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Hungary for light aircraft assembling plant soon

"Tanzania has a lot of attractions and Hungary is a good source of tourists for our country"

By Guardian Reporter

A light aircraft assembly plant is set for Morogoro by investors from Hungary, the government has confirmed.

January Makamba, the Foreign Affairs and East Africa Cooperation minister, made this

observation after talks with the visiting Hungarian foreign minister Peter Szijjártó, at the end of his two day working visit in the country.

He told journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the decision to build the plant in Tanzania illustrates close ties existing between

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President Samia Suluhu Hassan receives the Controller and Auditor General's Report for financial year 2022/2023 from CAG Charles Kichere at Chamwino State House in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: State House

Samia hails CAG, PCCB reports for drop in losses

Factors causing losses were cited as bureaucracy, failure to observe public finance procedures and signing bad contracts

By Correspondent James Kandoya

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has stated that fiscal performance in various public institutions has improved thanks to yearly reports of the Controller and Auditor General (CAG), shedding light on areas in need of improvement.

The president was speaking shortly after receiving the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) performance report and the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) audit reports for fiscal 2022/2023 at the State House in Dodoma yesterday.

Pledging to work on the two reports,

she said that the reports help to foster transparency, increase accountability and diminish financial misconduct in public institutions.

"We have seen more district councils get unqualified reports. Indeed, this is a good achievement," she said, commending the CAG and PCCB for outstanding work and recommendations to the government.

The government has made significant investments in improving public institutions thus leading to a reduction of qualified opinions, she said, noting that improvements enhance trust in public institutions locally and with foreign agencies.

The government will address flaws un-

covered, and next year, some of them will hopefully not be repeated.

According to her, these reports helps the government to reduce losses.

"Some institutions, despite making losses, are progressing; the losses of last year are not the same as those of this year... we are making progress, and there will come a point where they will be profitable," she stated.

Stressing that the reports boosted revenue collection, she commended the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) for intensifying anti-corruption efforts.

CAG Charles Kichere stated in presenting his report earlier, that during fiscal 2022/23, a total of 1,209 inspection certificates were issued, 222 certificates for regional administrations and local governments, 215 certificates handed to executive

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The president receives working report on the Prevention and Combating Corruption Bureau for financial year 2022/2023 from the bureau's director general, Commissioner of Police Salum Hamduni, at Chamwino State House in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: State House

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Simba SC eyes first-leg advantage over Al Ahly

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A timeline of allegations against Sean 'Diddy' Combs

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Gamondi tips this week as the biggest for Tanzanian football

Government improving referral procedures for refugees

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government expects to come up with a new referral system for immigrants who are in a dangerous environment by providing essential services before linking them with their home countries.

Dr Nandera Mhando, the social welfare commissioner at the Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups ministry said at a consultative meeting with stakeholders on Wednesday that the government recognises efforts by stakeholders

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'Learn to use new UK trade scheme'

By Carlos Banda

EXPLOITING business opportunities in the United Kingdom has been eased by setting up the Developing Countries Trade Scheme (DCTS), local business leaders have been told.

Dr Ashatu Kijaji, the Industry and Trade minister, said this when officiating at a seminar for traders on the new initiative by the UK trade authorities in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Tanzanian exporters need to produce high quality products consonant with international standards, she said, saying that quality improvements need efforts by various stakeholders.

Holding a seminar on the UK government's DCTS plan was intended to inform local exporters of the new opportunity, where UK companies will be able to

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Tanzania and Hungary, and a conducive business environment existing at present.

The two governments have signed agreements for water sector cooperation as Hungary is far ahead in water management technology, "so we have agreed to collaborate in the area for us to update technology in the sector," he said.

An education sector cooperation accord was signed, furthering a tradition where for many years, Hungary has been providing opportunities for further studies with fully paid scholarships, he stated.

"So we have discussed increasing the number of scholarship beneficiaries," he said, hinting at pushing for more collaborations in tourism, with plans to sign an agreement to facilitate direct flights from Hungary to Tanzania.

"Tanzania has a lot of attractions and Hungary is a good source of tourists for our country," he said, pointing at higher flows of tourists from that country in the past year.

This is going to be enhanced with direct flights, he said, projecting greater trade interactions and strengthened private collaboration, strengthening cooperation between the Tanzania Centre for Foreign Relations (CFR) and the Hungary counterpart institution.

This will enable diplomats to conduct regular visits to exchange experience, he said, while in his remarks, the visiting minister said Hungary was working to intensify relations with Tanzania, existing for many years.

Hungary will at any time reopen its embassy in Tanzania, closed in the 1990s after the collapse of the old Soviet Union and its eastern bloc allies taking divergent paths.



Tanzania Airport Authority director general Mussa Mbura pictured in Mwanza city yesterday signing an agreement upon completion of the construction of a passenger building at the Mwanza International Airport. Right is Richard Reynolds, CEO of the contractor - Taifa Mining and Civils. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Learn to use new UK trade scheme'

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forge partnerships with local firms.

This is likely to boost the competitiveness of manufactured goods targeting the UK market, she said, while Ephraim Mafuru, the Tanzania Tourism Board (TTB) director general, said that the seminar would address the trade gap with the UK.

Embassy officials as well as trade department authorities met with stakeholders to set out opportunities for exporting Tanzanian goods to the UK, he said, noting that Tanzania exports goods worth 24m UK pounds (upwards of 55bn) while the UK sells goods to Tanzania at far higher values.

UK data show that total UK exports to Tanzania amounted to £243m in the four quarters to the end of Q3 2023, an increase of 9.0 per cent £20m in current prices, compared to the four quarters to the end of Q3 2022).

"Through this seminar people will understand the required standard of goods being exported, export procedures for Tanzanians to be

able to reap benefits from the UK market," he said.

"We are told they have removed 99 percent of export taxes on products sold under the scheme but the trade gap is still there. Same applies for the tourism sector, which challenges us to question how TTB can attract more tourists," he stated.

David Concar, the high commissioner, said he believes a lot can be achieved through Tanzania's collaboration with Britain. The DCTS policy will help boost trade links.

Petronila Mlowe, an environmental health practitioner from the London Local Authorities Consultancy, said it is important for Tanzanian exporters and producers to understand importation laws in exporting their goods, to know how they can comply with stated regulations.

Lightness Salema, the city contact for Commonwealth Business Africa, said that the seminar has helped them understand how Britain expects to handle trade with Tanzania, affirming that it is high time for Tanzanians to identify what is in demand and requirements for export.

Govt improving referral procedures for refugees

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in accommodating immigrants in a risky environment.

The meeting grouping directors and commissioners for cross cutting issues in various ministries linked with implementing policies on the refugee accommodation and repatriation process along with other stakeholders was intended to discuss expected improvements on existing procedures.

It is important to join forces to ensure that immigrants receive the required services on time in collaboration with various public institutions and stakeholders, the commissioner noted.

Stakeholders in various institutions must work together to ensure the safety of immigrants, "especially supporting children set in conflict with the law by entering the country illegally, children separated from their parents and those who crossed the borders without close monitoring," she declared.

Honest Ngolly, a senior officer at the Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disability ministry in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), advised the preparatory committee to ensure that it fosters greater awareness among public officials and various stakeholders on the changed procedures for smooth implementation.

Ken Heriel, assistant programme manager at the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), said the UN agency expects to work with the government to heighten the protection of immigrants, along with providing the required services to those in dangerous environments.

Regional analysts say that compared to other East and Horn of

Africa countries, hosting upwards of four million refugees and asylum seekers by the end of last year, Tanzania's refugee population is small.

Approximately 1.6m refugees and asylum seekers were living in Uganda as of July 2023 and 589,000 immigrants were living in Kenya during March last year a regional migration periodical indicates.

Humanitarian arrivals in Tanzania increased dramatically in the 1990s due to political unrest and ethnic conflict in Burundi (starting in 1993), the genocide in Rwanda (in 1994), and the war in Zaire/DRC (starting in 1997, it stated).

In particular, hosting refugees from the Rwandan genocide strained Tanzania's capacity, beginning to set the conditions for the country's later cooling policy responses and attitudes, it said.

Over just 24 hours in April 1994, an estimated 100,000 refugees crossed the Rusumo Bridge into Tanzania. While international groups and partners delivered astonishing assistance in a remote and poor part of Tanzania, the massive influx nevertheless created challenges at various levels, the report added.



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Samia hails CAG, PCCB reports for drop in losses

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agencies and commercial organisations, 475 to central government departments and units, 19 to political parties and 299 certificates for development project audits.

A total of 1,197 certificates or nearly 99 percent received unqualified opinions, where audit documents show that preparation of accounts is satisfactory and that account procedures and preparation were largely satisfactory, he stated.

Factors causing losses were cited

as bureaucracy, failure to observe public finance procedures and signing bad contracts.

By June 30, 2023 the national debt stood at 82.25trn/-, representing an increase of 15 per cent from 71.31trn/- registered as at the end of fiscal 2021/2022, he said, highlighting that domestic debt stood at 28.92trn/- and foreign debt 53.2trn/-, he said.

The Tanzania Telecommunications Co. Ltd (TTCL) recorded a loss of 894m/- for 2022/2023, eliminat-

ing 94 percent of the 19.23bn/- loss reported in the previous financial year, he stated.

The Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) recorded a loss amounting 100.7bn/- down from 190.01bn/- a year earlier, he said, urging public institutions to take action to improve earnings and prevent losses.

He said that the government needs to finish uncompleted projects before setting up new ones to avoid accumulated loan interest charges, pointing out that the Na-

tional Audit Office failed to identify 851 groups in 19 district councils receiving 2.6bn/- as loan.

The Tanzania Electric Supply Co. Ltd (TANESCO) was supposed to obtain 262bn/- as corporate social responsibility from the contractors at the Julius Nyerere hydropower project as the contracting firms declined to offer such an amount.

Salum Hamdun, the PCCB director general, said that a total of 87.59bn/- was saved in development projects procurement bills.



Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority director general Hamza Johari (3rd-R) has iftar earlier this week with children taken care of at Busara Orphanage in Dar es Salaam's Ukonga-Banana suburb. Photo: Correspondent Dickson Mulashani

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

Dr Mwinyi hails Finscope report for reflecting isles' financial sector

market and customer needs," he said.

Dr Mwinyi explained that looking at key strategies and plans that were put in place by the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar, for instance, the Zanzibar Development Plan (ZADEP) 2021-2026, it is clear that it leveraged findings from the FinScope Tanzania 2017- Zanzibar Report.

He called on all stakeholders in the implementations of the Zanzibar Vision of Development, the National Strategic Plan of Inclusive Financial Services (2023-2028), and other development plans to use the insights from the report to evaluate the current situation and develop tactics which would be used to address challenges before the completion of indicative planning.

"I am comforted to hear that since the launch of the first FinScope Tanzania 2017-Zanzibar Report, there has been an increase in the availability and use of formal financial solutions; thus, the level of financial inclusion in Zanzibar has increased from 45 percent in 2017 to 82 percent in 2023. This means that our efforts towards addressing the challenges that lead to a dearth of inclusive financial services,

especially in rural areas, have yielded a significant positive impact."

"The report shows that the increase in the use of financial services through mobile phones has considerably contributed to the growth of financial inclusion in Zanzibar. Mobile Network Operators have improved their business systems and developed various innovative financial solutions."

He assured that the Revolutionary Zanzibar government was determined to ensure the growth of the financial sector and the increase in the level of financial inclusion is evident as success of this determination.

He urged all financial sector players to read the report thoroughly. It will be available in both hard and soft copy through the websites of the President's Office-Finance and Planning Zanzibar, Bank of Tanzania, NBS, OCGS Zanzibar and the Financial Sector Deepening Tanzania (FSDT).

Welcoming the Guest of Honour, the Minister of State, President's Office-Finance and Planning, Dr Saada Mkuya Salum, said that she believes that the findings of the FinScope Tanzania 2023- Zanzibar Report have helped the financial

sector to compare the findings with what they were already thinking, theoretically."

However, she added that some of the insights from the report were surprising. "To some of us, especially policymakers, regulators, and financial service providers, we were surprised by the following four insights: firstly, the increase in the use of insurance services from 4 percent in 2017 to 8 percent in 2023. This trend is expected to continue following the establishment of Universal Health Insurance.

Secondly, 36 percent of the respondents of the FinScope Tanzania 2023-Zanzibar survey said that their income depends on others, either through receiving cash from others or having their expenses being covered by relatives and friends.

Thirdly, besides the overall improved access to formal financial services, there are still people who cannot access these services due to lacking national ID numbers or cards. According to this report, only 72 percent of the people in Zanzibar are holders of the Zanzibar Residence Identity Cards (ZanIDs).

Fourthly, about half of adults aged 55 years or below do not receive old age pension or retirement benefits."



Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Investments (PIC) make an inspection tour of Msamvu Central Bus Station in Morogoro municipality on Wednesday. The facility is jointly owned by the Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF) and Morogoro Municipal Council at 74 per cent and 26 per cent shareholding, respectively. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Minister calls on councils to plant trees on roadsides

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTER of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) Dr Selemani Jafo yesterday directed all councils in Tanzania Mainland to plant trees on roadsides to not only beautify cities and towns but also protect the environment.

Dr Jafo gave the directive at Jeshini Primary School grounds in Ilemela Municipality, Mwanza Region while launching the 'Twiga wa Kijani' (Green Giraffe) project which involves planting trees in 60 schools in six regions.

He commended Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) for facilitating a non-governmental organization called WBM to organize the project and the tree planting exercise he led, saying that it will help build the pupils' spirit to fully participate in environmental care.

He said that Tanzania has been visited by visitors from various countries in the world, especially after the production of the film 'Royal Tour' and the Government bought more planes, so it is important that we create attractive scenes on the side of the road by planting trees.

Minister Jafo asked the cities of Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Tanga, Mbeya, Arusha and Dodoma to be exemplary in implementing the instructions to plant trees along the road.

Likewise, he instructed the directors of the municipal councils to manage the cleaning exercise in their areas by having cleaning contractors with the best equipment.

"It is not pleasant at all when you arrive in a certain city or municipality, dirt is scattered in the ditches when it rains, the ditches get

clogged and sometimes the trucks are parked and the contractors have not taken out the waste, direct me again and implement those instructions, we believe our councils will be clean," he stressed.

He has also used the opportunity to plead with clean cooking energy companies to support the Government's efforts to encourage the use of clean cooking energy and abandon wood and charcoal to save the trees that are cut down.

ATCL Director General Ladislaus Matindi said that air travel can contribute to global warming by five percent.

He said that due to this situation, the International Aviation Community has agreed to use engines that do not use petrol and instead use alternative energy of grain oil, beans.

Matindi said that they are taking steps to ensure that airplanes do not contribute to the release of greenhouse gases in the air, as well as reducing the time spent in the air by the airplanes to reduce the temperature of the gases coming out.

Director of WBM Latifa Mohamed said the goal of the campaign is 6,000 trees in one year at six primary and secondary schools in the regions of Mwanza, Kagera, Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Mbeya and Mtwara.

She said that through the project with the theme 'Our environment, our life' will help reduce the effects of environmental pollution by providing environmental education to students.

... due to this situation, the International Aviation Community has agreed to use engines that do not use petrol and instead use alternative energy of grain oil, beans

Samia to lead Tanzanians in memorial prayers for Sokoine

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan is to lead Tanzanians in a special memorial prayer for the former Prime Minister Edward Sokoine scheduled for 12th April, 2024 in Monduli.

The PM's family spokesperson, Lembris Kipuyo told a press conference here yesterday that the event will mark the 40th anniversary of the late premier who died in a road crash at Dakawa area along the Dodoma -Morogoro highway.

He said this year the family in collaboration with the Sokoine Memorial Foundation decided to hold the annual event at Enguiki village in Monduli where he was born, contrary to other years where the event was held at different places. "The memorial services will be graced by President Samia

Suluhu Hassan and to be attended by religious and high-level leaders, traditional leaders and members of the public" he said.

The spokesperson noted that during the special memorial prayers, participants are reminded of the late Sokoine's patriotism and hard work to bring about just and sustainable development to the nation.

He said Sokoine is remembered due to his commitment, hard work, and tireless effort to the development of Tanzania focusing greatly on the ordinary people whereby the majority are farmers.

He added that the former PM initiated what was known as "Operation Pambana na Wahujumu Uchumi" which was very fruitful as he managed to bring order by clearing bribes, grand corruptions, embezzlements of government funds, and

bureaucracies in a very short time."

He also never feared anyone in his endeavour to escalate the high rate of black and white colour organized crimes, saying: "Sokoine was a big name in his time in office and will remain popular for many centuries to come because he was truly a leader who did great things for the nation of Tanzania."

Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), which was established through his efforts is one of the institutions that annually celebrate the life of the late PM.

Annually since 1992, the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) commemorates the death anniversary of the iconic leader due to his hard-working spirit and always fought for development and prosperity in the agricultural sector and food security for Tanzanians especially in rural areas.

Sokoine died in a motor vehicle

accident along the Dodoma-Dar es Salaam highway, after attending a National Assembly session in the designated national capital.

The accident occurred at Wami-Dakawa in Morogoro when the car in which he was travelling, a Mercedes Benz sedan, was rammed head-on by a Toyota Land-Cruiser (J-40 model) which was reportedly being driven by a South African 'freedom fighter', one 'Dumisan Dube.'

The late Sokoine was a historical 'two-term' Prime Minister of Tanzania having first served from February 13, 1977 to November 7, 1980 and then again from February 24, 1983 until his unfortunate death on the 12th of April 1984 (coincidentally it was also on Thursday).

He was 45 years old when he died and left behind two wives and several children.

Big Announcement

The Wait is Almost Over!...



Govt to bolster working incentives for all health workers at primary level

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

THE government is set to inject more working incentives towards the health workers at the primary health centres within the country's remote areas, especially the nurses.

Deputy Health Minister, Dr Godwin Mollel made the remarks on Wednesday when wrapping up the International Primary Health Care Conference (IPHC) 2024.

Dr Mollel directed the regional and district medical officers (RMOs and DMOs) to ensure they're treating the health workers in areas of their jurisdictions with the diligence and patriotic eye in order to stimulate the general performance of the vital sector.

"Nurses account for at least 50 percent of all health workers in the country, and some are working under unfriendly situations in the health centers located within far rural areas, we need to take good care of them so as to further trigger their working morale," he insisted.

He said the parent ministry was working to strategise viable plans to allocate more resources towards the country's primary healthcare, development which will automatically result in the achievement of Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

"Among the key plans that we're envisioning to accomplish include the zeal to construct at least one dispensary in each village across the country in order to improve accessibility of primary healthcare to the citizens in rural areas," Dr Mollel informed.

Together with that, he added that the government will continue working to further improve engagement of the private sector, including the development partners, in the health sector through setting up more conducive working relations policies.

In order to attract establishment of private health centers and dispensaries, the minister underscored the need for the improvement of the relevant regulations.

"In order to attain UHC, contributions of the private sector should not be neglected and thus, we must work to ensure the regulations and policies are friendly in unlocking and attracting potential investment into primary healthcare," he observed.

He called on the health workers in the country to maintain solidarity and unity in the pursuit of their daily roles, and deter from all forms of medical literacy arrogance.

Speaking on her part, Dr Grace Magembe, the Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health, on her part expressed that 'there's no health sector without primary healthcare.'

Basing on the fact that primary health is a cornerstone of the country's health sector, she underscored the need for serious investment into the sector, in terms of facilities as well as human resources capacity building.

Giving a brief review of the conference, Prof Bruno Sunguya, the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research and Consultancy at Muhimbili University of Health and

Allied Sciences said the conference saw development of 290 specific publications, out of which, at least 175 publications were presented during the three-day forum.

With 17 positive forums conducted alongside the just-ended conference, Prof Sunguya informed that the gathering attracted a total of 10 different themes, all majoring on primary healthcare sector development.

The themes, according to him include primary healthcare financing, human resources in primary health, maternal and child health, nutrition, prevalence and prevention of Non-Communicable Disease (NCD), community engagement in primary health sector, use of statistics in primary healthcare, capacity building towards health workers at primary healthcare, and important of research in improving performance of primary healthcare rolling out.

The conference was attended by over 1,769 participants from Tanzania, and other countries, including Uganda, Congo, Brazil, India, Korea, among others.

During the conference's winding-up scientific presentations, the health experts highlighted several issues that need to be embraced so as to improve primary healthcare services.

These include the need for the parent ministry to ensure the country's health systems make sober use of Tele-Medical Service (TMS).

Absorbing the benefits available in the country's healthcare medical tourism was the other topic that emerged during the Conference's last presentations.

Dr Asha Mahita, the Medical Tourism Coordinator from the Ministry of Health underscored the need for the country to fully tap and utilise the prevailing healthcare medical tourism.

"Advancement into the country's health sector has seen a number of patients jetting into the country in search of better medical services, whereby there's a lot of internal movement among the patients from one region to another."

"This is a very fruitful trend in healthcare medical tourism which must be used professionally to raise money for financing key projects in the primary health care sector," she challenged.

Palliative care was another area that the experts observed that the health sector must practice if the goal is to enhance the performance of primary healthcare.

Palliative care is specialized medical care that focuses on providing relief from pain and other symptoms of a serious illness. It also can help you cope with side effects from medical treatments. The availability of palliative care does not depend on whether your condition can be cured.

Other recommendations aired during the forum were the need to increase budgetary allocation towards the health sector, recruitment of enough health workers, especially at primary healthcare, as well as strengthening the working relationship platform between the government, the private sector and the development partners.



Vodacom Tanzania managing director Philip Besimire (2nd-L) and CRDB Bank group CEO and managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela (2nd-R) applaud in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday shortly after gracing the launch of a partnership between the institutions aimed at facilitating access to mobile phones through bank loans and thus stimulate internet usage and digital economic growth in the country. Left is Vodacom's Director of Business, Linda Riwa, and right is the bank's Chief Commercial Officer, Boma Rabala. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Biteko: EACOP will strengthen ties between Tanzania, Uganda

By Guardian Correspondent, Nzega

DEPUTY Prime Minister and Minister for Energy Dr Doto Biteko has promised that Tanzania and Uganda will continue to strengthen collaborations in the implementation of strategic projects in order to lift up the economy and bring development to people.

Biteko made the remarks here during inauguration of a thermal insulation plant of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (Eacop) and signing of land lease agreements between Eacop and the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC).

The new plant will prepare and insulate all the line pipes to be laid

on the 1,443 km-long route from Hoima in western Uganda to the Tanzanian port of Tanga.

The DPM said that apart from the investment in the Eacop, two are in dialogue on the investment in natural gas.

"We thank the Ugandan government for the cooperation in the Eacop project, this friendship will be honoured and developed by coming up with more joint strategic projects to boost the economy," he said.

He urged Tanzanians in the areas where the project passes to be custodians of the projects which include protecting the infrastructure.

In another development, Biteko

warned Tanzanians to stop being used by foreign companies and commit fraud in order to secure work in strategic projects thus depriving their colleagues of opportunities.

He also wanted local contractors and Tanzanians who have secured jobs in various strategic projects to work hard and faithfully in order to create a good image.

Ugandan Energy Minister, Ruth Nankabirwa said the initiative underscores commitment of the two countries to enhancing energy infrastructure and security as well as promoting regional cooperation.

Mussa Makame, Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) said the

pipeline is 1443km in length from Hoima in western Uganda to the Marine Storage Terminal in Tanga, Tanzania has invested 820bn/- in shares and so far it has provided 710bn/-.

On compensation, 99.2 percent of citizens have been paid where 340 houses have been built.

The plant, located at Sojo village, Nzega District, Tabora region, will insulate the line pipes and the 86,000-line pipe joints before installation along the route in Uganda and Tanzania.

The thermal insulation, similar to a thermos flask, enables the pipes to retain the warmth of the fluid inside while simultaneously keeping the external environment cool.



Singida regional commissioner Halima Dendego (C, in sunglasses) has a feel of the flow of water as she made an inspection tour of progress in the implementation of a project implemented at Matare village in Ikungi District yesterday. Left is Ikungi District Council director Justice Kijazi. Photo: Correspondent Thobias Mwanakatwe

Environmental conservation: Councils plant 270 million trees

By Guardian Reporter

THE on-going sensitization on environmental conservation has started to bear fruit with a total of 270 million trees planted in various councils this year alone, it has been said.

Dr Selemani Jafo, Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) gave the figure in Dodoma on Wednesday, saying that by the end of the year, the number will be bigger.

He spoke while opening the fourth council meeting from the Vice President's Office where he

said that the success was a result of cooperation among the workers as well as good cooperation from the councils.

"It is my hope that our participation this year will be more improved in order to get enough time to meet the citizens and provide environmental education to the public of our fellow Tanzanians across the country," he said.

Vice President's Office staff have been urged to maintain hardship in working and teamwork spirit which is the key to success for strong Union and environment conservation.

He congratulated them for

committing themselves to facilitate the holding of Union Affairs meetings which have the task of discussing Union issues.

He said that in the upcoming 60th commemoration of the Union, there is much to be proud of, including the resolution of the Union's conflicts due to the instructions of national leaders, which is largely the result of the performance of the staff of the Vice President's Office.

Minister Jafo congratulated the staff for effectively managing environmental projects that have built citizens' ability to deal with the effects of climate change.

He also encouraged them to continue to stick together and work with dedication so that the great achievements achieved through these projects continue to benefit the people.

The minister added that everyone has a contribution to the success achieved in the Office and that he should be a role model for the community and the nation as a whole so he should leave a mark.

"Remember in one of the staff meetings, I once said that working is a form of worship, so each of us should do justice to the position he has so that his contribution

continues to be a role model and the results of this Office continue to be a role model," he said.

Emphasizing that the responsibility ahead is to ensure the vision of the President Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan about the use of clean energy for cooking to reduce the impact on health and the environment is achieved.

On the other hand, he congratulated the experts from the VPO who participated in the 2024 Uhuru Torch running, which had the theme of environmental conservation.

Previously, the VPO Permanent

Secretary who is also the Chairwoman of the Council of Workers Mary Maganga said that cooperation between employees, love and commitment to work will help bring good results.

Jonas Rwegoshora, representative of the Chairman of the Tanzania Government and Health Workers Association (TUGHE) praised the Office for the way his employees work together.

He said that this is an example to be followed by other institutions in which there have been different conflicts in the meetings he witnessed at the meeting.



Yona Gandye, a cardiologist with Dar es Salaam's Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute, performs surgery on a patient who was recently found with a heart condition during screening at a health camp in Kagera Region. Photo courtesy of JKCI

High blood pressure accounts for over 60pc of JKCI patients

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Jakaya Kikwete Heart Institute (JKCI) has said that for three years it has served 361,894 patients out of which 238,850 equal to 66 percent had high blood pressure.

This was said yesterday in Dar es Salaam by executive director of JKCI Dr Peter Kisenge when speaking to journalists about the achievements of the institution during the three years of the leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

Dr Kisenge who is a cardiologist said 90 percent of high blood pressure patients have no symptoms until they are tested

but some symptoms are loss of consciousness, severe pain in the chest, dizziness, rapid heartbeat and bleeding from the nose.

"When you see these symptoms, you must seek medical treatment immediately. I also urge people to develop the habit of screening blood pressure and blood sugar levels regularly and for those who are diagnosed with a problem and prescribed medication, they should not stop using drugs even if they feel relief," he said.

The cardiologist said that a person can avoid getting high blood pressure by exercising, focusing on a healthy diet by eating fruits, vegetables, foods with potassium minerals as well as reducing eating foods with a large amount of fat

and salt.

He said it is important for people to avoid smoking and excessive alcohol consumption but prioritize screening the level of sugar in the body, blood pressure screening and the level of fat in the body.

Dr Kisenge mentioned the effects of high blood pressure as stroke, heart attack, heart failure, dilatation of the wall of heart arteries, kidney disease, and erectile dysfunction for men, sudden death and hence reduced life expectancy.

He said that 25 percent of heart disease deaths occurring in the world are caused by high blood pressure and the disease is the leading cause of death all over the world.



PetraDiamonds

WILLIAMSON DIAMONDS LIMITED



Physiotherapist – 01 Position

Applicants are invited to apply for the existing position mentioned above.

Position Title: Physiotherapist

Location: Williamson Diamonds Limited, Mwadui, Shinyanga

Grade: C4

Report to: Medical Officer In charge

Summary: Williamson Diamond Limited (WDL) is Tanzania's only large-scale diamond producer. The mine is an open pit operation based upon the 146-hectare Mwadui kimberlite pipe, which is one of the world's largest economic kimberlites. For over 80 years, Williamson Diamond Limited has lived side by side and co-existed peacefully with the communities around Mwadui, while implementing a wide range of development programs for the last ten years, focusing on promoting the lives and livelihoods of the communities surrounding Mwadui Mine Site.

Role Description: Physiotherapist will be responsible to provide quality rehabilitation/physiotherapy services to all clients attending WDL Hospital Physiotherapy Unit.

Tasks and Responsibilities:

- To treat patients through advanced physiotherapy techniques.
- Provide quality physiotherapy services to WDL hospital clients.
- To conduct health education to inpatients and out patients.
- To keep and maintain patients records.
- To ensure proper keep up of equipment in the Unit.
- To provide community health education on symptom recognition and disability prevention.

Minimum Requirements for all applicants:

- Diploma or Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy.
 - Registration with Medical Council of Tanganyika, Valid practicing license is required.
 - A minimum of 3 years working experience as a Physiotherapist.
 - Able to use Physiotherapy machines like electric traction machine.
 - Excellent verbal and written communication in English and Swahili
- **Other required Skills and Competencies:** Basic computer skills

Mode of Application:

Candidates meeting the requisite qualifications should submit their applications describing how they qualify for the positions. They should also send detailed CV, copies of certificates, three referees, daytime telephone numbers and e-mail addresses before 17th April 2024 at 16hrs00. Via the following address:

**Human Resources Manager,
Williamson Diamonds Ltd,
P. O. Box 23,
Mwadui-Shinyanga.**

Or drop the same through the following email, joseph.mokoro@petradiamonds.co.tz

Williamson Diamonds Limited supports the Mineral policy (2009) of Tanzania and is committed to ensure adequate development of local technical capacity to service the mining industry; and to employ local experts available and develop succession plans for Tanzanians to take over expatriate positions. Pre-screening, profile testing, on mine assessments, medical and security clearances form part of the minimum requirement and selection process. Short listed candidates will be required to attend a panel interview. Employment of the successful candidate is subject to passing on mine induction and the aforementioned criteria.

If you do not hear from us after 30th May, 2024 please consider yourself unsuccessful. Williamson Diamonds Limited is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

**Please note that Petra Diamonds does not at any time require any form of payment for recruitment purposes. If you are approached in this regard, you should report the incident immediately via one of the following hotlines:
Phone Call: +255 28 276 3872 +255 767 744 617**

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Tanga's Form Six student overall winner in national essay writing competition

By Beatrice Philemon

A FORM Six student from Usagara Secondary School in Tanga Region has emerged the overall winner of the national essay writing competition which drew a total of 279 pupils from 25 high schools in Tanzania Mainland.

Nuridin Fiomi impressed judges the most in the competition organized by Architects and Quantity Surveyors Registration Board (AQRB) and went away with a cash prize.

Hamisi Sungura, AQRB's public relations officer, handed over 500,000/- to the winner for his victory in the national level and another 100,000/- for his victory in the regional level. The handover ceremony took place recently at Usagara Secondary School.

Usagara Secondary School also received a total of 300,000/- as part of motivation to attract other primary, secondary and high school pupils across the country to participate in essay writing competition once AQRB announces another round.

Fiomi wrote about the difference between architects and quantity surveyors, explaining why it is very important to involve architects and quantity surveyors in industrial construction as well as subjects that can help pupils study architecture and quantity surveying courses.

"The completion aimed to provide an opportunity and encourage high school pupils to understand architects and quantity surveyors profession as well as allow them to express their ideas through essay writing competition," Sungura said.

AQRB decided to introduce the competition after realising that a lot of pupils confuse architects, and quantity surveyors with the engineering profession.

"As a result of this challenge, AQRB decided to organize different programmes to educate pupils and other people about these two careers as well as organise essay writing competitions for pupils," he said.

According to him, in 2022/2023 they received 500 essays from

different primary, secondary and high schools in Tanzania Mainland and Usagara Secondary School was among schools that participated in the competition and emerged as the overall winner at the national and regional levels.

Angel Michase, a quantity surveyor with AQRD said that the cash prize was offered to winners as part of motivation to attract more pupils to study architecture and quantity surveying professions though the new curriculum introduced by the government this year.

She called upon pupils across the country to study science subjects and later on join higher learning institutions and pursue architecture and quantity surveying professions that directly focus on construction, adding that it is very hard to be self-employed.

Alex Birumo, Usagara Secondary School headmaster expressed gratitude to AQRB for introducing the competition and promised to convince more pupils at Usagara Secondary School to participate in the next competition.



As a result of this challenge, AQRB decided to organize different programmes to educate pupils and other people about these two careers as well as organise essay writing competitions for pupils

Govt in pilot project to improve emergency, critical care services

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

THE Ministry of Health is executing a pilot project seeking to improve delivery of Essential Emergency and Critical Care (EECC) services to patients across the country.

This came after it emerged that some patients who are taken to various health facilities while in critical situations end up losing life due to negligence by health workers who do not give them EECC services.

According to Dr Karima Khalid, anaesthesiologist and critical care physician from Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), most of the country's health facilities are equipped with the necessary kits needed in offering EECC services to the patients in critical conditions but research established that there's no proper handling or readiness to use the said equipment in emergency cases.

She was presenting a topic on 'Essential Emergency and Critical Care' at the maiden International Primary Health Care Conference (IPHC) which took shape for three consecutive days in Dodoma city.

"It is disconcerting to learn that some patients die preventable deaths due to failure in getting EECC services," she said.

The pilot project is currently being implemented in Katavi, Mtwara, Kigoma, Songwe, and Dar es Salaam regions as well as Zanzibar, she said.

"The project focuses on capacity building for health workers, especially those in primary health facilities, imparting them with

needed ability to respond quickly and professionally in cases of EECC," she said.

Dr Erasto Sylvanus, head of emergency medical services, emergency preparedness and responsive unit at the Ministry of Health said among others, the project works to enhance accountability in leadership of primary health facilities.

"EECC involves common services such as giving patients oxygen or drips, but the major problem appears to be the preparedness of the facilities to care for patients in coma," he said.

To help address the existing gap in giving life-saving EECC services, Dr Sylvanus said that stakeholders' involvement is of paramount importance.

"The vision is to ensure essential emergency and critical care is given to the patients through ambulances by our well-trained health workers wherever emergency occurs before the patient in question reaches a health facility," he said.

The goal of implementation of the project for scaling up EECC is part to ensure the country achieves the much-needed universal health coverage (UHC) through improving the primary healthcare system.

Under the theme 'Primary health care as a vehicle for the journey to achieve UHC), the forum provided a platform to allow exchanging of knowledge, experiences and best practices in strengthening primary health service delivery in Tanzania.

The participants got ample time to discuss the existing challenges and opportunities as well as developing collaborative strategies to improve primary healthcare in Tanzania.



Zamaradi Mbega (2nd-L), Director of Health Innovations with PharmAccess, pictured in Dodoma city earlier this week briefing Health deputy minister Dr Godwin Molllel (R), at the firm's pavilion at an exhibition held in tandem with a meeting on the Financing of Maternal Care Services for Primary Health Care in the context of Universal Health Insurance. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Man drinks poison, dies near police station

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame,

Arusha

IN a strange incident, a middle-aged man in Arusha city poisoned himself and headed to a nearby police station but died before reaching the counter.

The 48-year-old Gamaliel Munisi, an artisanal miner, is suspected to have previously had a fight with his wife at home then he angrily

decided to commit suicide by consuming some yet to be identified poison on Saturday.

Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police Justine Masejo who is Arusha Regional Police Commander confirmed the incident yesterday and explained that the deceased was seen staggering near Muriet Police Station and immediately after walking past the gates towards the counter, he collapsed.

"There were some people at the

station when he fell down," he said, adding that there was a woman who rushed to the victim's rescue and found him vomiting profusely.

Munisi, popularly known as 'Chinga,' was then rushed to hospital for medical attention but he died a few hours later while undergoing treatment.

When he left home, Munisi wrote a suicide note to his wife, threatening that if their regular conflicts continue, then he would

be compelled to take his own life and leave her alone.

Commenting on the issue, a 10 cell leader in Muriet area, Yahaya Khalfani, said the deceased had threatened his wife with a weapon and that the woman went to report the matter to the gender-desk at a local police post.

According to Khalfani, the local police summoned the deceased and they were investigating his wife's weapon threats claims against him.



Nyang'hwale District acting education officer Jonathan Rwezuala (C) receives 160 desks and chairs from Sotta Mining Company Ltd community relations manager John Bwana (R) earlier this week. The items are support by the firm to Nyamtukuzanhwiga Secondary School. Looking on is the Nyamtukuzan councillor Daudi Mabesa. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

DC directs local leaders to apprehend truant pupils

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

NJOMBE District Commissioner Kissa Kasongwa has directed local government leaders to apprehend all pupils who loiter in the streets during class hours to address truancy and child abuse.

She issued the directive on Monday during the Njombe Town Council meeting that involved education stakeholders and coincided with the regional award ceremony for schools that performed well academically.

"We must protect our children.

Many things are going on in the streets because sometimes truant pupils are abused. If a pupil is seen playing around during school hours, their parents should be contacted and held accountable by relevant authorities," she said.

The DC also said that every ward and street needed to come up with strategies for safeguarding children against truancy in the district, tasking local leaders and school head teachers to take swift action against the vice.

Kuruthum Sadick, Njombe Town Council executive director urged

teachers to adhere to professional ethics when executing their daily activities. "We sometimes forget who we are; play your role as a teacher and as a parent. As there have been numerous instances of teachers acting inappropriately toward pupils, I kindly request that head teachers intervene when they witness inappropriate behaviour in a teacher," she said.

Bryson Kingililwe, Njombe Town Council Primary Education Officer, said that the education sector faces several challenges that prevent the council from achieving

its objectives, notably inadequate infrastructure for classrooms, toilets, administration, libraries and teachers' residences. "Considering that many schools have been built in areas without rental houses and those that are available are of poor quality, this makes teachers unable to work effectively," he said.

Deogratias Msagati, Yakobi Secondary School headmaster said that their school's academic success was partly attributable to their interactions with parents and their sensitization about the value of shared parenting.



Tanzania Tea Board chairperson Mary Kipeja pictured in Dodoma city on Monday addressing a stakeholders' meeting on the mixed fortunes of Tanzania's tea industry over the years. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TAWA urges councils to train villagers on land use planning

By Beatrice Philemon

TANZANIA Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) has urged district councils to train villagers on land use planning which include avoid invading forest reserves in order to prevent human-wildlife conflicts.

Peter Erro, TAWA's Conservation Officer at Msanjesi Game Reserve made the call recently when speaking about the herd of elephants from Selous Game Reserve that invaded Nditu village in Nachingwea District, Lindi Region destroying crops and posing security concerns.

Erro said that educating villagers on the importance of respecting wildlife corridors and dispersal areas because many people aren't aware of this.

"Many wildlife corridors and dispersal areas in Nachingwea, Liwale and Tunduru districts in Lindi region have been damaged by livestock keepers because both pastoralists and other people are not knowledgeable about the land use plan in their localities and how it can help them to prevent wildlife-human conflicts," he said.

He said elephant's invasion is very high in villages close to the protected and unprotected areas because people just invade the forests illegally for livestock keeping and farming that in turn destroy wildlife corridors.

"Livestock keepers are now cutting trees inside the Village Forest Reserve and Community Forests for construction of cattle housing, livestock grazing, cattle pastures and they also burn the forest to clear land for agricultural activities," he said.

He said it is important for the district councils to take serious measures to educate people on the importance of land use planning to prevent them from invading the wildlife corridors.

He said lack of land use plan, rapid agricultural expansion and cattle grazing are the main factors contributing to animal habitat loss and destroyed wildlife corridors.

"During our patrol operations in Nachingwea, Liwale and Tunduru districts using a helicopter, we identified a lot of livestock keepers inside the forests, these herders reside in the forests illegally destroying wildlife habitat and corridors," he said.

He called on the district councils to come up with robust strategies to remove pastoralists in the areas.

He also called on the Tanzania Forest Service Agency (TFS) including wildlife officers to continue to educate people about environmental conservation, the effects of human-wildlife conflicts on human lives.

Highlighting on the elephant's invasion, he called on villagers to report to TAWA, TFS, wildlife officers and district executive directors when they see elephants coming inside the village or roaming around their farms.

"Don't chase away the wild animals that come into your village by yourself, because you don't have expertise to scare away elephants, these animals do not like noise," he said.

Elaborating on the current data of elephant population in Tanzania, he said from 2014 to 2021 Tanzania has more than 55,000-60,000 elephants according to the current elephant census.

The population has dropped dramatically as a result of poaching activities that were conducted in the past years because the elephants were killed illegally for ivory business.

Elephant population has declined from 300,000 in 1961 to 55,000 in 2021 according to the current elephant census.

Rashidi Chitungo, Njianne Hamlet Chairman lauded TAWA to train them on how to prevent wild elephants entering their farms and villages.

He said a total of 6950 villagers in Nditu Ward in Nachingwea have been trained on how to fight wildlife invasion.

He named villages benefited from the training as Namanja, Ngangambo, Nyambie, Nditu and Nyambi B.

TAWA has decided to embark on this programme after identifying that in 2023 the group of elephants from Selous Game Reserve landed at the area, posed security concerns, destroyed crops in all villages and people were struggling to get food, something that was not the case in the past.

Under the programme, villagers were trained on how to keep a distance at least 100 meters away from elephants, run in a zig-zag pattern if an elephant runs at them to defend themselves as well as hitting the cans to chase elephants away from farms and home by TAWA's experts.

They were also trained on how to establish beekeeping projects around their farms so that bees could chase elephants away from their villages to Selous Game Reserve and how to grow chili pepper and utilize its powder to scare away elephants.

Elaborating on how they use chili powder, he said: "We grind it and dispense its powder around the borders of their farms or crops or set up chill fences," he said.

So far many villagers in Nachingwea district use pepper seeds to plant in their farms and in their localities.

By Guardian Reporter

CCM to aid investors in executing women's empowerment projects

THE ruling party CCM has expressed commitment to collaborate with investors from various countries to implement projects that focus on empowering women.

Secretary General of CCM Women Wing (UWT) Jokate Mwegelo made the pledge in Dar es Salaam yesterday when she held talks with a delegation of Chinese investors who are in the country to explore business and investment opportunities.

Jokate said the party complements the government's efforts on empowering women, especially by establishing projects that create jobs.

"We have discussed several issues including investment in clean cooking energy, Agriculture and Information Communication Technology (ICT), we want to let the general public, especially

women, stop using firewood in cooking," she said.

She added: "The project we want to engage in will focus on empowering women as well as creating job opportunities to ensure they are self-reliant economically."

Shen Dong, Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) - Zhonglou district committee, appreciated the AMEC Group of Companies for organizing the trip to Tanzania.

He noted that their visit is contributed by the robust historic relations between China and Tanzania where their people share a lot of similarities.

Anna Nyangasi from Energy solution- a company which coordinated the trip for

the delegation said the aim of the trip was to promote investment between Tanzania and China.

"We are doing this as part of implementing the directives by President Samia Suluhu Hassan on initiatives to promote women.

The delegation had earlier visited the National Development Corporation (NDC) where they discussed plans to jointly implement 19 renewable energy projects expected to produce 1400 megawatts.

Out of all the projects, seven will produce wind power and the other 12 will generate solar power in the regions of Arusha, Dodoma, Iringa, Singida and Morogoro.



Kahama district commissioner Mboni Mhita addresses small-scale gold and diamond miners yesterday. She underlined the need to observe the law and ensure safety when going about their activities. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

Govt vows to effectively oversee provision of 10,000 gas cylinders

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has pledged to effectively oversee the distribution of approximately 10,000 gas cylinders recently donated by Taifa Gas Company for the benefit of citizens in various parts of the country.

Deputy Minister of Energy, Judith Kapinga made the promise during her meeting with senior officials from Taifa Gas Company, led by the firm's General Manager Devis Deogratius, when they visited her office in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

The cylinders, presented to Vice President Dr. Phillip Mpango, were given by Taifa Gas Company to support President Samia Suluhu Hassan's campaign to free women from the burden of carrying firewood on their heads. The initiative further aims to assist

citizens in easily accessing the clean energy source.

In addition to praising the company for its contribution to the campaign, Kapinga emphasized that the success of the initiative relies heavily on the involvement of more stakeholders, as it aims to reach beneficiaries across the entire country.

"As a ministry, we are committed to ensuring that all deserving beneficiaries of this campaign are reached, as President Samia intended. It is reassuring to see stakeholders like Taifa Gas standing with us to guarantee its success. Alongside distributing these gas cylinders, we will also ensure that education on clean cooking energy reaches all beneficiaries in every district and ward," said Kapinga.

Furthermore, Kapinga urged Taifa Gas Company to expand the

availability of gas refilling stations in different parts of the country, allowing more citizens to easily access the energy service.

Deogratius, in response, affirmed that Taifa Gas will continue to cooperate with the government in promoting the use of clean energy. He also emphasized the company's commitment to expanding its investments in warehouses across the nation to ensure the safety and accessibility of the energy.

"We understand that the transition to clean energy will occur gradually. The key is to establish strategies that increase the number of clean energy users in the country, currently at 8 percent," said Deogratius.

Among the areas targeted by this campaign are regions greatly affected by deforestation, such as the Iringa Region and others.

Over two billion people are without access to safe drinking water - UN

By Guardian Correspondent

AS many as 2.2 billion people still live without access to safe drinking water and 3.5 billion lack access to decent sanitation, according to a new United Nations report published on World Water Day.

"I think the situation is really challenging," said Li Lifeng, Director of FAO's Land and Water Division in Rome.

The UN report 'Water for prosperity and peace' highlights that tensions over water are exacerbating conflicts worldwide. "(We) say without water, there's no life. Then without the water, there's no food. So water is

the core, is the indispensable natural resources for sustainable development, for agriculture, for many different economic sectors."

Among the countries most affected by water scarcity is Zimbabwe, which "has been facing drought since last year," according to Lifeng.

He said there was a concern about crop failure with more than two million in Zimbabwe potentially facing hunger.

Like some of its southern African neighbours, Zimbabwe is battling a devastating drought that aid agencies blame on El Niño and climate change.

The southern African country's staple maize

harvest is expected to halve to 1.1 million tonnes in 2024 due to an El Nino-induced drought.

LOSS OF PASSPORT



TRUSHANG BHAGWANJI MISTRY announces the Loss of his Passport number TAE 681808 issued by Immigration Department in ZANZIBAR date of 18/01/2024. Whoever find it take it to a nearest Police station with Police Report No. PHO/DAR/LA/48487/2024.

WOMEN'S LEGAL AID CENTRE (WLAC)		
Publication of Bi- annually Income and Expenditure		
In accordance with Non-Government Organization Amendment Regulation 2018 WLAC is pleased to publish its Bi-annual Income and Expenditure report for a period between Jan - June 2023 .		
Women's Legal Aid Centre Bi-Annual Income and Expenditure Report for the period from January - June 2023		
	Jan- June 2023 TZS	Jan- June 2022 TZS
Income		
Receipts from Donors	234,816,157	608,514,931
Total Income	234,816,157	608,514,931
Expenditure:		
Legal Empowerment and Advocacy for reforms	140,934,693	600,222,060
Community awareness engagement in civic and socio-economic rights	24,694,030	0
Institutional capacity and sustainability of WLAC	59,920,034	8,292,872
Total Expenditure	234,816,157	608,514,931
Surplus (deficit) of Income over expenditure	0	0
WLAC House, Kinondoni, Hanasif Area, Ufipa Street, Block No. 40, House No. 184, P. O. Box 79212 Dar es Salaam E-mail: wlac@wlac.or.tz Website: www.wlac.or.tz Telephone: +255222684051 Facebook: Women's Legal Aid Centre (WLAC)		

WOMEN'S LEGAL AID CENTRE (WLAC)		
Publication of Bi- annually Income and Expenditure		
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Women's Legal Aid Centre Bi-Annual Income and Expenditure Report for the period from July to December 2023		
	July - Dec 2023 TZS	July - Dec 2022 TZS
Income		
Receipts from Donors	172,118,963	562,798,650
Total Income	172,118,963	562,798,650
Expenditure:		
Legal Empowerment and Advocacy for reforms	41,130,568	387,671,486
Community awareness engagement in civic and socio-economic rights	6,058,752	10,418,000
Institutional capacity and sustainability of WLAC	124,929,643	167,499,880
Total Expenditure	172,118,963	565,589,367
Surplus (deficit) of Income over expenditure	0	(2,790,717)
WLAC House, Kinondoni, Hanasif Area, Ufipa Street, Block No. 40, House No. 184, P. O. Box 79212 Dar es Salaam E-mail: wlac@wlac.or.tz Website: www.wlac.or.tz Telephone: +255222684051 Facebook: Women's Legal Aid Centre (WLAC)		

Technology in medical field vital, even as actual cure lies elsewhere

IN the rapidly changing field of medical care delivery in the country, not everyone can easily follow what has been done in most hospitals or at a certain level of hospital care. Still, some achievements stand out.

Those in the profession are demanding more improvements, and hence the wish by health experts and stakeholders to see the government embracing digital space in scaling up electronic medical records (EMR).

Sections of opinion, especially in the field, will take this up with excitement as it enables records to be accessed almost anywhere - even if it is not just a matter of fixing a number of computers in health centres and it is done.

Experts deliberating on the 'unveiling the power of digital health' at a just-held international primary healthcare conference had no doubt that gains from systematic improvement bring efficiency in the country's healthcare delivery and ease implementation of universal health coverage (UHC).

Neither of the two propositions is entirely assured in chances of being put on the ground - that is, universal digital record keeping on the one hand and universal insurance cover on the other.

Some observers feel that there is a semblance of the 'Big Results Now' of the years leading to 2015, plenty of which has animated leading administrators since.

But one problem is whether this technological uplift is in tandem with the easing of access to treatment for the majority, often just making do with the swallowing of cheap pain killers simply because they can't afford proper prescription at primary level.

That isn't to say that technology isn't relevant to primary health care but, on the contrary, it has implications on easing access to medicine for the poor - and indeed, where the policy thrust ought to be directed.

The whole idea of universal insurance cover is pegged with a question-begging assumption that something like 0.4m/- contribution per annum can guarantee treatment for a family of four or six.

Officials have pointed out that preventing diseases at the community level will call for vast efforts, but realistic insurance planning ought to start with the data as it stands.

That will be on probability of disease and actual coverage, not expecting miracles after hiring community health officers to oversee mosquito control.

Senior UNICEF officials were in attendance at the conference, where it was observed that digital health tools are a vital cog in the wheel of efforts to help propel health care services, especially at primary level.

They cited the fact that the use of digital health tools like electronic medical records can rapidly boost performance.

The question, though, is where the focus ought to be at the moment - whether it is the universal supply of computers at primary health care level or free supply of at least 50 types of basic drugs.

There is an old expression that must always be adapted to reality, though it was all too clever by a half even at its inception. It goes thus: "We must run while others walk".

To be more accurate, we need to choose where to run and where to walk - in which case, for upper levels of treatment considered as referral hospitals, universal computer records will likely be there already.

At these other levels there will be general data on patients on a daily basis, while spreading access to free drugs at least up to a certain level.

Experts at the conference focused on technology because they have left the drugs issue to insurance, a hurdle they must admit we are yet to cross.

Indeed, reform will stand as solid buffer against shocks if well done

HIGH-RANKING officials have been doing the rounds in ministries or by engaging with civic organisations on the three years of the leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

Reflections from the second in command, Vice President Philip Mpango, have been an integral part of all this - and they resonate well with a well-considered political strategy.

He has lately declared that the government is building buffers to economic shocks by working to ensure a cohesive society with equal rights in the legal, political and socio-economic aspects, thereby correcting past mistakes. As this summation encompasses plenty, it was real food for thought.

It was at the conclusion of the China-Tanzania investment forum in the commercial capital, Dar es Salaam that the VP underscored the need to strengthen governance institutions as a way of consolidating and guaranteeing the rule of law and the safety of local and foreign investors.

The notion of buffer however focuses not on what the symposium was tied to, namely, as an opportunity to engage in dialogue on policy reforms but rather in its mass context. It is to accept that Tanzania is not altogether free of social or political dislocation, arising from economic shocks but ignited differently.

What cannot be doubted is that economic reform assures more prosperity, which still is not immune to shocks, in which case other spheres of reform (in the 4Rs popularised by the president in the past three years) are crucial to that expectation.

Policy and the regulatory framework can improve the business environment and attract local and direct investments. However, there has to be a change in

the expectations of a broad section of the population to alleviate feelings of exclusion.

It is from such sentiments that instability is built upon, reflecting low social resilience to shocks.

There are countless examples of how society reacts to shocks. For instance, there is little doubt that the countrywide skyrocketing in sugar prices from late last year to date could have fetched entirely different reactions on the ground, or series of reactions, in a less resilient climate - that meaning where the level of support for those in office is skimpy.

Shocks can be especially disastrous where social classes or strata and groups are torn apart and the authorities are held in acute disenchantment by large numbers of people.

The revolution in the Sudan that led to the removal of ex-president Hassan el Bashir started with a doubling of the price of bread. The decomposition of the state has not stopped since.

Most disenchanted groups organise and those who supported the president in turn also organise, taking to war against the current military authorities to stop a new agreement ushering in civilian rule.

When reforms are late or absent, those enjoying the lack of reforms so consolidate their grip on power that any attempt to make reforms leads to the outer rings of civil strife.

Each country has to solve its anti-reform shenanigans as well as they can, but Africa could be at risk merely courtesy of its faith in state ownership of land and public sector dominance.

This could impede flows of foreign capital and make elections momentary episodes of civil strife as controlling the state is a vital channel for organised groups to prosper, particularly in the absence of genuinely functioning markets.

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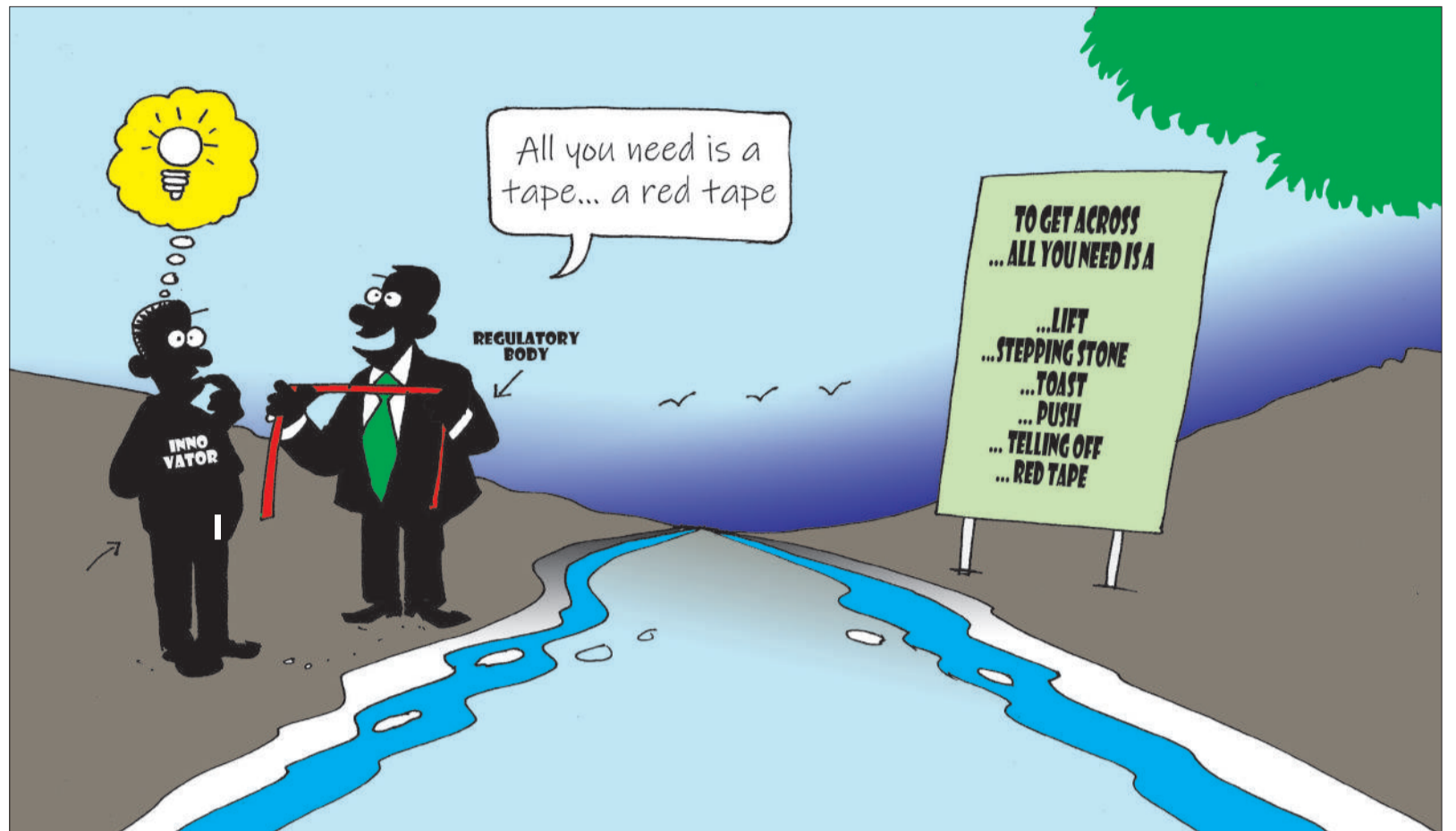
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Global governance: Time for reform

LONDON

AT last the UN Security Council has passed a resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. While stopping short of demanding a permanent end to the violence, it goes further than the world's peak peace and security body had so far managed since the start of the current brutal phase of conflict in October. But the time it's taken to get to this point signals an ongoing failure of global institutions to uphold human rights.

Today's conflicts around the world - not just in Gaza, but in Sudan, Ukraine and sadly many other places - are bringing immense cruelty and suffering, targeted at civilian populations and civil society. One in six people are currently exposed to conflict. International rules are supposed to make sure atrocities don't happen, and if they do, the international community works to halt the bloodshed and bring those responsible to justice. But states are repeatedly flouting the rules.

The latest State of Civil Society Report, from global civil society alliance CIVICUS, highlights how international bodies are flailing as states make hypocritical decisions that undermine the rules-based international order. Belligerents are brazenly ignoring long-established tenets of international human rights and humanitarian law because they expect to get away with it. Civil society has global governance reform plans but isn't getting a seat at the table.

Powerful states including Russia and the USA are demonstrating selective respect for the rules, shielding allies but castigating enemies. This is clear among the many states that rushed to Ukraine's defence but have hesitated to criticise Israel. At the basest level, some states are displaying racism as they show concern for white people's human rights but not for those of people of colour.

The Security Council has moved incredibly slowly, hampered by powerful states using their veto, its resolutions watered down through lengthy processes despite the urgency of the situation. States wanting to see an end to conflicts have taken to other arenas, including the UN General Assembly and Human Rights Council - but these lack the clout of the Security Council.

Human rights are supposed to be one of the UN's three pillars, alongside peace and security and sustainable development. But they're very much the poor relation. The human rights pillar gets only 4.3



per cent of the UN's regular budget. Problems with funding were plain to see in January, when UN offices in Geneva shut down temporarily due to a liquidity crisis, unable to meet heating costs at the height of a human rights emergency. Around 50 UN member states were reported to have failed to pay their 2023 contributions fully or partly.

Some states are withdrawing from the UN's human rights scrutiny, with Uganda and Venezuela insisting on the closure of human rights offices in their countries, Sudan's military kicking out a UN mission tasked with restoring democracy and Ethiopia successfully lobbying for an end to a commission scrutinising the many human rights abuses committed during conflict.

At the same time, repressive states are retaliating against activists who take part in UN human rights processes. The most recent report on reprisals against people for cooperating with the UN documented that over the last year, 40 states punished people for using the UN to stand up for human rights. Shockingly, 14 of them were members of the Human Rights Council - almost 30 per cent of the body's members. It's a disgrace that points to a broader problem of a lack of respect for human rights by many states active in the UN.

It goes beyond a failure to uphold human rights in conflict settings. The short-term calculations

of unaccountable leaders are neutralising international agreements forged to tackle major transnational challenges such as the climate crisis and sustainable development, where delivery is falling far short. At the Sustainable Development Goals summit held last September, civil society put forward innovative ideas to unlock the money needed to finance development and climate resilience, but these were ignored. Civil society is often denied access, forced at best to sit on the sidelines of the annual high-level opening of the UN General Assembly.

Today's multiple crises are exposing the fundamental design flaws of international institutions, testing them beyond their limit. If trust in the UN collapses, people could embrace more authoritarian alternatives. To prevent this, states and the UN must take on board civil society's many practical reform ideas. The UN must become more democratic and it must fully include civil society as an essential partner.

It can start by implementing some civil society reform proposals. The first of these, and an easy one to adopt, is to appoint a civil society envoy, someone who could encourage best practices on civil society participation across the UN, ensure a diverse range of civil society is involved and drive the UN's engagement with civil society groups around the world. At a time

when civil society is under attack in so many countries, this move would signal the UN takes civil society seriously and potentially unlock further progress.

Another step forward would be a world citizens' initiative, enabling people to mobilise to collect signatures to put an issue on the UN's agenda. This could ensure that matters proved to have a high level of global public support are given consideration, including at the Security Council. Many in civil society also support a UN parliamentary assembly to complement the General Assembly and give a voice to citizens as well as governments.

This could serve as a valuable corrective to the state-centric nature of decision-making and act as a source of scrutiny and accountability over the decisions the UN makes - or fails to make.

Civil society will keep calling for a rules-based order where clear laws and policies are followed to tackle climate change, end poverty, address deep economic inequality, de-escalate conflicts and prevent gross human rights violations. The UN Summit of the Future in September 2024 should commit to advancing this vision. Civil society is doing its best to engage with the process, calling not for more platitudes but for genuine reforms that put people at the heart of decision-making.

New government's digital interview system to tackle unemployment and reliability concerns

By Adonis Byemelwa

On March 23rd, 2024, amidst mounting worries about unemployment and the obstacles encountered by job seekers, the government unveiled a groundbreaking digital interview system, aiming to ease the challenges encountered by applicants.

The new system, known as the Automated Online Testing System (AOTS), will allow individuals to undergo interviews in their local areas, eliminating the need for costly and time-consuming travel.

Unveiled during a recent workshop held in Dodoma, the capital city of Tanzania, the AOTS initiative is set to commence operations on April 6th, 2024. This development comes at a crucial juncture, following months of debate surrounding the employment landscape, particularly within the education sector.

In a bid to streamline the recruitment process and address concerns raised by stakeholders, including unemployed youths and recent graduates, the government has taken decisive steps to modernize its approach to job interviews. Notably, the Minister of Education, Science, and Technology, Prof Adolf Mkenda, highlighted the necessity of interviewing teaching job applicants, emphasizing the importance of selecting the most qualified candidates.

However, the introduction of this new interviewing system has been met with mixed reactions from various quarters. Critics argue that it may serve as a means to evade the pressing issue of unemployment, which has reached alarming levels in recent years. With universities consistently producing graduates, there is mounting pressure on the government to provide viable employment opportunities for the



Minister of State in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance) George Simbachawene.

youth.

Moreover, concerns have been raised regarding the effectiveness of the AOTS in addressing the root causes of unemployment, particularly in sectors such as education and public service. Despite assurances from government officials, skeptics remain wary of the potential impact of the digital interview system on the overall job market dynamics.

Speaking at the workshop, Minister of State in the President's Office responsible for Public Service Management

and Good Governance, George Simbachawene, underscored the importance of transparency and fairness in the recruitment process.

He acknowledged the hardships faced by job seekers, who often endure significant financial burdens to attend interviews, only to be left without employment prospects.

The challenges posed by unemployment were further exemplified by the overwhelming response to recruitment interviews conducted by key government agencies such as

the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) and the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA).

The disparity between the number of job vacancies and the sheer volume of applicants highlights the urgent need for comprehensive solutions to address the unemployment crisis.

While the AOTS initiative holds promise for streamlining the job interview process in Tanzania, it is essential to acknowledge both the challenges and success stories associated with online inter-

views, drawing insights from experiences in developed nations.

In developed nations such as the United States, the United Kingdom, and Canada, online interviews have become increasingly prevalent in recent years, driven by advancements in technology and the growing reliance on digital communication platforms. These countries have established robust infrastructure for internet connectivity and access to reliable electricity, facilitating the widespread adoption of remote interview methods.

However, in countries like Tanzania, where internet access is limited and power outages are common, the introduction of digital interviews faces significant skepticism and practical challenges. Limited internet infrastructure and connectivity issues pose barriers to conducting seamless online interviews, particularly in remote or rural areas where access to technology may be scarce.

Moreover, frequent power outages disrupt the continuity of online interviews, leading to technical difficulties and hindering the reliability of the process. This raises concerns about the fairness and effectiveness of digital interviews in accurately assessing candidates' qualifications and

competencies.

The reliance on digital technology also exacerbates existing disparities in access to employment opportunities, as individuals with limited internet access or technological literacy may be at a disadvantage. This further exacerbates socioeconomic inequalities and widens the gap between urban and rural populations.

Furthermore, skepticism persists regarding the security and integrity of online interview platforms, particularly in safeguarding sensitive personal data and preventing cyber threats. Without adequate safeguards and cybersecurity measures in place, there is a risk of data breaches and privacy violations, undermining trust in the digital interview process.

In light of these challenges, stakeholders in Tanzania remain cautious about the feasibility and efficacy of digital interviews as a solution to address unemployment and streamline the recruitment process.

While the AOTS initiative holds potential, it must be accompanied by strategic investments in internet infrastructure, power supply reliability, and cybersecurity measures to overcome the practical hurdles and ensure equitable access to employment opportunities for all Tanzanians.

Health benefits of adequate intake of fruits and vegetables

By Telesphor Magobe

Fruits and vegetables form two of the six groups of foodstuffs that contain key nutrients recommended for a health population, according to Mainland Tanzania Food-Based Dietary Guidelines (FBDGs, 2023).

These guidelines have been formulated by the Ministry of Health through Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC) with technical and financial support from the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO).

Proportional contribution to total intake from each of the six food groups is as follows: 1) daily intake of cereal, starchy roots, tubers, plantains and green bananas (36 percent), 2) daily intake of pulses (legumes), nuts, and oily seeds (18 percent), 3) daily intake of fruits (17 percent), 4) daily intake of vegetables (17 percent), 5) daily intake of animal source food such as meat, fish, eggs, milk and insects (10 percent) and 6) daily intake of healthy fats (from animals) and oils (from plants) (2 percent). Tanzanians are encouraged to consume foodstuffs from these six food groups daily due to their nutritional value and health benefits.

While fruits are rich in fibres, vitamin C, vitamin A, vitamin B9 (folic acid/folate, potassium, phytochemicals and sugar, vegetables are rich in fibres, pro-vitamin A, vitamin C, vitamin B9, vitamin B1 (thiamine), vitamin B3 (niacin), vitamin B6, vitamin K, potassium, phytochemicals (non-nutritive chemical compounds such as flavonoids, phenolic acids and carotenoids found in plant foods) and iron. Phytochemicals fight infections and maintain healthy blood pressure.

Health benefits of fruits

FBDGs (2023) recommend two servings of fruits per day. The guidelines suggest that adequate fruit intake decreases the risk of high blood pressure, heart diseases and some cancers. Fruits also improve body immunity and contain fibres which are beneficial to health. "It's best to eat fruits in their whole form rather than making juice. The process of making juice discards healthy dietary fibres. If it is necessary that fruits are taken in form of juice, then blend the whole fruit and no additional sugar is needed as fruit juice contains natural sugar."

According to the guidelines, World Health Organisation (WHO) and Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) recommend 400-500 grams per day, or ≥ 400 grams per day of fruit and vegetables (WHO, 2003). "Similarly, the World Cancer Research Fund (WCRF, 2018) recommends at least 5 portions or servings (about 80 grams per serving) per day of a variety of non-starchy vegetables and fruit (giving about 400 grams per day)."

Thus, it is recommended that individuals eat two servings of fruits per day (280 grams). One serving provides about 80 kcal. One serving is about 140 grams, which is equivalent to one large orange or one medium-sized banana, apple, or mango, or half of a small avocado. "For small fruits, the serving size can be two fruits, for example, two small guavas, peaches, tangerines, plums, kiwifruits or apricots. A serving of small fruits can also be measured as a handful, for example, a handful of tamarind or baobab fruit. For berries and diced fruits, such as pawpaw, watermelon, and mango, one serving is one cup."

Health benefits of vegetables

Vegetables are a great source of vitamins such as pro-vitamin A, vitamin C, and folic acid (one of the B vitamins). They are also rich in minerals such as iron, potassium, and magnesium. Vegetables provide dietary fibres as well as phytochemicals. Vegetables provide vitamins and minerals without excess calories.

Different vegetables contain different amounts of nutrients, so it is important to eat a variety of vegetables every day to meet various nutrient needs. For example, dark-green leafy vegetables (amaranth, sweet potato leaves, cowpea leaves) are good sources of iron, while orange or red coloured vegetables (carrots, tomatoes) contain high amounts of carotene, a precursor for vitamin A. According to the guidelines, 90 per cent of Tanzanians do not meet recommended daily intake of vegetables and miss out on health benefits.

"Vegetables also contain vitamin C, which is important for iron absorption, among other functions. However, more than 50 per cent of Vitamin C may be lost during cooking due to heat destruction and leaching, especially when cooking water is discarded, which is a common practice. Vitamin C is water-soluble and is sensitive to both temperature and oxygen, so it is easily degraded during cooking. A combination of high temperatures and long cooking duration result in severe losses of vitamin C."

Vegetables contain phytochemicals that protect the body from certain cancers. They are rich in dietary fibres, which promote healthy bowel movements. The guidelines say that adequate vegetable intake has been shown to reduce the risk of obesity, heart disease, stroke and common types of cancer.



Consuming at least 400 grams of fruits and vegetables (about 4-5 servings) every day reduces blood pressure and decreases the risks of heart disease and stroke. "One serving of vegetables provides about 60 kilocalories (kcal) and about 140 grams, which is about 1 cup or 2

serving spoons of cooked vegetables, 1 cup of hard vegetables such as carrots, green beans, or green peas and 2 cups of raw leafy vegetables or salad. Vegetables also have low energy density."

To make it easier for daily intake of fruits and vegetables,

a family may have its own garden of fruits and vegetables. Where it is not possible to have a family garden, then fruits and vegetables can be bought from a market. Therefore, it is good to develop a culture of eating adequate fruits and vegetables every day for healthy living.



By restoring the ponds, the community at Patqapara Village, a small hamlet in India's West Bengal State, was able to save their village and livelihoods. Credit: Umar Manzoor Shah.

Climate change: Hope seen as remote Indian village overcomes water scarcity

By Umar Manzoor Shah

THE people of Patqapara Village, a hamlet in India's West Bengal State, were until recently reeling under absolute distress due to water scarcity. The lack of irrigation facilities in this far-flung and inaccessible hamlet had resulted in a steady decline in agricultural activities.

With a population of around 7,000, as per government estimates, the village primarily depends on agriculture for its livelihood. However, in recent years, drastic changes in weather patterns, including unseasonal rainfall, delayed monsoons, and soaring temperatures above normal levels, led to the drying up of irrigation canals and wells in the village. This left the local population in chaos, as their cultivable fields were bereft of any irrigation facilities.

According to the latest report from the Center for Science and Environment (CSE) on India's state of the environment in 2023, West Bengal has ex-

perienced a significant escalation in the severity of climate change within a short span of one year. The report, released on the eve of World Environment Day in June last year, draws attention to the alarming increase in extreme weather events in Bengal. So far, since 2023, the state has already experienced 24 such events, a stark contrast to the total of 10 events recorded throughout the entire year of 2022.

Furthermore, the report highlights that in 2022, India encountered a staggering 314 extreme weather events out of 365 days, resulting in the loss of over 3,026 lives and damage to 1.96 million hectares of crops. While heat waves predominated in early 2022, hailstorms have taken precedence as the predominant extreme weather event in 2023.

Babu Ram, a local villager, along with his wife, was contemplating leaving the village and moving to the city to search for menial work for sustenance.

"The irrigation canals used to pro-

vide us with livelihood. Besides watering our fields, we used to catch fish from there and sell it in the market, earning a living. But the weather changed everything. No, no—it actually dried everything up," Ram said.

Sanjoy Kumar, another farmer, says the water scarcity in the village had taken such a toll that it was feared that people would die due to hunger.

"Our crops failed and our fields became barren. We had no option but to migrate and leave our homes behind. I even worked as a daily wage laborer in the city at a private firm. The wages were meager and the living was getting wretched with each passing day," stated Kumar.

However, it was last year when the villagers mooted an idea to overcome water scarcity in their hamlet. Extensive deliberations were held between the villagers and local headmen, also known as 'Panchs' in the local language.

Through these discussions, a proposal to restore the village's ponds emerged.

"The irrigation facilities were minimal. In the past, there used to be ponds in almost all major areas of the village, but they were left unutilized as the villagers were unaware of their benefits. Our proposal was to restore these ponds," explained Babu Sarkar, a senior member of Caritas, a non-government organization that helped the villagers in the restoration of the ponds.

The agency, along with local villagers, identified 30 villagers who were tasked with working two hours every day on a rotational basis for the restoration of these abandoned ponds. Understanding the benefits of this initiative, the villagers formed several groups and enthusiastically undertook the task at hand. They identified and rehabilitated an estimated 15 ponds that had been abandoned, dried up, and forgotten.

Through their tireless efforts, the villagers cleared dust, dirt, and debris from the ponds, allowing water levels to increase and hopes to soar among the once-perturbed villagers.

"Soon, with the arrival of monsoons, rainwater was harvested in these ponds, bringing them back to life. Not only is the project now irrigating local crops, but the villagers are also developing fish farms in them," Sarkar said.

Jadhav Prakash, a local farmer, is now involved in fish farming due to these restored ponds and earns a good living.

"I earn about 3 thousand rupees (30 USD) a month by selling fish. Other villagers are also benefiting from the restoration of ponds," Prakash said.

Sunjoy Kumar, who had left the village, returned to his village earlier this year, hopeful that the fields would never be bereft of water and the lands wouldn't turn barren again. "I am sowing the crops again with the eager hope that I will never face the hardships again. This is my land and my world. I do not want to go back to the city and face hardships there. I want to live here and work here," Kumar said.

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

China, Africa join forces to empower youth

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

IN the early morning, students enter the Ethiopian Luban Workshop located in a three-storey building of a vocational training institute in eastern Addis Ababa, Ethiopia's capital, where they are imparted industrial skills and taught robotics technologies.

Over the past decade, more than a dozen similar institutions have opened across Africa, symbolizing China's commitment to sharing its vocational education expertise with the continent. Alongside numerous other China-Africa talent-building cooperation projects, these schools help drive the region toward modernization and sustainable development.

FOSTERING VOCATIONAL SKILLS

A group of Luban Workshop students were captivated by their 39-year-old teacher, Yonas Akele, who demonstrated the operation of automated equipment from China, simulating the production process on assembly lines.

The Luban Workshop, named after an ancient Chinese architect, is a vocational training program established in around 20 countries for local communities.

Having once studied in China, Yonas was inspired by Luban Workshop's integration of theoretical knowledge with practical engineering. Upon his return to Ethiopia, Yonas landed a teaching position here.

"Young Ethiopians are fortunate to have this learning opportunity, and I hope to see more Luban workshops established across Ethiopia," Yonas said.

Jiang Jiang, head of the Ethiopian Luban Workshop, outlined the facility's specializations, such as industrial sensors, industrial control, industrial robots and mechatronics.

"When China and Ethiopia collaborated on establishing the Luban Workshop, Ethiopia voiced a need for an advanced training platform catering to key manufacturing sectors, particularly in areas like automated production," Jiang said.

"The employers are delighted with our graduates' performance," Jiang noted,



Asha Fum Khamis, a Tanzanian Chinese teacher at the Confucius Institute at the University of Dar es Salaam, talking with a student during a Chinese language class in Dar es Salaam.

adding that some companies have expressed interest in training their workers at the workshop.

The workshop has organized five training sessions in partnership with local governments and international organizations, benefiting nearly 200 talents from Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania and other nations.

As the Ethiopian proverb goes, "He who learns, teaches." These trained African instructors bring advanced knowledge and technology to their respective communities, thus catalysing Africa's demographic dividend toward sustainable development.

In collaboration with nations like Tanzania, Seychelles, Rwanda and Ethiopia, the China-Africa Vocational Education Alliance has been revising and developing job standards and professional teaching norms for critical industries

in these countries.

Franklin Rwezimula, deputy permanent secretary in Tanzania's Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, said China can help Tanzania develop a new generation of skilled professionals who know how to drive innovation and build entrepreneurship, thus benefiting sustainable economic growth through training.

ENHANCING MEDICAL SERVICES

Africa is facing increasing risks of disease outbreaks and health emergencies related to climate change, such as a disproportionately high rate of malaria deaths. According to the World Health Organization, African countries accounted for about 94 percent of all malaria cases globally and 95 percent of deaths in 2022. To improve medical services, China has been dispatching medical personnel and aid to African

countries for decades.

Since 2007, the China Malaria Prevention and Control Project Team in the Comoros has led malaria prevention efforts and training in collaboration with the Comoros Anti-Malaria Center. By 2017, the diligent efforts of experts from both nations had reduced malaria incidence in the Comoros by over 99 percent, effectively eradicating malaria-related fatalities.

Kamal Said Abdallah, the 47-year-old laboratory director of the Comoros National Malaria Control Center, has been working closely with Chinese medical professionals for 12 years.

After graduating from Tianjin Medical University, Kamal served as an interpreter for the China-Comoros Anti-Malaria Cooperation Project before transitioning to more hands-on anti-malaria work, with training sessions in China. He elaborated on the complexity of distrib-

uting anti-malarial drugs, which he said demands specialized training and guidance.

Deng Changsheng, leader of the China Anti-Malaria Project Team in the Comoros, detailed the extensive training efforts conducted between 2018 and 2021, saying it has benefited over 4,000 local personnel involved in malaria prevention and control.

He said these initiatives have enhanced the Comoros' medical and healthcare systems, nurturing local talent crucial to maintaining progress.

For over half a century, Chinese medical teams and experts have been at the forefront of combating regional diseases and major public health crises, providing comprehensive training for local medical personnel and enhancing Africa's healthcare capabilities.

Pemba Island in Zanzibar,

Tanzania, once had a high prevalence of schistosomiasis - an acute, chronic, and disabling parasitic disease - but has witnessed a significant decline in recent years, thanks to Chinese medical expertise and collaboration with local health officials. In December last year, the first technical capacity training on schistosomiasis detection was organized on Pemba Island, enhancing the diagnostic capabilities of local medical institutions.

Saleh Juma Muhammed, an official from the Zanzibar Ministry of Health with four decades of experience in schistosomiasis prevention and treatment, praised the efficacy of Chinese integrated control methods and expressed a dedication to learning from Chinese experts and working with local communities.

EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR AFRICAN YOUTH

As China and African countries strengthen relations and increase exchanges, more African youth are starting to learn about Chinese culture. Asha Fum Khamis, a 32-year-old Tanzanian Chinese teacher at the Confucius Institute at the University of Dar es Salaam, said that learning Chinese transformed her life.

"If it weren't for learning Chinese and receiving a scholarship to study in China, I would still be fishing on a small boat in Zanzibar," Khamis said.

Khamis attests to the growing popularity of Chinese language learning in Tanzania, calling it an international language that opens doors for youth employment and career prospects in Africa.

Of the 300-plus students she has taught, many have found jobs in local Chinese firms, while around 50 have opted for careers in Chinese language education, reflecting the language's increasing importance in Tanzania.

Established in 2013, the Confucius Institute has seen more than 100 teachers and volunteers from China come to Tanzania and train more than 60,000 Chinese language learners.

PUBLIC NOTICE



The Registered Trustees of Airtel Money Trust Fund

Issued pursuant to regulation 33(b) of the Electronic Money Regulations, 2015

A STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023		
	2023	2022
	TZS' 000	TZS' 000
Current assets		
Balance held under Mobile Money Trust	355,758,422	272,891,833
Total asset	355,758,422	272,891,833

Equity and Liabilities		
Equity		
	2023	2022
	TZS' 000	TZS' 000
Accumulated fund	-	-
Total Equity	-	-
Current liabilities		
E-Value liability	326,905,591	263,885,241
MFS agents, merchants and customers' liability	7,890,730	7,037,666
Trade payable	962,101	1,968,926
Total liabilities	335,758,422	272,891,833
Total equity and liabilities	335,758,422	272,891,833

B INCOME STATEMENT		
Airtel Money Trust Fund is the trust entity and operation is conducted by Airtel Money Tanzania Ltd, hence there is no income statement.		

C STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023		
	2023	2022
	TZS' 000	TZS' 000
Operating cash flows before movement in working capital	-	-
Profit before taxation	-	-
Movement in working capital		
Increase/(decrease) in E-Value liability	63,020,351	49,875,887
(Decrease)/increase MFS agents merchants and customers' liability	853,064	(251,091)
Decrease Trade Payables	(1,006,826)	880,616
Net cash flow generated from operating activities	62,866,589	50,505,412
Net increase in balance held under Mobile Money Trust	62,866,589	50,505,412
Balance held under Mobile Money Trust at beginning of the year	272,891,833	222,386,421
Balance held under Mobile Money Trust at end of the year	335,758,422	272,891,833

D STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023			
	Share capital	Retained earnings	Total
	TZS' 000	TZS' 000	TZS' 000
At 1 January 2023	-	-	-
Total comprehensive profit for the period	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	-	-	-
At 1 January 2022	-	-	-
Total comprehensive profit for the period	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	-	-	-

E SELECTED EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023			
In preparation of financial statements, consistent accounting policy have been used as those applicable to the previous year audited Financial Statement. (If there were changes during the year, the changes have been explained as per IAS 8).			
Name & Title	Signature	Date	
Andrew Rugamba Airtel Money Director		31/01/2024	
Rajesh Chawla Financial Controller		31/01/2024	
Glory Minja Head of Internal Audit		31/01/2024	

We the undersigned directors attest to the faithful representation of the above statements. We declare that the statement have been examined by us and, to the best of knowledge and belief, have been prepared in conformance with International Financial Standards and requirements of the National Payment System's Act, 2015 and they present true and fair view.

Name & Title	Signature	Date	
Judge Joseph Sinde Warioba Director		31/01/2024	
Dr. Evelyn Mweta Richard Director		31/01/2024	



INSTANT.SECURE.BORDERLESS.

*Terms and conditions apply



REQUEST FOR TENDER RISING MAIN PROJECT

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following goods:

Installation of Electrical and Instrumentation Equipment, Motor Control Centre (MCC), Transformers, Minisub, Cables, Ladders, and Racking for the Rising Main Project Tender Ref: NM011/2024

No	Reference no	Description of work	Pre-qualification Criteria
1	NM011/2024	<p>The Package is for the Installation of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MCC; Minisub, Transformers LV Cables & Terminations MV Cables & Terminations Lighting & Small Power Electrical Cable Ladders & Supports Instrumentation Instrumentation Cables & Terminations Instrument Racking & Support Steelwork Junction Boxes. Cable connections to Mechanical Equipment i.e. Agitators, DE gritters, 10 No Transfer and Sump Pumps. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Underground Electrical and Instrumentation Installation for a similar sized project in Tanzania. Provide project profiles over the last three years for assessment. Company Profile and capability statement. These should include photo of the fabrication and distribution workshop, confirmation of floor size and location. List of personnel and organogram. Quality Control Plans, Quality check sheets Tanzania Registration to provide CoCs. Local Content Regulations Compliance. HSE Policy CRB registered contractor class 3 and above Completion certificates of previous projects with reference list of Clients. Applicant to submit list and specifications of Equipment's, including test equipment.

Expression of interest

If your company meets the pre-qualification criteria and would like to be considered to receive the invitation to tender (ITT), an expression of interest (EOI) including your company profile and evidence of compliance with pre-qualification criteria may be submitted to nm.proposal@barrick.com.

Applicants must quote the tender description(s) and the respective reference no.(s) in the subject line of the email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit an EOI through this advertisement.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of NMGM. If you do not hear from us in 21 days after the deadline date, please consider your submission unsuccessful.

Key Dates

- Last Date to Submit EOI

05 April 2024

North Mara Gold Mine Limited

By Sarah Shamim

SENEGAL'S main opposition candidate Bassirou Diomaye Faye won Sunday's presidential election.

The electoral body released official results showing that Faye won with more than 54 percent of the vote - which eliminates the need for a run-off.

His supporters have been celebrating on the streets of the capital, Dakar, amid hopes that the new administration might address persistent poverty and corruption.

The outgoing governing coalition's candidate, former Prime Minister Amadou Ba, on Monday conceded defeat to Faye hours after saying he was ready for a run-off vote. Incumbent President Macky Sall has also congratulated Faye on his victory.

Here is more about Faye and what the results may mean for the future of Senegal's democracy.

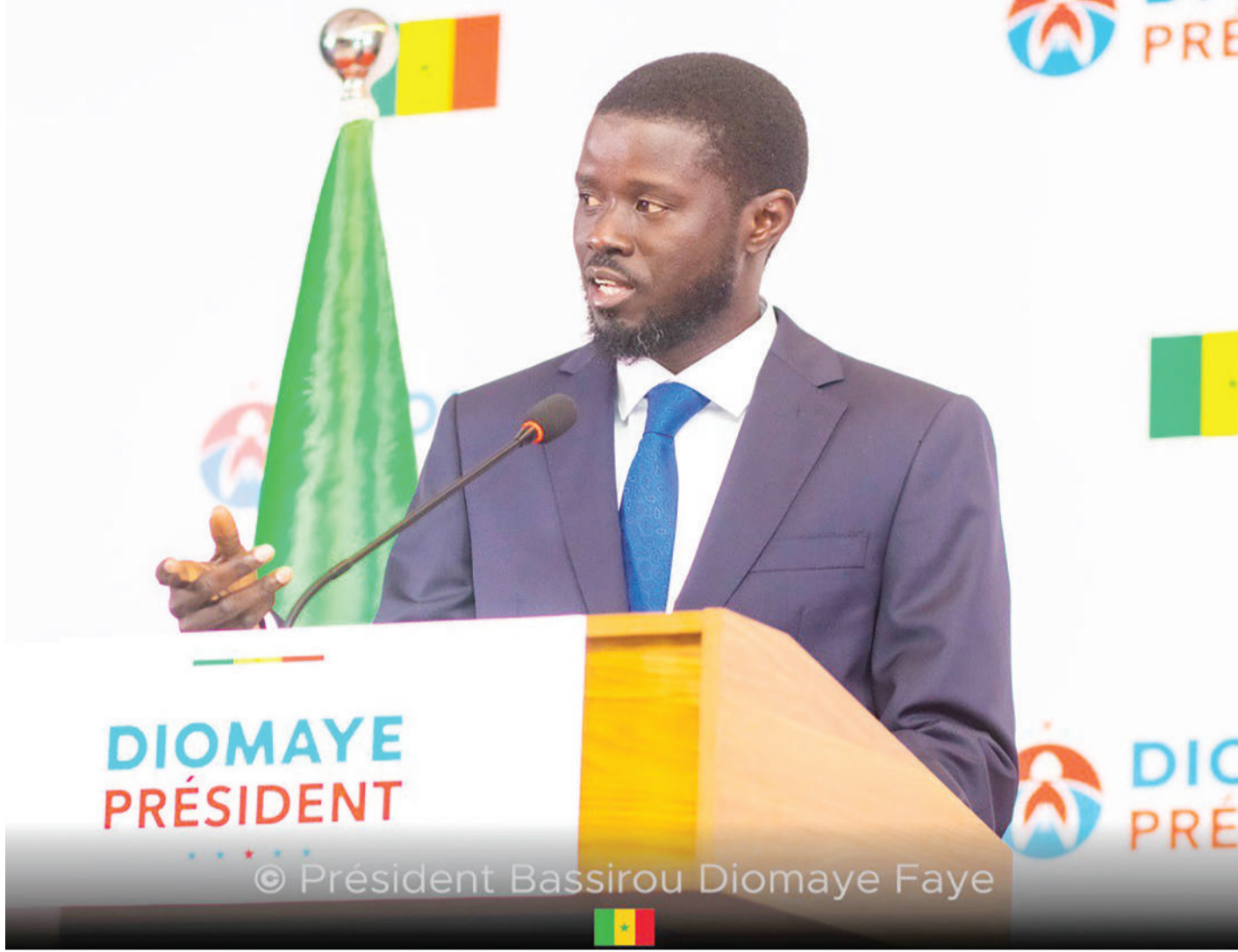
Who is Bassirou Diomaye Faye?

Faye has been thrust into the centre of Senegalese politics more than a week after he was released from prison along with his fire-brand mentor Ousmane Sonko, who was disqualified from standing in the election because of a defamation conviction.

The 44-year-old leader contested the elections as an independent due to the dissolution of his Patriots of Senegal (PASTEF) party last July for causing unrest. The PASTEF party, which was founded by Sonko in 2014, endorsed Faye.

The left-wing populist has been organising protests against President Macky Sall accusing his government of corruption and failing to address chronic poverty. Sall's decision to extend the elections originally scheduled for February triggered the latest round of political crisis.

Results of Senegal election: Who's President Bassirou Diomaye Faye?



Senegal's newly elected President, Bassirou Diomaye Faye

The elections were held after the intervention of the Constitutional Court. Faye was born in 1980 in west-central Senegal's Ndiagianiao. He met Sonko

while working as a tax inspector in the government's taxes and estates department, where they were instrumental in the formation of a labour union.

Why was Faye in prison?

In April 2023, Faye was arrested on charges including spreading false news, contempt of court and defamation of a constituted body, for a social media post.

Sonko was arrested on multiple charges in July 2023 including provoking insurrection, conspiring with "terrorist" groups, endangering state security and immoral behaviour towards individuals younger than 21.

Faye, alongside Sonko, was released late on March 14, days before the vote, after an amnesty law was passed this month.

What are his policies?

Faye, a former tax inspector, has pledged to weed out corruption, restore stability and prioritise economic sovereignty, appealing to the urban youth frustrated by unemployment in the West African country where

60 percent of the population is aged under 25.

He wants to rid Senegal of the CFA franc inherited from the colonial era, which is pegged to the euro. He proposes introducing a new currency instead. The CFA franc, backed by the French treasury, is accepted in 14 member countries.

Additionally, he wishes to renegotiate mining and hydrocarbon contracts. The country is expected to start hydrocarbon production this year.

The biggest challenge for the new leader would be to address the more than 20 percent unemployment rate.

"It's an injustice that I can't find work. I was given a state diploma and the state can't find work for me," Yacoub Diouf from Senegal told Al Jazeera's Nicolas Haque.

ing deep political unrest, iterating that Senegal's constitution would have allowed him to. Sonko had called for Sall to bow out of this election, accusing him of cracking down on the opposition to sideline competition. Sall provoked further controversy after he delayed the election that was originally set for February 25.

Term limits have been a hotly debated topic in Senegal for the past two decades. When former President Abdoulaye Wade came to power in 2000, the constitution did not have term limits. Wade amended it in 2001 to impose a two-term limit. However, to extend his own time in office, Wade successfully campaigned for a third term, earning the approval of Senegal's highest court.

At least seven of the 19 candidates in the race have issued statements congratulating Faye on his win.

About 71 percent of the 7.3 million registered voters showed up to the polls, according to state television RTS.

What could the results mean for the future of Senegal's democracy?

A victory for Faye is a good sign for democracy in Senegal, said Alioune Tine, founder of the think tank Afrikajom Center and Amnesty International's former regional director for West and Central Africa.

"Democracy was sick with political violence, with state violence, with death," Tine told Al Jazeera, referring to the political violence of the last few years. He added that Sonko being unable to contest elections further showed that democracy was sick.

"But he [Sonko] had the brilliant idea of nominating his number two to be a candidate," he said.

Tine added that a positive aspect of Senegal's democracy is that since independence, it has never allowed a military coup, unlike other West African countries where political crises have amounted to coups.

THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORDS AND WORD FIT - 86 -

By Felix Mageszin: 0787 00 97 94 // felixmagesz@gmail.com

1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25

ACROSS:

1. Witchdoctor in South Africa
6. a woody evergreen climbing plant
7. excellent
9. a narrowly avoided collision
13. Politics in Kiswahili
14. a pigsty

DOWN:

1. free from deceit
2. bravo
3. name of lake Malawi in Tanzania
4. the testing of a metal to determine its ingredients and quality
5. ruin emotionally
8. America
10. wash with clean water
11. be in charge of
12. anisogamy
16. by now or then
19. Rivers in kiswahili
20. of less than average height
21. deceive

16. make slightly angry
17. Monetary unit of Denmark
18. saag
19. subject to debate or dispute
20. state of being legal
22. discharge
23. densely populated areas
24. a freeholder

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.

OPONENT	OMIT	LIVONIAN
NOEL	SAE	VIPER
OSSI	ECRU	OTO, OLE
LOOSE	TOO	IDEATE
IMPACTS	TEA	NUT, UNI

Yesterday's solution

B	A	G	A	M	O	Y	O	P	C	A	R	E	R	C		
A	A	P	E	A	R	L	A	I	A	H	A	H	A	H		
N	A	M	E	L	E	S	S	A	N	O	V	E	L	A		
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RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 08.20 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08.30 AM MATANGAZO 09.00 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 11.30 HRS DJ SHOW 12.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 12.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 12.10 AM HOJA YA LEO 12.15 HRS SPOTI LEO 12.30 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 13.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 13.30 HRS NEWS BRIEF 13.33 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 08.20 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08.30 AM MATANGAZO 09.00 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA SHERIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 11.30 HRS DJ SHOW 12.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 12.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 12.10 AM HOJA YA LEO 12.15 HRS SPOTI LEO 12.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 12.35 HRS SPOTI LEO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.03 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 13.10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 13.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 13.20 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 13.25 HRS AFRO TIZI 13.30 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 08.20 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08.30 AM MATANGAZO 09.00 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 11.30 HRS DJ SHOW 12.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 12.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 12.10 AM HOJA YA LEO 12.15 HRS SPOTI LEO 12.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 12.35 HRS SPOTI LEO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.03 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 13.10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 13.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 13.20 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 13.25 HRS AFRO TIZI 13.30 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 08.20 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08.30 AM MATANGAZO 09.00 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 11.30 HRS DJ SHOW 12.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 12.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 12.10 AM HOJA YA LEO 12.15 HRS SPOTI LEO 12.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 12.35 HRS SPOTI LEO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.03 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 13.10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 13.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 13.20 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 13.25 HRS AFRO TIZI 13.30 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 08.20 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08.30 AM MATANGAZO 09.00 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 11.30 HRS DJ SHOW 12.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 12.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 12.10 AM HOJA YA LEO 12.15 HRS SPOTI LEO 12.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 12.35 HRS SPOTI LEO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.03 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 13.10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 13.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 13.20 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 13.25 HRS AFRO TIZI 13.30 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 08.20 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08.30 AM MATANGAZO 09.00 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 11.30 HRS DJ SHOW 12.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 12.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 12.10 AM HOJA YA LEO 12.15 HRS SPOTI LEO 12.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 12.35 HRS SPOTI LEO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.03 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 13.10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 13.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 13.20 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 13.25 HRS AFRO TIZI 13.30 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	



By restoring the ponds, the community at Patqapara Village, a small hamlet in India's West Bengal State, was able to save their village and livelihoods. Credit: Umar Manzoor Shah.

Climate change: Hope seen as remote Indian village overcomes water scarcity

By Umar Manzoor Shah

THE people of Patqapara Village, a hamlet in India's West Bengal State, were until recently reeling under absolute distress due to water scarcity. The lack of irrigation facilities in this far-flung and inaccessible hamlet had resulted in a steady decline in agricultural activities.

With a population of around 7,000, as per government estimates, the village primarily depends on agriculture for its livelihood. However, in recent years, drastic changes in weather patterns, including unseasonal rainfall, delayed monsoons, and soaring temperatures above normal levels, led to the drying up of irrigation canals and wells in the village. This left the local population in chaos, as their cultivable fields were bereft of any irrigation facilities.

According to the latest report from the Center for Science and Environment (CSE) on India's state of the environment in 2023, West Bengal has ex-

perienced a significant escalation in the severity of climate change within a short span of one year. The report, released on the eve of World Environment Day in June last year, draws attention to the alarming increase in extreme weather events in Bengal. So far, since 2023, the state has already experienced 24 such events, a stark contrast to the total of 10 events recorded throughout the entire year of 2022.

Furthermore, the report highlights that in 2022, India encountered a staggering 314 extreme weather events out of 365 days, resulting in the loss of over 3,026 lives and damage to 1.96 million hectares of crops. While heat waves predominated in early 2022, hailstorms have taken precedence as the predominant extreme weather event in 2023.

Babu Ram, a local villager, along with his wife, was contemplating leaving the village and moving to the city to search for menial work for sustenance.

"The irrigation canals used to pro-

vide us with livelihood. Besides watering our fields, we used to catch fish from there and sell it in the market, earning a living. But the weather changed everything. No, no—it actually dried everything up," Ram said.

Sanjoy Kumar, another farmer, says the water scarcity in the village had taken such a toll that it was feared that people would die due to hunger.

"Our crops failed and our fields became barren. We had no option but to migrate and leave our homes behind. I even worked as a daily wage laborer in the city at a private firm. The wages were meager and the living was getting wretched with each passing day," stated Kumar.

However, it was last year when the villagers mooted an idea to overcome water scarcity in their hamlet. Extensive deliberations were held between the villagers and local headmen, also known as 'Panchs' in the local language.

Through these discussions, a proposal to restore the village's ponds emerged.

"The irrigation facilities were minimal. In the past, there used to be ponds in almost all major areas of the village, but they were left unutilized as the villagers were unaware of their benefits. Our proposal was to restore these ponds," explained Babu Sarkar, a senior member of Caritas, a non-government organization that helped the villagers in the restoration of the ponds.

The agency, along with local villagers, identified 30 villagers who were tasked with working two hours every day on a rotational basis for the restoration of these abandoned ponds. Understanding the benefits of this initiative, the villagers formed several groups and enthusiastically undertook the task at hand. They identified and rehabilitated an estimated 15 ponds that had been abandoned, dried up, and forgotten.

Through their tireless efforts, the villagers cleared dust, dirt, and debris from the ponds, allowing water levels to increase and hopes to soar among the once-perturbed villagers.

"Soon, with the arrival of monsoons, rainwater was harvested in these ponds, bringing them back to life. Not only is the project now irrigating local crops, but the villagers are also developing fish farms in them," Sarkar said.

Jadhav Prakash, a local farmer, is now involved in fish farming due to these restored ponds and earns a good living.

"I earn about 3 thousand rupees (30 USD) a month by selling fish. Other villagers are also benefiting from the restoration of ponds," Prakash said.

Sunjoy Kumar, who had left the village, returned to his village earlier this year, hopeful that the fields would never be bereft of water and the lands wouldn't turn barren again. "I am sowing the crops again with the eager hope that I will never face the hardships again. This is my land and my world. I do not want to go back to the city and face hardships there. I want to live here and work here," Kumar said.

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

China, Africa join forces to empower youth

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

IN the early morning, students enter the Ethiopian Luban Workshop located in a three-storey building of a vocational training institute in eastern Addis Ababa, Ethiopia's capital, where they are imparted industrial skills and taught robotics technologies.

Over the past decade, more than a dozen similar institutions have opened across Africa, symbolizing China's commitment to sharing its vocational education expertise with the continent. Alongside numerous other China-Africa talent-building cooperation projects, these schools help drive the region toward modernization and sustainable development.

FOSTERING VOCATIONAL SKILLS

A group of Luban Workshop students were captivated by their 39-year-old teacher, Yonas Akele, who demonstrated the operation of automated equipment from China, simulating the production process on assembly lines.

The Luban Workshop, named after an ancient Chinese architect, is a vocational training program established in around 20 countries for local communities.

Having once studied in China, Yonas was inspired by Luban Workshop's integration of theoretical knowledge with practical engineering. Upon his return to Ethiopia, Yonas landed a teaching position here.

"Young Ethiopians are fortunate to have this learning opportunity, and I hope to see more Luban workshops established across Ethiopia," Yonas said.

Jiang Jiang, head of the Ethiopian Luban Workshop, outlined the facility's specializations, such as industrial sensors, industrial control, industrial robots and mechatronics.

"When China and Ethiopia collaborated on establishing the Luban Workshop, Ethiopia voiced a need for an advanced training platform catering to key manufacturing sectors, particularly in areas like automated production," Jiang said.

"The employers are delighted with our graduates' performance," Jiang noted,



Asha Fum Khamis, a Tanzanian Chinese teacher at the Confucius Institute at the University of Dar es Salaam, talking with a student during a Chinese language class in Dar es Salaam.

adding that some companies have expressed interest in training their workers at the workshop.

The workshop has organized five training sessions in partnership with local governments and international organizations, benefiting nearly 200 talents from Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania and other nations.

As the Ethiopian proverb goes, "He who learns, teaches." These trained African instructors bring advanced knowledge and technology to their respective communities, thus catalysing Africa's demographic dividend toward sustainable development.

In collaboration with nations like Tanzania, Seychelles, Rwanda and Ethiopia, the China-Africa Vocational Education Alliance has been revising and developing job standards and professional teaching norms for critical industries

in these countries.

Franklin Rwezimula, deputy permanent secretary in Tanzania's Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, said China can help Tanzania develop a new generation of skilled professionals who know how to drive innovation and build entrepreneurship, thus benefiting sustainable economic growth through training.

ENHANCING MEDICAL SERVICES

Africa is facing increasing risks of disease outbreaks and health emergencies related to climate change, such as a disproportionately high rate of malaria deaths. According to the World Health Organization, African countries accounted for about 94 percent of all malaria cases globally and 95 percent of deaths in 2022. To improve medical services, China has been dispatching medical personnel and aid to African

countries for decades.

Since 2007, the China Malaria Prevention and Control Project Team in the Comoros has led malaria prevention efforts and training in collaboration with the Comoros Anti-Malaria Center. By 2017, the diligent efforts of experts from both nations had reduced malaria incidence in the Comoros by over 99 percent, effectively eradicating malaria-related fatalities.

Kamal Said Abdallah, the 47-year-old laboratory director of the Comoros National Malaria Control Center, has been working closely with Chinese medical professionals for 12 years.

After graduating from Tianjin Medical University, Kamal served as an interpreter for the China-Comoros Anti-Malaria Cooperation Project before transitioning to more hands-on anti-malaria work, with training sessions in China. He elaborated on the complexity of distrib-

uting anti-malarial drugs, which he said demands specialized training and guidance.

Deng Changsheng, leader of the China Anti-Malaria Project Team in the Comoros, detailed the extensive training efforts conducted between 2018 and 2021, saying it has benefited over 4,000 local personnel involved in malaria prevention and control.

He said these initiatives have enhanced the Comoros' medical and healthcare systems, nurturing local talent crucial to maintaining progress.

For over half a century, Chinese medical teams and experts have been at the forefront of combating regional diseases and major public health crises, providing comprehensive training for local medical personnel and enhancing Africa's healthcare capabilities.

Pemba Island in Zanzibar,

Tanzania, once had a high prevalence of schistosomiasis - an acute, chronic, and disabling parasitic disease - but has witnessed a significant decline in recent years, thanks to Chinese medical expertise and collaboration with local health officials. In December last year, the first technical capacity training on schistosomiasis detection was organized on Pemba Island, enhancing the diagnostic capabilities of local medical institutions.

Saleh Juma Muhammed, an official from the Zanzibar Ministry of Health with four decades of experience in schistosomiasis prevention and treatment, praised the efficacy of Chinese integrated control methods and expressed a dedication to learning from Chinese experts and working with local communities.

EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR AFRICAN YOUTH

As China and African countries strengthen relations and increase exchanges, more African youth are starting to learn about Chinese culture. Asha Fum Khamis, a 32-year-old Tanzanian Chinese teacher at the Confucius Institute at the University of Dar es Salaam, said that learning Chinese transformed her life.

"If it weren't for learning Chinese and receiving a scholarship to study in China, I would still be fishing on a small boat in Zanzibar," Khamis said.

Khamis attests to the growing popularity of Chinese language learning in Tanzania, calling it an international language that opens doors for youth employment and career prospects in Africa.

Of the 300-plus students she has taught, many have found jobs in local Chinese firms, while around 50 have opted for careers in Chinese language education, reflecting the language's increasing importance in Tanzania.

Established in 2013, the Confucius Institute has seen more than 100 teachers and volunteers from China come to Tanzania and train more than 60,000 Chinese language learners.

PUBLIC NOTICE



The Registered Trustees of Airtel Money Trust Fund

Issued pursuant to regulation 33(b) of the Electronic Money Regulations, 2015

A STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023		2023		2022	
		TZS' 000	TZS' 000	TZS' 000	TZS' 000
Current assets					
Balance held under Mobile Money Trust		355,758,422	272,891,833		
Total asset		355,758,422	272,891,833		
Equity and Liabilities					
Equity					
Accumulated fund		-	-		
Total Equity		-	-		
Current liabilities					
E-Value liability		326,905,591	263,885,241		
MFS agents, merchants and customers' liability		7,890,730	7,037,666		
Trade payable		962,101	1,968,926		
Total liabilities		335,758,422	272,891,833		
Total equity and liabilities		335,758,422	272,891,833		


B INCOME STATEMENT		2023		2022	
		TZS' 000	TZS' 000	TZS' 000	TZS' 000
Operating cash flows before movement in working capital					
Profit before taxation		-	-		
Movement in working capital					
Increase/(decrease) in E-Value liability		63,020,351	49,875,887		
(Decrease)/increase MFS agents merchants and customers' liability		853,064	(251,091)		
Decrease Trade Payables		(1,006,826)	880,616		
Net cash flow generated from operating activities		62,866,589	50,505,412		
Net increase in balance held under Mobile Money Trust					
		62,866,589	50,505,412		
Balance held under Mobile Money Trust at beginning of the year					
		272,891,833	222,386,421		
Balance held under Mobile Money Trust at end of the year					
		335,758,422	272,891,833		

D STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023		Share capital	Retained earnings	Total
		TZS' 000	TZS' 000	TZS' 000
At 1 January 2023				
		-	-	-
Total comprehensive profit for the period				
		-	-	-
At 31 December 2023				
		-	-	-
At 1 January 2022				
		-	-	-
Total comprehensive profit for the period				
		-	-	-
At 31 December 2022				
		-	-	-

E SELECTED EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023	
In preparation of financial statements, consistent accounting policy have been used as those applicable to the previous year audited Financial Statement. (If there were changes during the year, the changes have been explained as per IAS 8).	
Name & Title	Signature
Andrew Rugamba Airtel Money Director	
Rajesh Chawla Financial Controller	
Glory Minja Head of Internal Audit	

We the undersigned directors attest to the faithful representation of the above statements. We declare that the statement have been examined by us and, to the best of knowledge and belief, have been prepared in conformance with International Financial Standards and requirements of the National Payment System's Act, 2015 and they present true and fair view.

Name & Title	Signature	Date
Judge Joseph Sinde Warioba Director		31/01/2024
Dr. Evelyn Mweta Richard Director		31/01/2024




REQUEST FOR TENDER RISING MAIN PROJECT

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following goods:

Installation of Electrical and Instrumentation Equipment, Motor Control Centre (MCC), Transformers, Minisub, Cables, Ladders, and Racking for the Rising Main Project Tender Ref: NM011/2024

No	Reference no	Description of work	Pre-qualification Criteria
1	NM011/2024	<p>The Package is for the Installation of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MCC; Minisub, Transformers LV Cables & Terminations MV Cables & Terminations Lighting & Small Power Electrical Cable Ladders & Supports Instrumentation Instrumentation Cables & Terminations Instrument Racking & Support Steelwork Junction Boxes. Cable connections to Mechanical Equipment i.e. Agitators, DE gritters, 10 No Transfer and Sump Pumps. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Underground Electrical and Instrumentation Installation for a similar sized project in Tanzania. Provide project profiles over the last three years for assessment. Company Profile and capability statement. These should include photo of the fabrication and distribution workshop, confirmation of floor size and location. List of personnel and organogram. Quality Control Plans, Quality check sheets Tanzania Registration to provide CoCs. Local Content Regulations Compliance. HSE Policy CRB registered contractor class 3 and above Completion certificates of previous projects with reference list of Clients. Applicant to submit list and specifications of Equipment's, including test equipment.

Expression of interest
If your company meets the pre-qualification criteria and would like to be considered to receive the invitation to tender (ITT), an expression of interest (EOI) including your company profile and evidence of compliance with pre-qualification criteria may be submitted to nm.proposal@barrick.com.

Applicants must quote the tender description(s) and the respective reference no.(s) in the subject line of the email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit an EOI through this advertisement.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of NMGM. If you do not hear from us in 21 days after the deadline date, please consider your submission unsuccessful.

Key Dates

- Last Date to Submit EOI

05 April 2024

North Mara Gold Mine Limited



INSTANT.SECURE.BORDERLESS.

*Terms and conditions apply

Results of Senegal election: Who's President Bassirou Diomaye Faye?

By Sarah Shamim

SENEGAL'S main opposition candidate Bassirou Diomaye Faye won Sunday's presidential election.

The electoral body released official results showing that Faye won with more than 54 percent of the vote - which eliminates the need for a run-off.

His supporters have been celebrating on the streets of the capital, Dakar, amid hopes that the new administration might address persistent poverty and corruption.

The outgoing governing coalition's candidate, former Prime Minister Amadou Ba, on Monday conceded defeat to Faye hours after saying he was ready for a run-off vote. Incumbent President Macky Sall has also congratulated Faye on his victory.

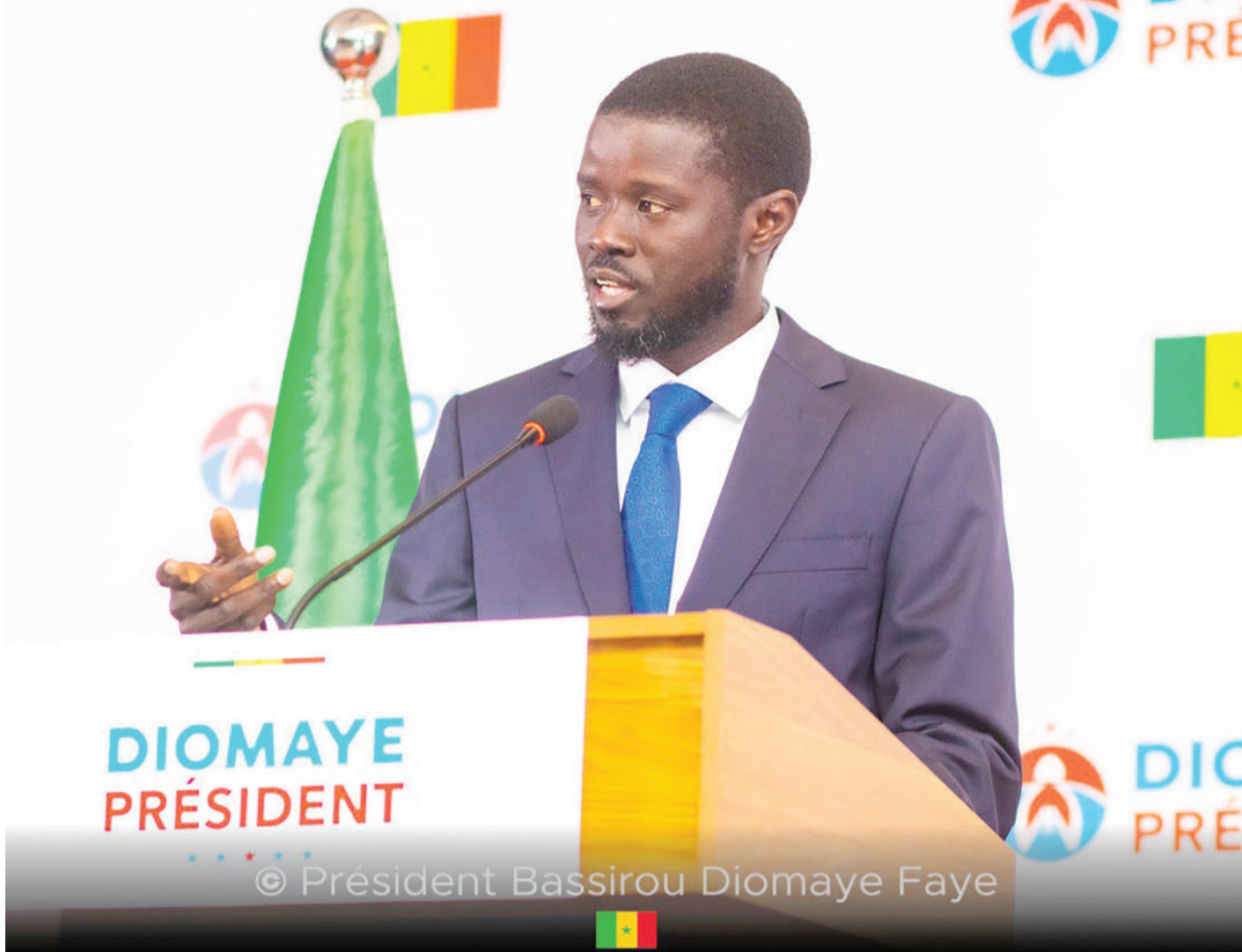
Here is more about Faye and what the results may mean for the future of Senegal's democracy.

Who is Bassirou Diomaye Faye?

Faye has been thrust into the centre of Senegalese politics more than a week after he was released from prison along with his fire-brand mentor Ousmane Sonko, who was disqualified from standing in the election because of a defamation conviction.

The 44-year-old leader contested the elections as an independent due to the dissolution of his Patriots of Senegal (PASTEF) party last July for causing unrest. The PASTEF party, which was founded by Sonko in 2014, endorsed Faye.

The left-wing populist has been organising protests against President Macky Sall accusing his government of corruption and failing to address chronic poverty. Sall's decision to extend the elections originally scheduled for February triggered the latest round of political crisis.



Senegal's newly elected President, Bassirou Diomaye Faye

The elections were held after the intervention of the Constitutional Court. Faye was born in 1980 in west-central Senegal's Ndiagianiao. He met Sonko

while working as a tax inspector in the government's taxes and estates department, where they were instrumental in the formation of a labour union.

Why was Faye in prison?

In April 2023, Faye was arrested on charges including spreading false news, contempt of court and defamation of a constituted body, for a social media post.

Sonko was arrested on multiple charges in July 2023 including provoking insurrection, conspiring with "terrorist" groups, endangering state security and immoral behaviour towards individuals younger than 21.

Faye, alongside Sonko, was released late on March 14, days before the vote, after an amnesty law was passed this month.

What are his policies?

Faye, a former tax inspector, has pledged to weed out corruption, restore stability and prioritise economic sovereignty, appealing to the urban youth frustrated by unemployment in the West African country where

60 percent of the population is aged under 25.

He wants to rid Senegal of the CFA franc inherited from the colonial era, which is pegged to the euro. He proposes introducing a new currency instead. The CFA franc, backed by the French treasury, is accepted in 14 member countries.

Additionally, he wishes to renegotiate mining and hydrocarbon contracts. The country is expected to start hydrocarbon production this year.

The biggest challenge for the new leader would be to address the more than 20 percent unemployment rate.

"It's an injustice that I can't find work. I was given a state diploma and the state can't find work for me," Yacoub Diouf from Senegal told Al Jazeera's Nicolas Haque.

Who were the other candidates in the fray?

Nineteen candidates were in the fray to replace outgoing President Sall, who has been in power since 2012. Sall's second term was marred by political unrest over the prosecution of Sonko.

The second-placed Amadou Ba was backed by Sall. Victory for Ba, 62, would have meant a continuation of the previous government's policy.

Other candidates included former Prime Minister Mahammed Boun Abdallah Dionne, who dubbed himself the "president of reconciliation", and the two-time mayor of Dakar, Khalifa Sall, who was running for the fourth time and has already congratulated Faye.

Women who contribute largely to the country's service sector are a significant voting demographic.

However, the only female candidate was entrepreneur and political newcomer Anta Babacar Ngom, who runs Senegal's largest poultry company. Ngom has already wished Faye success as the leader of Senegal in an X post.

In July 2023, Sall announced that he would not contest the election for a third term follow-

ing deep political unrest, iterating that Senegal's constitution would have allowed him to. Sonko had called for Sall to bow out of this election, accusing him of cracking down on the opposition to sideline competition. Sall provoked further controversy after he delayed the election that was originally set for February 25.

Term limits have been a hotly debated topic in Senegal for the past two decades. When former President Abdoulaye Wade came to power in 2000, the constitution did not have term limits. Wade amended it in 2001 to impose a two-term limit. However, to extend his own time in office, Wade successfully campaigned for a third term, earning the approval of Senegal's highest court.

At least seven of the 19 candidates in the race have issued statements congratulating Faye on his win.

About 71 percent of the 7.3 million registered voters showed up to the polls, according to state television RTS.

What could the results mean for the future of Senegal's democracy?

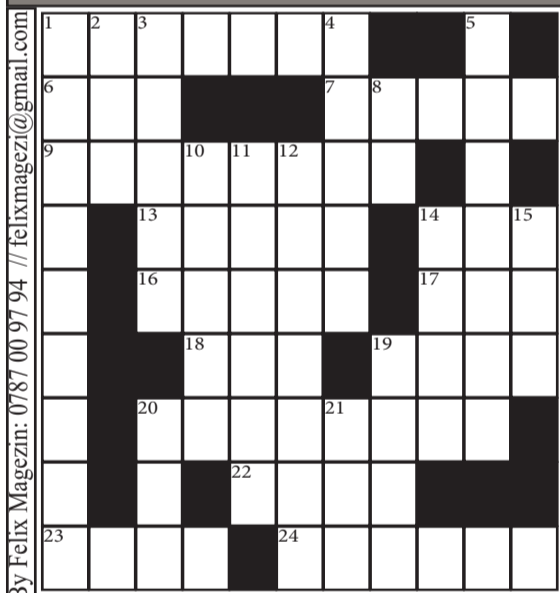
A victory for Faye is a good sign for democracy in Senegal, said Alioune Tine, founder of the think tank Afrikajom Center and Amnesty International's former regional director for West and Central Africa.

"Democracy was sick with political violence, with state violence, with death," Tine told Al Jazeera, referring to the political violence of the last few years. He added that Sonko being unable to contest elections further showed that democracy was sick.

"But he [Sonko] had the brilliant idea of nominating his number two to be a candidate," he said.

Tine added that a positive aspect of Senegal's democracy is that since independence, it has never allowed a military coup, unlike other West African countries where political crises have amounted to coups.

THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORDS AND WORD FIT - 86 -

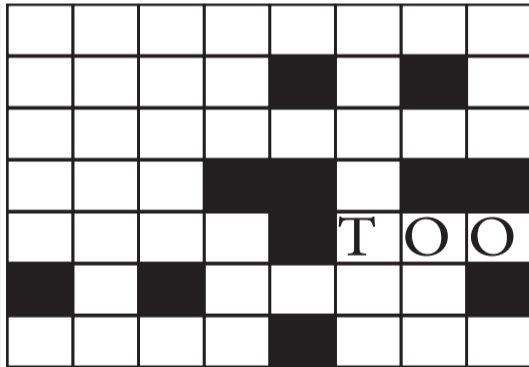


- 16. make slightly angry
- 17. Monetary unit of Denmark
- 18. saag
- 19. subject to debate or dispute
- 20. state of being legal
- 22. discharge
- 23. densely populated areas
- 24. a freeholder

DOWN:

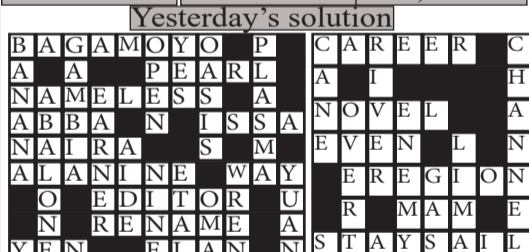
- 1. free from deceit
- 2. bravo
- 3. name of lake Malawi in Tanzania
- 4. the testing of a metal to determine its ingredients and quality
- 5. ruin emotionally
- 8. America
- 10. wash with clean water
- 11. be in charge of
- 12. anisogamy
- 16. by now or then
- 19. Rivers in Kiswahili
- 20. of less than average height
- 21. deceive

- ACROSS:**
- 1. Witchdoctor in South Africa
 - 6. a woody evergreen climbing plant
 - 7. excellent
 - 9. a narrowly avoided collision
 - 13. Politics in Kiswahili
 - 14. a pigsty



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.

- | | | |
|---------|------|----------|
| OPONENT | OMIT | LIVONIAN |
| NOEL | SAE | VIPER |
| OSSI | ECRU | OTO, OLE |
| LOOSE | TOO | IDEATE |
| IMPACTS | TEA | NUT, UNI |



RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 08.30 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 11.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 11.30 HRS DJ SHOW 12.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 12.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 12.10 AM HOUJA YA LEO 12.30 HRS DJ SHOW 13.00 HRS SPOTI LEO 13.30 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.30 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 14.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 14.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 14.30 HRS NEWS BRIEF 14.33 HRS AFRO TIZI 15.00 HRS MAMBO MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM 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'NEW METHOD FOR SUSTAINABLE TEXTILE-REINFORCED CONCRETE STRUCTURES UNVEILED'

By Guardian Reporter & Agencies

In a groundbreaking move aimed at transforming the construction industry, innovative researchers at Chalmers University of Technology in Sweden, have recently unveiled a pioneering method for creating environmentally sustainable textile-reinforced concrete structures.

As global cement production exceeds 4.5 billion tonnes annually, accounting for 8 percent of worldwide CO emissions, the urgency for eco-friendly building practices has never been clearer.

Catharina Björk and Mia Halleröd Palmgren emphasize in their published article on innovation that by replacing steel reinforcements with textiles in concrete, less material can be utilized to construct sleek, lightweight structures, resulting in a markedly reduced environmental footprint.

While they recognize the availability of technology to utilize carbon fibre textiles, Catharina Björk & Mia Halleröd Palmgren acknowledge the challenges, such as establishing a reliable calculation base

for intricate and vaulted structures.

Hence, researchers from the university are introducing a method that simplifies scaling up analyses, thereby streamlining the construction of eco-friendly bridges, tunnels, and buildings.

The article quotes Karin Lundgren, a professor in concrete structures at the Department of Architecture and Civil Engineering at Chalmers, who emphasizes that a significant amount of the concrete currently used serves the purpose of protecting steel reinforcement from corrosion.

"By switching to textile reinforcement, we can decrease cement usage, use less concrete, and ultimately lower the environmental impact," said Lundgren in the article.

According to Catharina and Mia, cement serves as a binder in concrete and its production from limestone significantly contributes to climate change. One of the key issues is the substantial release of carbon dioxide, stored within the limestone, during the production process.

Furthermore, the pair elaborated that the global ce-



Sebastian Almfeldt (L) and Karin Lundgren, showcase a carbon fiber-reinforced concrete slab. Photo: Mia Halleröd Palmgren/Chalmers

ment industry is responsible for approximately 8 percent of worldwide carbon dioxide emissions. This has prompted significant efforts to explore alternative methods and materials for constructing concrete structures.

Therefore, by utilizing alternative binders like clay or volcanic ash instead of cement, it is possible to reduce carbon dioxide emissions and achieve

a thinner construction, thereby lowering the carbon footprint. However, the long-term effectiveness of these new binders in protecting steel reinforcement remains uncertain at this time.

"You can address the corrosion protection issue by opting for carbon fibers as reinforcement material instead of steel, as they do not require the same level of protection. Ad-

ditionally, significant benefits can be achieved by optimizing thin shell structures with a reduced climate impact," explains Karin Lundgren.

According to the duo publishers, in a recently study, Lundgren and her colleagues introduce a novel modelling technique that has been proven to be reliable in describing how textile reinforcement interacts with concrete.

Lundgren explains that our method simplifies the calculation process for complex structures and reduces the necessity for load-bearing capacity tests.

One key area where textile reinforcement technology has the potential to significantly reduce environmental impact is in the construction of arched floors. As a building's floor structures account for a substantial portion of its climate impact during production, integrating textile reinforcement offers a sustainable construction solution.

A prior research study conducted by the University of Cambridge revealed that utilizing textile reinforcement can slash carbon dioxide emissions by up to 65 percent when compared to traditional solid floors.

A textile reinforcement mesh comprises yarns, each composed of thousands of thin filaments, or long continuous fibers.

When integrated into concrete, the reinforcement mesh allows for filaments to slide against both the concrete and each other when under load. This nuanced behavior of the

textile yarn within the concrete material is crucial for understanding its load-bearing capacity.

The modelling technique developed by the researchers at Chalmers University accurately captures these effects.

"One way to conceptualize this is by viewing the yarn as having an inner and outer core, each influenced differently under concrete loading. Our method employs testing and calculations that account for this interaction," explains Lundgren.

Adding: "Through experiments, we've demonstrated the reliability of our approach, even for complex structures."

The collaborative work with her colleagues is now focused on refining optimization methods for larger structures.

"As the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) forecasts a doubling of global floor area in the next 40 years due to rising prosperity and population growth, it is imperative for us to optimize resource efficiency in construction to address the climate challenge," emphasizes Lundgren.

Powering progress: The forces fuelling renewable energy adoption in Africa

By Ruwaida Manji

In recent years, Africa's renewable energy landscape has been rapidly evolving. Many African countries are turning to renewable energy to meet rising energy demand, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and improve energy security.

Several factors are influencing this evolution. The first is Africa's abundance of renewable energy resources such as solar, wind, and hydropower. As a result, the deployment of these technologies has increased, particularly in off-grid and rural areas.

Another factor is that the cost of renewable energy technologies is decreasing. This has increased the accessibility and affordability of renewable energy, making it a more viable option for widespread deployment.

Furthermore, governments and international organizations have played an important role in driving renewable energy growth in Africa. Many governments have implemented policies and incentives to encourage renewable energy investment, while international organizations have provided financial and technical assistance to assist in the development

of renewable energy projects.

However, there are several issues that must be addressed. Financing is one of the most difficult issues confronting Africa's renewable energy industry. Many renewable energy projects necessitate substantial upfront investments, and financing can be difficult to obtain. This is especially true for smaller projects and those in rural areas that are not grid-connected.

Another significant issue is a scarcity of infrastructure to support renewable energy projects. This includes both physical infrastructure, such as transmission lines and energy storage systems, and institutional infrastructure, such as renewable energy policies and regulations.

Renewable energy policies and regulations are still lacking in many African countries. This can create barriers for project developers and investors, slowing the industry's growth.

The renewable energy industry necessitates highly specialized technical knowledge, which can be difficult to come by in some African countries. This can make designing, building, and maintaining renewable energy projects difficult.

Despite these obstacles, some

recent renewable energy deals and projects have been completed in Tanzania and Zanzibar. In Tanzania, for example, the Kikagati hydropower project is a collaboration between Tanzania and Uganda. It entails the construction of a 14 MW hydroelectric power plant on the Tanzanian side of the border, with the majority of the work taking place there.

The Dodoma solar power project is a 300 MW solar power project under construction in Dodoma, Tanzania. The Tanzanian government and several international partners are working on the project, which is expected to significantly increase the country's renewable energy capacity.

Tanzania is also involved in the Scaling Solar program, a World Bank initiative to assist countries in developing large-scale solar projects. The program helps throughout the project cycle, from procurement to financing and construction.

The Zanzibar Renewable Energy Project aims to provide renewable energy and improve access to electricity in Zanzibar's rural areas. The Rural Energy Agency (REA) is implementing the project, which includes the installation of solar PV systems and mini grids in sev-

eral villages.

Tanzania and Zanzibar have made significant strides in increasing renewable energy capacity and improving rural access to electricity. The country has set a goal of generating 50 percent of its electricity from renewable sources by 2025, and these recent projects and deals are helping to get it there.

Because of their political structures, Tanzania and Zanzibar have distinct regulatory landscapes. Tanzania is a unified Republic, but Zanzibar is a semi-autonomous archipelago. Tanzania and Zanzibar have their own energy regulators. Tanzania has an Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) that regulates the energy and water sectors. On the other hand, Zanzibar has the Zanzibar Utilities Regulatory Authority (ZURA).

Tanzania's and Zanzibar's energy policies differ. The Ministry of Energy and Minerals develops and implements Tanzania's energy policy, while the Ministry of Water, Energy, and Minerals develops and implements Zanzibar's policy. Tanzania's goal is to generate 50 percent of its electricity from renewable sources by 2025. Zanzibar has set a similar goal of producing half of its electricity from renewable sources by 2030.

Tanzania's energy generation mix is more diverse, with renewable energy sources such as hydro, solar, and wind power, as well as fossil fuel-based power plants. Zanzibar, on the other hand, relies heavily on diesel generators to generate electricity.

Ruwaida Manji, an Associate Corporate at Rive & Co, a law firm born from partnership between ABC Attorneys and Stallion Attorneys. While the firm provides top-notch legal solutions, kindly note that this article is intended for informational purposes only and should not be considered as legal advice.



Discover the soaring heights of innovation! RITA Tower standing tall as the majestic 12th tallest building in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, soaring to an impressive 114.8 meters with 30 floors of architectural magnificence.

Nestled on plot no. 277/11 along the vibrant Makunganya/Simu street, in the heart of Dar es Salaam, this iconic tower proudly houses the headquarters of the Registration, Insolvency, and Trusteeship Agency (RITA), symbolizing not just stature, but the epitome of organizational excellence.

File Photo

Cement plant shuts for KSh400m fixing

Nairobi

EAST African Portland Cement (EAPCC) has embarked on a 25-day maintenance shutdown aimed at revitalising the firm established in 1933.

In a notice, the managing director Oliver Kirubai said the KSh400 million revamp would boost the cement maker's capacity, efficiency, and reputation.

"We are doing the second phase of our machines upgrade, which is targeting to increase our output. Our target is that by June 2026 we should be able to produce one million tonnes of cement," Kirubai said.

The cement maker currently produces 310,000 tonnes of cement annually.

The firm said the key objectives of the shutdown expected to end on April 5 include capacity enhancement, which will be done through the replacement of bag filters, refractory bricks, and refurbishment of the grate cooler system.

EAPCC also expects to achieve operational efficiency by achieving an

enhanced thermo efficiency and improving the Mean Time Between Failure (MTBF) of its Kiln to 250 hours.

This will result in streamlined operations, reduced downtime, and optimised energy consumption.

Kirubai said that the firm has a robust business continuity plan in place, including the availability of clinker buffer stocks to sustain cement-milling operations during the shutdown period.

He expressed gratitude to all stakeholders for their unwavering support, emphasising that measures are in place to ensure the efficient completion of the process within the shortest time possible.

Last year, the government said it had found a buyer willing to buy a 30 per cent stake for KSh15 billion.

Industry principal secretary Juma Mukhwana told the National Assembly that the deal was only awaiting President William Ruto's approval.

Last year, the firm's revenues rose to KSh2.9 billion from KSh2.1 billion a year earlier.

Agencies



Bankers, TAREA representatives, and energy experts gather at the Kidunda Farm solar project in Iringa. File Photo

CHALLENGES IN TACKLING CYBERSECURITY FOR ORGANIZATIONS

WHEN we discuss cyber security, we are referring to the protection offered by online services against attacks on our computers, networks, applications, and online data. Computer networks and ICT solutions play a major role in our economy, society, and critical infrastructure. ICT advancements have made it necessary for the majority of organizations to implement them in order to boost innovation, efficiency and improve flexibility in the provision of services.

The use of ICT innovation in organisations require the most effective security implementation strategies; else, organizations run at a risk of reputation, trust of their clients and economic loss.

Most organisations just implement security in order to satisfy auditors or authorities who oversee cyber security; they do not implement security in order to assist their organisations in achieving their security objectives. Most organizations can provide the required cyber security documents to satisfy auditors or for compliance purpose, but the information in the documents doesn't address the challenges they confront in terms of cyber security, and even if you follow the documents, it will be challenging to put them into practice.

While some organisation rely on cyber security defending technology such firewall and anti-spam software to protect their digital assets from cyberattacks. However, addressing cyber security issues within an organization cannot be

By Ibrahim Sultan

Cyber Security Consultant.



ensured by technology alone.

Having usernames and passwords is not enough to ensure cyber security in an organisation. To maintain an organisation's security, it is crucial that each member of the organisation to understand their role in the process because the entire organization needs to emphasize the cyber security from the top down level.

The process of implementing cyber security in an organization is continuous and require procedures as a results cyber security risk in the organisation is underestimated since several complicated aspects that arise in an organization can lead to threats and vulnerabilities that are not just procedural or technical in nature.

Cyber security has become a crucial aspect of our everyday lives, even be-

yond safe organisations, as the majority of our actions involve the movement of information from one place to another. As a result, cyberattacks have become more attractive and potentially dangerous.

Cyber attacks are more convenient, less risky, and less expensive than physical attacks; nonetheless, they require just few expenses more than just a computer and the internet.

One of the main challenges in an organisation facing cyber security practitioners and senior managers who make judgments about cyber security management is technological complexity.

Understanding the nature of cyber threats is extremely difficult without a solid understanding of technology because new technologies often bring with them new vulnerabilities and threats.

Establishing a secure system in organization is often a challenging task because a solution designed to address current cyber security concerns may not be applicable to tomorrow's threats due to the fact that threats in ICT keep changing all the time as technology advances.

Do your employees possess the necessary skills to address the threats of today? Human mistake accounts for about 90 percent of all cyberattacks in organizations. Errors of many kinds can leave your ICT system vulnerable to external attacks.

Some employees made poor password choices; they share, save, or utilize the same password across all of their accounts on the browser, as a result of one account being hacked, hackers are able to access all accounts.

Some employees click link or download files from untrusted source that affected by malware due to that organization data made publicly available to unauthorized individuals.

The organization's management team must take a more active role in cyber security, which requires them to understand the basic and best practices of the field. This is due to the fact that certain cyber security difficulties, like software upgrades, antivirus renewals, and system certificates resulting from insufficient security training of employees handling the procurement process because they lack awareness of its significance.

What steps can an organisation take to

strengthen its cyber security?

I want to be clear that we cannot promise that all information assets within the organisation will be protected 100 percent, but at least to a level that may be considered acceptable.

The organisation must have effective cyber security policy that works for the environment in which it operates. Organisations vary in their operational context, security culture, and level of risk. Even the ways in which security is implemented varied across them. This policy is the foundation of security infrastructure.

The policy will outline the organisation's security implementation strategy. The policy must be formulated in accordance with the issues that organisations encounter, as determined by risk assessments.

A successful security program implementation for an organisation necessitates training all employees using ICT infrastructure in security policy, procedures, and technical control and evaluate them. Additionally, training should cover how to spot and recognize suspicious activity, which will aid the organisation in fighting cybercrime.

Ibrahim Sultan is a cyber-security consultant. This is his personal views. He can be reached through email address: [HYPERLINK "mailto:sultibra@gmail.com"](mailto:sultibra@gmail.com)



The executive team of KCB Bank Tanzania, led by Board Chairman Ambassador John Ulanga (3rd R), gathers for a group photo at a recent customer Iftar event in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

Rents across the US rises for first time in 6 months

Arizona

RENT prices for one- and two-bedroom apartments grew in March for the first time in six months.

The monthly cost for a one-bedroom apartment across the US bumped up to \$1,487, a 0.3 percent increase from February. The price of a typical two-bedroom apartment also jumped 0.5 percent to \$1,847, according to a new report by Zumper, a real estate data site.

"It's kind of expected," said Crystal Chen, a spokeswoman for Zumper. "When we get to the warmer months, that's when demand picks up."

While prices are up overall, some metro areas saw declines. For example, the rent price for a one-bedroom apartment in Baltimore, Maryland is \$1,390, down 0.7 percent from a year ago, per Zumper.

Arizona is unique, with rent decreases in all the major metro areas assessed. On a statewide level, the median price for one-bedroom apartments declined to \$1,311 in March, about a 4 percent decline from \$1,365 a year ago, according to Zumper data.

The broader rental market's slight increase in prices may reflect old seasonal patterns, experts say.

"During the colder months of the year ... the rental market tends to be cool," said Jacob Channel, a senior economist at LendingTree. "As we get closer and closer to summer, we start to see rent prices increase in more places."

Yet, some fundamental factors like supply and demand may also be reflected, said Susan M. Wachter, a professor of real estate and finance at The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Why Arizona prices are coming down

Some markets in the country are cooling more than others. Prices in the Sun Belt and Intermountain West are seeing prices come down, and Arizona is a prime example, Chen said.

"All of the Arizona cities on our report either had flat or declining year-over-year rates," she said.

The city of Glendale, for example, had the largest rent decline with one-bedroom prices down over 10 percent from this time last year.

Arizona has a lot of supply coming online, keeping rent prices down in the area, Wachter explained. **CNBC**

Miner gets 100bn/- for implementing graphite project

By Guardian Reporter

The Australia based Black Rock Mining has confirmed that has secured two credit facilities totaling 100bn/- (\$40 million) from CRDB Bank Plc for the construction of Mahenge graphite mine located in Ulanga district in Morogoro region.

The CRDB Bank's credit financing is part of \$153 million required debt financing by the company holding the majority stake of the project, through its wholly owned UK subsidiary Mahenge Resources Limited with 84 percent, to facilitate the construction works of the mine.

According to a feasibility study released in 2022, the company reported that a total of \$222 million needed initially to develop the mine.

The Mahenge graphite mine is currently managed through Faru Graphite Corporation, a joint venture of which the government of Tanzania owns undiluted free-carried interest shareholding of 16 percent, through the agreed deal in December 2021 to consolidate its mining licenses into a Special Mining License (SML), which was issued in September 2022.

Besides the loans secured from CRDB, in November last year, the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) Black Rock approved a loan of up to



\$59.6 million loan for Mahenge project.

However, the approval was subject to legal documentation being concluded and executed in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in the approval.

The company expected the lender Board approvals from several potential lenders to be notified to the Company during Q4 2023.

In addition, Black Rock also expected \$40 million from South Korean group POSC, which it will get in exchange for shares.

However, the company has explained that the conclusion of these various financing arrangements remains subject to

final documentation.

"Several significant milestones aimed at minimizing risks await us, and this placement should provide the company with sufficient cash reserves to finalize loan and contract documentation before the FID, as well as to work towards completing a transaction as part of the partnership process where we aim to sell a stake in the project," commented Black Rock CEO John De Vries.

In September last year, Black Rock Mining also signed a memorandum of understanding agreement with its strategic partner Posco International in Dar es Salaam, pertaining to graphite supply from Module 2

of the Mahenge project.

Under the non-binding agreement, POSCO will purchase fine graphite from the planned production of the Mahenge Module 2 project.

In exchange, POSCO promised to make an additional investment of up to \$40m in Black Rock Mining or a stake of 19.99 percent.

In a press statement after the signing, Black Rock said: "The agreement builds on the strategic partnership between Black Rock and POSCO, which is working towards developing the Mahenge graphite project to provide a significant new source of natural graphite into a highly dependent global market driven by clean energy demand."

"POSCO's confirmed interest in Mahenge Module 2 also represents a major de-risking milestone for the company, providing increased confidence for all of our stakeholders, as well as improved visibility on funding and our pathway to production," noted Black Rock CEO John De Vries.

The Mahenge mine, which is scheduled to begin production in 2026, is expected to deliver up to 340,000 tonnes of graphite concentrate annually over 24 years and will help better position Tanzania and Africa, in the global graphite market.

Benchmark Mineral Intelligence forecasts that the Africa will take over China as the world's top graphite supplier by 2026. Most of the continent's output by 2026 would come from Mozambique, Madagascar and Tanzania.

Data show that three countries host more than 44 metric tons of the combined reserve base, with Mozambique hosting the world's largest graphite deposit at the Balama project in the Cabo Delgado province.

According to the same source, 11.4 percent of global graphite production is expected to come from Tanzania by 2030, against 0.6 percent in 2022.

The total worldwide production of graphite was an estimated 1.6 million metric tons in 2023, led by China, which produced an estimated 1.23 million metric tons.

Not only is China the world's leading producer of graphite, but also the country with the largest graphite reserves across the globe, at an estimated 78 million metric tons.

It is closely followed by Brazil, which held an additional 74 million metric tons worth of graphite reserves.

Total global reserves of graphite were estimated to be 323.8 million tonnes, with Tanzania accounting for about 5 percent of them.

CONSTRUCTION

KEY BRIDGE 'COULDN'T HAVE BEEN EXPECTED TO WITHSTAND IMPACT'

New York

THE federal government intends to pay for the bridge near Baltimore to be rebuilt, President Biden pledged Tuesday.

As the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge attracted global attention to Baltimore Tuesday, first responders continued a rescue and recovery effort and the president pledged support to rebuild the structure.

First responders spent much of Tuesday searching for six construction crew members who were carrying out normal maintenance roadwork on the bridge when it immediately crumbled into the Patapsco River after a cargo ship collided with one of its supports.

"The crew that was out there working was basically repairing potholes," said Maryland Transportation Secretary Paul Wiedefeld during a news conference Tuesday. He noted there were not any known structural issues that contributed to the collapse. Maryland Gov. Wes Moore said the Key Bridge was up to code.

Crews rescued two people Tuesday morning, one uninjured and one in serious condition, according to reports. But the six workers who were on the bridge during the collapse remained unaccounted for Tuesday afternoon.

The missing workers were reportedly part of a night work crew employed by Brawner Builders, according to the Baltimore Banner. The Hunt Valley, Maryland-based general contrac-



A cargo ship 'Dali,' crashed into the Francis Scott key bridge in US on March 26, 2024. Photo: Tasos Katopodis / Stringer/Getty Images

tor did not immediately respond to Construction Dive's request for comment.

The bridge, which carried I-695 through the region, is a vital artery for the greater Baltimore area and the channel serves as a critical pathway to the busy Port of Baltimore.

Collapse background
The Singaporean-flagged cargo ship Dali appeared to lose power twice as it traveled down the channel early Tuesday morning, according to news reports, and the ship's speed dropped to 8 knots, or about 9 mph, Moore said during the news conference.

Slow velocities can limit the ability of large vessels to steer effectively, but still be fast enough to cause vast damage in the case of a collision. A ship's course can

also be more heavily influenced by tides and currents when traveling at slow speeds.

In news photos from the scene, the ship's anchor on its port – or left – side, also appeared to be deployed, an action mariners can take in an emergency to stop a vessel's movement. The ship struck the bridge at around 1:30 a.m., causing the span that workers were performing maintenance on to collapse into the 47 degree Fahrenheit water of the river below.

The Key Bridge was a three-span, continuous steel truss bridge, so the piers used to support the bridge all shared the load, according to Rachel Sangree, associate teaching professor at Johns Hopkins University's Department of Civil and Systems

Engineering.

"Certainly it was a huge vessel in comparison to the pier itself, so it couldn't have been expected to withstand that impact," Sangree told Construction Dive in an interview. "For one of those support piers to be removed, it's not surprising the bridge collapsed the way it did."

Sangree also pointed to the Sunshine Skyway bridge collapse in Florida in 1980. The Tampa Bay span broke in a similar way when struck by a freighter in a disaster that claimed 35 lives.

As a result of that catastrophe, specifications on bridges over channels were made to protect the piers and implement a warning system to alert drivers and stop them from crossing, Sangree said. The Key Bridge was built in

1977, before those requirements were in place.

Still, the Dali's crew issued a mayday call about power issues and their loss of control before the crash occurred, which allowed local authorities to stop vehicles before they crossed the bridge Tuesday.

"Those people are heroes," Moore said on Tuesday. "They saved lives last night."

Rebuilding the bridge

Maryland Sen. Chris Van Hollen said at Moore's press conference that the National Transportation Safety Board will conduct an investigation of the collapse, and that U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg would be releasing funds for the repair and recovery effort soon.

In a press conference Tuesday, President Joe Biden offered sympathies, commended first responders and underlined the importance of both the Port of Baltimore and the Key Bridge as vital for transit and the U.S. supply chain. He pledged the federal government's support to finance the rebuilding.

"It's my intention that the federal government will pay for the entire cost of reconstructing that bridge, and I expect Congress to support my effort," Biden said.

Asked if the shipping company, if found at fault, should pay for the replacement, Biden said "That could be, but we're not going to wait for that to happen."

Moore indicated that there is not yet a timeline for replacing the Key Bridge.

"No one knows how long it's going to take to [re]build that

bridge," he said. Nonetheless, Moore promised the span would be rebuilt, but current efforts were focused on immediate recovery.

Impact still unclear

As a result of the collapse, vessel traffic in and out of the Port of Baltimore is suspended until further notice.

Baltimore has ranked as the busiest port in the country for shipping of autos and light trucks for the last 13 years. In 2023, the port handled a record 847,158 cars and light trucks. The city is valuable to the auto industry due to its far inland position up the Chesapeake Bay and rail connections to Midwest automakers.

Meanwhile, 35,000 cars crossed the Key Bridge everyday and Moore acknowledged the impact to Marylanders' daily commutes.

Biden said in his Tuesday press conference that clearing the channel for the port to reopen and shipping to continue is the top priority.

Sangree said she hoped the Key Bridge underscored the immense value of U.S. infrastructure and its ripple effect when damaged.

"Let's not wait for the next tragedy to happen to think about the importance of infrastructure," Sangree said. "Let's think about it all the time and how a bridge collapse in Baltimore will impact people everywhere."

This story has been updated with information about pier protections and the Key Bridge's construction timeline.

Julie Strupp and Joe Bousquin contributed to this report

Fire remains an ever-present problem in construction

By John Heinen

IT is high time now for all stakeholders involved in the fire safety and construction process to collaborate, educate and train on best practices and possibilities afforded by wireless safety technology.

In my two decades as a certified fire investigator, I have seen first hand how fire can cause devastation to livelihoods and site assets, costing millions of dollars in damage and causing significant hits to project timelines and brand reputations.

I also understand the full life cycle of a fire emergency, from code and standard development to education, inspection, enforcement, emergency response, investigation and failure analysis.

For the past six years, I have been involved in private fire investigations, starting my own company that specializes in not only fire forensics (origin and cause investigations), but also fire code consulting, compliance monitoring, safety and insurance loss prevention surveys, and teaching/instruction. My experience has taught me that in today's modern environment, there is no standard method of detecting a fire emergency on construction sites. Many sites are in fact under prepared when it comes to fire prevention, fire alarm initiation or detection devices and procedures, as well as alerting fire departments to help save lives and site assets.

Contractors are under a great deal of pressure to deliver on time and under budget and as a result, corners are cut, and it is hard to overcome the standard thought process of "it won't happen to me." As a result, I believe we are at major crossroads in our fire prevention efforts, with new collaborative and digital-led solutions needed. In my view, this involves a three-prong approach; enforcement, education and partnership.



Fires escalate if not controlled promptly, and organizing evacuations is a challenge for many contractors. Photo: Andrew Shots

An ever-present danger

In May last year, two construction workers died in a five-alarm fire on a construction site in Charlotte, N.C. The incident only reinforced the view that fire is still a very real and present problem for the construction industry, even in today's modern age. Official National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) figures state that from 2017 to 2021, local fire departments in North America responded to an estimated average of 4,440 fires in structures under construction per year.

Fire can escalate quickly if not mitigated promptly, and it is my view that plans and preparation for an organized evacuation of a site is still real problem for most contractors. There is an underlying feeling that construction workers are used to working around an unstable and dynamic environment, which has a higher level of danger associated than the average office job.

As a result, the individuals involved in construction are more prone to go and investigate the source of the initial problem and then attempt to mitigate it themselves using portable fire extinguishers or alternative methods. This only adds to delays, as it takes

time for individuals to notice smoke or other early signs of a fire emergency, and determine it as a problem and not simply hot works, or a piece of heavy equipment starting up for example.

A collaborative approach

To overcome this, we must first put our faith in education and training. This applies not only to contractors, but also code inspectors, standards departments and fire departments or fire marshal offices. Each party must be educated in the latest regulations, codes, standards, and best practices to implement an efficient fire prevention management plan. From a collaborative point of view, each group brings different resources and an ability to help solve this problem.

One of the major parts of this is codes and standards. For more than 125 years, the NFPA has been at the forefront of this with its 241 standard; for safeguarding construction, alteration, and demolition operations. This gives the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) the ability to produce a compliant documented fire safety plan for a construction project.

While the process is robust, it does have its shortcomings. Even the most recent developed codes and standards are years behind the actual date on which they were published. This has a knock-on effect, with local ju-

risdictions being even further behind their code cycle.

For example, the most recent NFPA 241 edition is 2022, but that is based upon work that was started several years prior. Many jurisdictions might be one or two cycles behind, but if an AHJ is two cycles behind on what they are utilizing, that means a constructed building might be drawn up and approved with a code that precedes it by several years, which can lead to significant gaps in modern fire safety knowledge.

Furthermore, there is no modern mandate for construction sites to implement wireless-led technologies to safeguard sites in construction - something I believe is imperative if North America is to truly embrace all the possibilities that come with modern safety efforts.

Shifting safety priorities

A full wired system on site during the construction phase is not a possibility; their temporary nature means they have limited power access and supply. In North America and in many countries around the world, we are short sighted when it comes to this phase of projects.

However, wireless systems are primed to be able to address the current problem. Many of these technologies are portable, and come with long battery lifespans. As temporary systems, they can also be reused and redeployed from one site to the next, which is particularly advantageous for contractors with multiple projects in one area or large sites.

As an industry, it has become normalised that constructed buildings have designated building methods and materials, a required number of protected exits, a fully monitored fire alarm system, sprinkler system, and other safety measures, all prior to receiving the certificate of occupancy. However, the very same building during the construction phase has far fewer requirements and in actual practice has minimal controls in place.

DOE injects \$1.6bn into cement sector for green transformation

By David Perilli

THE US department of energy (DOE) announced a US\$1.6bn investment in the cement sector this week. The funding was part of a total of US\$6bn for 33 projects in over 20 states to decarbonise energy-intensive industries also including chemicals and refining, iron and steel, aluminium and metals, food and beverages, glass, process heat applications and pulp and paper.

The DOE was keen to link the money to "the President's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act." Politics is never far away it seems! The projects are part of the Industrial Demonstrations Program, managed by DOE's Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations (OCED).

In a complimentary press release Chris Ward, the CEO of Heidelberg Materials North America, said "This substantial federal funding investment will help create the first full-scale deployment of carbon capture and storage on a cement plant in the US."

The proposed CCS unit at the plant will capture around 2Mt/yr of CO₂ from 2030. If Ward's forecast is accurate (and no one beats them to it), then Heidelberg Materials will likely have set up the first full-scale CCS units at cement plants in both North America and Europe.

This will be a significant achievement. The National Cement project, by contrast, is a mixed bag of approaches to decarbonising cement production that follows the multi-lever approach advocated for in many of the industry net-zero roadmaps. It intends to use agricultural by-products such as pistachio shells, as alternatives fuels to lower the fuel-based emissions, calcined clay to lower the clinker factor and CCS to capture the remaining 950,000t/yr of CO₂ emissions.

The other projects either involve using calcined clay or substituting limestone with calcium silicate. The Summit Materials proposal is noteworthy because it aims to build four clay calcination units in locations in Maryland, Georgia and Texas. None of these appear to be near Summit's (or Cementos Argos') cement plants.

This suggests that the company may be intending to use calcined clay in ready-mixed concrete production. The Roanoke Cement Company calcined clay project will be baseEuropead at its cement plant in Troutville, Virginia.

David Perilli is a producer global cement, a website dedicated to covering the global cement industry.

WORLD

Ireland to intervene in S. Africa genocide case against Israel

DUBLIN

IRELAND said on Wednesday it would intervene in South Africa's genocide case against Israel, in the strongest signal to date of Dublin's concern about Israeli operations in Gaza since Oct 7.

Announcing the move, Foreign Minister Micheal Martin said that while it was for the World Court to decide whether genocide is being committed, he wanted to be clear that Hamas' Oct 7 attack and what is happening in Gaza now "represents the blatant violation of international humanitarian law on a mass scale".

"The taking of hostages. The purposeful withholding of humanitarian assistance to civilians. The targeting of civilians and of civilian infrastructure. The indiscriminate use of explosive weapons in populated ar-

reas. The use of civilian objects for military purposes. The collective punishment of an entire population." Martin said in a statement. "The list goes on. It has to stop. The view of the international community is clear. Enough is enough."

In January the International Court of Justice (ICJ), also known as the World Court, ordered Israel to refrain from any acts that could fall under the Genocide Convention and to ensure its troops commit no genocidal acts against Palestinians, after South Africa accused Israel of state-led genocide in Gaza.

Israel and its Western allies described the allegation as baseless. A final ruling in South Africa's ICJ case in The Hague could take years.

Martin did not say what form the inter-



Irish Defense and Foreign Affairs Minister Micheal Martin (left) meets with then-Palestinian prime minister Mohammad Shtayyeh in the West Bank city of Ramallah on Nov 16, 2023. AP

vention would take or outline any argument Ireland plans to advance, but added that the step was decided following legal and policy analysis and consultation with several partners including South Africa.

Martin's department said such third-party interventions do not take a specific side in the dispute, but that the intervention would be an opportunity for Ireland to put forward its interpretation of one or more of the provisions of the Genocide Convention at issue in the case. The Hamas-led attack killed 1,200 people and resulted in more than 250 being taken

hostage, according to Israeli tallies. Since then, Israel's assault on Gaza has killed more than 32,000 people, according to Hamas-run health authorities in Gaza.

Long a champion of Palestinian rights, Ireland last week joined Spain, Malta and Slovenia in taking the first steps toward recognizing statehood declared by the Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and in the Gaza Strip.

Israel told the countries that their plan constituted a "prize for terrorism" that would reduce the chances of a negotiated resolution to the conflict between the neighbors. **Agencies**

HKSAR govt condemns BBC report on security ordinance

HONG KONG

THE Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government on Wednesday strongly disapproved of the British Broadcasting Corporation's misleading report about remission of sentence under the new Safeguarding National Security Ordinance and the fact-twisting remarks made by anti-China organizations and wanted persons having absconded overseas.

It is necessary for the HKSAR government to make a clarification to set the record straight, a spokesperson for the HKSAR government said.

The spokesperson emphasized that no matter whether before or after the ordinance comes into effect, the granting of early release is never a necessary right to prisoners.

It is the duty of the Commissioner of Correctional Services to strictly enforce any prison sentence imposed by the court on each prisoner. Any discretion to grant early release of prisoners must be exercised in accordance with the law.

The spokesperson said that there have been cases in which prisoners convicted of offenses endangering national security absconded or continued to carry out acts and activities endangering national security when they were granted early release under supervision.

In order to safeguard national security and protect the public, it is necessary to impose more stringent restrictions on the granting of early release to prisoners involved in offenses endangering national security. This arrangement will not change the sentences imposed by the court on persons who have committed offenses endangering national security. As such, it is not a question of whether this will in effect increase the sentences, the spokesperson said.

"The enforcement of sentences has always been under the purview of the executive authorities. The Commissioner of Correctional Services will enforce the relevant provisions and exercise discretion in strict accordance with the power vested by the law after taking into account the actual circumstances and all related factors of each case, including representations by the persons in custody, in order to ensure all cases are fairly dealt with," the spokesperson said.

The spokesperson said that the BBC cited accusations by anti-China organizations while turning a blind eye to the United Kingdom's Terrorist Offenders (Restriction of Early Release) Act 2020 which tightens the threshold for eligibility for the parole of offenders convicted of terrorist offenses, demonstrating complete double standards.

The HKSAR government strongly condemns their act, the spokesperson said. **Xinhua**

US requiring new AI safeguards for government use, transparency

THE White House said yesterday it is requiring federal agencies using artificial intelligence to adopt "concrete safeguards" by Dec 1 to protect Americans' rights and ensure safety as the government expands AI use in a wide range of applications.

The Office of Management and Budget issued a directive to federal agencies to monitor, assess and test AI's impacts "on the public, mitigate the risks of algorithmic discrimination, and provide the public with transparency into how the government uses AI". Agencies must also conduct risk assessments and set operational and governance metrics.

The White House said agencies "will be required to implement concrete safeguards when using AI in a way that could impact Americans' rights or safety" including detailed public disclosures so the public knows how and when artificial intelligence is being used by the government.

President Joe Biden signed an executive order in October invoking the Defense Production Act to require developers of AI systems posing risks to US national security, the economy, public health or safety to share the results of safety tests with the US government before publicly released.

The White House on Thursday said new safeguards will ensure air travelers can opt out from Transportation Security Administration facial recognition use without delay in screening. When AI is used in federal healthcare to support diagnostics decisions a human must oversee "the process to verify the tools' results".

Generative AI - which can create text, photos and videos in response to open-ended prompts - has spurred excitement as well as fears it could lead to job losses, upend elections and potentially overpower humans and catastrophic effects. The White House is requiring government agencies to release inventories of AI use cases, report metrics about AI use and release government-owned AI code, models, and data if it does not pose risks.

The Biden administration cited ongoing federal AI uses, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency employing AI to assess structural hurricane damage, while the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention uses AI to predict spread of disease and detect opioid use. **Agencies**

China, IPU collaborated extensively, especially on SDGs

GENEVA

CHINA and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) have been collaborating extensively, particularly on issues concerning the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals, IPU President Tulia Ackson said on Wednesday.

China has supported the IPU and contributed much to its operation, the IPU president noted in an interview with Xinhua.

Established in 1889, the IPU is one of the oldest and most influential international parliamentary organizations, headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.

From March 23 to March 27, over 1,000 representatives from more than 150 countries participated in the 148th IPU assembly and related meetings in Geneva.

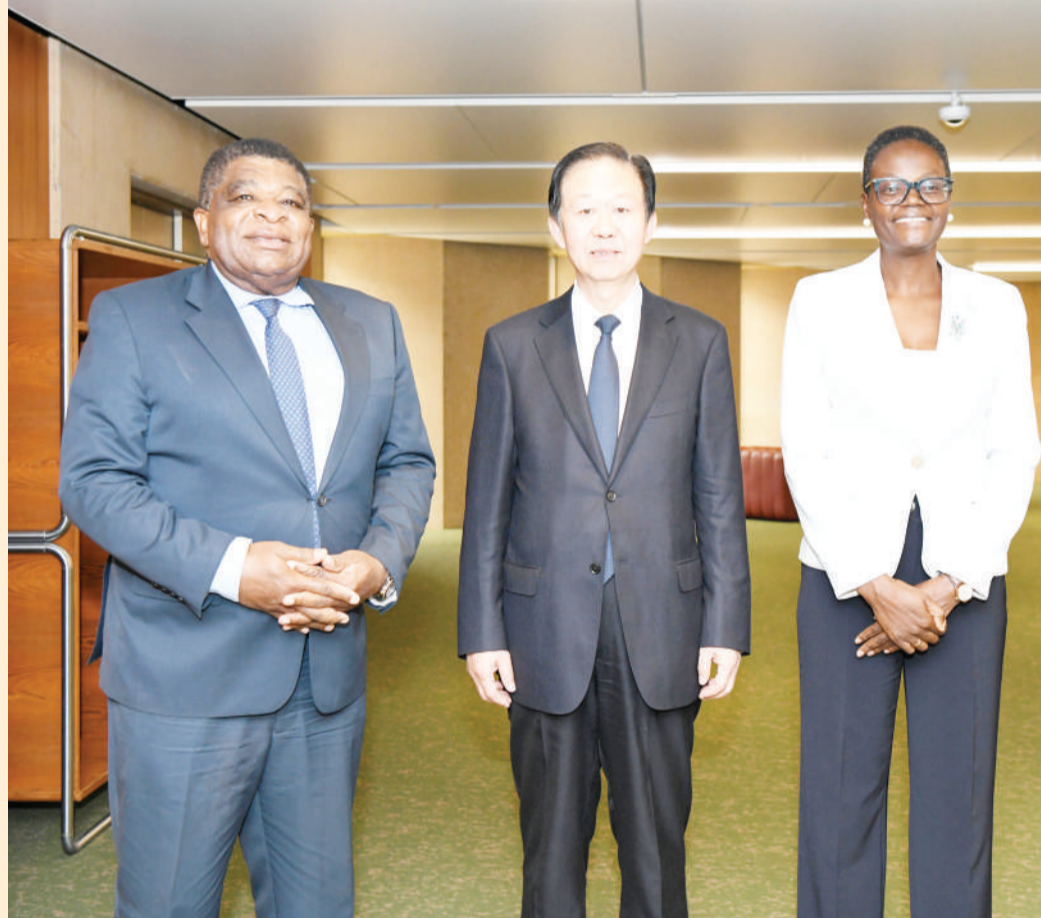
Ackson said China's contribution is evident in "every aspect" of IPU operations. She highlighted China's active participation in the general debate of the assembly, calling it a chance to learn about China's actions that are essential for achieving the goals of the IPU.

Hailing China's involvement in supporting the parliaments of developing countries to fulfill their duties, she said close collaboration between China and the IPU has enhanced the capacity of many developing countries' parliaments to fulfill their responsibilities in achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

She also said the National People's Congress of China has cooperated with the IPU on several occasions to organize inter-regional seminars, which have played a "very instrumental" role in implementing the strategies of the IPU.

During the assembly, a video showcasing China's efforts to promote environmentally friendly development was presented to the attendees. The video mentioned that China is a country of action in promoting global climate governance, and spares no efforts in promoting green development, energy revolution, and international cooperation on climate change, contributing significantly to global climate governance.

Ackson said the IPU has focused on how to address climate change. In order to en-



Xiao Jie (C), Vice-Chairman of the National People's Congress of China Standing Committee, meets with Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) President Tulia Ackson (R) and IPU Secretary-General Martin Chungong, during the 148th IPU assembly in Geneva on Monday. XINHUA

sure that parliaments around the world are "at the forefront" of addressing the issue, she said she looks forward to closer cooperation with China in this area. **Xinhua**

Israel Prime Minister Netanyahu meets with US Congressional Delegation

TELAVIV

PRIME Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met on Wednesday at the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem with a bipartisan US Congressional delegation, organized by AIPAC, the America Israel Public Affairs Committee.

The Prime Minister welcomed the members of the delegation on their arrival and thanked them for their broad support for the State of Israel among the American public.

He also briefed them on the fighting in

the Gaza Strip and answered their questions.

Netanyahu said the members of the delegation were "long-time friends of Israel" and called them "great supporters."

"It's very important for us to maintain bipartisan support at all times," he told them, "but especially in these trying times. I want to use this opportunity of our conversation to try to straighten out and also dispel some of the things that are being said about our bipartisan alliance and the importance of maintaining it."

Netanyahu also told them that Iran "of-

ficially launched, along with Hezbollah, a campaign, which means Hamas, the Houthis and so on, but the formal policy is to shift from an ideological position of destroying Israel to a practical, long-term plan to bring about the destruction of the state."

"We have to win. There is no substitute for victory," he added.

"Our goal is to destroy the military and governing capabilities of Hamas in Gaza," Netanyahu told them. "Hamas has to be eliminated."

"The second thing was to get our hos-

tages out. They are simultaneous goals because the military action is what produces the pressure to release the hostages. We've released half. We intend to release all of them. The third thing is to ensure that, indeed Gaza doesn't pose a threat to Israel again."

The delegation included Brad Schneider (D-IL), Jim Costa (D-CA), Debbie Lesko (R-AZ), Juan Vargas (D-CA), Valerie Foushee (D-NC), Kathy Manning (D-NC), Marilyn Strickland (D-WA), Norma Torres (D-CA) and Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL), as well as senior AIPAC officials. **ANI**

Port project built by China contributes to Peru's economic, social development

ABOUT 80 kilometers north of Lima, capital of Peru, the Chancay Port jointly undertaken by China Harbour Engineering Company and the Fourth Harbor Engineering Co., Ltd. under China Communications Construction Company is currently under construction.

The port project has taken shape after three years of construction and will become a new model of China-Peru practical cooperation upon its completion.

The Chancay Port is one of the signature projects under the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in Latin America, which includes a multi-purpose terminal, container terminals and relevant infrastructure.

In 2021, the first phase of the proj-

ect started construction. With four berths planned, it has a designed annual handling capacity of 1 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs) and is expected to become an important transport hub and logistics center along the south Pacific coast of Latin America, which will significantly facilitate regional foreign trade.

Ambassador of Peru to China Marco Balarezo said the Chancay Port will lead to a surge in logistics activities and influx of personnel, thus driving employment. He believes the project will significantly promote the economic and social development of Peru.

"Here, we are building a container yard, while over there is the bulk

cargo yard. Modern operational and office buildings are also under construction. Once the entire port is operational, it will be controlled remotely, and most of the equipment will be unmanned," said Jiang Wei, project manager of the Chancay Port. The port is expected to be completed within this year, according to him.

Diego Leandro Andre Valenzuela Cardenas, a Peruvian engineer, said that there were thousands of Peruvian workers involved in the project during the peak period of construction, and the Chinese side provided all necessary training to help them improve their work skills.

Diego Leandro joined the project after graduating from university. He

has grown from a green hand into an outstanding engineer that leads a team of over 100 people.

Peng Zhisheng, head of the first engineering division of the project, told People's Daily that the project established a mentoring program to help Peruvian employees master construction skills as soon as possible. The program has trained a group of highly skilled local personnel in port construction, Peng added.

Recently, the Chancay Port project held a networking event with a nearby kindergarten. The kindergarten covers an area of 2,700 square meters and is equipped with various facilities including classrooms, playgrounds, recreational areas and gardens. It is the only kindergarten

in the community.

According to Mauricio Perauna Mego, head of the community, the kindergarten was once run-down and faced a significant loss of students. It was the Chancay Port project that renovated the kindergarten and established a reading room to create a sound environment for local children.

Rosario, the kindergarten principal, told People's Daily that Chinese companies helped the kindergarten with classroom repairs and reinforcement, site leveling, and floor hardening. Now, children can play in a safer and more comfortable environment.

Liu Zhe, community-relation manager of the Chancay Port project,

said that the project has set up a professional community team to implement public welfare projects such as community wall construction, dilapidated house repairs, and public road maintenance. The team also visits elderly people living alone, provides medical services, and offers psychological counseling. These efforts have received support and recognition from the local residents.

"Chinese companies have changed the image of the community," said Mauricio Perauna Mego. "We are all expecting an early completion of the Chancay Port, as it will play a significant role in promoting regional economic development."

People's Daily

Putin: F-16 fighters legitimate targets if used against Russia

MOSCOW

Russian President Vladimir Putin warned on Wednesday that if F-16 fighters given to Ukraine are used from third-party territories, they'll be legitimate targets for Russia, no matter where they are.

"If they are used from airfields of third countries, they become a legitimate target for us, no matter where they are," Putin said during a conversation with military pilots in the Tver region.

Ukraine has long been asking its partners to transfer F-16 fighters to it. However, the West emphasizes the impossibility of supplying Kiev with such aircraft without proper preliminary training of pilots and ground service personnel. Denmark, the Netherlands, the United States and several other Western countries are currently actively involved in training Ukrainian pilots.

However, Kyiv's partners note that the importance of the F-16 should not be overestimated. North Atlantic Treaty Organization Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said these fighters alone will not be able to fundamentally change the situation in the combat zone, although they will partially strengthen the capabilities of the Ukrainian troops.

Separately, the Russian Foreign Ministry said on Thursday NATO's activities in Eastern Europe and the Black Sea region are focused on preparing its allies for a potential confrontation with Russia, citing militarization activities in the region.

Romanian authorities have previously announced their readiness to invest 2.5 billion euros (\$2.7 billion) in the modernization of the Mihail Kogalniceanu air base in Constanta County. The base is set to expand into a military town capable of accommodating the families of 10,000 military personnel, with plans to create urban infrastructure, said the ministry.

Construction has begun in the southern part of the future military town, where access roads and a robust power grid are currently being built. The modernization of the air base could make it the largest NATO base in Europe by 2040. The US military has been using this base since 1999, it said.

"The expansion of the Romanian air base is yet another proof that the North Atlantic bloc continues its unrestrained militarization of Eastern Europe and the Black Sea region," said the Russian Foreign Ministry.

The ministry added that "the forced enhancement of coalition capabilities is also taking place in Poland and the Baltics."

"Such activity by NATO members is provocative, exacerbates military tension along our borders, and creates additional security threats to Russia. All this is aimed at preparing the bloc's allies for a potential collision with our country," the ministry said.

"We will monitor the developments in Romania, assess the emerging risks, and take them into account during military planning," the ministry added.



A US fighter aircraft F-16 performs aerobatic maneuvers on the last day of Aero India 2019 at Velahanka air base in Bangalore, India, Feb 24, 2019. (PHOTO / AP)

Violent clashes in Sudan force over 600,000 people into South Sudan - charity

JUBA

VIOLENT clashes that erupted between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in Sudan have forced more than 600,000 individuals into South Sudan since mid-April 2023, a global charity said on Wednesday.

Save the Children said the individuals, including refugees and returnees, have arrived in South Sudan, which is already facing a severe hunger crisis, and the numbers continue to rise as the hostilities show no sign of abating.

Pornpun Rabilossaporn, Save the Children's country director in South Sudan, said the needs were much greater than the support currently available.

"We want to ensure that the children arriving here are protected, get the psychosocial support they need, and that unaccompanied girls and boys are reunited with their families as quickly as possible."

But so much more needs to be done," Rabilossaporn said in a statement issued in Juba, the capital of South Sudan.

The charity said about 1,000 people a day are fleeing into South Sudan from Sudan after nearly one year of conflicts, arriving in scorching heat and with children in dire need of support.

It said most people arrive with nothing, having lost their homes and livelihoods.

Some children have reported seeing loved ones, including their parents, killed en route.

The majority have arrived at the border crossing of Joda in Upper Nile State by foot or on donkey carts, from where up to 200 people at a time are crammed into trucks with standing room only.

"They are taken to two overcrowded transit centers in nearby Renk, a two-hour journey on dirt tracks in temperatures of up to 45 degrees Celsius as South Sudan battles its worst heatwave in four years," the charity said.

The charity also said the individuals usually spend about two weeks in the centers, which house over 15,000 people, even though they were built for no more than 3,000, and have inadequate food, water and healthcare, and many sleep outside in makeshift shelters.

From there, 500 people at a time are packed onto barges for a two-day journey along the Nile to head to other destinations in South Sudan or packed into trucks for a 12-hour road trip to a refugee camp in Maban, the charity said.

For people fleeing the conflict in Sudan, however, life in South Sudan is a better option as about 1.75 million people have left Sudan, headed to South Sudan, Ethiopia, Chad, the Central African Republic and Egypt, according to the latest UN data.

Xinhua



They are taken to two overcrowded transit centers in nearby Renk, a two-hour journey on dirt tracks in temperatures of up to 45 degrees Celsius as South Sudan battles its worst heatwave in four years

India, Mozambique and Tanzania holding joint maritime exercise IMT Trilat

TWO Indian naval vessels, the cadet training ship INS Tir (A86) and the Sukanya-class patrol ship INS Sujata (P56), are participating in the India Mozambique Tanzania (IMT) Tri-Lateral Exercise (Trilat) which is currently underway off the southeast African coast.

The exercise is taking place between 21 to 29 March, with the aim of strengthening cooperation between India, Mozambique, and Tanzania, the Indian Navy said.

The two Indian Navy vessels, INS Tir and INS Sujata, are representing the Indian Navy, with INS Tir arriving at Zanzibar and INS Sujata at Mozambique's Port of Maputo. The Indian Coast Guard Ship Sarathi is also participating along with Mozambique and Tanzanian Navy ships.

INS Sujata is based at Southern Naval Command in Kochi.

The first edition of the IMT Trilat exercise was conducted in October 2022, with the participation of the frigate INS Tarkash (F50) exercising with the Tanzanian and Mozambique Navies.

The current edition of the exercise is planned in two phases.

As part of the harbour phase scheduled from 21-24 March, Naval ships Tir and Sujata engaged with the respective Navies at the ports of Zanzibar (Tanzania) and Maputo (Mozambique).

This phase began with a Planning Conference followed by joint harbour training activities like damage control, fire fighting, visit board search and seizure procedures, medical lectures, casualty evacuation and diving operations.

The sea phase of the exercise now underway until 27 March covers practical aspects of countering asymmetric threats, visit board search and seizure procedures, boat handling, manoeuvres and firing exercises.

A joint exclusive economic zone (EEZ) surveillance is included during the sea phase.

The exercise will conclude



The INS Kolkata with captured Somali pirates

with a joint debrief scheduled at Mozambique's Port of Nacala.

During the harbour stay, Indian Naval ships were open for visitors and crews partook in sports and cultural exchanges with host Navies.

The Indian Navy said these activities underscore India's outreach to foster friendly relations through maritime cooperation, aligning with the maritime vision of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, known as "SAGAR - Security and Growth for All in the Region" with emphasis on the Global South.

In recent months the Indian Navy has been very active off the northeast coast of Africa, and since the Israel-Hamas conflict spilling over to the maritime domain, with Houthi forces attacking shipping off Yemen in solidarity with Palestine, India has enhanced the scope of its maritime security operations.

The navy undertook proactive action during the hijacking of the Malta Flagged Bulk Carrier MV Ruen on 14 December 2023. The Indian Navy said 23 March marked the completion of 100 days of ongoing maritime security operations under the aegis of 'Op Sankalp'.

During this time, the Indian Navy responded to 18 incidents in the Indian Ocean Region.

This included a well-coordinated operation that lasted some 40 hours, culminating in the Indian Navy retaking the MV Ruen from Somali pirates, rescuing the 17 crew members on board and apprehending two dozen pirates on 16 March.

The Indian Navy has a sizeable presence in the Red Sea region, with a dozen warships deployed to provide security against pirates as Western powers focus on attacks by Yemen's Houthis.

In January, the Indian Navy foiled two hijackings by Somali pirates within days. On 29 January, the fishing vessel Al Naemi and her crew (19 Pakistani nationals) were rescued by the Indians from 11 Somali pirates after the Iranian-flagged fishing vessel was boarded and her crew taken hostage.

The day before, the INS Sumitra was again in action off the Somali coast when she responded to a distress message regarding the hijacking of the Iranian flagged fishing vessel Iman, which had been boarded by pirates and the crew taken as hostages.

The Indian Navy said INS Sumitra intercepted the vessel and coerced the pirates to safely release the 17 crew along with the boat. "The fishing vessel was subsequently sanitised and released for onward transit."

On 5 January, the Indian Navy rescued another vessel from pirates - 21 crew were evacuated from the MV Lila Norfolk in the North Arabian Sea a day after it was boarded by half a dozen armed men off Somalia's coast.

Based on the threat assessment in the region, the Indian Navy is conducting maritime security operations in three areas of operations viz Gulf of Aden and adjoining areas, Arabian Sea and off the East Coast of Somalia. Since December, the Indian Navy has deployed over 5,000 personnel at sea, over 450 ship days (with over 21 ships deployed) and reached 900 hours of flying by the maritime surveillance aircraft to address threats in the maritime domain.

Written by Africa Ports & Ships and defenceWeb.

Demystification of Western countries' news on Xinjiang

By Humphrey P. B. Moshi

In the recent past, there has been an inflow many stories, most of them negative, from Western countries' media outlets on human rights abuses in Xinjiang. The accusation range from use of forced labor in production of commodities, forced sterilization, to genocide. However, a closer observation on these accusation shows that they are unfounded and are a continuation of the cold war against China. This observation is grounded a number of reasons.

Firstly, the Constitution of the People's Republic of China (PRC) provides that all citizens have the right and obligation to work. This has, subsequently, ushered in crafting and implementing national wide policies on employment and poverty elimination. In this regard, Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region has undertaken efforts to increase and stabilize employment through various channels: encouraging individual initiative, regulatory role of the market, and government policies facilitating employment, entrepreneurship and business start-ups. In other words, given that, for historical and a wide range of natural reasons, Xinjiang lagged behind other parts of the country in terms of social and economic development, it has benefited enormously through the implementation of the policies.

Secondly, Xinjiang has rigorously implemented the above policies to the extent that employment has increased significantly. For example, from 2014 to 2019, employment rose from 11.35 million to 13.3 million, an increase of 17.2 percent. Indeed, this increase translates into improved people's incomes and quality of life.

Thirdly, China's leadership is world-widely appreciated for being in the forefront in ensuring that development process is inclusive. And hence achieves common prosperity. It is no wonder that it was able to lift over 800 million people out of poverty since the commence-

ment of the opening-up and reform policies of 1979. In the same vein, from 2013 to 2019 Xinjiang wiped out poverty in 25 poor counties and 3,107 poor villages. Consequently, the poverty incidence dropped from 19.4 percent to 1.24 percent during the period. This culminated in a total of 2.92 million people being lifted out of poverty.

Fourthly, China's governance philosophy is underpinned by the strong belief in diversity in all its dimensions. Indeed its application and variability informs, not only the domestic affairs, but its co-operation platforms with other countries. Specifically, in the case of Xinjiang, PRC has laid a strong foundation for ensuring that people of all ethnic groups have the opportunity to enjoy moderate prosperity in all aspects without discrimination. It needs to be appreciated that the practice of such a governance philosophy necessarily promotes peace and security which are critical ingredients for sustainable developed and people's welfare.

Fifthly, China is a strong and a consistent believer in globalization and multilateralism. This being the case, she is a signatory to a variety of international conventions, including four of the ILO's fundamental conventions: Minimum Age, Worst Forms of Child Labour and Discrimination (Employment and Occupation).

Further, China is also signatory to a host of UN Conventions such as: Inter-

national Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights, International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination; among others. We would like to emphasize that experience shows that China always abides by what it commits to do without wavering. In short, she walks the talk.

Most of the Western countries are signatory to the above mentioned convention. However, and to our surprise, their Multinational Corporation operating in a number of countries, including Africa, are reported to practicing force labour and employment of child labour in plantations and mines. But voices of boycotting or ban import and export commodities arising from such practices are neither raised nor heard. How come that now voices are being raised with regard Xinjiang? This is a clear indication of the persistence of the western countries' unproductive rivalry and competition against China, on the one hand, the continued practice of double standards, on global issues, by western countries on the other hand. All these notwithstanding, China's Rise remains unstoppable, while the credibility of and the trust on western countries continues to erode. This is a clear indication that the time for uni-polar world is over.

Humphrey P. B. Moshi professor of Economics and Founding Director Centre for Chinese Studies University of Dar es Salaam



Geita Gold strategizes to secure NBC Premier League survival



Geita Gold FC head coach Denis Kitambi.

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

GEITA Gold FC head coach Denis Kitambi is determined to steer his team to safety in the NBC Premier League as they enter the final stretch of the season.

With nine matches remaining, Kitambi emphasizes the importance of each game in ensuring the team's survival.

Utilizing the two-week break in the league, Kitambi focused on addressing the team's deficiencies that had led to several losses.

"We have given all the remaining nine matches the status of finals. Our goal is to ensure that we win to climb out of the difficult position we are currently in," Kitambi stated.

Expressing confidence in his team's capabilities, Kitambi highlighted the improvements made during the break.

"What gives me hope is the strengthening of our team after addressing the recurring mistakes."

"Each player has a crucial role to play, and I expect them to fulfill their responsibilities to at least 75%," he remarked.

Currently positioned 14th in the

league standings with 21 points, Geita Gold FC faces the threat of relegation.

Kitambi is resolute in his determination to avoid relegation, recognizing the perilous nature of their current position, maintaining the 14th position is not acceptable.

"We cannot afford to be relegated, and we must fight to secure our place in the league," he affirmed.

Reflecting on their recent performances, Kitambi acknowledged the team's mixed results.

In their last five matches, Geita Gold FC secured only one victory, a hard-fought 1-0 win against Tabora United.

However, they suffered defeats against league leaders Yanga and newly-promoted side Mashujaa FC.

Despite the challenges, Geita Gold FC managed to secure draws against Kagera Sugar and Kinondoni Municipal Council FC.

"Our recent performances have been inconsistent, but we have shown glimpses of our potential. We must build on our strengths and improve in areas where we have fallen short," Kitambi explained.

With the season entering its crucial phase, Kitambi urged his players to remain focused and determined.

"We cannot afford to drop points in the remaining matches. Each game is vital, and we must approach them with determination and unity," he emphasized.

As Geita Gold FC prepares to face their remaining opponents, Kitambi and his team are committed to giving their all to secure their place in the NBC Premier League.

With a renewed sense of purpose and determination, they aim to overcome the challenges ahead and achieve their objective of survival in the top flight.

Gamondi tips this week as the biggest for Tanzanian football

By Guardian Correspondent & Agencies

TANZANIA is set to experience the biggest football week in history when two African football giants and TotalEnergies CAF Champions League gold medalists, Al Ahly and Mamelodi Sundowns, descend to the nation for their respective quarterfinal fixtures against Simba SC and Young Africans SC, also known as Yanga.

Simba SC takes on reigning champions Ahly today in the evening while Tanzanian champions, Yanga, welcome the high-flying Mamelodi Sundowns tomorrow.

Yanga's head coach Miguel Gamondi, who was an assistant coach at Mamelodi Sundowns when they won their seventh league title in the 2005/06 season, spoke to CAFOnline ahead of the blockbuster fixture.

The Argentine shared his thoughts ahead of the match and why it was important for Tanzania to have two of its best clubs competing in the biggest club competition in Africa.

CAFOnline: How has the domestic season been for you so far?

Miguel Gamondi: So far so good. We are on top of the log. What is important is to keep playing out style and identity. We must keep fans happy because fans in this country are passionate and love this game.



Yanga's head coach, Miguel Ángel Gamondi. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

We try to do our best and always get results which is important. Hopefully, we can continue with this consistency and win the league again.

CAFOnline: Facing Mamelodi Sundowns for the first time, your thoughts on the South Africans?

Sundowns is one of the biggest teams performing in the continent along with Al Ahly, no doubt they are the best on the continent.

They are where they are today because of the consistency they have shown over the years. I like the style of play of Sundowns. They play the type of football that I like.

I was a coach at Sundowns, and I know what they like to do and what they are building now is not only important for South Africa but for the African continent because it's an advert for Africa.

For us, it is probably going to be the toughest opponent we will get but at the same time, it will be a great learning experience for Young Africans to play with a quality side and technical staff. I think this will be a great advert for African football.

CAFOnline: It is a big week for Tanzanian football with your club and Simba SC playing in the CAF Champions League,

what does this say about football in the country?

It is historical. It is the first time both make it to the quarterfinals as a pair. This shows great improvement in the management of both clubs and federations. You can see that they are committed to improving and bringing quality.

Hopefully, the result can give more motivation for our management and federation to build more infrastructure and create more possibilities for youth development.

This country has good potential, and this is important for Tanzanian football. I believe this

week will put the name of Tanzanian football out into the continent through the biggest club competition.

I am very happy with what has happened in this country over the last two years.

CAFOnline: What would be a good finish for you in this competition?

The goal of the club was to reach the group stage and after reaching that, we said we wanted to compete and competed against big clubs like Ahly and came second.

Now we want to do well in the knockout because it will be a good evaluation of where we are. It is a learning experience and for sure, we will play our best.

We may not be in the best condition for this game as some players came back with injuries from the FIFA break but we will try our best and show that we deserve to be at this stage of the competition.

In football, you never know. Logic says Sundowns is the bigger team and they have played longer together and invested a lot of money, but football is 11v11 and we hope that we will get a result. We are a competitive team, and we will do our best.

Coach Koller confident in Al Ahly's depth despite key players' absence

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

SIMBA SC is gearing up for a monumental clash as they face off against Al Ahly in the quarter-finals of the CAF Champions League.

Scheduled to kick off at 9 pm East African time at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam, this encounter marks the seventh meeting between the two teams in the last six years.

Al Ahly's head coach Marcel Koller anticipated a challenging encounter, acknowledging the various factors at play. "I know it will be a very difficult game due to different reasons, such as the weather. However, as Al Ahly, we have diligently prepared for this match, and we are confident of securing a favorable result before the return leg in Egypt," Koller noted.

Recognizing Simba SC as a formidable opponent, Koller emphasized the Msimbazi Street squad's prowess. The Swiss gaffer said: "Simba SC is a top-level team in Africa, and despite playing on their home turf, we are well-prepared and determined to achieve a positive outcome."

Commenting on the absence of key players Emam Ashour, Aliou Dieng, and Mohamed El Shenawy, Koller expressed confidence in the depth of his squad.

Koller revealed: "While these players are integral to our team, we have capable replacements in every department. I believe the players who get their chance will showcase their abilities and contribute to the team's success in this crucial encounter."

Ahead of the showdown, Simba SC's head coach, Abdelhak Benchikha, expressed his anticipation, stating: "Today's match is a very big game between these two teams. I expect good things from the Simba SC team because we have prepared enough and everything is for this game."

The gaffer pointed out: "The players are ready, morale is high, and I have emphasized to them the importance of playing without fear and anxiety."

He reflected on his past encounter with Al Ahly while serving as the head coach of USM Alger in the CAF Super Cup, which ended with his outfit coming out victorious.

Benchikha noted: "That game was just one match, but this CAF Champions League quarterfinal consists of home and away fixtures. I will utilize my experience to ensure that we secure victory as Simba SC and make history for the club."

Addressing the significance of previous results between Simba SC and Al Ahly, Benchikha emphasized, "Football yields various outcomes, and while we've faced Al Ahly multiple times in recent years, the past results hold little relevance now."

"We acknowledge that Al Ahly is a formidable opponent, but we are equally well-prepared."

Regarding the absence of certain players from the camp during preparations in Zanzibar, Benchikha remarked: "Ideally, I wanted all players to be present for camp preparation. However, all my players, including those absent, understand our objectives for this game and are aligned with our game plan."

He expressed his desire for a commanding performance in the home leg, maintaining it is important to capitalize on home advantage.

The gaffer added: "I aim for us to score multiple goals, especially in this home fixture, as it provides a significant edge for any team."

Five months prior, Simba SC and Al Ahly faced off in the latest edition of the African Football League, with the initial match held at Benjamin Stadium Mkapa on October 21 last year resulting in a 2-2 draw.



Junior footballers are pictured taking part in drills at the Karume Memorial Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Thursday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

TOC to host Twende Paris Games in Singida next week

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) has said preparations for next month's sporting activities termed 'Twende Paris', set to take place in Singida, are going on well.

The committee's vice president Henry Tandau said the games- which will involve teams from Mbeya and the host Singida- will be held at Mwenge Secondary School from April 4-5, adding Singida Region Commissioner, Halima Dendego, will grace the launch.

He said the 'Twende Paris' campaign is aimed at motivating young people to embrace sports, pointing out that teams will compete in athletics, volleyball, and football for both boys and girls.

The TOC vice president said initially the games were set to involve three regions, namely Mbeya, Coast Region, and Singida, with each entering two

teams, but Coast Region has been removed as it has not confirmed its participation.

He said due to this change, two teams from the host region will face each other and the winning team will face the Mbeya team.

"All preparations for the 'Twende Paris' showdown are going on very well and the games will be held at Mwenge Secondary School in Singida from April 4-5," Tandau noted.

The TOC vice president stated: "Mwenge Secondary School will have a model of the Olympic Village, the games seek to motivate young athletes, Singida Region Commissioner, Halima, has confirmed to be the guest of honour at the opening of the games."

Tandau noted: "Marathoners Alphonse Simbu and Failuna Matanga, who both qualified for the Paris Olympics and hail from the region, will also grace the games."

"We believe the presence of

the duo will inspire young athletes to work hard in their disciplines," he said.

Tandau said to motivate the students, there will be medals, trophies and cash prizes to be handed over to winners.

The TOC leader pointed out that in individual sports, the top winner for both boys and girls will get 300,000/-, the runner-up will take home 200,000/-, and the third-placed competitor will get 100,000/-.

In team sports, winners in both boys and girls will get 1m/- apiece, runners-up will walk away with 750,000/-, and third-placed squads will receive 500,000/-.

The 'Twende Paris Games' was launched late last year and the launching ceremony was graced by Etienne Pellausy- the officer responsible for Culture and Relations at the French Embassy in Tanzania.

The 'Twende Paris' campaign is part of the Paris Olympics

legacy, the French government agreed to fund sporting activities which will increase the hype of the Olympics and make many locals embrace and love the Olympics.

"In the first phase, we will start with three regions in which students will compete in volleyball, football, and athletics. In the second phase- scheduled for next year- we will reach many other regions including Zanzibar," he said.

To prepare for the campaign, TOC recently organized a workshop for sports officers from the three regions.

Meanwhile, TOC said to increase the hype for the Paris Olympics, the committee has in conjunction with French School and Alliance Francaise organized a fun run which will be held on April 20.

Tandau said they expect 500 fun runners to take part at the event and the closing date for registration is on April 12.



Marcus Rashford and the case to remain in England's Euro 2024 finals squad

By Richard Jolly

MARCUS Rashford's first taste of the European Championships came as an 18-year-old for a side whose campaign culminated with ignominious defeat to Iceland. His second brought another ill-fated ending: with injury reducing him to a bit-part role, he had a late cameo at right-back and as a specialist penalty taker in the Euro 2020 final.

And he missed the spot kick: inches from perfection, he instead struck the inside of Gianluigi Donnarumma's post. Perhaps a shootout swung on it: Harry Kane and Harry Maguire had scored before, Jadon Sancho and Bukayo Saka missed afterwards.

Third time lucky in Euro 2024? It may have looked that way when Rashford scored a glorious goal to give England a modicum of revenge against Italy in October. Even as his form for Manchester United suffered, he excelled for England. Then Rashford looked a probable starter in Euro 2024. Now the danger is that he will not even be part of the squad.

Rashford was granted a mere 15 minutes over the two friendlies against Brazil and Belgium, even with injury meaning neither Cole Palmer nor Jack Grealish played any part. One interpretation is that, with Rashford's place secure, Gareth Southgate experimented with others. Yet the possibility is that Rashford will be overtaken amid the charge of the newcomers, a sprinter seeing others time their run into Southgate's plans to perfection.

Certainly the England manager offered few assurances that the sixth-most-used player in his reign will go to Germany and plenty of praise for the alternatives. There may be five players competing for two places in the squad and it is apparent that Anthony Gordon, who started instead of Rashford against Brazil and came on rather than him against Belgium, and Jarrod Bowen have impressed.

"Well, I wanted to see Anthony Gordon," said Southgate, instead of replying directly about Rashford. "I think he's been excellent for his club. And obviously Marcus got on in the first game. But I wanted to see Gordon again. I thought [James] Maddison coming on would have an impact and Bowen has also had a really good camp."

"I said when I named the squad there is competition for places in those wide areas. A bit of a shame that Cole Palmer missed so much training that we weren't able to put him into the game [against Belgium] at the stage it was having missed most of the week. We weren't 100 per cent certain what we would get whereas with Gordon we knew and Maddison we knew. I wouldn't rule Cole out of that equation."

Nor would he rule Grealish out. The £100m man has been largely ineffectual at club level this season, has a greater tactical importance for Manchester City than England and, like Rashford, has often tended to be a substitute at international level. There is a marked difference in their output, though: whereas Rashford has 16 goals in 56 caps under Southgate, Grealish has two in 35.

The former Aston Villa player had been sidelined, recovered enough to be an unused substitute against Newcastle two days after Southgate had named his squad but, the England manager said, was not considered for selection, rather than being dropped.

"He's definitely not out of the picture," he explained. "I spoke to him before I named the squad. He was he was back into training but I didn't think for these games he was going to be at a physical level to be able to compete but as I said when I named the squad, Gordon and Bowen are pushing those guys."

Now they are pushing harder. The risk for Rashford is that he has been shoved aside. Even as his club form has improved, with goals in his last three games for United, it is indisputable that each of Gordon, Bowen and Palmer has had a better season.

Part of Rashford's case comes from continuity, from a fine World Cup suggesting he has the talent to excel in tournaments, from his scoring record, even if he has scarcely been clinical this season. If Grealish, too, is relying on Southgate's capacity to be loyal to his regulars, there are a couple of warnings in Calvin Phillips, cast aside for this squad, and Raheem Sterling, now an afterthought.

Sterling was more fundamental, more symbolic, more certain of his place than Rashford ever was. But he was also a victim in part of the rise of a newer group of wingers. Now Rashford could be imperilled by their emergence. Injuries may yet resolve Southgate's dilemma, but it promises to be a nervous couple of months for Rashford.

Euro 2024 could complete a hat-trick of disappointments in the European Championships for him. But if the anguish came on the field before, now it threatens to come when the England squad is named.

THE INDEPENDENT

A timeline of allegations against Sean 'Diddy' Combs

By Kaitlyn Huamani

A STRING of recent sexual assault allegations against Sean "Diddy" Combs, the billionaire music mogul and entrepreneur, have damaged the legacy of the man once revered as hip-hop royalty.

Four women, including Combs' longtime girlfriend Casandra "Cassie" Ventura, filed explosive lawsuits against Combs in November and December, accusing the artist of sexually and physically abusing them. In February, producer Rodney "Lil Rod" Jones filed a similar suit, alleging Combs sexually assaulted and harassed him and that several people in his circle engaged in illicit behavior.

On Monday evening, federal agents from Homeland Security raided Combs' Los Angeles and Miami homes as part of a sweeping sex trafficking inquiry.

Combs has denied all the recent allegations and his lawyer, Aaron Dyer, slammed the execution of the Homeland Security investigation as an "excessive show of force" in a statement to The Times.

"Yesterday, there was a gross overuse of military-level force as search warrants were executed at Mr. Combs' residences," Dyer said. "There is no excuse for the excessive show of force and hostility exhibited by authorities or the way his children and employees were treated. Mr. Combs was never detained but spoke to and cooperated with authorities."

"Despite media speculation, neither Mr. Combs nor any of his family members have been arrested nor has their ability to travel been restricted in any way," Dyer's statement added. "This unprecedented ambush – paired with an advanced, coordinated media presence – leads to a premature rush to judgment of Mr. Combs and is nothing more than a witch hunt based on meritless accusations made in civil lawsuits. There has been no finding of criminal or civil liability with any of these allegations. Mr. Combs is innocent and will continue to fight every single day to clear his name."

Combs – a hip-hop artist, producer and record label executive who built fashion and liquor empires – is facing a dramatic downfall in light of allegations of violence and abuse. Here is a timeline of the allegations against Combs.

1990: In a November 2023 lawsuit, Liza Gardner alleged Combs and R&B singer Aaron Hall sexually assaulted her and her friend in 1990.

1991: In another November 2023 lawsuit, Joi Dickerson-Neal alleged that Combs drugged and sexually assaulted her when she was 19. Combs also allegedly recorded and shared a video of the assault.

1993: Combs founded Bad Boy Records and began discovering and developing hip-hop artists and producing work for musicians including the Notorious B.I.G.

April 1999: Combs was arrested on suspicion of assaulting Interscope Records executive Steve Stoute and pleaded guilty to harassment.

December 1999: Combs was charged with criminal possession of a weapon after police found a gun in his car following a shooting at a club in New York City. He and then-girlfriend Jennifer Lopez were both arrested.

2003: According to a December 2023 lawsuit, Combs, former Bad Boy president Harve Pierre and a third unidentified person allegedly drugged and gang-raped a then-17-year-old girl, only identified in the complaint as Jane Doe. The alleged assault took place at a New York City recording studio after Pierre and the unidentified man flew in with the victim from Detroit.

2005: Combs, then in his mid-30s, met 19-year-old Ventura and expressed interest in signing her to Bad Boy Records.

2006: Ventura signed a 10-album deal with Combs' label, and alleged in a November 2023 lawsuit that he used this time to "set the groundwork for his manipulative and coercive romantic and sexual relationship" with Ventura.

October 2007: Combs signed a multiyear deal with Diageo, a British beverage company, to develop Ciroc vodka for a 50/50 share in profits.

2007: Combs and Ventura were romantically linked for the first time. In a November 2023 lawsuit, Ventura alleged that Combs took advantage of his position as the head of her record label and convinced her to take illegal drugs before having sex with her for the first time.

She also alleged that over their nearly decade-long relationship, Combs physically and sexually abused her, often with witnesses present. The complaint detailed one incident in which Combs allegedly beat Ventura and repeatedly kicked and stomped her face, only stopping when she vomited. Ventura said in the suit that Combs' "tremendously loyal network" who witnessed her repeated assaults "were not willing to do anything meaningful" to stop the violence.

2012: At a point when Combs and Ventura were broken up, Ventura briefly dated musician Kid Cudi. According to the November 2023 lawsuit, Combs told Ventura that he was going to blow up Kid Cudi's car and that "he wanted to ensure that Kid Cudi was home with his friends when it happened." Around this time, the lawsuit says, the musician's car exploded in his driveway. A representative for Kid Cudi confirmed the explosion to the New York Times.

2013: Combs launched media company Revolt as a co-founder.

2014: Combs expanded his deal with Diageo to acquire high-end tequila brand DeLeon.

June 2015: Combs was arrested on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon at a UCLA athletic complex following an altercation with a coach during which police said Combs used a kettlebell. Combs' son played football at UCLA at the time of the altercation.

August 2015: Ventura alleged in the November



Sean 'Diddy' Combs

2023 lawsuit that throughout her relationship with Combs, he forced her to perform sexual acts on male sex workers. He allegedly forced Ventura and the hired sex workers to take illegal drugs, as was the case in a 2015 meeting described in the complaint. Combs also allegedly recorded the encounters and threatened violence if Ventura refused to participate, the suit said.

2018: Ventura repeatedly tried to sever ties with Combs and met him for dinner in September 2018, per the November 2023 lawsuit. Combs allegedly forced himself into Ventura's home after the dinner and raped her "while she repeatedly said 'no' and tried to push him away." Following this alleged assault, Ventura took further steps to "completely separate" herself from Combs.

July 2022: Combs accepted a lifetime achievement award at the BET Awards.

2022-2023: Music producer Jones alleged that Combs sexually assaulted him over a yearlong period when Jones was living on Combs' properties and working on the production of "The Love Album: Off the Grid." Jones also alleged in the February lawsuit that Combs tried to groom him into engaging in sex with producer Steven Aaron Jordan, also known as Stevie J.

Other allegations from the explosive federal complaint, which was originally filed in February but amended Monday, include Jones' claim that Oscar-winning actor Cuba Gooding Jr. sexually harassed and assaulted him and that Combs forced Jones to take illegal drugs and solicit sex workers, some of whom were allegedly underage.

June 2023: Combs sued beverage company Diageo for allegedly treating the brands he co-owned, DeLeon tequila and Ciroc vodka, as inferior "Black brands" or "ethnic brands," per the racial discrimination lawsuit his company filed. Diageo denied allegations of racism in previous statements to The Times.

September 2023: Combs returned publishing rights to some of the artists and songwriters signed to Bad Boy Entertainment. The surprise move restored the publishing rights back to artists including Mase, I12, the Lox, the Notorious B.I.G. and his widow Faith Evans.

November 2023: Ventura filed a sex trafficking and sexual assault lawsuit against Combs alleging a years-long period of physical and sexual abuse. The complaint says Ventura hoped to "confront her abuser, and to hold him and those who enabled his abuse accountable for their actions." Through his lawyers, Combs denied the allegations and settled the suit 24 hours after Ventura filed.

Following the news of Ventura's filing, Dickerson-Neal and Gardner also filed lawsuits alleging Combs sexually abused them.

November 2023: Combs stepped down from his position as chairman at Revolt TV.

December 2023: A fourth lawsuit accusing Combs and former Bad Boy label president Pierre of gang-rape and sex trafficking was filed on behalf of a victim who was 17 years old at the time of the alleged assault. Pierre said in a statement the allegations were "disgusting," "false" and a "desperate attempt for financial gain."

January 2024: Combs withdrew his racial discrimination lawsuit against Diageo. In a joint statement to The Times, Combs and Diageo said the former partners had "no ongoing business relationship, either with respect to Ciroc vodka or DeLeon tequila, which Diageo now solely owns."

February 2024: Jones became the fifth person to file a lawsuit against Combs alleging that he sexually assaulted them. Jones' suit names several notable entertainment industry figures, including Combs' son Justin Dior Combs, Universal Music Group CEO Lucian Grainge, Stevie J, Yung Miami and others.

March 25, 2024: Homeland Security agents searched Combs' L.A. and Miami mansions as part of a federal inquiry into sex trafficking allegations against him conducted by the prosecutors in the Southern District of New York. The investigation is ongoing.

March 26, 2024: TMZ reported that Combs recently sold off all of his shares in Revolt TV, the company he co-founded in 2013, for an undisclosed amount.

"This story originally appeared in Los Angeles Times.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

A timeline of allegations against Sean 'Diddy' Combs

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Simba SC eyes first-leg advantage over Al Ahly



Simba SC players are pictured participating in training in Zanzibar recently in preparation for the 2023/24 CAF Champions League quarterfinals as well as the 2023/24 NBC Premier League. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBAS

Al Ahly cautious about Benchikha's tactical display

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi & Agencies

FORMER Al Ahly midfielder and current board member of the club, Hossam Ghaly, has mentioned Simba SC's head coach Abdelhak Benchikha as the former's club's main obstacle to CAF Champions League semi-final qualification.

Simba SC will welcome the CAF Champions League defending champions at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam at night, a few days after returning from Zanzibar where they camped for preparations.

Ghaly said Simba SC has evolved in recent years with various meetings between the two sides being tough, as Benchikha's presence adds more competitive value to his side.

The former midfielder won the 2010 AFCON with Egypt's national team under coach Hassan Shehata. Ghaly is among the Egyptian outfit's delegation that has arrived in Dar es Salaam for the match.

He noted: "We can win against Simba SC here in Dar es Salaam and away but our biggest obstacle is the presence of coach Abdelhak Benchikha, we all know his tactical prowess and how he sets the team most compactly."

"I am here with the team to make sure that everything goes well ahead of our fixture with Simba SC, our technical bench hopefully will have a good game plan for the match, we have never won a match here against Simba SC- something that adds more alarm to us," Ghaly pointed out.

"We aim to have proper results here that will enable us to have a good match flow ahead of the second leg at Cairo International Stadium," Ghaly said.

Benchikha won the 2022/23 CAF Super Cup with USMA Alger- having notched a win over Al Ahly.

The Algerian gaffer moreover has won the CAF Confederation Cup with RS Berkane and USMA Alger.

This will be the seventh meeting between Simba SC and Al Ahly, who have two wins apiece, their most recent clash in October was a 1-1 draw in the second leg of the African Football League (AFL) quarterfinal.

Four of their last five meetings have produced less than three goals, and six of Al Ahly's last eight games have seen one team fail to score.

Al Ahly is unbeaten in 16 CAF Champions League games, four of the Egyptian side's last five games across competitions have had more goals in the second half than the first.

“

I am here with the team to make sure that everything goes well ahead of our fixture with Simba SC, our technical bench hopefully will have a good game plan for the match, we have never won a match here against Simba SC- something that adds more alarm to us

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

SIMBA SC will in the evening host Al Ahly at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam for the first leg of the CAF Champions League quarterfinals, with kick-off scheduled for 9:00 pm.

South African match referee Abongile Tom will officiate the first-leg encounter.

Simba SC sneaked into the quarterfinals after picking up nine points from their six group matches to finish behind ASEC Mimosas and above Wydad Casablanca and Jwaneng Galaxy.

Having been ousted in the premier continental club tournament's quarterfinals for the past four years, the Tanzanian club will be aiming to establish a healthy advantage in the first leg.

Good results are set to pave the way for a successful second leg that can propel the Msimbazi Street outfit into the semi-finals for the first time since 1974.

Simba SC approaches the match against the Egyptian team on a three-game winning streak in all competitions.

They secured a 2-0 victory

over Mashujaa FC in the NBC Premier League just before the international break to build positive momentum for this contest.

Still, the CAF Champions League presents a distinct challenge for the Msimbazi Street side.

Head coach Abdelhak Benchikha is blessed with a fully-fit contingent of players to choose from including the in-form Clatous Chama who scored two goals for Zambia in two international friendlies against Zimbabwe and Malawi.

Speaking at a press conference, Benchikha said

he has prepared his team well for the two knockout matches.

The Algerian noted: "There is a big difference when I played against Al Ahly with USM Alger and that game was different from this one."

"That was just a one-off match, but now we are going to play two games, which we must win to qualify," Benchikha pointed out.

The previous meeting between the two teams at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium took place in the African Football League in October 2023 and ended in a thrilling 2-2 stalemate.

The visitors are the sole representative of Egypt in the Champions League knockout stage, with Pyramids having missed out on qualification.

Fiston Mayele's Pyramids FC settled for third place in their group, behind Mamelodi Sundowns and TP Mazembe.

Al Ahly are winless in their last six matches away from home against Tanzanian opponents in African competitions and have lost three of these games.

However, having won a record 11 CAF Champions League titles, the Egyptian football powerhouse is un-

defeated in their last eight away matches in the continental club premier tournament.

Marcel Koller's side also remain unbeaten in the CAF Champions League this season, having secured three wins and three draws to finish atop Group D.

A 1-0 home victory over Yanga in their last CAF Champions League Group Stage extended their unbeaten run in the competition to 16 games.

Influential midfielder Emam Ashour, goalkeeper Mohamed El Shenawy, and striker Wissam Abu Ali are all on Al Ahly's injury list.

Yanga's top official downplays Mamelodi Sundowns' hostility concerns

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi



Yanga's president, Hersi Said.

AHEAD of Yanga's highly anticipated CAF Champions League encounter against Mamelodi Sundowns, the former's president Hersi Said has downplayed concerns of hostility, emphasizing sportsmanship and mutual respect when his outfit hosts the South African club.

Yanga will entertain Mamelodi Sundowns in the first-leg duel of the premier continental competition's last-eight at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam tomorrow.

Unease lingers in the Mamelodi Sundowns camp regarding their upcoming trip to Tanzania, with worries about potential mistreatment.

The fears stem from Botswana's Jwaneng Galaxy and Orlando Pirates bemoaning the treatment they received from Simba SC during their visits to Dar es Salaam.

Said though has assured Mamelodi Sundowns of a warm welcome and fair treatment in Tanzania.

"We are aware of the ties that exist between these two countries South Africa and Tanzania and we don't take that lightly. We have a business, strong family ties, and friends in South Africa," the Yanga boss disclosed.

The official maintained: "This is not a war, it is a football game, we are excited to host Sundowns and anticipate a thrilling match on the pitch. Yanga is committed to upholding the highest standards of sportsmanship and fair play."

He added: "Our fans are

renowned for their enthusiastic support, and we are confident they will create a vibrant and respectful atmosphere for both teams."

"We understand the importance of this competition for both Sundowns and Yanga. They must know they are dealing with the right people with the right mindset."

"We will make all necessary arrangements to ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience for their players, staff, and supporters."

The Yanga top official reportedly contacted Sundowns' management immediately after the draw, assuring them they would have an enjoyable stay in Tanzania.

Having come through the Mamelodi Sundowns youth system, Mahlatse 'Skudu' Makudubela has eased worries at the Tshwane giants.

Before signing for Yanga this season, Makudubela travelled to Dar es Salaam with South Africa's Marumo Gallants last year.

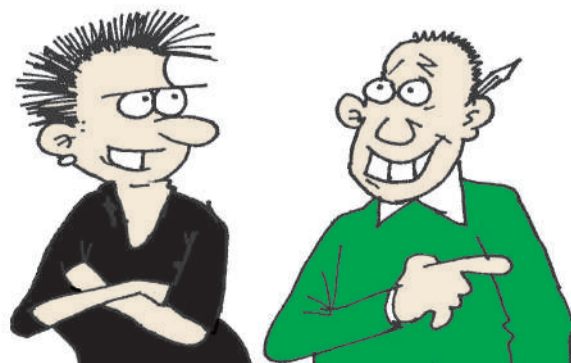
The winger said: "It's fortunate I visited this club while playing for Marumo Gallants in the CAF Confederation Cup, we came here, and we had a good time."

"The club provided everything we asked for, recently, we had Algeria's CR Belouizdad and Medeama SC of Ghana here. I have friends in those clubs. They never complained about anything," Makudubela pointed out.

The South African player noted: "Our president is a man of high integrity. He knows what is happening, and he's an unsung hero of Tanzanian football."

Flexibles by David Chikoko

WHY DID THE CHICKEN CROSS THE ROAD?



TO GET TO THE OTHER SIDE