



BUSINESS EAC, EU develop joint plan on digital transformation

NBC inaugurates campaign to boost cashew production in Mtwara, Lindi

Tanzania to host beekeepers federation congress in 2027

ICOL shareholders to pocket 2.6bn/- in dividends

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Fake seals: TRA 'holds' gin bottling company director

If producers can fake revenue stamps, it means they can also tamper with their products, selling drinks that are unfit for human consumption or even skip or fake the required ingredients

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

OPERATIVES of the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) have impounded 666 cartons of spirits with bottles bearing counterfeit tax stamps and hallmarks sealing their caps.

Eva Raphael, the TRA zonal manager, said at a press conference at the weekend that Pardeep Singh Sidhu, the Double Diamond Holdings managing director, who firm operated a liquor bottling plant at Thembi Hills on the outskirts of the city, was placed under arrest.

"If producers can fake revenue stamps, it means they can also tamper with their products, selling drinks that are unfit for human consumption or even skip or fake the re

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President Samia Suluhu Hassan is welcomed shortly after jetting into New Delhi yesterday at the start of a four-day State Visit to India, the first since she assumed power on March 19, 2021. Photo courtesy of Indian news agency ANI

Samia to obtain honoris causa citation tomorrow

Awarding an honoris causa citation is another sign of the respect that the international community has for President Samia and Tanzania in general since Jawaharlal Nehru University

By Guardian Correspondent, New Delhi

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan is tomorrow expected to receive an honorary doctorate citation from the Jawaharlal Nehru University, the second Tanzanian leader to be awarded the citation (honoris causa) by the prestigious Indian academic institution.

January Makamba, the Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister, said at a press conference yesterday that President Samia will be awarded at the university tomorrow on the suggestion of the Indian Ministry of External Affairs.

He said the citation is in recognition of her contribution in leadership and forging closer relations between the two countries, following in the footsteps of founder president Mwalimu Nyerere in the mid-1960s, awarded the Jawaharlal Nehru medal.

Affirming that the doctorate follows the president's achievements in boosting international relations in her visits and at the United Nations General Assembly and caucuses, he said that the Jawaharlal Nehru University is one of the best universities in India.

He said in illustration that the holders of the Foreign Affairs and Finance portfolios in the country at present (himself and Dr Mwigulu Nchemba) studied at this university in earlier days, which apparently referred to post-graduate studies. Awarding an honoris causa citation is another sign of the respect that the international

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JKT Queens await 2023 CAF Women's Champions League draw

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Lions Cricket Club clobbers Lions B in 2023 DC GP Gymkhana Shield

Netherlands, TAHA set up horticulture seeds platform

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE Netherlands Embassy and the Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA) are grouping together horticulture and potato farming

groups to set up a platform to unlock the potential of the high value crops seed industry.

The agency is to be hosted at TAHA head offices here, identified as the Tanzania Horticulture and

Potato Seed Platform (THPSP), intended to coordinate stakeholder action on critical challenges facing the seed industry.

THPSP was launched at the weekend, with stakeholders say-

ing it ushers in a new dawn for improvement of horticulture and potato crops seed application.

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Disorientated? Not knowing what this is and where it is? You will surely not be alone in facing the ordeal. But keep your cool, for this is none other than a view of Dar es Salaam's ultramodern Mwenge Bus Stand, as captured by The Guardian Limited Chief Photographer Selemani Mpochi at the weekend. The contractors say they are putting final touches to various structures before the facility starts operations "SOON". Kinondoni municipal authorities have expressed similar optimism



Netherlands, TAHA set up horticulture seeds platform

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Nyasebwa Chimagu, the director of crops development, commended members of the platform for initiating coordination work, notably TAHA, the Tanzania Seed Trade Association (TASTA), the World Vegetable Center, the Southern Agricultural Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT), the Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI), as well as the embassy.

This initiative contributes to realising objectives of the National Horticulture Development Strategy 2021/2031, as the sixth strategic objective seeks to strengthen co-ordination of the institutional and policy framework.

He pledged strong support of the Ministry of Agriculture in fostering collaborative platforms across the agricultural value chain, vital for open dialogues on cross cutting matters.

This approach aligns perfectly with the agenda and aspirations of the ministry, he said, while Ambassador Wiebe de Boer lauded TAHA for taking the lead in organising the launch event. The Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) provided seed funds to operationalise the platform, he said.

For over 50 years, Tanzania and the Netherlands have engaged in agro-sector cooperation, with emphasis on horticulture, potatoes, aquaculture and poultry, he stated.

"This collaboration has led to Dutch private sector investments in horticulture and potato mainly in the seed sub-sector," he elaborated, asserting that horticulture and potatoes are promising industries for food security, quality nutrition and employment for women and youth.

"There is a lot of best practices experience and exper-

tise from the Netherlands that can be shared with Tanzanians," he further noted, underlining that the platform will be a stepping-stone for exchanges on methods of strengthening the seed system.

Baldwin Shuma, the CEO of TASTA who doubles up as THPSP chairman, said that the overall objective of the platform is to strengthen partnership and coordination among participating enterprises.

The platform caters for information sharing, identifying successes or challenges and up-scaling activities in the horticultural industry to support the various companies to become more competitive in regional and international markets, he stated.

Apart from the Dutch Embassy, the Alliance for the Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) who organized the recent food systems summit have also expressed interest in supporting this initiative," Mr Shuma said, amid applause from the floor.

Anthony Chamanga, the TAHA development manager, said that horticulture accounts for 17.5 percent in the country's food security basket, praising the government for its dedication to fortifying the seed sector. Dr. Gabriel Rugalema, the World Vegetable Center regional director, said that the horticulture sub-sector is encouraged by the political will and action on the part of the sixth phase government.

The government needs to maintain meaningful engagement to create a better business and investment climate, he said. The platform will be available for advising the ministry on liaising with key actors to implement the national horticulture and potato seed programme, he added.



Manyanara regional commissioner Queen Sendiga (R) receives the Uhuru Torch from her Dodoma counterpart, Rose Senyamule, at the border between the two regions yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

Samia to obtain honoris causa citation tomorrow

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community has for President Samia and Tanzania in general since Jawaharlal Nehru University, he said noting that the university is one of the most respected academic institutions in India.

It was named after the country's first prime minister in the wake of the tu-

multuous independence of India in 1947 which saw its partition into India and Pakistan, with millions leaving their homes to form a predominantly Muslim state on the western part of the former Empire of India, observers noted.

President Samia is on a four-day state visit to India at the invitation of Indian President Droupadi Murmu,

with relations between India and Tanzania gathering pace during the sixth phase government and the Indian authorities headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

The visit is expected to boost strategic cooperation in sectors like health, industries and trade, defence and security, education, ICT, blue economy, water and agriculture, the minister

noted.

Advertising Tanzania's trade and investment opportunities to traders and potential investors in India is high on the agenda, officials noted, with the visit following in the footsteps of fourth phase president Jakaya Kikwete in 2015, reciprocated by Prime Minister Modi in 2016 while on a rapid tour of five African

countries.

Trade between the two countries reached \$3.4bn in 2022 from \$2.14bn in 2017 and \$3.1bn in 2021/22, while 630 investment projects valued at \$3.74bn were registered during 2021 and 2022, a State House statement indicated.

Tanzania was implementing massive water projects that India sponsored, in-

cluding the Tabora-Igunga project costing 617bn/- and is now completed, it said. Tanzania also benefits from training opportunities in short and long term courses with technology and economy projects as well as from India's cultural relations bureau since 1972, it added.



SERVING IN STYLE: Mwanga Hakika Bank Ltd's head of corporate banking, Project Massawe, marks Customer Service Week at the bank's premises in Dar es Salaam at the weekend by smartening up a car belonging to one of the bank's customers. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Fake seals: TRA 'holds' gin bottling company director

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quired ingredients," she stated.

Double Diamond produced and bottled brands of alcoholic beverages mostly gin under the trademarks of the Ace of Diamond and well as the Ace of Diamond Pineapple (Fla-

voured), she specified, alongside Ayubu Tweve, head of the electronic tax system unit.

The regulations require that each of the packaging bottles be marked with an official revenue counter at every stage of production, she said, pointing out that at the Njiro factory there was another consignment of

900 cartons of bottled gins stored in the cellar with no markings as yet.

It was the 666 packaging cartons that had bottles bearing the forged revenue stamps, she said, highlighting that while the number of bottles per carton is limited to 12 or up to 24 pieces, Diamond Holdings had cartons of up to 30 bottles.

This adds up to nearly 20,000 bottles of spirit gins bearing counterfeit tax revenue stamps which would have gone on sale, she explained.

"Chances are that the company had already dispatched similar numbers, if not more, bottles of their Diamond branded gins with forged revenue seals," she added,

Tshisekedi returns forms to contest in Dec. 20 poll

KINSHASA

PRESIDENT Felix Tshisekedi has submitted his candidacy for a second term in office, joining a crowded list of presidential hopefuls including opposition heavyweights and a Nobel Peace Prize winner.

The turbulent central African nation, a vast and impoverished country of about 100 million people, is due to hold parliamentary and presidential elections on December 20.

Tshisekedi, who came to office after an election in 2018, formally submitted his candidacy for a second five-year term in office in the capital Kinshasa on Saturday.

He joins over a dozen opposition candidates, including political heavyweights and senior members of the previous administration, but the opposition is far from united, observers said.

Given the fractured opposition, the 60-year-old president is favourite to win the poll, with analysts saying he is in a good position.

Christian Moleka, a political science lecturer, said as he is the incumbent, he has the resources of the state, noting that people still believe in him and he's managed to build strategic alliances.

The divided political op-

position would need to unite around a single candidate to stand a chance of beating Tshisekedi, he said, ruling out last minute convergence as several opposition figures "who have something prove have thrown their hats in the ring."

Moise Katumbi, a business magnate and former governor of then-Katanga province is amongst those running after having been barred from contesting the 2018 vote.

Nobel Peace Prize winner Denis Mukwege has called for 'unity of all force' as a contender, despite failing to rally around Martin Fayulu, whom independent observers said won the popular vote in 2018.

Outgoing president Joseph Kabila organized the result to be in Tshisekedi's favour, but they later fell out, while some critics believe that Mukwege's entry into the race complicates matters further for Fayulu.

He was the preferred candidate of the influential Catholic hierarchy but the surgical gynaecologist and winner of the 2018 Nobel Peace Prize, for his work with sexual assault victims who announced his candidacy on October 2 is believed to carry moral authority.

Still, Mukwege is also little

known outside of his native eastern DRC, and is viewed negatively in some quarters as a Western-backed candidate.

Announcing his presidential bid this month, Mukwege told supporters that "unity of all forces" is needed to change the DRC.

Mukwege is open to forming alliances, the political scientist affirmed, noting that it remains to be seen whether other opposition figures are of a similar mind. Several analysts argue that should one unifying opposition candidate emerge, the move will likely arrive late in the election campaign.

This would spare the government the need to go into "aggressive mode" to defeat the candidate by fair means or foul, in the wake of fears by opposition candidates in recent months over a narrowing of the 'democratic space' in the DRC.

Opposition politician Cherubin Okenda, a member of Katumbi's party, was assassinated in Kinshasa in July under circumstances that remain unclear.

A leading Congolese journalist has also been imprisoned on charges of disseminating false information about the murder, thus most opposition parties are convinced the elections will be by and large fraudulent.



Violet Mlinga, an assistant director in the Natural Resources and Tourism ministry, opens a meeting of the ministry's savings and credit cooperative society in Dodoma city on Saturday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

India offers 10 ambulances to boost Tanzania's health sector

By Guardian Reporter

THE Indian government has given Tanzania ten ambulances, which have been installed with medical supplies as part of promises made by India Prime Minister, Narendra Modi.

The donation demonstrates strong bonds between the people of the two countries

Speaking soon after receiving the ambulances over the weekend in Dar es Salaam, Minister for Health, Ummu Mwalimu thanked the Indian government for the support, said that the new health facility will help boost the country's health sector.

She said President Samia Suluhu Hassan will for the first time visit India from October 8 to 11 following an official invitation aiming to strengthen tie in different sectors.

The Phoenix ambulances are an advanced ambulance with a high power of 80HP diesel engine that will help quicker transport of patients to the hospital.

They are fitted with GPRS tracking device, intercom for driver and rear crews communication, spacious rear AC room with Fridge for medicine storage, a wash basin and tank, medical equipment 1 portable and 2 fixed Oxygen Cylinders, pulse oximetry, Portable Suction Apparatus, foot suction machine, portable EMS cardiac monitor with defibrillator and two spine boards with good turning radius to move in small lanes and roads and high ground clearance to run on bad roads.

Tanzania and India have enjoyed traditionally close, friendly and co-operative relations. From the 1960s to the 1980s, the political relationship involved shared commitments to anti-colonialism, non-alignment

as well as South-South Cooperation and close cooperation in international fora.

Former President Julius Nyerere was held in high esteem in India and was conferred the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding in 1974 and the International Gandhi Peace Prize in 1995.

In the post-Cold War period, India and Tanzania initiated economic reform programmes around the same time alongside developing external relations aimed at broader international political and economic relations, developing international business linkages and inward foreign investment.

In recent years, India-Tanzania ties have evolved into a modern and pragmatic relationship with sound political understanding, diversified economic engagement, people to people contacts in the field of education and healthcare, and development partnership in capacity building training, concessional credit lines and grant projects.

President Samila will be accompanied by a high-level delegation including ministers and a large business delegation.

During her stay in New Delhi, President Samia will meet with the President of India Droupadi Murmu and will hold a detailed bilateral dialogue with Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi.

President Samia will also participate in a business and investment forum in New Delhi on 10 October 2023.

A Presidential visit from Tanzania is taking place after a span of over 8 years and is expected to further invigorate and strengthen the historic and friendly relations between the two nations.

Samia to grace 77th session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan is expected to grace the official opening of the 77th ordinary session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights which will be held in Arusha.

Minister for Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Ambassador Dr Pindi Chana revealed here yesterday that nearly 1000 participants from around the continent and overseas will be attending the meetings to be hosted in Tanzania for three consecutive weeks.

However the session will be preceded by a special forum for Non-Government Organisations which runs in Arusha from 16 to 18 October 2023.

Some of the many agendas to be addressed during the forums and sessions include assessing achievements and hurdles of the Maputo Protocol, inclusion of youths in the Implementation of the African Union Agenda 2063 and confronting racism, xenophobia, and discrimination of migrants in northern Africa.

"The head of state has confirmed her participation in the sessions," said Minister Pindi Chana here. As it happens, the 77th Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights will be the longest and busiest, taking place from 20 October to 9 November 2023.

Other topics are things like balancing progress and privacy; navigating ai, data protection, and human rights in African context, analysing the implications and impacts of anti-constitutional changes in African Nations and exploring the challenges and responses to shrinking civic space in African societies.

Delegates will also address issues of accountability for reprisals and judicial killings in Africa's pursuit of human rights. During the sessions, taking place at the Arusha International Conference Centre, there will be a panel on ratification of the protocol to the African Charter on Social Protection in Africa.

In one of the sessions' side events, participants will address the situation of human rights defenders who are protecting the environment in Africa.

This side event will be the opportunity to analyse the violations faced by environmental defenders in Africa especially in Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Tanzania and analyse the situation of women human rights defenders in Cabo Delgado, Mozambique. It will also allow for discussion on strategies for enhancing protection for environmental human rights defenders amongst key stakeholders.

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

DAR ES SALAAM is today set to host International Meeting to eradicate Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) that will involve nearly 1,000 participants from across the globe.

Dar hosts international meeting to curtail FGM

great impact on the society. "This tradition has a great impact on women and girls, so all stakeholders together have a reason to reject these actions by exposing the people who do these actions and bringing them to the security organs," she said.

In addition, the Minister said Tanzania had the opportunity to participate in the first international meeting to eradicate FGM for the first time in Burkina Faso in 2018, which involved 22 member countries

of the African Union. She said the meeting gave a resolution that every country in Africa should establish a strategy to control the FGM practices as well as control the borders to prevent the interaction of these practices from one country to other countries.

She said such a meeting takes place in a country that is appointed by the African Union Commission and for this year the union has chosen Tanzania to host the meeting.

Request for proposal for design and development of Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited Integrated system

Organisational Context Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited (TMRC) is Bank of Tanzania (BOT) licensee as a specialized private-sector financial institution that provides long-term funding to financial institutions for mortgage lending purposes. Since its inception, its objective has been to support financial institutions to do mortgage lending by refinancing Primary Mortgage Lenders' (PMLs) mortgage portfolios. This type of lending is also known as wholesale or secondary market lending. TMRC is neither taking deposits nor lending directly to individuals. It refinances mortgage loan portfolios rather than individuals mortgage loans and caters to banks rather than individual borrowers. TMRC membership is open to banks and non-banking financial institutions which have an interest in the development of the housing sector.

TMRC has set side funds for development of an Integrated System. TMRC is looking for an integrated system which will cover its current and future operations. In terms of Operations Effectiveness, the Company expects to leverage on modern standard technology to automate its Business Processes that will promote data sharing and collaboration between Bank of Tanzania, Tanzania Revenue Authority, PMLs, TMRC and other stakeholders.

The bid documents can be obtained from TMRC website <https://www.tmrc.co.tz/resources/view/procurement-of-tmrc-integrated-system>

TMRC hereby invites companies with relevant experience and would like to bid for the development of the system. Interested bidders may contact TMRC through contacts below for bid documents. The Proposal should reach **TMRC on 3rd November 2023 latest.**

On submission of the Proposal, the company will be required to pay non-refundable fee of US\$50 or TZS 130,000 to be paid at the following Bank accounts.

TZS Account details:
Name of the account holder: Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Ltd
Bank Name: Exim Bank Tanzania Ltd
Branch: Exim Tower Branch
Account Number: 0301985556
SWIFT: EXTNTZTZ
USD Accounts details:
Name of the account holder: Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Ltd
Bank Name: Bank of Africa Tanzania Limited
Branch: NDC Branch
Account Number: 01524670001
SWIFT: EUAFTZTZ
For more information Contact:
Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited, 15th Floor, Golden Jubilee Towers, Ohio Street
P.O. Box 7539
Dar es Salaam, 11101 Tanzania
Tel: +255 22 2215100/5110
Mobile: +255743637980
Email: Procurement@tmrc.co.tz

WWF Tanzania Country Office
Plot 252, Kiko Street, Off Mwai Kibaki Rd, Mikocheni
P.O. Box 63117
Dar es Salaam
Tanzania

Tel: 255 22 2700077
Fax: 255 22 2775535
procurement@wwftz.org
www.wwf.or.tz

REQUEST FOR TENDER

Preparation of Business Plan for WWF Head Offices in Dar Es salaam

- WWF Tanzania is an international non-governmental organization dealing with Environmental protection in Tanzania since 1990 and it has supported the Government of Tanzania in implementing various projects on Marine, Forest, Fresh Water, Energy and Wildlife. WWF global mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by:
 - Conserving the world's biological diversity;
 - Ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable and
 - Promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption
- World Wide Fund for Nature - Tanzania Country Office (WWF - Tanzania) has set aside sum funds for developing a business Plan for building its Head Office in Dar Es salaam. Currently, WWF Tanzania conservation programmes and priorities are guided and based on its 2030 Vision, and WWF Global Conservation Strategies. With a number of projects on going country wide, WWF wishes to develop its Head Office in the Dare es salaam on its own prime piece of land. The organization strongly believe on a positive working environment that is directly related to performance in support to realize the various objects and goals. The proposed Office building will accommodate Head Offices for WWF alongside provision for office spaces, conference hall and other supporting facilities for lease. Development of such substantial Office building entails mobilization of equally substantial financial resources. It is on this background that WWF is seeking potential interested parties to participate in the bidding of preparation of the business plan that will be used in the solicitation and mobilization of funds to be used in the implementation of the development of envisaged WWF Head Office
- The main objective is to prepare a business plan for the development of the proposed WWF Head Office in the Dare es salaam. This goes with other objectives as to-
 - To conduct a real estate market assessment and development opportunity identification of the proposed development;
 - To establish the main target market (anchor tenants) of the proposed development;
 - To draft a business plan that will be used in the solicitation of funds for the implementation of the proposed development.
- The proposed assignment will be undertaken in a maximum of one month, including submission of the business plan. It is anticipated that within this period all works related to data analysis and compilation, report writing as well as handing over of the final report to the WWF TCO shall be completed.
- Full terms of reference and other details as scope of work for this tender are available on WWF website at https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/consultancies_and_tenders/ Interested parties should submit Only full proposals not later than 10:00am, **Thursday 04th November, 2023, addressed to:**

Secretary, Procurement Committee
WWF Tanzania
White Star Street, Off Mwai Kibaki Road Plot 252, Mikocheni
P. O. Box 63117, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Tel: +255 22 277 5346/277 2455/270 0077 Fax:+255 22 277 5535;
website. www.wwf.or.tz
- Evaluation of the tender will be done based on WWF procurement guidelines and that WWF Tanzania is not bound to accept any lowest or highest proposal/bid. Only Successful candidate(s) shall be contacted.
- WWF has a principle of zero tolerance on fraud and corruption, if you encounter such an incident, then report it by sending an email to fcci@wwftz.org



Zanzibar Second Vice President Hemed Suleiman Abdulla waves to SGAs Security staff when visiting the firm's pavilion at the Sixth International Mining Equipment and Products Exhibition in Geita District, Mwanza Region, last week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Tanzania to host 50th international Apimondia beekeeping conference

By Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

TANZANIA will host the 50th Apimondia Conference to be held in Arusha in 2027, President of Apimondia Regional Commission for Africa, David Mukomana said yesterday.

Apimondia is an International Federation of Beekeepers' Associations that brings together beekeepers, manufacturers of beekeeping equipment, and a wide variety of scientists involved in apiculture, apitherapy, pollination, development, and economics.

Mukomana said the main objectives of Apimondia is to facilitate the exchange of information and discussions where beekeepers, scientists, honey traders, agents for development, technicians and legislators meet to listen, discuss and learn from each other.

"Efforts by President Samia Suluhu Hassan through the Royal Tour film has resulted in increased opportunity and the beekeeping sub-sector as well as promoting Tanzania's tourist destinations," said Mukomana.

He said it is an advantage for Tanzania to host the congress due to its geographical location as it can be easily reached by beekeepers from the East African Community (EAC) and Southern African Development Community (SADC).

He commended the tremendous work done by government and Tanzania Forest

Service Agency (TFS) in bringing the global apiculture congress to Tanzania, thus laying a foundation for massive business opportunities for entrepreneurs.

He explained that Tanzania became a member of Apimondia and subsequently hosted the 1st Apimondia symposium on Africa Beekeeping in November 2014 in Arusha.

Executive Chairman of PMM Companies that is involved with honey production, Dr Judith Mhina linked the successes with efforts by President Samia in promoting the country's tourism sector.

"Hosting this meeting will strengthen the economy as we are going to receive more than 6,000 visitors. We expect to earn more than \$20 million during the five days," she said.

A beekeeper from Tabora Region, Degratius Mndeme said they are expecting to sell more honey and establish partnerships with beekeepers from across the globe.

TFS will soon launch a total of six existing factories in various regions that will help increase the value of honey and enable farmers to sell to the international market.

Data from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism shows that the country's production of honey stands at 38,000 tonnes per year but the potential is 132,000 tonnes.

'Establishment of national public health institute crucial'

By Correspondent Daniel Sembeya

HEALTH sector stakeholders have underscored that the establishment of a National Public Health Institute (NPHI) was crucial as it will help heighten coordination and control of various health challenges to further reduce the global burden of disease.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam during the just ended Tanzania Health Summit, Director of Global Health Security (GHS) at the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Dr Wangeeci Gatei said that if NPHI is established it will among others, promote health acting as a hub of pandemic and epidemic intelligence.

The institute will coordinate public

health functions and programmes, institutionalise and build resilience in IHR core-capacities of prevent, detect, respond and recover from public health threats.

According to Gatei, NPHI will apply multi-sectoral cross-cutting one health strategies, manage multidisciplinary surge staffing as needed in preparedness and response, provide a unique opportunity to create effective responses, improve efficiencies and hence reduce cost.

She further detailed that if developed, the NPHI will also manage public health emergencies: Lead surveillance and rapid outbreak investigations; operate public health laboratories functions for

expert detection and tracing; maintain an emergency response team.

Lead collaborations: Bring together experts from across government and partners; provide leadership for core public health functions naturally.

Coordinates programme: Lead public health programmes and public health operational, implementation research to achieve targets; house resources for public health programmes.

Serve as a trusted information resource: Lead or coordinate public health messaging; provide data, guidelines and updates on public health content.

She further mentioned the value of NPHI as being a linkage among critical public health functions leading to im-

proved coordination and response to threats. Dr Mahesh Swaminathan, the U.S. CDC Tanzania Country Director said that the centre will have been supporting Tanzania's efforts to establish a National Public Health Institute.

"We stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Tanzania, and have already provided technical support, training and fact-finding missions as Tanzania embarks on this critically important mission."

In the follow-up to the UN General Assembly, a delegation led by Minister for Health, Ummu Mwalimu travelled to Washington, DC, Atlanta, and the U.S. state of South Carolina to hear from stakeholders at the federal and local levels on how public health institutions can

effectively accomplish their goals.

"We were happy to host and coordinate this travel so that health stakeholders across the Tanzanian government have a better understanding of what best practices in the U.S. system might be applicable to the Tanzanian context."

Dr Swaminathan said: "We share Tanzania's enthusiasm for the project to establish a NPHI, which can coordinate the country's disease control and prevention efforts, pandemic and epidemic responses, and generally respond to public health threats."

Since 2011, CDC has helped develop and strengthen NPHIs in more than 40 countries. Around the world, NPHIs have varying names and differ in size

and scope, but their purpose remains the same—improving public health by being an institutional home for scientific excellence and partnership.

In Tanzania's case, the NPHI Programme has been working for several years to implement our Data Impact activities such as standing up the public health bulletin and the development of policy briefs through the Data to Policy program, all in partnership with the MOH.

Prof. Tumaini Nagu, the Chief Medical Officer, also concurred with fellow doctors and other stakeholders by saying that the establishment of NPHI is crucial because the government has hugely expanded its health system.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

Chemonics International Inc, a U.S. based international development consulting firm, seeks a **Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)/Collaborating, Learning, and Adapting (CLA) Director** for the USAID Tanzania Lishe Mtambuka Activity, also known as the Regional Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Activity. The five-year project aims to strengthen health and food market systems that promote the adoption of optimal nutrition-related behaviors across a range of stakeholders in targeted regions in Tanzania. We are seeking individuals who have a passion for making a difference in the lives of people around the world. This position will be based in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Responsibilities include:

- Finalizing and overseeing the Lishe Mtambuka Activity's knowledge and learning plan and Activity Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Plan (AMELP), and designing and operating the activity's MEL system.
- Integrating CLA principles throughout implementation to promote learning and build the MEL and CLA capacity of our consortium and stakeholders through training and knowledge transfer.
- Collaborating with Lishe Mtambuka technical staff to develop and manage tools for data collection, storage, and analysis.
- Performing data analyses, generating reports of findings, and creating data visualizations to contribute to Lishe Mtambuka's reporting requirements and communications products.
- Collecting and disseminating lessons learned and sharing successes during project implementation. In conjunction with activity leadership, helping Lishe Mtambuka's team learn from its data.

Qualifications:

- Master's degree in statistics, quantitative/qualitative data analysis or management, program management, anthropology/social sciences, or related field.
- Minimum of 12 years of experience in utilizing tools for data collection, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting of donor-funded projects.
- Prior work experience on USAID-funded projects working with results frameworks, indicators, and targets required.
- Demonstrated knowledge of integrating CLA into project interventions to inform decision-making and incorporating CLA into capacity building for program monitoring requirements.
- Demonstrated experience with quantitative and qualitative research methods, including developing surveys and holding focus groups and capacity building for CLA.
- Excellent interpersonal and communications skills, with demonstrated diplomacy and the ability to communicate effectively in a cross-cultural environment.
- Demonstrated leadership, versatility, and integrity
- Excellent written and verbal communications skills in English.

Application Instructions

To apply, please submit your CV and application through this link (<https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/8bbd42e5ecd49c3955a19f61a0d6b36>). Applications must be submitted by Sunday, October 22nd, 2023, however, please submit your application as soon as possible, as candidates will be contacted on a rolling basis. No telephone inquiries, please. Finalists will be contacted.

Chemonics is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in its selection and employment practices on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factors.

Factors pulling Tanzania down on digital economy status march cited

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

TANZANIA will not be able to attain digital economy status without having identifying infrastructures because digital economy incorporates the sending of letters, parcels and other services at homes that can be done via post code addresses.

The observation was made here at the weekend by the Coordinator for the implementation of the post codes address system project, Jampion Mbugi at the launching of training seminar on the implementation of the post codes address systems at Morogoro Municipal council offices provided to Ward officials, village chairmen and over 1,000 collectors of details.

The stakeholders are expected to conduct the exercise to verify post codes address within 14 days in all areas of Moro-

goro Municipality.

Mbugi said Tanzania has the opportunity to attain the digital economy status and for it to benefit from various issues by simplifying all services in general because the post codes address system has attained achievements at 95 per cent while in other African countries the attainment is only at 15 per cent.

He said every country has installed its identification systems in accordance to their goals and for Tanzania, it has incorporated various issues including safety, security and online trade.

"For the system to become sustainable, the empowerment issue is also supposed to be sustainable by building up understand and more mobilisation, as there has emerged a practice who have tried to destroy post codes addresses," Mbugi said.

He added that the implementation of

the post codes address system exercise has attained 95 per cent and leads many African countries since its inception in 2010.

For his part, Morogoro District Administrative secretary, Hillary Sagala, representing the district Commissioner stressed on the community not to vandalise post code address signs, as in some areas these are now missing.

"The government will continue providing education to the community to make the people understand on how to value these infrastructures that has cost a lot of funds to install," Sagala said.

For his part, the representative of Morogoro region Administrative Secretary, who is also Morogoro Region ICT Officer, Herman Njelele said the Region will not hesitate to take stern measures against all those who will be found to hinder the exercise.



Dar Ceramica Centre's head of sales and marketing, Raymond Nkya (R), briefs Dodoma regional commissioner Rosemary Senyamule (C) and Dodoma district commissioner Jabir Shekimweri at the launch of the firm's branch in Dodoma city at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

School furniture worth 108m/- issued in Arusha, Kilimanjaro

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

MORE than 1000 students from primary and secondary schools in Arusha and Kilimanjaro regions have benefited from class and dormitory furniture worth 108m/- donated by one of the leading financial institutions in the country.

It was during the special customer and client's services week when the NMB Bank distributed 400 sets of class tables and chairs, 100 desks and 160 beds in three primary and six secondary schools.

The annual customer service week was observed between October 2 and 8, 2023 around the world.

NMB Bank's northern zone manager Baraka Ladislaus said the institution has been compelled to use the special week in giving back to the community through its corporate social responsibility.

"Our bank is investing heavily in the improvement of Health and Education services and related sectors in the country," Ladislaus explained.

Schools that benefited in Kilimanjaro Region include, Hai Day secondary, which got 100 sets of tables and chairs, Shirimatunda also received 100, both in Hai District.

There was also Anna Mkapa secondary which received 50 sets and Mawenzi 50 sets in Same District.

Hai District Commissioner Amiri Mkalipa, speaking on behalf of his colleagues, said other institutions need to emulate NMB Bank's example in identifying what the community needs and addressing the challenges facing them.

"The donations have been quite helpful because they are exactly what our school, pupils and students need," said DC Mkalipa, adding that the government will do everything to ensure that a conducive environment for doing business is created in the precinct.

One of the parents in Same District, Yusto Mapande said such support helps to take off the burden of incurring additional expenses to procure school furniture and equipment.

In Arusha, the Sombetini secondary school received 100 sets of class tables and chairs.

As for the dormitory bunkers, the Kimala secondary and Same primary school received 40 double-decked beds each. The Kibaoni primary school has also been provided with 80 sets of beds.

The Uhuru primary school of Arusha was given 100 desks for its classrooms.

NMB Bank's quality controller, Salie Mlay said the financial institution has set aside part of their profits, amounting to 6.2bn/- which is now being invested in community services as well as projects.

"In recognizing President Samia Suluhu's drive in providing quality services to the people of Tanzania the NMB Bank will continue to support community development projects to solve arising challenges faced by the residents of Tanzania," he added.

According to the NMB official the bank is also working to increase the amount of dividends paid to the government, which at the moment stands at 45.5bn/-.



Kinondoni District school quality controller Naitwa Mgumba (L) represents the Dar es Salaam regional commissioner on Saturday in presenting a certificate to Jovina Edward, a John Baptist Girls High School student who has performed outstandingly in her studies. It was at the Dar es Salaam school's graduation ceremony. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TBA commends 6th phase govt for implementing pro-business policies

By Getrude Mbago

TANZANIA Bankers Association (TBA) has hailed the 6th phase government for implementing pro-business policies, something which had helped increase operational efficiency of the banks and positive performance of other economic sectors.

According to the association, there has been a strong performance demonstrated during the first half of the 2023 year where the government continued to implement various policy reforms to improve the business environment.

Addressing reporters in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, TBA managing director Tusekelele Joune said that it was important for the institutions to offer products and solutions catering to the needs of all Tanzanians as well as invest in environmental protection.

"The banking sector in Tanzania continues to exhibit robust financial stability. Our member banks have maintained healthy capitalisation levels and adhere to stringent risk management practices, contributing to the overall strength of the financial system," she said.

She said the sector's stability is a testament to the resilience and professionalism of our member institutions where the core capital adequacy ratio was 19.6 percent, above the minimum regulatory requirement of 10 percent (according to the monetary policy statement released by the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) in June 2023).

Assets quality improved with

the ratio of non-performing loans reaching 5.85 per cent, down from 8.42 percent in January 2022 and even decreased to 5.5 per cent in April 2023 from 7.8 per cent in June 2022.

"We are also pleased to report that the quality of loan portfolios across the banking sector remains sound. Prudent lending practices and ongoing risk assessments have contributed to maintaining a low rate of non-performing loans," she said.

The overall lending and negotiated rates averaged around 15.96 percent and 13 percent in June 2023 respectively, almost similar to the rates recorded in the corresponding quarter in 2022.

She said the banking sector has continued to play a critical role in enabling borrowers to acquire the needed funds for their diverse economic activities.

TBA continues representing and advocating for conducive policies that would make financial inclusion, particularly through the banking sector successful.

"Several banks in Tanzania have established not-for-profit corporate social investment initiatives (foundations) focused on serving the social economic challenges that our society faces such as poverty," she added.

"We thank the government because it has been closely engaging us in various initiatives and whatever challenges there are, we sit and solve together, this is very important as it brings harmony and stimulates development," she said.

Former PM Pinda: Most farmers lack education on use of fertiliser

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

FORMER Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda has said many farmers in the country still lack the right education on the use of fertiliser when cultivating in order to enhance crops yields.

He made the remarks here at the weekend when addressing retired teachers from Dodoma Region who visited him at his farm in Zinje area.

He said for farming to be of benefit farmers are required to abide by farming regulations including the application of fertiliser to increase their yields.

He explained that agricultural extension officers hold that responsibility - supervising farmers in their areas and educating them on the benefit of fertiliser in farming.

Pinda added that farmers have been endeavouring in their farming activities but need more education for them to reap benefit from farming, and added that people are required to grab opportunity in farming and fish farming because the latter needs only a small area.

He explained that retired people are an important group in the society as they have different types of skills, hence they can help the society in various fields.

He said in case they join hands they can help to solve challenges from the skills they acquired before retiring.

He also called upon retirees to adopt production activities including farming and livestock keeping.

Earlier, The Secretary general of Dodoma Retired Teachers Association, Hassan Mbiru said the aim of their visit is to learn about various activities in farming and livestock keeping.

"We have learned a lot, after retiring one can do many development activities to assist the community," he said.

He said they came to the farm to learn from the former PM who has concentrated in farming and livestock keeping with great achievements.



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF GEITA STADIUM AT GEITA TOWN

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company"), a subsidiary of AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") is in north-western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5 km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of obtaining contractors for construction of Geita Stadium and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible contractors to submit Expressions of Interest (EOI) for this service as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. SUCCESSFULLY CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECT TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI'S VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of Supply:

REFERENCE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
GGME01791	PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF GEITA STADIUM AT GEITA TOWN

II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS (MANDATORY) COMMERCIAL	20%
Company Profile	2%
Company Code of Conduct and Ethics	2%
Copy of Current Business Permit and Trade license	2%
Copy of Incorporation Certificate, the most recent BRELA search, and the latest BRELA application of annual return.	2%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC), TIN Certificate and VRN certificate	3%
Copy of company memorandum and article of association	2%
List of Directors and Company Shareholding Structure	2%
Compliance with Mining Act-Approved Local Content Plan.	3%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	5%
Supplier's audited financial statements for the past three consecutive years, this will confirm Supplier's experience in the business, and assist in comparability and business trend analysis.	2%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position. If any.	1%
All bank statements of the Supplier's active bank accounts for the past 6 months to date	1%
A guarantee from a reputable financial institution to support any declared alternative source of funds.	1%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	5%
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.5%
Environmental compliance certificate	1.5%
Workers' compensation fund certificate	1%
Safety and Environmental policy	1%
OTHER POLICIES	5%
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labor	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Program	1%
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1%
Acceptance certificates /completion certificates (Prove of a. above where applicable)	1%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	2%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01791)	60%
CRB Class Certificates (Requirement is Class I ONLY Foreign or Local)-Buildings & Civil Works	10%
Provide CV of all Technical personnel registered by respective regulatory authorities in Tanzania	10%
Provide list of all owned Tools and Equipment and evidence of ownership	10%
Applicant should submit CRB Clearance Letter showing no historical contract non performance, any pending litigation history and consistent history of court/arbitral award decisions against the applicant since 2019	5%
Proven experience on construction of Football stadiums in Tanzania or Africa with proof of evidence for at least three projects	15%
Completion certificates for completed Football stadium projects approved by TFF	10%
Total	100%

III. Interested Companies must submit their expressions Letter of Interest ("LOI") by quoting GGME01791 - PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF GEITA STADIUM AT GEITA TOWN COUNCIL ON THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL. Interested companies must also provide full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the company, name of the principal contact and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline why the company is of interest to work with, what the prospective company has to offer and how the skills and experience are valuable to Geita gold Mining Limited.

IV. All LOIs and support documentation (in PDF format) must be submitted to the Company's Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com without copying any individual from the Company. Submission should not be later than 8.30AM 18th October 2023. (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

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Malinyi district commissioner Sebastian Waryuba pictured yesterday launching a mobile health clinic donated by Switzerland's Solidar Med Institute and meant to serve remote parts of the district. Photo: Correspondent Idda Mushi

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

DEPUTY Prime Minister Dr Doto Biteko, has directed government officials to be creative and implement the plans they set on time and with efficiency instead of waiting to be pressurised by the top leaders.

Dr Biteko, who is also Energy minister made the call over the weekend when speaking at the Pangani Investment Forum held on the sidelines of the Swahili International Tourism Expo (SITE).

The forum was organised jointly by the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) in collaboration with the

Pangani district office, Tanga Region. Biteko said the executives should go down to listen to the concerns of people and solve them quickly instead of waiting for minor problems to be brought to the attention of the president and other high profile leaders.

"The president should only think about major matters such as the construction of a Standard Gauge Railway and others, so let's solve these small things that are within our ca-

capacity and not wait to be forced by someone," he said.

He said it has become common to see leaders putting a lot of pressure on major national issues and completely forgetting the minor issues that directly affect the lives of common citizens.

He said Pangani District has been an example by establishing an investment forum which will be of great benefit in attracting tourism and investment and he urged other dis-

tricts across the country to follow such example.

"It is my belief that if all the districts will have the creativity to hold such events within their districts, ministries would be less burdened, so I appeal to leaders when you see districts coming up with innovations like this support them and not see them as your competitors," he said.

He said leaders should avoid the tendency of discouraging their subordinates when they show creativity,

Malinyi gets mobile clinic from NGO in Switzerland

By Guardian Correspondent, Malinyi

THE Government of Switzerland, through its Solidar Med, a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) operating in five countries have handed over mobile clinic services to government authorities in Malinyi District to enable the people living in poor surroundings to access from health services with ease.

The mobile clinic with Malinyi District health workers will provide services to all people targeting doctors' services to pregnant mothers and children under five years of age, diseases that are not accorded priority including blood pressure and infectious diseases including TB and HIV-Aids.

Frida Akyoo, the mobile clinic manager officially handed over the modified mobile clinic vehicle (Land Cruiser), tents, medical devices and other equipment, saying its overall cost is more than 211m/-. She said they plan to cover all 10 wards in the district, especially 14 villages and 25 homesteads in difficult surroundings including Madabada, Ipera Asilia, Alabama, Kipenyo, Misegese, Ihowanji, Kilosa Mpepo and other areas that are difficult to reach.

She said the mobile clinic is part of a three-year project that aims to provide health services and education to various community groups including 56,000 herders, women, children, people with HIV-Aids.

Solidar Med Resident Director in

Tanzania who also covers Zambia and Zimbabwe, Dr Benatus Sambili said the institution, registered as NGO in the country had aimed to reach Morogoro Region residents, especially those living in Kilombero Valley including Ifakara, Mlimba, Ulanga and Malinyi districts.

He added that the NGO has been aiming to boost hospital services, maternity services projects, maternity health, TB and HIV-Aids.

Malinyi District Commissioner, Sebastian Waryuba, receiving and launching the mobile clinic thanked Solidar Med and the Swiss government in general for its recognition of the good work being done by President Samia Suluhu Hassan and her government in improving the country's healthcare services.

"This mobile clinic has come at the right time, especially owing to having areas that are difficult to access, especially during rain season," he said.

He also called on health experts and council officials to respect the assistance by taking care of the vehicle and have in place a good management in order for it to last long.

Malinyi District Council vice chairman, Lucas Mgoahenga and acting District Executive Director who is also the district medical officer, Dr Aziz Keto, at different times commended the assistance given, especially after Solidar Med had provided another assistance recently in improving toilets and water systems in the districts; dispensaries.

'We need to be creative to implementing plans'

Security firm wins top award at International Mining Expo

By Guardian Reporter

SGA Security has scooped yet another top award for excellence in offering guarding services through the use of state-of-the-art technology and safety in the mining industry.

The Award was presented to SGA Security during the just-ended International Mining Exhibition in Geita.

The 6th edition of the mining exhibition was closed by Zanzibar's Second Vice President, Hemed Suleiman, after 10 days of busy activity by over 350 exhibitors.

The visitors were able to experience first-hand how combination of technology and human interface boosts surveillance and prevents loss of assets in the mines.

Eric Sambu, SGA (T) Managing Director commended the organisers for the successful exhibition and appreciated the recognition SGA received. "This award demonstrates the efforts we have made in assuring all actors in the mining industry of reliable safety and security for them to concentrate on their core activities," he said.

Sambu added that the company invests a lot in fostering partnerships with renowned manufacturers of electronic security solutions to ensure that their customers get latest solutions at affordable prices. "Our secret has been to continuously train our technicians to remain on top and assure our customers of value for money in their investments in these technologies.

SGA was also awarded the top prize by the Ministry of Minerals last year for local content performance at the International Minerals and Mining Conference.

"We pride ourselves in prioritizing locals in recruitment of personnel and procurement of items we use in our areas of operations. We foster relations with all stakeholders in all our activities to ensure that we remain sustainable," Sambu added.

SGA Security was the first company to operate private security in Tanzania some 40 years ago. It currently employs over 5,000 Tanzanians across its national network of branches.

The company also offers latest security solutions in transportation of high value goods and case, guarding, emergency response and installation and maintenance of electronic security solutions. SGA also maintains several ISO Certifications and have won many top awards in the country and the region for the quality for their services.



Mwanza regional administrative secretary Elikana Balyanda speaks at a Customer Service Week event in Mwanza city yesterday. He is with Airtel Tanzania's director for customer experience, Adriana Lyamba (C), and another official with the mobile phone service provider. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

USAID health projects bring new hope to HIV, TB patients in southern regions

THE five-year health projects of United States Agency for International Development Government agency (USAID) have achieved significant success in assisting the Tanzanian government in addressing the challenges of HIV and tuberculosis in the southern regions heavily burdened by the effects of these diseases.

The projects include Afya Yangu Southern Program and Kizazi Hodari Southern, managed by Deloitte under the sponsorship of the United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), through the coordination of the USAID.

Dr. Marina Njelekela, the Chief of Party of the

USAID Afya Yangu Southern project, speaking at the 10th Tanzania Health Summit in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, stated that the \$102 million project aims to support the delivery of quality HIV and Tuberculosis (TB) services, including prevention, care, TB treatment, and HIV antiretroviral therapy in six southern regions of Tanzania.

"The project supports approximately 1,409 health facilities in the regions of Iringa, Lindi, Morogoro, Mtwara, Njombe, and Ruvuma in providing services and testing for both communicable and non-communicable diseases, for the year

2022/23, 1.1 million people were tested for HIV/AIDS, with 48,000 of them testing positive for the virus," Dr. Marina Njelekela explained.

Doroth Matoyo, Chief of Party of the USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern said over the weekend that the five-year, \$28.5 million project aims to assist orphaned and vulnerable children living in high-risk environments who, in one way or another, have been affected by HIV. It has reached more than 86,965 beneficiaries, including 56,527 women and 30,438 men, in 11 regions of mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

"The project has been highly successful in

providing HIV services as well as services that improve nutrition, health, education, prevention, mental health, and life skills," said Doroth.

Carlton Jones, the Director Advisory of Deloitte Tanzania, emphasized the importance of Tanzanians adhering to best health practices, as despite various efforts, the rate of infection remains unsatisfactory, he noted that the current perception of HIV as a common disease within the community leads to the disregard of health professionals' advice.

Deloitte Tanzania Director of Results Management, Dr. Moses Ringo, emphasises the sig-

nificance of using HIV antiretroviral drugs, highlighting that it is crucial in the fight against the disease.

"When a person uses medication to suppress the virus to below 50 copies in their blood, the likelihood of transmitting it to others decreases," said Dr. Ringo.

Both projects, each spanning five years, began with the USAID Afya Yangu Southern Project on November 9, 2021, and the USAID Kizazi Hodari Southern Project on March 24, 2022, serving the regions of Iringa, Njombe, Ruvuma, Lindi, Mtwara, Rukwa, Katavi, Songwe, Pwani, Morogoro, and Mjini Magharibi in Zanzibar.

Balancing act vital on recruiting medical staff vis-a-vis community health workers

REPORTS that the government is set to recruit 153,385 community health workers in the next three years to strengthen primary healthcare provision is at once good news as definitely they will make a contribution. Yet the news came more or less in place of even greater relief, that the government will fill most open places hindering hundreds of dispensaries and health centres from either starting to offer services or improving their services. There are serious shortages of equipment and staff, such that building more health centres is being halted.

A top level official for the Health and Social Welfare department in the President's Office (PO-RALG) mentioned this recruitment drive at the Tanzania Health Summit then in its final stages late last week. The current projection is to employ 51,192 community health workers each year for three years to attain 153,385 openings, a massive effort by any criteria. This is supposed to cater for the needs of primary health care, but is this not concomitant with medical care?

One aspect of the difficulty of linking these areas if the wish expressed by the PO-RALG official on the need to facilitate implementation of Universal Health Coverage (UHC), an insurance format. He explained that the community health system is the first point of contact for most people seeking health care, asserting that it is essential for health promotion and disease prevention. This has air of medical sector extension officers, explaining how to live, work, to stem disease.

Some ponderous problems arise from these remarks, for instance an assertion

that if we want to implement UHC, we must first invest in community health workers, so that more than 85 per cent of the population receive health services at primary health setups. It isn't easy to say this is where one goes in case of malaria or diarrhoea, which means that community health staff are an addition to medical staff properly speaking. It is the new dispensaries and health centres that should be opened, and elevated hospitals get equipment, not health advice.

If anything, the government can seek out a medical or para-medical franchise with ability to obtain donor financing to extend the community health preventive action drive. If it is organised in a public-private partnership mode, it is possible for the government to put in a substantial portion of its running costs the way it works with religious institutions and other charities to provide medical care. Preventive care needs specific skills and a calling, as it actually involves educating people against their daily habits, not the task for a non-committed fellow, first in doing the work as an employee and in supervising it.

The PO-RALG executive hinged the UHC intention to the community health workers drive, despite that the staff it is seeking appear to be paramedical, as proper medical staff work in hospitals, not telling people how to control disease. We hear that each community needs two community health workers, for an estimated 64,384 'hamlets' countrywide. Whatever the merits of their work, proper staffing of already built dispensaries is crucial for treatment rather than extension work as this idea

Blacklisting surveyors partial solution to urban land conflict

VARIOUS sorts of land conflicts are making headlines on a periodical basis, one relating to lack of respect for traditional entitlement of land use when herdsmen invade farms with cattle as if farmers are trespassers.

Another is land contention between farming areas and conservation reserved areas, while another is double allocation of plots faulty acquisition of land conducted by town planners or urban land administrators. Authorities make efforts to solve each of these land conflicts at a time, and no generalised solutions come forth.

An underlying theme of all these problems is the public ownership of land, where ownership is invested in the President of the United Republic for the various communities, but on the whole the use of that entitlement is of last resort.

Otherwise it is customary law that applies, so farmers occupy land and share it out among clan members, while cattle herdsmen know all land as bush, with possible awareness that reserved areas matter. Not so much for the farms.

When it comes to urban land allocation or transfer, something similar to the two sets of unequal relations applies, as people are either cheated of land by clever people in selling land plots, or by clever officials in enabling transfers of plots from one person to another, or from undeveloped bush to individual occupancy. As Dodoma for instance is a fast growing city and plenty of pursuits of plots of land converge each day at city offices, some things are being conducted badly.

There are efforts by Prime Minister Kasim Majaliwa to direct legal action against companies tasked with surveying plots in the surroundings of the capital and then showing clear misconduct, which was an illustration.

Two problems crop up in that regard, one as relating to the 'leadership code,' of doing business where one is charged with administration - thus by definition inviting corruption.

The other problem is inordinate power that state officials over the land, and on the basis of government reporting systems, it is nearly impossible to reverse

such decisions.

For those who follow policy thinking in relation to land administration, the buzzword since at least 2003 is the need for registration of properties 'of the poor,' in major urban areas, and using customary titles in registering rural land occupancy (which the media profusely confuse with land ownership).

There are even efforts to bring cattle herdsmen to take out communal titles to land occupancy while the rest of the country is still a bush in their customary law terms, implying they can invade.

Agents hired by senior local government officials take an individual's land with the stroke of pen. In case of complaints, the dispossessed fellow can be certain he will get little hearing, outside 'come next week' ad infinitum. This is what happens, until one tires out; disciplinary action might not involve reversing decisions, or it may take years.

Since public land ownership is entrenched in the constitution, changes to the format shall be fairly slow as urban investments enable individuals to pile up cash and buy land in rural areas.

This gradually changes the landscape to leave encircled rural areas where customary land is still operational, with most surrounding land taken over by buyers from all sorts of places, local or foreign. Few conflicts shall arise at that time.

“ Agents hired by senior local government officials take an individual's land with the stroke of pen. In case of complaints, the dispossessed fellow can be certain he will get little hearing, outside 'come next week' ad infinitum. ”

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The incredible journey of Tanzania-India relationship

By January Makamba

TANZANIA and India enjoy long-standing historical friendship and brotherhood, built upon a solid bond of cooperation. With President Samia Suluhu Hassan's State Visit to India from 8-11 October 2023, our growing ties will be elevated to greater heights, linking our historical past, geographical positions as well as the strategic direction of our current Foreign Policies.

Tanzania's relations with India date centuries ago, when trade between the people of Swahili Coast (including Zanzibar and Tanganyika) and Mandovi River Coast of Gujarat was documented.

The period witnessed the arrival of Indian traders, mostly from coastal Gujarat on the shores of Zanzibar and then to mainland Tanzania. Through the famous seasonal Monsoon Winds, traders and sailors from Europe passing through Africa could count on this dependable wind to carry out a roundtrip along the Indian Ocean annually. The discovery of the Monsoon Winds paved the way for the Monsoon Trade System to boom. Arguably the oldest trade route system, it gathered an Indian Ocean Network of merchants using dhows, traveling from various places in Africa (including modern-day Tanzania), Persia, India, and Southeast Asia.

For our two countries, as the network grew strong, the interaction between the people of the Swahili Coast and their Indian counterparts grew even more robust. As a result, people-to-people relations emerged, giving a solid foundation for government-to-government ties. With the establishment of Diplomatic Missions in Tanganyika and India in 1961 and 1962, respectively, our relations flourished. Today, Tanzania and India continue to enjoy cordial and friendly diplomatic relations built upon our shared desire to deepen economic, political, cultural, and social engagements that started centuries ago.

Bilaterally, our two countries are interested in capitalizing on and stepping



Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister January Makamba (L) and India's External Affairs minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar.

up our shared vision for development, tackling everyday challenges to economic growth, and identifying innovative opportunities for our countries to prosper.

On this front, I commend President Samia, the First Diplomat, for her leadership of our government, which enabled the amendment of investment policies, improvement of the business environment, strengthening of democracy and good governance, and enhancement of economic diplomacy.

With this visit, our relations with India will enter a critical stage whereby our two governments, led by President Samia and her counterpart Droupadi Murmu and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi will commit to rekindle business and trade relations for prosperity.

Currently, India is Tanzania's fourth largest trading partner, with a bilateral trade volume of USD 6.5

billion in 2022-23 (as per Indian statistics) and 3.1 billion in 2021-2022 (as per Tanzanian statistics) compared to USD 2.6 billion in 2017-2018. Similarly, India is among the top five investment sources in Tanzania. In 2021/2022, 630 investment projects worth USD 3.7billion were registered at the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC).

In addition to this zeal to revive economic ties with India, we at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation have witnessed President Samia elevating the execution of our Foreign Policy to greater heights.

Since she came into power, she has given Tanzania's Diplomacy significant attention by opening up the country to both business, bilateral and multilateral engagements. Without diverting from core principles of Foreign Policy, she has put more thrust into new areas of cooperation

by using the Joint Permanent Commission with our friends and allies, India being a major one. Tanzania and India cooperate in strategic sectors such as water, health, agriculture, ICT, blue economy, education, trade and investment and agriculture, and the promotion of business and investment opportunities available in Tanzania in order to attract Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) from India.

From the early days of the Monsoon Trade System, it is indeed a Bridge Across the Ocean, with our Indian partners whom today, we share vibrant economic relations in the area of trade and investment.

As a Minister responsible for the Foreign Affairs portfolio, I take pride to note the endurance of Tanzania -India trade and business incredible journey that have stood the test of time. It is my sincere hope that this State Visit will give impetus to President Samia's quest to unlock Tanzania's constraints to economic growth.

Alarm bells are ringing at halfway point of the 2030 Agenda

By Oli Henman

THE world is now half way to 2030 but the ambitious goals agreed in 2015 including the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are under threat, action is urgently needed.

Over the past week world leaders gathered at the UN at the SDG Summit to set out the next steps towards 2030 and there is still a long way to go. Even the Secretary General's own report highlighted that only 12 per cent of the goals are on track.

Recent years have seen a series of interlocking crises leading to growing inequality, escalating cost of living and devastating impacts around the world, pushing many people further behind. The Covid-19 pandemic is still taking its toll, affecting health, education and economic opportunities.

Authoritarianism, armed conflicts and militarism are tearing through already fragile communi-

ties. Millions of people are facing oppression, war, displacement, and loss of homes and livelihoods.

At the same time, the effects of the climate crisis are already affecting people and ecosystems, especially in the Global South, presenting a long-term threat to our shared lives on this earth. With temperatures continuing to rise, we are witnessing irreversible slow progress impacts and an increase in extreme weather events that are already affecting communities at the frontlines.

Challenging negotiations
The world is facing multiple and interlocking challenges but leaders are still not coming together with the urgency that is required.

In fact, the final outcome text even includes the following recognition: "we are alarmed that the progress on most of the SDGs is either moving much too slowly or has regressed below the 2015 baseline".

For this SDG Summit negotiations started in Feb-

ruary on a Political Declaration, guided by the Ambassadors of Ireland and Qatar. A broad dialogue was established, and inputs were also taken from wider stakeholders in the early part of the negotiations. The co-facilitators enabled a clear process for dialogue and a number of key points were brought into the text.

However, the negotiations became increasingly fraught and dragged on until the beginning of September.

There have been suggestions that there were disagreements on language around gender equality, climate change and also on the fundamental question of financing for the implementation of the Goals.

Even after the final draft was circulated there has been a letter of concern on the demand for language on ending sanctions by Russia and a number of other member states. So, did the Summit deliver any clear proposals for the way forward?

Needed: Signers at health facilities to help the hearing impaired

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TANZANIA joined other countries for the commemoration of International Week of Deaf People which took place in Mbeya Region where communication barrier emerged as a major hindrance for this group of people with special needs, especially at key public service facilities such as health.

At the commemoration which took place last week, communication barrier was mentioned as a source of inadequate health care services, isolation, low self-esteem and abuse for people living with deafness in the country.

Also, because of availability of signers, a number of deaf were diagnosed with various diseases that could not be diagnosed and treated before due to communication barrier.

Njile Haroub, a resident of Morogoro Region, is a widow and a mother of four children born with hearing disability. She said that shortage of sign language interpreters greatly hinder provision of services at health facilities and schools.

Because she also lives with deafness, she recalled when she delivered her first child and communication was a big problem between her and the midwives at a public hospital.

"I had to teach basic sign language to one of the midwives who attended to me and things went pretty well," she said through a signer.

However, after delivering, she faced another challenge of taking the new baby to the clinic where all attendants knew nothing about sign language.

Fortunately, her younger sister has no speech impairment but learned sign language through her and volunteered as a signer whenever she took any of her children to hospital.

Sometimes she spent nearly the entire day in a hospital waiting to meet doctors for consultation in the queues due to communication barriers.

"I had to stay longer hours in queue waiting for my name to be called because my card did not mention that I live with deafness," she said.

Subira Upurute is another woman living with deafness. She said that she had a protracted labour and lost her child and she blames communication barrier for that loss.

"Had there been a person who understands sign language, I believe something would have been done in time to save my child," she said.

She said inclusivity in health is very important to people with disabilities, especially deaf people who cannot adequately get the services if there is communication barrier.

Nuru Pengo from Iringa Region also lives with deafness



and faced similar problems in hospitals personally and with her two children. She said the challenges start right from the registration area all the way to the doctor's consultation room.

At the registration is where important information about the patient is captured and recorded before the file is forwarded to the doctor and in her experience, in most cases, details were wrongly captured due to communication barrier.

Another problem is that during pregnancy and delivery, there are some heal caregivers and members of the public who through their body language, feel that women

with deafness should not precreate.

"When you enter a doctor's room for consultation and there is no signer, it is a bit of an embarrassment," she said.

She added that it is also the case in pharmacies where after realizing that a person is deaf, attendants normally keep them waiting for longer hours until someone who know a thing or two about sign languages comes in and rescue the situation.

"As human being I feel very bad when I cannot get basic service like health because of my disability," she said.

She explained that there is low awareness among the

community about the rights of deaf people with respective areas or institutions.

Celina Mremba, chairperson of Tanzania Association of the Deaf, better known by its Kiswahili acronym CHAVITA said lack of signers at public health facilities deny people living with deafness their right to healthcare.

"Communication barrier and stigma come between us and important services such as health, education and other basic human rights such as justice in courts and at police stations," she said

Although some healthcare providers rely on audio or phone-based communication systems to communicate with their patients, this also may be a barrier to deaf people due to the fact that such technology prove ineffective for deaf patients who require visual communication methods.

Mary Kessy, the National Professional Officer- Violence and Injuries Prevention from the World Health Organization (WHO) said there is need to ensure the rights of people living with disabilities including deaf people.

"It is time to ensure deaf people find signers when seeking basic social services" she said.

"Services can become more inclusive by raising awareness among all health service staff, including health workers, receptionists and security guards of the rights and needs of people with disabilities,"

According to her, this can be done by providing training for all staff and developing specific policies on disability inclusion.

Prof Joyce Ndalichako, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament, Labour, Employment, Youth and the Disabled) said recently that everyone has a right to access services regardless of his or her disability status.

She said that the government is working on 10 resolutions of the WHO in order to attain standards of health for persons with disabilities.

"My ministry in collaboration with the Ministry of Health is working closely to ensure health and education equity for persons with disabilities," she said.

The International Week of Deaf People is a globally recognized event that serves as a platform for raising awareness about the rights, culture, and achievements of deaf individuals worldwide

The theme for this year was 'A World Where Deaf People Everywhere Can Sign Anywhere!' which underscores the importance of sign language as a means of communication and highlights the need for greater accessibility and inclusion for deaf individuals in all aspects of life.

It serves as a call to action for governments, organizations, and individuals to work together to create a world in which sign language is not only accepted but celebrated.

'Foreign countries ready for international trade fair set for Dar next year'

By Guardian Reporter

THE Executive Director of the Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI), Leodgar Tenga, has said that a number of ambassadors representing their countries to Tanzania have confirmed their countries' participation in an international trade fair scheduled to take place in Dar es Salaam in April next year. The exhibition is organised by CTI and Tanzania Trade Development Authority (Tan Trade) aims at boosting businesses and technology by producing high quality products which can compete in the international markets.

Speaking when welcoming the guest of honour at the closing ceremony of industrial trade fair which was organised by CTI in Dar es Salaam recently, Tenga assured Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner Albert Chalamila that CTI will continue to cooperate with the government in improving the industrial policy so as to contribute in the national income and creating employment opportunities.

Speaking during the closing ceremony of the industrial trade fair which was organised by the Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI), the Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner, Albert Chalamila has commended the efforts of CTI for organising the three-day trade fair, which has been productive for the nation due to efforts by the President of Samia Suluhu Hassan in sensitizing investors to invest in the manufacturing sector so as to bring changes which will stimulate economic growth and development.

He said the aim of the government is to cooperate fully with the private sector especially the industrial sector and use modern technology so as to ensure that the products which are produced in the country are of high quality and can compete in the local and international markets, which also includes infrastructure projects.

When giving the message from President Samia Suluhu Hassan to exhibitors who participated in the international trade fair, Chalamila said that the President commended the chairman of the Board of Directors of CTI, Paul Makanza, chairman of the Board of Directors of TANTRADE, Prof. Ulingeta Obadia, managing director of TANTRADE, Latifa Mohammed, Vice-Chairman of CTI, Sufian Hussein and Tenga for cooperating in preparing the international trade



From L: Executive Director Leodgar Tenga, Industry and Trade deputy minister Exaud Kigaha, Education, Science and Technology minister Prof Adolf Mkenda and Minerals deputy minister Steven Kiruswa have a feet of products at a recent trade fair in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Guardian Reporter

fair meant to increase production of products which can compete in the local and international markets.

The RC reminded owners of industries to go with the pace of technology so as to stimulate sustainable economic growth, contribute to national income, create employment opportunities and involve the private sector in their endeavours.

He commended the efforts of Airplane Africa Ltd for investing in aviation sector in Morogoro Region, an investment which will boost businesses in tourism sector in the country.

This will help to save time, to ease trans-

portation and hence stimulate sustainable economic growth and development in the country. He commended the company and encouraged it to continue to manufacture more planes and sell them in the local and international markets.

Prof Paul Makanza, Chairman of CTI said that the confederation will cooperate with the government so as to ensure that industries use modern technology to

produce high quality products which can compete in the international markets.

The coming trade fair is meant to make producers meet with their fellow producers to exhibit products and promote the same so as to get market opportunities.

Sufian Hussein, Vice Chairman of CTI, thanked various participants of the recent trade fair for adhering to the call of the confederation whereby 200

exhibitors participated in the international trade fair, including participants from outside the country.

Ambassadors who represent their countries in Tanzania also visited the trade fair and saw for themselves technology which is used to produce high quality products.

Latifa Mohammed, Director General of Tan Trade said the aim of collaborating with CTI is to create good re-

lationship between the private sector and the government to promote Tanzanian products in the international markets. The trade fair is a platform for factory owners to sit with the government and see how they can resolve challenges they face and come with solutions.

She appealed to Tanzanians to buy local products because the technology which is used to produce them is of high quality and

can be competitive in the international markets. Tan Trade and CTI have entered into an agreement whereby the international trade fair will take place every year.

Tenga said that CTI will cooperate with the government to see how they can create an enabling environment for businesses to thrive by resolving issues such as prohibitive taxes, licenses and environmental impact assess-

WORLD

Ukraine would die in a week, if Western military aid stops, says Putin



MOSCOW
AS the West continues to provide aid for war-torn Ukraine, Russian President Vladimir Putin stressed that Ukraine would not survive for more than "a week" without Western military and financial aid, reported Al Jazeera.

"Can Europe fill the gap left by the US? Well, certainly Europe cannot replace the US," Borrell said.
Moreover, the EU and the US, which includes most NATO members are crucial in Ukraine's fight against Russia.

Biden holds talks with Netanyahu, affirms full support to Israel's 'right to self-defence'

TEL AVIV
US President Joe Biden on Saturday held talks with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and affirmed full support for Israel's right to self-defence, amid the 'surprise attack' by Hamas.



PM Modi a global leader, India's stand significant in global war against terrorism - Israeli Diplomat

MUMBAI
THE Consulate General of Israel to Midwest India, Kobbi Shoshani said on Saturday that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's stand over the recent rocket attack by Hamas on Israel is really significant in the global war against terrorism and called the attack "unacceptable".

He added, "Hamas declared the war and Hamas will pay the price."
Mentioning the support, he got from the people of India, Shoshani asserted that Israel is really strong to act against the attack and added that "We don't need the help, but we need your support".

"The stand of the Indian Government today is of significant importance in the global war against terrorism. Prime Minister Modi (pictured) is a global leader and is very important to us as a state, as a friend, and as a brother. The situation of attacking the sovereignty of the state of Israel is not acceptable," said Shoshani.

He said further, "We need your support and understanding that today something happened, a declaration of war against the State of Israel. It's something that we need support. The good people and the good states in the world and India is among them and this is very, very important for us."

Earlier expressing solidarity with Israel over the rocket strikes launched by Hamas, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday that India's thoughts and prayers are with the innocent victims and their families.

"This comes after a barrage of rockets slammed into southern and central Israel on Saturday morning after Hamas launched a surprise attack.

"Deeply shocked by the news of terrorist attacks in Israel. Our thoughts and prayers are with the innocent victims and their families. We stand in solidarity with Israel at this difficult hour," PM Modi posted on X (formerly Twitter).

Following the attack, red alert warning sirens were activated in Tel Aviv, located around 70 kilometres from the Gaza Strip, as well as, Sde Boker, Arad, and Dimona in the south.

Mentioning the prevailing tensions between Hamas and Israel, Israel's Consulate General reiterated Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's address after the attack that his "country is at war".

In his first reaction after Hamas launched a "surprise attack", Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Saturday said Israel "was at war" and has ordered mobilization of reserves to give it back with the magnitude the enemy has not expected, asserting that they will "win it".

He added, "Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu made it very clear that we are at war. We are at war against a terror organization that started 6:30 in the morning, against war against the State of Israel, in such a brutal way against innocent people. We are at war. We will act as if we are in a wall."

In a video statement posted on X, formerly known as Twitter, Netanyahu stated, "We are at war, not in an operation or in rounds, but at war. This morning, Hamas launched a murderous surprise attack against the State of Israel and its citizens. We have been in this since the early morning hours. I convened the heads of the security establishment and ordered, first of all, to clear out the communities that have been infiltrated by terrorists. This currently is being carried out."

Shoshani also condemned the attack which claimed the loss of infrastructure, and the lives of several people, adding that Israel would retaliate very strongly against the "unacceptable" move.

Netanyahu has ordered the mobilization of reserves. He called on people of Israel to adhere to the directives of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and Home Front Command.

Shoshani said, "There is damage to the infrastructure and there is damage to buildings. But, the most important thing is the loss of human life. Dozens of innocent people have been killed. It's the last day of the Israeli holiday. That was something unacceptable. We will retaliate in a very, very severe way because the state of Israel and the Israeli spirit cannot do something else."

"At the same time, I have ordered an extensive mobilization of reserves and that we return fire of a magnitude that the enemy has not known. The enemy will pay an unprecedented price. In the meantime, I call on the citizens of Israel to strictly adhere to the directives of the IDF and Home Front Command. We are at war and we will win it," Netanyahu said.

ANI

Hamas attack shocks Israel, but what comes next?

LONDON

FIFTY years on from the Yom Kippur War, which began with a surprise attack on Israel by Egypt and Syria, Palestinian militants have launched a major assault.



Massive explosion as Gaza high-rises destroyed by jets

This too was unexpected, on another Jewish holiday.

was meant to squeeze more concessions from Israel and aid money from Qatar.

Tensions had recently risen in the Gaza Strip, but the conventional wisdom was that neither Hamas, the Islamist group which governs there, nor Israel wanted an escalation.

The small rallies now seem like a red herring. Some speculate whether they were in fact a chance to survey the fence ahead of the infiltration.

Instead, Hamas had been planning a sophisticated, coordinated operation.

With this latest operation, Hamas seems keen to burnish its credentials once again as a militant organisation. Its charter remains committed to the destruction of Israel.

Early on Saturday morning, as an intense barrage of rockets was launched with some reaching as far away as Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, Palestinian fighters entered southern Israel by sea, land and air.

Speaking at the start of the offensive, the shadowy Hamas militant commander, Mohammed Deif called on Palestinians and other Arabs to join the action to "sweep away the [Israeli] occupation".

They have held Israeli towns and army posts under siege for hours, killed many people and taken away an unknown number of Israeli civilians and soldiers to hold as hostages in Gaza.

A big question now is whether Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and East Jerusalem or elsewhere in the region will heed his call.

The awful drama has played out live on social and mainstream media. Thousands of Israelis who had been out for an overnight rave in fields close to Gaza rapidly found themselves under fire. Footage showed partygoers running for their lives.

Israel undoubtedly sees the potential for a war that could open up on multiple fronts. A worst-case scenario is that it could draw in the powerful Lebanese militant group, Hezbollah.

After her partner had driven to find her, Gili Yoskovich told the BBC how she had hidden from the heavily armed fighters among trees. "They were going tree by tree and shooting everywhere. From two sides and I saw people were dying all around."

Meanwhile, the Israeli military has ordered a massive reinforcement of troops. As well as its intense air raids on Gaza, it has indicated that it is planning a ground operation there.

"I said, 'OK, I'm going to die, it's OK, just breathe, just close your eyes', because [there] was shooting everywhere. It was very, very close to me."

The capture of Israeli soldiers and civilians, who Palestinian militants will hope to use as human shields or bargaining chips, are a serious complication.

Israel HaYom newspaper quoted Ella, a resident of Kibbutz Be'eri, speaking of her fears for her father who had gone to a safe room after sirens went off to warn of incoming rocket fire.

"We are currently busy regaining control of the area, striking broadly and especially taking care of the area around the Gaza Strip," said the IDF spokesperson, Rear Adm Daniel Hagari. "We will do a very sharp and thorough review."

"He wrote to me that the terrorists are in the shelter, I see his picture on Telegram from inside Gaza. I still hear bursts of gunfire," she said.

While a full review may be some way off, there is no doubt that Israel's intelligence and security establishment will be asking itself how it did not see this action coming and how it did not manage to prevent its huge consequences.

Many Israelis have expressed shock that the Israeli security forces did not come more quickly to help them. Meanwhile, footage shared on Hamas channels showed that soldiers in Israeli army posts and in a tank had been captured or killed.

There were initial pictures of celebrations in Gaza where snatched Israeli military vehicles were driven through the streets.

Agencies

Nervous, scared, in touch with Embassy, say Indian students after Hamas' attack on Israel

Tel Aviv

SEVERAL Indian students in Israel have said that they feel nervous and scared in the face of Hamas' terrorist attack on Israel and are in constant touch with the Indian Embassy.

are connected..."

Another student, Vimal Krishnasamy Manivannan Chitra, said the attack was very intense and scary. He said the "Indian Embassy is in touch with us in the group. They are keeping a check on us..."

We are in contact with the Indian Embassy and they will update us for the future things..."

A major upheaval took place in the Middle East on Saturday, when the Hamas terror group launched a "surprise attack", firing a barrage of rockets into southern and central Israel.

At about 6:30 am (local time), a barrage of rocket fire began from Gaza into Israel, hitting several cities including Tel Aviv, Rehovot, Gedera and Ashkelon.

This was followed by several Hamas terrorists entering Israel from the Gaza Strip and taking over Israeli towns.

siege of Gaza, CNN reported.

Some graphic videos showed bodies strewn in the streets of the southern city of Sderot after the attack by Palestinian militants. Cars were riddled with bullets and lit on fire, according to The Washington Post.

Israel launched "Operation Swords of Iron," striking a number of targets in the Gaza Strip. Netanyahu said Israel's response to the Hamas incursion will "exact a huge price" from the militant group.

This was followed by the Israeli air force launching airstrikes across the Gaza Strip, hitting 17 military compounds and four operational command centres belonging to Hamas.

According to the latest developments, more than 200 people have been killed, at least 1104 people are injured and several Israelis have been held as hostages in Gaza, the Times of Israel reported citing officials.

Hamas military commander Muhammad Al-Deif called the operation "Al-Aqsa Storm" and said that the assault on Israel was a response to attacks on women, the desecration of the al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem and the ongoing

In the first reaction to the attacks, PM Benjamin Netanyahu said that Israel "is at war", further

Nervous, scared, in touch with Embassy, say Indian students after Hamas' attack on Israel

asserting that they will "win it". "We are at war, not in an operation or in rounds, but at war. This morning, Hamas launched a murderous surprise attack against the State of Israel and its citizens. We have been in this since the early morning hours. I convened the heads of the security establishment and ordered, first of all, to clear out the communities that have been infiltrated by terrorists. This currently is being carried out," Netanyahu said in a video statement.

ANI

Man United manager Ten Hag demands action after late win against Brentford

PAGE 19

Gamondi reacts to Yanga's CAF Champions League draw



Yanga's head coach, Miguel Ángel Gamondi. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE 2023/24 CAF Champions League draw has been finalized and Tanzania's Young Africans SC has been drawn in Group D along with Egypt's Al Ahly, CR Belouizdad of Algeria, and Medeama SC of Ghana.

Al Ahly is the reigning CAF Champions League winner. CR Belouizdad reached the Group Stage for the fourth consecutive with a 6-2 aggregate win over Gabon's Bo Rangers FC.

Medeama SC qualified for the first time by beating Guinea's Horoya Athletic

Club on aggregate.

Under head coach Miguel Gamondi, Young Africans SC,

alias Yanga, qualified for the CAF Champions League Group Stage for the first time after 25

years.

Gamondi has shared his reaction to the Group Stage draw which will be a reunion with his former club, CR Belouizdad.

The tactician disclosed: "My first feeling is happiness to see the name of Young Africans SC among the best 16 teams in the continent. To see the name of Yanga among these big teams is fantastic."

"The group is tough but we need to believe. We need to believe in ourselves, believe in this group of players," he said.

The Argentine revealed: "We play the strongest ever team in Africa, Al Ahly. I have played against them and it is very nice for me that Young Africa and Al Ahly are coming face to face. This is fantastic and nobody can forget this moment."

"Chabab Belouizdad is my former team. I got a very nice souvenir from them. I had a great season. They have unbelievable fans. They love me so much and I love these people," the gaffer said.

"They are similar to Young Africans, they fought for the independence of Algeria from Mohamed Belouizdad."

Gamondi said: "This Belouizdad quarter is very

cool, very emotional for the Algerian people and this club represents the people like Young Africans represent all the nationalities of Tanzania."

"The other team from Ghana, Medeama, I don't know. I think it is a new team in the competition. I don't know but we will analyse."

"People must know nothing is easy but to be part of the Group Stage is already an achievement," the Argentine pointed out.

Gamondi also took time to discuss how they need to approach the competition, saying that they need to believe and hope fans will turn out not to watch the best competition in Africa but to enjoy it.

He queried: "What we will do is to compete, not to participate in the group stage. I promise to compete face-to-face against all the teams. We need to believe. We need to believe we can do it, why not?"

The Argentine stressed: "My wish is, in the three home games it will be a full house, people coming to enjoy. Yes, we are coming to win the game but also to enjoy it because it is the best competition in Africa."

K'njaro hosts 2023 Nyerere Day hockey tournament

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

KILIMANJARO is this season set to organize the annual Nyerere Cup hockey tournament to commemorate the 23rd Anniversary of the Father of the Nation, Mwalimu Julius Kambarage.

The forthcoming Nyerere Cup tournament will be held in the Moshi Municipality, running for four days- from October 12-15, 2023.

The event is organized by the Sikh Club in conjunction with the Tanzania Hockey Association and is usually sponsored by the Sikh Club of Moshi.

The country celebrates the annual Nyerere Day in honour of the founding Father of the Nation, Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere, who passed away on October 14, 1999.

Meanwhile, Twiga Hockey Club of Arusha is in the process of organizing a special Uhuru Tournament, to be played in the city in December, to celebrate Tanzania's 62 Anniversary of Independence.

According to the club's officials, the Uhuru Hockey Tournament will be staged at the Sikh Union grounds in Arusha and is set to attract various clubs from all over the country.

However, before the major event, there will be the forthcoming Nyerere Cup tournament which will be held in the Moshi Municipality in Kilimanjaro from October 12-15, 2023.

The country celebrates the annual Nyerere Day in honour of the founding Father of the Nation, Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere, who passed away on October 14, 1999.

In another development, the hockey legends forming Arusha Twiga Club emerged victorious during the recently held field hockey tournament organized by the Black Mambaz Club in Dar es Salaam.

The Legends hockey tournament comprised participants aged over 45

years.

Arusha was represented by the Twiga Club legends from the 1990s and 2000s, some of whom are Bhavesh Gohil, Kari Singh, Jite Singh, Monu Singh, Bhajji Bhai, Jagdev Singh, and Jamil Shahbhai.

They were all out to prove that when it comes to hockey, age is just a number.

Arusha legends displayed their hockey skills, playing crisp short passes and moving hockey on the turf, entertaining the crowd and opposing teams.

It was a melancholic reminder of the beautiful hockey they played in the 1990s and 2000s.

A total of four teams participated in what was described as a well-organized event.

The final match was an end-to-end affair for all four quarters. The intense battle on the field showcased the best of both teams, with each vying for the trophy.

Jite Singh managed to maintain his fitness, even at this age, as he was seen passing the ball and combining well with Monu and Jamil to set up attacks for Twiga Club, while the outfit's defense was marshaled well by Bhavesh, Kari, and Bhajji.

The pressure eventually paid off and led to Twiga Club winning the inaugural tournament, defeating their opponents 5-3.

The showdown's eventual winners, thus, added yet another trophy to their glorious history to further cement their status as the most decorated hockey club in the country.

A large number of spectators attended the Dar es Salaam tournament and showed their unwavering support to try and revive the golden days of hockey from the 1990s and 2000s.

The plan is to host the tournament annually and try to organize similar tournaments in Arusha and Tanga.

Spectators and hockey enthusiasts now turn their attention to the Nyerere Cup tournament to be held in Moshi next weekend.



The country celebrates the annual Nyerere Day in honour of the founding Father of the Nation, Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere, who passed away on October 14, 1999.

JKT Queens await CAF Women's CL draw

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE wait is almost over to discover who will be JKT Queens' opponents in the Group Stage of the 2023 CAF Women's Champions League scheduled to take place in Côte d'Ivoire.

The official draw for the 2023 CAF Women's Champions League will take place in Abidjan this evening.

The draw will be conducted at 19h00 EAT (16h00 GMT) and live-streamed on CAF digital platforms.

Eight clubs have reached the Group Stage, they will be split into two groups of four teams.

Tanzania's JKT Queens are the East African representatives for the third edition of this prestigious African women's club competition.

JKT Queens triumphed by edging Ethiopia's CBE Women's FC in the CECAFA Zonal qualifiers held in Kampala, Uganda in July.

They are the second Tanzanian team to win the regional qualifiers and earn a place in the continental competition.

The continental competition is set to take place in the West African country between November 5-19, 2023. This is the first time that CAF's elite club competition is hosted in West Africa.

CAF launched the CAF Women's Champions League in 2021 with the first edition played in Cairo, Egypt in November.

South African club, Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies FC, won the



Players and officials making Tanzania's JKT Queens celebrate with a trophy upon the conclusion of the 2023 CAF Women's Champions League (WCL) CECAFA Zone Qualifiers that took place in Uganda recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION

maiden event after defeating Ghana's Hasaacas Ladies 2-0 in the final.

Morocco's AS FAR Women's FC is the current champions of the CAF Women's Champions League after they defeated Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies FC of South Africa in Rabat last year. Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies FC and AS FAR Women's FC have qualified for the final

tournament for the third consecutive time.

Côte d'Ivoire's Atlético Abidjan will fly the host nation's flag in their maiden appearance, along with four other clubs that are through to the final stage of the competition for the first time.

AS Mandé, the WAFU Zone A representatives are, for their

part in the inaugural edition in 2021.

The other confirmed clubs for the 2023 CAF Women's Champions League are SC Casablanca of Morocco representing the UNAF Zone, Ghana's Ampem Darkoa Ladies FC representing WAFU Zone B, and Hurricanes of Equatorial Guinea from the UNIFAC Zone.

The winners of the CAF

Women's Champions League will take home USD 400,000 while the runners-up will walk away with USD 250,000.

The two losing semi-finalists will each receive USD 200,000. JKT Queens are guaranteed at least USD 100,000 awarded to teams finishing bottom of their group. Third-placed teams in each group will walk away with USD 150,000.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



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WHAT POST?