
14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
15:00 Mwangaza
16:00 Mr Tanzania
16:45 Igizo: Utelezi
17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi
18:30 Mizengwe rpt
18:45 Matukio ya wiki
19:30 Igizo: Pigo la moyo
20:00 Habari
21:05 Biko
21:10 Mizengwe
21:30 Mjue Zaidi
22:15 Bongo Movie: Lerato
00:30 Series rpt: The Slingshot



India's finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

WORLD

Joe Biden urges investigation into Trump Ukraine call

DES MOINES, Iowa/WASHINGTON

FORMER U.S. Vice President Joe Biden, a frontrunner for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination, on Saturday called for an investigation into reports that President Donald Trump pressed his Ukrainian counterpart to investigate Biden and his son.

"This appears to be an overwhelming abuse of power. To get on the phone with a foreign leader who is looking for help from the United States and ask about me and imply things ... this is outrageous," a visibly angry Biden said while campaigning in Iowa.

"Trump is using this because he knows I'll beat him like a drum and is using the abuse of power and every element of the presidency to try to do something to smear me," Biden said.

Trump's July 25 telephone call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy is at the center of an escalating battle over a whistleblower's complaint reportedly concerning the U.S. leader's dealings with Ukraine that the administration has refused to give Congress.

The Wall Street Journal and other news outlets on Friday said Trump repeatedly asked Zelenskyy to investigate

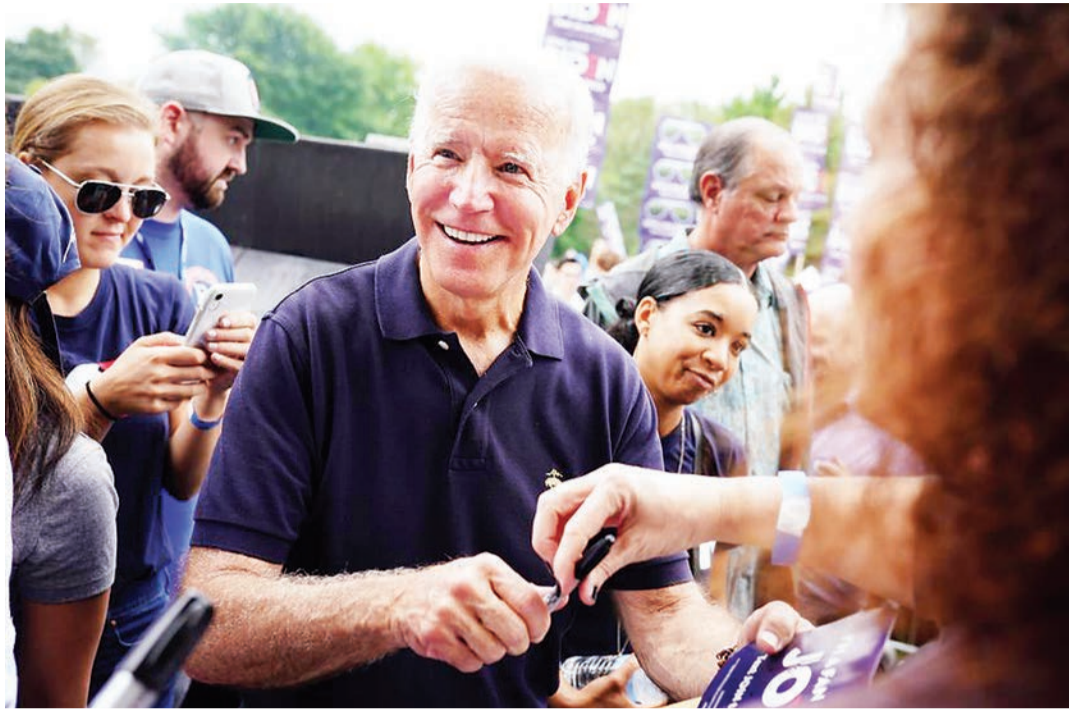
unsubstantiated charges that Biden, while vice president, threatened to withhold U.S. aid unless a prosecutor who was looking into a gas company in which Biden's son was involved was fired.

Trump, reports said, urged Zelenskyy, a comedian who had just won election, to speak with Trump's personal lawyer, Rudolph Giuliani. Giuliani, the former New York City mayor, has promoted the allegations against Biden and his son, Hunter, and acknowledged that he pressed for a Ukrainian investigation.

Biden has admitted threatening to withhold aid unless the prosecutor was dismissed, a demand also made by the wider U.S. government, the European Union and other international institutions for his alleged failure to pursue major corruption cases.

The news reports about the Zelenskyy phone call have intensified demands by Democratic lawmakers for the House of Representatives to launch impeachment proceedings against Trump, and have elevated the controversy to a major campaign issue.

Trump denied doing anything improper. He wrote in a series of tweets on Saturday that his conversation with



Joe Biden, former U.S. vice president and Democratic presidential hopeful, smiles while signing autographs at the Polk County Democrats' Steak Fry in Des Moines, Iowa, U.S., on Saturday. REUTERS

Zelenskyy was "perfectly fine and routine." He accused the "Fake News Media and their partner, the Democrat Party" of staying "as far away as possible" from the Biden allegations.

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Vadym Prystaiko on Saturday denied in an interview with a Ukrainian news outlet suggestions that Trump had pressured Zelenskyy.

Biden, responding to a reporter's question at the Polk County Democratic Party's annual steak fry in Des Moines, denied that he had ever spoken to his son about his business dealings in Ukraine.

"You should be looking at Trump. Everybody looked at this and everybody who's looked at it said there's nothing there. Ask the right question," continued Biden. "You should be asking him the question: why is he on the phone with a foreign leader, trying to intimidate a foreign leader?"

Senator Elizabeth Warren, one of Biden's main rivals in the Democratic primary race, reiterated in Des Moines that she believes Trump's reported actions should be the subject of impeachment proceedings in the U.S. House of Representatives.

"It is time for us to call out this illegal behavior and start impeachment proceedings right now," Warren said in remarks at the steak fry.

At the steak fry, Biden called on voters to oust Trump but did not mention Ukraine. "Above all else we must defeat Donald Trump period and stop his abuse of power," Biden said.

The House Intelligence Committee is demanding it be given the whistleblower's complaint in line with a finding by the inspector general for the intelligence community that the matter met the legal threshold for transmission to Congress.

Acting Director of National Security Joseph Maguire, however, decided against providing the complaint to the committee after he consulted with the Justice Department, and reportedly the White House.

Maguire and his top lawyer contended the complaint did not meet the legal guidelines for submission to the committee, prompting Democrats to accuse Maguire of breaking the law.

Three House committees already were investigating the Trump-Zelenskyy call in part because the Ukrainian government's readout of the call appeared to show that he had encouraged Zelenskyy to pursue a Biden investigation. **Agencies**

Russia and Ukraine will live in peace, defence chief vows

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN Defence Minister Army General Sergei Shoigu is convinced that Russia and Ukraine will live in peace and have good neighborly relations in the future.

In his interview with Moskowsky Komsomolets, published yesterday, Shoigu (pictured) highlighted that Ukrainians were Russia's brotherly nation. "And I am absolutely convinced that we will live in peace and have good neighborly ties with the Ukrainian people. I'm sure that the time for this will come."

Shoigu revealed that the relatives on his mother's side came from Ukraine, his grandfather was buried there and the minister himself was baptized there when he was a child. Speaking about the threats by radical Ukrainian politicians to "enter Moscow riding on a tank," the defense minister voiced hope that the Ukrainian people and the Ukrainian authorities will have enough will, strength and capabilities to cool those hot heads, who are calling for this stupid thing and a crazy scenario.

"One day extremists in Ukraine will still have to be stopped. It's a pity that this has not been done earlier," he stressed.

Agencies

China makes great strides in supercomputing

CHINA has secured a top-notch position in the global supercomputing industry, holding the largest number of supercomputers in the world for years, though in the 1980s, it had to import large computers from foreign countries.

In June, the 2019 ISC High Performance conference and exhibition released its latest list of the world's top 500 supercomputers. China has 219 supercomputers on the list, ranking first for the fourth time in a row.

The Sunway Taihulight and Tianhe-2 supercomputers continued to rank in third and fourth place on the list. Lenovo, Inspur and Zhongke Shuguang, three Chinese companies, were the top three global supercomputer manufacturers with 173, 71 and 63 supercomputer systems, respectively.

Supercomputing is the crown jewel of the computer industry. Known as the "treasure of the state" and the "engine" for technological breakthroughs, it has been widely used in scientific research, weather forecasting and other fields.

From the successful development of the first "Galaxy No. 1" supercomputer which can execute more than 100 million calculations per second in 1983 to the birth of the Shuguang series, Tianhe series and Sunway series, China has emerged as the third country in the world capable of developing high-end computer systems.

After decades of unremitting efforts, step by step, China's supercomputing has become a leading power in the area. Li Zechun, an academician with the Chinese Academy of Engineering, presided over the establishment of China's first medium-range (10-day) numerical weather forecasting system in the 1980s. He said the negotiation process for the import of large-scale electronic computers was difficult.

To extend the weather forecast term requires the computational power to increase exponentially. "Only a computer large enough can run the complex programs, and it was impossible to borrow an advanced computer from foreign companies," Li recalled.

"We have gone from zero to one, from nothing to being, and from following to transcending," said Tong Fuyao, senior vice President of Lenovo Group.

From the establishment of Lenovo's Supercomputing department 20 years ago, to the provision of computing technology for manned space flight and the rapid expansion of industrial application, the development of supercomputing not only confirms the great progress of the computer industry, but also reflects the rapid leap of China's scientific and technological advancement.

**Agencies**

Climate activists step up protests in Britain and France

PARIS

ENVIRONMENTAL activists in Britain and France stepped up campaigns on Saturday to get their governments to confront climate change with greater urgency, part of a week of global climate actions.

Thousands of people marched in south Paris to press French President Emmanuel Macron, world leaders at the United Nations and multinational companies to reduce greenhouse emissions faster.

The protest turned violent for

a while after dozens of marchers dressed in black broke windows and set fire to makeshift street barricades. Police blocked off side streets and used tear gas and batons indiscriminately to disperse the crowds as demonstrators ran for cover.

Around the busy Port of Dover, the English port nearest to France and a main transport link, activists from the Extinction Rebellion group launched a "blockade" to "highlight the vulnerability of the UK's food supply in the face of the ecological and climate emergency." Ten people

were arrested.

Saturday's protests come a day after hundreds of thousands of mostly young people marched, rallied and demonstrated around the world, demanding action to combat climate change. The Global Climate Strike took place on Friday in advance of a United Nations climate summit.

France's Macron will be among those speaking at the UN summit Monday. While he has presented himself as a champion of environmental issues and stood up to Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro over the

burning Amazon rainforest, climate activists aren't convinced of Macron's sincerity.

On Saturday in Paris, a delegation from Greenpeace pulled a giant float caricaturing Macron as a "King of Blah Blah."

Clement Senechal, a Greenpeace climate campaigner, accused Macron of putting business interests ahead of protecting the environment.

"The statue embodies the approach of Emmanuel Macron regarding the climate issue, which is mainly a smoke screen of fake, false meas-

ures," Senechal said. "We are facing climate inaction in France, and we have a big gap between claims and deeds."

Demonstrators raised concerns ranging from ongoing fossil fuel subsidies to deforestation and meat consumption. Dozens of France's anti-government yellow vest protesters joined climate activists to emphasize the link between economic grievances and environmental concerns.

"We are here, we are here. Even if Macron doesn't want it, we are here," marchers chanted. **Agencies**

Israeli president begins talks to form new government

JERUSALEM

ISRAELI President Reuven Rivlin began two days of crucial talks yesterday with party leaders before selecting his candidate for prime minister, after a deadlocked repeat election was set to make forming any new government a daunting task.

Israel's largely ceremonial president is tasked with picking the politician with the best chance of forming a stable coalition government. While usually a mere formality, this time Rivlin (pictured) plays a key role after an election result in which neither of the top candidates has an outright majority.

"The president, in this case, will be

very, very involved in the particulars. He will ask for clear answers," Harel Tubi, the president's top aide, told Israel's Army Radio. "I think he'll turn the consultations this time into consultations that have the ability to present other possibilities, of the sort that the public hasn't heard about yet."

In last week's vote, Benny Gantz's centrist Blue and White party won 33 seats in the 120-member parliament, while incumbent Benjamin Netanyahu's conservative Likud took 31 seats. Neither can muster a parliamentary majority with their traditional smaller allies.

The deciding factor looks to be Avigdor Lieberman and the eight seats his Yisrael Beiteinu party captured.



Lieberman is demanding a broad unity government with the two major parties that is secular and excludes the ultra-Orthodox Jewish parties. That appears to be the emerging compromise between Blue and White and Likud, though both are insisting upon leading it.

Complicating matters is Blue

and White's refusal to sit with Netanyahu because he faces a likely indictment on corruption charges.

The first step out of the quagmire is the consultations at the president's residence, where each of the parties is asked to make its recommendations.

Though Netanyahu's Likud dropped in support, its allies appear to give Netanyahu the support of 55 members of parliament. For Gantz to compete, he'll need the backing of the Joint List of Arab parties, which emerged as the third largest party with 13 seats, and has traditionally refrained from

openly endorsing a candidate for prime minister.

The Arab-led parties have never sat in an Israeli government and its leader, Ayman Odeh, says he is aiming to become opposition leader in case of a unity government.

But he hasn't ruled out giving Gantz his recommendation to the president to thwart another Netanyahu-led government. It would make the first time since 1992 the Arab parties played a role in the process. The decision will come down later Sunday, before party representative meet Rivlin.

Agencies

UNITED NATIONS

SEVERAL UN high-ranking officials and representatives from different missions to the UN on Friday evening shared with Xinhua their congratulations to the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

The Permanent Mission of China to the UN hosted a reception to celebrate the anniversary. More than 600 Chinese and UN officials, diplomats and representatives from different missions, including President of the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly Tijjani Muhammad-Bande and UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed, attended the reception.

"It's a challenging world, but we are very glad that we can count on China's support," UN Undersecretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Jean-Pierre Lacroix told Xinhua.

Lacroix said he is thankful to the Chinese peacekeepers who are cur-

UN officials, envoys mark PRC's 70th founding anniversary

rently serving on the ground. "They are doing a fantastic job, they are making a difference for people, they are protecting vulnerable civilians."

Since 1989, China has dispatched over 40,000 peacekeepers to around 30 operations. More than 2,500 peacekeepers from China are currently on duty in eight missions.

UN Undersecretary-General for the Department of Field Support Atul Khare told Xinhua that among all five permanent members of the Security Council, China contributes the largest number of troops. "China provides high quality troops, engineers, doctors, nurses and helicopters. We are extremely grateful to China for all these contributions."

Khare said his hope is that China continues to develop, continues to enhance its participation, not only in peace and security, but in all the areas

of the United Nations and the multilateralism system.

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Executive Director Henrietta Fore said in the next decade, China has promised some very strong goals such as about 85 percent of preschoolers in China, aged between three and six, will be enrolled in certified kindergartens by 2020, and that would be a great benefit to children.

China raised more than 700 million people out of poverty, and it has been a singular accomplishment that has helped to move the Sustainable Development Goals, Fore added.

UN Development Programme (UNDP) Administrator Achim Steiner said that China has not only lifted out millions of people out of poverty, but also have created the industrial base and the service base.

To Steiner, the investment on its

people's education is a central part of China's success story too. "It holds many lessons for other countries."

Vassily Nebenzia, the permanent representative of Russia to the UN, said to Xinhua that China has made tremendous progress in recent decades, and it's definitely one of the leading economies of the world. "I wish that the growth of the Chinese economy is accompanied by the improvement in the standards of life of Chinese people," he added.

Nebenzia said the relations between Russia and China are "based on mutual respect and trust, and in general, relations between Russia and China are a factor of stability in today's turbulent world."

Dian Triansyah Djani, the permanent representative of Indonesia to the UN said that China and Indonesia have been working closely together

in ensuring peace and security in the world, and China has been playing an important role in the United Nations and "we will certainly hope it will continue to do so in the future."

Kairat Umarov, the permanent representative of Kazakhstan to the UN said the 70th anniversary is a huge landmark in the development of China. China today plays a key role in international arena, and it's a remarkable transformation.

Speaking of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), Umarov said both China and Kazakhstan today are working on huge infrastructural developments, expanding the transport and transit capacities. The BRI brings development, progress, prosperity to other countries. "So we very much value this initiative of China."

"The BRI is the greatest initiative of the 21st century, and it has a lot to

offer, not just (to) Asia, but the whole world. Pakistan is very proud and very happy that we are participating," said Maleeha Lodhi, the permanent representative of Pakistan to the UN.

"Pakistan and China have enjoyed 70 years of a very solid strategic relationship, and we look forward to the next 70 years of a relationship which is higher than the Himalayas and deeper than any sea that you can find," Lodhi added.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres also hailed China's cooperation with and contributions to the world organization.

"China has been a key participant in the work of our organization and has played a central role as a pillar of international cooperation and multilateralism. China and the United Nations are continuing to work together to address pressing global issues," said Guterres in a message, which was read by his deputy, Amina Mohammed, at the reception. **Xinhua**



Chinese President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, speaks at the Central Conference on the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) Work, which also marks the 70th anniversary of the CPPCC, in Beijing, capital of China, on Friday. (Xinhua)

The evolving face of 'China speed'

BEIJING

THE blistering pace of expansion by China's economy in the past decades has impressed the world as "China speed." Now the term is taking on new meaning as the country enters a new development phase.

The past 70 years have witnessed how "China speed" impacted the country and the rest of the world.

From 1952 -- when the earliest official national GDP data after the founding of New China was available -- to 2018, China's GDP soared 452.6 times in U.S. dollar terms, according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

The true economic takeoff started after 1978 when the country began its reform and opening up. China achieved an average annual GDP growth of 9.4 percent between 1979 and 2018 at constant prices, well above the 2.9-percent rate the world economy logged in the same period.

The leap in the economy's global influence is evident: in 2018, China contributed to 27.5 percent of world economic growth, up 24.4 percentage points from 1978, the NBS estimates.

While fast economic expansion tremendously elevated people's living standards in the world's most populous country and boosted its economic clout globally, better rather than faster growth is becoming the new trend as China seeks higher-quality development.

"China speed" is now less about the breakneck pace of GDP growth, or the sheer velocity of building roads, bridges and skyscrapers. Instead, it's more about how swiftly an economy of China's size embraces a new development approach.

For starters, "China speed" is propelled more than ever by technology and innovation. A few clues on this front: a designed top speed of 600 kph for the country's newly minted high-speed maglev train testing prototype; the Tianhe-1 supercomputer that can compute in one hour what would have taken the entire Chinese population 340 years to process; the 5G network that can download movies within seconds.

The galloping technology advancement is underpinned by China's unprecedented spending on research and development, which jumped at an average annual rate of 20 percent between 1992 and 2018 to rank second in the world.

The speed of China's shift toward greener growth is equally impressive. China's per unit of economic output is obtained with 43.1 percent

less energy consumption in 2018 than in 1953, and 11.4 percent less than in 2015.

Instead of pursuing reckless industrial expansion, Chinese officials now show little tolerance for smokestack factories and energy waste, even if that means slower GDP growth. The "China speed" in greening the Earth is leading the world and is visible from space.

A study in February using data from NASA satellites revealed that China contributed to a quarter of the increase in global green leaf area since the turn of the century.

To observe it from the eyes of entrepreneurs, "China speed" is increasingly relevant to how fast the country betters its business environment and opens up its market to foreign businesses.

As a result of China's reforms to expand market access and cut administrative red tape, the number of enterprises in the country mushroomed at an average growth rate of 16.9 percent annually from 2012 to 2017.

A World Bank report ranked China 46th worldwide for ease of doing business in 2018, up 32 places from the previous year. In particular, China is moving fast to share more development opportunities with foreign firms.

The negative list for foreign access to business sectors is shortening year by year, new pilot free trade zones have been launched across the nation in just a few years, and once heavily-restricted domains such as finance are being opened up at a non-stop pace.

Behind the new face of "China speed" is the country's all-out efforts to pursue national rejuvenation, a vision that can not be realized without a modernized economy that entails better quality, higher efficiency, more robust drivers of growth and opening-up on all fronts.

By downshifting its GDP growth and demonstrating a new understanding of desirable speed, the country shows to the rest of the world that it favors not economic dominance, but economic sustainability, which makes structural reforms and shared, win-win development a requisite in a highly connected global economy.

Recasting an economy as large as China's takes time and courage, but it is a critical battle that China must and can win.

The evolution of "China speed" has proved how far the country has come and will continue to bear witness to this journey.

Xinhua

Hundreds march in Mozambique against xenophobia

MAPUTO

HUNDREDS of Mozambican citizens marched on Saturday in the capital Maputo in protest of the recent wave of xenophobic violence in South Africa.

The march was organized by civil society and was attended by local youth group members. "We just wanted to convey our outrage over the situation that our brothers live in South Africa.

Our destination, our target is the embassy of South Africa," said David Fabio, president of the Mozambican Youth Parliament in a state-

ment to the media during the march.

Protesters were diverted by the police to avoid road obstruction and could not reach their main destination, South Africa's Embassy in Mozambique.

Fabio said the protest was with a clear message for peace and nonviolence, urging that politicians should be sensitive to the situation as violent attacks continue to destroy lives.

"The march aims to raise awareness among African governments about the evil of these xenophobic acts," said Lucilia de Fatima, an activist of a youth association.

Fatima added that it is unfortunate

that Mozambique did not receive a formal apology from the South African government.

Nearly 1,500 foreigners living in South Africa were forced to leave their homes and businesses due to xenophobic violence.

Last Wednesday, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa announced in parliament that he would invite the former presidents Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique and Jakaya Kikwete of Tanzania to lead a team to look into the causes of xenophobia in the country.

Xinhua

Russia to carry out additional analysis of national security threats'

MOSCOW

RUSSIA will have to carry out additional analysis of threats to national security and strategic stability with regard to US plans to arm its military forces with short-and medium-range missiles as soon as possible, the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement.

The statement comes in response to the Department of State's report, headlined Adherence to and Compliance with Arms Control, Nonproliferation, and Disarmament Agreements and Commitments (Compliance Report), released on Friday.

According to the Russian Foreign Ministry, instead of searching for ways to save the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF), the United States blocked all opportunities to take the discussion onto a constructive path and completed the procedure to terminate the treaty on August 2. As a result, Washington has dealt a new serious blow to the arms control system, which took decades to be build.

"Far-reaching negative consequences for international security in several key regions of the world look practically inevitable," the ministry said.

On top of that, Pentagon tested a Tomahawk-family cruise missiles with range prohibited under the INF treaty two weeks after the treaty was terminated.

"The Mk-41 launcher was used for the purpose. Therefore... it was exactly the combination of a rocket and a launcher, which was the main element of Russia's concerns about the US side's implementation of the INF treaty," the ministry said.

"Not only this confirms that our longtime concern - which the United States kept ignoring - was justified, but it also proves that Washington was preparing to terminate the treaty and was engaged in creating weapons prohibited by the treaty for quite a while."

"In this context, and in connection with Pentagon's calls to equip the US armed forces with short-and medium-range missiles, Russia will be forced to carry out additional analysis of correspondign threats to national security and strategic stability, including those posed by US-made Aegis Ashore systems with Mk-41 launchers, being deployed in Europe and scheduled for deployment in the Pacific region."

The ministry stressed that Russia keeps the door open for an equal and constructive dialogue with the United States with the purpose to boost transparency and international security.

Besides, the ministry called upon Washington "to refrain from destabilizing measures related to the missile sector and from steps that provoke the international arms race, and to undertake commitments not to deploy the above-mentioned missile types similar to a moratorium earlier declared by Russia."

Agencies

Iran says it will destroy any aggressor

DUBAI

IRAN will pursue any aggressor, even if it carries out a limited attack, and seek to destroy it, the head of the elite Revolutionary Guards said on Saturday, after attacks on Saudi oil sites which Riyadh and U.S. officials blamed on Tehran.

"Be careful, a limited aggression will not remain limited. We will pursue any aggressor," the head of the Guards, Major General Hossein Salami, said in remarks broadcast on state TV. "We are after punishment and we will continue until the full destruction of any aggressor."

U.S. President Donald Trump on Friday approved sending American troops to bolster Saudi Arabia's air and missile defences after the Sept. 14 attacks.

Iran denies involvement in the attack, which was claimed by Yemen's Houthi movement, a group aligned with Iran and currently fighting a Saudi-led alliance in Yemen's civil war.

Trump's move drew fire in Washington on Saturday from U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi, who called it his "latest outrageous attempt" to circumvent Congress.

"These unacceptable actions are cause for alarm," Pelosi said in a statement accusing Trump of turning "a blind eye" to Saudi violence against innocent Yemenis, human rights abuses and the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

"The United States cannot enable more brutality and bloodshed," she added. "Congress will do our job to uphold the Constitution, defend our national security and protect the American people."

Meanwhile, Amirali Hajizadeh, who heads the Revolutionary Guards' aerospace branch, said any attacks on Iran would receive "a crushing response", the official news agency IRNA reported. Hajizadeh was speaking at a public exposition called "Hunting Vultures", where remains of drones which were downed in Iran or crashed there were displayed, along with the Iranian air defence system which shot down a U.S. military drone in June.



A metal part of a damaged tank is seen at the damaged site of Saudi Aramco oil facility in Abqaiq, Saudi Arabia, on Saturday. REUTERS

The exposition is part of annual events commemorating the start of the 1980-88 war with Iraq, which also includes air and naval displays in the Gulf and military parades on Sunday.

Iran's foreign minister meanwhile denounced renewed U.S. sanctions against its central bank following the Saudi attacks as an attempt to deny ordinary Iranians access to food and medicine, and said the move was a sign of U.S. desperation.

The United States on Friday imposed more sanctions, targeting the Central Bank of Iran, which was already under U.S. sanctions, the National Development Fund of Iran - the country's sovereign wealth fund - and an Iranian company that U.S. officials say is used to conceal financial transfers for Iranian military purchases.

"This is a sign of U.S. desperation ... When they repeatedly sanction the same institution, this means their attempt at bringing the Iranian nation to its knees under 'maximum pressure' has failed," Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif told reporters in remarks shown on state television.

"But this is dangerous and unacceptable as an attempt at blocking ... the Iranian people's access to food and medicine," Zarif said, speaking after

arriving in New York for the annual U.N. General Assembly next week.

Separately, Foreign Ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi rejected what he called "unreal and repetitious accusations by certain Saudi officials" about the attacks, state media said.

A senior Saudi official said earlier that Riyadh would wait for the results of a probe before responding to the attacks on its oil facilities, for which it believes Iran is responsible.

SANCTIONS

Zarif said he would on Wednesday meet foreign ministers of the remaining signatories to the 2015 nuclear accord, which was agreed with Britain, France, Germany, China and Russia as well as the United States.

"As we have said before, the United States can only attend if it returns to the (nuclear accord) ... and ends its economic war against Iran," Zarif said.

The United States withdrew from the accord last year and re-imposed unilateral sanctions on Iran.

After reports on social media of a cyber-attack on some petrochemical and other companies in Iran, a state body in charge of cyber security denied there had been a "successful" attack.

Agencies

137 people arrested in renewed 'Yellow Vest' protests in Paris

PARIS

FRENCH police had arrested 137 individuals in Paris by 16:00 local time (1400 GMT), as "Yellow Vest" protests against President Emmanuel Macron's fiscal policy hit streets again on Saturday.

Citing the Paris police department, BFMTV news channel said 48 of the 137 individuals detained remained under police custody.

They were suspected of committing violent acts in the fringe of the fresh rally. Police found in their bags materials that could be used as projectiles, including stones, slings and hammers, the report added.

French authorities have banned ral-

lies in the landmarked Champs Elysees Avenue and the Arc de Triomphe monument, which often became flashpoint of clashes between the police and protesters in recent protests. Some 30 metro stations were closed and many of shops were barricaded.

In Paris, 7,500 police officers have been poured in and armored vehicles were deployed to handle more threats of rioting that, according to the government, risks to taint the social movement's 45th weekend of action, which coincided with a march for the climate and union-led demonstration against the pension reform.

After a relatively calm debut, a brief standoff erupted early Saturday morn-

ing when anti-riot police fired tear gas to prevent some demonstrators from cruising to adjacent streets. Violence flared up after 1,000 anarchists, known as Black Blocs, infiltrated a march for climate.

TV footages showed hooded men wearing in black are smashing a bank's window in the capital's fifth district. A motorcycle and bins were torched, forcing firefighters to intervene.

More standoffs were reported as police officers, pelted with projectiles, fired tear gas to disperse the protesters. "Yellow Vest" movement, which got its name from the high-visibility vests drivers required to have in their cars, was created on social media November last year to protest against a rise in carbon tax, which

Macron said was necessary to combat climate change.

It has since turned into a bigger uprising denouncing the president's fiscal and economic policy which protesters say favors the rich.

Some of them asked Macron to step down. As the social action has posed a serious challenge to his leadership, the head of state had offered a series of concessions that began with a drop of a planned high fuel tax, which inspired the nationwide uprising.

Among other sweeteners, he proposed "an economic and social emergency plan," worth 10 billion euros (11.02 billion U.S. dollars) to boost purchasing power.

Xinhua

Large-scale facilities accelerate China's scientific process

CHINA'S Large Sky Area Multi-Object Fiber Spectroscopy Telescope (LAMOST) has helped the country make a series of breakthroughs in astronomical studies in recent years. It has not only recalculated the size of the Milky Way, but also found a fixed star with the highest abundance of lithium discovered so far.

"It was unimaginable in the

past," said Zhao Yongheng, a researcher with the National Astronomical Observatories, Chinese Academy of Sciences, explaining that the researches performed before were always limited by observation equipment.

Zhao pointed out that with the advanced and sensitive large telescope, they could see farther and clearer and thus re-

new their knowledge about the universe.

Nowadays, large and powerful apparatuses are indispensable for scientific discoveries and technological innovation, from observing the cosmic galaxies billions of light-years away to the basic particles that make up the world.

Since the 1980s, China has begun to invest in the construc-

tion of large scientific facilities. According to incomplete statistics, over 30 such facilities have been built and put into operation.

Building large scientific equipment has greatly boosted the development of China's basic research and advanced technologies, bringing the country's science and technologies to a higher level.

In 1988, China successfully built its first physics collider, the Beijing Electron-Positron Collider (BEPC).

As another major breakthrough in China's high-tech industry after the country achieved success in developing its first atomic and hydrogen bombs and the first man-made satellite, it has officially introduced China's research in high-

energy physics to the world.

Since the reform and opening-up, China has built many large-scale scientific facilities, such as LAMOST, Shanghai Synchrotron Radiation Facility (SSRF), the Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical Radio Telescope (FAST), China Spallation Neutron Source (CSNS), and the experimental advanced superconducting tokamak (EAST), with

many representing the most advanced level in the world.

In the future, more major scientific facilities will be built and put into operation in China, and they will play more important roles in areas such as attraction of talents, making of technological breakthroughs, and promotion of innovation.

People's Daily

The
Guardian

SPORT



Spain's Jon Rahm celebrates on the 18th hole during day three of the BMW PGA Championship at Wentworth Golf Club, Wentworth, England, Saturday Sept. 21, 2019. (AP)

Rahm, Willett share lead after 3 rounds at BMW PGA Champs

VIRGINIA WATER, England

JON Rahm endured a wild end to his third round at the BMW PGA Championship to drop back into a share of the lead with Danny Willett at the flagship European Tour event on Saturday.

Holding a two-stroke lead after playing the first 16 holes in 5 under, Rahm hit a spectator with his second shot at No. 17 – though this did stop his ball going out of bounds. The world No. 6 pitched to 10 feet and three-putted for bogey.

Rahm was also close to driving out of bounds at the 18th hole, too, and needed to take a drop. He holed from 20 feet for an unlikely par while Willett got up and down from a greenside bunker for a birdie to match his playing partner's 4-under 68.

"Man, those last two holes made it feel a lot worse than it really was," Rahm said. "I was really in control of my game and playing good. It was not the finish I was looking for – I might have lost a bit of focus, looking into the future instead of staying in the present."

Rahm and Willett, who also shared the second-round lead, were on 15 under overall and had a three-shot lead over Justin Rose (69), Shubhankar Sharma (66) and Christiaan Bezuidenhout (69). Richie Ramsay and Rafa Cabrera Bello (both 67) were two shots further back.

Rahm was among the players who waited beside the 18th green on Friday as Spanish compatriot Jose Maria Olazabal completed his 25th and final appearance in the event. The 24-year-old Rahm can join Olazabal, Seve

Ballesteros, Miguel Angel Jimenez, Ignacio Garrido and Manuel Pinero as a Spanish winner at Wentworth.

Willett recovered from a bogey on the first, making six birdies to remain on track for a seventh European Tour title – and a first on home soil.

"This is our biggest tournament of the year for us British guys. It's a massive event," Willett said. "I've been here 10 straight years and I love the place. The crowds are amazing."

"I've won all around the world and it would be amazing to polish one off in front of a home crowd. It's going to be a pretty tough battle out there."

Rory McIlroy, who made the cut on the number, shot 65 to equal his lowest score at Wentworth. It left him nine shots off the lead.

"I will give it a go, for sure, and you never know," said McIlroy, the 2014 champion. "But at the same time, I'm a realist. I know I won from seven back five years ago and I feel like that's something that happens maybe once in your career."

Another rare event was Ross Fisher making an albatross after holing a 4-iron with his second shot to the 18th from 225 yards. Not only did it complete a remarkable back nine of 29 for a third-round 66, the English player won a BMW i8 Roadster worth 130,000 pounds (\$160,000).

"I thought I'd pulled it so I looked away and the crowd's reaction told the rest of the story," Fisher said. "To win the car is still a bit shocking."

AP

Malaysia bans Jennifer Lopez movie 'Hustlers'



Jennifer Lopez arrives for the gala presentation of Hustlers at the Toronto International Film Festival earlier this month. (Reuters Photo)

KUALA LUMPUR

MALAYSIA has banned the movie "Hustlers", a Jennifer Lopez film based on the real life exploits of a band of strippers who fleeced clients after having drugged them.

Malaysia's government has been accused by art critics of being a nanny state for its conservative position on the films it allows to be shown in the country. In August, the film censorship board (LPF) cut out gay sex scenes in "Rocketman", a movie based on the life of British singer Elton John.

The ban on "Hustlers" was announced over social media late on Thursday by the movie's local distributor, Square Box Pictures.

No reason was given by the distributor, but the LPF said it was packed with so much obscene content there would not be much of a film left after it had made all the necessary cuts, according to a report by AFP.

The LPF did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

"Hustlers" – inspired by the real life story of Samantha Barbash and three others who stole at least \$200,000 from men they had drugged – collected over \$30 million at North American theatres in its opening weekend last week.

Meanwhile, pop star and actress Jennifer Lopez strutted down the Milan catwalk on Friday, closing the

Versace fashion show in a recreation of the plunging jungle-themed gown she wore to the Grammy Awards nearly 20 years ago.

The 50-year-old joined models including sisters Gigi and Bella Hadid in the Milan Fashion Week presentation, walking the runway after a screen showed a Google voice search for the dress producing photos of Lopez in the frock at the 2000 Grammys.

Lopez modeled a newer version of the green dress, which at the time made headlines for its revealing low-cut front and skirt slits. She was later joined by designer Donatella Versace on the catwalk.

"For the Spring/Summer 2020 Collection, Versace honors an iconic moment when fashion and culture became a catalyst for technological progress," the brand said.

This time Lopez's dress did not have sleeves but had more decorations and side slits.

In an April post on YouTube, Lopez said wearing the original dress was her "biggest fashion moment ever", and that she had learned years later how so many people looking for it online helped inspire the creation of Google Images.

"So many people went searching for this," she said.

The show marked the 20th anniversary of Versace's jungle print, with models wearing tops, skirts, suits and dresses in its vivid

green hues.

There were also sharply cut black dresses, jackets and coats, tie-dye designs and bursts of neon pink, green and orange for outerwear, frocks and shirts with voluminous sleeves.

Earlier, Italian designer Anna Molinari dedicated her latest Blumarine collection to kindness, a virtue that she said seemed "to belong to a time past".

Molinari, known for her feminine and romantic looks, used pastel colors and bold pinks for floaty dresses and floral printed or embroidered tops, skirts, shorts and trousers.

She put roses, her favorite flower, on organza tops, chiffon dresses, hot pants and pencil skirts, and as shimmering sparkles on crystal embroidered evening gowns.

Short satin slip dresses were trimmed with lace. Molinari also put shimmering nets over some frocks.

"This show celebrates an attitude of spontaneous, fresh sense of elegance – I have been inspired by the calm poetry of nature and by the ravishing world of flowers," she said in show notes.

Molinari also presented five silk embroidered sweaters each spelling out the words "Sweetie", "Cutie", "Lovely", "Smiley" and "Kind" that she said would go on sale on the brand's site and at Blumarine's

Milan store after the show.

The designer wore a beige top with "Thank You" emblazoned on the front when she greeted the audience at the end of the show.

Italian label Etro went for a "Posh Pirates and Aristocrat Groupies" theme at its show, presenting floaty and embroidered dresses, caftans, ponchos and tailored suits.

With influences from Isla Mujeres, Ibiza, Tangier and Goa, designs were adorned in Etro's usual paisley motif, ikat and patchwork patterns and metallic fringes.

Designer Daniel Lee presented his second runway show for Italian luxury goods maker Bottega Veneta on Thursday evening, kicking off with a one-shouldered black dress, before presenting leather designs and loose halter-neck tops printed with pineapples and monkeys.

There were shirt, ribbed and sparkly cowl neck dresses, light anoraks, belted trench coats and jackets with large pockets in black, dark brown, orange, gold and different shades of blue. Men wore oversized jackets and shorts.

Bottega Veneta is known for its woven bags, and Lee used that technique for slip-on heel shoes. Bags were large and slung over the shoulder though some models carried small clutches.

REUTERS

25 years later, a new generation gets immersed in 'Friends'

LOS ANGELES

"FRIENDS" is getting old. Its fans have never been younger.

As the sitcom about six twentysomethings marks its 25th anniversary on Sunday, it has spawned a devoted youthful viewership, especially among tween and teen girls who weren't yet born when it went off the air in 2004.

In an era when everyone assumed they would move on to YouTube and Instagram video, young girls have embraced the series and its old-fashioned, studio-audience, sitcom format, bingeing its 10 seasons on Netflix through their tablets and phones, wearing T-shirts with the show's logo and constantly quoting catch-phrases.

"It is old but you can't tell that much when you're watching," said 15-year-old Sammy Joyce of Long Beach, California. "It's too funny to care about how old it is."

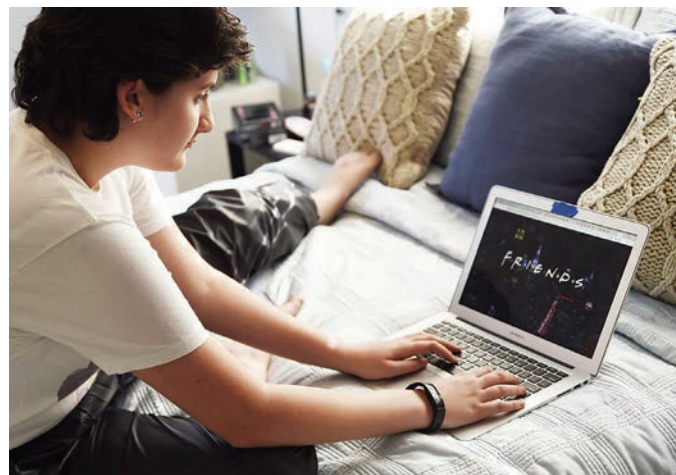
Some first hear about the show from Generation X parents who watched the initial NBC run, but the show has caught on mostly via word-of-mouth between friends.

"My friends all really liked it. They were all really into it and they would always be quoting it so I decided to give it a try," said 15-year-old Adelaide Driver of Taos, New Mexico. "I kind of immediately was super into it."

Lucia Mazingo, 10, of Long Beach says she's been spreading her love for the show "like a disease" among her grade-school classmates. She and Sammy, who watches her after school, can mimic their way through entire episodes, sing every word to Phoebe's song "Smelly Cat" and can do impressions of every major character and many minor ones.

The show has become almost a rite of passage in some circles, where their "Friends" phase is almost a coming of age.

For girls like Lucia, understanding the show's adult-but-not-too-adult subject matter can feel like a step into sophistication.



In this Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019 photo, Esme Goldman, 13, streams an episode of the '90s sitcom "Friends" via Netflix in her bedroom, in Pasadena, Calif. "Friends" marks its 25th anniversary Sunday, Sept. 22 and the quintessential 1990s sitcom has attracted a new slew of fans.

"My parents showed me the show 'Friends' when I was 8, and I didn't really get it, so I wasn't really into it."

Then, trying it again at 10, it all clicked, and she understood why Ross and Rachel got together, and why they broke up, and why they got back together again.

"I just got it," she said.

"Friends," some fans said, is a piece of the past that allows them to fantasize about their future. They swoon at the notion of living in a big-city apartment with their best friend the way Courteney Cox's Monica and Jennifer Aniston's Rachel do, with two more friends across the hall like Matthew Perry's Chandler and Matt LeBlanc's

Joey.

"I would love to live across the hall from my best friends," said 12-year-old Imogen Schwartz of Glendale, California. "When you watch it you wish you had a Rachel and a Chandler and a Joey and everyone else."

The characters also have fledgling careers that the girls can see themselves aspiring to.

"My favorite moments are whenever they're talking about their jobs: actor, musician, masseuse, fashion-person," said 13-year-old Esme Goldman of Pasadena, California. "I think jobs are interesting."

And they live and work in an idealized New York, a dream of some young fans.

"I want to live in New York. I want to pursue my dreams in New York," Esme said, "even though their version of New York is completely unrealistic. I'm not going to have an apartment like that."

Marta Kauffman, who along with David Crane created the show that premiered on Sept. 22, 1994, agreed that its

aspirational qualities are a huge part of its appeal for younger viewers.

"For the characters themselves, this is that kind of time in their lives when their friends are their family. I think that's incredibly aspirational," Kauffman told The Associated Press. "Teenagers who imagine it are imagining that kind of life when they're with their friends."

Lisa Kudrow's Phoebe, and her proudly eccentric persona, has special standing among young-girl fans, who overwhelmingly name her as their favorite character.

"She's different but she doesn't really care," Lucia said. "Like, she's always trying to cleanse your aura, and like, she'll make her own shoes with candy on them."

"She's kind of a little crazy," Adelaide said. "She's like a lot of the people here in Taos."

Phoebe's personality, with her strange folkie songs and odd observations, would make her a social-media star. "Phoebe would be a very popular YouTuber," Imogen said. Most young fans also immerse themselves in "Friends" on social media. Its archetypal characters including David Schwimmer's Ross and catch-phrases make it incredibly meme-worthy, and many say they first decided to watch it after being prompted on Instagram or Snapchat.

Netflix, which paid a reported \$100 million to stream "Friends" through 2019, rarely releases streaming figures, and declined a request for them for this story, making it difficult to know how

broad the trend truly is. There's an abundance of anecdotal evidence – the number of T-shirts at malls and school campuses alone – that suggests it's vast.

Other sitcoms, such as "The Office," also have masses of surprisingly young viewers, but few are as old, or as traditional in format, as "Friends."

Yet its age could also be an asset. While a current show might only offer a few short seasons to plow through, "Friends" has a decade's worth, 236 episodes to binge on and return to repeatedly. That's more time than some young girls have spent with most of their real-life friends. They feel like they really know the characters.

"You got to watch Chandler and Joey and Monica and Rachel and Phoebe and Ross all, like, throughout a decade go through ups and downs and everything between," Imogen said.

And some may not even realize it's old at first.

"When my daughter's friends discovered 'Friends' they thought it was a period piece," Kauffman said. "They thought it was a contemporary show set in the 90s."

The days of "Friends" on Netflix are now numbered. WarnerMedia is moving the series to its own streaming platform, HBO Max, next year.

That has some young fans scrambling to gorge on episodes, unsure if their parents will spring for the new channel.

"Since they're taking it off Netflix," Imogen said, "I want to get in as much time watching 'Friends' as possible."

AP

Zidane on Mourinho talk: 'I'm not interested'

MADRID

REAL Madrid head coach Zinedine Zidane has said he is not bothered by rumours linking Jose Mourinho with his job.

Sources have told ESPN FC that the Frenchman is under pressure after Madrid suffered a disappointing defeat by Paris Saint-Germain in their Champions League opener.

Madrid were up against an under-strength PSG side on Wednesday missing Neymar, Edinson Cavani and Kylian Mbappe but produced a pitiful display, failing to register a shot on target in a Champions League game for the first time in 16 years.

"I'm not interested in what is said outside the club, the day I pay attention to what's in the press is the day I leave," Zidane told a news conference on Saturday ahead of Real's visit to early La Liga leaders Sevilla later yesterday.

"I feel in a strong position and I never give up. I will keep trying until the last minute and as long as the club will give me the chance to continue, I don't feel questioned at all."

Spanish media have reported that Real president Florentino Perez would be keen to recruit former coach Mourinho should Zidane be

relieved of his duties.

"I'm not bothered by the Mourinho speculation," he added. "This is how the situation is, and whenever the team has a bad result the impression is that everything needs to change. It's difficult but it's the reality."

Real have taken eight points from four La Liga games while Sevilla top the standings with 10 after making a flying start under coach Julen Lopetegui, who was named as Zidane's successor at Real last year but was sacked in October.

Lopetegui, however, said he harboured no ill feelings towards Real and was treating Sunday's game like any other.

"Three points are up for grabs tomorrow and that should be motivation enough for us even though we know what it means to face Real Madrid," he said.

"I have a very good memory of every club I've been at and always try to remember the positive things. I try to be responsible and ambitious and tomorrow will be no exception."

Real were to count on captain Sergio Ramos against Sevilla after he missed the PSG defeat due to suspension, although Marcelo was a doubt and Luka Modric is still injured.

(Agencies)

Valverde worried by Barcelona's limp away form after Granada defeat

GRANADA

BARCELONA coach Ernesto Valverde said he was concerned about the team's away form after they were comprehensively beaten 2-0 by promoted Granada on Saturday and he took full responsibility for the club's worst start to a La Liga season in 25 years.

Granada got off to a flying start when Ramon Azeez headed them in front in the second minute while Alvaro Vadillo scored from the penalty spot midway through the second half to seal the points, taking the Andalusian minnows to the top of the league.

"I'm worried because away from home we're not getting good results. No wins from four away games this season is a clear symptom that we are not in a very good situation," Valverde told reporters.

"Some of our players joined the squad late but we did not play well today and we have not been playing well away from home lately. We dominated the play but couldn't manage to create many chances and we never looked like getting back into the game."

Valverde left all-time top scorer Lionel Messi out of the starting line-up as the Argentine is still not fully fit after recovering from a calf

injury he sustained in August which has prevented him from starting any games.

The coach called on his captain at halftime along with 16-year-old Ansu Fati, who had scored and provided an assist on his full debut in last week's 5-2 drubbing of Valencia, but neither player was able to bring the team to life.

Barca are seventh in the table on seven points, their lowest total after five games since the 1994/95 campaign.

They have not won an away game in any competition since April.

Valverde also said he was concerned about Barca's poor defence as he was reminded they were the only team in La Liga along with Real Betis to have conceded nine goals this season, and recognised that as coach he was to blame for their plight.

"It's clearly not a very good statistic for us and not in line with what we have been doing in the last few years," he said.

"The players are the actors, but in the end the coach is the one who is responsible for what happens. You can always lose a game but when you do you should feel that you deserved to win but that was not the case today."

REUTERS

Guardiola salutes 'ruthless' Man City after eight-goal blitz

MANCHESTER, United Kingdom

PEP Guardiola saluted Manchester City's "ruthless" streak after they romped to a club record 8-0 Premier League demolition of hapless Watford on Saturday.

Guardiola was delighted that his team did not ease off after storming into a 5-0 lead in just 18 minutes at the Etihad Stadium.

It continued City's impressive response following their shock 3-2 defeat at Norwich last weekend. This memorable victory came three days after a 3-0 midweek Champions League win over Shakhtar Donetsk.

"What I like the most is normally when it's 5-0 at half time the second half is not serious, it's boring but we did the opposite and we were more aggressive and made a very good second half," Guardiola said.

"We were ruthless in terms of five shots, five goals. Sometimes we shoot 25 times or 15 or 20 and you cannot do it."

"People still don't understand, journalists, pundits, former players, losing games is part of life. Opponents always deserve respect."

"The same feeling I have now I had after Norwich so it was not a bad performance. We can lose the games but the important thing is the approach and the way you react as a team."

Watford manager Quique

Sanchez Flores apologised to Hornets fans after his team collapsed to the heaviest league defeat in the club's history.

They were 1-0 down after just 53 seconds, five down after 18 minutes and ended up lucky it was 'only' eight against a City side who looked as if they would score every time they attacked.

Bernardo Silva scored his first City hat-trick and the other goals came from David Silva, Sergio Aguero, Riyad Mahrez, Nicolas Otamendi and man-of-the-match Kevin De Bruyne.

Sanchez Flores, who was in charge of only his second game since his re-appointment as Hornets boss, said: "First of all, I would like to say sorry to the fans. We made a lot of mistakes. The result is very difficult but it is the consequence of mistakes in different ways."

"All the goals we conceded came from different things. And it is very difficult to play like this against Manchester City."

- 'Not normal'

Watford have now lost 12 consecutive games against City and conceded an embarrassing 46 goals. Asked if his players have a mental block about facing Guardiola's side, Sanchez Flores said: "I don't know what the mentality and psychology of the players is. But it's true we have regularly conceded a lot of goals against City."

AFP

Man City hit eight in Watford demolition, Spurs rocked by Leicester

LONDON

MANCHESTER City powered to their record Premier League win as the champions scored five times within 18 first half minutes of an incredible 8-0 thrashing of Watford, while Leicester enjoyed a VAR-assisted 2-1 victory over Tottenham on Saturday.

Inspired by Bernardo Silva's hat-trick, Pep Guardiola's side ripped woeful Watford to pieces at the Etihad Stadium, eclipsing a 7-0 success against Norwich in 2013 which stood as their previous biggest top-flight win.

Although City fell one goal short of equalling the biggest Premier League margin of victory -- Manchester United's 9-0 demolition of Ipswich in 1995 -- their swaggering display was the perfect way to erase the bitter taste from last weekend's shock defeat at Norwich.

Second-placed City move to within two points of leaders Liverpool, who face Chelsea at Stamford Bridge on Sunday.

"When you shoot on target five times for five goals -- the quality of players we had made the difference," Guardiola said.

"What I like the most is normally when it's 5-0 at half time the second half is not serious, it's boring but we did the opposite and we were more aggressive and made a very good second half."

"People still don't understand, journalists, pundits, former players, losing games is part of life. We can lose the games but the important thing is the approach and how we react."

City had crushed Watford 6-0 in last season's FA Cup final and they picked up where they left off at Wembley by ending the match as a contest less than halfway through the opening period.

David Silva tapped home the opener seconds after kick-off, before Sergio Aguero coolly doubled their lead from the spot six minutes later.

Making light of winger Raheem Sterling's absence, they made it three in the 12th minute when Riyad Mahrez's free-kick hit Tom Cleverley in the head and deflected past Watford stopper Ben Foster.

Bernardo scored his first of the game in the 15th minute and Nicolas Otamendi ended the first-half scoring shortly afterwards, before Portuguese Bernardo bagged his treble within 15 minutes of the



Leicester City's Ricardo Pereira scores their first goal during their Premier League match with Tottenham Hotspur at King Power Stadium in Leicester on Saturday. REUTERS

restart and Kevin De Bruyne completed the thrashing late on.

- Leicester on the rise -

At the King Power Stadium, Leicester proved their credentials to gatecrash the top four as they came from behind to beat Tottenham.

Harry's Kane's improvised 29th-minute opener as he stumbled before flicking home put Tottenham ahead.

However, the game swung Leicester's way after Spurs defender Serge Aurier's goal midway through the second half was ruled out for the finest of offside by VAR.

The hosts built on that immediately as Ricardo Pereira equalised before James Maddison struck the winner from long

range five minutes from time.

Tottenham have now won just two of their first seven games of the season in all competitions and Mauricio Pochettino admitted the VAR controversy had played a role in their latest flop.

Pochettino bemoaned the momentum swing given to Leicester by the long stoppage in play prior to Aurier's strike being ruled out for a marginal offside against Son Heung-min.

"The emotion of the game changed. The belief it gave to Leicester made things happen differently in the last 10 minutes," Pochettino said.

"I'm only going to say that we all accept that system in the game and now I am not

going to complain."

Burnley beat Norwich 2-0 at Turf Moor, with New Zealand striker Chris Wood scoring in the 10th and 14th minutes.

Sheffield United piled pressure on Everton manager Marco Silva, whose side were booed off after a 2-0 defeat at Goodison Park, the damage done by Yerry Mina's 40th-minute own goal and Lys Mousset's 79th-minute strike.

Struggling Newcastle were also subjected to jeers after a goalless draw against Brighton at St James' Park, which featured large swathes of empty seats as fans turned their backs on a team with only one win this season.

AFP

Wonderkid Fati: from African suburb to Barcelona's Camp Nou

BISSAU

ANSU Fati has made a long trip from the fields of Guinea-Bissau, where he played as a child, to Barcelona's Camp Nou stadium where the 16-year-old is playing with some of the biggest stars in the world.

Fati has made a stirring start to the season, scoring just two minutes into his full La Liga debut on a magical night when he hardly put a foot wrong in front of over 80,000 astonished Camp Nou fans who gave him a standing ovation as he left the field.

He was just seven years old when he first came to Spain and his startling talent meant he was invited to join Barcelona's prestigious youth academy 'La Masia' aged 10.

It was an incredible achievement for a boy from the impoverished West African nation that has never been known for football.

In Sao Paulo, his home neighbourhood in the rundown suburbs of capital Bissau, the children yell "Ansu Fati, Barca player!" as they run around on ochre soil, under the tropical trees.

Malam Romisio, who coached Fati as a child, told AFP how the boy used to play football wearing only socks or plastic sandals, easily dribbling the ball past bigger, stronger teammates.

When Fati made his debut with Barca's first team at the end of August, the coach switched his allegiance from Real Madrid.

"If he continues like this, he will be a great player," he predicted.

In Guinea Bissau, which is one of the world's poorest and most fragile nations, Fati is a source of national pride.

Born on October 31, 2002, he lived in Bissau until he was six. In the house where he grew up, Fati's uncle Djibi Fati shows photos of the footballer as a child, dressed in traditional clothes, recalling how others used to tease him for his love of bread and butter.

"Every time he came back from playing football, he would ask for it," he recalls.

- Family divided, reunited in Spain -

When he was still very small, his father, Bori Fati, went to Portugal to look for work, later settling near Seville in southwestern Spain.

Bori picked olives, collected empty glasses in nightclubs and even helped build a high-speed rail track, recalls Amador Saavedra, who befriended him in Herrera, some 100 kilometres (60 miles) north of Malaga.

It was only when the Communist mayor of Marinaleja, a nearby town, hired Bori as a driver and helped him financially, that he managed to bring his young family over in 2009.

"It's a very beautiful story," said Saavedra, 53.

Bori ended up training his young son at the Peloteros football school, which is free for thousands of children in Herrera and the surrounding towns.

- Cheerful but quiet -

When Fati arrived he quickly caused a sensation on the football pitch, said Jordi Figaroa Moreno, his first Spanish coach.

"He had a gift," he told AFP. "The difference between him and his teammates was just huge,



Ansu Fati scored his first senior Barcelona goal against Valencia (AFP Photo)

both technically and tactically. Among the youngsters, it's rare to find children who can play as a team, but he had everything."

Jose Luis Perez Mena, who runs the Peloteros school, described Fati as "very spontaneous" and "very cheerful" as well as "extroverted, but very quiet".

His stellar success "has not gone to his head". Within a year of arriving in Spain, Fati joined Seville. In 2012, at the age of 10, he was enrolled in Barcelona's youth system.

"Ansu was one of the youngest players

ever to have entered La Masia," said Marc Serra, his first coach at Barcelona.

"From the day that he arrived he was different, the type of player who invents football." - 'Mind-blowing'

In August, the teenager became the youngest player to score for Barcelona in La Liga. This month he became the club's youngest player in a Champions League match.

Spain's national coach Robert Moreno described Fati's debut for Barcelona as "mind-blowing". Barcelona coach Ernesto Valverde spoke of him as a "balanced

boy" who is "at ease with himself".

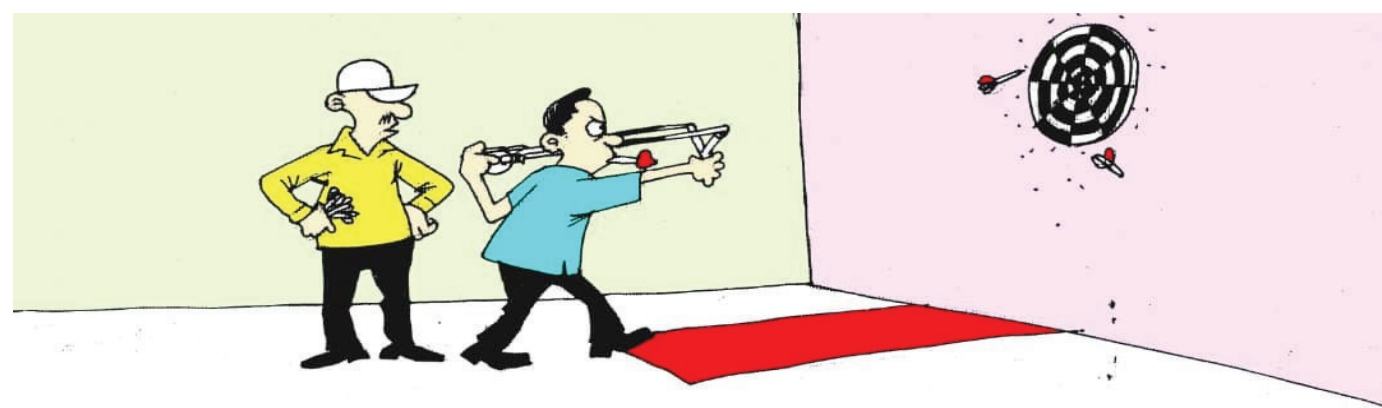
"We want him to learn to know himself, to know the first division, so he sees that it is hard and how much work and dedication it will take to succeed," he said.

Speaking to Spain's Onda Cero radio last month, his proud father said he had taught Fati to "be respectful and happy with everyone".

"Every day I tell him: 'This is your job: when you have the ball, turn towards the goal, don't look anywhere else, and just shoot.'"

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Man City hit eight in Watford demolition,
Spurs rocked by Leicester

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Nyamagana District Commissioner, Phillis Nyimbi (C) displays one of the Rock City Marathon (RCM) 2019 medals during the official launch of the 10th season of the race in Mwanza over the weekend. Others in the picture include the race technical advisor John Bayo (R) and the race coordinator from Capital Plus International (CPI) Magdalena Laizer. The race has been scheduled to take place in the region on October 20. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Nyamagana DC appreciates Rock City Marathon 2019 prizes, preparations

By Guardian Reporter

NYAMAGANA District Commissioner, Phillis Nyimbi, has officially launched the 10th season of the Rock City Marathon (RCM) 2019 in Mwanza while showing her satisfaction over the annual event's preparations.

Her satisfaction has centered on the prizes and the quality of the medals to be handed over to the race's winners and participants.

The prominent annual event in the Lake Zone is scheduled to take place at the city's Rock City Mall parking grounds on October 20.

More 30m/- in cash prize will be awarded to the winners that will also receive the race's branded T-shirts and medals.

The launch attracted various stakeholders of the race, including government officials, various private and public institutions, RCM sponsors and some athletes from a number of clubs in the commercial city.

Nyimbi, who represented Mwanza Regional Commissioner, John Mongella, in the launch, applauded the event's coordinators and all stakeholders of the race for the good preparations.

She used the same occasion to confirm her participation in the race as well as the participation of Mongella who will be accompanied by several senior officials in the region.

"Based on the quality of the witnessed preparations and the goals of this race, I'm making it clear that the government is ready to support the organizers of the event not only in terms of participation but also in ensuring that this year's event becomes remarkable and attracts more participants both local and international ones," she insisted.

"The Lake Zone has got many tourist attractions that must be promoted internationally and we believe that RCM can help towards achieving this goal as the race involves a full marathon that is a 42 km race and thus incorporated into the IAAF calendar," she said.

She further mentioned some of the attractions found in the Lake Zone that include the Saanane Island, the Sukuma Museum, beautiful beaches of the Lake Victoria and local residents' cultural heritage.

Rock City Marathon has increasingly gained popularity with the sponsorship of TIPER, the Tanzania National Parks Authority (TANAPA), the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA), Tanzania Forest Service Agency (TFS), Pepsi and Lis Law Chambers & Consultants.

The race is also sponsored by the Tanzania National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR), CF Hospital, Mwanza Water, Pigeon Hotel, Real PR Solutions Limited, SDN and Garda World Security Company.

For her part, the RCM Coordinator from Capital Plus International (CPI) Magdalena Laizer appealed to the general public especially those in the Lake Zone region as well as sponsors to participate in the race that attracted more than 1,200 participants last year and over 10,000 spectators.

Speaking at the event the RCM Technical Advisor, John Bayo, said preparations for the race were completed by 70 per cent.

He used the opportunity to announce the routes to be used during the event that involves 42km, 21km, 5km and 2.5km races.

He said the registration for the race is currently underway through various centers in Mwanza (Rock City Mall, Pasiansi Afro Twist Gym), Dodoma (Shabiby Bus Terminal), Dar es Salaam (Shamo Tower and Imalaseko Super Market), Arusha, and Bagamoyo in the Coast region.

"Registration can also be done online through our Rock City Marathon website link <https://www.rockcitymarathon.co.tz/register>," he mentioned.

“

The Lake Zone has got many tourist attractions that must be promoted internationally and we believe that RCM can help towards achieving

Tamaduni, Mchenga excel in Sprite BBall Kings tourney semis

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

THE quest for the top honour in a basketball competition dubbed 'Sprite BBall Kings 2019' has gained momentum, in which four teams have booked a place in the last four stage of the tournament that is taking place in Dar es Salaam.

Coca Cola Company has sponsored the annual tournament, which is organized by East Africa Television (EATV) and East Africa Radio.

The semi-finalists are locking horns in games, played in best of three matches' system, to seek qualification for the final according to the competition's regulations.

In the first of the three-match semi-finals, Tamaduni and defending champions, Mchenga BBall Stars, expressed determination to inch closer to booking a place in the final when they came out victorious in matches against KG Dallas and Flying Dribblers respectively.

Tamaduni made short work of KG Dallas, notching 99-76 victory over the latter.

In the other last four duel, Mchenga BBall Stars boosted their quest for successful title retention given they won 99-71 against Flying Dribblers.

The tournament's information officer, Goza Chuma, pointed out KG Dallas and Flying Dribblers have an opportunity to regroup and turn tables on their opponents in the second of the last four matches which will be played at the Don Bosco courts on Wednesday.

"Flying Dribblers and KG Dallas will take on their opponents in the second of the last four clashes on Wednesday. Should the two sides win the duels, they will have to participate in the third match to settle the last four duels," he disclosed.

He pointed out EATV and East Africa Radio bring East Africa countries together and present various programs which target youths aged 18-35.

The media outlets aim at entertaining, informing and educating the targeted members of the society through the programs.



Yanga Information Officer, Hassan Bumbuli.

Yanga refute players' go slow reports

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans SC (Yanga) media officer, Hassan Bumbuli, has refuted claims of the club's players being on a go slow over unpaid dues.

Last weekend, several social media sites' reports claimed that Yanga players were disgruntled and are on a go slow due to delays in payment.

The reports indicated that some players declined to train in protest.

Bumbuli termed the reports as baseless and explained that a group of players and the technical bench had to attend a function organized by one of the club's commercial partners and, so, it was thought best to cancel Saturday's training session.

"The team did not train on Friday because of a special program and there is nothing like a go slow as reported. There was a timetable clash, our technical bench had different programs to what the players had," he said.

"One of our partners had a function which was to be attended by a group of players and the technical bench, so it was agreed to give players a rest from training."

Moreover, Bumbuli, who was recently appointed to replace Dismas Ten, assured fans

and members that the team's training program has been running smoothly as they continue to plot on edging Zambia's Zesco United out of the first round of this season's CAF Champions League.

The operation is dubbed 'Twenzetu Ndola, Tukapindue Meza Kibabe.'

"We assure fans and members our training sessions are going on smoothly as planned and so far so good. Some players who were injured have fully recovered and back in training. We believe if they are declared match fit they will be used against Zesco United," he noted.

Issa Bigirimana, who is yet to make his competitive debut for the club, has reportedly returned to team training. Mapinduzi Balama, who limped off after receiving a knock just towards the end of the first leg game against Zesco United, will have to undergo a late fitness test but head coach Mwinyi Zahera is optimistic he will be available for the return leg on Saturday.

After a one-all home draw with Zesco in the first leg of the premier continental club competition, Yanga face a tall order as they bid to progress to the lucrative group stage of the tournament.

Either a minimum of 2-2 draw or victory will see them reach the tournament's

groups' stage for the second time.

In case the Mainland Tanzania Premier League record champions fail to overcome Zesco United, they will participate in a play-off for qualification for the CAF Confederation Cup groups' stage.

The playoff will see Yanga confront one of clubs, which will emerge as aggregate winners of the CAF Confederation Cup first round duels.

Yanga dispatched Botswana's Township Rollers in the preliminary stage of the tournament to secure qualification for the first round of the premier continental club tournament. Yanga and Township Rollers settled for 1-1 draw in the first leg clash and the former, against all odds, cruised to 1-0 win over the Botswana champions in the return leg in Gaborone.

Ugandan striker, Juma Balinya, drilled in the lone goal for Yanga to earn them the memorable victory.

Zesco cruised to 3-0 aggregate victory over Eswatini outfit, Green Mamba, in the preliminary stage to secure progression to the first round.

Zesco recorded 2-0 win over Green Mamba in the first leg in Manzini, the Zambia big guns thereafter notched 1-0 win over their opponents in the second leg in Lusaka.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



5 EATV

TONIGHT @ 21:00

UJENZI

MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ (LIVE)
15:00 FUNGUKA
16:00 UTAKA
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 KURASA
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:30 MJADALA
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 SSPORTS LIVE
22:30 BONGO HITS

Ujenzi Watch this informative show on the domestic construction process both on site construction and interior/exterior designing whilst using the latest technology and appliances that have made construction easier

east africa RADIO

05:00 EA Breakfast
09:00 Supamix
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planef Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM