

National Pg 3
Unlocking agri-business ventures



National Pg 5
COSTECH launches innovation tech forum



Opinion Pg 9
Start the Week with Cynthia Stacey



National Pg 11
Firm installs pandemic medical oxygen



President Samia Suluhu Hassan (C) unveiling a plaque to launch the Kizimkazi Dimbani development ward office and two medical doctors' houses built under CRDB bank sponsorship, costing 300m/-. Others are Haroun Ali Suleiman (2nd R), the Minister of State (Zanzibar President's Office) for Constitution, Legal Affairs, Public Service and Good Governance, South Unguja regional commissioner Rashid Hadid Rashid (L), CRDB Bank board chairman Dr. Ally Hussein Laay (2nd L), CRDB Managing Director Abdulmajid Nsekela (3rd L) and CRDB Bank Foundation chairman, Martin Warioba (R). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Samia lauds NBC on health, education gift

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan on Saturday officiated at the handing over of a mobile clinic provided by NBC Bank to the Zanzibar government, besides launching Kizimkazi Preparatory School that the bank renovated. She expressed gratitude to the bank for its efforts, urging the financial sector as a whole to redouble its efforts to support government efforts in uplifting welfare of the people, especially as regards improving maternal and child health services in the Islands.

At the rally held in the president's birthplace Kizimkazi Village of Mkunguni ward in Zanzibar South region she said that such donations directly impact on the



Services made available at the mothers and children clinic will be provided free of charge, costs shouldered by the bank in collaboration with Zanzibar state agencies

people. "I urge you to continue to support the government in bringing development to the people in all areas," she appealed.

The Zanzibar minister for Health, Social Welfare, the Elderly, Gender and Children, Nassor Ahmed Mazrui had earlier received medical equipment including 'ultrasound' machines for use at the mobile clinic, where he thanked the bank leadership for its gesture of support, expressing assurances that the government would ensure the support reaches the targeted sections of society.

"This support is important and much needed. Our role as a government is to ensure that the medical equipment is kept up to date and used as intended, as it will help save the lives of Zanzibaris, in particular mothers and infants."

Pledging to continue working with the bank on issues related to social welfare, he said the bank's record in providing services to the islanders has plenty to do with how it interacts with the community,

PAC queries ATCL, TGFA planes' lease

MPs suspect double payments in repairs

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of the National Assembly has raised contentious issues in the contract between Air Tanzania Co. Ltd (ATCL) and the Tanzania Government Flight Agency (TGFA).

PAC also says ATCL continues to run at a loss and called on the government to take steps to improve its operations so as to make that investment profitable.

The remarks were made here yesterday by PAC chairperson Naghenjwa Kaboyoka (Special Seats, Chadema) when speaking to this paper on steps taken so far by the panel after speaking to ATCL and TGFA following audit queries raised by the Controller and auditor General (CAG) for FY 2019/20.

"ATCL's agreement with TGFA has several contentious issues, and the situation made PAC fail to issue any directives until we meet with the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Transport, ATCL and TGFA, and the date for the meeting will be announced soon," she said.

She affirmed that the committee refused to receive ATCL books while in regard to TGFA "we did not listen to them because they came with officials acting in their positions. Their accounting officer did not come, and did not even write a letter explaining his absence, hence we turned them back."

Asked on the contentious issues on the ATCL-TGFA agreement, she said that ATCL

claims that they pay high costs to the agency, to the extent of undermining aircraft repairs.

PAC deputy chairman Japhet Hasunga said there is an agreement that whenever an aircraft goes to D-Check, a certain sum of money should be sent to TGFA for aircraft repairs. "But now ATCL has been repairing their aircraft directly in separate agreements without involving TGFA, bringing up suspicions of double payment," he explained.

ATCL owes TGFA 19.8bn/- but ATCL repaired the same aircraft for 19.0bn/-, in which case the payment for repairs is being billed twice, he stated, noting further that there are repairs that bring up no problems. The two sides had agreed that for major repairs, the money needs to be put in one special fund, which was apparent not being implemented, he asserted.

PAC refused to accept ATCL account books owing to failure by ATCL to attain their business targets, he stated, pointing out that in the 2019/20 financial year ATCL was off target by 50.4bn/-, collecting 157bn/- out of the 600bn/- targeted.

The PAC panel realised that ATCL lacked creativity and thus failed to attain targets by a wide margin, while failing to collect debts totaling 4bn/-.

"We have refused to receive their books because due to various issues including the fact that they show they have 216.6bn/- negative capital," he stated.

"If you take all their debts, totaling 472.8bn/-,

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Registrar starts political parties verification push

By Guardian Reporter

THE Office of the Registrar of Political Parties says it is starting to verify political parties' presence on the ground, a legal requirement for all parties enjoying full registration to ensure they have offices in both parts of the Union.

Deputy registrar Sisty Nyahoza said in a statement that verification of political parties with full registration starts this Monday, in view of the law governing political parties

which requires that every party enjoying full registration should have offices in both parts of the Union.

"The verification will start with parties with offices in Dar es Salaam, and we will start with AFP and NRA. On Tuesday verification will continue with UDP and NLD, followed by UMD and ADC on Wednesday," the statement noted.

On Thursday the verification exercise will be conducted on CCK and Demokrasi Makini, while on Friday it will turn its lights on Chadema and UPDP.

Next week verification efforts will be directed at NCCR-Mageuzi followed by ACT-Wazalendo, the Civic United Front (CUF), the Tanzania Labour Party (TLP), Sauti ya Umma (SAU), ADA-TADEA and Democratic Party (DP).

Verification for CCM will be done at the national headquarters in Dodoma on September 10, and after verification of the parties in Dar es salaam and Dodoma, the exercise will continue in Zanzibar from September 13 with AAFP and NRA, he added.

By Correspondent Ani Jozeni

A TWICE reviewed format to govern the cash transfer levies operating mode is expected to land on the desk of Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa tomorrow, on the basis of remarks by chief government spokesman Peter Msigwa at the weekend.

Answering reporters' questions about a number of issues in a weekly press briefing where the cash transfer levy review was uppermost in the minds of those in the meeting and callers from among the public, he explained how the premier rejected a retouched format prepared by a committee headed by Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba and his Information and Communications Technology counterpart, Dr Faustine Ndugulile (pictured).

Explaining the situation, the Director of Information Services dwelt at some length on the good outcome of the levy, saying up to 22bn/- had been sent to some areas to accelerate the building and stocking of dispensaries, along with completion of vital road revamping projects, etc.

This line of presentation was also painstakingly cultivated by the Finance minister in an earlier briefing, while admitting that President Samia Suluhu

PM dampens cash transfer levies zeal

Rejects retouched format, demands another by tomorrow



Hassan was keen that the levy be user friendly, not penalise users of the facility or dampen cash transfer commerce more broadly.

At the same time, observers were starting to notice some gaps in projections of revenue collection and what has been realized on the basis of the levy operating format that started to apply mid-July. Treasury said towards mid-August that around 28bn/- was collected in the three weeks in which it was applied, whose data had already been confirmed, adding up to around 40bn/- per month if it continued that way.

Such a figure would not lead to the 1.2trn/- that was cited in the concluding

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NBC managing director Theobald Sabi (R) briefs President Samia Suluhu Hassan about the bank's sponsorship of rehabilitated classes at Kizimkazi Mkunguni kindergarten during the ceremony held in Zanzibar over the weekend.

PM dampens cash transfer levies zeal

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sessions of the marathon budget debate, as projected by the minister, in which case it implies a reduction of the frequency of cash transfers or volumes on account of sensitive levy rates which Treasury is insisting the public simply absorb.

Efforts to cast the levy in the limelight of a solidarity fund makes sense to much of the public but is incapable of halting steep reductions in money transfer by phone on a routine basis and enhanced use of bank transfers when the levy format started being operationalised.

In that case the demand for reduction of applicable levy rates for various amounts being transferred and withdrawn isn't just from members of the public but also telecommunications firms handling that service, while the banks may not dislike the higher turnout of clients - while bank agents in the streets grumble.

Around mid-August one telecommunications firm misled its customers to believe that the old deductions on cash transfers would be restored by early morning the next day, a false dawn that never

arrived.

While it appears that the rates may be brought down to somewhere near what was originally set out in the budget estimates debate concluding remarks by the minister, where receiving 10,000/- would fetch the levy sum of 100/- in addition to what was already being deducted by service providers, it would be interesting to see how the math adds up at the Treasury.

The way the levy rates were set out, from 100/- in the case of receiving 10,000/- on mobile phone to 10,000/- when receiving the sum of five million shillings, 1.2trn/- in collections at the end of the year was projected. If the levy is reset in that manner, it would be totally in conformity with what the public wants.

That is why there is a test of public confidence in revenue projections, if the projected budgetary sums are reinstated and the levy contributions to revenue be realized the way it was set out by the minister.

Still, Treasury officials and other quarters believe the projection will be crippled by altering the levies being applied since mid-July, observers noted.

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in particular businesses.

This commitment will strengthen the bank's position as a result of the partnership it has struck with the Zanzibar community, the minister declared.

For his part, NBC Bank CEO Theobald Sabi said the donation valued at 275m/- was a continuation of the bank's efforts in corporate social responsibility (CSR), driven by its commitment to working with the community it serves.

NBC Bank has been touched by

Samia lauds NBC on health, education gift

the various challenges in health and education services in Zanzibar, apart from other regions, he stated, noting that it works with the two governments to address the challenges facing health and education sectors.

In future there will be more efforts to deliver support in specific areas, he promised, citing needs in Pemba Island as one such area.

Services made available at the mothers and children clinic

will be provided free of charge, costs shouldered by the bank in collaboration with Zanzibar state agencies.

Any technical defects arising will be sorted out by NBC Bank, with the service to health professionals likely to enable the bank to reach targeted audiences, as it strives to help save lives, especially of mothers and children.

NBC Bank funded the construction of a classroom building at Kizimkazi

Preparatory School, buying desks furniture for classrooms, and a stove for cooking meals for students, apart from sports equipment to enjoy various games.

Wanu Bakari, the coordinator for reproductive and child health services in the ministry, said the support was timely as the government was struggling to increase access to health services in remote areas, to stem the threat of mortality during childbirth.

PAC queries ATCL, TGFA planes' lease

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and their assets totaling 256.2bn/-, and subtract debts from assets you remain with negative capital of 216.6bn/-," he elaborated, insisting that this is an indication that ATCL is its throes, dying soon.

"In our discussions, we got to

understand that ATCL did not fully implement directives given in 2018/19 by the PAC upon studying the CAG report.

ATCL implemented only two recommendations and the bulk of other accounting directives left unattended, he added.



Country director of TradeMark East Africa, Tanzania Monica Hangi (C) inspects products during the Tanzania women chamber of commerce special entrepreneurship fair to evaluate TWCC's participation of the just ended 45th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair held over the weekend in Dar es Salaam and attended by local and foreign exhibitors sponsored by TradeMark East Africa. Left is the TradeMark East Africa project manager, Elibariki Shamy and right is TWCC executive director Mwajuma Hamza. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Mwanza EA trade fair attracts 200 exhibitors

By Guardian Reporter, Mwanza

NEARLY 200 local and foreign exhibitors are taking part in this year's East African Trade Fair which began in Mwanza Region.

According to the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) chairman for Mwanza Gabriel Kenene, the event will be officiated tomorrow by the Mwanza Regional Commissioner Robert Gabriel.

Kunene told reporters yesterday that the exhibitions will involve showcasing of various items ranging from agriculture, food and beverages, textiles and handicrafts, cosmetics as well as machineries.

He said that the trade fair is one of the core activities of TCCIA in promoting business in the country and this occasion is being held annually to fulfill that objective. It is special for EAC Member States with a view to boost business in the region endowed with a lot of economic potentials of different kinds.

Other participants in this

year's exhibitions are from India, Indonesia and Nigeria.

He urged small entrepreneurs to utilise the occasion by learning and expand networks, promote their product so as to attract new markets.

He said the exhibition will also feature a variety of wildlife attractions such as hyenas and snakes as well as children's games.

Kunene cited Covid-19 as among of the challenges that thwarted majority of traders from participating in the exhibitions.

Regarding precautions against Covid-19, he said they have taken all necessary precautions for all participants by also making sure that everyone who comes in the are has masks in face as well as supervising hand washing.

Atwiya Haruni, an exhibitor from Egyptian Group said they have participated in the exhibition to educate and market their traditional products to visitors.

Haruni urged organizers of the exhibitions to reduce fee so as to allow more people to participate.

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

TANZANIAN parents and guardians have been urged to invest in better future for their children by giving them sound education.

Educational entrepreneur Mutta Rwakatare made the call over the weekend when speaking during St Mary's school graduation ceremony in Dar es Salaam

Rwakatare said education has no alternatives to the children because at the end of the day the education will enable them to be independent in their adulthood.

He said every parent and guardians has the responsibility to make sure child get education of high quality so that he/she can be helpful to parents, guardians and society in their adulthood.

"When you child ask you to pay for tuition fees during leave don't hesitate to pay for it, make sure you

Invest in children's education for better future, parents told

buy him exercise book and facilitate him everything which will be helpful because their success is our pride, this is the future nation workforce so we must take the responsibility to protect them and educate them at any cost," said Rwakatare, who is also the school's director.

"We must make sure we build good faith in our children so that they can have fear in god. Some children are troublesome but if we are close and talk to them calmly they change to be good people," said Rwakatare

He argued parents and guardians to insist to their children to study hard so that they can do better in the coming standard seven examinations.

Either, he said the nation depend much on the good future of the children

so they must protect themselves from bad act and behave nice in the society after they have completed their studies.

"When you finish your exams and go back home some bad people in the street will try to convince you to follow their steps to destroy your future but make sure you don't follow them," insisted Mutta

"Maintain ethics and good behaviors that you have been taught by teachers at school and by your parents because you still have the long way to go and mind you that this nation depend on you," he said

Mutta argued them to use the education they got from the school to solve different challenges in society and make sure that no one discourage them to fulfill their dreams.

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has instructed the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism through its Tanzania Forests Services Agency (TFS) to auction the timber that were illegally harvested by unknown people from Igombe Forest Reserve in Kaliua District, Tabora Region.

He issued the directive at the weekend after inspecting the logs at Wachawaseme village in Kaliua District.

He also inspected the reserve's boundaries and directed it should be protected after witnessing its destruction by people engaged in illegal human settlements, tree cutting, farming and fishing activities.

The PM was accompanied

Premier orders auction in illegal timber trade

by the Natural Resources and Tourism deputy minister, Mary Masanja and the Regional Commissioner Dr Batilda Burian. Issue permits for the auction of to sell all the logs lying in the reserve by the end of September, and you must advertise the date for the auction," Majaliwa told TFS.

He also instructed Tanzania wildlife Authority (TAWA) to make sure they enhance patrols in the reserve area to protect wildlife and take stern measures against poachers.

"These poachers must be hunted down, whether they are Tanzanians or foreigners, armed or not, arrest and

prosecute them," he stressed.

Addressing Wachawaseme villagers, the PM to stop cutting trees in the reserve forest in order to protect its ecosystem.

"We are destroying the trees in the forest which is the main source of water feeding Malagarasi River that flows to Lake Tanganyika, once the trees disappear the reserve will dry up," he said.

Meanwhile, Majaliwa instructed Kaliua District Commissioner Paul Matiko to oversee the construction of Usinge Health centre and make sure it is completed by October this year to enable residents receive health services.

Villagers facing eviction in Ngorongoro District now appeal for govt intervention

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

LEADERS from villages located within Ngorongoro Conservation Area who fear eviction because of increased population in the protected area have appealed to President Samia Suluhu Hassan to intervene.

Representatives of 24 villages within Ngorongoro division met here at the weekend and sought to refute a recent special census showing that the conservation area now has some 100,000 people and recommended that at least 70,000 be evicted.

Speaking at a meeting which took place at Mto-wa-Mbu township, the leaders alleged that the special census which was conducted in the conservation included even people who were not permanent residents

of the conservation area.

"Officials sent to undertake the population census in Ngorongoro conservation were all strangers here, hardly knew the precinct, didn't know who are the actual residents and who were people on transit," alleged Leriro Tung'ungwa, the village chairperson for Irkepus.

Thomas Oltwati, the village chairperson for Enduleni added; "They counted aliens and included their number to that of permanent residents of Ngorongoro," he said.

According to the elders, the alleged census counted even people who happened to be passing through Ngorongoro at the time, and these included drivers, tour-guides, hotel workers, students that were dispatched for field attachments, hotel guests and people who happened to be within

the Conservation Area, undertaking other duties.

The wrong census results are now forming the basis for the 'Multiple Land-Use Model' Report, which aims to show the world that Ngorongoro is overpopulated, a false assumption which is also fuelled by negative bias against the communities living within the protected area, the village leaders maintained.

When the Ngorongoro Conservation Authority was formed in 1959, the area population was shy of 8000. The current estimation, as of 2019 shows the area has nearly 100,000 residents, though according to the villagers, the National population increase rate of 3 per cent, per year, doesn't reflect the claimed population census results.

A special census for just

Ngorongoro was conducted in 2017.

Read by Mama Magreth Kaisoe, one of the representatives from Ngorongoro, the joint report also asked that all grazing areas that are currently being prohibited from their animals should be opened because drought is threatening their livestock.

Among the village leaders present during the meeting, was Meeli Saruni from Sendui village, Sabore Ngarus of Bulati, Meng'oriki Olangitan, from Meshili, Thomas Oltwati from Enduleni, Godfrey Kotika from Olsinon, Raphael Mollel

from Nainokanoka and 21 other elders.

The government conducted the National Population and Housing Census in 2012, from which it was revealed that the entire Ngorongoro District, comprising Sale, Loliondo and Ngorongoro divisions had a combined population of less than 175,000 residents.

They therefore figured that it was not possible that 100,000 residents should be packed within a single division, albeit the one which is strictly under wildlife and natural resources conservation and the

remaining 70,000 should be shared in two divisions where human activities are allowed.

As far as the residents are concerned, their total population at the moment should be less than 40,000 which is a manageable figure, considering that the conservation area measures 8292 square kilometers.

The entire Ngorongoro District is the largest precinct in Arusha Region, measuring over 14,000 square kilometers but is also the least populated one being occupied by less than 200,000 people.



Tanzania Agricultural Bank (TADB) managing director Frank Nyabundege (L) receives a souvenir from Pass Trust managing director Yohane Kaduma (R) which explains more about PASS Trust operations shortly after their meeting in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. The duo agreed to work in strategic partnership. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

By Guardian Reporter

TADB, PASS Trust agree to unlock youth, women agri-business ventures

TANZANIA Agricultural Bank (TADB) and PASS Trust have agreed strategically for their institutions to partner and stimulate the access and affordability of agricultural loans among youth and women in Tanzania.

Under the strategic partnership, the two institutions would stand a better chance of transforming the agriculture and contribute significantly to the growth and development to the national economy.

"Our institutions are at the heart of making transformation of the agricultural sector. To achieve this goal the need to directly link and engage youth for sustainability of our interventions is vital for sustainable socio-economic development," said Frank Nyabundege, TADB managing director when he met with PASS managing director Johane Kaduma over the weekend.

The duo stressed the need of the two institutions to work closely in partnership to increase the accessibility and affordability of

agricultural loans particularly for youth and women engaged in agriculture.

According to International Labor Organisation, Tanzania youth unemployment rate among 15 and 34 years old was 13.4 per cent, females stand at 14.3 per cent and amongst males were 12.3 per cent.

"In the verge to create employment opportunities and support the country's vision in creating 8,000,000 jobs PASS Trust have confidence that agriculture is the sector that can contribute this. We have been able to develop the Agribusiness Innovative Centre (AIC) to impact youth with agribusiness skills," said Kaduma.

The discussions of two heads of institutions centered and also enlightened the future collaborations of the two institutions in enhancing availability of capital for youth through the AIC.

"To enhance more youth involvement in the agri-sector we are bond

to not provide them with skills but ensuring capital availability. And this is a role that TADB is here to enhance," Nyabundege said.

On the other hand the two institutions discussed on how they could create favorable environment for more women to venture into agri-business. "Currently we are seeing fewer women accessing agricultural loans due to collateral issues as most women lack land ownership whereby men make ¾ of land ownership. With this partnership between TADB and PASS Trust, we can agree on how through

our guarantee schemes more women can access financing as they make over 60 per cent of the labour force in the agri-sector," Kaduma stressed.

They also agreed to increase their efforts in de-risking the agricultural sector for increased accessibility, inclusiveness and affordability of loans in the country.

Nyabundege and Kaduma had also commended the already established strategic partnership that has by far influenced the decrease in interest rates in agri-loans and called on Tanzanians to fully exploit the opportunities available.

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Tanzanian youth challenged on emerging opportunities in ICT

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIAN youth have been challenged to utilise fully the emerging opportunities in the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) so as to improve their incomes and transform communities.

Country director for DOT Tanzania Diana Ninsiima made the call last week during the opening of a three-day forum in Dar es Salaam that involved youth, ITC experts from government and private organisations.

Dubbed: "Youth Digital Summit : it aims at enabling Tanzania youth to grab and utilise fully all positive digital opportunities to create jobs and enhance entrepreneurial activities.

Ninsiima said Tanzania youth are exposed to a lot of opportunities that requires digital innovations, but lack of relevant skills in utilize the opportunities is a major obstacle, that is why her company has decided to chip in.

She said for the three years of its operation in Tanzania, DOT Tanzania has reached more than 10,000 youth either directly or indirectly, and due to COVID-19, the company is no longer conducting physical trainings but more in online platforms.

"The three days gatherings aimed at nourishing youths skills in earning money and create jobs through technology this is due to the fact that there are millions of opportunities in technology, even doing online business is among the benefits, so the task of DOT Tanzania is to expose them to all the opportunities and other benefits" she said.

She added under the funding partners namely European Union, Unicef and Segal Family Foundation, DOT Tanzania has reached ten regions and offered different ICT skills collaborating with regional partners.

The beneficiary regions include

Arusha, Dodoma, Mwanza, Iringa, Kigoma, Tanga, Tabora, Morogoro, Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar and in each region there are regional partners that DOT collaborates with.

Deputy Head of Delegation at the European Union (EU) in Tanzania, Emilio Rossetti said due to the changes brought by digital technologies in doing business and communicate globally as well as in addressing some of the toughest development challenges, youths have a crucial role to play in the technology digital word.

He said that there are nearly 27 million internet users across the country, representing 45 percent in the population and the percentage of Tanzanians with a mobile phone subscription is nearly double that so mobile phones in Tanzania continue to be the natural entry point into the digital economy and account for the vast majority of how users access the internet.

Since the government is preparing to launch its Digital Tanzania Programme that is a ten years initiatives of improving digital ecosystems and connectivity in the country, the initiatives is in line with the Tanzania development agenda, with clearly identifiable areas where we can join forces, EU is fully committed to promote digitalization in Tanzania as the digitalisation is one of the key areas of the EU future support and we are aiming at mainstreaming digital solutions in all areas of our interventions".

Acting Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Communication Mulembwa Munaku insisted that the government has received USD150 million for the Digital Tanzania Programme that aimed at enabling youth to utilize the opportunities in the ICT sector.

He said, since more than 75 percent of Tanzania are youths government has decided to create best national technology policy and laws that will facilitate enhancing of technology infrastructures.

20 Tanzanian students receive scholarships to study in France

By Felister Peter

TANZANIAN students who have received scholarships to study in France have appealed to their fellows not to give up and remain focused to ensure they attain their educational goals.

They were speaking to The Guardian over the weekend at the Campus France–Alliance Française in Dar es Salaam.

The students who are expected to start departing for France in September, this year have pledged to come back and use their knowledge, skills and expertise to contribute to the country's development.

Campus France is an agency for the promotion of French higher education. It helps Tanzanian students who wish to pursue their studies in France to access universities as well as other administrative procedures.

One of the students, Mgambi Gamba who is going to pursue a Master's Degree (Development of Drugs and Health Products) at the University of Saclay in Paris for two years said: "I started applying for the scholarship in 2019; I wanted to study at the university because it also have a good laboratory and pharmaceutical company which would enable me to do my internship."

Gamba urged her fellow students to keep on applying for the scholarship since it took her two years to be selected. She said her desire is to work for Tanzania, but Africa in general.

Franklin Nombo who has been admitted at the IMT Atlantique University in France for the Master's Degree course in Nuclear Engineering-Safe and Reliable Nuclear Applications, called upon young Tanzanians to visit the Campus France in search of their career development. "I have been dreaming of studying abroad since I was in secondary school. I had an opportunity to study in Algeria for my first degree course on geology

which was sponsored by the Ministry of Education and Technology. I am happy that I am now going for my further studies in France," said Nombo, who is a geologist.

Jumanne Matumla, a pharmacist at Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) said his interest is to conduct research on cancer drugs because the disease has continued to be a threat in the country especially in Lake Zone regions.

"It wasn't easy, I started looking for the opportunity to study in France in 2018; I am grateful that my dreams have come true," said Matumla who is going to pursue a Master's Degree (Development of Drugs and Health Products) at the University of Saclay in Paris.

Christina Omolo, is an engineer who has just completed her studies in France, she urged the students to keep focused and make sure they network with others to be able to get information on internships.

Omolo who is currently working with the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) on industrial inspection, said she is planning to start her own project on wind power mini grids whereas the focus will be rural areas as most of the places do not have electricity services.

"I have already secured some partners including the owner of a French company where I did my internship. I am still looking for funding although I had already allocated some money for the project through my savings," explained Omolo.

There are 1,000 degree, Masters and Phd courses directly taught in English in France to ensure a comfortable learning environment for all the students. President Emmanuel Macron has set a target to attract 500,000 international students annually from 2017.

France Embassy's head of cooperation and cultural affairs, Cecile Frobert said they have been providing 20 scholarships every year whereas over 100 Tanzanian students have so far benefitted.



Erick Kitali (L), an ICT director with the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments), pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend presenting a certificate of attendance to Hamis Mlowa during the closing of a printer and photocopier maintenance and repair seminar for experts from cities and municipalities. It was organized by the Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology. Looking on (C) is DIT principal Prof Preksedis Ndomba. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

Bus passengers urged to report drivers violating road traffic laws

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE government has appealed to all passengers travelling within and outside the country to take precautionary measures against COVID-19 pandemic while calling on them to raise their voices whenever they witness acts in violations of road traffic laws to avoid accidents that take human toll in deaths and injuries.

The call was given by Deputy Home Affairs minister who is also chairman of the National Road Safety Committee, Khamis Hamza Chilo during his visit at Dodoma

bus station here yesterday aimed at warning stakeholders of passenger transport vehicles when on the road as well as taking precautions against COVID-19.

"Be careful with COVID-19 pandemic when travelling, put on masks and use hand sanitizers, but also you must raise your voices whenever you see the violation of road traffic laws, the country depends on you for its development, also road traffic police are placed on many roads areas to who you should report on any such violations," he said.

In regard to drivers who drive

in high speed in disregard of road traffic laws and cause accidents, the Deputy Minister said already the government has started the procedure of confiscating their driving licences

"Just recently I witnessed a passenger bus owned by Sauli firm travelling between Dar es Salaam and Tunduma how it was overtaking other vehicles without taking any precautions, that was hazardous, he had come from Mbeya only to be involved in an accident at Kibaha, why in such hurry?"

"The government will take steps to confiscate the licence of this

driver for six months and must go back to class to learn driving afresh," he added.

Speaking on behalf of other drivers, a drive for Al Saedy Bus, Alex Emmanuel asked for education to be provided to lorry drivers who, he said, are the main cause of many road accidents.

Dodoma regional Traffic officer Boniface Mbaao explained on the procedure in providing education and passenger bus inspections before their departures so that of any defect is found on any bus, it must be prevented from travelling until the defect is rectified.



Rahim Hussein (with microphone), a Form Two students at Joyland Secondary School in Dar es Salaam's Kigamboni-Toangoma suburb, explains to Tanzania Rural Energy Authority's (TARURA) Dar es Salaam regional lawyer, Bonaventure Mwambaja (L), on the human skeleton. It was all part of a graduation ceremony held at the school at the weekend. Second left is the school's director, Frederrick Otieno. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Narco launches major ranch in Kagera region

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

THE national Ranching Company (Narco) is finalising processes to launch a new major ranch in Kagera region, the positive move which aimed at developing the livestock sector within the country.

Dubbed Mwiswa II, the 66,200 hectare ranch is expecting to attract a number of local and foreign investors, according to NARCO's managing director Peter Msoffe.

Making revelation to The Guardian yesterday, Msoffe said the ranch will comprise at least 36 ranching blocks with potential livestock keeping.

He further said the company is

currently working in cooperation with the parent ministry to demarcate, relocate and compensate some residents who have invaded some areas of the envisaged ranch.

"We have set aside a total of 11,700 hectares in order to compensate the villagers in four villages of Lotoro, Kyobuhele, Misambya and Byingerenge who have invaded the ranching areas," he expressed.

He informed that, if all goes well the new ranch (Mwiswa II) will be launched in October this year.

The managing director noted that the establishment of the major facility was an important step for them to invest largely and professionally in local areas.

According to him, NARCO had so

far developed a crucial roadmap for the implementation of the strategic programme that would overhaul and improve the livestock keeping industry in the country for Tanzania to ensure the sector plays an important role in fast-tracking a pace of industrialisation drive in the country.

"The livestock sector is crucial in fast-tracking the country's industrial economy, and therefore, we are well prepared to ensure farmers are keeping their livestock in more professional and suitable areas," he said.

Moreover, he added, plans are also afoot to start training livestock keepers on best animal breeds, as well as imparting them with key

knowledge on how best to keep their livestock more professional.

"The plan is also to train our staff so that they can cope with modern livestock keeping technologies, and we are planning also to recruit more staff to facilitate the company's delivering ability," he observed.

He said the company has already demarcated and fencing all of its ranching blocks, apart from Mwiswa II.

According to him, the exercise was targeting to curb illegal invasion to ranching areas.

At least two potential investors from Egypt and Namibia have already lodged applications to invest into meat processing industries within the country.

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

TFS, Tanapa told to work together against environmental destruction

OFFICIALS from Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS) and Tanzania National Parks Authority (TANAPA) have been called upon to work together in making assessment of destruction to the environment from human activities in areas under their jurisdiction so that stern measures are taken to save the situation.

They have also been directed to submit to the government their recommendations on the best ways to permanently control the destruction of the environment.

These directives were given by Mbeya and Songwe District Commissioners during their joint meeting with TFS officials in the Southern Highlands Zone, and forestry officials of the respective local councils, that aimed to discuss the environment destruction situation in areas under TFS jurisdiction.

The meeting also discussed on how best to profitably harvest forests' products without occasioning the destruction of

the environment thereby causing unnecessary conflicts between TFS and resident surrounding the forest reserves.

For his part, Chunya District Commissioner, Simon Mayeka said there have been human activities in reserve areas that cause environmental destruction of the reserves as well as other natural resources. He said there are some people who have been introducing huge groups of other people who have been engaging in mining and

farming activities.

Mbozi District Commissioner Cosmas Nshenye said after conducting the assessment they should look into the possibility to boost patrols using reserve personnel to protect the reserve areas.

He said there are many youth who received militia training but have no employment hence he appealed for establishing groups that would be empowered to engage in economic activities to protect the reserves.

For his part TFS Commissioner of Conservation for the Southern Highlands Zone, Cosmas Ndakidemi said he decided to hold the meeting so as to come up with a joint statement for the implementation of conservation responsibilities to avoid conflicts.

He said in some areas, TFS have been implementing the laws by arresting people destroying the environment in the forest reserves but those being arrested go to district and regional leaders to complain,

the situation that undermines TFS responsibilities.

Mbarali District Commissioner Reuben Mfune who chaired the meeting on behalf of the Mbeya Regional Commissioner Juma Homera said the meeting was essential due to the importance of environment conservation.

He said they agreed on seven resolutions, legal and ordinary ones, including providing education to the people on environmental destruction.



Fimbo Emmanuel of the national safe blood northern zone attends to Murtadha Rashid one of Khoja Shia Ithnasheri Jamaat community members to donate blood during the commemoration of Imamu Hussein held at KSIJ mosque in Dar es Salaam yesterday.
Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

S. highlands regions face high levels of soil acids'

RESEARCH done by Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) has found out that southern highlands regions face the challenge of high level of soil acids that affects production of various crops including food crops.

The remarks were made by soil research expert from TARI-Uyole Centre in Mbeya City, Frederick Mlowe while addressing reporters on the better use of land in preparation for the new farming season.

He said from the research conducted he discovered that all Southern Highlands regions are faced with the problem causing

farmers to get low crop yields proportioned to the sizes of their farms.

He called on farmers to get their soils tested before cultivating any crop and added that the service is done at the Centre's laboratories and that the existence of high levels acids in the soils undermines crops growth.

He added that many plants cannot grow properly on soils with acids except tea only and that they will continue to educate farmers to have their soils tested at the laboratories.

For his part, the Director of Africa Nature Conservancy, Felix Kamau said small farmers often despair whenever they get low crops yields believing that this is brought about by not using fertiliser.

He called on farmers to abide by directives from farming experts before embarking on cultivation of any crop.

TARI-uyole director Dr Tulole Bucheyeki called on farmers to make use of the Centre for better farming practices for profitable crops production.

Media Convergence, COSTECH and UNDP launch innovation tech forum

By Felister Peter

THE Media Convergence in collaboration with the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) and UNDP's integrated innovation ecosystem strengthening programme-Funguo have launched the innovation tech forum seeking to enhance and create an enabling environment for women and youth led innovation ventures.

The forum series are expected to create a space for discussions and bridge the gap between experienced innovators and newly established ventures. It is also going to provide chances for knowledge sharing towards the innovation journey.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during the launch of the innovation and tech Forum, Chief Executive Officer, Media Convergence Asha Abinallah said: "here are new people in the creative and innovation market, one can consider himself as the first but through this kind of forums they can get more ideas on how to improve their work because we will be bringing together both experienced and new innovators."

She added that the innovation and tech forum meetings aims at promoting small time innovators and small-time tech champions, promote women and girls in innovation and engage the government in the ongoing conversations.

According to Abinallah, the forums will now be held in Dar es Salaam although plans are to reach innovators across the country.

COTECH Director General, Dr Amos Nungu said the forums aims to create a platform that will enable innovators to meet and share experiences. He said the newly start-ups will meet experienced innovators and see how to improve their innovation of technology.

"We want to help improve young innovators as well as experienced ones so that they together take part towards the country's industrialized economy," said Dr Nungu noting the innovation forums will be sustainable.

He noted that since it is an open forum, participants will be free to discuss the opportunities and challenges they face. "We expect them to establish new partnerships. We will assist them in turning their innovative ideas into products to be sold in the market," said the COSTECH boss.

He said there a number of successful young Tanzanian innovators who are now paying taxes to the government as a result of their innovative products. He said one of the innovators is paying taxes amounting to over 500m/- while the other one has successfully developed an organic fertilizer specifically for cultivation of avocados," Dr Nungu added.

Lindis Norlund from UNDP Funguo program said they are looking to create an enabling environment for the innovation ecosystem and provide support to different innovations in the new forums.

She said: "Media convergence saw a gap and the need to bring together innovators. This will enable the Media Convergence to address common operational, functional and systematic challenges faced by private and public entities and individuals."

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CLOSING DATE: 12 September 2021; 23:59 EAT (East Africa Time)

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FOR THE SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF MEDICAL STATIC RACKING (SHELVES) FOR THE MEDICAL WAREHOUSE AT UNHCR LOGISTICS BASE, KASULU.

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Representation Office in Dar es Salaam has cancelled this tender which was accessible in the link below;

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1eQ30SEo pixKYSOP7mDAEmE2StGyqilUT?usp=sharing>



The National Bank of Commerce (NBC) Supports the community in Education and Health in Kizimkazi Zanzibar



Kizimkazi Mkunguni kindergarten pupils perform before President Samia Suluhu Hassan and senior Zanzibar Government during the official handing over of the Kizimkazi Mkunguni Kindergarten classrooms built and rehabilitated by NBC.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan (C) cuts a ribbon to officiate the launch of classrooms built and rehabilitated by NBC Bank at Kizimkazi Mkunguni in South Unguja Region over the weekend. Others appearing in the photo are; Health Community development, Elderly, Gender and Children minister, Ahmed Nassor Mazrui (left), Permanent Secretary Ministry of Education and Vocational Training Ali Khamis Juma, Minister of State at Zanzibar President's Office Constitution, Legal Affairs, Public Service and Good Governance, Haroun Ali Suleiman and NBC Managing Director Theobald Sabi (2nd R).



President Samia Suluhu Hassan (C) officiates the launch of a mobile clinic donated by NBC Bank aimed to improve maternal and child health during the Inauguration ceremony held at Kizimkazi Mkunguni over the weekend.



The National Bank of Commerce (NBC) Supports the community in Education and Health in Kizimkazi Zanzibar



Health, Community development, Elderly, Gender and Children Minister, Ahmed Nassor Mazrui receives medical supplies from NBC Senior officials for the Mobile Clinic donated by NBC Bank to the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar to improve maternal and child health services in the islands during the handover ceremony held at the Ministry's offices in Unguja, Zanzibar.



The Kizimkazi Kindergarten school which was built by NBC!



Happy Smiles of the Kizimkazi kindergarten pupils and other invited guests during the handing over ceremony.

Planned Danish embassy closure a reminder that aid is not forever

DENMARK has rolled out a foreign relations and development cooperation adjustment of priorities plan which, among other things, figures out ending a breadth of bilateral development cooperation in three years time. That is what the Danish foreign ministry said in a statement summarising the new outlook that was availed to the media towards the end of last week, without further comment from the Danish embassy. While this is the stated position of one country, it is part of a trend as the United Kingdom has of late made deep cuts in its foreign aid programmes, eliciting vast cries of anguish from the NGO community, also citing adjustments in such programmes to be more directed at areas of British interests.

The ministry's adjustment of Denmark's international presence entails a scaling up of some existing diplomatic missions and the closure of others, as part of a global view of the country's new strategy, set out in a synopsis, 'The World We Share.' In its vision, it affirms that it has a strong emphasis on addressing fragility, countries in conflict or crisis, displacement and irregular migration, which in Africa this entails an increased geographical focus on the Sahel and the Horn of Africa, along with its neighbouring countries. This, to a range of observers in Tanzania at least, looks less like development cooperation as it might more frontally relate to national security, what Denmark can do to halt migrations.

Still there is a hidden catch to it, as North Africa and the Horn are far too large for Denmark to handle on its own, and it isn't evident that the country will be pursuing 'nation building' efforts as it has been the

case with Tanzania for the past 60 years in the main. Still it may target programmes that maintain some structures or infrastructures that hold youths in transit countries, or attract them to remain in countries of origin. That would entail targeted large scale operations, not poverty alleviation in general as it is now.

There are clear lessons that fiscal planners need to take note of in this development, that relations with what we usually call developed countries are taking a more equal path than it was the case earlier, when Africa used to be a drawn out basket case. Now most of Africa has burgeoning markets with fairly large middle classes as part of the population, easily identifiable with people who can at least afford to build a decent house or purchase cars, employ a number of people, etc. We have problems arising from outdated economic structures, but we have sufficient assets and capital dynamic to make a difference if we decide.

While some observers will maintain that it is too early to draw conclusions about ending foreign aid, it is in part evident that work must be done to arrest endemic poverty and unmet expectations, which breed civil wars and migrations. But state-dominated economies cannot be run properly without a substantial amount of foreign aid, while those we expect aid from them are much smaller countries than ourselves, like Denmark. Britain for instance has slightly over 65m inhabitants, thus similar to us and we have more natural resources, but those in charge hanker after more taxes, not converting fixed assets into capital, attracting vast sums from abroad. The Danish move is a reminder that these strategies no longer work.

Wishing UHC law to cover most diseases has a tag to it

LEADERS of religious groups working under the Interfaith Standing Committee for Economic Justice and Integrity of Creation (ISCEJIC) are putting up a common front for a credible extension of medical insurance facilities for the public at large. They have appealed to the government to include coverage of more diseases, and especially chronic diseases, in the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) bill that is expected to be tabled in the National Assembly as it sits early September. The position was expressed at a breakfast debate on healthcare in Tanzania organised by the Policy Forum cluster in the city on Friday.

It was heartening to hear denominational leaders from the Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC), the Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT) and the Muslim Council of Tanzania (Bakwata) converging on the view that the anticipated law should not be discriminatory in terms of disease coverage, to effectively serve the interests of the common man. This was in reaction to a reminder that health insurance plans at present do not cover some illnesses such as long-term non-communicable diseases, a major public health burden. Such diseases are usually attached to relaxed, overly nutritious lifestyles, implying good incomes.

For one thing, that isn't always the case, as there is also genetic disposition to maladies like hypertension and diabetes, meanwhile as chronic diseases often come up after active working life has ceased, to elderly individuals who need to be assisted. If their medical cover is actually met by public agencies, even with minimal pension support, it is easier for families to chip in to maintain the

balance, not carry the whole load. That would be a realistic position than harangue families to take care of everyone as a duty, period.

Still, the notable clerics attending the forum should know that even in wealthy countries like the United States of America there has been interminable debates on universal health care, which took a turn when then President Barack Obama collected sufficient adherents to the view, enacting optional insurance cover for all. Despite its being enacted it has continued to be pilloried by conservative groups, and recently it survived a Federal Supreme Court challenge as to its legality. Here, well stocked hospital drug shelves are things of the past, not attained anywhere since shortages came in early 1980s, followed by vast reforms.

Top denominational figures are also in large measure community leaders whose voices often carry greater weight than even the highest placed central government officials, the only difference being that they are more numerous, so it is hard for them to consolidate their voices into one. But for one thing, when land is still in the hands of tribes and clans, the same units ought to take care of elders whether they live in towns or in villages. If community leaders want universal health care - and lately they asked President Samia Suluhu Hassan for universal pensions - let them assist the reform effort, lend a hand to the president to be able to enact reforms which elevate the fiscal picture of the country. It entails land and other fixed assets. The wider impression one gets with such demands is that land and other assets should remain in state or clan hands, but the government enact 'special taxes' for healthcare - which unfortunately is unworkable.

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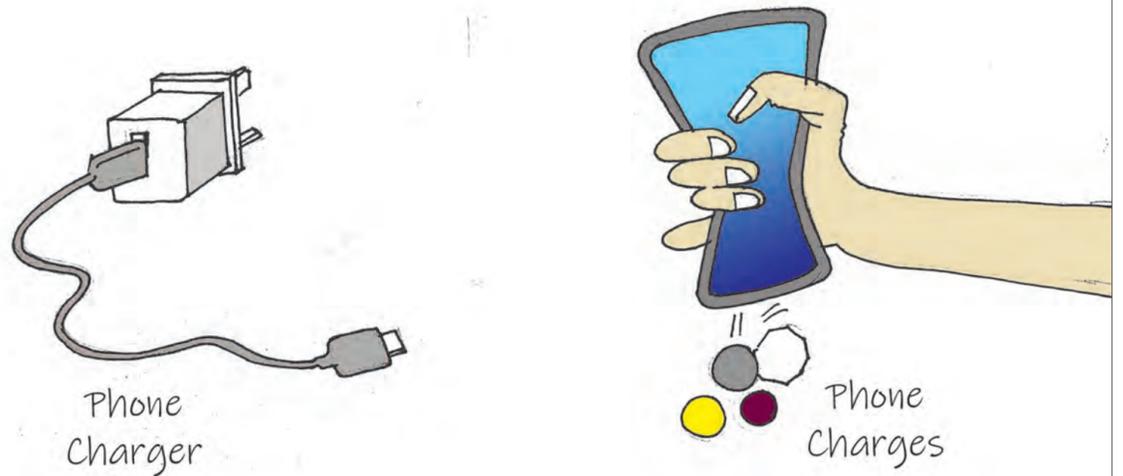
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SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



The fallacy of the independent woman

By Refilwe Moloto

SOUTH African Women's Day on 9 August honours a historic march of 20,000 women in a collective act that reached across age, racial and religious divides. The Women's Charter called for the enfranchisement of men and women of all races. Six decades later, women are still fighting for an equal seat at the table. And chanting 'when you strike a woman, you strike a rock'. The inclusiveness of the original intention has not endured, and the gender divide remains.

This women's day, as so many before it, we celebrate the power of the 20,000 women, coordinated by the Federation of South African Women (FEDSAW) who marched on the Union Buildings on 9 August 1956 against the racist pass laws of the day, as represented by the Population Registration Act. In so doing, they affirmed their right to independence of movement and association. It was a collective act that reached across age, racial and religious divides in a rallying cry that if all of us aren't free, then none of us is. It's difficult to imagine a protest movement so vast: 20,000 women on the ground, representing 100,000 women's voices who'd signed their supporting petition - and they did so in silence. It was a remarkable act of collusive discipline, particularly without the ease of communication we enjoy today.

What often gets lost in the retelling of this tale, however, is how far-reaching their activism was. FEDSAW's Women's Charter, written within a year of their coalition, called for "the enfranchisement of men and women of all races; equality of opportunity in employment; equal pay for equal work; equal rights in relation to property, marriage and children; and the removal of all laws and customs that denied women such equality. The Charter further demanded paid maternity leave, childcare for working mothers, and free and compulsory education for all South African children." (South African History Online). The march on the Union Buildings represented but one expression of what FEDSAW stood for, for the entirety of South Africa's population.

Fast forward six decades, and our more generally accepted understanding of Women's Day is one of claiming women's rights in particular. Rights to our independence in a very different way than "independence" meant, back then. The emphasis today has migrated much more toward the individual win or our individual



protections:

We celebrate a range of powerful women of independence on Breakfast with Refilwe Moloto, regularly celebrating trailblazers, and their ability to excel of their own volition: self-starters who have smashed through ceilings and broken the mould. We also discuss the crushing realities of our disturbingly violent country, and the weight so many women are forced to endure, often a retaliation against their financial independence, their sexual freedoms, and indeed, their individual humanity.

But, when I step back and review my career and life as an "independent woman" around this time of year, I am reminded how little of it I have done on my own. And, in recent years, I have been more and more comfortable to admit what a relief that is! I have loved acknowledging the fact that I can't do it all alone, and that I am frankly, quite tired of being called an "independent woman" in the way it is understood today: an island of self-sufficiency, strength, limitless energy and availability to lift everyone up around me, without boundary. The less I have enforced resilience upon myself, and the more I have leaned into my vulnerability, the more I have allowed myself to be supported by an army of committed friends and colleagues, family who avail themselves and, at times, even just a stranger on social media who remarks, "I see you, Sis. You're doing great!" If there's one thing the Covid-19 pandemic has taught

us it is that life and career can be interrupted and stifled despite our best efforts, and we can't be Wonder Woman every day. And that is okay, because it is about balance, and leaning in to our support structures, champions and partners.

And when I consider my individual freedoms and rights that we fight for as women, for instance for equal access to that ever-elusive seat at the corporate table - and the equal pay that goes with it, for the privilege of freedom of movement without attack, rape or murder, or for the right to be sexually free or dress as I please - that battle remains against the legacy of a systemic patriarchy over which I have limited control. And so, I cannot go this journey alone, without the buy-in of those already at the table, or the awareness of those who strangle the freedoms and privilege of independence that I deserve.

I believe, at the heart of FEDSAW's intent in demanding those broad-ranging rights for every single South African in the Women's Charter, was the understanding that women's rights and freedoms reside in bringing everyone along. I believe, also, that on 9 August 1956, when they expressed everyone's deserving of independence in such huge numbers, that they knew they, as in everyday life, could not do it alone. As the African adage goes, "If you want to go fast, go alone; but if you want to go far, go together."

Despite this, the evolution of Women's Day has, over the six decades since then, whittled down

this collectivism in ways that I feel are burdensome to us individually, and as a critical majority of the population. On 9 August every year we step into an isolated battle against "the rest", chanting, with our fists in the air, "Wathint' abafazi, wathint' imbokodo!" ("When you strike a woman, you strike a rock!").

Well, you know what...? I don't wanna be a rock. And I don't wanna be struck to prove I am one.

Nor do I want to have to be Wonder Woman, all the time, to be respected or revered.

It's about balance.

As we endeavour to achieve, through frank but empathetic conversations with a multitude of diverse voices from across the country every day on Breakfast with Refilwe Moloto, I want a society that holds one another accountable, to come along on this journey to independence that frees us all - from unfair expectations of ourselves through our vulnerability, and from unfair expectations of others through our resilience for one another - because until we get to that point, the notion of the "Independent Woman" in today's terms is a fallacy.

Perhaps in a time of outrage culture, and the politicisation of identity, that is the part of the very first National Women's Day that moves me the deepest: the fact that it was a collective of women, fighting for the rights of all. That, to me, will be our bravest independence as we enter Women's Month this August, and I feel quite strongly about that.

Baisi: Chemical engineer pioneering a new technology to easier LPG access

By Francis Kajubi

THE main cause of deforestation in Tanzania is a conversion of forest to daily energy sources such as wood and charcoal. Environmental scientists believe that forests play a vital role in carbon sequestration-looking up atmospheric carbon control in vegetation through photosynthesis.

Scientists put forest carbon storage into three categories namely boreal forest with 703 gigatonnes, tropical forest with 375 gigatonnes and temperate forest at 121 gigatonnes.

The Second National Economic report of 2014 shows that the rate of forest clearance has been rising at an alarming rate with at least 46,942 hectares being deforested annually.

The pace of deforestation for energy sources puts environmental conversation at risk thus the solution is switching to renewable energy for cooking. However, current renewable energy sources such as biogas and sustainable charcoal are yet to replace use of wood charcoal both in rural and urban areas.

Biogas for example, needs infrastructure like pipelines, compression stations, pressure let down stations to reach final consumers which is costly.

Ininga based Founder and CEO of Syntroleum Petrochemical Group Limited, Abraham Baisi, has invented a technology that can take over from the unviable renewable energies that have failed to prove success before the eyes of consumers.

The 37 year old chemical engineer says that the solution to deforestation is producing more affordable LPG also known as Bio Propane or Bio-LPG for fuel. He said LPG is mostly produced out of petroleum refining and natural gas processing plants.

"Bio propane can be useful to meet the clean energy demand both in urban and rural areas. This can be realized by applying the Steam Methane Reform (SMR) technology for converting methane into propane using a device called Fischer-Tropsch Chemical Reactor," said Baisi in an interview when he spoke about his LPG production technology.

According to him, the technology can also be used to create the value of waste by decomposing organic material in landfills on farms and urban areas households. Baisi acknowledged that there has been significant interest globally in biogas production from organic waste.

Unfortunately, he said, in many areas of Tanzania where tonnes of waste could be utilized there is a narrow room to execute related technologies because no one gives it a deserved importance.

He defends that LPG produced from this kind of locally produced propane decouples the cost of propane and outgas from crude oil volatility. He asserts that unlike compressed natural gas-methane-propane is a greenhouse gas, bio propane can provide a cleaner ur-

ban and rural energy choice.

"Bio propane is the best option to lead the LPG business toward a more sustainable energy and low cost effective for consumers' especially in rural areas;

Given the increased interest in clean burning, renewable fuels, bio propane could become a catalyst for growth of auto gas vehicles and related fuel machinery such as agricultural pumps and vegetable dryers. It can be useful for stationary power generation in remote areas," said Baisi.

According to him, Bio-LPG is cost-effective since a big proportion of its energy content is easily converted into heat. It can be up to five times efficient than traditional fuels, resulting in less energy wastage and better use of the planet's resources.

Baisi says production of Bio-LPG can be done in a three stages process. First is piped natural gas connection or biogas production. Second is natural gas upgrading and liquefying LNG or liquefied biogas (LBG) and third is LNG or LBG conversion into propane.

"If supported with an investment support, I can apply this technology to produce 160tonnes per week and 8,320 tonnes per year of HD5 Grade of pure Bio-LPG which can be supplied to rural areas at cheap and affordable prices;

It is unfortunate that I have struggled for years to obtain an investment capital. This is my biggest dream and I must fulfill it no matter what it costs me and how long it will take," affirmed Baisi.

Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange Plc (DSE) Business Development Director Ibrahim Mshindo said that the bourse has introduced a programme that suits small and medium entrepreneurs that accommodates well-structured growing enterprises.

Dubbed DSE SMEs Acceleration Segment or Endelega Programme, is an extension of the DSE Enterprise Acceleration Programme (DEAP) which seeks to enhance the capacity of Start-ups and SMEs through training, mentorship, coaching sessions with business leaders and ultimately support for capital raising.

"This programme accommodates enterprises in all sectors as long as they are registered and have a clear leadership



Founder and CEO of Syntroleum Petrochemical Group Limited, Abraham Baisi.

structure that is the board of directors, management, the working staff and is already in operations," said Mshindo.

Salum Awadh CEO SSC Capital said the entity is a corporate advisory and investment management firm offering solutions in corporate advisory, private equity and venture capital transactions, corporate finance, capital raising, project management, funds management, research, M&A, institutional set-up, debt and corporate restructuring, and investment banking.

"As long as the firm offers capital raising, institutional set-up and project management services, we are welcoming him so that we can see how to facilitate his technology by raising the required funds. We have already done that to many SMEs in different economic sectors," said Awadh.

The Economic and Social Research Foundation's 'Promoting the Participation of SMEs in International Trade report 2016' observed that upgrading technology in SMEs is vital for the development of the sector and the economy at large.

"The government should promote new initiatives, which aim at developing high-quality technical services centers through partnerships between the public and private sectors. Business incubation is an approach adopted in some

countries to transform technologies developed at research centers into viable business ideas and eventually into successful SMEs," reads the ESRF report in part.

Mary Kigosi, Senior Public Relations Officer, Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH), when asked what is the commission doing with its innovative cluster initiative to help SMEs in the technology and innovation field said:

"It is true that the commission is entrusted with the responsibility of coordinating and promoting science and technology development activities in the country, but it prioritizes those who are conducting research to develop their technologies and not those whose technologies have been approved," said Kigosi. But COSTECH website states that the innovative cluster initiative is an organized effort or intervention that aims at increasing SMEs competitiveness and growth of the local industry and hence socio-economic development. It involves cluster firms and the research community in a Triple Helix Model.

The ministry of Finance and Planning is in the process of writing a new SMEs Financing Strategy with a target of giving lenders a confidence of issuing loans to SMEs.

Dionisia Mjema, Assistant Commis-

sioner, Ministry of Finance and Planning told this paper that the process is at a stage of canvassing opinions from stakeholders in the financial sectors, development partners, youth and other groups of the community to know what are the reasons stopping financial institutions from issuing loans to SMEs.

"We are asking stakeholders some questions to volunteer their views such why are SMEs not loaned, why most SMEs businesses don't grow or prosper, does SMEs businesses meet the required cash flow to secure loans;

Do they run businesses already or they just have business ideas, do they have business plans or have undergone entrepreneurship training? These are some of the questions that we seek answers from so that we can set a strategy that brings long term solutions," said Mjema.

According to her, the financing strategy will cover all sectors including technology and innovations that a good number of youth are rushing to tap opportunities.

Why are renewable and sustainable energy sources vital?

In 2012 the World LPG Association (WLPGA) launched the 'cooking for life' campaign to communicate the health benefits of switching communities from wood, charcoal, dung and other traditional fuels to LPG for cooking. Bio LPG is one of three pillars of the United Nations sustainable energy for all initiative (SE4I).

The UN states that the main obstacles to wider LPG use in developing countries have been affordability and availability of LPG especially to lower and middle income countries.

Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Dr Damas Ndumbaro said in an effort to control illegal harvesting and trade of forest products the ministry had in the past three years initiated patrols.

"In 2020/21 for example, the patrols facilitated the arrest of 904 suspects and various forest products including 33,876 sacks of charcoal; woods of 1,906 cubic meters; 4,699 construction pillars, logs with 909 cubic meters, as well as door and window frames amounting 1,195," said Dr Ndumbaro.

By Yvonne Erasmus

Marikana and the many faces of justice

VIEWING the events that transpired at Marikana beyond a quest for justice through retribution might bring a different perspective to our understanding of the events, explain why justice is still being sought, and why it matters.

Between 13 and 16 August 2012, 37 mine workers were shot while protesting to demand a living wage and better working conditions. Nine years later, justice has not yet been secured.

Retribution is commonly viewed as the only form of justice that counts. Viewing the events that transpired at Marikana through a wider lens might bring a different perspective to our understanding of the events, explain why justice is still being sought and why that matters.

On 16 August 2012, 34 striking mine workers were killed after police opened fire at a gathering outside Nkaneng informal settlement near the Lonmin Marikana mine in North West. (Photo: Felix Dlangamandla / Foto24)

First, consider justice as distribution, one of its oldest articulations. Distributive justice refers to the equitable distribution of wealth. The history of labour migration in South Africa has been well documented – the securing of a cheap, reliable black labour force for the mines, enforced during apartheid through pass laws, held devastating consequences for the miners, their families, and the communities they came from.

Although conditions have improved for some post-1994, distribution of the wealth

that miners are employed to extract, and the profits of the mining companies they work for, is by no means equitable.

During the strike, rock drillers were demanding a monthly salary of R12,500, up from the R4,000-R5,000 they were earning at the time. They were also agitating for improved living conditions: as part of a Social Labour Plan that was agreed in 2006, Lonmin undertook to build 5,500 houses for the mine workers and their families, but progress had been slow.

In the four years preceding the massacre, Lonmin paid \$607-million in dividends to its shareholders and by 2019 had still only built 1,149 of the homes. In the context of systemic inequality and exploitative labour practices, events that unfolded at Mari-

kana nine years ago demand that distributive justice be secured.

Second, consider justice as recognition, which involves finding ways of recognising our common and equal humanity. The humanity of the miners who were killed, their families, and the miners who survived has been overlooked.

One example was at the Farlam Commission of Inquiry where the wives, partners and families of those who were killed were not allowed to give testimony and were unexpected witnesses to images of their slain loved ones being shown on screen, adding new trauma to already existing layers of loss and grief.

Another example is how the miners had been depicted as "irrational, violent and

unreasonable" together with decontextualised images of knobkerries, sangomas, and muti. These examples shaped the narrative at the time about who the miners were, the legitimacy of their demands, and the use of deadly force by the police to end the strike.

Third, consider justice as retribution, which has been an important focus since the massacre. Justice as retribution asks what the appropriate sanctions or punishments are for violations of justice.

Family members and members of Wonderkop informal settlement gather on a hillside overlooking the scene of the Marikana Massacre after a memorial service in August 2012, held in honour of Lonmin mine workers who were killed by police in Marikana near Rustenburg. (Photo: EPA / STR)

On the one hand, there have been claims for compensation that have successfully secured about R80-million in payment for the families in the past three years.

As recently as this year, with one trial still in process, two groups of police have also been criminally prosecuted in relation to the incidents of that week. To date, 17 miners have been prosecuted for the events at Marikana, in contrast to nine police officers – and none for the killing of miners on 16 August. The wheels of retributive justice turn slowly and ongoing justice-seeking efforts for the miners and their families, such as the pursuit of criminal prosecutions, remain a matter of priority.

Finally, consider justice as

transformation, which speaks to changing institutions, practices, behaviour and attitudes. Unfortunately, the South African Police Service (SAPS) continues to use force excessively, such as during student protests against financial exclusion in March 2021 in Johannesburg where members of SAPS responded violently. They fired rubber bullets and used water cannon, tear gas and stun grenades to disperse the protesting students.

It was the death of a civilian, Mthokozisi Ntumba, killed by police while dispersing the students, which finally pressed the police to release the report of the Panel of Experts on Public Order Policing which was established in compliance with the Farlam Commission's recommendations. The report was finally released in March 2021, nearly three years after it was submitted to the Minister of

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Coastal Travels completes IATA standard safety audit

By Guardian Reporter

COASTAL Travels Limited has successfully completed the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Standard Safety Assessment (ISSA), designed for commercial passenger and/or cargo carriers, and the airline is now on the ISSA register.

The ISSA program is a global safety standard for commercial operators not covered by existing programs. The IATA Standard Safety Assessment (ISSA) program is an internationally recognized and accepted assessment system for evaluating an airline's operational management and control systems.

"This achievement reflects the commitment of Geita Gold Mining Limited and Coastal Travels Limited to safety and compliance. Given today's dynamic aviation market, particularly in terms of the impact on passengers worldwide, it is critical that airline operators raise their standards of safety and compliance," Captain Maynard Mkumbwa, Coastal managing director and accountable manager said, adding:

"This is what Coastal Travels Limited has achieved with its IATA certification. Coastal Travels Limited, the pioneer safari operator in Tan-

zania, has received this prestigious ISSA certification from IATA to confirm its compliance with globally recognized safety standards and recommended practices."

Coastal is currently the only operator in Africa on the ISSA register. To achieve this, the following operational management and control systems of Coastal Travels Limited were rigorously assessed by IATA to determine the level of compliance with all ISSA standards.

Standards and Recommended Practices are Organization & Management (ORG), Flight Operations (FLT), Maintenance & Engineering (MNT), Operational Control & Dispatch (DSP), Ground Handling (GRH), Cargo (CGO) and Security (SEC).

Following the assessment and various quality control procedures, International Air Transport Association (IATA) concluded on June 18, 2021 that Coastal Travels Limited is worthy to be included in the list of accredited safe airlines worldwide.

The benefits and opportunities this prestigious ISSA certification brings to Coastal, its clients especially Geita Gold Mining Limited, business partners and customers are: Reduction of redundant audits, Marketing and commercial advantages such as codeshares and in-



From the left, Capt Jonathan Sayer (Safety Manager), Dickson Kunambi (Ground Operations Manager), Harrison Debrah (Director of Safety), Capt Maryam Suleiman, Capt Taahira Khan, Capt Maynard Mkumbwa (Managing Director), Janine Deetlefs (Sales Manager), Fatema Tappa (Coastal Holiday's Manager).

terline agreements, Reduction of insurance premiums, Preliminary step to IOSA (IATA Operational Safety Audit), Objective measurement of Coastal Travels Limited conformity and Implementation of Safety Management System (SMS).

"This is certainly an achievement that we have earned! The Coastal team would like to reaffirm its commitment to providing a reliable, safe and enjoyable safari experience for all our guests," he said.

"We have focused on ensuring that safety is at the top of our agenda. After two years of intensive training and evaluation of our pilots and the introduction of the 2-crew MCC (Multi-Crew Coordinated) cockpit, we are now delving deeper," said Mkumbwa.

He added that the Coastal team undergoes regular re-evaluation - they keep a constant eye on their day-to-day operations and ensure they follow their Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). It's a perpetual journey

with a difficult destination to reach, but it adds to the reassurance and comfort of the passengers.

"This constant sense of unease is what keeps us alert and responsive. The ongoing training and assessment of our pilots has evolved as we have established a standards department responsible for ensuring that all our pilots and all our flights meet the Coastal standard. We draw on feedback from a variety of sources including our own internal reports, feedback from customers and other operators to keep our teams up to date," said Captain Mkumbwa.

18 lecturers selected for postgraduate training under the Eastrip China TVET scholarship

By Guardian Reporter

EIGHTEEN lecturers from Technical Vocational Education and Training Institutes (RFTIs) in Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania have been awarded scholarships to pursue their postgraduate studies at top Universities in China.

The Lecturers were selected from 16 Regional Flagship TVET Institutes (RFTIs) sup-

ported by the World Bank, through East Africa Skills for Transformation and Regional Integration Project (EASTRIP). The scholarships are part of the Project's effort to improve the quality of TVET programmes in East Africa.

The scholarship is part of a 5-year tripartite partnership between the Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA), the People's Republic of China

through the Ministry of Education, and the World Bank to promote excellence in TVET and facilitate regional integration in East Africa.

The Scholarship Programme, which was signed in Beijing in November 2019 and commenced in the 2020/2021 academic year, will offer over 100 scholarships to qualified young lecturers who are currently teaching in the RFTIs

over a period of five years to pursue masters and PhD level study at top Universities and Technical Colleges in China. To-date a total of 35 scholarships have been awarded.

The programme is intended to compliment the World Bank EASTRIP support but with focus on improving the much needed academic, technical, and pedagogical capacity of the faculty in the growing sec-

tors of the economy including but not limited to Manufacturing, ICT, Energy, ICT, Agriculture, and Transport and to promote regional integration.

The selection process of candidates was rigorous involving the college management, IUCEA, the China Scholarship Council, and Chinese universities. Among this year's awardees, 9 are

from Ethiopia, 4 are from Kenya, and 5 are from Tanzania, all going to top STEM universities in China including Tsinghua University and Zhejiang University. Among the awardees, 9 will be offering PhDs and 9 Master's programmes.

EASTRIP is currently supporting 16 Regional Flagship TVET institutes (RFTIs) in the region to improve access and

quality of TVET programmes for economic transformation and regional integration.

The Scholarship is open to both male and female students from Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania under the age of 35 years for master's Programs and under the age of 40 years for doctoral programs. Out of the 20 selected candidates for the 2020/2021 academic year, 6 are females.

FAO, govt to address post harvest fish loss

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

FISHERMEN in Lake Tanganyika lose between 50 and 70 percent of fish catch due to post-harvest fish losses, fisheries experts have said.

Director General of Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute (TAFIRI) Dr. Ismael Kimirei said many fishermen get huge loss because they don't have proper handling, processing and storage facilities right from the net to the market.

He said during sunny, the losses range between 40 to 50 percent but during cloudy and rainy, the losses go up to 70 percent.

He was speaking during the validation workshop of the unlocking the Potential of Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific: Lake Tanganyika sardine, sprat, and perch value chain in Tanzania (FISH4ACP project).

Citing an example, he said when the fishermen harvest, the fish are supposed to be well kept, well stored and well processed on time.

"If they delay for some time, the fish develops a kind of aflatoxin so easily and become destroyed. The fishermen lose fish because of poor storage, poor handling, at landing, during transport and at drying sites," he said.

Dr. Kimirei asked the fishermen, kigoma residents and the private sector to cooperate so that the project can provide desired fruits on the ground.

Fish petty trader at Kibilizi fish Market, Majaliwa Matero said that the fish get destroyed because of lack of capital to improve handling, processing storage and drying facilities.

"I request the government to facilitate credits and soft loans so that we can improve fishing gears and processing facilities," he said.

Commenting on measures to be

taken, the government through the Director of aquaculture in the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Dr. Nazael Madallah said the government is trying to improve post harvest handling facilities by rehabilitating landing sites. He said it is not easy to do all at once but every financial year, the government sets aside some funds for rehabilitation purposes. In other places, the government is constructing new landing sites to get sure that when fish get the land they are handled properly.

Another thing, we are encouraging fishermen to come into cooperatives so that they can be able to go to financial institution and get credit and loans facilitation. We have private sector desk at our Ministry which has responsibility and mandate of promoting formation of cooperatives of fishermen, processors, fish farmers and many others," he said.

He said when the fishermen are in cooperatives, the fishermen can go to the bank and get money to support development of their fishing activities.

"At the moment we are pushing that money to be invested in post harvest handling equipments, machines and cold rooms. We want to make sure that we do not only reduce spoilage or losses but also fishery products are of higher quality," he added.

He said normally the fish starts deterioration immediately when they are taken out of the water. Under best practises, they are supposed to be chilled. The fishermen are supposed to go with ice, cool boxes and cold chain, when the fish land, they are supposed to be processed, and taken to the market.

He said the government is encouraging construction of better drying facilities so that the fish when they reach the land, they are



A woman at Kibilizi fish market in Kigoma in deep thought after realising that the fish catch have all been rotten as a result of poor handling. Photo: Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

not dried on the ground to maintain its quality.

"When it rains again its a problem. So we are pushing post harvest electricity and solar driers facilities for drying the sprat, sardine, and perch. So, that is the direction which the government is taking," he said.

The government is also encouraging establishment of small enterprises and industries for value addition to qualify for the the local and international markets.

Briefing on the project FAO's National Professional Officer responsible for Fisher-

ies, and Aquaculture Value Chain, Hashim Muumin said The FISH4ACP project is a fisheries project being implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries (MLF). The project will concentrate on improving the value chain of Lake Tanganyika's fisheries.

Tanzania the five year project is financed by the EU and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), implemented by FAO.

Gas firm installs medical oxygen for COVID-19 patients

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TOL Gas Limited (TOL) has finalised installation air separation plant to overcome shortage of oxygen in hospitals due to COVID-19.

TOL board chairman Michael Shirima said that over the weekend when launching the shareholders annual general meeting held in Dar es Salaam.

He said the new plant will play a big role in ensuring the country gets enough supply and distribution of oxygen in its hospitals across the country.

The chairman said the year 2020 had many challenges as well as opportunities not only to the company but also to the global market due to the pandemic.

Shirima said the year 2020 had shown that their company was resilient and adaptive and was ready to cope with market demand caused by the pandemic.

"Our company produced and distributed oxygen in hospitals the amount had never been expected including in industry within our market zone at the time depended entirely on us," he said.

He said despite all challenges, the company performance in the year 2020 increased compared to 2019.

According to him, the sales increased by 15 percent from 17.2bn/- to 19.2bn/- in the year 2019.

Shirima said the sale before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization (EBIDA), in the year 2020 was 6.6bn/-, which was 6 percent up in the year 2019 which was 6.2bn/-.

The margin of EBIDA in the year 2020 was 33 percent.

For his part, the TOL Executive director Daniel Warungu said the company had issued 34.78 from 17.37 /- per shares paid in 2019.

The issuance of shares has come after the company recorded a profit amounting 2.4bn/- compared to 2.2 in the year 2019.

"Board of directors suggest that the payment for the dividend should be 34.78/- per share from the previous one of 17.37/- paid in 2019," he said.

He said the board of directors is installing a new plant in the Rungwe District in Mbeya Region to increase the capacity of producing carbon dioxide.

He said the move aimed at increasing the supply of carbon dioxide in the country and in the SADC in countries like Zimbabwe and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

According to him, TOL looks forward to generating more profit as its eyes to utilize the opportunity available.

TOL Gases Ltd, is a public company with shares listed in the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange and has been a pioneer in the gas industry for several decades.

The company, commonly known as Tanzania Oxygen, is the leading manufacturer and distributor of industrial and medical gases in Tanzania

Lawyers, ethics, values and corruption in Nigeria

BY DEACON DELE ADESINA

THE Nigerian Bar and Bench, in the last few years, have been the object of scathing criticisms, bordering on poor ethics and corruption. In this article, Deacon Dele Adesina, SAN, explicates the role of a legal practitioner and what is expected of us, while pointing out that the bad eggs within the profession, are in the minority

Who is a Lawyer/Legal Practitioner?

The word Lawyer/Legal Practitioner can be used interchangeably. Lawyers are trained professionals in the knowledge and application of law. The Blacks Law Dictionary 10th Edition page 1021 defines the word "Lawyer" to mean "Someone who having been licensed to practice law, is qualified to advice people about legal matters, prepare contracts and other legal instruments and represent people in Court." In Nigeria, we are not licensed, but we are "called to the Bar" by the Body of Benchers - the highest regulatory body in the profession.

The Body of Benchers is established by Section 3 of the Legal Practitioners Act CAP LII, Laws of the Federation 2010 (LPA).

Section 4(1) of the LPA provides as follows:

"Subject to the provisions of this Section, a person shall be entitled to be called to the Bar if

- a. He is a citizen of Nigeria
- b. He produces a qualified certificate to the Benchers
- c. He satisfies the Benchers that he is of good character

A person who is not a citizen of Nigeria can also be called to the Bar once he produces a qualifying certificate to the Benchers, and he satisfies the Benchers that he is of good character by virtue of Section 4

(2). Section 4(4) states that the Benchers shall issue to every person called to the Bar pursuant to sub sections 1 & 2 of this section, a certificate of Call to the Bar which shall be in such form as the Benchers may determine. You are either a Barrister/Advocate or a Solicitor.

On the definition of Legal Practitioner, the Supreme Court, per J.A. FABIYI JSC (as he then was) in FBN Plc v Maiwada (2013) 5 N.W.L.R. 444 SC relying on Section 24 of the LPA stated as follows:

"... Legal Practitioner means a person entitled in accordance with the provisions of the Act to practice as a Barrister or as a Barrister and Solicitor, either generally or for the purposes of any particular office or proceedings..."

In support of the foregoing, Section 2 (1) of the Legal Practitioners' Act, Cap. LII, LFN, 2010 goes further to provide thus:

"Subject to the provisions of this Act, a person shall be entitled to practice as a Barrister and a Solicitor, if and only if his name is on the roll".

Ethics According to the Blacks Law Dictionary 10th Edition, at Page 670:

"Ethics is a system of moral tenets or principles: the collective doctrines

relating to the ideals of human conducts and characters. Also, it is the study of behaviour as judged by moral rights or wrongs including the sources, principles and enforcement of behavioural standards".

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary simply defined the word Ethics at page 393 to mean "a system of moral principles or rules of behaviour". The Legal Profession is a highly regulated Profession with profound rules of standard behaviour, the contravention of which is punishable either by warning, suspension from practice or outright striking-off from the role of legal practitioners, depending on the gravity of the offence.

Value

The same Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary defined the word Value with reference to profession as distinct from monetary value at page 1319 to mean "moral or professional standards of behaviour." At dictionary.cambridge.com, the word Value is defined as "the principles that help you to decide what is right and wrong, and how to act in various situations".

Corruption

Corruption is the last key word of the topic under discuss. The word corruption hardly needs any introduction to the average Nigerian audience. According to dictionary.cambridge.com, Corruption means: "illegal, bad or dishonest behaviour, especially by people in positions of power". Corruption is typified by dishonesty, exploitation or the misuse and abuse of public office, either directly or indirectly, for personal gains or unjust enrichment in negation of due process or established protocol.

The sitting President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria once said that "if Nigeria fails to kill corruption, corruption will kill Nigeria." Corruption is a mountain that we must be brave enough to surmount, if Nigeria is to be a great nation. Only the brave ever becomes great.

Let us hear the opinion of some leaders of thought on the subject-matter of corruption in Nigeria.

Our Courts have not failed to make epochal pronouncements, in total condemnation of this cankerworm called corruption.

For instance, Hon. Justice Uwaifo, JSC (as he then was) in the case of Attorney-General of Ondo State v Attorney-General of the Federation said pointedly that:

"In foreign countries, Nigerians are recognised and regarded as corrupt people; unlike other nationals, no bank will allow Nigerians to open a bank account as of right. The Nigerian green passport, is synonymous with corruption... National Newspapers are filled with stories of loots with money stashed in foreign banks. The stolen resources lost by Nigeria through endemic corruption and abuse of office, have had inimical effect on the economy of the country... The crisis which endemic corruption has triggered off in Nigeria certainly poses exceptional peril to the economic, social and political stability, the national interest and integrity of Nigerian Nation..."



According to Kenneth Kaunda, former President of Zambia:

"The Lawyer in a developing society must be something more than a practicing professional man; he must be more even than the champion of the fundamental rights and freedom of the individual. He must be, in the full sense, a part of the society in which he lives and he must understand that society, if he is to be able to participate in its development and the advancement of the economy and social well being of its members".

And then the bombshell: "The Lawyer must go out beyond the narrow limits of the law, because while the law is the instrument through which the society is preserved in its shape and character, it is the reflection of the society".

Lawyers must never forget the fact that, by virtue of their calling, they are social Engineers. Chief Afe Babalola, SAN, a leading member of the profession and a foremost Senior Advocate of Nigeria, in a paper he delivered at the 2003 Annual Conference of the Nigerian Bar Association, at Enugu said:

"Lawyers, by virtue of their calling, are looked upon by the larger society sometimes for rescue operations, (figuratively speaking) especially when the society is in dire straits. A good example is when a Nation is undergoing dictatorship, or civilian despotism".

According to that very erudite and distinguished Judge, Hon. Justice I. C. Pats-Acholonu, JSC, CON of blessed memory:

"The Lawyer of the 21st century, should be astute enough to defend the rights of man. The rights are fundamental because they were not given by men, but by God. It is the duty of the Lawyers to watch the observance of these rights with eagle eyes. It is therefore evident that, a modern Lawyer should be everything to everybody. His learning, his experience in human psychology, his understanding and appreciation of the frailties of mankind, will bring to bear on the problems that are bound to arise in future, as the society becomes more and more complex".

The Legal Profession, Ethics and Values A discussion on the importance of ethics of the legal profession cannot be considered, without making reference to the rules provided for in the Rules of Professional Conduct (RPC).

Rule 1 of the RPC provides as follows:

"A Lawyer shall uphold and observe the rule of law, promote and foster the cause of justice, maintain a high standard of professional conduct, and shall not engage in any conduct which is unbecoming of a legal practitioner".

The purpose and relevance of RPC was stated in the case of Ikeme v Anakwe (2003) 10 N.W.L.R.

548 C.A where the Court of Appeal held that:

"The rules of conduct in the legal profession, are designed to protect and preserve the high standard of professional ethics at the Bar".

Rule 30 of the RPC also provides that:

"A Lawyer is an officer of the court and, accordingly, he shall not obstruct, delay or adversely affect the administration of justice".

Sequel to the provisions of the RPC and other relevant regulatory authorities guiding the ethical conduct of Lawyers, the duties of a legal practitioner in Nigeria can be distilled into three distinct parts:

- The duties owed to his client;
- The duties owed to the court; and
- The duties owed to other Counsel.

Let me touch on these duties. Duties of Counsel to his Client

This is the ultimate duty of any Counsel, as an Advocate. Before an Advocate can be held to be lawfully and properly performing his duties to his clients, the mandate of his client to him must always remain intact and in exercise of his apparent authority. He must demonstrate that the best interest of his client, is always uppermost in his mind. See the case of NNPC v Trinity Mills Insurance Brokers (2003) 9 N.W.L.R. 384 CA.

A Counsel is a Minister in the temple of justice, and an officer of the court. Let me state that, this duty imposes the obligation on Counsel appearing in court as a Minister of Justice, to honestly disclose all facts favourable and unfavourable, as doing so will assist and guide the court in the judicious discharge of its judicial functions.

The point must be emphasised however, that as much as the Judex cannot speculate, so also must the Bar not put the Bench in a state of factual uncertainties of material facts in the case. See generally the case of Umar v Federal Republic of Nigeria & Ors (2020) LPELR - 5252449 SC.

Conclusion

Let us emphasise that a fair characterisation of a Legal Practitioner's responsibility, is the fact that "he stands as a shield in defence of a right, and to ward off wrong", in the words of the Supreme Court. In a profession charged with such responsibilities, there must be exerted those qualities of truth speaking, of a high sense of honour and of the strictest observance of fiduciary responsibility.

The Supreme Court in applying the above principle to the conduct of a Counsel undergoing a disciplinary proceeding in the case of NBA v Monyel (2013)N.W.L.R. Pt 1386 Page 454 at 466 asked the following questions:

"Which of the above qualities can the Respondent, given the litany of his tendentious, shameless, unabashed contrivance, said to possess? He is neither a shield in the defence of right, nor with this kind of character ward off any wrong. With a man of this kind of sly character like the Respondent, where lies the quality of truth in him? Is the word "honour" not a strange bed fellow with the Respondent?"

RADIO One RATIBAYA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME					
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One

OUTSTANDING

TradeMark East Africa women entrepreneurs funded trade project succeeding

By Guardian Reporter

WOMEN entrepreneurs have started manufacturing quality products certified by Tanzania Bureau of Standards which can compete in the regional market.

Financed by TradeMark East Africa and implemented by Tanzania Women Traders' Association, the project has so far witnessed more than 200 women entrepreneurs given knowledge and skills to produce quality products.

TradeMark East Africa's Country Director for Tanzania, Monica Hangi said in Dar es Salaam on Friday during TWCC's exhibition which was also meant to congratulate women entrepreneurs who took part in the 45th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair, at which TWCC won an award that their products are not competing in the market.

"Congratulations to TWCC Chairperson, Mercy Silla and TWCC Executive

Director, Mwajuma Hamza for a job well done. Many of these entrepreneurs now have TBS logo, they can sell their products abroad, they have reliable markets that is a big deal for us," Hangi said.

She said TradeMark East Africa's project had the goal of helping Tanzanian women traders to do business not only locally, but cross borders by securing permanent reliable markets. "Sometimes you can find a market but you no longer have enough products to continue producing but for most their production is sustainable," she added.

On his part, TradeMark East Africa Women in Trade Project Manager, Elibariki Shabby also commended TWCC and their members for the success. "We are really happy, because we have supported TWCC, and they have proved to be very effective, especially in reaching out to rural women," Shabby said.

He said when the project started, many of the women had no TBS quality mark hence failed to reach the



TradeMark East Africa country director for Tanzania, Monica Hangi (c) inspecting products during the Tanzania Women Chamber of Commerce special entrepreneurship fair held in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. Left is TMEA project manager, Elibariki Shabby while right is TWCC executive director, Mwajuma Hamza.

larger markets and compete. "For example, there are women who now export cashew nuts to Uganda; there are women there who are exporting batik to Kenya. There are many women who have soap products or similar, they can sell them at supermarkets, because through this training, not only TBS, there is also a barcode issue, initially they did not have a barcode," he said.

TWCC Chairperson, Mercy Silla paid tribute to TMEA for the supporting saying, "I would

really like to take this opportunity on behalf of the directors of TWCC, all members, and business women in our country to thank TradeMark, East Africa, for their great support."

"As you can see the number of women traders is increasingly, we are formalizing their businesses, we teach them to produce quality products, branding, we help them get TBS, and barcodes," Silla added while noting that many others are still behind hence the need for TWCC to take

them aboard.

"We are walking along President Samia's footsteps, she argues, women to dare, rise, and do everything possible to succeed. Everything that a man can do, a woman can also do," she noted.

Silla's observation was backed by TWCC Executive Director, Mwajuma Hamza who also thanked TradeMark East Africa saying, "Thank you TradeMark East Africa, we have reached many women, since we started

working with you, this project is for 5-years but now this is just the second year and we have already reached thousands of women."

"For us through TradeMark, we believe we will continue to benefit, and these women will continue to do well locally and internationally," she added. At the 45th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair, with funding from TradeMark East Africa, more than 200 women traders participated which enabled TWCC to be named among the best pavilions hence win a top DITF award.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan speaking at a past event during Kizimkazi Festival in Zanzibar.

APPRECIATION

President Samia salutes NMB for backing Kizimkazi Festival

By Guardian Reporter

NMB Bank Plc's investment in community projects through the annual Kizimkazi Festival has earned praises from President Samia Suluhu Hassan who described it as exemplary.

Speaking in Zanzibar during the climax of the Kizimkazi Festival on Saturday, President Samia said the bank has been an active participant of the event since its inception in 2016. "You have financed various community projects in education and health for all the years through this festival," the president said.

She said when the festival started in 2016 by Makunduchi residents it was meant to bid her farewell after her nomination as the ruling Cha-

ma Cha Mapinduzi's running mate in 2015 but that it has since become a major annual event.

"This festival's key objectives also included bringing together Kizimkazi residents and mobilising resources for development but also promote economic investment potentials in the area," the head of state added.

Briefing the president on this year's event, NMB's CEO Ruth Zai-puna said the bank has invested heavily in Zanzibar especially in areas of agriculture and the blue economy with fishermen, salt miners and seaweed farmers as beneficiaries.

In a speech read on her behalf by NMB's Chief of Retail Banking, Filbert Mponzi, Zai-puna said, "We

have trained more than 3,400 seaweed farmers in basics of finances, entrepreneurship which also involved artisanal fishermen," she said.

The NMB chief executive further noted that the bank has also invested over 257m/- in education since August 2020. "This year through Kizimkazi Festival, we have donated medical equipment such as labour ward beds, iron sheets for construction of wards all valued at 35m/-," the NMB CEO added.

The bank is also providing services in the Spice Islands where it has 150 NB Wakalas, 17 ATMs and two physical branches in Unguja and Pemba islands. "We are in the process of expanding our services by installing more ATMs and erecting more physical branches.

INVESTMENT

IFC's financing on private sector development in Africa, Middle East hits \$10.4 billion

CAIRO

IFC provided record financing in fiscal year 2021 in the Middle East and Africa to help thousands of small businesses access finance, connect people and businesses to reliable digital infrastructure, trade and services, and help to meet critical health needs amid the COVID-19 pandemic. The financing reached \$10.4 billion.

IFC's financing included short-term finance (\$2.9 billion) and mobilization (\$4.2 billion), with 70 percent of IFC's own account financing going to low-income and fragile and conflict affected states. Under the Global Trade Finance Program (GTFFP), IFC committed \$2.7 billion aimed at supporting trade flows between countries and helping to connect small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) to value chains in the Middle East and Africa.

IFC responded quickly to the regions' health needs providing \$1.6 billion in the Middle East and Africa, including \$732 million to partners in sub-Saharan Africa from its Global Health Facility.

The health response is supporting the ex-



Sérgio Pimenta, IFC Vice President for the Middle East and Africa.

pansion of diagnostic and laboratory testing, increased access to critical medical equipment, and partnerships to support leading vaccine manufacturers on the continent.

Among the key initiatives, in April, IFC announced the Africa Medical Equipment Facility, a partnership that so far includes Philips, Co-operative Bank of Kenya, GE Healthcare and NSIA to strengthen medical equipment financing across Africa.

IFC also worked across countries to help improve infrastructure in the Middle East and Africa. In February, IFC invested in a bond issued by Liquid Telecommunications Financing, PLC to help the company expand access to broadband Internet and digital and cloud services across Africa.

In June, IFC announced a landmark loan to Iraq's Basrah Gas Company to help reduce gas flaring, boost energy access and power homes and businesses across Iraq.

Within the financial services sector, IFC invested \$26 million in Africa to support financial technology development, and supported projects aimed at increasing climate finance,

including a \$150 million loan to KCB Kenya to help the bank increase lending for climate-friendly projects.

"IFC is working with partners across the Middle East and Africa to support countries to create stronger, more resilient, and more connected economies.

The past 15 months have shown how critical it is to ensure that small businesses can access finance, that homes and businesses are connected to the Internet, and that trade and supply chains remain open to help countries respond to critical food and health needs. We stepped up our efforts in the past year to help our partners and will continue to support them through the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery," said Sérgio Pimenta, IFC Vice President for the Middle East and Africa.

In addition to its investments in the Middle East and Africa, IFC provided Advisory and Upstream Services with a portfolio of more than \$520 million for 338 projects aimed at improving the business environment, investment policy and promotion and creating markets in priority sectors.

EMPOWERMENT

TADB, Agricom Africa signs deal to enable farmers get equipment

By Jenifer Gilla

IN a bid to enable mainly smallholder farmers mechanise, Tanzania Agriculture Development Bank has signed a memorandum of understanding with Agricom African Limited to get equipment such as tractors on loan.

TADB's Director of Finance and Resource Mobilization, Derick Legemala said in Dar es Salaam last week that the partnership with Agricom will increase the

number of farmers accessing modern and affordable agri-equipment through affordable loans charging nine percent as interest rate.

"Our partnership with Agricom provides customers with two unique options that make it affordable to farmers to purchase agri-equipment. One is an interest buy-down of between 1 and 2 percent while the second option is a subsidy of three percent on the principle amount for each unit purchased," Legemala said.



TADB's director of finance and resource mobilization, Derick Legemala.

According to Legemala, the use of modern equipment such as tractors is a major step towards transforming the country's hand-hoe

cum rain-fed agriculture practised by the majority smallholder farmers. He said mechanization will also help boost production hence

create surplus enough for internal consumption and exports but also feed local industries as raw materials. "We also have a special

interest rate targeting youth and women which is a significant relief to farmers who cannot afford prevailing market interest rates of up to 18 percent," he added.

In remarks after the MoU signing ceremony, Chairperson of Agricom, Angelina Mbula said the main reason for the deal is to provide innovative solutions at all levels of agribusiness supply chain hence contribute toward increased food production and ultimately improve farmers' living standards.

"Our objective is to transform the way Tanzanian farmers produce and graduate them from subsistence to commercial farming," Mbula said while noting that improved agriculture production will also help transform the economy.

She further explained that under the MoU, TADB and Agricom will be able to give farmers equipment loans which include Suraj tractors, Kubota combine harvesters, rotavators and sugarcane loaders, maize threshers and balers.

DIVERSIFICATION

Nigerian oil giant considers IPO after first profit in 44 years

ABUJA

NIGERIA'S state oil company is considering an initial share sale after posting the first profit in its 44-year existence.

Legislation signed by President Muhammadu Buhari this month enables the Nigerian

National Petroleum Corp. to offer shares to the public, Managing Director Mele Kyari said at a briefing Thursday in the capital, Abuja. A listing would draw on the experience of Saudi Aramco, the Saudi Arabian oil giant that listed in 2019, he said.

"There is no date on it, but

there is a possibility of doing this," Kyari said. NNPC reported net income of 287 billion naira (\$698 million) in 2020, compared with losses of 1.7 billion naira in 2019 and 803 billion naira the year before. The Abuja-based company, which released audited results for the first time two years

ago, has for years operated under a cloak of secrecy often mired by allegations of corruption.

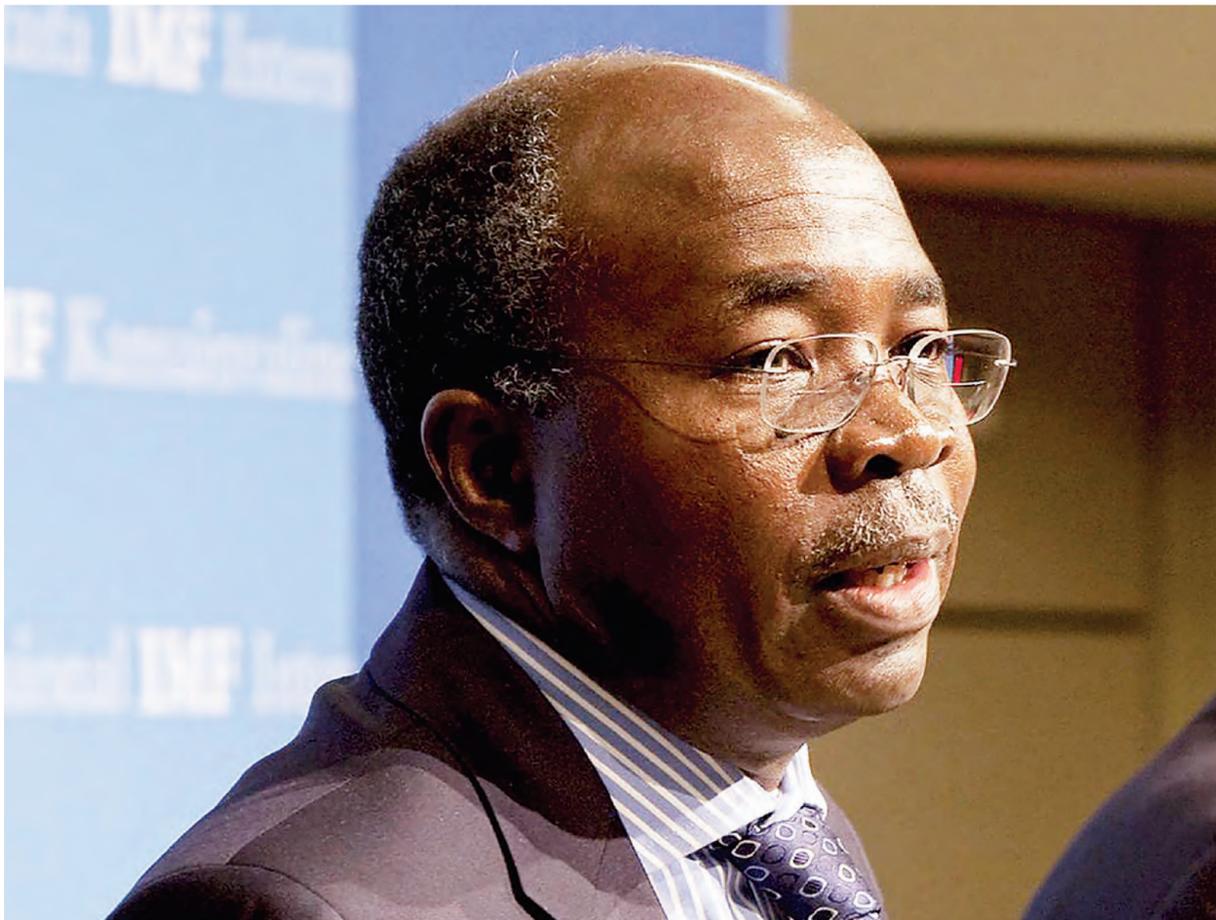
"Obviously because you have made profit today doesn't mean you are ready for IPO," Kyari said. "It is a very, very long, tedious process." Buhari became

president of Africa's biggest oil producer in 2015 with a pledge to improve transparency in government corporations, including the NNPC. Under the Petroleum Industry Act he approved on August 16, the NNPC will be registered as a commercially focused entity.

The new legislation "specifies that the company pay its fair share of royalties, fees, rents, taxes and other payments due to the government, and that it should pay out the bulk of its profits as dividends after retaining 25% for reinvestment," accounting firm KPMG stated in a

report published last month.

The Nigerian Stock Exchange has a market capitalization of 20.6 trillion naira (\$50 billion). The largest IPO on the bourse to date was Guaranty Trust Bank Plc's \$824 million listing in 2007, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.



Zambia's finance minister, Situmbeko Musokotwane

CONFIDENCE

Zambia's new finance minister banks on IMF support to overcome debt crisis

LUSAKA

ZAMBIA'S newly-appointed finance minister on Friday pledged to conclude talks with the IMF on a lending programme by October as he seeks to pull the southern African country out of its protracted debt crisis.

President Hakainde Hichilema, who was elected earlier this month by a landslide, named Situmbeko Musokotwane, an experienced international economist, to a second stint as Zambia's finance minister.

The appointment of Mr Musokotwane, who held the same post from 2008 to 2011, was announced three days after Mr Hichilema pledged at his swearing-in ceremony to bring public spending and the budget deficit under control.

"Unless we do something to the budget, then the budget will be mainly for paying salaries and also servicing debt," with nothing left over to invest in developing the country, Mr Musokotwane said after his appointment.

Mr Musokotwane, a former deputy central bank governor who has also held positions with the International Monetary Fund and World Bank will face fraught negotiations with multiple creditors on the country's \$12 billion external debt. "The answer is to talk to the people we owe money so that we can pay at a slower pace

stretched over a longer period," he said.

"He will be seen as a safe pair of hands," Standard Chartered's Razia Khan said in a note. "His experience in dealing with the challenges ... of the global financial crisis, as well as an understanding of the conditions needed for mining investment, will be additional positives." Zambia, Africa's second-biggest copper producer, became Africa's first pandemic-era sovereign default in November after failing to keep up with international debt servicing payments.

Of its foreign debt, some \$3bn is in Eurobonds, \$3.5bn is bilateral debt, \$2.1bn is owed to multilateral lending agencies such as the IMF, and \$2.9bn to commercial banks. Complicating things further, about a quarter of the total is held by either China or Chinese entities via deals that have strict secrecy clauses. That has rendered talks for IMF debt relief particularly tough. Zambia's government borrowed too much during boom times over the last decade and was then hit by a fall in commodity prices, triggering a recession exacerbated by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Mr Hichilema beat incumbent Edgar Lungu in the August 12 election, his sixth run for the presidency and Zambia's third peaceful change of power to an opposition party since independence from Britain in 1964.

EXPANSION

Uganda Airlines to operate two flights per week to Dar

By Correspondent Theresia Victor

UGANDA Airlines will operate two passenger planes from Entebbe International Airport to Julius Nyerere International Airport on Mondays and Fridays.

Uganda Airlines' Country Manager, Lucy Ismail said in Dar es Salaam yesterday when welcoming a maiden flight to JNIA that they will use a Airbus A330-800 Neo for the route. Ismail said Dar es Salaam is one of several African cities targeted by the Kampala based airline which is seeking to take a stake from other regional airlines.

She said the brand new Airbus A330-800 jetliner is a long haul equipment that will also start flying to Accra, Ghana and Lubumbashi in DR Congo later this year.

"The Airbus330-800 Neo has been added to our Aircraft Operation Certificate list and will soon be flying to Dubai, London, Mumbai and Guangzhou," Ismail noted while inviting passenger to choose the airline for affordable tickets.

"As we are celebrating Uganda Airlines' second year of commercial operation since its establishment in 2019, we are set on providing passengers with best in-flight services in this competitive aviation business," she noted.

The jetliner has capacity of 258 seats of which 20 are business class, 28 pre-economy and 210 economy class. "We know it's going to be competitive in the market but we are all set to go as our time performance on all routes is 95 percent," she stated. Currently, the airline flies Nai-

robi, Mogadishu, Bujumbura and Kinshasa.

"We will soon start carrying cargo as we have already been approved through AOC and so people wishing to transfer their packages and cargo can do so with us," the Uganda Airlines Country Manager explained.



As we are celebrating Uganda Airlines' second year of commercial operation since its establishment in 2019, we are set on providing passengers with best



Passengers boarding Uganda Airlines plane at Julius Nyerere International Airport in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Theresia Victor.

PESSIMISM

Chip crunch will last through 2022, Toyota supplier warns

TOKYO

JAPAN'S Rohm Co. says that vital semiconductors for automobiles and industrial machinery will likely remain in short supply at least throughout next year, adding to ominous warnings about further fallout from the global chip crisis.

The Kyoto-based chipmaker, whose customers include Toyota Motor Corp., Ford Motor Co. and Honda Motor Co., has been hampered by a severe shortage of key materials as well as full production lines, said Chief Executive Officer Isao Matsumoto. The company started beefing up its capacity last September and plans to spend another 70 billion yen (\$636 million) in the current fiscal year, but the full contribution from such investments won't be seen immediately because production machinery is taking longer to arrive, he added.

"All of our production facilities have been running at their full capacity since September last year, but orders from customers are overwhelming," Matsumoto said in an interview this week. "I don't think we can fulfill all the backlog of orders next year."

It joins peers like Infineon Technologies AG in warning that supply chain struggles are likely to persist for far longer than previously anticipated. Chip delivery times have already surpassed 20 weeks, as the Covid-19 delta variant complicates efforts to resume normal operations from Japan to Southeast Asia.

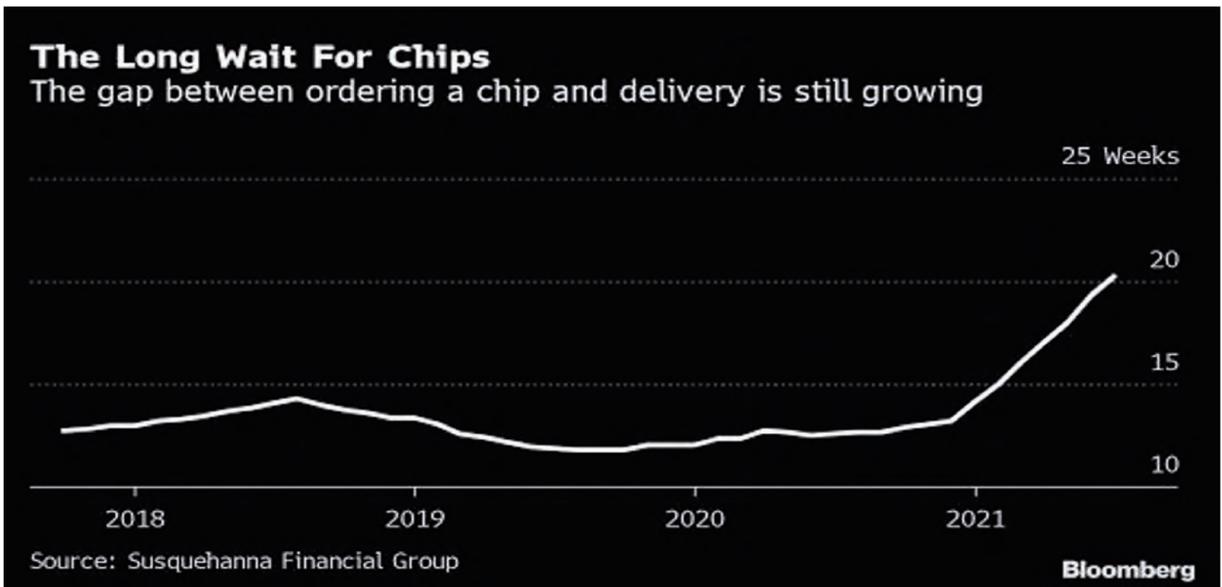
Material and component shortages, compounded by jammed trains, ships and planes, have forced global automakers from Toyota to Volkswagen AG to cut or suspend production in recent weeks. The Japanese car giant said last week it would temporarily halt production at 14 plants.

Shares of Rohm rose as much as 0.8% in Tokyo Friday, even as the Topix slid 0.8%. Founded more than 60 years ago, Rohm has become an integral part of the automotive supply chain as carmakers add more electronics and semiconductors to vehicles. The Japanese manufacturer's automotive solutions include devices used for power management, air conditioning, lighting and entertainment.

The most severe bottleneck is a lack of materials like those required to make leadframes – the metal structure inside a semiconductor unit that communicate signals with the outside of the package.

"Offers to hike prices won't do a job at all anymore because our suppliers just don't have a unit of stock at hand," Matsumoto said "Even for the ones we reserved, the pace of arrival at our site isn't living up to our expectations." The shortages may benefit the bottom line.

"Rohm's operating profit margin may widen as its planned capacity expansion could bode well for sales and profit growth as well as overseas market share gains amid looming global chip shortages," Bloomberg In-



Chips supply graph.

telligence Masahiro Wakasugi and Ian Ma wrote in a research note this month.

Still, some analysts warn a sudden drop in demand may eventually follow, as beefed-up production lines start contributing to capacity and customers finish securing enough inventories.

"The current crunch is stemming from suppliers' lack of output and makers trying to buy more components than what they need due to concerns," said Morningstar's head of equity research Kazunori Ito. "Both

should go away in 2023 or so."

The current supply shortage means Rohm has had to put on hold a previously outlined multi-year plan to outsource a part of its chip production process to foundries overseas. The arrangement – especially for chips that require cutting-edge technology – was intended to serve as part of its business continuity plans given the increasing frequency of natural disasters in Japan.

"Our plan to increase the quantity of chips we ask others to make on our behalf hasn't changed, but these

foundries have no such capacity right now, and next year looks very tight as well," Matsumoto said. "Maybe we can resume it from a year after next, albeit gradually."

Rohm this year received two sets of government subsidies to strengthen its production in Japan and Malaysia.

But to support semiconductor makers and their subsidiaries further, Matsumoto said his home country's government can offer more benefits including tax incentives and lowering the cost of renewable energies, given rising customer demand for a carbon-neutral

production process.

"How much renewable energy we should use in Japan is a big challenge, as we consume a lot of electricity and the cost of such energy here is very expensive," he said.

"That could become a problem for us when it comes to beefing up our domestic production capacity, and relocating these production lines outside of Japan could become an inevitable option for us to think about."

ECO-FRIENDLY

Shell plans to boost Oman renewable energy portfolio

OMAN

GLOBAL energy major Royal Dutch Shell plans to add new clean energy projects in Oman and boost its renewables portfolio as the sultanate aims to generate 30 per cent of its electricity from green sources by 2030. The company launched the 25-megawatt Qabas solar plant in Sohar in January, which was Shell's first renewable project in the Middle East.

"We have the ambition to grow beyond the first project, especially in the context of energy transition and reducing the carbon footprint both for the country and for ourselves," Walid Hadi, vice president and country chairman for Oman Shell, told The National.

Oman is building renewable energy plants across the country to increase supply of clean power to both homes and industries as part of its commitment to the Paris Accord, which it signed in 2016.

Some of the plants are already operational, including the \$125 million Dhofar wind farm, developed by Abu Dhabi's Masdar and funded by the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development. The total capacity of the plant is 50MW.

Other projects include Petroleum Development Oman's 100MW Amin photovoltaic solar power plant that began commercial operations last year. "We have a number of projects in the pipeline and we have an intent to mature more," Mr Hadi said. But he declined to disclose the number of projects or the money the company intends to invest in the coming years.

Besides solar power, the company is also looking at wind energy projects as "there [are] pretty rich wind corridors in the country," he said. Shell is planning to add more clean energy projects to its global renewables portfolio in a bid to become a net-zero emissions energy company by 2050, Mr Hadi said.

Publicly listed oil companies around the world have come under increasing pressure from activist investors, governments, courts and large institutional investors that promote environmental, social and corporate governance standards to reduce their carbon footprint and transition to clean energy. Currently, Shell has 2.6 gigawatts of renewable generation capacity in operation and 7.5 gigawatts in development globally, the company said.

"There is only one path to renewables and that is a growth path. It is the energy of the future ... there is an opportunity for energy companies to lead through the transition and return value to the shareholders," he said. Shell has a 34 per cent stake in state-owned Petroleum Development Oman, which accounts for more than 70 per cent of the country's crude oil production and nearly all its natural gas supply.

It also has a 49 per cent interest in Shell Oman Marketing Company, which provides services and sells fuels, lubricants and grease. Oman Shell is also part of the national hydrogen alliance set up by the Ministry of Energy and Minerals this month to develop the country's hydrogen economy.

"The job of this alliance is to put public sector, private sector and academia and the regulators on one table to say 'here is what we need to do to initiate a hydrogen economy in Oman, these are the investments required, these are the regulations we need, here is the technology that will evolve over time' and, from that, start creating an ecosystem that makes it easier for companies to come and invest in hydrogen," Mr Hadi said.

"It is a long journey but it is starting in the right place and right people are around the table including the biggest energy producers in Oman, the Ministry of Energy, Sultan Qaboos University and other public and private sector companies."

Globally, the size of the hydrogen industry is expected to hit \$183 billion by 2023, up from \$129bn in 2017, according to Fitch Solutions. French investment bank Natixis estimates that investment in hydrogen will exceed \$300bn by 2030.

UZALO
MONDAY - FRIDAY
STARTING 7:30 PM

ITV PGM SCHEDULE

MONDAY 23 Aug	TUESDAY 24 Aug	WEDNESDAY 25 Aug	THURSDAY 26 Aug	FRIDAY 27 Aug	SATURDAY 28 Aug	SUNDAY 29 Aug	MONDAY 30 Aug
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha
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CAPITAL

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06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenevula rpt: Lover her to death 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love 16:30 Capchat rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Innovation 19:30 Jajina rpt 20:00 Series: Beats of Love 21:30 Capital Prime 22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt 23:00 Eco@Africa 23:00 Al Jazeera	06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenevula rpt: Lover her to death 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love 16:30 Capchat rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Innovation 19:30 Jajina rpt 20:00 Series: Beats of Love 21:30 Capital Prime 22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt 23:00 Eco@Africa 23:00 Al Jazeera	06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenevula rpt: Lover her to death 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love 16:30 Capchat rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Innovation 19:30 Jajina rpt 20:00 Series: Beats of Love 21:30 Capital Prime 22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt 23:00 Eco@Africa 23:00 Al Jazeera	06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenevula rpt: Lover her to death 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love 16:30 Capchat rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Innovation 19:30 Jajina rpt 20:00 Series: Beats of Love 21:30 Capital Prime 22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt 23:00 Eco@Africa 23:00 Al Jazeera	06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenevula rpt: Lover her to death 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love 16:30 Capchat rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Innovation 19:30 Jajina rpt 20:00 Series: Beats of Love 21:30 Capital Prime 22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt 23:00 Eco@Africa 23:00 Al Jazeera	06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenevula rpt: Lover her to death 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Beats of Love 16:30 Capchat rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Innovation 19:30 Jajina rpt 20:00 Series: Beats of Love 21:30 Capital Prime 22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt 23:00 Eco@Africa 23:00 Al Jazeera

WORLD

Thousands march in US cities for voting rights

WASHINGTON

THOUSANDS of protesters rallied in Washington and other US cities on Saturday to demand protections for voting rights, aiming to pressure lawmakers to pass legislation to counter a wave of ballot restrictions in Republican-led states.

Held on the anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s historic 1963 March on Washington, organizers of the "March On For Washington And Voting Rights" stressed that the moves to curb voting access would disproportionately affect people of color.

In Washington, protesters holding "Black Lives Matter" flags and signs calling for federal legislation marched from McPherson Square to the final meeting point at the National Mall, where a series of civil rights leaders delivered remarks not far from where King gave his iconic "I Have a Dream" speech 58 years ago.

More than 20,000 people participated in the march, the Rev. Al Sharpton estimated in a Twitter post. Rallies also took place in Phoenix, Miami and dozens of other cities.

Activist Carolyn Ruff, 74, said she made the trip from Chicago to Washington to push

for the passage of a federal law that would restore key protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which outlawed discriminatory voting practices.

The bill, named after the late civil rights hero and longtime congressman John Lewis, was approved in the US House of Representatives this week but faces poor prospects in the Senate due to rules that allow a minority to block legislation.

Lewis' youngest brother urged Republican senators to put aside partisanship and pass the law, saying that fundamental rights secured in the 1960s were at stake.

"Just think, 58 years later we are still fighting for those same rights. Something about that just don't sound right," said Grant Lewis told the crowd. "It doesn't matter what side of the aisle you are on. It's more important to be on the right side of history."

After Democrat Joe Biden won the 2020 presidential election, Republican lawmakers in many states reined in the use of dropboxes and mail-in voting.

The moves came after Republican former President Donald Trump tried unsuccessfully to overturn the election based on unsubstantiated claims of widespread voter fraud.



Protesters rally to demand protection for voting rights on the 58th anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, in Washington, DC, on Saturday. AFP

So far this year, at least 18 states have enacted laws restricting voter access, according to the Brennan Center for Justice at New York University, read more

In addition to the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, a more expansive voting reform bill was passed by the House earlier this year, but Senate Republicans blocked it in June, saying voting rules should be left to the states.

The lack of meaningful Republican support appears set to doom any legislation in the Senate, which is divided 50-50 along party lines and where filibuster rules mean Democrats need to secure the votes of 10 Republicans to advance measures.

Kathleen Kennedy, 27, said she joined the Washington march after reading about a law in Texas that had garnered national attention after Democratic lawmakers

fled the state in an effort to deny a quorum needed for Republicans to pass it.

The bill, which would outlaw drive-through and 24-hour voting locations and add new identification requirements to mail-in voting, among other restrictions, was approved by the state's House of Representatives on Friday.

"So many of these laws are getting passed. Elections are coming up, elections will be impacted by these laws," said Kennedy, a resident of nearby Silver Spring, Maryland. "It's worth ending the filibuster."

Some speakers also promoted the idea of making the nation's capital the next state. A coalition of groups advocating for Washington, DC, statehood, called 51 for 51, was one of the leading organizers of Saturday's event.

Politics has no place in origins tracing, says WHO chief scientist

SINGAPORE



Dr Soumya Swaminathan

CHIEF scientist of the World Health Organization (WHO) Soumya Swaminathan has called for an evidence-based global scientific effort to understand COVID-19 origins, a Singaporean media outlet reported.

"I think politics has absolutely no place in this because the science behind this is going to be important for all of us, regardless of which country we live in," said Swaminathan in an interview with CAN, an English-language news channel based in Singapore on Aug 23.

"We need to take the politics away from this completely and just let the scientists get on with their jobs," she was quoted as saying.

Swaminathan said the WHO is encouraging "open scientific discussion on the pandemic but that finding who is responsible is probably not the right question to ask."

"If this was a natural phenomenon, it can happen anywhere. If it's happened in different parts of the world in the past, it can happen tomorrow and anywhere. The next pandemic could be upon us even before we're out of this one," she added.

Xinhua

Israel bombs Hamas sites in Gaza over fire balloons

JERUSALEM / GAZA

- Israeli aircraft struck Hamas sites in Gaza early on Sunday in response to incendiary balloons launched from the Palestinian enclave, the military said, as a recent rise in cross-border violence tests a fragile truce that ended fierce fighting in May.

Sanctioned by Hamas, the Islamist armed group that rules Gaza, Palestinian groups said on Saturday they were resuming protests at the Israel-Gaza border, aimed at pressing Israel to ease restrictions on the enclave. The Israeli military said hundreds of Palestinians gathered along the frontier during the night, hurling explosives and burning tires.

The military said its troops responded with "riot dispersal means" and Gaza medics said at least six Palestinians were hurt, one seriously. A few hours later, Israeli pre-dawn air strikes targeted a Hamas weapons manufacturing complex and a tunnel it said was used by militants, after incendiary balloons were sent across the border.

There were no reports of casualties in the bombings. An Egyptian-mediated truce ended the May conflict in which Gaza militants fired rockets towards Israeli cities and Israel carried out air strikes across the coastal enclave. At least 250 Palestinians and 13 people in Israel were killed in 11 days of fighting.

But violence has recently increased despite an Israeli announcement this month of a resumption of Qatari aid to Gaza, a decision that had been seen as bolstering the truce. Palestinian groups say Israel has yet to make good on its word and over the past two weeks militants have fired a rocket and sent balloons carrying incendiary material into Israel, setting off brush fires and drawing Israeli strikes on Hamas facilities.

Citing security threats, Israel keeps Gaza under a blockade, tightly restricting movement in and out of the territory that is home to 2 million Palestinians. Egypt also maintains Gaza restrictions.



A Palestinian protester swings a slingshot near burning tyres following a demonstration along the border between the Gaza Strip and Israel east of Gaza City on Saturday. AFP

China firmly opposes US intel report on virus origins tracing

BEIJING

CHINA firmly opposes the report on COVID-19 origins by the U.S. intelligence community and has made strong representations with the United States, Vice Foreign Minister Ma Zhaoxu said on Saturday.

"It is a mendacious report made up for political purposes. There is no scientific basis or credibility in it," he said.

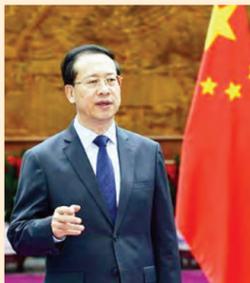
Ma reiterated China's stance that origins tracing of COVID-19 is a complex issue of science which should and can only be undertaken by scientists around the world through joint research.

The United States, however,

disregards science and facts. It is instead obsessed with political manipulation and origins tracing by the intelligence community. Without providing any evidence, the United States has cooked up one story after another to defame and accuse China. The aim is to use origins tracing to shift blame onto China and spread the political virus, Ma said.

"The deployment of the intelligence community in origins tracing is in itself a compelling evidence of the politicization of the issue," he said.

The United States' attempts to politicize origins tracing have found no support and



Chinese Vice-Foreign Minister Ma Zhaoxu

met widespread opposition from the international community, according to Ma.

More than 80 countries have written to the WHO Director-General, issued state-

ments, or sent diplomatic notes to voice their objection to the politicization attempts and call for the Joint Report by the WHO-China joint study team to be upheld.

Over 300 political parties, social organizations and think tanks from more than 100 countries and regions have submitted a joint statement to the WHO Secretariat on opposing the politicization of origins tracing, Ma said, adding that over 25 million Chinese netizens have signed an open letter asking for an inquiry into the Fort Detrick base.

The United States has been refusing to respond to the international community's rea-

sonable doubts on the Fort Detrick biolab and the over 200 overseas bases for biological experiments, trying to cover up the truth and avoid being held responsible, Ma said.

"The onus is on the United States to give the world an answer," he said.

Ma urged the United States to immediately stop doing anything that poisons the atmosphere for international cooperation on origins tracing or undermines global solidarity against the pandemic, and return to the right track of science-based origins tracing and cooperation in the face of the pandemic. Xinhua

Vaccine shortages prompts some ASEAN nations to develop own jabs

Hong Kong

AMID a global shortage of vaccines and new wave of COVID-19 infections, some countries in Southeast Asia are rushing to develop their own coronavirus shots.

After promising results from the Phase 1 clinical trial of the experimental ChulaCov19 vaccine, researchers from Thailand's Chulalongkorn University began the Phase 2a trial on 150 volunteers on Aug 26.

The homegrown COVID-19 vaccine in Thailand is on track to become Southeast Asia's first mRNA vaccine.

"(Our vaccine) can induce a very strong antibody response, (which is) as good as Pfizer," said Kiat Ruxruntham, director of the ChulaCov19 mRNA vaccine development program and founder of the Chula Vaccine Research Center, the research

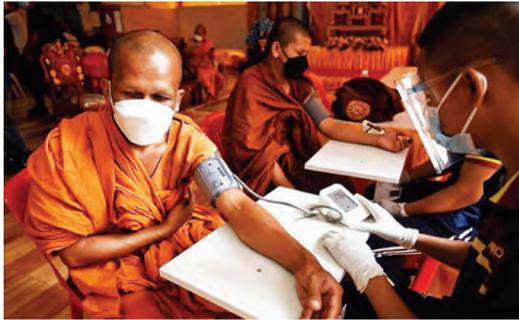
team behind ChulaCov19.

Unlike the inactivated vaccines that contain a protein or other small pieces taken from a virus, mRNA vaccines prompt the human body to make a protein that triggers an immune response.

According to the results released on Aug 16, based on the Phase 1 trial on 36 volunteers, ChulaCov19 is 94 percent effective in preventing SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. It is capable of building immunity against all four virus variants including Alpha, Beta, Gamma and Delta.

"The vaccine is also able to induce a strong T-cell response," Kiat told China Daily. T-cell response plays a vital role in getting rid of infected cells and reducing number of virus in the tissues.

After the Phase 2a trial, Kiat said there will be another,



Buddhist monks have their blood pressure checked before receiving a dose of the coronavirus vaccine at Wat Si Sudaram Worawihan in Bangkok on July 30, 2021. AFP

Phase 2b, trial on 5,000 volunteers in October and then possibly a Phase 3 trial on 15,000 to 30,000 volunteers.

He said he hopes the Thai FDA can consider easing the regulations on Thai-made vaccines and approve the team's vaccine for emergency use without Phase 3 trial results as

long as the vaccine's safety and efficacy can be proved.

"There are a lot of people ... asking a question whether we are too late to develop our own vaccine," said Kiat, who hopes the team's vaccine can be approved for emergency use before the Thai new year in April. "I would say not at all. We

have to make sure that our capability, capacity and value chain are complete. So we will be ready for any new variants and also for the next pandemics."

Thailand is currently experiencing its worst COVID-19 outbreak, fueled by the Delta variant of the virus.

The country plans to vaccinate 50 million people by early October but rollout has been delayed due to multiple reasons including supply shortage.

Noting that there are two among five vaccines using different technologies entering the clinical trials in Thailand, Kiat said it is important for any country, including a small country like Thailand, to have its own capacity to make vaccines in preparation of other pandemics in the future.

Agencies

China's new development to offer new opportunities for world

SINCE the beginning of reform and opening-up, China has pursued a fundamental policy of opening up and embraced economic globalization proactively. It is creating opportunities for the rest of the world while achieving its own development, opening up new horizons amid benign interaction with the world and on the road to win-win results.

In just decades, China has grown into the world's second largest economy, largest trading nation in goods, and largest destination for foreign direct investment. Besides, it is also the largest trading part-

ner for some 120 countries and regions, contributing 30 percent to global growth for years. China's economy and the world economy reinforce each other.

The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) proposed and actively advanced by China has been turned from a vision to reality and from a concept to concrete actions after years of joint efforts made by all parties relevant. It has become the world's broadest-based and largest platform for international cooperation.

A World Bank report said that the BRI, when fully implemented, could increase global trade by 6.2 percent and global real income by 2.9 percent. The joint construction of the initiative will bring dividends to and create development momentum for the economic growth of both participating countries and the world.

After the global outbreak of COVID-19, which has severely impacted the world economy, China became the first major economy to have controlled

the pandemic and realized positive economic growth, injecting strong energy into global recovery.

Last year, the bilateral trade of goods between China and the U.S. grew 8.8 percent, and the EU's exports and imports to China went up by 2.2 percent and 5.6 percent, respectively. In the first quarter of this year, China's trade volume with Belt and Road countries totaled 2.5 trillion yuan (\$390 billion), up 21.4 percent. China's huge economic

vitality is a strong pillar for the rapid global recovery, and the country's increasing level of opening up is also accelerating the economic pickup of the world from the pandemic.

The stable Chinese economy is of more and more significance for the world when the latter is facing increasing uncertainties and instability.

As China is entering a new development stage, it will follow a new development philosophy and foster a new development paradigm to

promote high-quality development. Continuing to restructure its economy and further improving its development quality and efficiency, the country will offer more development opportunities for the rest of the world.

The new development stage is playing a more and more important role in China's socialist modernization. As the country further opens up its sci-tech cooperation, its technological innovation results are expected

to benefit more countries and people. The emerging industries and businesses in the country will create new areas of growth for the world economy.

China is a country with 1.4 billion people, and its per capita GDP has exceeded \$10,000.

The people's increasingly higher demand for better life quality is driving a consumption upgrade and creating huge consumption space and potential, building a broader space and a better business environment for foreign manufacturers and investors.

People's Daily

Xi leads the way in promoting ethnic unity, development

BEIJING

IN China, a unified multi-ethnic country, the proper handling of ethnic affairs concerns the lasting security and prosperity of the entire country and the Chinese nation's rejuvenation.

President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, has said that ethnic unity is the cornerstone of development and progress.

Since the 18th National Congress of the CPC in 2012, the CPC Central Committee with Xi at the core has been making long-term policies to consolidate the foundation for ethnic unity and development.

By putting forward the call of heightening a strong sense of community for the Chinese nation, Xi has been leading China's efforts in making innovative progress in the work related to ethnic affairs.

INNOVATIVE IDEA

The central leadership has always attached great importance to ethnic affairs and development in areas with large ethnic populations. In May 2014,

Xi put forward an important notion -- the sense of community for the Chinese nation. In September 2014, at a central work conference on ethnic affairs, Xi once again highlighted the importance of laying a solid foundation for the sense of community for the Chinese nation. He has since on many occasions stated the profound implications and great significance of consolidating such a sense.

At the 19th CPC National Con-

gress in October 2017, the idea was officially written into the Party's Constitution.

Four inspections to regions with large ethnic populations have been made by Xi so far this year, deepening and extending the implications of the theories and practice of the sense of community for the Chinese nation.

RESEARCH-BASED INSIGHT

In 2014, Xi carried out frequent inspections and research to learn about the opinions on ethnic affairs at the primary level.

During his inspections to Inner Mongolia and Xinjiang, Xi had face-to-face talks with people from multiple ethnic groups. He also joined lawmakers from Guizhou Province during the annual session of the National People's Congress (NPC) and visited members from the ethnic minority groups of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC).

Based on in-depth research, Xi noted that strengthened Party leadership is a must for advancing the work of ethnic affairs in China.

The system of regional ethnic autonomy has played an important role in promoting ethnic equality and unity, fueling development in ethnic areas, and enhancing the cohesion of the Chinese nation, he said.

He also noted that to enhance the unity of the Chinese nation, the long-term and fundamental way is to strengthen the cultural identity and consolidate the sense of community for the Chinese nation.

"An ethnic group will enjoy sustainable development only when it



integrates into the big family of the motherland," said Kurban Niyaz, a primary school principal in south Xinjiang.

DEVELOPMENT IN ALL ASPECTS

Xi has long paid close attention to the economic and social development of areas with large ethnic populations.

On the eve of the Spring Festival in 2018, he paid a visit to Sanhe Village, a poor village inhabited by the ethnic Yi people in Sichuan Province. In February 2021, at a gathering to mark the country's poverty eradication achievements, Li Kai, a Party official of Sanhe Village, expressed the villagers' gratitude to Xi using the Yi ethnic language.

All the 28 ethnic-minority groups with relatively smaller populations

in China have shaken off poverty. What is more, ethnic areas have sped up efforts in fostering and promoting high-quality development in all aspects. In 2020, these areas contributed more than 10 percent of the national GDP.

During the 13th Five-Year Plan period (2016-2020), these areas registered an annual GDP growth of 6.6 percent, 0.9 percentage points higher than the national rate.

During the same period, 12.8 million new urban jobs were created in these areas, accounting for nearly one-fifth of the country's total.

Also, the traditional cultures of ethnic groups are flourishing. More than one-third of China's cultural heritage items inscribed on the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage List are related to ethnic minorities.

Ecological conservation has also been pushed forward in these areas, where people enjoy bluer skies, lush mountains and clearer waters. Safe housing, safe drinking water, accessible medical services and education all speak volumes about the improved livelihoods of various ethnic groups.

Earlier this month, 10 veteran Party chiefs from nine border villages of the Wa ethnic group in Yunnan Province wrote a letter to Xi, reporting local progress in poverty relief and expressing their willingness to build a more beautiful and prosperous home under the CPC's leadership.

MIRACLES TO COME

After securing a victory in fighting poverty, China has embarked on a new quest to fully build a modern socialist country.

Xi has personally drawn the blueprint for the modernization drive in the ethnic areas.

During the annual sessions of the NPC and the CPPCC National Committee in March, Wei Zhenling, a representative of the Maonan ethnic group, one of the 28 ethnic groups with relatively smaller populations, from south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, told the poverty-to-prosperity story of her hometown, expressing her villagers' confidence in a brighter future.

"I used to think that my hometown would never be connected to the outside world unless a miracle happened," said Wei, a member of the CPPCC National Committee. "That miracle has really happened."

Xinhua

UNICEF welcomes release of students in north-central Nigeria

LAGOS

THE United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) said on Saturday it was relieved that scores of students abducted by gunmen from a school in north-central Nigeria's Niger state in May have been freed from captivity.

Abubakar Sani Bello, governor of the Niger state, told reporters at a press conference in the state capital Minna that 92 kidnapped persons, including 90 students, have regained their freedom after being held for about three months by unidentified gunmen who attacked on May 30 the Salihu Tanko Islamiya School at Tegina town in the Rafi local government area of the state.

In a statement issued on Saturday, Peter Hawkins, the UNICEF Representative in Nigeria, said the UNICEF rejoiced with the families whose children have been freed and expressed deepest condolences to the family of one child who died while held by his abductors.

Hawkins condemned the attacks targeted at schools across the most populous African country in recent months.

"Children who went in search of knowledge were abducted at their school, which is supposed to be a safe place for them," he said. "Schools should not be a target. Children should not be a target," he added.

According to the UNICEF official, education is a fundamental right of every child and any attack on an educational institution is a violation of that right.

Xinhua

Digital technologies boost rural economy in East China's Deqing county

By Dou Hanyang

ZHANG Qiming, a snake-head fish farmer in Xigang village, Yuyue township, Deqing county, east China's Zhejiang province, has achieved an increase in fish yield because of a "digital fish", or an artificial intelligence (AI) underwater robot.

The "digital fish", with a length of no more than 50 cm, is a small oval device equipped with various sensors. It can help monitor in real time the condition of fish ponds through the Internet of Things (IoT), according to Zhang.

After putting the "digital fish" into his fish pond and logging in to his account on a mobile app, he can get real-time data on many environmental factors indicating the condition of the fish pond, such as dissolved oxygen in water, pH, and water temperature, and conduct many activities including accurately providing feed for fish and routine inspection as the device provides a panoramic virtual display of the fish pond, Zhang disclosed.

"Thanks to the 'digital fish' developed by a research institute, my fish ponds have seen higher yield," Zhang said.

The research institute Zhang mentioned is one established in Sanlin village, Yuyue township by a research team from Zhejiang University for the application of digital technologies in rural areas in 2019.

Successful practices of the institute have been incorporated into a report released by the Center for Informatization Study, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, as typical cases of



Photo taken on July 9, 2021 shows farmers adding nutrient solution to newly-planted tomato seedlings in a smart vegetable planting base in Shihuiyao township, Chengde county, north China's Hebei province.

digital technologies empowering rural economy.

Today, more and more living examples of digital technologies boosting rural economy are seen in Deqing county, including the Tsingsky Mogan Mountain Urban Agricultural Park, an urban agriculture complex featuring smart vegetable factory, which has been put into production in the county.

The vegetable factory of the project, which includes functional zones for production, intelligent management and control, seedling cultivation, and storage of equipment, mainly produces a kind of thin-skinned tomato.

"Smart technologies used for management and control of our vegetable factory can effectively reduce production cost and improve the quality and yield of products. It's estimated that the annual output of our factory can exceed one million kilograms, 30 to 50 times that achieved through traditional agricultural production mode," said an executive of the com-

pany running the vegetable factory.

In recent years, Deqing has actively promoted the in-depth integration of digital technologies into the real economy in rural areas, and constantly driven the emergence of new business forms and models as well as new drivers of economic growth, for which Deqing county has won the honorary title of "national model county in promoting the development of agriculture and rural areas through digital technologies".

Meanwhile, digital technologies and e-commerce have also benefited the production and sale of agricultural products in Deqing county, making farming more profitable for local residents.

Chen Zhongliang, a farmer in Yuyue township, is one of the local farmers who have reaped the fruits of digital technologies and e-commerce.

Chen started to run a farm after he graduated from college. As the size of his business grew, the sale of his products became

a headache for Chen.

Just when Chen couldn't figure out a solution to his problem, the research institute in Sanlin village launched a training project in 2019, aiming to cultivate rural talents for agricultural innovation by providing training courses on knowledge about digital economy, innovative thinking, and systematic operation and management of live-streaming and short-video platforms. Chen immediately signed up for the training, which helped him find the answer to his problem.

In addition, with the help of the new delivery model jointly developed by the government of Yuyue township, express companies, and e-commerce platforms, the online and off-line sales of Chen's products have increased significantly. Last year, the man saw the sales volume of his farm surpass four million yuan (about \$617,200).

Efforts to accelerate digital transformation in rural areas of China should be focused on two aspects, according to Jiang Qiping, director of the Center for Informatization Study.

On the one hand, China needs to improve and upgrade its digital infrastructure and promote the popularization of relevant facilities in rural areas, and on the other hand, the country should pool the strength of various parties to improve rural workers' digital literacy through systematic training, so as to enable farmers to truly take part in the development of the digital era, Jiang said.

People's Daily

German election campaign heats up as Merkel's conservatives slide

BERLIN

THE campaign over who will replace German Chancellor Angela Merkel heated up yesterday after a new opinion poll showed the centre-left Social Democrats (SPD) opening up a bigger lead over Merkel's conservatives.

Support for the SPD rose two points from last week to 24 percent, their highest result in four years according to the INSA poll conducted for the Bild am Sonntag newspaper. The conservatives lost a point to 21 percent, their lowest ever polled.

Germany goes to the polls on Sept 26, when Merkel steps down as chancellor after 16 years in office and four straight national election victories. Merkel's imminent departure has weakened support for her conservative alliance.

It was the second survey in the last week that has put the SPD ahead. Support for Merkel's Christian Democrats (CDU) and their Bavarian sister party, the Christian Social Union (CSU), has been falling steadily in recent weeks.

The bloc's candidate for chancellor, CDU chairman Armin Laschet, has been under fire since he was caught on camera laughing during a visit last month to a town hit by floods.

In a hypothetical direct vote for chancellor, the INSA



German Finance Minister, Vice-Chancellor and the Social Democrats (SPD) candidate for Chancellor Olaf Scholz (right) waves to supporters during an election campaign event of the SPD in Berlin on August 27, 2021, ahead of general elections scheduled for September 26, 2021. (AFP)

poll showed that the SPD's candidate, Finance Minister Olaf Scholz, would take 31 percent of the vote, compared to just 10 percent for Laschet and 14 percent for the Greens candidate Annalena Baerbock.

The three candidates are due to hold a televised debate on Sunday evening.

Despite the SPD's lead in the polls, it would still need to team up with two other parties to govern, prompting a discussion about which possible coalition partners would be acceptable.

Scholz declined to rule out teaming up with the far-left Linke in an interview with the Frankfurter Allgemeine Sonntagszeitung, although he said any German government must commit itself to

NATO membership.

The Linke, currently polling on about 6 percent, calls for the abolition of NATO in its election manifesto.

Meanwhile, the Greens candidate Baerbock distanced herself from the Linke as a possible partner.

"The Linke has just pretty ruled itself out, as it was not even willing to support the Bundeswehr in rescuing German nationals and local forces from Afghanistan," Baerbock told the newspapers of the Funke media group.

Laschet cast doubt on the commitment of both the SPD and Greens to support the German military, saying at an event on Saturday that they had blocked measures in the past to protect soldiers.

Agencies

Delta variant doubles COVID-19 hospitalisation risk, study finds

WASHINGTON/ BERLIN/ BRUSSELS/ TOKYO/ LONDON / ACCRA

PEOPLE who get the Delta variant of the coronavirus are twice as likely to be hospitalized as those who were infected by the Alpha variant which was first detected in England last year, a study showed on Friday.

The study, based on more than 43,000 COVID-19 cases of mostly unvaccinated people in England, compared the risk of hospitalization for people infected with Delta, which was first detected in India, with people who caught Alpha.

"Our analysis highlights that in the absence of vaccination, any Delta outbreaks will impose a greater burden on healthcare than an Alpha epidemic," Anne Prentiss, one of the study's lead authors and a University of Cambridge statistician, said.

The study was based on cases between March and May during the early stages of Britain's COVID-19 vaccination campaign, so it was not able to assess the extra risk of hospital admission

for unvaccinated or partially vaccinated people.

The study, published in The Lancet Infectious Diseases journal, was the largest so far to analyze COVID-19 cases confirmed by virus genome sequencing.

Canada

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's campaign rally in Bolton, Ontario, was canceled because his security staff were concerned about the number of anti-vaccina-

tion protesters at the site, CBC reported in a tweet.

Trudeau has called a snap election for Sept 20 on the premise he needed a mandate to "finish" the job of tackling the COVID-19 crisis and plan for the post-pandemic recovery.

Health Canada announced its approval of the use of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine in youth aged 12 to 17 on Friday.

The Moderna vaccine has been approved for use

in adults over the age of 18 in Canada since December 2020.

Chile

Chile received a new shipment of COVID-19 vaccines from the Chinese pharmaceutical company Sinovac on Friday.

According to the Chilean Ministry of Health, this is the 16th shipment of Sinovac doses to arrive in the South American country since February.

To date, some 84.54 percent of Chile's target population has been fully vaccinated, while 89.97 percent of the population has received at least one dose.

Cuba

Cuba on Friday reported 7,639 new cases of the novel coronavirus infection and 82 more deaths in 24 hours, raising the total caseload to 627,311 and the pandemic death toll to 4,984.

Germany

Germany will make up to 70 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine available to African countries this year, Chancellor Angela Merkel said on Friday, more than doubling a previous pledge to donate 30 million.

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa said African leaders told the summit "it is not fair that Africa has vaccinated only 2 percent of the their 1.3 billion population and yet the more developed countries in the north have vaccinated up to 60 percent."

Agencies

SPORT



Haji Manara

Why Haji Manara is a contrasting facet of the same talent as Sunday Manara

By Correspondent John Kimbute

IN the aftermath of a midmorning attack on police officers and security personnel at a key junction towards the center of Dar es Salaam city, a widespread feeling among those engaged in sports chatter is that the assailant had dampened the atmosphere and drowned talk on the precipitous landing of maverick soccer mobilizer, Haji Manara, at Young Africans SC, popularly known as 'Yanga'.

There is still plenty to be said about that attack but then it isn't what British pundits would say is a 'sexy' topic like the Haji comeback, and in a style that only he can perhaps do it, at any rate at this moment. No one can individually engage clubs in that torrid way.

Thinking of his abilities and why sports administrators seem to treasure them plenty, there is a fascinating comparison that comes to mind, that his skills on a podium or platform, so long as there is a sporting crowd in front of him, are a copy of his father's skills - on the pitch.

Were it that local pundits start debating who was the best local player of all time, one guess is that some (if not a slim majority) would come down to two names, that is Sunday Manara for supporters of Yanga (never mind the Pan-African small rebellion matter at late stages of his career) and Abdallah Kibadeni for supporters of their next street rivals, Simba SC.

It is preposterous to try and figure out who would win that contest, and if voting solves it.

Haji himself has no record of having played football at the premier league level, or indeed any football at all, and in the past, he doesn't appear to have been a professional journalist but an aspiring politician of sorts, a grassroots mobilizer for CCM in his younger days.

Fate had it that he strikes it big somewhere, and as he doesn't shy from controversy - or speaking his mind loud and clear to everyone's discomfort - he did not stand to achieve so much in the ranks of the ruling party.

Sports is a different matter, as here

mouthed off about this or that is part of the game of mobilization rather than a breach of etiquette as it is in politics.

This comparison with his father comes up as handy because it is this family background that earned him a measure of respect in what is otherwise enemy territory at Jangwani Street outfit's premises, given his overly unsympathetic pummeling of the club when he spoke for the MeTL multimillionaires against 'the club of the people'.

He has lately discovered that 'the people's club' is the biggest premier league franchise in East and Central Africa, to which no one can agree or disagree, and that is the art of striking gold.

By the time people are finished with sorting out the pros and cons of that claim, the message has sunk, we move on.

Figuring out the proximity of Haji's talents with those of his father is a bit complicated, and needs a nose of molecular biology or something of that sort (as it could also be chemistry, and some can look at it from an ecological point of view), that the father was a ball juggler, firstly.

Listening to Haji for a few minutes and over some time, one gets the idea that he juggles with words - and information quantities - meant to create a specific or extravagant mental impact, the same excitement as in ball juggling.

Since nature is a resource optimizer, it doesn't create different sets of genes for the two but sets inclinations.

There was someone in Simba SC who played in later years after the Sunday Manara (and others) period, who has intimations of the Yanga dribbler and was known as Ezekiel Greyson 'Jujuman' just like Sunday earned a lasting nickname of 'computer'.

Abilities by a computer and one using 'juju' aren't quite at variance as in both cases it shows that people are mesmerized beyond measure, and in a sense, the fans of the later period would have wished to accord that same garland of 'computer' but there was a copyright problem. In that case, 'Jujuman' is a replacement for 'Computer,' as it underlines just the same 'wizardry.'

Faced with the light-hearted issue of which label is better for a football player, the problem can be rather taxing as it is hard to set out whether playing good football is science or just art.

But when it comes to the word skills of the son of the 'computer' dribbler, the label applies less in its impact than in its origin, Haji Manara is a word spinner or shows 'wizardry' in how he epitomizes the imagination of soccer fans at a given moment, speaks eloquently as if they were themselves just thinking aloud.

Thus despite the pangs of animosity on what he was saying about Yanga earlier, it is evident that club officials treasure his skills, that his 'computer' ability to create the right frame of speech for the occasion is more reliable to whip up team morale than the 'wizardry' of perennially failing 'technical committees.'

SPORTS

CAF, TFF should adopt UEFA decision on club tournaments

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

A popular Swahili saying has it that when a gentleman is stripped naked, he squats. This is what the Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) recently did.

After UEFA discovered that it had been found guilty of committing several blunders over the past two decades, the union's officials have come to their senses.

Before the early 2000s, UEFA was organizing three tournaments at the club level, UEFA Champions League, UEFA Cup, and the UEFA Winners Cup.

The UEFA Champions League brings together champions of each of the union's member countries' premier leagues.

The competition began in 1955. The European Winners Cup was special for the winners of the country's federation cup. The competition began in 1960.

And the UEFA Cup was special for teams that finished high in their leagues but did not win any titles.

The competition started in 1971. The competition went well until the 1998/99 season when UEFA decided to suspend the UEFA Winners' Cup.

The UEFA did this to expand the UEFA Champions League so that from the 1999/2000 season more than one team from one country would participate.

That is, the teams that were previously falling into the UEFA Cup are also entering the UEFA Champions League.

This caused the teams that were participating in the UEFA Winners' Cup by winning the federation cup in their country, to feature in the UEFA Europa League.

Europe, in this case, was only left with two competitions, UEFA Champions League and the UEFA Cup.

By 2009, the UEFA Cup also changed its structure and was termed as UEFA Europa League.

Hosting two tournaments is causing a lot of competition for a place in the events.

Europe's clubs that are financially stable and aspire to participate in continental competitions seek to showcase their prowess and battle it out in the events.

The UEFA realized that it had made a mistake in suspending one tournament, and now the body has returned it with another name, UEFA Europa Confer-

ence League.

These are special competitions for teams that have finished higher in their home leagues but did not qualify for either the UEFA Champions League or the Europa League.

These tournaments provide an opportunity for teams from smaller European nations that do not qualify for the UEFA Champions League at least to play in European competitions. This is the fairness that UEFA has done.

The Confederation of African Football (CAF) also had three tournaments, following the same UEFA mode.

The continental football governing body was hosting CAF Champions League which started in 1965, the African Winners Cup, which started in 1975, and the CAF Cup which started in 1992.

But in imitation of European change, in 2003 CAF merged the CAF Cup with the African Winners Cup and the birth of a new CAF Confederation Cup in Africa.

This resulted in Africa - a continent with 54 member states - having two competitions.

As a result, some countries do not get representatives at all in continental competitions at the club level.

Having a team participating in the group stage of a continental tournament is the best thing in football in any country in the world.

This allows football fans to witness the wonders of continental football, to test themselves with foreign clubs.

In Tanzania, for example, we have witnessed the country's clubs participat-



Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) president, Wallace Karia.

ing in the continental tournaments' group stage only four times since the system began.

But there are countries, whose clubs have never participated in continental tournaments' group stage.

This system is killing the excitement of African football instead of promoting it.

It is time for CAF to launch another tournament to improve member countries' chances for fielding clubs in continental competitions.

Soccer followers know that there is a CAF Super League tournament coming up, but the showpiece will bring together a few teams.

The continental football governing body should see to it there are competitions in which teams will qualify through success in their respective leagues.

Tanzania, formerly, had a Union League. This league, which was formed in 1982, involved three sides from Mainland Tanzania Premier League and three sides from Zanzibar Premier League.

The Union League's champions were eventually adjudged Tanzania's champions.

This showpiece's number of teams was at some point determined by the availability of teams.

The Union League, for instance, involved four clubs when the competition was formed in 1982.

Mainland Tanzania Premier League and Zanzibar Premier League fielded two outfits apiece.

The showdown later brought together six teams, three from either side and the tournament's final season, which took place in 2003, attracted eight outfits - four from either side.

The pride and joy were inestimable in those days and the country was truly united.

Watching an outfit from Pemba travel to Tabora to play Milambo FC was a fascinating sight. The happiness and joy were great, but now such atmosphere is no longer there.

Sauda, Mtweve in pursuit of medals in 2020 Paralympics

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S representatives at the ongoing Tokyo Paralympics will be in action this week, Tanzania Paralympic Committee (TPC) disclosed.

National Paralympic team's head coach, Bahati Mgunda, speaking from Japan, said the team's shot put athlete, Ignas Mtweve, will be in action today while discus athlete, Sauda Njopeka, will be on duty on Thursday.

He said although it will not be easy for the two to do well, he is confident that they can make it.

"This is a competition and there are medals that each of the event's athletes wants to win, so, it will not be easy, but, looking at the preparations we had here, I'm sure we can do well," he said.

Mtweve and Sauda are in Tokyo Paralympics on Universality ticket (wild card) and, in a previous interview, TPC secretary-general, Ramadhan Namkomveka, said they are happy that for the first time in the committee's history, a female athlete is representing the country in Paralympics.

The Paralympics started on August 24 but the country's athletes departed early as directed by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) as a measure to prevent COVID-19 spread.

The TPC president Tuma Dandi is also in Japan attending International Paralympic Committee meetings and conferences.

Sauda and Mtweve attended qualifying events in Tunisia and Dubai but they did not earn automatic qualification for Tokyo Paralympics.

The athletes nevertheless made it to Tokyo Paralympics due to their exceptional performance at the qualifying events.

This will be the second time for Mtweve to represent the country at the Paralympics.

He first competed at the 2016 Paralympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, while the Tokyo showpiece is the first for



Tanzania Paralympic Committee (TPC) president, Tuma Dandi.

Sauda.

Sport for athletes with an impairment has existed for more than 100 years, and the first sports clubs for the deaf were already in existence in 1888 in Berlin.

It was not until after World War II, however, that it was widely introduced. The purpose of it at that time was to assist the large number of war veterans and civilians who had been injured during wartime.

In 1944, at the request of the British Government, Ludwig Guttmann opened a spinal injuries center at the Stoke Mandeville Hospital in Great Britain, and in time, rehabilitation sport evolved to recreational sport and then to competitive sport.

On 29 July 1948, the day of the Opening Ceremony of the London 1948 Olympic Games, Guttmann organized the first competition for wheelchair athletes which he named the Stoke Mandeville Games, a milestone in Paralympic history.

They involved 16 injured servicemen and women who took part in archery.

In 1952, Dutch ex-servicemen joined the Movement and the International Stoke Mandeville Games were founded.

The Stoke Mandeville Games later became the Paralympic Games which first took place in Rome, Italy, in 1960 featuring 400 athletes from 23 countries. Since then they have taken place every four years.

In 1976 the first Winter Games in Paralympics history were held in Sweden, and as with the Summer Games, have taken place every four years, and include a Paralympics Opening Ceremony and Paralympics Closing Ceremony.

Since the Summer Games of Seoul, Korea in 1988 and the Winter Games in Albertville, France in 1992 the Games have also taken part in the same cities and venues as the Olympics due to an agreement between the IPC and IOC.

Arsenal implode at Man City as shambolic display shows up Arteta

By James Olley, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

MIKEL Arteta is supposed to be changing Arsenal, which makes the most damaging aspect of Saturday's 5-0 defeat at Manchester City the fact that this was more of the same: a shambolic display bereft of organisation, discipline and belief, the type that put paid to his predecessors Arsene Wenger and Unai Emery.

The 39-year-old's early promise as Gunners boss was predicated upon his ability to structure a team to compete against better-resourced opponents. They beat City and Chelsea to win the 2020 FA Cup final at the end of a campaign that also featured a July victory over then-Premier League champions Liverpool.

There was a similar theme among the general disappointment of last season with victories home and away against Chelsea, a success against Man United at Old Trafford and only a narrow 1-0 defeat against City at the Etihad.

Given Arsenal lost 13 Premier League games last season and finished eighth, if Arteta has lost his touch in implementing a basic structure to the team, what is there to suggest he should continue in the job? This is fundamentally the issue of appointing a manager with no previous experience, one Arsenal doubled down on last September when effectively promoting him from "head coach" to "manager" in recognition of the club's tentative progress to that point.

Yet his ability to turn things around now is founded purely on faith, one predicated upon his ability as a coach and the evolution of the club behind the scenes, addressing a culture of underachievement. Arsenal will give him time, mindful of a kinder post-international break fixture list that comprises games against Norwich, Burnley, AFC Wimbledon (in the Carabao Cup), Tottenham and Brighton. But the meek surrender here was deeply troubling for the Spaniard, something captain Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang did not even try to hide at full-time.

"We have to play with courage, this type of game you have to play with everything, take risks; we just didn't do enough today and that's it," he told BT Sport. "Definitely we have to talk between us players, it's important as we are Arsenal and we have to have pride. That's it, we have to talk, say the truth, be honest."

Arteta could hardly dispute such frankness. "If he [Aubameyang]

feels that, I completely agree because they are the ones on the pitch and have feelings that no-one else can have apart from them. If that's the case, that's good," he said.

City were palpably favourites here before kickoff and there is undoubtedly mitigation in the significant absences at Arsenal – most obviously centre-back duo Gabriel and Ben White, along with midfielder Thomas Partey – but Arteta adopted a game plan he did not have the personnel for.

The club have been keen to move on left-back Sead Kolasinac all summer, yet he started as a left-sided centre-back here in a three-man defence that, let's face it, was a five-man defence for almost the entire game. Pablo Mari was left on the bench; Cedric Soares started at right wing-back; and Granit Xhaka was left as the sole pivot in a midfield with the more-attacking trio of Martin Odegaard, Emile Smith Rowe and Bukayo Saka ahead of him while Albert Sambi Lokonga, the new signing who has actually shown some promise in Arsenal's opening two Premier League games, remained an unused substitute.

Each decision looked odd before kickoff and saw that view validated shortly afterwards. City have won 10 of their past 11 meetings against Arsenal across all competitions – on nine occasions, they scored in the opening 25 minutes. There is perhaps a psychological problem playing against City, a "rabbit-in-headlights" feel that Arteta, focused and meticulous as he is, was supposed to be addressing, along with the schoolboy defending and inferiority complex.

Yet they were 2-0 down in 12 minutes at the Etihad Stadium: diminutive Ilkay Gundogan was somehow allowed to head home Gabriel Jesus' cross from close range, and Ferran Torres took advantage of more farcical defending to steer home a second.

An alarming complacency in Arsenal's performance followed, lacking the fundamental commitment and hunger required to bridge the obvious gulf in class. There was precious little discipline either, as evidenced by Xhaka's idiotic 35th-minute dismissal for a two-footed lunge on Joao Cancelo, a needless tackle made with reckless force that put his teammates at a numerical disadvantage against the best passers in the league. For a senior player who has only recently signed a new contract, Xhaka getting the 11th red card of his club career was inexcusable.

Koeman: Barca can't compete with PSG, United

BARCELONA

BARCELONA coach Ronald Koeman has said it is frustrating the club are unable to compete with Manchester United, Manchester City and Paris Saint-Germain in the transfer market.

PSG signed Lionel Messi from Barca on a free transfer earlier this summer because the Catalan club could not afford to register his contract with LaLiga. The French side have also brought in Gianluigi Donnarumma, Sergio Ramos, Achraf Hakimi and Georginio Wijnaldum. City, meanwhile, spent £100 million on Jack Grealish, while Manchester United are set to follow up the signings of Jadon Sancho and Raphael Varane by bringing Cristiano Ronaldo back to the club from Juventus.

Barca have replaced Messi with Memphis Depay and Sergio Aguero, both players arriving on free transfers, but financial limitations have prevented them from spending any money, despite Koeman's desire to strengthen the squad. Barcelona president Joan Laporta has revealed that the club's debt now totals €1.35 billion.

"On the one hand I understand it," Koeman said in a news conference on Saturday when asked if he sympathised with the supporters' frustrations.

"For everyone that wants the best for the club, it's frustrating, I understand it. On the other hand, we have to be realistic. Economically, the club can't compete with other clubs, with Paris, City, United. That's how it is at the moment.

"We can't demand what has been demanded before at this club. We have to understand the moment the club is in."

Koeman had hoped Barca would be able to move on some of their bigger earners to make room for another addition in attack before the transfer window closes on Tuesday.

However, the Dutch coach has been angered by certain players' decisions to stay at Camp Nou, leaving him with a far bigger squad than he would like.

"The club know what I want and who I want to keep working with," he added. "I have always said I respect the players with contracts, but everyone knows perfectly well who we count on in this squad and who will have a hard time playing games."

"For some players, it's very complicated and it's not good for them or for us. If we have all our players back, we are going to have 31, 32 players. It's impossible to work with that many. How can a coach manage 32 players?"

Samuel Umtiti is one of the players set to stay at Barca despite the club trying to move him on, but Koeman confirmed Miralem Pjanic and Ilaix Moriba could both leave before Tuesday's deadline.

Meanwhile, Marc-Andre ter Stegen, Oscar Mingueza and Philippe Coutinho have all returned to the squad for Sunday's LaLiga game against Getafe at Camp Nou.

However, Barca are without the suspended Eric Garcia, while Gerard Pique, Ousmane Dembele, Ansu Fati and Sergio Aguero are all injured. Pedri has been given a rest.

ESPN

Why Ronaldo's return to Manchester United has shocked the soccer world

By Gabriele Marcotti, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

AND so, he's back. Maybe just as interesting as the fact that Cristiano Ronaldo has returned to Manchester United is how it happened. Back in May, plenty of us speculated about how it could make sense.

Juventus weren't exactly offering him around, but with projected losses in excess of €300 million over two years, they'd made it pretty clear that if he wanted to leave and if they received a fee equal to his residual amortised value (€28 million ... the game now belongs to the accountants as much as anyone), they wouldn't stand in his way.

He had a year left on his contract, extending it was going to be very difficult and the club were looking to rebuild through youth.

Meanwhile, Manchester United had the funds to sign him – and pay his hefty wages – and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer liked the idea of a veteran goal scorer who could add oomph to the attack as well as serve as a role model to younger players. So much so that the club had signed Edinson Cavani to a one-year deal that was about to expire.

If Ronaldo wanted to leave Juventus, Man United was a logical destination, and Cavani's departure would help offset some of his wages (at least a third).

Except it didn't happen. On May 10, United exercised their option to give Cavani another year, effectively shutting the door on an early move for Ronaldo ... or so we thought. Because, out of the blue, we discovered Ronaldo wanted a move.

There were hints, though they didn't start rolling in until less than two weeks ago. Edu Aguirre, a journalist very close to Ronaldo (so much so that his Instagram feed has pictures of them on holiday together) said Real Madrid wanted to bring him back.

This prompted a rare public denial via Twitter from their manager, Carlo Ancelotti, and a long post from Ronaldo himself, in which he talked about how focused he was and how he can't "allow people to keep playing around with [his] name." (Speaking of names, he mentioned that of his then-team, Juventus, a grand total of zero times.)

Then, earlier this week, Real Madrid made a €160m bid for Paris Saint-Germain's Kylian Mbappe and, immediately thereafter, stories began circulating that linked Ronaldo to a move to Manchester City or, potentially, to PSG if Mbappe were to move. (At PSG he would have, of course, teamed up with Lionel Messi, football's equivalent of a Roger Federer-Rafael Nadal doubles team or Magic Johnson joining Larry Bird.)

By Thursday morning, stuff got very real. Ronaldo's agent, Jorge Mendes, went to Turin to tell Juventus that Ronaldo wanted to leave, adding that he was close to finalising a deal with Manchester City. Juventus accepted this and spun the line that maybe the rebuild would come one year early. They reminded Mendes that they would need a €28m bid from City, and he told them to expect a bid in the next 24 hours. Mendes then hopped in a Cessna and flew to Paris, where he spent the afternoon.

We don't know whether he met with PSG once he landed to see whether that was an option, should they decide to let Mbappe leave. They politely said Ronaldo wasn't in their plans, but then they'd also said that Mbappe wasn't available and that they had no plans to negotiate with Real Madrid even though, by that point, they were talking to the Spanish club.

When facts change, plans change, and Mendes, who has been one of the world's top agents for two decades, understands this better than most. He traveled to Paris to cover his bases, and, by Thursday, when he reached out to Manchester United, he was covering another base. This was even as he was still in touch with Manchester City and waiting for them to send Juventus an official bid.



Ronaldo won three Premier League titles and one Champions League, among other things, at Manchester United the first time around. What will he do this time? (Agencies)

By lunchtime in Europe on Friday, the mood had shifted. In his news conference before facing Arsenal, Man City manager Pep Guardiola said: "Cristiano will decide where wants to play, not Manchester City or myself... Right now it seems far away." It felt like a "take it or leave it" statement.

Maybe the hitch was over the fee Juventus were asking to be paid: according to reports, City weren't prepared to bid more than €15m. Maybe it was over Ronaldo's contract: at Juventus he earned €31m after-tax, which works out to £48.36m gross (\$66.5m) or more than £900,000 a week, nearly two and a half times as much as anybody else in the Premier League.

Minutes later and a few miles away, Solskjaer opened the door in his own prematch media duties: "I didn't think Cristiano would leave Juventus. If he ever wants to move away from Juventus, he knows we are here... Let's see what happens with Cristiano."

When a manager speaks this openly – especially a circumspect guy like Solskjaer – you know something is imminent. Within minutes, City were briefing the media that they were out of the Ronaldo sweepstakes, and sure enough, a few hours later, United's official account tweeted this.

There will be time to analyse and assess whether it's the right move, for Cristiano and for United, but right now, you're left stunned by the mechanics of how it came to be.

First and foremost is the timing itself. Why did Cristiano wait this long? It's not as if something happened in the past week that suddenly made Ronaldo want to leave Juventus. The club's financial situation didn't suddenly deteriorate in mid-August.

Ronaldo didn't suddenly run into Max Allegri after two years and think "Nah, I don't really want to play for this guy." It's not as if Juve had promised him they'd acquire a star-studded supporting cast for him and, as a result, he wanted to jump ship: he knew full well that, other than Manuel Locatelli, there would be no significant newcomers.

In fact, it feels as if this had as much to do with opportunities elsewhere as it did with a desire to leave.

There were only four viable destinations in terms of who could afford him: Real Madrid, PSG, Man City and Man United. Madrid wants Mbappe, and PSG wants to keep Mbappe. Mendes knew that although Mbappe is very good, he can't play for two teams at once and that whoever didn't land Mbappe might have an interest in Ronaldo. Equally, Man City, having missed out on Harry Kane, were an option.

Man United? They were there all along, and the mere fact that they hadn't moved for him earlier when it might have made more sense, sporting-wise, didn't mean much. Ego is a part of football and, perhaps, being able

to pip a target linked to City played a part. And that's the other remarkable part of this tale because Ronaldo isn't the sort of player you expect to get shopped around; you expect him to be courted and seduced by clubs, you expect bidding wars for his attention. Instead, we got Mendes going door to door.

This is one of the greatest players in the history of the game. He is 36 year old, but he scored more league goals last season (29) than all but two players (Robert Lewandowski, with 41 for Bayern Munich, and Lionel Messi, with 30 for Barcelona) in Europe's Big Five leagues. And he won the Golden Boot at the European Championship not six years ago but six weeks ago. Anybody he has ever worked with – even those who don't like him – raves about his fitness and professionalism.

Yet here we are. He ends up moving almost as an afterthought, in the last week of the transfer window, with his agent working 24/7.

It's not a criticism of Ronaldo. It's a sign that, for many clubs, reality (of the post-COVID variety) bites. That agents who could once manipulate clubs and players as if they were little toy soldiers on a map can't do it as easily as they once did.

My colleague Paolo Condo floated the idea that maybe the age of "player power" and superstars always getting their way might be over, or at least on hold. Messi wanted to stay at Barcelona (and, supposedly, they wanted to keep him); he didn't get his way. Kane wanted to move from Tottenham to Man City; he didn't get his way. Gianluigi Donnarumma wanted a massive raise from Milan or a move to Juventus; he didn't get his way and now backs up Keylor Navas at PSG, earning little more than what he was offered by Milan.

And now Ronaldo. He got his move, yes, but only at the very end of the summer and after some Herculean effort from his agent.

Maybe it's a stretch to suggest that we've moved away from the era of the omnipotent individual megastar. That said, Man City have tons of great players but no domineering superstar (unless you count Guardiola), and they nearly won the quadruple last season. You can make a similar argument for Chelsea, winning the Champions League with their rotating set of front men, or Liverpool, where it's hard to pin down an individual standout. Atletico Madrid, of course, won LaLiga without an A-lister carrying them, and if Antonio Conte were here, he'd tell you Inter won Serie A through the strength of the collective (and his brilliant coaching, of course).

What about PSG? Yes, they did have two A-list megastars in Neymar and Mbappe, and no, they didn't win the league. Whatever the case and no matter the effort it took, Ronaldo can now, after 12 years, write more chapters of Manchester United's history.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Why Ronaldo's return to Man United
has shocked the soccer world



Members of one of Yanga's cheering troupes arrive at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam yesterday to attend the 'Mwananchi Day', a climax of a week of social activities done by the club's leadership, members, and fans. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Kaseja opens up on his consistency in football

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

DAR ES SALAAM'S Kinondoni Municipal Council FC's number one goalkeeper, Juma Kaseja, has said that his secret to last long in the game is intense training and insisted his team's goals come first before his.

Kaseja, the longest serving player in Mainland Premier League, was in the 2020/21 season absent from six league matches out of 34 and KMC FC finished fifth with 48 points.

The shot stopper has great potential in his hands and is one of the most experienced goalkeepers in the Mainland Premier League, having served domestic football giants, Simba SC and Yanga, at different times.

Kaseja said: "My magic is exercise, you can see others relax and I practice again in the hot sun. That's because in order to be good on the field you have to practice and follow the programs that you are given."

The shot stopper added: "For next season the main goal is to see that we achieve the team's goals and then personal targets will be put into consideration. Team's goals are given priority."

The KMC FC will next season only play domestic competitions after failing to nail a place in continental club tournaments.

Currently, KMC FC has set up camp in Morogoro in preparation for the 2021/22 season.

The Kinondoni Municipal-owned club is, the outfit's leadership stated, focusing on a variety of training programs as well as playing friendly matches. The pre-season training and friendlies seek to shape the players up for the Premier League games that start on September 27 this year.

In addition to the registration, which has been accomplished, the club continues to register new players and whenever the club's order is completed it will start introducing all players who have been registered in the main transfer window that opened early last month.

The KMC FC disclosed that the ongoing registration is based on the wishes of the coach and the side is registering quality players who will bring great benefits to the side.



Juma Kaseja

George Lwandamina pleased with Azam FC squad depth



Azam FC players attend training in Zambia recently to shape up for the 2021/22 Mainland Premier League and CAF Confederation Cup fixtures. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S Azam FC squad is currently in Ndola, Zambia for pre-season training camp for the upcoming season as well as playing international friendly matches to test their team.

In so doing, they have already played one friendly match against Zambia's Red Arrows and lost 4-0 to the latter.

Azam FC's head coach, Zambian George Lwandamina, has stated that the defeat does not scare him but has taught him a lesson for next season.

Lwandamina explained that the match geared towards testing his new players and he has already found a way to use them while boasting that they have great potential.

The coach stated: "The match was the first used to look at where our preparations have reached, we used

different players and discovered where we are wrong and we need to add something."

"The biggest problem that happened in the game is the players getting heavy due to doing a lot of difficult training while we were in Tanzania a situation that is now normal due to the exercises we continue to do," Lwandamina said.

At the same time, Lwandamina was proud of the talents of the new players in the squad while boasting the presence of his two strikers, Prince Dube and Idris Mbombo.

Lwandamina disclosed: "So far the new players are used to their peers and are showing good standards in practice."

"Everyone is giving his all, a situation which gives me confidence that next season we will have a better squad than last season," he said.

He revealed: "Last season we were having a hard time in the attacking area when Dube was injured, but now we have found Mbombo who is good at scoring as well so I will have different options."

"I can either start them altogether or start one with the rest on the bench, so I think we will have a better season," he said.

Towards next season, Azam FC has signed seven new players. Five of them are foreign professionals, Paul Katema, Idris Mbombo, Kenneth Muguna, Charles Zulu and Rogers Kola, with two domestic footballers, goalkeeper Ahmed Ali 'Salula', and left fullback Edward Manyama.

Azam FC will remain in Ndola until September 5, when it returns to Tanzania.

Pakistan Art Exhibition promotes diplomacy, says official

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S government has described the just ended Pakistan Art Exhibition, which was held in Dar es Salaam on Saturday, as an important step towards cultural cooperation and diplomacy.

The three-day Pakistan Art Exhibition was part of commemorating the 75th independence day of Pakistan, it was held at the National Museum.

Director of the National Museum, Noel Lwoga, said the exhibition is important not only to the two countries, Pakistan and Tanzania, but also between artists from the two countries.

He thanked the Pakistan High Commissioner to Tanzania, Muhammad Saleem, for involving the National Museum in the exhibition.

Lwoga disclosed: "The first ever official Pakistan Art Exhibition in Tanzania is held here at the National Museum, we feel great for this honour."

"This is the historical event and it marks an important record to us (National Museum), I'm confident that this art exhibition is an important step towards the Cultural Cooperation and diplomacy to us," he said.

Lwoga said: "Art functions as a medium of interpreting society, what is going on around us, our characters and our way of life and also plays a vital role in fulfilling the global need of increased intercultural dialogue."

"Arts interpretes our past, present and future lives, it thus provides an appropriate platform for preserving, promoting and sharing our diverse culture and heritage," he said.

He further said the exhibition does not only preserve and promote contemporary art and culture, but also provides a way of celebrating the legacy of Pakistan ancient culture, and sharing and appreciating the cultural diversity.

Guest of honour at the event, Legal Director of Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB), Benjamin Mihayo, who represented Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Damas Ndumbaro, hailed the relationship that exists between Tanzania and Pakistan.

He said art gives people the opportunity to share human values and celebrate excellence and innovation.

In his remarks, Pakistan High Commissioner to Tanzania, Saleem, described the contemporary exhibition as the best platform for uniting people of the two countries.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



5 EATV MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
14:00 Wanawake Live (r)
14:30 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Copa Coca-Cola (r)
16:00 Akili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 5SPORTS LIVE
22:30 Bongo Hits

TONIGHT @ 9:30

5Sports

5Sports

5Sports

The week's local and international sporting events as well as indepth analysis of the biggest sporting highlights of the week are covered on 5sports.

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM