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Govt sights 0.7m tonnes of cashew harvests by 2025

By Guardian Reporter, Mtwara

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC) has launched an ambitious campaign aimed at helping cashewnut farmers in Lindi and Mtwara regions.

The regional authorities have declared readiness to support that initiative in accomplishing the objective of producing 700,000 tonnes of the tree produce by 2025.

Dubbed: 'Reap More with NBC Farming' the campaign was launched here at the weekend, attended by different stakeholders, including government officials and representatives of Agricultural Marketing Co-operative Societies (AMCOS).

Regional commissioner Brig. Gen. Michael Gaguti said the campaign had come at the right time when the government was implementing a plan to produce 700,000 tonnes of cashewnuts by 2025 from 280,000 tonnes usually expected.

"It is without doubt that NBC Farming has come at the right time and place since the government set the target to produce 700,000 tonnes, it knows that Mtwara Region is the centre so we are glad that NBC has realised and joined these efforts," he

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PM: Protection, ease of doing business assured



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa has a first-hand account of operations at a coffee factory at Ngara yesterday during his ongoing tour of Kagera Region yesterday. Right is the factory's manager, Abdallah Seif. Photo: PMO

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has assured investors that the government is committed to protecting them and facilitating smooth investments in the country.

He made the remarks yesterday at a rally after inspecting Ngara Coffee processing factory in Ngara district of Kagera region, underlining that the sixth phase government under President Samia Suluhu Hassan will not hesitate to remove officials bent on oppressing investors.

The president has instructed her close assistants to oversee the entire market situation for various crops in the country including coffee to ensure that farmers benefit from their work.

"President Samia has continued to encourage resident and foreign investors

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This is a small amount compared to the capacity of the factory

'New Selander Bridge 93 per cent complete'

By Guardian Reporter

WORKS and Transport minister Prof Makame Mbarawa has said that the construction of the New Selander Bridge has now reached 93 per cent and is expected to be

completed by December.

At an inspection tour of the project, the minister that the contractor was working on the surface of the bridge after finishing building the bridge supports, with the seaside bridge being supported by 254 pillars.

The bridge connects roads linking Aga Khan Hospital with the Obama, Kenyatta and Toure roads to Cocobeach, adding up to 6.23 kilometers, with the bridge stretching 1.03 kil

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Rescue workers pictured at the weekend at Wachapakazi small-scale mining site at Nyandolwa in Shinyanga District, where a pit collapsed last week - with six artisanal gold miners pulled out alive. Photo: Correspondent Mohabu Dominic

Minister warns 'errant' social media networks

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

HOME Affairs minister George Simbachawene has reiterated that he will raise his voice against 'errant' social

media networks will not entertain detractors, as the campaign is necessary in the fight against crime.

Speaking at the weekend in his Kibakwe constituency, the

minister said that statements made by some people on what he said last week were false as

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Minister warns 'errant' social media networks

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he had talked about crime in social networks and not free expression.

He aired the remarks following reactions to his remarks, saying misleading interpretations of what he said were aplenty, for instance that he was infringing on the freedom of social media and that he intends to shut down social media networks.

"I said we should use the social media networks responsibly; we should use mobile communications well. We should not steal from others, as people who do that are committing crime and should be dealt with.

"People who use social media to abuse others or distribute indecent content are also committing crimes. Our culture calls for respect of one another, but some people say I am infringing upon social media freedom and will lose my reputation," he explained.

He maintained that social media networks can pose a threat to the country's development if they are used in a bad way. "We do not want to reach that point, but the government is alert and has given directives as to fighting all criminals using social media networks.

"A friend of mine phoned me saying I should not go that far. Let people say what they want; people abusing others? People who steal from others? I was just talking about crime, and not about the development of science and technology. Commu-

nication technology will change, discussions in "Twitter" and "space conferences" will go on, but should be used in line with procedures and maintain respect among Tanzanians," he emphasised.

He said using social media networks in violation of the country's laws is a crime. Other people should not be abused or otherwise inconvenienced on the pretext of social media freedom, the minister intoned.

"When did I say I will shut down the social media? I did not say that, only that we should use social media networks while abiding by the country's laws," he remarked, reiterating his call last week for the police to take measures against individuals engaged in criminal acts via social media networks, including those abusing the president.

He told his constituents that the government has provided 2bn/- for revamping roads, out of which 500m/- has been set aside for surfacing a 1.3km road in Kibakwe town. The government has further provided 260m/- for various development projects in Luhundwa ward, he added.



Mtwara regional commissioner Brig Gen Marco Gaguti (C) flanked by NBC Bank managing director Theobald Sabi (2nd-L) and director of retail banking Elibariki Masuke in Mtwara municipality at the weekend displaying some of the items meant as prizes the bank will present in the course of the just-launched 'Vuna Zaidi na NBC Shambani' harvesting campaign. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

'New Selander Bridge 93 per cent complete'

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ometers, he said.

As to approach roads, the contractor was still working on rebuilding Barack Obama Road plus Toure Drive, and a new road of expanded width, he said, noting that he was pleased by involvement of nearby residents in the construction work.

About 773 people were engaged in the road construction work, those from nearby areas being around 91 per cent, 704 people.

For his part, TanRoads chief executive officer Rogatus Mativila told the minister that what remains is the construction of the tar coat on the bridge surface, drainage trenches and putting up street lights along the bridge stretch.

This will be completed by December where the bridge will be opened

for trial runs of vehicles, he explained.

The minister was on a tour of major infrastructure projects in the city, with the Bridge being built by GS Engineering of South Korea, the whole stretch from Cocobeach in Oysterbay area to the Aga Khan Hospital on the edge of the city's old central administrative district.

The construction of the bridge together with the roads is estimated to cost \$107m. With a 180-tonnage capacity, the bridge is expected to ferry 55,000 vehicles per day, significantly reducing congestion along Selander Bridge.

The old Selander Bridge was constructed back in 1929 and named after John Einar Selander, the first Director of Public Works after the British took over the territory from Germany at the end of WWI.

Govt sights 0.7m tonnes of cashew harvests by 2025

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stated.

However, the RC focused on the need to maintain financial discipline amongst farmers, asking AMCOS leaders to utilise the training provided by NBC on savings, health insurance and

investing in agricultural equipment.

NBC managing director Theobald Sabi said at the launch that the three-month campaign continues the bank's strategies in boosting the agricultural sector especially cashewnut farming in Mtwara and Lindi regions.

"We are thankful that our intention has been well received by farmers who are our key target as we launch this campaign. Already, about 40 AMCOS and 11,000 cashewnut farmers have joined the efforts," he said, elaborating that apart from providing credit incentives,

the bank would organize awareness campaigns to meet the country's target in cashew production.

Raymond Urassa, rhenbank's manager for SME credit, said the campaign would see cashewnut farmers winning different prizes including bicycles, motorcycles and pesti-

cides pumps.

Salim Ngumbo and Habiba Kambutu, AMCOS leaders in the region, separately affirmed that the campaign was good for the farmers especially as no deductions will be made when their money is channeled through 'NBC Farming' accounts.

CDC: Africa's Covid-19 cases surpass 8.1million

ADDIS ABABA

THE number of confirmed Covid-19 cases in Africa reached 8.1 million as of Saturday afternoon, the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Preven-

tion (Africa CDC) said. The Africa CDC, the specialised healthcare agency of the African Union, in its continental Covid-19 dashboard indicated that the death toll from the pan-

demiac across the continent stands at 206,202.

Some 7,454,718 patients across the continent have recovered from the disease so far, it was noted.

South Africa, Morocco,

Tunisia and Ethiopia are among the countries with the most cases in the continent, according to the agency.

In terms of the caseload, southern Africa is the most

affected region, followed by the northern and eastern parts of the continent, while central Africa is the least affected region in the continent, according to the Africa CDC.



Tanga regional commissioner Adam Malima (foreground, in cap and glasses) makes an assessment tour of a pier undergoing construction at Tanga Port at the weekend. To his left is Tanga port manager Donald Ntaire. Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchala

PM: Protection, ease of doing business assured

FROM PAGE 1

wishing to invest in various sectors like manufacturing and crop processing as this will help farmers get reliable markets for their produce.

He encouraged Ngara residents to utilize the factory's presence to expand their farms, grow more coffee as there is a reliable market, stating that coffee tonnage in Ngara District stands at 1,000 tonnes per year.

"This is a small amount compared to the capacity of the factory," the premier noted, urging farmers to increase production so as to feed the factory with enough raw materials, urging Regional Commissioner Maj. Gen Charles Mbuge to form a team of experts to review the coffee selling system in Ngara.

"I am not satisfied with the current situation here. The farmers' association has been deducting a number of charges which affect the farmers. They are taken from every kilogram of coffee, including interest charges on loans taken by the cooperative, transportation, loan processing costs (112/-) and export costs (1pc)."

Abdallah Seif, director of Ngara Coffee Processing urged the government to allow the firm to buy coffee from farmers, saying that the price this season stood at 1,300/- per kilo and the factory cannot buy coffee for less than 1,500/- per kilo.

He similarly asked the government to encourage farmers to increase acreage so as to produce enough coffee to feed the factory's capacity.

The factory can process 28,000 tonnes of coffee, grind and package 62,000 tonnes of coffee annually, he said, contrasting that with the 1,000 tonnes of produce in the district per year. The factory was established in 2010 at a cost of 3bn/-, he added

Govt calls upon Yara to reduce fertiliser prices

By Guardian Reporter

AGRICULTURE Minister Prof Adolf Mkenda has called on YARA Tanzania, fertilizer firm to reduce fertilizer prices while pledging to work on challenges facing the company.

Prof Mkenda made the remarks at the weekend during his visit to the firm's premises at Kurasini, Dar es Salaam and held talks with its Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Winstone Odhiambo

The Minister saw huge consignment of the fertilizer in the company's warehouses and praised them for the huge investment in the country thereby making the farm input easily available to farmers countrywide.

He said, despite the world's rising fertilizer prices, the firm has been making huge profits since its establishment in the country, hence, he added, due to challenges faced by farmers from rising prices, it should look into the possibility of reducing the prices.

The Minister thanked the two fertilizer dealers Yara and OCP for conducting their fertilizer businesses well making sure the farmers receive the input in time.

"There are some people who believe that whenever fertilizer prices rise, they blame the Ministry or the entire

government for it, this concept is not true, as the price for the fertilizer has been rising in the world market," said Prof Mkenda.

For his part, YARA CEO, Odhiambo asked to be given time to talk to the firm's higher executives to look into the possibility of reducing the fertilizer prices for the national interest.

He also praised the government for strengthening rail transport as it has reduced freight costs in moving the fertilizer to other regions.



There are some people who believe that whenever fertilizer prices rise, they blame the Ministry or the entire government for it, this concept is not true, as the price for the fertilizer has been rising in the world market



Water minister Jumaa Aweso (R) presents "working tools" to Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (Dawasa) CEO Cyprian Luhemeja moments after opening the first meeting of the agency's recently-constituted board of directors in the city at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Jafo calls on Tanzanians to buy goods friendly to the ozone layer

By Guardian Correspondent,

Dodoma

SELEMANI Jafo, Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union Affairs and Environment) has called upon Tanzanians to protect the environment by buying goods that are eco-friendly to the environment that do not have gases that causes destructive to the ozone layer.

Jafo made the remarks at the weekend at the apex of the International day for the Protection of the Ozone Layer.

At the celebrations Jafo-visited shops selling used air conditioners that use poisonous refrigerants (halocarbons) that destroy the ozone layer.

He also used the occasion to educate technicians dealing with used refrigerators

and air conditioners that the use of banned refrigerants on the hazards to the ozone layer.

He said the ozone layer is located in the upper atmosphere at between 10 to 50 kilometres above the earth, adding that its main function is to filter the intensity of various rays including ultraviolet B rays not to reach the earth surface.

He said once the ozone layer

is destroyed, it allows more hazardous rays to penetrate to the earth surface contributing to various diseases including skin cancer, eye diseases that cause blindness.

He said destruction to the ozone layer also contributes to the increase earth temperature that in its turn causes climate change.

He called on technicians dealing in used air conditioners and refrigerators to use al-

lowed refrigerants.

Kongwa District Commissioner, Remidius Mwema, representing Dodoma regional commissioner Anthony Mtaka said the city of Dodoma is fast growing hence there is the need of creating a joint platform to provide education to the people.

Matukuta Juma, a technician dealing in repairing used air conditioners said they had very little under-

standing about the issue, but now he will tell fellow technicians to buy only allowed refrigerants that are not destructive to the ozone layer.

Earlier Jafo said in order to protect the Ozone layer world governments agreed in 1985 at Vienna for a protocol to protect the layer.

"The protocol stresses for cooperation among the nations in research, supervision and exchange of infor-

mation on the situation of the Ozone layer," Jaffo added.

He said the nations also established the Montreal Protocol on the control of chemicals that suck the Ozone layer.

He said to control the situation, the government stresses for the importation of alternative refrigerants that a friendly to the Ozone Layer such as R209, R407, R404 and R717.



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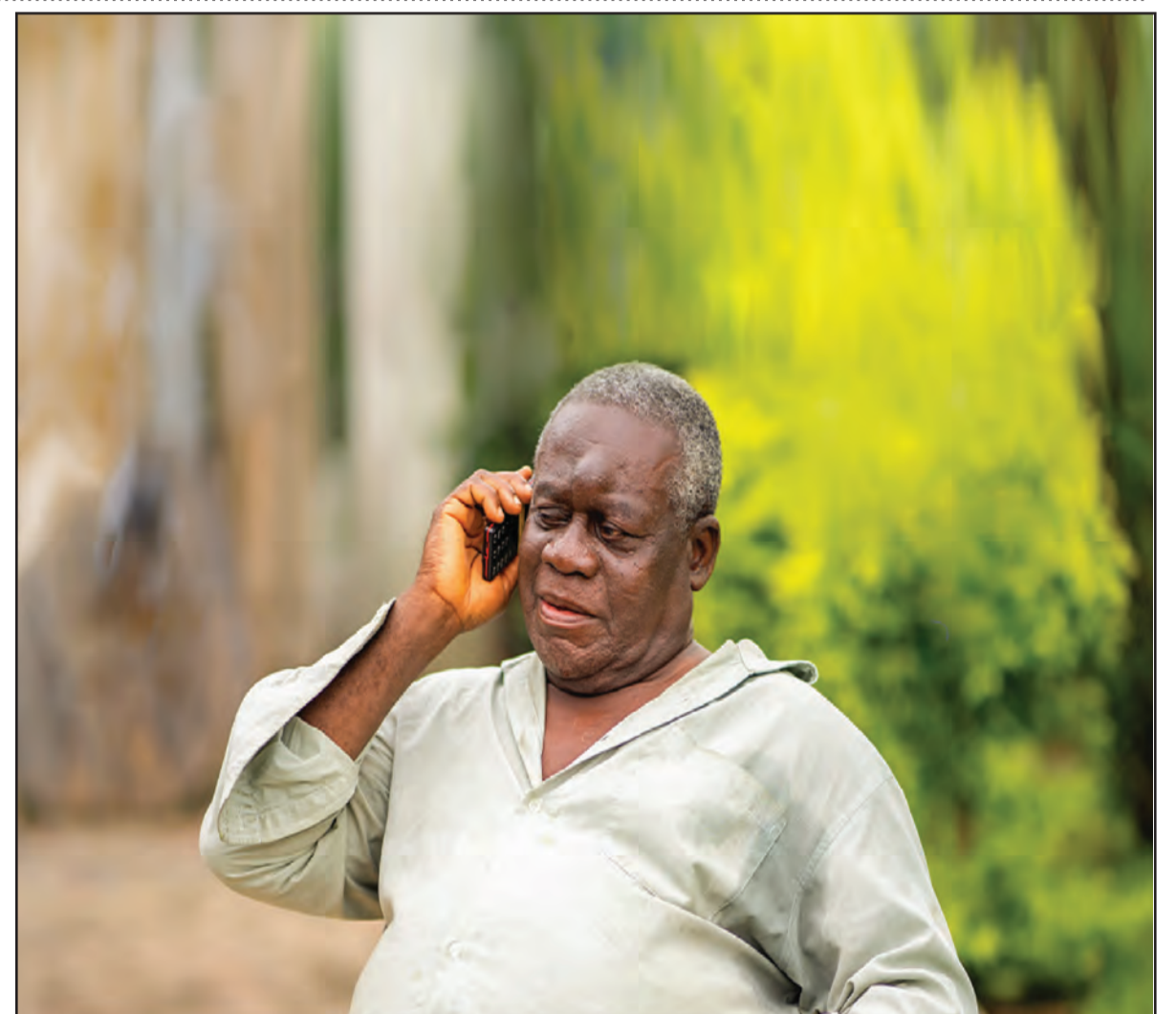
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Jumbos put Rongai Forest Farm in danger of extinction

By Guardian Correspondent, Rombo

RONGAI Forest farm in Rombo District, Kilimanjaro Region is in danger of extinction due to its destruction by elephants' herds.

The warning was given here at the weekend by the Chief Conservator of the farm administered by Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS), Joel Naasi, who added that the trees that have been extensively destroyed by the jumbos are those of cypress type used for timber.

He added that the beasts have destroyed huge swathes of the forest farm in Kamwanga and Endoneti areas.

Naasi was submitting his report on the

forest's destruction to the Association of Local Authorities of Tanzania (ALAT) for Kilimanjaro Region during its inspection visit at the forest farm.

"This challenge is perplexing for us, we have never experienced such destruction, and we have been using every method to prevent the beasts from further destruction of the farm. Even monkeys have begun its destruction.

"Now, due to the threat, TFS in collaboration with wildlife wardens from Kilimanjaro national Park has begun making patrols to chase away the jumbos, but also to educate Maasai pastoralists to step staking their herds into the farm," he said.

Whilst deep inside the forest farm, Naasi told ALAT members that the farm has planted 450,000 seedlings which they expected to cultivate during FY 2021/2022.

He said in FY 2020/2021 they expected to collect more than 3.3m/- in government revenue and by June this year, they had collected more than 4.36m/-.

Among others, in FY 2019/20 the Rongai Forest farm contributed 3,000 trees to the communities surrounding it.

The villages included Kibaoni, Naye-me, Nesae, Msangai, Mbomai, Kikelelwa, Irkaswaa and Kamwanga in Rombo District.



Home Affairs minister George Simbachawene addresses residents of Kidenge village in Mpwapa District, Dodoma Region, at the weekend. He reiterated an earlier warning against what he called "misuse of social media". Photo: MOHA

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- Demonstrated ability in interacting effectively with program staff, staff of partner ministries, other government agencies, technical and vocational institutes, other partners, and stakeholders.
- Demonstrated ability to adjust to changing priorities and work with minimum supervision and attention to detail.
- A diligent work ethic and professional behavior.
- Demonstrated experience working with an international team.
- Ability to work both independently and collaboratively on a team.

Interested candidates should send their applications electronically ONLY to info@tz.collegesinstitutes.ca no later than 26th September 2021.

The application should comprise of:

- Curriculum Vitae (CV);
- Copies of relevant certificates and/or driving license, permission to work in Tanzania; and
- name, physical addresses, and contact details of three references who can comment on personal conduct and previous work done.

Leaders move to arrest land conflicts in Muheza

By Correspondent Faustine Feliciane

LEADERS in Muheza district, Tanga Region, have embarked on tailor-made training programme designed to end recurrent land conflicts in the area.

The trainings which start today are organized by Muheza Member of Parliament Hamis Mwinjuma in collaboration with the District Commissioner Halima Bulembo.

Speaking here yesterday, Mwinjuma said that first batch of the trainings is sponsored by the Legal Services Facility (LSF) will be attended by all women councilors in Muheza district.

"The aim is to sensitize participants on land laws and women's rights in land ownership so that as leaders, they use various platforms to spread the same information," he said.

The lawmaker said the idea came after it emerged that land disputes are commonplace in the district. Through an initiative called Friends of Muheza, they reached out to LSF which committed to providing free education to the people of Muheza in phases.

Mwinjuma told the 13 women councilors that they have been prioritized because women are the most affected group when it comes to land ownership rights in the district.

"We have decided to do this deliberately in order to build capacity first in understanding land laws and other related issues," he said.

Chairman of Muheza Council who is also the Councilor Tongwe, Erasto Mhina, thanked the MP for the initiative which he said will help reduce land disputes.

Ashura Kachenje, who is the Ngomeni Ward Councilor, praised the decision of starting with women, saying ladies are good at sharing knowledge for themselves.

Kachenje advised that the organizers to continue with such trainings to other groups as promised so that residents of Muheza become aware of their rights when it comes to land ownership.

Mwinjuma who is the first-time MP is working with Friends of Muheza to resolve a number of challenges in the constituency which range from land conflicts, water, education, health and others.

Govt to 'review' industrial waste management - VPO

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE government is set to embark on country-wide inspection of factories to see if they comply with industrial waste and sewerage management requirement.

Speaking here at the weekend, Deputy Minister in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment), Hamad Hassan Chande said that the government has received a lot of complaints from residents neighbouring certain factories to the effects that the facilities do not have proper and functioning waste management systems.

"They (factories) discharge waste into people's homes claiming that such liquid is not harmful; the government will send its experts to satisfy to inspect all reported factories and yet to be reported ones," he said.

The Deputy Minister said that the government needs industries to create jobs and pay taxes but they must not be allowed to operate in contravention of environmental laws.

Chande made the remarks during a visit to the Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL), Raha Beverages, Fiber Board and Arusha City Water and Sanitation Authority (AUWSA) where he inspected the facilities' sewage treatment systems.

He said he was satisfied with the way they process sewage and the entire treatment systems that prevent environmental pollution and diseases.

He was accompanied by experts from the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) Northern Zone.

"The purpose of this visit is to look at how the Environment Act of 2004 and its regulations are being implemented, our country really needs industrial investment but they must focus on environmental protection," said Chande.



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NMB Bank Plc Central Zone manager Nsolo Mlozi (3rd-L) pictured at Kongwa at the weekend with Kongwa district commissioner Remidius Emmanuel (R, with microphone), National Assembly Speaker Job Ndugai (4th-L) and former Speaker Anne Makinda (2nd-R), NMB Kongwa Branch Manager Christina Niniko (L) and NMB Govt relationship manager Peter Massawe viewing medical equipment and supplies worth 10m/- the bank was donating for use at the district's Hogoro and Sejeli health centres. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Africa hinges hopes for COVID vaccine equity on US

By Special Correspondent

THE World Health Organization (WHO) and the African Union (AU) have urged a COVID-19 summit to be held next week in the US to address the barriers to global vaccine equity.

At a virtual conference held in Geneva in Switzerland, the two organisations called on the US to tackle trade restrictions and intellectual property embargoes placed on COVID-19 vaccines, which they said continue to hinder access to vaccines in African countries.

"Africa is lagging behind," said WHO director-general Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus. "Of the more than 5.7 billion doses [of COVID-19 vaccines] administered globally already, Africa accounts for a mere two per cent."

While urging world leaders to adopt more urgent measures to end the pandemic, including at next week's virtual summit on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York, the WHO chief warned of the global impact of failing to vaccinate Africa.

"It does not only hurt Africa. It hurts all of us because the longer vaccine inequity persists, the more the virus will keep circulating and mutating, the longer the socio-economic disruptions will continue and the higher the chances that more variants will emerge render-

ing vaccines infective," Tedros said.

"I know I sound like a broken record but I will continue to call to account political leaders, pharmaceutical industry players and financial institutions until global vaccine equity is met," he added.

At the summit, President Biden will call on global leaders to make new commitments to fight the pandemic, with the aim of vaccinating 70 per cent of the world's population within a year, according to US media reports.

But the reported draft targets for the summit are not that different from those the WHO and other global experts drew up at the beginning of the pandemic, including increased funding for tests, oxygen and other supplies to developing countries, and financing the global COVID-19 response by next year – most of which have not been met.

Strive Masiyiwa, the AU special envoy for COVID-19, made a direct call for the US intervention, saying that trade barriers were making it impossible for Africa to acquire vaccines.

"Vaccine sharing is a good thing but we should also be allowed to sit [at] the table and show proof of capacity that we can also buy," Masiyiwa said.

He added that during the summit the AU would be putting forward a proposal on obtaining intellectual property rights on COVID vaccines.

Register business premises to avoid trouble, TCCIA boss urges traders, producers

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

TANZANIA Chamber of Commerce Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) President Paul Koyi has called on traders and producers to register their premises in order to avoid disturbances and conduct their activities smoothly.

Koyi made the call in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during a ceremony to grant license, tested products, and management system certification for 227 manufacturers including 105 SMEs

The certificates and licenses provided were in food, and cosmetics products, construction materials, lubricants, hand sanitizers, electrical appliances, mechanical equipment, mattresses and packaging materials.

Koyi urged entrepreneurs to continue applying standards during the production process to enable Tanzania to reach a mid-sized economy, calling producers, traders, particularly those dealing with production, sales, distribution, and keeping of food

and cosmetics to adhere to the laws and regulations by registering their premises

TCCIA boss commended the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) for increasing the number of registered working premises and products.

"I am told that from May to September this year, the organization has registered a total of 3,992 premises dealing with production, sales, reserving and distribution of food and cosmetics, this is a good job," he said, noting

that the government for supporting small and medium entrepreneurs to access certification of products at TBS free of charge.

He urged SMEs and other interested persons to make use of the opportunity especially during this time when the government has been insisting on an industrial economy.

A total of 715m/- have been spent by the government since the program for supporting entrepreneurs started three years ago.

He applauded producers who received their quality certificates and licenses for their decision since it was not an easy task, and the move would help them to access local and foreign markets

He invited entrepreneurs to join the chamber for their benefits and the development of the nation. "TCCIA has open doors for small entrepreneurs to join the bandwagon and so as to strengthen our organization and help the country reach the target", he said.

TBS Director-General Dr. Yusuf Ngenya thanked the producers who opted for quality services at the organization.

He said the licenses and certificates of quality would help their certified products in different areas. They include raising public trust in quality, easy market access, profit in the market, and enabling goods to enter into the East African market without further testing. The decision to provide free certification to support SMEs aimed at helping them to

become big business that can help in the industrialization drive initiated by the government a few years ago.

On behalf of his fellows, an entrepreneur identified as Ayoub Madai, thanked officials of the standards watchdog for their extended cooperation.

He pledged to be good ambassadors to others in terms of the importance of quality products and certification for the development of a nation and their livelihood.



PUBLICATION FOR DISCLOSURE OF FUNDING SOURCES FOR MSPH TANZANIA LLC FROM SEPTEMBER 30TH 2021 TO SEPTEMBER 29TH 2022

MSPH Tanzania LLC, known as ICAP, is a non-governmental organization operating in Tanzania since 2004, with funding mainly from the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the U.S. Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). ICAP at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health is a recipient of a five-year PEPFAR-funded cooperative agreement beginning 30th September 2021 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to support comprehensive community and facility-based HIV and voluntary medical male circumcision (VMMC) services in Mwanza region.

Financial transparency, accountability and disclosure of fundraising activities.

Pursuant to Section 32 of the non-Governmental Organizations Act as amended from time to time and Regulations 12 and 13 of the Non-Governmental Organizations Act (Amendments) Regulations, 2018 on Financial transparency, accountability and disclosure of fundraising activities requirements; and subject to availability of funds from the donor (CDC). MSPH Tanzania LLC hereby inform the public that it has received a Cooperative Agreement Notice of awards (NOA) entitled "Sustain and Accelerate a Comprehensive HIV Response in the United Republic of Tanzania under PEPFAR" from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The currently approved and funded amount is TZS 29 billion for project Year 1 work plan and budget with implementation period starting from September 30, 2021 through September 29, 2022. The NOA stipulates that based on availability of funding, the recipient may receive additional funding of up to TZS 86 billion if the additional funding become available from the donor.

The purpose of this funding is to support the Government of Tanzania (GOT) strategy for comprehensive HIV prevention, testing, care, and treatment (C&T) addressing the entire continuum of care in Mwanza region in both community and facility settings. MSPH Tanzania LLC will be implementing innovative, evidence-based, client centered and culturally appropriate interventions to enhance identification of HIV-positive individuals; linkage to C&T clinics (CTC) for same day initiation antiretroviral therapy (ART); support for community-based HIV services; access to HIV services for clients with special needs; retention on treatment and patient adherence to ART, monitoring viral load (VL) to attain viral suppression; support for HIV prevention services (e.g. PrEP, DREAMS, VMMC, etc) and utilization of appropriate data for continuous quality improvement (CQI). MSPH Tanzania LLC will collaborate with regional and council health management teams (R/CHMT) to implement HIV prevention, testing, C&T activities to achieve PEPFAR and GOT's National Multi-Sectoral Strategic Framework IV (NMSF IV) goals. Focus is on children and adolescents, men and boys, adolescent girls and young women, pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers and infants, key populations, and at-risk groups so no sub-population is left behind.

7th floor, Jangid Plaza, Plot No. G6, Chaburuma Road, Off Ali Hassan Mwinyi Rd, Dar es Salaam.
P. O. Box 80214, Tel: +255 22 292 3717 and +255 22 292 3718

Invitation for Quotations/Bids

Contractor for the Construction of Ndachi Mnadani Water Supply Scheme Project in Dodoma City.



WaterAid is an International Non-Governmental Organization, with a vision of ensuring Safe Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) for Everyone, Everywhere by 2030. WaterAid has had its operations in Tanzania since 1983 under the name "WaterAid Tanzania" which is registered as Non-Governmental Organisation in The Republic of Tanzania (NO.SO.7557).

WaterAidTanzania (WAT) operates as a Country Programme and functional office of WaterAid UK; within East African Region where the head office is located in Dar es Salaam, Rufiji Street, Plot No.1469, Masaki Area within Kinondoni District.

WAT received funds to address water supply challenges at Ndachi-Mnadani in Dodoma City, Dodoma Region. The project is intending to construct water supply scheme to the peri-urban level community through the developed borehole water source. The new extension is expected to build one tank for water storage, laying pipes lines, electricity power connection and construction of 2 DPs in the village. This project is intending on supporting the community to have safe and reliable water services for not only domestic purposes such as hygiene and sanitation but also to support other livelihood improvement activities within their localities.

This is a full water project scheme construction in Ndachi Mnadani, Dodoma City. The task is mainly focusing on infrastructures building, supply and installation of pipelines. The full proposed design of the scheme, drawings and layout may guide interested bidders on further clarity towards bidding processes. The full proposed scheme designed, drawing and layout are available for interested bidder towards bidding.

All eligible interested bidders should write to ZuenaMasumay@wateraid.org Cc NicombolweKidagho@wateraid.org requesting ToR with Bills of Quantity and other related documents. The deadline for submitting the dully filled BOQ is on **7th October 2021**.

Bidders should provide documents to evidence their qualifications including but not limited to:

- A duly completed and signed priced offer as per the Bills of Quantities (BoQ).
- Valid licenses and legal documentation to operate in Tanzania e.g. incorporation certificate, business license and relevant tax certificates, licenses from CRB and MoW
- Major equipment(s) for carrying out the works, a list of recent performed contracts of similar nature including the names and addresses of the employers for verification.
- The company profiles. Recent financial statements of the bidder/bank statement
- Three references' contacts you have worked with in the last 2 years.
- A duly Certified Power of Attorney

Eligible interested bidders should send their bids to WaterAid Tanzania Office before **7th October 2021 at 10:00am** East Africa Time; through ZuenaMasumay@wateraid.org, Cc NicombolweKidagho@wateraid.org. Bids shall be addressed to: "Country Director – WaterAid Tanzania, P.O. Box 33759 Plot No.1469 Rufiji Street: Off Haile Selassie Rd - Mwasani Peninsular, Dar es Salaam: Tanzania." and clearly marked "**Bid for Construction of Ndachi Mnadani Water Supply Scheme Project in Dodoma City**". The Opening will be on **7th October 2021 at 11:00am** at WaterAid Country Office.

Note: WaterAid has a Mandatory Operating Procedure (MOP) and therefore for those who will visit our office for inspection, submission or tender opening will not be allowed to enter office premises without properly wash their hand and wearing masks.



GF Trucks & Equipment Ltd sales manager Paul Msuku (R) has a word yesterday with visitors to the company's pavilion at the ongoing mining exhibition in Geita. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Investors urged to grab massive opportunities in tourism sector

By Getrude Mbago

INVESTORS from in and outside Tanzania have been urged to take advantage of the massive opportunities in the tourism industry by injecting funds and resources to invest in various tourist attractions across the country.

Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism Mary Masanja made the call in Dar es Salaam during the weekend in a special meeting with journalists and artists to discuss the best ways to boost tourism in nature forest reserves in the country.

Organized by the Tanzania Forest Services (TFS), the meeting came up with resolutions to jointly work to promote tourism in various areas, especially in nature reserve forests.

Masanja said the tourism industry in the country has a number of opportunities that are yet to be tapped by many, so players in the private sector should chip in and utilize the potential.

She said there is a huge demand for accommodation facilities that she said if utilized by introducing new hotels, improving those available coupled with hospitality would attract more tourists and boost the country's economy.

"Due to the fact that the government and other stakeholders have been marketing Tanzania in recent years, the number of tourists has continued to grow every day. Therefore, may I urge local investors to come out and invest more in the tourism industry including in our nature forest reserves across the country," she said.

She said the government will continue improving infrastructures in the tourist attraction sites so as to facilitate smooth touring.

Masanja also called Tanzanians to create a

culture of visiting various tourists especially nature forest reserves as the areas are full of exceptional attractions ranging from plants, animals, and insects.

She also noted that domestic tourism offers immense opportunities for the private sector to grab which include organizing tours targeting different groups in the society to visit tourists' attractions.

She however, said that lack of domestic tourism awareness is also a big gap that needs advantages and contributes to national economic building efforts.

Jokate Mwegelo, Temeke District Commissioner said that if the tourism agenda could be strongly taken seriously by all Tanzanians, the country can even surpass its target to host 5 million tourists by 2025.

She advised that youth should be well used to promote tourism in the country.

"I have experienced how strong are young people in promoting tourism while I was in Kisarawe District, groups and groups of young people organizing themselves came to visit tourist attractions that are available in the district," she said.

TFS' assistant commissioner responsible for beekeeping, Hussein Msuya, there is a number of nature reserve forests in the country endowed with attractive species of plants, animals and insects.

He named some of the nature reserve forests as Amani in Muheza-Tanga, Mount Rungwe in Mbeya, Uzungwa Scarp Nature Forest Reserve (Morogoro and Iringa), Nilo Nature Forest Reserve (Tanga), Magamba Nature Forest Reserve (Lushoto-Tanga), Chome Nature Forest Reserve (Kilimanjaro), Minziro Nature Forest Reserve (Kagera), Mount Hanang Nature Forest Reserve and Kingu Nature Forest Reserve in Morogoro.

Provide correct information on farming issues, financial institutions challenged

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Ifakara

STAKEHOLDERS in the agriculture sector have urged financial institutions to establish special desks to provide accurate information related to agricultural issues, something which will build a broader credit understanding among farmers.

This was disclosed during a stakeholder meeting held in Ifakara in Morogoro region recently.

Worth 4.7bn/-, the four-

year project worked to strengthen the rice sector in Morogoro through training farmers, improving infrastructure and increasing access to the market.

The overall objective of the action was to reduce poverty and increase food security through economic development of smallholder farmers in the constituencies of Malinyi, Ifakara, Mlimba and Ifakara town councils, Morogoro Region.

It was funded by the European Commission in partnership with the Aga Khan Foundation - UK (AKF UK) and was implemented by the Aga Khan Foundation - Tanzania (AKFT)

and the Rice Council of Tanzania (RCT) under the stewardship of the Ministry of Finance and Planning.

The stakeholders suggested that banks should set aside departments dealing with agriculture that will help and guide farmers make the right decisions.

Francis Mgasa, a farm inputs supplier Mgasa from Longro -Tanzania said that farmers need to use modern farming equipment to improve crop productivity, increase their income and reduce poverty.

Mgasa added that banks need to work with suppliers of agricultural inputs so as to link farmers with loan oppor-

tunities that will enable them to produce more efficiently.

Kilombero District Commissioner Hanji Godigodi who represented the regional commissioner said the government will continue improving roads to provide relief to farmers to transport their agricultural produce.

He thanked the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) for supporting smallholder rice farmers to reduce post-harvest loss by strengthening capacities, improving business skills, linking rice farmers to value chain actors, and increasing availability of market opportunities.

Godigodi also urged ware-

house owners to ensure their warehouses are rehabilitated to meet better standards by putting pallets so as to improve rice storage and reducing the moisture of the crop.

The project has brought exciting results and can be seen with the rice sector poised for further growth. Over 5,400 farmers, 50 lead farmers, and 33 government extension workers received training in improving harvesting, threshing, business and transport practices.

Motomoto Farmers Group, one of the beneficiaries stated that in the past they could harvest five bags per acre and now they produce on average

24 bags per acre.

Programme manager for economic inclusion at AKF, Tarcile Mballa said RCT's expertise helped to support the rice market by holding district and regional business forums with government authorities and value chain actors to discuss and address key challenges such as tax burdens, fees for millers and warehouses, and standard packing weight for rice.

The project has also facilitated the development of district bylaws that will ensure better quality warehousing services are delivered to smallholder farmers, setting a new standard for the future.

She noted that through its co-financing activity, the project has invested 517m/- in procuring milling machines and rehabilitating warehouses, including 203m/- (39 percent) mobilized by millers, farmers, and other community members.

Mballa said that the co-financing approach showed a strong sense of local ownership, and that the combined efforts of the project, its partners and local stakeholders including the local government authorities across the districts have boosted the rice value chain despite challenges, especially those related to transportation.

Danish envoy impressed by Z'bar's efforts in GBV fight

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE deputy Danish Ambassador to Tanzania, Mette Bech Pilgaard, has expressed her pleasure by joint efforts by Tanzania Media Women Association-Zanzibar (TAMWA-Zanzibar) and other stakeholders against acts of gender based violence (GBV) and child abuse in the Isles.

She made the remarks at Mwanakwerekwe at the weekend when she spoke with some GBV and child abuse victims and other institutions who joined the efforts during her special visit to assess the three-year project.

She said from reports submitted from parents of the GBV and child abuse victims, it was evident the much work has been done in the community including change of the concept as well as providing cooperation in the follow ups of various GBV cases.

He said it was encouraging to see some offenders involved in GBV cases were being found guilty, adding that this should be praised by all.

She also called on networks fighting acts of GBV and other media people reporting on these incidents not to despair, instead they should continue to provide assistance to others.

Some elder people who were victims of acts of GBV said from the education provided by the anti-GBV networks has made them more courageous and will never backtrack.

Another parent of a child who was a victim of GBV said the training provided by TAMWA-Zanzibar has made the child more courageous in coming forward to give evidence in the case and believed that justice will prevail. For his part, some reporters involved in the project said earlier they had to face a difficult environment from the community in agreeing to provide information, but now, they are firm in disclosing all offenders of GBV acts.

Submitting the implementation report, TAMWA-Zanzibar official, Mohamed Khatib said during the project's three years, various efforts were made including provision of education to about 35,000 members of the community both from Zanzibar and Pemba.



Mati Super Brands Ltd manager David Mulokozi (L) briefs Manyara regional commissioner Charles Makongoro Nyerere (C), who toured the Babati-based firm at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

School owners urged to install modern firefighting equipment

By Correspondent Joseph

Mwendapole

SCHOOL owners have been tasked to install modern firefighting equipment in school premises so as to protect children, staff and properties during incidents of fire.

St Anne Marie Academy head teacher, Gladius Ndyetabula made the call in Dar es Salaam over the weekend when speaking during the school's 47th graduation ceremony.

He said in recent years the country has witnessed many

incidents of fire burning schools especially dormitories and this should stand as an alarm for the school owners to take precautions.

"Here at St Anne Marie Academy we have decided to take precautions by installing modern fire rescue systems. We have taught our people how they can fight fire by using sand, water or blanket and we have trained our security guards who are very competent in rescue exercises," he said

He said the school has also trained all students and all school's staff on how they can

fight fires during the emergency. During the graduation ceremony, parents expressed satisfaction with academic performance of the school for the past five years especially in national examinations results.

Anitha Umbula, who spoke on behalf of the parents, said they are happy with how the school handles their children, something which enables them to perform well in class and exams. Anitha said in recent years, the school has been doing wonders in national examinations and managed to be in the national top

ten, number one in Dar es Salaam and in Ubungu District.

"This is a tremendous achievement and you deserve a big round of applause. We congratulate teachers and the directors Dr Rweikiza for the huge investment in this school but don't relax keep it up," she said

Director of the school who is also the Member of Parliament for Bukoba Rural, Dr Jasson Rweikiza requested parents to continue trusting St Anne Marie Academy.

He said they have been improving the school every year to ensure that all students

who study there excel well in their academic performance and life.

Rweikiza said they have an attractive library full of different books, laboratory for practical works, examinations quality assurance department and board which control and coordinate internal examinations.

He said in standard seven results in 2017, 43 students emerged with an A average and the school was number one in Ubungu District, number two in Dar es Salaam and number eight at national level.



Manyara regional commissioner Charles Makongoro Nyerere (C, in blue T-shirt) in celebratory mood at the weekend alongside residents of Domanga village in Eshkesh ward, Mbulu District, during a sensitisation campaign relating to next year's national Population and Housing Census. Photo: Correspondent Jaliwason Jasson

Dar children drilled on financial literacy for future development

By Getrude Mbago

A DAR ES SALAAM-based foundation has brought together about 50 children from various areas in the city so as to capacitate them with prerequisite skills on financial literacy for their future development.

The move was meant to transform the children's mindset and enable them to be more confident, have a broader understanding of finances and savings for them to become more economically independent after graduating.

Speaking during the training event held in Dar es Salaam during the weekend, Hilda Ngaja, executive director of the Raising Up Friendship Foundation said that if well capacitated while they are still young, the children can surprise the society in future as they will be well educated to guide themselves financially.

Ngaja said they can embark on mega economic projects in their future and thus contribute immensely to the country's development.

Through its "Life Skills Programme" the foundation teaches children valuable life skills that help them be more productive and responsible human beings.

She said that the country needs to undergo

children and youth mindset transformation to change negative perceptions towards various things, capacitate children with essential financial literacy and others so as to enable them to conduct better decisions in their life.

"Our programme is doing its best to change the children's mindsets, we have been training a number of children in the country who have managed to change. We build the capacity of children to enable them to make decisions and take actions that positively impact their lives and the lives of those around them," she said.

She noted that research confirms that high-quality mentoring relationships have profound ripple effects and benefit young people personally, academically, and professionally. Mentoring enables children and young people to grow and develop and creates social and economic opportunities as well.



They can embark on mega economic projects in their future and thus contribute immensely to the country's development

Report finds stark disparities in COVID-19 impacts

By Guardian Reporter

THE Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation has launched its fifth annual Goalkeepers Report, featuring an updated global dataset illustrating the pandemic's adverse impact on progress toward the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (Global Goals).

This year's report, co-authored by Bill Gates and Melinda French Gates, co-chairs of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, shows that disparities caused by COVID-19 remain stark, and those who have been hardest hit by the pandemic will be the

slowest to recover. Because of COVID-19, an additional 31 million people were pushed into extreme poverty in 2020 compared to 2019. And while 90% of advanced economies will regain pre-pandemic per capita income levels by next year, only a third of low- and middle-income economies are expected to do so.

Fortunately, amidst this devastation, the world stepped up to avert some of the worst-case scenarios. In last year's Goalkeepers Report, the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) predicted a drop of 14 percentage points in global

vaccine coverage—effectively erasing 25 years of progress in 25 weeks. New analysis from IHME demonstrates that the decline, while still unacceptable, was only half of what was anticipated.

In the report, the co-chairs highlight the "breathtaking innovation" that was only possible because of global collaboration, commitment, and investments over decades. They acknowledge that averting the worst-case scenarios is commendable, yet they note it's not enough. To ensure a truly equitable recovery from the pandemic, they call for long-term invest-

ments in health and economies—like the ones that led to the rapid development of the COVID-19 vaccine—to propel recovery efforts and get the world back on track to meet the Global Goals.

"[The past year] has reinforced our belief that progress is possible but not inevitable," write the co-chairs. "If we can expand upon the best of what we've seen these past 18 months, we can finally put the pandemic behind us and once again accelerate progress in addressing fundamental issues like health, hunger, and climate change."

The report highlights the

disproportionate economic impact that the pandemic has had on women globally. In high- and low-income countries alike, women have been harder hit than men by the global recession that was triggered by the pandemic.

"Women face structural barriers in every corner of the world, leaving them more vulnerable to the impacts of the pandemic," said Melinda French Gates.

"By investing in women now and addressing these inequities, governments can spur a more equitable recovery while strengthening their economies against future crises. It's not

just the right thing to do—but smart policy that will benefit everyone."

The report also illustrates how the so-called "miracle" of COVID-19 vaccines was the result of decades of investment, policies, and partnerships that established the infrastructure, talent, and ecosystems necessary to deploy them quickly. However, the systems that allowed for the unprecedented development and deployment of the COVID-19 vaccine exist primarily in wealthy countries, and as a result, the world has not benefited equally.

"The lack of equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines is a

public health tragedy," said Bill Gates. "We face the very real risk that in the future, wealthy countries and communities will begin treating COVID-19 as yet another disease of poverty. We can't put the pandemic behind us until everyone, regardless of where they live, has access to vaccines."

More than 80% of all COVID-19 vaccines have been administered in high- and upper-middle-income countries to date, with some securing two to three times the number needed so they can cover boosters; less than 1% of doses have been administered in low-income countries.

COMMUNITY CLIMATE CHANGE CHAMPIONS IN BABATI DISTRICT FOSTER ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Tanzania is ranked the 26th most vulnerable country to climate risk. The increased rate of unpredictable rainfall presents risks to farmers in drought prone regions such as Arusha, Manyara, Shinyanga, Simiyu, and Dodoma, most of whom no longer know when or what to plant. According to the UNDP report on Climate Change Adaptation, water sources in Lake Victoria, Lake Tanganyika, and Lake Jipe in Kilimanjaro are experiencing a significant reduction of water levels, and even the loss of some species.

Climate change increases the chances of worsening floods and droughts and in some parts of Tanzania, citizens are already feeling the pinch.

"I have never seen floods of this magnitude," said Gabriel Gache, a farmer in Sangara village, in Manyara region. "When the floods hit my village in 2013, the water wiped away all the crops in my 5-acre farm." Gabriel, a father, and the breadwinner for his family of 14 children said it took him about four years to restore his land and get back to farming. Aside from losing the crops, going for years without farming, he also had to spend over TZS 1.6 million (US \$690) to construct a burnt brick fence to protect his farm in case the floods hit again. "The loss was extreme." He said.

Gone unchecked, In Babati District, in Manyara region there is evidence of having excessive aeration of water source in the natural springs



Climate change champions in Sangara planting trees during world environment day in 2021

and great water loss in Lake Babati which has resulted into great water shocks and stress in most communities, like Sangara village and nearby villages. Since 2018, WaterAid has been working with the government through the Ministry of Water's Rural Water and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) and local communities in Sangara village, located in Babati District to strengthen their water resource management skills. Initiatives have included supporting communities to legally register their Community Water Supply Based Organization (CBWSO) and have conducted awareness raising campaigns to villagers on effective management of climatic change and building climate-resilience in their communities.

Furthermore, WaterAid is utilizing Low carbon emitting technology advancements, to mitigate the risks and shocks of climate change, and as such WaterAid has constructed a water supply scheme at Sangara village with solar powered pumps in efforts to mitigate air pollutions.

WaterAid with support from People's Postcode Lottery (PPL) have identified and built capacities of 10 community champions on climate change adaptation and appropriate mitigation measures to overcome climate related risks and shocks.

Hashim Hamisi is a climate change champion from Sangara village. Hashim said, "I am proud to be working with other climate change

champions to raise awareness on environmental conservation in our village. This is a rewarding job."

Through the campaigns, climate change champions are beginning to realize some immediate impacts including the decrease of environment harming. "The cutting of trees has reduced significantly; citizens are now switching to using fuel efficient stoves, a welcome addition in efforts to safeguard and manage our natural resources." Hashim added.

According to the United Nations (UN), every three seconds, the world loses enough forest to cover a football pitch and over the last century we have destroyed half of our wetland. The UN has declared 5 June as World Environment Day to encourage awareness and action to protect our environment around the world. In 2021, climate change champions from Sangara village met at a nearby village Riroda to commemorate the day and mobilized community members to plant 600 trees on various water sources and further committed to planting 6,000 trees between November 2021 and April 2022.

"Climate change mitigation requires sustained efforts from varied sectors. We are proud to be working closely with the government in Babati district and other key stakeholders including citizens to mitigate the risks brought by climate change." Said Ms. Anna Mzinga from WaterAid.

The Guardian

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MONDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2021

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Gambling, mobile cash games aren't just frauds

DISQUIET seems to be rising among law enforcement agencies about transactions conducted on mobile phones directly or indirectly by way of incessant text messages sent to subscribers.

If a law enforcer comes up with the view that the notices are usually acted upon and thousands of people send cash to be part of the dishing out of a 5m/- or 10m/- jackpot or above, then the impression is cemented that there are plenty of frauds around. It is a projection of what fraud is and what its extent is.

Home Affairs minister George Simbachawene asserted towards the end of last week that frauds now range from 500m/- to 1bn/- per day in what he saw as a threat to the national economy.

That summation was a little surprising as money games thrive where people are making cash, and in making large amounts of cash available to a few people at a time, become a disguised form of accumulation. Large amounts are invested in profitable ventures, not just consumed.

The trouble is administrators sometimes believe that money that goes to the Treasury or local authorities by way of levies and taxes is what enables the country to develop.

This is for the simple reason that most followers of traditional distributive ideas commonly view development as merely social services and infrastructure.

These people are often mum about sources of investible surpluses that enable the majority of the people to have gainful employment. At most they think of productive activities like factories, while services are the chief employer.

Money games are positive to the national economy when the regulatory environment is predictable. Surely, it isn't expected that a municipal official accompanied by police will just walk into a casino and shut down whatever is in progress there.

Nor is it expected that if somebody deposits 10m/- in cash that account will be closed for the police to investigate where that person got the money. That kind of law enforcement is negative, as it scares people and blocks the free flow of money.

When law enforcement is negative or unpredictable, money games can make vast amounts of cash 'flee' the economy and be deposited where the circulation of money for value addition is healthier.

Tanzania has in the past welcomed investors and encouraged freedom on the one hand, while tending to be vicious on 'unwarranted' making of cash. Accordingly, it is classified at a low level of doing business environment where law enforcers just wait to pounce.

Thus, minister Simbachawene is in a way right in that the pace with which money games are conducted is high, though the idea that this is attempted swindling of unsuspecting people is too sympathetic.

There were messages of that kind earlier, and some people say they still see them, but their scale is negligible as one doesn't send money simply because a message entered where the money should be sent.

To organise a competitive economy, one must assume that people are rational, not to be saved by the police each time a money game is announced. This is a fact worth noting.

Obtain investment permit, and solve environmental problems

THERE are relentless pleas for the involvement of district-level experts in the issuance of investment permits to prospective investors - that is, apart from the higher-level officials or technocrats.

Such calls are a reminder of the often intense differences between central government agencies wishing to propel investments everywhere in the country and local authorities particularly when it concerns land ownership and use.

When such land is disposed of there is an earning pattern that goes around and when this isn't met it becomes a let-down.

In other words, this insistence on involvement of district officials is to invite a veto on investments at the district level.

Since that appeal centres on the need to avoid environmental drawbacks, it needs to be met fast. District officials will be involved in facilitation of the project, with the starting point of implementation being to solve environmental problems noticed on the ground.

That would be worlds different from withholding a certificate, as the issue of a permit is merely willingness to stamp some papers and often reluctance is tied to extortions or bribes.

Indeed, it isn't vital that district officials stand as the reference point as to environmental problems which may exist and act as liaison officers and supervisory authority on clearing such snags wherever they are noticed.

That stage of project implementation doesn't need a permit but simply inspection, as there are laws about obstruction of regulatory demands in

the course of investment.

Investors don't slap the law in the face and will readily pay for work to be done to solve the problems, not just pay the district for the work to be done. This wish on the part of districts is an impediment targeting some gain.

What can be done in relation to investment projects in peri-urban areas can also be applied to urban infrastructure, where people with businesses in particular areas can help with improving roads by having usable drainage canals on road edges.

But municipal councils don't want them to hire work teams to build side-roads and insist on providing the cash involved to the municipality, which sends a cold shiver down the spines of investors.

As a result, the roads are in poor shape but neighbours are rich, often owing to the fact that recalcitrant municipal authorities wish to make a quick buck from each road improvement project decided.

This is yet another area of reform whose time may have come - so that national authorities handle large-scale infrastructure projects and inner city roads are contracted to individuals.

These individuals maintain drainage and other systems and get periodic payments for that from the councils which, much like those investors, can raise bonds for the purpose, aside from regular revenues.

Roads are maintained and investors are paid but, when municipalities do it, roads may remain in pathetic state until the government is pushed to issue fat cheques. It would pay to look well deep into these muddy waters.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

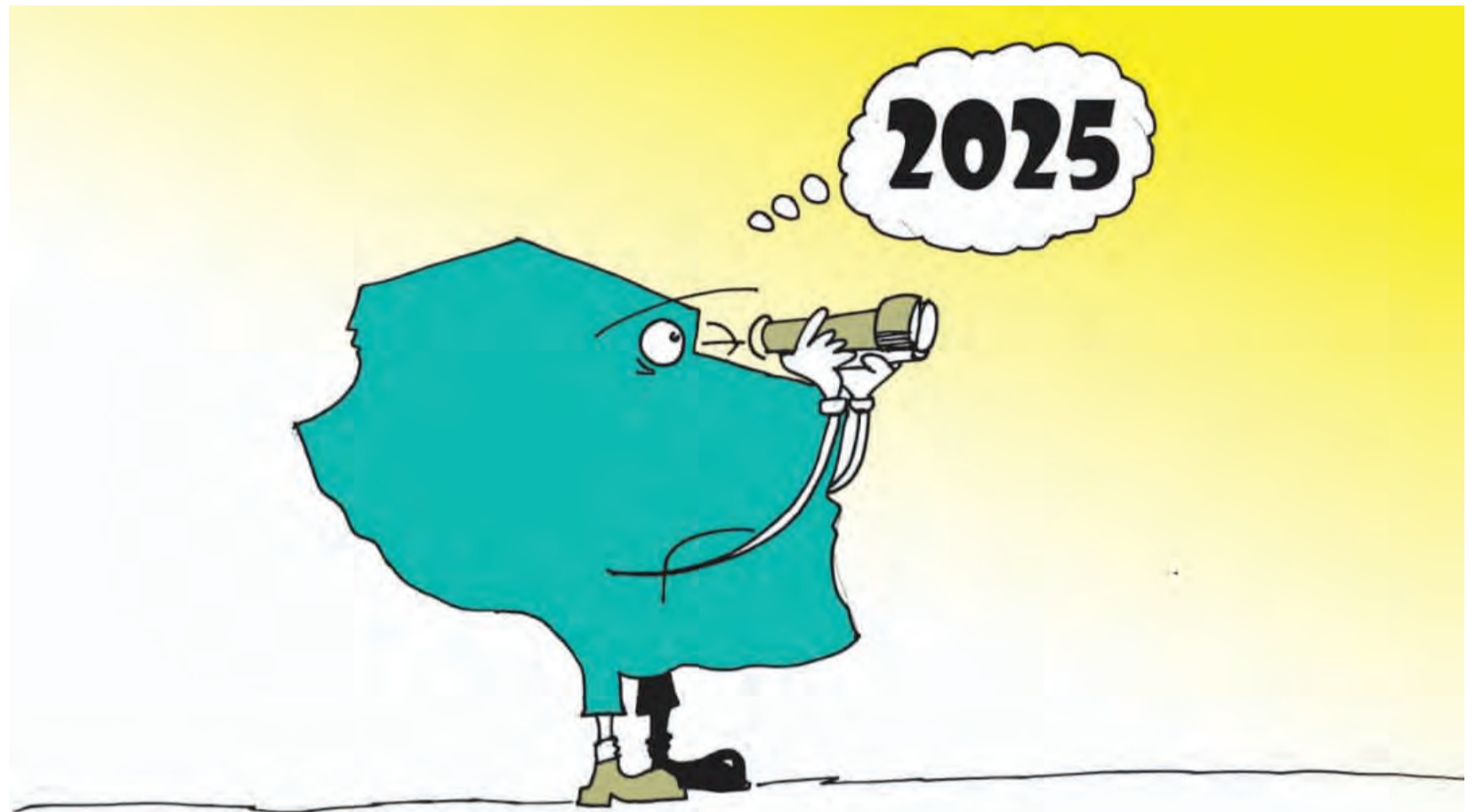
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The dawn of reader revenue in Indian digital publishing

By Pradeep Gairola

INDIA went under the Covid-19 imposed lockdown on March 24, 2020. The country's digital news ecosystem witnessed a sudden surge in traffic that sustained for several months thereafter.

All manner of news companies were forced to adapt to technology and mould their digital business strategies, which until then was a periphery business contributing to only a minuscule percentage of their overall revenue.

Advertising, the primary revenue source, was hit by the coronavirus pandemic and the newsprint distribution system was severely affected too. The next few weeks saw digital revenues, which were also primarily supported by advertising, plummet dramatically.

On the one hand, publishers observed a growth in their digital user base, which meant an increase in cost of servicing; on the other hand, advertisement revenues were declining at a rapid rate.

A year and a half later, several Indian publishers have formulated plans to put their digital offerings behind a paywall, with an overwhelming majority of legacy companies already charging for their e-paper websites.

Will Indians pay for online news?

Indians in their hundreds of millions have indicated a strong interest in paying for digital news, according to Reuters' India Digital News Report 2019.

Similarly, a whitepaper published by the World Economic Forum in April 2020 indicated a huge likelihood amongst Indians to pay for news.

One graphically illustrative example is The Hindu Group, which has had its e-paper website behind a paywall for more than six years now.

It has also taken its news website behind a paywall since as long ago as February 2019, and has reported a significant growth in its digital subscription revenue.

In the financial year 2020-21 (April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021), The Hindu reported growth of 147 per cent in digital subscription revenue during the financial year 2019-2020. Reader revenue accounted for 47 per cent of its overall digital revenue in FY 2020-2021.

In June 2021, MoneyControl Pro - a digital native (with no print-based offering) - reported 330,000 paid subscribers.

The Ken, which was launched in 2016 as a digital native and has all its content behind a hard paywall, has



meanwhile sustained itself purely on reader revenue.

Other digital natives such as The Print, The Wire, and Scroll are busy trying a subscription model in line with The Guardian, appealing to their readers to contribute whatever they can, without locking any content behind paywalls.

Given the massive size of the Indian news industry, experiments from micro payments to long-term commitments from readers are being undertaken.

Relevance of e-paper in the Indian context

In markets such as the US, the household penetration of newspapers started witnessing a decline in the 1970s.

One can safely assume that now there is a generation, in developed markets like the US, that has grown without having subscribed to newspapers at all. In contrast, in markets such as India, print was growing as late as the pre-Covid-19 times, and there is a strong connection between newspaper brands and their audience.

In developed markets, the e-paper is viewed as an offering to migrate print users to digital offerings and is generally not a preferred vehicle for the youth. In India, however, the e-paper is a preferred consumption mode.

The Hindu's e-paper website, for instance, has 63 per cent of its users below 35 years of age and 37 per cent below 25 years. In contrast, The Hindu News web-

site has 53 per cent users below 35 years of age and about 25 per cent users below 25 years.

Between August 1 and 15, this year, The Hindu conducted an experiment; it offered three packages on the e-paper and its news websites. These are combo - news website (thehindu.com) + e-paper website (epaper.thehindu.com) subscription; standalone news website subscription; and standalone e-paper website subscription.

On the news website, the combo offer outperformed the standalone offer of the news website by 96 per cent and the e-paper had almost equal takers.

However, on the e-paper website, the e-paper subscription was the most preferred choice, followed by the combo offer - and there were very few takers for the news website subscription.

Developing the subscription ecosystem

Tech giants are extending their full support to news paywalls in India. Google launched News Showcase, where it pays for licensed content from news publishers.

It also supports many other initiatives aimed at helping publishers under the Google News Initiative. Similarly, Facebook has taken many initiatives to help news publishers and may be exploring content deals with Indian publishers.

The Indian payment ecosystem offers multiple choices for consumers - credit cards, debit

cards, net banking, wallets, UPI, micro-payment platforms, and so on and so forth.

Indian publishers also have a wide and rich range of choices when it comes to SaaS-based subscription solutions that can add significant value to publishers and can also cut down time-to-market.

Companies of the likes of Pano, Evolok, MPP, Vindicia, Recurly and Zoho are focusing on Indian markets and may develop customised products to cater for Indian needs.

Challenges ahead

The Covid-19 pandemic has aggressively pushed digital adoption. As per a McKinsey Survey, there is an adoption acceleration of over ten years for digital and digitally enhanced offerings in the Asia-Pacific region.

This means that the talent required by the news industry to progress in its digital journey will be in short supply, with costs shooting up considerably.

Given that publishers are already witnessing a steep decline in their revenues and have taken deep cuts in the cost structure, it will require especially great commitment on their part to stay committed and fund their digital aspirations.

A WAN-IFRA dispatch. Pradeep Gairola is The Hindu newspaper's Vice President & Business Head - Digital.

START THE WEEK WITH CYNTHIA STACEY

Safety first or last...are the strategies working?

JAMBO and hello for the current week, and I'm wondering if this harbours anything hazardous within it that could affect our health, because there's one area of public service in this country, where few people would deny the 'hazard' factor...and it's Tanzania's transport and roads sector.

...fortunately, I've been told that the policies to improve the dangers today are keeping pace with the fatalities. Let's all believe that!

On my office notice board, is a news cutting reminding me that the 13th of October is the International Day for Disaster Reduction...but it obviously wasn't an effective reminder last year if I can't remember it, and possibly would have done so this year also, though its message of public risk limitation is always relevant.

...anyway, looking through an old file labelled 'disasters' -- various--I noted that August 2009, was a cheerless month, known for the appalling deaths of twelve school girls burnt in a boarding school inferno caused by a candle.

Such terrible disasters are often described as 'accidents', but given the fact that the girls couldn't escape, as they were locked in every night...was there anything accidental about it?

It was this aspect of the horror that made it even worse, rating a mention on the BBC World Service, as did the road deaths at the time.

It also caused speculation as to whether these frequent fires would soon be viewed as inevitable, like the many road disasters.

Yet despite this unforgettable horror of 2009, which should have resulted in new legislation and safety checks, seven years later in 2016, after a wave of school fires in the country, some due to sabotage, Home Affairs Minister Mwigulu Nchemba, challenged them to install fire alarms saying ".....with modern security systems, it will be easier to avoid such accidents".

This was surprising, because we automatically expect places like schools or hospitals to have basic alarm systems as a pre-requisite of being allowed to run a school, particularly given the many past disasters.

...but note the Minister's word 'accident' again, which is a mis-nomer, as a dictionary definition says ".....anything unexpected...or occurring by chance..."

Yet in the road sector, despite the good drivers, the reality as we know, is that many of the vehicle smashes...bashers...crashes and constant head on collisions are caused by reckless drunken/drug addicted or unqualified drivers, often aided by profit driven owners



Yet in the road sector, despite the good drivers, the reality as we know, is that many of the vehicle smashes...bashers...crashes and constant head on collisions are caused by reckless drunken/drug addicted or unqualified drivers, often aided by profit driven owners who hire such dangerous employees. File photo

who hire such dangerous employees. ...and it's incomprehensible that a person driving a speeding passenger coach would then overtake a massive truck on a blind corner regardless of the terrible consequences, as so often happens here.

So all these factors certainly make the on-going road toll of deaths very expected indeed, as do all the other 'accident' prone sectors nationwide.

Similar to the belated advice that schools should have fire alarms, the Tanzania Bus Owners Association in 2015, suggested that buses plying long routes, should have assistant drivers.

Though it's surprising this wasn't

done years ago, when the nation's crater pocked highways, were exhausting to drive on, requiring 100% concentration and care. So it's good to know that nowadays, on journeys of over eight hours, this sensible system is obligatory, and not dependant on the bus companies whims.

...Otherwise, it's rather like airlines saying they have qualified pilots...so the two driver system shouldn't be an option...it's a necessity!

Apart from the problems on the roads, Tanzania has disasters aplenty, man-made and natural, so it's reassuring to remember that there is a

Disaster Management Act no 9 of 1990. This comes under the Prime Minister's Office, where we trust that innovative strategies have been created to deal with the nation's calamities from here.

Any researcher checking media articles and other sources for stories on road deaths, boats sinking etc. and going back twenty years or so, will usually find they could have happened today, so similar are the circumstances behind the tragedies, and the promises from all six phase governments to reduce them.

Yet today, fatalities are still taking a terrible toll, with bodaboda deaths

especially, usually caused by out of control riders, with police seemingly at a loss to halt them. And it's just a few weeks ago, that three young men riding one of these bikes between them, crashed into an oncoming vehicle, causing instant death for them all...so sad. Reflecting on this, it's a pity to read in a tourist blog... "Tanzania... lovely country...wonderful beaches and hotels...friendly people but...a scary road safety record"... why?

It seems a very long time ago, when road building took off all over the country, the population rapidly increased, cars became available to those who could afford them, and thousands took to the highways causing big traffic jams, as upcountry buses plied the roads often driven like racing cars, and worse, turning into 'commuter killers.' ...and the policy planners presumably planned...but what?

In 1997, in a move ahead of its time, the Minister for Communications and Transport William Kusila tried to improve safety standards.

He especially wanted bus operators to pay compensation and medical costs for any passengers who'd entrusted themselves to their care, but were injured if a coach crashed due to operational problems, or driver incompetence.

"Entrusting yourself to their care" that's what you're doing every time you journey by bus, plane or boat, ...or a three wheeler 'bajaj' and a motor bike 'boda boda'.

But over two decades later, is there workable legislation enforcing any rational proposals. If not, then the planners and the "parliament people" have been renegeing on their duties.

...well time to go...and with safety still in mind, I'll close by saying... "stay fit and healthy till next week...which means don't drive, board a bus, boat or train, drink muddy Dawasco water, buy fake electrical products etc. or involve yourself in any dangerous doings, which passes for normal living in Tanzania...actually, just stay at home ...but buy a crash helmet...just in case...you never know what can fall through the roof!

China achieves remarkable results in building extensive road network

By Liu Zhiqiang

PINGXIANG-LIANHUA expressway, hailed as the most beautiful expressway in east China's Jiangxi province, is expected to open to traffic on Sept. 28. With a length of about 75 km, it will play an important role in speeding up the social and economic development of western Jiangxi.

On August 23, the construction of the section of the Tianshan Shengli tunnel in the largest and most dangerous fault zone of the project was completed, bringing the tunnel onto a fast track of construction.

As a crucial part of the Urum-

qi-Yuli expressway in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, the tunnel will be the longest expressway tunnel in the world upon completion.

On August 21, a 295-km-long expressway linking the cities of Nagqu and Lhasa in southwest China's Tibet autonomous region, also a section of the G6 Beijing-Tibet Expressway connecting Beijing with Tibet, began operation.

While increasing the total length of Tibet's high-grade highways to 1,105 km, the completion of the section has brought hope of achieving prosperity to people of all ethnic groups in the snow-capped plateau.

Huge as it already is, China's

road network still expands constantly, providing continuous and strong support for the country's economic development and improvement in people's livelihood.

Believing that building the roads is the first step to becoming prosperous, China has attached great importance to building its strength in transportation. Since 2012, the country has further improved the scale, technological level, and coverage of its road network.

As of the end of 2020, the total length of China's roads reached around 5.2 million km, and the country's road density rose to 54.15 km/100 sq. km.

The first expressway on the

Chinese mainland, which linked the downtown area of east China's Shanghai with the city's satellite county of Jiading, now Jiading district, was put into operation in 1988.

At the end of 2013, China had 104,400-km expressways in total, ranking first in the world in terms of the total length of expressways.

By the end of 2020, the country's expressways registered a total length of 161,000 km, remaining the first in the world.

Meanwhile, expressways accounted for 3.1 percent of the total length of roads in China and covered more than 98 percent of the country's cities with a population of more than

200,000.

In addition, the total length of rural roads reached 4.38 million km as of the end of last year, and all the townships and administrative villages in poverty-stricken areas with the right conditions were accessible by hardened roads and provided with bus and mail routes.

Over the past more than three decades, the country's road network has witnessed significant improvement in comprehensive service functions, traffic capacity, traffic speed, and comfort.

Since the launch of the reform and opening-up policies, China has built a number of bridges that involve difficult engineering tasks and high technologies. As of the end of 2020, the number and total length of highway bridges across China reached 912,800 and nearly 66.29 million linear meters respec-

tively, and six of the top ten suspension bridges and seven of the top ten cable-stayed bridges in the world in terms of span were in China.

China increased the number and total length of its highway tunnels to 21,316 and around 22 million linear meters respectively by the end of 2020. Many of its tunnel projects, such as the Qinling Zhongnanshan highway tunnel completed in 2007 and the Xueshan No.1 tunnel that opened to traffic in 2017 in northwest China's Qinghai province, have reached world-class level.

Stressing sci-tech innovation and advancing environmental protection, China has been committed to promoting the sustainable and sound development of roads.

Technologies such as remote sensing, aerial survey, and computer-aided design (CAD) have been widely used in survey and design for road construction. Besides, advanced technologies related to such areas as integrated treatment of soft soil foundation, modified asphalt, and pavement skid resistance, as well as modern equipment including large-scale compaction machinery, paving machinery and mixing equipment have been extensively adopted across the country.

In June 2016, China's Ministry of Transport issued a guideline on eco-friendly road construction, which was followed by the construction and completion of a good number of pilot projects. By the end of last year, the country's recycling rate of waste road-surface materials in expressway projects reached 95 percent.

From breaking certain shackles that hold the development of roads to basically suiting the needs of economic and social development, an extensive road network has taken shape in China, said Sun Wenjian, spokesperson with the Ministry of Transport.

The development of road network has effectively driven the land development and industrial restructuring of areas along the routes, played a significant role in supporting regional economic and social development, and improved the transportation conditions of the country's vast rural areas, especially poverty-stricken areas, laying a solid foundation for building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, Sun noted.

People's Daily



Construction workers pave asphalt on the surface of a super large bridge over the Pingshui River in Pingxiang, east China's Jiangxi province, August 11, 2021. The bridge is part of an expressway connecting the urban areas of Pingxiang city with Lianhua county of the city. File photo

Rapid reaction forces assist DRC's fight against armed groups but other strategies also needed

By Peter Fabricius

CAN a revamped Force Intervention Brigade (Fib) turn the tide against the malignant Islamic State-linked armed group that continues to terrorise the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)?

The Fib is staffed by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and attached to the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (Monusco).

For the past few years, the brigade has done little to implement its aggressive mandate to neutralise armed groups like the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) in the east of the country. So last year, the UN decided to restructure the Fib and include troops from Kenya and Nepal.

The original Fib, comprising three battalions from South Africa, Tanzania and Malawi, went into the DRC in 2013. It registered almost immediate success in its first campaign against the M23 rebels backed by Rwanda. After that, it was supposed to tackle the other armed groups in the region, like the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda and the ADF.

But those campaigns have not gone well, particularly against the ADF, which operates in the Beni district of North Kivu province. On the Semuliki bridge in December 2017, 14 Fib peacekeepers and five soldiers from the DRC's defence force – the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC) – were killed. And then, in the Usalama operation in November 2018, nine peacekeepers were killed and two went missing.

The ADF has continued to massacre civilians and a "state of siege" declared in May by DRC President Félix Tshisekedi in North Kivu and Ituri has apparently had little impact. The ADF has proved a far tougher foe than the M23. Originally from Uganda, it has been in the DRC since the 1990s.

Fighters have entrenched themselves into Beni, with an intimate knowledge of the terrain, extensive smuggling networks for financing, and strong support from some locals.

And while the M23 was a fairly conventional and visible military force that could be attacked with conventional weapons, the ADF is a classic guerrilla operation. It attacks civilians and then retreats rapidly into the jungle before the FARDC or Fib arrive.

The ADF is also completely ruthless. Its most notorious and troublesome tactic is to respond to FARDC and Fib offensives with massive reprisals against civilians. Some suspect the increasing brutality and effectiveness of the group may be owed to its affiliation in 2019 to Islamic State through its Central Africa Province.

Another hindrance in the fight against the ADF has been inadequate coordination between the FARDC and Monusco/Fib, for a variety of reasons. These include a refusal by the UN to work with some FARDC generals accused of human rights violations, and suspicion that some FARDC troops have committed atrocities. FARDC generals have also sometimes been reluctant to share operational intelligence with the Fib.

These factors – along with fear of a ruthless enemy and concerns about provoking reprisals against civilians – appear to have kept Fib countries from participating in offensives against ADF since October 2019. The Kivu Security Tracker has recorded only five ground engagements between the brigade and ADF in Beni after that, none of which was initiated by the Fib.

But the brigade's relative inaction sparked demonstrations – some of which turned deadly – by the Congolese population against Monusco/Fib for doing so little to protect them. Local approval of Monusco dropped to only 47% in March 2021 from 68% two years earlier, according to a poll by the Congo Research Group.

All of this prompted the UN Security Council to send the former head of Monusco's military arm, Lieutenant General Carlos Alberto dos Santos Cruz, to assess the Fib in late 2019. His confidential report led to a UN proposal to reorganise the brigade.

Along with initiating offensives against armed groups, it would acquire several



The UN hopes a revamped Force Intervention Brigade can counter the ruthless tactics of the Allied Democratic Forces.

quick reaction forces. The tactical thinking appeared to be that instead of just launching operations that provoked ADF retaliation, the Fib would respond rapidly to attacks on civilians.

After initially rejecting the proposal in August 2020 because it would introduce non-SADC elements and reduce its control, SADC accepted it at a special summit in November of that year.

UN military sources say the new Fib still comprises three battlegroups from South Africa, Tanzania and Malawi. It has also acquired four quick reaction forces, two from Tanzania and Kenya, which are already in place, plus two more from South Africa and Nepal, which are yet to be deployed.

Since good intelligence will be key to rapid action that saves civilian lives, the revamped Fib has new intelligence units staffed by Tanzanians and South Africans. It's too early to say if these changes will make the brigade more effective, especially against the ADF.

Pierre Boisselet of the Kivu Security Tracker says "a window of opportunity for the Fib to do better may have opened." Troops from other contributing countries may be more willing to fight. With a new Monusco head since March and a new force commander coming this month, cooperation with the new DRC government may be easier.

David Zounmenou, Senior Researcher at the Institute for Security Studies, emphasises however that in the end, it is the DRC's responsibility to protect its people. "With the UN exit strategy unfolding, it is more sustainable to reinforce the national security forces' capacity to consolidate the eventual success of the restructured Fib," he says.

Many worry, though, that military intervention is not being accompanied by any political strategy. "The causes of the conflict are deep and numerous," says Boisselet. "They cannot be solved by military means alone – reforms of the Congolese state are also needed."

DM

US details vaccine efficacy, plans use of booster shot against wildness of COVID-19

NEW YORK

THE United States has kept on pushing through federal requirements of broad vaccination by highlighting the efficacy of its three authorized COVID-19 vaccines, while planning to narrow the use of a booster shot only to old people and those who work at high risk.

On Friday, expert advisers to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) voted unanimously to recommend that the agency authorize a booster shot of the Pfizer-BioNTech coronavirus vaccine six months after vaccination for people 65 years and older and for anyone at risk for severe illness.

The vote is not binding, and Peter Marks, the FDA official overseeing coronavirus vaccines, indicated that the final decision could be slightly different, encompassing people who are at higher risk of infection because of their professions, such as health-care workers and front-line employees, including teachers.

A decision about boosters from the FDA is expected by next week, and an advisory committee of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is slated to meet on Wednesday and Thursday to recommend how a third shot should be used.

According to The New York Times (NYT), the 7-day average of confirmed cases of the pandemic stood at 148,816 nationwide on Friday, with its 14-day change striking a 9-percent fall. COVID-19-related deaths were 1,992 on Friday, with the 14-day change realizing a 28-percent rise.

VACCINE EFFICACY

A head-to-head study of all three authorized coronavirus vaccines in the United States found that the



Photo taken on Aug. 23, 2021 shows the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in Silver Spring, Maryland, the United States.

Moderna vaccine was slightly more effective than Pfizer's in real-life use in keeping people out of the hospital, and Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine came in third, but still provided 71 percent protection. Pfizer's vaccine provided 88 percent protection against hospitalization, and Moderna's was 93 percent effective.

The CDC led a nationwide study of vaccination involving more than 3,600 adults hospitalized for COVID-19 between March and August, and announced the findings in its weekly report on death and disease. Pfizer's and Moderna's vaccines both

use genetic material called messenger RNA to deliver immunity, but they use differing doses and slightly different formulations. The Janssen vaccine uses an inactivated common cold virus called adenovirus, a viral vector, to carry genetic instructions into the body.

On Wednesday, Moderna shared a new analysis from its phase three study that showed the incidence of breakthrough COVID-19 cases, which occurred in fully vaccinated people, was less frequent in a group of trial participants who were recently inoculated, suggesting the COVID-19 vaccine's

protection wanes over time.

There were 88 identified breakthrough cases out of 11,431 people vaccinated between December and March, the company said in a press release, compared with 162 breakthrough cases out of 14,746 trial participants vaccinated in July through October 2020.

The breakthrough cases were not all the Delta variant's fault, and the COVID-19 cases in vaccinated people might be a result of both vaccine protection waning over time and the highly transmissible variant, Moderna President Stephen Hoge told CNBC, adding that "it's the reason to get ahead of the problem and boost."

MANDATE INFLUENCE

Employees in five industries will especially feel the effects of the U.S. federal government's new vaccine mandate: management, utilities, information, finance and insurance, and administration and waste management services, reported CNN on Friday.

More than 80 percent of the workforce for those five industries are employed by businesses with a staff of at least 100 employees, which means they'll be required to get a vaccine or a weekly COVID-19 test. That's according to 2018 data on U.S. businesses the most recent data released by the Census Bureau in May.

The rules that U.S. President Joe Biden announced last week would apply to more than 80 million working Americans, about

two-thirds of the workforce. There are 43 million employees who work at companies that employ fewer than 100 people, and who are not covered by that federal vaccine mandate.

The vaccine mandate will also apply to state and local government workers in 26 U.S. states, some of which have banned vaccination requirements for public employees, thus "setting up another clash between GOP-led states and the Democratic administration," reported USA Today on Saturday.

Biden made no mention of vaccine requirements for state and local workers when announcing new rules, but Labor Department spokeswoman Denisha Braxton confirmed to media that Biden's new rules will "apply to public-sector state and local government workers, including educators and school staff" in 26 states and two territories.

Speaking at a middle school in Washington, D.C., the day after announcing his multipronged approach, Biden called on governors to require vaccinations for all teachers and staff, adding that "this isn't a game. And I don't know of any scientist out there in this field that doesn't think it makes considerable sense to do the six things I've suggested."

Xinhua

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

Rescuers pull villagers from flood waters in Xingyang city in China's Henan Province.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Preserve, protect nature, reputable environmentalist tells Tanzanians

By Guardian Correspondent

A GLOBAL environmental activist from India, who is currently traveling across the world on a bicycle, Dr. Raj Phanden has arrived in Tanzania, with a strong message to Tanzanians community to preserve and protect the world's nature.

The activist who started his long journey from Bhuna (Fatehabad District-India), five years ago, said: "Tanzanians should use all possible means to preserve the environment...everybody is duty-bound to protect the environment against all forms of destruction."

In an interview in Dar es Salaam, Dr. Phanden said upon his arrival three days ago, he met with members of non-profit organizations involved in environmental protection (among other things)—Lions Club of Dar es Salaam Host, and TMJ Hospital leaders—during which he exchanged notes and share his experience on global mission to sensitize the world on the importance of environmental protection.

Narrating his unique story on how and when he started the jour-

ney, Dr. Phanden said "I started back in 2016 with a mission titled - Wheels for Green, from India on a Bicycle only to travel across the Globe to create awareness on: environmental pollution, Global warming, Climate change and its effect on the Human race Encourage Plantation."

"Beginning my journey from my hometown, Bhuna in Haryana, I have covered more than 61000km in a time period of 5years on a Bicycle only," he said, adding "I have completed 60 countries on the Bicycle and following are few names of countries which I have covered so far: Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, Indonesia, Timor, Brunei, Philippines, Taiwan, Japan, S. Korea, Hong Kong Macau, Oman, UAE, Iran Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Turkey, Italy, Vatican city, San Marino, Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary, Slovakia, Austria, Czech Republic, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Finland, England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and India."



Dr. Phanden (foreground) travels on a bicycle as part of his environmental-protection awareness mission.

Presently, he said "I am in Tanzania continuing my ride entitled "Cairo to Cape Town". After completing the whole Africa Continent, I am planning to cover South America and North America. My Mission is to complete the world on my Bicycle in the next coming years."

Asked when exactly he plans to complete his mission, he said: "My intention is to complete this journey by 2030...Am quite optimistic that my dreams would be realized, since God is with me, Am always praying for his help."

On his visit to each and every country, he has planted almost 100, 000 trees to create more awareness and

also to encourage local people to save the environment by planting Trees. Additionally, Dr. Phanden has been also conducting seminars in schools and colleges (in the respective countries) to create awareness to save our Earth

"Unfortunately, last year due to Covid-19, I had to pause my journey and returned back to India. Now, as the conditions are getting better, I have started continuing my journey to cover Africa Continent from Cairo to Cape Town."

Yesterday, the global environmental activist started his journey to Kilimanjaro, expecting to arrive in the Northern region around September 28th

"In fact, I am so eager to climb Mt. Mount Kilimanjaro, the world's tallest mountain...you know what, I will climb using my bicycle in parts of the mountain. In other parts, I will carry the bicycle with me and walk as other climbers do."

Dr. Phanden has practiced in medicines almost for a decade in Haryana - India. He used to run his own Hospital named Aastha Hospital located at Bhuna for 10 years.

Mining firm's business initiative relieves women in Kahama from poverty trap

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

CLEMENTINA Felix, a resident of Bugarama in Kahama District, Shinyanga Region, and mother of two has always wanted to be his own boss.

Even when she ventured into tailoring, she remained focused that one day, she would become a respected tailor and that dream came true when she emerged as one of the beneficiaries of a business empowerment programme dubbed: 'Biasharayangu, Biashara yako' Programme (My business is your business).

Clementina is one of the 200 entrepreneurs from 14 villages across Mwingiru, Bulyanhulu, and Bugarama wards in the gold-rich district who have enrolled in the programme and receive business development train-

ing from Barrick - a giant gold mining firm in Tanzania.

Apart from depending on Barrick's employees as a market for their products, the company also sponsors the entrepreneurs' participation in various exhibitions within and outside the country, where they are capacitated with different skills to expand the market for their goods.

Through Barrick's training programme, Clementina has designed a coat that is currently attracting the interest of many buyers in the area.

"I sell it to Barrick employees and others outside the company. I got the idea during my participation in the exhibitions. I'm getting many customers," she says, commending the mining firm for empowering her and colleagues.

During the Covid-19 pan-



Entrepreneurs supported by Barrick display their products at one of the previous trade fairs.

dem, the training that entrepreneurs got from the mining firm's programme enabled them to see the disease as an opportunity.

"Some of my colleagues are now making face masks and it has proved to be a good business," Clementina says, noting that the money

obtained from the business was being invested in the improvement of her houses and in paying school fees for their children.

Berita Nyawanga shared similar sentiments, noting that through the training, she has come to realize that someone needs more than

just capital to do business profitably.

"For someone to succeed in business, you need to be very serious in what it takes to do business which, in my view, is the key to the success of your undertaking," she says, describing the programme as a 'savor' in her

economic empowerment efforts. According to her, since its inception a number of entrepreneurs have become financially independent from their spouses.

For Esther Lali, her beekeeping business is no longer the one that people used to know before she had gone through the programme.

"The business has been good. I know quite a number of my fellow beekeepers who are now doing well. This is why a number of women and youth are engaging in beekeeping keeps growing in our area," she says.

According to Barrick's community relations officer, Sebastian Antony, the programme has been a success. He said it has helped the entrepreneurs to raise their production to the level that some of them have employed more people to help

in the smooth running of their growing undertakings.

He said the villagers, who live close to the mine, have also been sensitized to see the opportunities surrounding them and how to effectively employ themselves by making use of the available opportunities.

"Through its community engagement policy, Barrick ensures that people who live close to the mine get the benefits that come with the presence of the company in their vicinity, and host countries leverage our supply chain and multiples the economic benefits of our presence," he said.

Through the programme, the mining company trains entrepreneurs dealing in crop cultivation, poultry, mushroom farming, tailoring, and bricklaying among others.

TAMFI chief promotes renewable energy financing at the grassroots

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA'S immense renewable energy, especially solar power, needs concerted financing, especially for the end-users, so as to increase uptake across the country, according to the Tanzania Association of Microfinance Institutions (TAMFI) CEO, Winnie Terry.

Addressing journalists at the weekend in Dar es Salaam, Terry noted Tanzania has one of the greatest potentials for producing solar energy for electrification, which can help to mitigate energy problems.

"It's paramount for microfinance institutions and other financiers to include energy financing for end-users in their business model to enhance access to renewables, including solar," she said.

According to TAMFI, renewable energies significantly contribute to environmental conservation and are feasible tools for fighting poverty, apart from being among products with a high return on investment.

The association is advocating for microfinance institutions in Tanzania to develop financial products and models to enhance access to renewable energy products and services. Access to energy among Tanzanians would play a pivotal role in accelerating the country's economic development and the UN's sustainable devel-

opment goals.

A series of high-level workshops organised by TAMFI noted that solar power usage was among potential renewable energy products MFIs can include in their portfolio to create a series of benefits across various value chain actors.

The actors include renewable energy services providers, micro-finance institutions and micro-finance clients in utilizing renewable energy sources, particularly for productive uses across different sectors of the economy.

As a result of these workshops, TAMFI members have started undertaking market research to understand the subject, market size and discourses. TAMFI is hoping that financiers can shift from just renewable energy financing to financing renewable for productive use.

"Tanzania is blessed with multiple renewable energy sources, including biomass, solar, hydropower, geothermal, biogas, wind, tidal, and waves, among others," noted Winnie.

Most participants in energy financing workshops for MFIs were of the view that solar energy for productive use was the best to give another look, which could make more return and impact," she said.

She noted a shortage of renewable energy products and services financing in the country, thus, the need for



Exim Bank Tanzania employees cleaning the Indian Ocean beach near Ocean Road Hospital in Dar es Salaam over the weekend in making this year's International Coastal Cleanup Day, themed: "Keep trash in the bin and not in the ocean". Photo: Guardian Correspondent

research and advocacy to create an environment where financiers can make an informed decision before investing in the renewable energy sector to increase energy financing access.

TAMFI, in advocacy for energy financing, is working with the support of The Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and the SELCO Foundation.

In a series of workshops involving almost 100 MFI officials, more than 75 directors, credit officers, operation managers, and branch product teams have attended organised seminars. There was a consensus on the need for microfinance institutions to expand renewable energy to potential rural, peri-urban and urban areas.

"It is essential to undertake market and marketing research and, more importantly, understand the market better and contribute to creating an enabling environment for all these

to happen - shareholders will increase investments if the environment permeates," noted Michael Onesimo, the convener of the workshops. Onesimo is an expert in business development services and market research for microfinance too.

According to Onesimo, low capital levels across MFIs pose a considerable barrier to scaling up renewable energy financing despite substantial renewable energy potential.

"For instance, huge rips from solar could be realized if such potential is mainstreamed in economic activities like farming, fishery, and livestock keeping," he said.

Participants in the workshops thought financing opening up depends on market research that will guide MFIs to understand the market, develop products in demand and generate more investments appetitive in renewable energy financing landscapes.

"If we both understand the market needs and repackage

such products to reflect productive use aspects of renewable energies, micro-finance have such a huge opportunity to contribute to economic growth. Ahead of us is re-directing massive streams of finances in energy for productive use to our microfinance institutions, they will no doubt offer pivotal opportunities to fill up the financing, employment and environmental gaps," noted Michael Onesimo, the convener of the workshops noted. Michael is an expert in business development services and market research for microfinance too.

He said that investments in renewable energy, including solar, would contribute immensely to gainful socio-economic opportunities in agriculture, health, water energy, transportation sectors, trade and investment-related activities. Such investments can steer the country's poverty reduction drive and realization of social-economic development, he said.

"When a microfinance institution offers a group loan to horticulture farmers near a river to farm tomatoes across the year, it increases profits to micro-finance institutions, as well as farmers. When the irrigation project uses renewable, it is more profitable for the whole value chain," Onesimo said.

He noted that mainstreaming financial services across the microfinance industry demands the participation of various stakeholders. He called for greater involvement of private, public and development sectors is paramount in creating enabling environment and scaling up access to renewable energy for productive use.

Disabled Ethiopian artist makes a name by painting with his mouth

ADDIS ABABA

SITTING in front of a canvas in his small living room in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, 49-year-old artist Yoseph Bekele is fully absorbed in the creation of his new piece of art, drawing a painting of an Ethiopian countryside landscape with his mouth.

Around him, collections of his paintings over the years, consisting of physical aspects such as landscape, cityscapes and portraits, make colored decorations in his room.

Bekele lives in a small and compacted room along with his wife and three children in one of the slums located at the heart of Addis Ababa.

Born disabled, Bekele is chasing his dreams of becoming a painter against all odds and is now considered one of the admired artists in Ethiopia. "I was born with my hands and legs paralyzed, but as time went by, my legs started to function with the help of medical treatment," Bekele said in a recent interview with Xinhua.

Bekele had to take a ride on his mother's back while going to a traditional Ethiopian kindergarten, dubbed Priest's School, until he turned 11 when he started to stand on his feet and learned to walk gradually.

Bekele first started painting at the age of 12 when he started to use his feet to draw things around him, seizing a pencil between his toes. "I continued to paint pictures of saints and flowers on papers and sold them to boys who gave the paintings as gifts on Ethiopian New Year holidays."

Bekele recalled, but the artist finally found his mouth more convenient in painting than his feet.

"It was by chance that I started to paint with my mouth. It came about when my oldest daughter left the house without placing the drawing pencil between my toes. I picked the pencil by my mouth and started to paint. I found my mouth more comfortable to paint," he said.

Bekele's professional painting endeavor started back in 2005 when he joined a local fine arts and vocational training center where he acquired extensive painting techniques and enjoyed special support from the famous Ethiopian armless artist, Worku Mamo, who teaches aspiring painters.

His inspiration for painting often emanates from nature and the physical surroundings, such as landscapes, cityscapes, portraits of spiritual figures such as saints and angels as well as human beings.

Now a famed painter, Bekele has exhibited his artworks across Ethiopia's major artistic sites, including the Ethiopian National Theater, the Addis Ababa Municipal Hall, and the National Museum. His paintings are now also on display across various international hotels in Addis Ababa.

Genet Kebede, founder and owner of Abyssinia Fine Arts and Vocational Training Center, where Bekele learned professional painting, spoke highly of Bekele's transformation as a fine artist over the years.

"Bekele's painting skills have improved over time despite the unfriendly working environment that he is working with. He painted fascinating pictures," Kebede said.

"The courageous Bekele would be one of the notable African painters if he is provided with



Artist Yoseph Bekele paints with his mouth in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Aug. 20, 2021. (Xinhua/Michael Tewelde)

favorable working areas and the much-needed financial support," she said.

His paintings won the admiration of many people and visitors, who are flocking to his house to see firsthand some of his works as well as his striking painting style. Bekele, a father of three, receives a helping hand from his family in his painting endeavors.

"My husband has been able to

adapt to everything that the able-bodied painters could do," said Yenenesh Taye, Bekele's wife. "Many people do not believe that they were drawn by a mouth."

In Ethiopia, where stigma and discrimination are often witnessed, Bekele emphasized that his success as a painter despite his physical condition is now igniting hopes for various disabled Ethiopians.

According to a survey released by the Ethiopian Statistical Agency in 2015/16, nearly 7.8 million people in Ethiopia are estimated to live with some form of physical disability.

Of these, up to 2.2 million people have very profound difficulties; while about 90 percent of them were engaged in begging to make a living, according to the survey.

With a proud smile, Bekele's mother Metekie Woldemariam said her son offered her big relief.

Courtesy of his artworks, Bekele was also more financially supportive of his mother than his other siblings. Despite the lack of a convenient working space and studio, Bekele said he aspired to be a role model for those who have similar physical conditions.

NAIROBI

QUICK camera transitions with muted trendy sounds, accompanied by Juliet Kane's calming instructions, voice characterize her captivating brief food videos.

The 24-year-old lawyer has found success in her venture by showcasing her culinary skills in an educative and sensational format on the popular Chinese video-sharing app, TikTok.

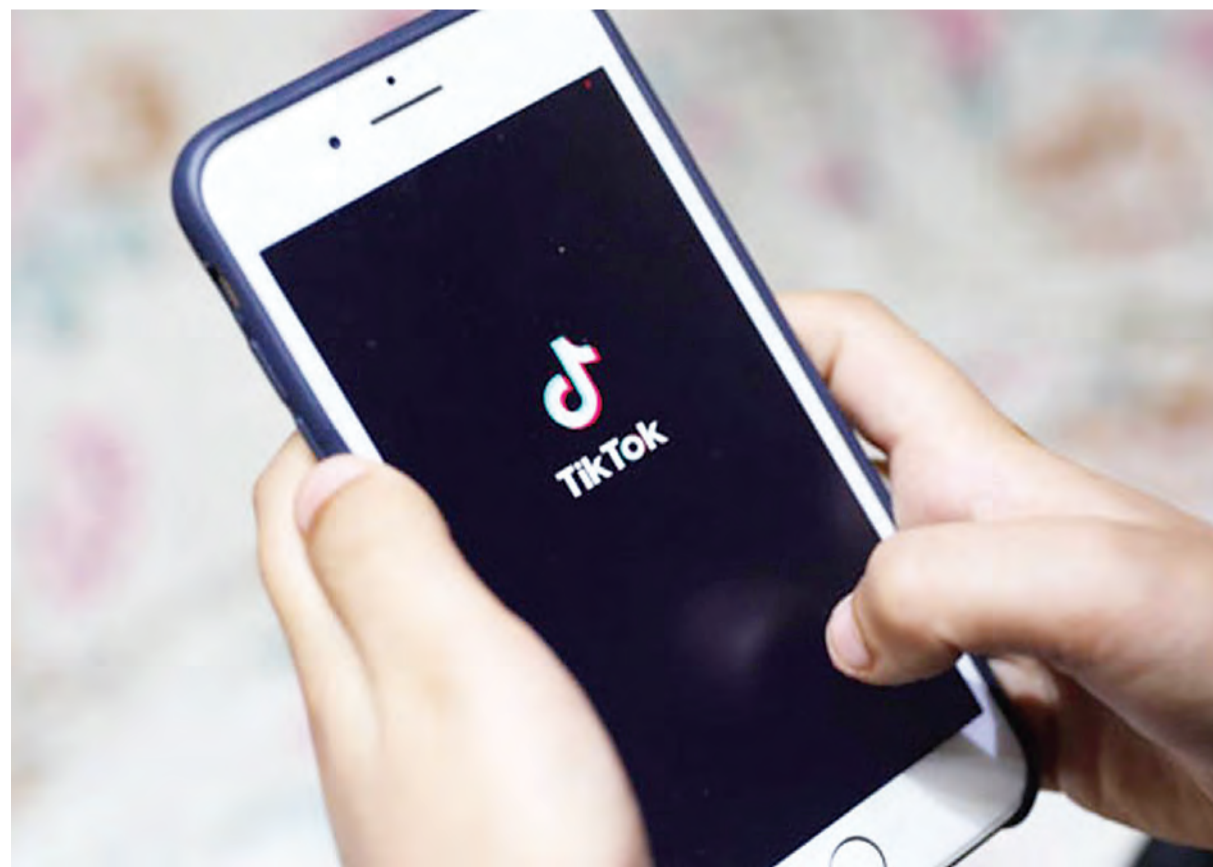
"I joined TikTok eight months ago, and ever since I started posting my food videos on a regular basis, I have seen my following grow considerably, impacting positively on my customer base. Most of my customers have found me online," Kane said.

TikTok which is popular with the younger generations is fast catapulting individuals into their desired careers.

Budding dance artists, comedians, and makeup artists here in Kenya as it crosses the globe have had a breakthrough in their ventures by presenting their work on the video-sharing app.

Well-established professionals are also finding themselves increasingly using the app to give

Kenyan youths utilising TikTok to showcase talents



A man launches the TikTok mobile application on a phone.

their trades mileage.

The self-taught cook whose food videos have well over 200,000 likes cites TikTok as an avenue that has propelled her to financial stability while providing an outlet for her creative personality.

"Aside from cooking I have interests in drawing, painting, and music and so TikTok became ideal as it allowed me to fuse my love for food with my personality. I can match the beats of TikTok sounds to the sizzle of meat or other food sounds," said Kane.

Kane joined the TikTok bandwagon when the world was in the throes of the pandemic and house confinement was the order of the day.

At the time, she joined as a consumer, only intermittently sharing her cake videos. In a shift, at the beginning of this year, she committed herself to be more deliberate with creating videos around food.

Her resolve saw her shelve her legal career to focus fully on her food business which she concedes rakes in the lion's share of

her earnings.

The lawyer-turned-chef enjoys making chicken recipes as well as popular Kenyan dishes such as Pilau and Biryani. She also draws inspiration from cultures outside her own to execute scrumptious meals.

Kelvin Tayo, an upcoming dance artist based in Nairobi said he cannot do without a dose of the video-sharing app.

The 20-year-old was introduced to the app by her younger brother who became engrossed last year.

"My brother would always be on that app laughing and imitating dance moves which he failed miserably to copycat but surprisingly he did not get a backlash, people loved him actually," said Tayo.

Tayo said TikTok is the most authentic social media site he knows. Therein he says one is allowed to be their true authentic self.

"You can record from wherever and nobody will come to scrutinize you because everyone understands that we are all just having fun," said Tayo.

RADIO One

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.15 HRS DJ SHOW 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.15 HRS DJ SHOW 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 05.00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.15 HRS DJ SHOW 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21.00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.15 HRS DJ SHOW 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00 - 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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One

DIGITIZATION

Equity Bank debuts electronic channel to deal with foreign currency business

By Guardian Reporter

EQUITY Bank Tanzania Limited has introduced an electronic channel for settling foreign transactions called EazzyFX which is said to be the first of its kind in the local market.

Speaking during the launch of the platform in Dar es Salaam on Friday, Equity Bank Tanzania's Managing Director, Robert Kiboti said it will give customers freedom to execute foreign currency in real-time and securely from the comfort of their offices or homes.

Kiboti said the EazzyFX platform, which is managed by Equity Bank and powered by Thomson Reuters's Refinitiv, will allow small and medium size enterprises and corporate clients to deal on streaming rates, transact in real-time, request for quotes for any foreign currency while enjoying access to a full trade workflow.

"In today's world, digital banking solutions such as EazzyFX have proven to be the appropriate solutions that meet the needs of our customers. Businesses, institutions, organizations, and individuals can now leverage EazzyFX to drive efficiency and the growth of their businesses," Kiboti said.

He said customers will enjoy the best deals and competitive market pricing, real-time streaming of rates across various currency pairs, placing buy and sell orders, getting a history of all foreign transactions while also viewing settlement accounts set



Equity Bank Tanzania's managing director, Robert Kiboti (2nd-R), presses a laptop key to mark the launch of EazzyFX platform in Dar es Salaam on Friday. Photo courtesy of Equity Bank.

up for foreign conversion and so much more.

"We are enabling our clients who sell or buy any currencies to do it online without the need to visit forex agents in our branch," he added. Kiboti further added that the platform will also displace the status of exchange rates in the bank, giving clients access to automated rates through their mobile phones, computers, or other gadgets.

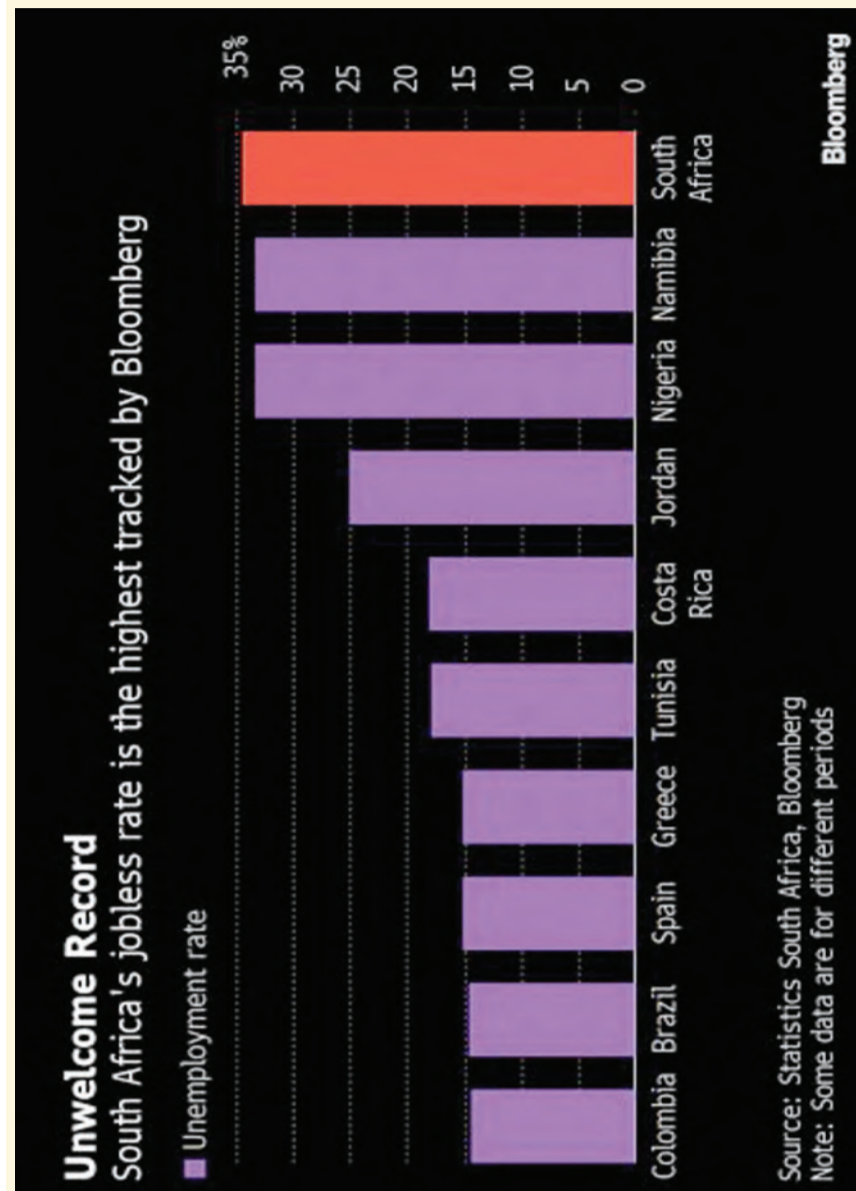
"The lender says that importers

and suppliers of goods and services who frequently need foreign currencies to settle their transactions can now leverage on EazzyFX for efficiency and business growth," the Equity Bank Tanzania chief executive noted.

In December 2020, Equity Bank Tanzania unveiled its new look with a renewed commitment to roll out innovative financial solutions geared towards broadening financial access as well as enhance growth and

financial inclusion through seamless customer experience.

Equity began its operations in the country in February 2012 and a footprint of 14 branches backed by 3,516 Equity Wakala, 1,410 merchants and a network of 21 ATMs. Equity Bank Tanzania is a subsidiary of Equity Group Holdings Plc, a financial services company listed at the Nairobi Securities Exchange, Uganda Securities Exchange, and Rwanda Stock Exchange.



SA employment graph.

INCENTIVE

Pepkor says vaccines key to job increase in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG

South Africa's largest clothing retailer sees a successful Covid-19 vaccination rollout as key to reopening the economy and adding new stores, helping to address the world's highest unemployment rate. "If we get people vaccinated, the economy can normalise quickly," Pepkor CEO Leon Lourens said in an interview. "If the economy normalises, we can create jobs."

The government temporarily imposed strict restrictions to curb the spread of the coronavirus from March 2020, but subsequent waves of infections have forced some measures to remain in place. Those include caps on gatherings both indoors and outdoors, preventing major sports events with fans. Meanwhile, South Africa is cut off from many parts of the world due to travel curbs, hammering the tourist industry.

The economy went on to contract the most in at least 27 years in 2020, extending its longest downward cycle since World War II. "That's not good enough for an emerging economy like ours," Lourens said. "The current unemployment levels are just not sustainable."

Africa's most industrialised nation was slow to purchase vaccines and has still only fully inoculated about 19% of its adult population. The major challenge has since shifted from a shortage of supply to weak demand, health officials have warned, with hesitancy and scepticism widespread.

Large mining companies are trying to combat hesitancy and many are offering onsite vaccinations. Still, South Africa's failure to grow the economy is likely to exacerbate the country's jobs crisis, said Neal Froneman, the chief executive officer of Sibanye Stillwater, the country's largest mining-industry employer.

"The government has a view that they can solve unemployment by investing in massive infrastructure projects, but they don't have the capacity and the competence to do that," he said in an interview.

Pepkor, along with many other South African companies, is battling to recover from violent unrest that rocked the country in July. With about 550 of its shops damaged, the retailer still hopes to stick to its annual store opening program of about 300 outlets a year alongside an ambitious refurbishment plan.

"If we can open 300 stores a year, we're talking about 3,000 jobs a year that we create," Lourens said. "But that we can only do in a growing economy." If the South African economy continues to suffer, the risk of further social unrest remains, he said.

"It's just not possible for our economy to be in a good condition while our whole tourism sector is gone, while all big events are gone," he said. "People often forget, and this is not even in the employment numbers, but for every theater production, every wedding, every sports game, the informal sector works at those events."

REJUVENATION

Mwanga Hakika Bank seen bouncing back to profitability with over 2.2bn/- made last year

By Guardian Reporter

AFTER posting a 346m/- loss in 2019, Mwanga Hakika Microfinance Bank has bounced back to profit making with a 2.242bn/- made last year.

Speaking during a shareholders annual general meeting over the weekend, Mwanga Bank's Board Secretary, Nancy Kissanga said the bank has experienced a promising growth in the past year thanks to its merging with three other financial institutions.

Kissanga told shareholders that since the August 2020 merger with two other financial institutions, Mwanga Bank has recorded remarkable growth and profitability thanks to investments in digital outlets.

"The increase in profit is mainly attributed by the increase in revenues from loan interests and non-interest incomes after the merger of three banks that boosted our capacity to compete in the market," she said.



Former prime minister Cleopa Msuya speaks during Mwanga Hakika Microfinance Bank's first shareholders annual general meeting held in Mwanga District at the weekend. Right is the bank's board chairman, Ridhuan Mringo and left is the bank's secretary, Nancy Kissanga. Photo courtesy of MHB.

Addressing the shareholders, Mwanga Bank's Board Chairman, Engineer Ridhuan Mringo said the bank has been taking several measures in expanding its business reach and has since opened seven branches in Dar es Salaam and Dodoma cities.

"The ratio between capital and assets according to Bank of Tanza-

nia standards is 15:32 (percentage). Also, in this period, our bank is focusing on building strong business relations with the private sector and other institutions," Eng Mringo said. He noted that the bank is also working to exploit the foreign currency exchange market by offering competitive rates. "I urge our shareholders to seize the opportu-

nity being provided by the bank to get loans to invest in profitable projects," he stated.

Chief guest at the AGM, retired Prime Minister, Cleopa Msuya urged the shareholders to continue investing into the bank to make it sustainable and profitable till future generations.

CENSURE

AbokiFX is completely illegal and unacceptable – CBN boss Emefiele

ABUJA

The boss of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), Mr Godwin Emefiele, has confirmed the investigation of Oniwinde Adedotun, the founder of abokiFX.

According to the CBN Governor responding to questions fielded after the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting on Friday, September 17, 2021, the apex bank has been investigating the abokiFX website and its owners in the last two years.

AbokiFX website publishes the exchange rate between the Nigerian Naira and other

commonly used currencies such as the US Dollar, UK Pound and the European Euro among others. Though the website publishes the official and parallel market exchange rates, it is the go-to site for most people who want to carry out FX transactions outside the official market. As at the time of the report, the website states that the Dollar is currently exchanging for 560 (buy)/570 (sell) while the Pound is exchanging for 763 (buy)/770 (sell).

Mr Emefiele reiterated that "the only exchange rate remains the I&E window, which is the market we expect everybody

who wishes to procure or sell forex to get it." He added that "I am sorry to say that I do not, and I do not intend to recognise any FX in the market." He urged people to "go to your bank. Even if your limit is above what the bank is selling, put it forward, and we will look into it. If you want to sell the dollar, go to your bank and sell it."

The CBN Governor stated that the bank has been investigating the abokiFX website and its owners in the last two years. He said "we have been studying the activities of abokiFX in the last two years. There was a time we asked our colleagues to call the

abokiFX to ask how he conducts the rates."

He confirmed that there was an ongoing investigation on the abokiFX owner, Mr Oniwinde Adedotun, who is a Nigerian living in the United Kingdom. He stated that abokiFX is registered in the United Kingdom, Nov. 2015, and it is owned by one person, who claimed that there are other people with significant interests behind the business. "We cannot allow you to continue to kill our economy," he said.

"On UK filing, we will go and conclude the investigation." "He has over 25 bank accounts in Nigeria – both naira and dollar – collection

FX through a particular ATM in London." The CBN Governor stated that Mr Oniwinde uses his site to manipulate the exchange rate to make profits in his FX transactions.

One could say that this is one of the ways the apex bank is trying to stop the free fall of the exchange rate of the Naira which worsened with the discontinuation of the sale of dollars to the BDCs in the country. In a related incident, CBN was recently granted the right to freeze accounts of six Fintech companies for 180 days for carrying out 'illegal foreign exchange transactions.

ALERT

Weights and Measures Agency warns miners: Tampering with weighing machines is costly

By Guardian Reporter

WEIGHT and Measures Agency (WMA), has warned business people who tamper with weighing machines that they are liable to a fine of up to 20m/- if convicted by courts of law.

An official with WMA in Geita, Chripinus Aloyce said last week at the ongoing minerals exhibition that tampering with weighing machines for purposes of cheating is an offence punishable by law.

"We would like to urge all business people and the general public that tampering with weighing machines to maximise profits is violating the law," Aloyce said while stressing that the public should be vigilant against such acts of cheating.

"For anyone who faces such a situation they are welcome to our WMA offices found in all regions of the country to get assistance," he added. He pointed out that the WMA's main objective in participating in the mining exhibition is to sensitize



A gold weighing scale.

the public on the importance of ensuring that weighing scales and other measurement instruments

are perfect.

He commended Ministry of Minerals for introducing minerals

market with nine being in Geita where gold mining prevalent. Aloyce said proper weighing

machines are important in the mining sector to ensure fairness and proper payment to artisanal miners who contribute to Treasury revenue.

"These markets need to have proper weighing machines which are verified by WMA so as to get the correct weight of gold sold," he added saying the WMA's other responsibilities include ensuring that all weighing machines that are used are verified.

The WMA official in Geita further noted that after verification of the weighing machines, WMA stamps them to enable consumers know that such gadgets are endorsed by the government's agency.

"Our stamped mark on these machines is sealed and has a national emblem which is not easy to forge by crooked business people," he assured noting that WMA conducts regular inspections at mineral markets in the country to ensure that businesses comply with the law.

GROWTH

Volumes of SGR cargo jump 5pc on State directive

NAIROBI

The Kenya Railways Corporation (KRC) benefitted from the government policy order to ferry goods to Nairobi and other hinterland regions from Port of Mombasa via Standard Gauge Railway (SGR).

According to Economic Survey 2021 report by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) the volume of freight transported through the SGR increased by 4.8 percent from 4.2 million tonnes in 2019 to 4.4 million tonnes in 2020.

The revenue realised from SGR freight however, reduced by 19.6 percent from Sh13,013 million in 2019 to Sh10,460 million in 2020. The decline was mainly on account of discounts and promotional rates introduced following the commencement of Mombasa-Naivasha SGR cargo services.

KRC also suffered a blow as a result of Covid-19 where the number of passengers handled through the SGR declined by 49.2 percent to 812,000 in 2020. This decline was largely attributed to the suspension of SGR passenger rail services from April to May 2020 due to measures instituted by the government to curb the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The reduction in passenger numbers resulted in a sharp decline in revenue. The survey also showed the Mombasa port suffered minimal due to the effects of Covid-19 where total cargo throughput at the port dropped by 0.9 per cent from 34.440 million metric tonnes in 2019 to 34.116 million metric tonnes in 2020.

PROMOTION

Tata Motors introduces new-generation vehicles 'ideal for entrepreneurs' needs'

By Guardian Reporter

TATA Motors has launched its next-generation small commercial vehicle which is the Intra V20 engineered to perfectly suit the needs of entrepreneurs and fleet owners in the last-mile transportation and growing e-commerce sector.

Designed on Tata Motors, the Intra V20 provides power-packed performance and increased productivity, along with a safe and comfortable driving experience. The Intra V20 will be supported by an extensive countrywide network for sales, service and spare parts.

Asif Shamim, Senior General Manager for International Business at Tata Motors, Asif Shamim said the Indian company's diverse and robust range of commercial vehicles has been well received by customers in the local market.

"The Tata Intra is an ideal product for customers who want to upgrade their commercial vehicles for higher business returns. It offers lower total cost of ownership by using efficient, proven and reliable aggregates," Shamim said.

He said with the launch of new vehicles Tata Motors through its local subsidiary, Tata Tanzania has brought forth a one-of-its-kind powerful and resilient model which is ideal for customers who want maximum revenues, minimum maintenance costs and a modern and comfortable cabin.

"We remain certain of the dedication and zeal with which Tata Africa Holdings Tanzania Limited will conduct sales, financing and after sales for the all-new Intra V20, in continuation of the support they've extended to all our other models



Tata's Intra V20 vehicle.

for many decades," he added.

Speaking at the same event, Tata Africa Holdings Limited's Executive Director, Niraj Srivastava said delivering uptime to customers is the company's key objective and will ensure that customers are continuously served with complete satisfaction.

"Our partnership with Tata Motors has resulted in successfully delivering a range of excellent vehicles in the market in the past few decades. With the launch of the Tata Intra V20, we strengthen our commitment to provide our customers the vehicles that offer the best performance, affordability and

high efficiency," Srivastava said.

"Tata Intra V20 is a class defining product with a 1,100 kg rated payload, low cost of maintenance and best-in-class fuel efficiency, it is guaranteed to offer its owners the highest returns. We are confident that this product is ideally suited for Tanzania and

we are backing it up with four years warranty coupled with three years financial offering," he noted. The feature-rich Tata Intra is built securely on a hydro-formed chassis frame with a robust body shell cabin, which ensures increased structural strength, durability and comfort.

CONCERN

Eskom CEO bemoans slow pace of talks on cutting R402bn debt

JOHANNESBURG

Talks about reducing the South African state power utility's R402 billion debt to a manageable level are taking too long, its Chief Executive Officer Andre de Ruyter said.

Eskom, which produces most of South Africa's power, can't meet its running and debt service costs and is dependent on government handouts to keep operating. It also needs to help it transition away from the polluting coal-fired plants used to produce the bulk of its electricity.

"The last element of our balance sheet restructuring involves a one-off injection of between R150 billion and R200 billion in order to enable us to have a reasonable net debt-service cost," De Ruyter said, according to the transcript of an interview published by The Conversation, a website that posts articles by academics and researchers.

"Discussions in this regard are ongoing, albeit more slowly than we would have liked," Eskom, which has subjected South Africa to intermittent power cuts since 2005, is seen as a brake on economic growth

as the outages limit output and damage investor confidence.

Options to cut Eskom's debt that have, or are being considered by government include moving a portion of the borrowings onto the state balance sheet or persuading a fund manager that oversees state workers' pensions to convert its bond holdings into equity.

David Masedo, South Africa's deputy finance minister, has suggested that some sovereign debt could be forgiven by creditors in exchange for the government recapitalizing the utility and

closing down its coal-fired plants. "Eskom cannot rely on the government bailout forever," De Ruyter said. "We are well aware that we are not entitled to a cent of taxpayers' money."

The CEO urged the National Energy Regulator of South Africa to "come to the party with electricity tariffs that reflect the cost of producing the power." The nation's power costs would be cheap by international standards even if the utility were granted a 20% increase, he said. South Africa's inflation rate is currently 4.6%.



Eskom CEO Andre de Ruyter.

WINDFALL

Japan's richest person builds \$38bn automation fortune

TOKYO

Takemitsu Takizaki, the founder of electronic-sensor maker Keyence Corp., has overtaken Uniqlo billionaire Tadashi Yanai to become Japan's richest person.

Takizaki is worth \$38.2 billion, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index, after his company's shares almost doubled from the start of last year through Monday's close. Fast Retailing Co.'s Yanai, who's lost more than a fifth of his wealth in 2021, has a net worth of \$35.5 billion.

Keyence has also been boosted by its forthcoming inclusion in Japan's blue-chip equity index, the Nikkei 225 Stock Average. "This positioning is likely to stay for a while," Mitsushige Akino, a senior executive officer at Ichiyoshi Asset Management Co. in Tokyo, said of the wealth ranking. "The big factor recently was being added to the Nikkei 225." Keyence declined to comment.

Takizaki founded Keyence in 1974 and steadily built



the company as a maker of sensors, measuring instruments, machine-vision systems and other equipment for industrial automation. The

secretive Osaka-based firm is known for its high profit margins and for paying its staff well. Keyence's shares have risen

96% since the start of 2020 through Monday's close, giving the company a market value of about \$167 billion. By this measure, it's the second-

largest firm in Japan after auto giant Toyota Motor Corp.

The pandemic spurred demand for factory automation as governments

around the world imposed social-distancing measures, according to Bloomberg Intelligence analyst Takeshi Kitaura. He pointed to the company's operating-profit margin of more than 50%.

Keyence shares jumped last week after the company was announced as an addition to the Nikkei 225 in a major shakeup of the famous equity gauge. Nintendo Co., the maker of the Switch gaming console, was also among the three companies picked to be included from October 1. Takizaki, who owns 21% of Keyence, has added \$5.9 billion to his fortune this year and is now the ninth-richest person in Asia, according to the Bloomberg index.

Fast Retailing's Yanai, meanwhile, has lost \$9.7 billion in wealth in 2021, or about 22% of his fortune, as shares of the maker of Uniqlo clothing fell 18% through Monday's close.

Fast Retailing lowered its full-year operating-profit forecast in July on weak summer sales in Japan and government measures to curb Covid-19 in the country and other Asian markets.

SoftBank Group Corp. founder Masayoshi Son is Japan's third-richest person with a net worth of \$26.9 billion. Takizaki, 76, who didn't attend college, helped invent the precision sensors used on assembly lines such as those to build cars for Toyota. He's now Keyence's honorary chairman after stepping down as chairman in 2015.

Keyence trades at about 63 times estimated earnings, Bloomberg analyst Kitaura said he remains positive about the firm's prospects. He pointed out that more than 40% of its revenue still comes from Japan. "Keyence has strong potential to grow overseas," he said.

DETERMINATION

Huawei founder says firm now 'more united than ever' as it eyes 6G

BEIJING

Huawei Technologies has gained strength through the years of US sanctions and is ready to pay more for talent, aiming to lead the race in next-generation telecommunications technologies after 5G, founder and CEO Ren Zhengfei said.

In an internal talk last month, Ren dismissed the notion that the US blacklist has defeated the Chinese telecoms giant. "There has been no chaos within the company," the 76-year-old said, according to a transcript of the conversation. "Instead, the company is now more united than ever, and has even attracted more talent."

Still, Huawei's recent financial results show the company is struggling. The Shenzhen-based firm posted a 38% decline in sales in the second quarter, the sharpest revenue drop since Washington cut it off from key chipsets and American technologies from semiconductor design tools to Google's latest Android system for smartphones.

Huawei clinched a major 5G equipment procurement deal from a top Chinese telecoms operator in July, indicating it has managed to keep the core telecoms gear business running. It also released a marquee smartphone but failed to arm it

with 5G capabilities due to lack of chip supply.

The company has been trying to find a new source of profit to maintain operations and is seeking to create new businesses in smart mining and electronic vehicles. It also started to request patent royalties from other smartphone makers and sold a smartphone brand, Honor, to a Chinese consortium late last year for an unspecified amount.

Ren is counting on the research team to help Huawei recover from what may be the strongest sanctions the US has ever placed on a single company. In the talk, he pledged to hire the best talent around the world with higher pay than that offered by rivals. "Built on this R&D system, we will not only lead the world in 5G, more importantly, we will aim to lead the world in wider domains," he said.

Once an army engineer before creating Huawei, Ren is pointing towards the next generation of wireless technology. The 6G technology, he told his employees, "might be able to detect and sense" beyond higher data transmission capabilities in the current technologies. "We must not wait until 6G becomes viable, as waiting would impose constraints on us due to a lack of patents," he said.



Huawei founder and CEO Ren Zhengfei.



SUNDAY 18 April	MONDAY 19 April	TUESDAY 20 April	WEDNESDAY 21 April	THURSDAY 22 April	FRIDAY 23 April	SATURDAY 24 April	SUNDAY 25 April
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha
7:00 Habari	7:00 Habari	7:00 Habari	7:00 Habari	7:00 Habari	7:00 Habari	7:00 Habari	7:00 Habari
8:00 Al Jazeera	8:00 Al Jazeera	8:00 Al Jazeera	8:00 Al Jazeera	8:00 Al Jazeera	8:00 Al Jazeera	8:00 Al Jazeera	8:00 Al Jazeera
09:00 Watoto Wetu	09:00 Watoto Wetu	09:00 Watoto Wetu	09:00 Watoto Wetu	09:00 Watoto Wetu	09:00 Watoto Wetu	09:00 Watoto Wetu	09:00 Watoto Wetu
10:00 Isidingo	10:00 Isidingo	10:00 Isidingo	10:00 Isidingo	10:00 Isidingo	10:00 Isidingo	10:00 Isidingo	10:00 Isidingo
11:40 Movie rpt: Nzowa	11:40 Movie rpt: Nzowa	11:40 Movie rpt: Nzowa	11:40 Movie rpt: Nzowa	11:40 Movie rpt: Nzowa	11:40 Movie rpt: Nzowa	11:40 Movie rpt: Nzowa	11:40 Movie rpt: Nzowa
14:00 Tamasha la Michezo	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
15:30 Mwangaza	15:30 Mwangaza	15:30 Mwangaza	15:30 Mwangaza	15:30 Mwangaza	15:30 Mwangaza	15:30 Mwangaza	15:30 Mwangaza
16:30 ITV Top 10	16:30 ITV Top 10	16:30 ITV Top 10	16:30 ITV Top 10	16:30 ITV Top 10	16:30 ITV Top 10	16:30 ITV Top 10	16:30 ITV Top 10
17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo	17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo	17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo	17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo	17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo	17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo	17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo	17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo
18:00 Jiji Letu	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi	18:15 Mapishi	18:15 Mapishi	18:15 Mapishi	18:15 Mapishi	18:15 Mapishi	18:15 Mapishi	18:15 Mapishi
18:30 Matukio ya wiki	18:30 Matukio ya wiki	18:30 Matukio ya wiki	18:30 Matukio ya wiki	18:30 Matukio ya wiki	18:30 Matukio ya wiki	18:30 Matukio ya wiki	18:30 Matukio ya wiki
19:30 Igizo: Mtego	19:30 Igizo: Mtego	19:30 Igizo: Mtego	19:30 Igizo: Mtego	19:30 Igizo: Mtego	19:30 Igizo: Mtego	19:30 Igizo: Mtego	19:30 Igizo: Mtego
20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari
21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko	21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko	21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko	21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko	21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko	21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko	21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko	21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko
21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology	21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology
21:15 Mizengwe	21:15 Mizengwe	21:15 Mizengwe	21:15 Mizengwe	21:15 Mizengwe	21:15 Mizengwe	21:15 Mizengwe	21:15 Mizengwe
21:35 Mjuzi Zaidi	21:35 Mjuzi Zaidi	21:35 Mjuzi Zaidi	21:35 Mjuzi Zaidi	21:35 Mjuzi Zaidi	21:35 Mjuzi Zaidi	21:35 Mjuzi Zaidi	21:35 Mjuzi Zaidi
22:15 Bongo Movie: Laana	22:15 Bongo Movie: Laana	22:15 Bongo Movie: Laana	22:15 Bongo Movie: Laana	22:15 Bongo Movie: Laana	22:15 Bongo Movie: Laana	22:15 Bongo Movie: Laana	22:15 Bongo Movie: Laana
00:05 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)	00:05 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)	00:05 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)	00:05 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)	00:05 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)	00:05 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)	00:05 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)	00:05 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje)
Wild Skin	Wild Skin	Wild Skin	Wild Skin	Wild Skin	Wild Skin	Wild Skin	Wild Skin

CAPITAL

Sat 17 April	Tues 20 April
08:00 Al Jazeera	08:00 Al Jazeera
09:00 Rev rpt	09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
09:30 Turning the Spotlight rpt	10:00 Innovation rpt
10:00 Culinary delight rpt	11:00 Out n' about rpt
10:30 Innovation rpt	11:30 Sports Gazette rpt
11:00 Out n' about rpt	12:00 Shamba Lulu rpt
11:30 Sports Gazette rpt	12:30 EcoAfrica rpt
12:00 Shamba Lulu rpt	13:00B usiness edition rpt
12:30 EcoAfrica rpt	13:30 Korean Drama rpt: The slave hunter
13:00B usiness edition rpt	Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
13:30 Korean Drama rpt: The slave hunter	
Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death	

WORLD

World leaders return to UN with focus on pandemic and climate

UNITED NATIONS

WORLD leaders are returning to the United Nations in New York this week with a focus on boosting efforts to fight both climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic, which last year forced them to send video statements for the annual gathering.

As the coronavirus still rages amid an inequitable vaccine rollout, about a third of the 193 UN states are planning to again send videos, but presidents, prime ministers and foreign ministers for the remainder are due to travel to the United States.

The United States tried to dissuade leaders from coming to New York in a bid to stop the UN General Assembly from becoming a "super-spreader event," although President Joe Biden will address the assembly in person, his first UN visit since taking office.

A so-called UN honor system means that anyone entering the assembly hall effectively declares they are vaccinated,

but they do not have to show proof. This system will be broken when the first country speaks - Brazil. Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro is a vaccine skeptic, who last week declared that he does not need the shot because he is already immune after being infected with COVID-19.

Should he change his mind, New York City has set up a van outside the United Nations for the week to supply free testing and free shots of the single-dose Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told Reuters that the discussions around how many traveling diplomats might have been immunized illustrated "how dramatic the inequality is today in relation to vaccination." He is pushing for a global plan to vaccinate 70 percent of the world by the first half of next year.

Out of 5.7 billion doses of coronavirus vaccines administered around the world, only 2 percent have been in Africa. Biden will host a virtual meeting



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres

from Washington with leaders and chief executives on Wednesday that aims to boost the distribution of vaccines globally.

Demonstrating US COVID-19 concerns about the UN gathering, Biden will be in New York only for about 24 hours, meeting with Guterres on Monday and making his first UN address on Tuesday, directly after Bolsonaro.

His UN envoy, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, said Biden would "speak to our top priorities: ending the COVID-19 pandemic; combating climate change ... and defending human rights, democracy, and the international rules-based order." Due to the pandemic, UN delegations are restricted to much smaller numbers and most events on the sidelines will be virtual or a hybrid of virtual and in-person. Among other topics

that ministers are expected to discuss during the week are Afghanistan and Iran.

But before the annual speeches begin, Guterres and British Prime Minister Boris Johnson will start the week with a summit on Monday to try and save a UN summit - that kicks off in Glasgow, Scotland, on Oct 31 - from failure.

As scientists warn that global warming is dangerously close to spiraling out of control, the UN COP26 conference aims to wring much more ambitious climate action and the money to go with it from participants around the globe.

"It's time to read the alarm bell," Guterres told Reuters last week. "We are on the verge of the abyss."

Agencies

Algeria's former president Bouteflika dies at 84

ALGIERS

FORMER Algerian president Abdelaziz Bouteflika has died at 84, the presidency said on Friday, more than two years after he stepped down under pressure from mass protests and the army.

Bouteflika, a veteran of Algeria's war of independence, had ruled the North African country for two decades before his resignation in April 2019 after street demonstrations rejecting his plan to seek a fifth term.

He had rarely been seen in public before his departure since a stroke in 2013.

After Bouteflika's resignation, in a bid to end the protests demanding political and economic reforms, authorities launched unprecedented investigations into corruption, leading to the imprisonment of several senior officials, including Bouteflika's powerful brother and advisor, Said. Said has been jailed for 15 years on charges including plotting against the state.

After Algeria's independence from France in 1962, former president Bouteflika became Algeria's first foreign minister and an influential figure in the Non-Aligned Movement that gave a global voice to Africa, Asia and Latin America.

As a president of the UN General Assembly, Bouteflika invited former Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to address the body in 1974, a historic step toward international recognition of the Palestinian cause.

He also railed against apartheid rule in South Africa.

He championed post-colonial states, challenged what he saw as the hegemony of the United States and helped his country into a seed-bed of 1960s idealism.

In the early 1980s, Bouteflika went into exile after the death of ex-president Houari Boumediene and settled in Dubai, where he became an adviser to a member of the emirate's ruling family.

He returned home in the 1990s when Algeria was being ravaged with a war between the army and armed Islamist militants that killed at least 200,000 people.

Elected president in 1999, he managed to negotiate a truce with Islamists and launched a national reconciliation process allowing the country to restore peace.

Bouteflika joined the independence war against France at the age of 19 as a protégé of commander Boumediene, who became president in 1965.

After independence, Bouteflika became minister of youth and tourism at the age of 25. The following year he was made foreign minister.

Little is known about his private life, official records mention no wife, though some accounts say a marriage took place in 1990. For years Bouteflika lived with his mother, Mansouriah, in an apartment in Algiers, where she used to prepare his meals.

Bouteflika had used oil and gas revenues to soothe internal discontent, and the state he ruled became more peaceful and prosperous, allowing it to sidestep, for a while, the "Arab Spring" unrest that toppled leaders across the region in 2011.

But corruption flourished and Algerians grew increasingly angry at the political and economic torpor, fuelling the mass protests that finally brought Bouteflika's presidency to an end.

Agencies

Xinjiang residents debunk lies fabricated by Western politicians, anti-China forces

BEIJING

MORE than 20 residents in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region shared their personal experiences at a news conference via video link on Friday to expose the lies and fallacies of some Western politicians and anti-China forces.

They, coming from different walks of life in Xinjiang, shared their personal experiences involving cultural protection, religious beliefs, school education, counter-terrorism and maintenance of stability, and refuted false statements related to the region, at the news conference held in Beijing in response to a recent "hearing" held by the so-called "Uyghur Tribunal."

Xu Guixiang, a spokesperson with the regional government, said the so-called "Uyghur Tribunal" is full of lies, and the so-called "witnesses" there also lied under the guise of human rights or academic research, sharing fabricated experiences.

Only the people living and working in Xinjiang are the most trustworthy and convincing voices, he said.

Hong Longzhu, director of a textile



Workers are busy working in a workshop of a garment company in Urumqi, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, Aug. 26, 2021. (Xinhua)

company in Kashgar, expressed his anger against the false claim of "massive forced labor" in Xinjiang.

Hong said most of his employees are Uyghurs, who used to do farming or part-time jobs to make a living. "Working at the company and with stable jobs and income, many of them have now bought livestock and built new houses."

However, some overseas companies simply ended their cooperation with Hong's company out of fear that they would be implicated due to sanctions on Xinjiang's enterprises imposed by a few Western countries. "Some European and American partners suggested we withdraw from Xinjiang and stop hiring Uyghur workers," he said.

A visibly aggrieved Hong posed some questions -- "Don't Uyghur people have the right to work in factories? Isn't the United States always claiming to be a champion of human rights? Does the so-called 'human rights' in the United States mean to make people have no jobs, no food and no work?"

Elijan Anayat, a spokesperson with the Xinjiang regional government, said that on the pretext of human rights, a few Western politicians and anti-China forces are trying to undermine the overall stability of Xinjiang, hindering its development and progress, and pushing the region back to the past when violence and terrorist activities were frequent occurrences.

"Such attempts are futile and doomed to fail," said Elijan Anayat.

Xinhua

Biden administration to deport migrant crowds in Texas border city - media

WASHINGTON/HOUSTON

U.S. President Joe Biden's administration said on Saturday it would start to swiftly deport thousands of Haitian migrants crossing the U.S.-Mexico border illegally and gathering under a bridge in Del Rio, a border city in south central U.S. state Texas.

The Biden administration has three flights planned for Sunday, and more could be scheduled for the coming days, according to a New York Times report, citing an official who spoke on the condition of anonymity.

Under the plan by the Department of Homeland Security, the Biden administration will "accelerate the pace and increase



Photo taken on March 30, 2021 shows migrants attempting to cross the Rio Bravo river on the border between Mexico and the United States, from Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. File photo

the capacity" of removal flights to Haiti and other destinations in the next 72 hours, said the report.

The White House temporarily

halted deportation flights to Haiti after an earthquake in August, which was followed by a powerful tropical storm after weeks of civil unrest, said the

report. More than 14,000 Haitians are reportedly camping out under the Del Rio International Bridge, surging from hundreds

just about 10 days ago. They are waiting to turn themselves in to the U.S. Border Patrol and seek asylum.

Texas Governor Greg Abbott on Thursday directed the state's Department of Public Safety and the Texas National Guard to shut down six points of entry along the U.S.-Mexico border amid the massive surge of migration, saying the border crisis is "so dire" that the U.S. Customs and Border Protection agents "are overwhelmed by the chaos."

U.S.-Mexico border arrests have reportedly stayed at the highest level in more than two decades, with more than 208,000 registered in August alone.

Xinhua

Unmanned agricultural machinery widely used in China

INTELLIGENT agricultural machinery is now easily seen in farmlands across China. With the in-depth integration of AI into agriculture, farm work is becoming increasingly intelligent and more efficient, while agricultural production modes grow more effective.

In Fuyu county, Qiqihar City, northeast China's Heilongjiang province, an unmanned tractor was leveling a cornfield that covers an area of about 53 hectares.

In Zhaoxian county, north China's Hebei province, two intelligent tractors with a 120 horsepower

engine and unmanned agricultural machinery for harvesting and transportation, all equipped with BeiDou Navigation Satellite System (BDS), worked in coordination with each other in a field after technicians set routes and gave instructions to them. Within 10 minutes, a furrow of cabbages was harvested.

In Henghe township, Cixi City, east China's Zhejiang province, a self-driving transplanter worked automatically in a field. It is able to turn around and avoid obstacles on its own, ensuring continuity and stability of its operation.

Unmanned operating systems

represent the most popular application of AI in agriculture. They can adapt to dozens of types of farm tools and enable agricultural machines to carry out tasks automatically in an accurate manner day and night.

The BDS adopted by unmanned agricultural machinery consists of a receiver, a millimeter wave radar sensor, an infrared camera, and a steering and drive control system, noted Han Wei, general manager of AIForce Tech, an agricultural robot provider.

With the BDS, technicians can ensure that self-driving agricultur-

al machinery performs operations along a pre-set route. The positioning accuracy of the system can reach 2.5 centimeters.

After setting the routes for agricultural machines, technicians equip them with farm tools and give orders to make them carry out tasks in certain fields. Electronic fences have been designed to prevent agricultural machines from deviating from the fields.

Unmanned operating systems are not only efficient, safe, and suitable for fine management, but are easy to operate.

Intelligent agricultural machin-

ery operators only need to adjust settings of the machinery according to field conditions and then control machines remotely via their mobile phones, allowing self-driving machines, including tractors, to work automatically even for dozens of hours in a row, said a farmer surnamed Han, who is a member of the agricultural cooperative of Fuyu county.

Researchers of AIForce Tech estimated that unmanned operating systems had improved the overall efficiency of agricultural operations by 30 percent.

AI is being rapidly integrated

into agricultural scenarios in China. Agricultural robots are an essential part of AI application in agriculture, said Li Deyi, an academician with the Chinese Academy of Engineering and the chief scientist at AIForce Tech, who pointed out that the current global agricultural robot market focuses on unmanned tractors, plant protection drones, spraying drones, farmland inspection robots, robotic milking machines, and fruit-picking robots, among which unmanned tractors and spraying drones are the main force of agricultural robots in China.

People's Daily

Putin's ruling party set to clinch victory in legislative polls

PRESIDENT Vladimir Putin's ruling party is set to win a decisive victory in legislative polls.

While Putin personally retains broad support, according to polls, his United Russia party recorded some of the lowest ratings in nearly a decade earlier this year.

Official results from the Sept 17-19 vote are expected today. Polling was extended to three days and online voting expanded. The Central Election Commission reported voter turnout at 35.7 percent as of 10:00 am Moscow time yesterday.

The party that backs Russia's 68-year-old leader faces a ratings slump, state pollsters say, but remains more popular than its closest rivals on the ballot, the Communist Party and nationalist LDPR party, which often back the Kremlin.

United Russia holds nearly three quarters of the State Duma's 450 seats.

That dominance last year helped the Kremlin pass constitutional reforms that allow Putin to run for two more terms as president after 2024, potentially staying in power until 2036.

Russian authorities earlier this year mounted a fierce crackdown after tens of thousands of people rallied in cities across Russia in January following the imprisonment of opposition leader Alexey Navalny.

The Kremlin denies a politically-driven crackdown and says individuals are prosecuted for breaking the law.

Agencies

Voting of Hong Kong's Election Committee elections wraps up

HONG KONG

VOTING of the 2021 Election Committee's subsector ordinary elections in China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) ended at 6:00 p.m. local time yesterday.

This is the first election after the improvements to Hong Kong's electoral system earlier this year.

According to election arrangements, the voting hours began at 9:00 a.m. local time at five ordinary polling stations and one dedicated polling station in Hong Kong. Voters and staff members followed epidemic prevention requirements and the voting was carried out in an orderly manner.

The election went smoothly with a high turnout of voters, Secretary for Constitutional and Mainland Affairs of the HKSAR government Erick Tsang said, noting that improving the electoral system in Hong Kong is mainly to implement the principle of "patriots administering Hong Kong."

"The governance of the HKSAR should be firmly held in the hands of people who love China and Hong Kong. Only in this way will Hong Kong have the opportunity to regain the original aspiration of 'one country, two systems,' and get it back on track, which will play a key role in achieving good governance and long-term stability in Hong Kong," he said.

On March 11, a decision on improving the electoral system of the HKSAR was adopted with an overwhelming majority vote at the fourth session of the 13th National People's Congress.

According to the decision, the Election Committee, expanded to 1,500 members of five sectors, is responsible for electing the Chief Executive designate and part of the LegCo members, as well as for nominating candidates for the Chief Executive and LegCo members.

Xinhua

European Parliament's attempts to lecture Russian people are insulting - envoy

BRUSSELS

EUROPEAN Parliament's (EP) attempts to lecture the Russian people are being perceived as an insult to its intelligence and its ability to think independently, Russian Permanent Representative to the EU Vladimir Chizhov told journalists, commenting on the recent EP resolution on Russia Sunday.

He also underscored that EU countries could learn how to organize elections and ensure their transparency from Russia.

"This entire resolution's lead idea is that [Russia] has an evil government, president and parliament. And then there is some good, democracy-seeking Russian people whom the MEPs wish to help find a 'way to the light'. Such arrogant attitude, I am sure, will be perceived by many in our country as an insult to their intelligence and ability to think independently," the Russian envoy said.

"If someone in Brussels believes that such resolutions can nudge Russians to anti-governmental rallies or can rock the situation in our country in some different fashion, then I will say that they know Russia and the Russian people poorly. Our compatriots are responsible and politically educated enough to buy such calls."

"This document is a shining example of an intervention in internal affairs of a sovereign state. It could be quoted in textbooks later. An intervention in the electoral process, in the political life, apart from smearing the current Russian authorities, it outlines what the Russian authority and the parliament should be; it contains specific instructions on how Russia should amend its electoral legislation and so on," he noted.

The Russian envoy believes that "this document will find no practical applications in the daily operation of EU executive bodies."

Earlier, the European Parliament adopted a report from Lithuanian MEP Andrus Kubilius urging the EU to review its relations with Russia.

In particular, the report's author states that the EU must "counter the security threat", "combat Russia's interference in the affairs of the EU and the 'Eastern Partnership'," carry out a "selective dialogue with the

20 years on, Xi urges solidarity, integration for closer SCO community with shared future

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Friday urged solidarity, upholding common security, openness and integration for the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) members to forge a closer SCO community with a shared future.

Xi made the comments via video link as he addressed the 21st meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the SCO, hosted by this year's rotating presidency Tajikistan.

All SCO members have pledged to further enhance policy communication, security cooperation, smoothing trade, financing and people-to-people exchanges, according to a declaration issued after the conclusion of the meeting.

The organization, which covers three-fifths of the Eurasian continent, nearly half of the world's population, and over 20 percent of the global gross domestic product, is embracing its 20th anniversary this year.

"I am confident that the growing SCO family will stride ahead together with all the progressive forces of the world, and be the builders of world peace, contributors to global development and defenders of the international order," said Xi.

ENHANCING SOLIDARITY TO COUNTER CHALLENGES

"We need to follow the journey of enhancing solidarity and cooperation," Xi said, adding SCO members should make the most of the meeting mechanisms and platforms at all levels, step up policy dialogue, communication and coordination.

Calling fighting COVID-19 the most pressing task, Xi urged deepening international cooperation against the virus and promote fair and equitable distribution of vaccines, adding China has provided close to 1.2 billion doses of finished and bulk vaccines to over 100 countries and international organizations.

Noting Afghanistan has undergone drastic changes and the country still faces many daunting challenges, Xi called on SCO members to step up coordination, make full use of platforms such as the SCO-Afghanistan Contact Group and facilitate a smooth transition in Afghanistan, encourage Afghanistan to put in place a broad-based and inclusive political framework, and resolutely fight all forms of terrorism.

Joint efforts were also highlighted at the ensuing joint summit of the leaders of the SCO and the Collective Security Treaty Organization member states on the Afghanistan issue, where Xi urged interactions with Afghanistan from a rational and pragmatic angle, and said that certain countries should shoulder due responsibility for Afghanistan's development.

As the SCO members are all near neighbors of Af-



Chinese President Xi Jinping addresses the 21st meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) via video link in Beijing, capital of China, Sept. 17, 2021. (Xinhua)

ghanistan, and Afghanistan is an observer state of the SCO, the organization enjoys unique convenience and advantages in addressing the issues compared with other similar international arrangements, said Deng Hao, secretary-general of the China Center for Shanghai Cooperation Organization Studies.

"Aimed at addressing regional challenges that concern the interests of all, China's proposals have added new dimensions to related cooperation mechanisms, demonstrating a sense of responsibility as a major country to promote peace, stability and people's livelihoods," added Deng.

ADVANCING INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT

Stressing the SCO members need to follow the journey of promoting openness and integration, Xi said they should continue to promote trade and investment liberalization and facilitation, and create growth drivers of cooperation such as digital economy, green energy and modern agriculture.

In 2020, the combined economic size of the SCO countries reached 18.4 trillion U.S. dollars, an 11-fold increase since its founding, while intra-SCO trade jumped eight times to 6.2 trillion dollars over the same period, a vivid

proof of intensified SCO cooperation with concrete outcomes.

To facilitate post-COVID economic recovery in SCO countries, Xi said China will continue to share its market opportunities, strive to reach 2.3 trillion U.S. dollars in its cumulative trade with other SCO countries in the next five years, and improve its trade structure and balance.

"As SCO members are diverse in their national realities and development priorities, China's call for open cooperation and integration has echoed the common aspiration for economic recovery and sustainable growth, showing a strong determination to tide over difficulties together with the SCO family," said Sun Zhuangzhi, director of the Institute of Russian, Eastern European and Central Asian Studies at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

BOOSTING INTERACTIONS

Noting interactions between civilizations provide the most solid foundation for the SCO's development, Xi emphasized the need to encourage exchanges, dialogue, harmony and co-existence between civilizations.

He proposed more projects including those of science and technology, education, culture, among others, adding China will provide 1,000 training opportu-

nities in poverty alleviation for other SCO countries in the next three years, and host an SCO youth technology and innovation forum next year. He also extended welcome to SCO countries' participation in the 2022 Beijing Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

At the meeting, the attending leaders of relevant countries and international organizations voiced support for multilateralism, as well as opposition to hegemonism, unilateralism and interference in other countries' internal affairs under the pretext of democracy and human rights, and support for the independent choice of development paths for SCO countries.

"Amid resurging unilateralism and protectionism, the joint emphasis by SCO members on the importance of mutual learning and exchanges sheds light on the urgency for the region and the international community to adhere to mutual consultation and work for a community with a shared future," said Professor Yana Lelesyutina of St. Petersburg State University in Russia.

In addition, the meeting has launched procedures to admit Iran as a member state of the SCO, as well as Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Qatar as new dialogue partners.

Hailing the SCO as an institution of global governance, Prof. B.R. Deepak at Jawaharlal Nehru University in India, said the new developments at the organization will help further extend the reach of multilateralism to more countries, unleash greater

China's manufacturing value-added ranks first in the world for 11 years



A large batch of vehicles are parked at the Yantai port, east China's Shandong province, before being shipped overseas, Sept. 13, 2021.

CHINA has maintained its position as the world's largest manufacturing hub for 11 straight years, accounting for nearly 30 percent of the global manufacturing output, said Xiao Yaqing, minister of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT), at a press conference on Sept. 13.

China boasts the most comprehensive industrial system in the world. More than 40 percent of the outputs of Chinese-manufactured products rank the top of the world among 500 major industrial goods.

From 2012 to 2020, the value-added industrial output in China expanded from 20.9 trillion yuan to 31.3 trillion yuan. In particular, that in the manufacturing sector grew from 16.98 trillion yuan to 26.6 trillion yuan, accounting for nearly 30 percent of the global manufacturing output, up from 22.5 percent.

The international competitiveness of China's manufacturing sector has been significantly improved. According to MIIT statistics, China enjoys a comprehensive modern industrial system comprising 41 large industrial categories, 207 medium ones and 666 small ones, thus it is the only country in the world that has all the industrial categories based on the industrial classification of the UN.

Last year, China was the world's largest producer of over 220 types of industrial products. It was leading the world in major industries such as photovoltaic power generation, new energy vehicle, home appliance and smart phone, and a batch of Chinese

high-end brands in the communication and high-speed rail industries made their names globally. Seventy-three Chinese industrial enterprises made it into the latest Fortune Global 500 list, 28 more than those in 2012, which explains the increasingly expanding influence of "made in China" products in the global industrial and supply chains.

The innovation capability of the manufacturing sector has been greatly enhanced.

The country has made continuous success in major projects, including the Chang'e-5 lunar probe, the Tianwen-1 mars probe, the deep-sea manned submersible Fendouzhe, and the BeiDou Navigating Satellite System.

In 2020, the number of R&D departments of industrial enterprises above designated size, or those with annual revenue of more than 20 million yuan each, as well as their expenditure doubled from those in 2012, and the number of valid patent applications surged two-fold.

As China becomes a top-notch producer in the ultra-high voltage power transmission, large excavation equipment, coal chemical equipment, and metallic nanoparticles material sectors, the country is turning from a manufacturer to a creator.

China's manufacturing industry experienced accelerated structural upgrading. High-tech manufac-

turing accounted for 15.1 percent of the value-added industrial output created by enterprises above designated size last year, up from 9.4 percent in 2012, while the proportion of equipment manufacturing in the total value added of the industrial enterprises above designated size increased from 28 percent to 33.7 percent during the same period.

Technical upgrading accounted for 47.1 percent of the total industrial investment, and new technologies, materials, equipment and techniques were widely applied. The ratio of the revenue created by new products of enterprises above designated size to their major business income was improved to around 20 percent.

Digitalization of the manufacturing industry speeded up. China has built the world's largest fiber optic and mobile communication networks. Its 5G base stations and connected terminals account for over 70 percent and 80 percent of the world's total.

Last year, 52.1 percent of the key procedures of major industries realized numerical control, up from 24.6 percent in 2012, and the application of digitalized designing tools rose from 48.8 percent to 73 percent during the same period. The digital economy is a powerful engine driving the sustained and healthy socio-economic development.

People's Daily

Children dying of COVID-19 in South Africa often also have HIV

ADDIS ABABA

SOUTH Africa should consider vaccinating adolescents against the coronavirus after data showed that the most common underlying cause of death among youngsters who contracted COVID-19 during the ongoing third wave was HIV infection, the National Institute for Communicable Diseases said.

"Given the high prevalence of HIV among adolescents in South Africa, efforts should be considered to vaccinate," those with underlying conditions that put them at increased risk of severe COVID-19, the Johannesburg-based NICD said in a report this week.

Giving shots to those between 15 and 18-years-old "may need to be prioritized to close the immunity gap," the NICD said.

People younger than 19-year-old accounted for about 12 percent of South Africa's confirmed COVID-19 cases at the end of August, according to data from the institute.

People with underlying conditions, such as an HIV infection or diabetes, are more prone to hospitalization and death when they contract the coronavirus.

In the 18 months through Aug 28, the number of children with COVID-19 who died in hospital while also having an HIV infection was 50, according to the NICD. Diabetes afflicted 24 of the children who died and hypertension 21.

Children with HIV and other diseases that cause their immune systems to be compromised "should be prioritized now to get these vaccines" as they are among the groups "we need to protect as much as possible," said Angelique Coetzee, chairwoman of the South African Medical Association.

So far, South Africa has fully vaccinated 7.7 million of its almost 40 million adults but is yet to roll out the shots to those younger than 18. Pfizer Inc. and BioNTech SE's inoculation has, however, been approved for use by those aged 12 to 18 by the national health regulator.

Findings from the NICD data showed cases in children rose 73 percent during South Africa's Delta variant-driven third wave, with hospital admissions jumping 43 percent. Still, no increase in deaths in this age group was shown. That compares with reports from the US that indicate a 10-fold increase in pediatric cases, admissions and deaths since the emergence of the delta variant, the NICD said.



Children play on a dusty field outside their homes in the Diepsloot Township north of Johannesburg, South Africa, Aug 26, 2021. AP



Tanzanian filmmaker, Muslim Nassor.

Tanzanian filmmaker selected for African film festival in Germany

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIAN filmmaker, Muslim Nassor, popularly known as 'Jazzphaa Jazz', who is based in Germany, has been selected to be one of the participants in the biggest international African Film Festival, which takes place this month in Cologne.

According to Nassor the ongoing festival got underway on September 16 and will come to a close on September 26 this year.

A main focus of the biannual festival is the effects of digitalization on everyday life, social interaction, economy, ecology, and politics in African countries.

Nassor revealed: "I am delighted to announce that I have been selected as one of the people who will introduce the film and lead the international film talk show at the African Film Festival here in the German Cape."

Nassor, who originates from Zanzibar, noted that 97 films from 25 African countries are expected to be screened at the festival.

It should be noted that in 2016 another Tanzanian filmmaker, Amil Shivji, also got the chance to be selected to show his film titled 'Aisha' at the festival.

"It is amazing how many great feature films, documentaries, and short films have been submitted for the 2021 festival beyond the main theme of digitalization, despite the pandemic," festival organizers reveal.

Nassor stated: "Most of them have never been shown in Germany before, many have already been awarded prizes at international festivals."

In addition, Nassor thanked all stakeholders for their co-operation in various activities including leading activities at major international festivals.

They are, among others, the Zanzibar International Film Festival (ZIFF), the Sauti za Busara Music Festival, which takes place in Zanzibar, and many more.

"The journey continues. Thank you all for making me strong enough to believe in what I am doing," he disclosed. This year's festival is the 18th season, the festival has every year been receiving various films from all African countries with judges later meeting to select the best and approve them.

One of the positive consequences of digitization for African cinematography is that with the help of the new technology, the classics of African cinema, of which often only a few copies still exist on worn 35mm film reels, can be restored and thus preserved for posterity.

For example, international institutions such as the World Cinema Foundation, the Cineteca di Bologna and the Arsenal - Institute for Film and Video Art in Berlin have already created brilliantly restored digital versions of several early masterpieces of African filmmaking.

Three examples of these films can be enjoyed during the festival.

found himself paving way for Mohammed Badru.

Mohamed is now the outfit's assistant coach due to the new CAF code prohibiting at least CAF B-licensed coaches from serving as head coaches in all leagues in Africa.

Mtibwa Sugar Chairman, Nassoro Abubakar, said they were in talks with Kaze and others, revealing if their talks will go well then one of them would be the team's head coach.

"We are in talks with many coaches who have applied to coach our team, which we are still working on to choose the best

TPLB should take commercial interests, reality into account

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

HERE has always been a lot of debate about the Mainland Premier League's afternoon matches, which kick off at 2 pm, whenever the top-flight schedule is out.

Most soccer stakeholders in the country normally want to know why domestic football big guns, Yanga and Simba SC, are hardly scheduled to play league ties in the afternoon.

Even this season's schedule has the same problem. Yanga and Simba SC do not have matches that kick off at 2 pm, while other clubs do.

Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB), which is tasked with issuing the top-flight fixtures, has yet to explain this.

Playing eight hours from sunrise, especially in a tropical country like Tanzania, is torture for the players.

But when the suffering is deliberately avoided by other players, then it becomes a problem.

Yanga and Simba SC are gaining favour from the football authorities, with some clearly showing that their job is to ensure the two sides hold sway, instead of letting the outfits work hard to scale great heights.

Whenever the domestic top-flight new season starts, one can ask any Tanzanian which outfits will take the top three spots, the teams will normally be Yanga, Simba SC, and Azam FC.

That is what is going to be the Tanzania culture, the clubs are perceived as the mirror of this country's football.



Kagera Sugar FC players (in green kits) and Geita Gold FC players in action when the sides met in a practice game in Geita recently. PHOTO: KAGERA SUGAR FC

But for that to make sense, these three clubs must be treated the same way the remaining outfits do.

If Yanga, Simba SC, and Azam FC are the ones vying for the title, then they should be given equal rights.

Apart from the afternoon matches issue and TPLB moreover does not permit a section of stadiums to be used by Yanga and Simba SC.

There is further another issue that is also not right for Azam FC in this schedule, such an issue should be put into consideration shortly.

This is the decision by TPLB to arrange many night and mid-week matches for Azam FC when the outfit is taking part in home fixtures.

The new schedule for the 2021/22 season shows that in Azam FC's 15 home matches, only one match, which will take place on the last day of the season, will be played at 4 pm.

And this is because on that day all teams will play at the same time!

All other Azam FC home matches will be played at night around 7.30 pm.

In 15 home matches,

Azam FC will moreover have only four matches during the weekend, while other home matches will take place in the middle of the week.

This is not the same as the business strategy and brand promotion of any club.

The home stadium is the place where an outfit not only relies on earning entrance fees but also creates a culture of people going to the stadiums.

Most matches on mid-week nights mean that most people will not be on the field.

The transport infrastructure of our country, especially Dar es Salaam and more Chamazi, makes going to the stadium a difficult task.

The match starting at 7.30 pm will end at 9.45 pm. From Chamazi at 9 pm, a soccer follower is guaranteed to arrive home late at night from either 11 pm or midnight.

People should remember that such a game is held in the middle of the week, meaning that one has to be at work the next day.

The simple answer for that person is he or

she should not go to the stadium, and if he or she does not go, it means the club has lost revenue.

Moreover, home matches are very important for building the future generation of football followers, who go to the stadiums, that is, the current children who are the adults of tomorrow.

When a match is played at night, will parents allow their children to go to the stadium?

Security is not the same and even academically it is not suitable. This child should go to school tomorrow.

So the schedule deprives outfits of today's and tomorrow's income. The current and tomorrow's adults are not coming to the stadium of which can build the environment from now due to limited time and the young fans are being blown away.

We do not criticize the presence of night or mid-week matches, but they should be well balanced.

Scheduling one team night matches at home again in the middle of the week is not healthy.

There are days when

Azam FC will realize that they are treated unfairly due to having lights at their stadium.

The club will likely think of plugging the lights off so that the authorities will not arrange night matches for the side.

At home they play only at night but, on the road, the side plays at 2 pm, it is not right.

Azam FC fixtures in 2021/22 season:

Tuesday, October 19, 2021 vs Namungo FC-7pm.

Tuesday, November 2, 2021, vs Geita Gold FC-2.30 pm.

Tuesday, November 30, 2021, vs Mtibwa Sugar-7pm.

Thursday, December 9, 2021, vs Kagera Sugar-7pm.

Saturday, December 18, 2021, vs Mbeya City FC-2.30 pm.

Saturday, December 23 vs Ruwu Shooting-7pm.

Friday, February 4, 2022, vs Dodoma Jiji FC-7pm.

Thursday, March 3, 2022, vs Coastal Union-2.30pm.

Sunday, March 6, 2022, vs Polisi Tanzania-2.30pm.

Wednesday, April 6, 2022, vs Yanga-7pm.

In addition, Azam FC's 22nd round match against Kinondoni Municipal Council FC, which will be in May, has not been scheduled but the schedule shows it will be played at 7 pm.

Tuesday, May 31, 2022, vs Simba SC-7pm.

Tuesday June 7, 2022 vs Mbeya Kwanza-7pm.

Monday, June 13, 2022, vs Tanzania Prisons-7pm.

Sunday, June 19, 2022, vs Biashara United-4pm.

I hope that next season soccer fanatics will see a schedule that will be better than this.

National Athletics Championships pushed back

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THIS year's National Athletics Championships, which were slated for the end of this month, have been pushed forward to next month.

The championships were slated for September 24-25 in Arusha at Sheikh Abeid Stadium.

Athletics Tanzania (AT), through the association's Technical Department Director, Michael Washa, said the event will be held from October 8-9 at the Sheikh Abeid Stadium.

He said the development follows Zanzibar's decision to host its championships from September 24-25 to select its athletes for the National Championships.

Meanwhile, Singida Regional Athletics Association Chairman,

Juma Mataka, said the region's trials, which were slated for today and tomorrow at Mwenge Secondary School to select 10 athletes to represent the region at the National Championships, will be held next weekend.

Mataka noted: "The National Championships' trials which were to take place next weekend at Mwenge Secondary School in Singida, will be held next weekend."

"This is a blessing in disguise as our athletes, who will be selected next weekend, will have enough time to prepare for the championships," he said.

Last year the two-day championships were held at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam and were sponsored by Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) at the tune of 60m/,

involving 250 athletes from 28 regions.

The championships was taking place after five years of absence and TOC sponsored the event with funding from Olympic Solidarity (OS) and the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA).

Tanga athlete, Mbaraka James, was the showdown's winner in the men's 1500m race, beating national team athletes, Gabriel Geay and Epimak Boniface.

James won the 1500m race in 3:47.12. Coast Region is the National Athletics Championship's defending champion.

The region's athletes won six gold medals, nine silver medals, and four bronze medals.

Arusha finished second with five gold medals, seven silver,

and four bronze medals, Unguja South finished third with two gold medals, one silver, and one bronze.

Zanzibar's, Urban West was fourth with two gold medals, one silver, and five bronze medals.

Hosts, Dar es Salaam, was fifth with two gold medals and two bronze medals, while Dodoma and Kilimanjaro were tied on the sixth position, winning one gold, one silver, and one bronze medal apiece.

Mbeya took the seventh position after winning one gold medal and two silver medals, Tanga settled for the eighth position with one gold medal.

Mwanza and Pemba South ended ninth and 10th, taking one gold medal and two silver medals respectively.

Cedric Kaze named in Mtibwa Sugar's head coaches shortlist

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

FORMER Yanga head coach, Cedric Kaze, and former Simba's head coach, Joseph Omog, are among the coaches given a big chance to coach Premier League outfit, Mtibwa Sugar, next season.

After failing to rope in coach Thierry Hitimana that joined Simba SC, Mtibwa Sugar has resorted to looking for a head coach.

Last season, Mtibwa Sugar changed coaches three times, once coach Zubeir Katwila joined Ihefu SC, the tactician was replaced by Vincent Barnabas who also

found himself paving way for Mohammed Badru.

Mohamed is now the outfit's assistant coach due to the new CAF code prohibiting at least CAF B-licensed coaches from serving as head coaches in all leagues in Africa.

Mtibwa Sugar Chairman, Nassoro Abubakar, said they were in talks with Kaze and others, revealing if their talks will go well then one of them would be the team's head coach.

"We are in talks with many coaches who have applied to coach our team, which we are still working on to choose the best

coach who will help us next season," he said.

He mentioned that others who need the job are former Azam FC and Simba SC tactician, Cameroonian Joseph Omog, and Serbian coach, Goran Kopunovic.

"There are many coaches with experience in Tanzanian football so from next week we will have a good time announcing our new coach before the league starts," he said.

Hitimana landed in his home country of Rwanda to pick up the bags to replace Mohamed Badru, who is now appointed as the assistant coach, but suddenly

Hitimana joined Simba for what was allegedly a non-contract with Mtibwa Sugar.

Omog has a good memory in Tanzanian football as he enabled Azam FC to win its first Mainland Premier League title in the 2013/14 season.

Mtibwa Sugar continues training for the new season in Morogoro after completing a two-week camp in Dar es Salaam.

The move to hire a competent and experienced coach comes after the outfit avoided relegation twice in a row.

To overcome the problem, they saw fit to find a coach who can afford and

withstand the Mainland Premier League challenges.

Mtibwa Sugar is determined to do well next season after making good signings of players who have played in the Premier League.

The footballers are, among others, Ibrahim Ame, Said Ndemla, and Abdi Banda.

Central defender, Ame, and midfielder, Ndemla, have moved to Mtibwa Sugar on loan from Simba.

The recruited footballers are expected to bring the club good balance.

Ancelotti 'surprised' by Camavinga's Real impact

MADRID

CARLO Ancelotti said he has been surprised by the instant impact and "personality" of Eduardo Camavinga at Real Madrid, and also praised teammate Rodrygo as "a complete forward."

Camavinga, 18, scored on his LaLiga debut in a 5-2 win over Celta Vigo last weekend before coming off the bench to provide Rodrygo with the winner in Madrid's 1-0 Champions League victory at Inter Milan.

"Yes it has surprised me a bit, that's the truth," Ancelotti said in a news conference on Saturday when asked about €30 million deadline day signing Camavinga's adaptation.

"We all know the quality he has, physical and technical. Then on the pitch he's shown his personality, we didn't know about that. What happens in games doesn't worry him, he's confident."

Rodrygo, 20, was signed by Madrid from Santos in 2019 for €45m and has impressed despite his lack of regular game time, especially in the Champions League.

"I see a complete forward," Ancelotti said when asked for his assessment. "He's very fast, with a lot of quality. He's cool in front of goal, he can play as a winger or in the middle. He's very young and he's the present and future of Real Madrid."

Madrid travel to Valencia on Sunday having won three and drawn one of their four LaLiga matches so far this season.

They will be without Gareth Bale after he picked up a hamstring injury in training last weekend, with sources telling ESPN no date had been set for his return.

"We still don't know how long [Bale] needs to recover," Ancelotti added. "The injury is quite important but the time is difficult to say. It's a shame as he was training well, he did well with us and the national team. We'll have to wait."

The coach was reluctant to say if Eden Hazard would feature after the Belgium international was an unused substitute against Inter in midweek.

"Hazard didn't play because he had a little discomfort in the knee," Ancelotti said. "He has trained, he'll train today, and we'll see what happens. His condition has improved but we have to be careful."

"He's had injuries and two games in a row could be difficult," he added. "He isn't at the level we want him to be, but he's working on that. We have confidence that he'll return to his best condition."

Ancelotti also refused to take credit for the transformation of Vinicius Junior -- who has already scored four league goals this season, more than he did in all of the previous campaign.

"I'm not a magician, I'm just a coach," he said. "I have to try to give players the confidence they need to express their qualities best."

(Agencies)

Klopp hails Mane's 100th Liverpool goal as 'massive achievement'

LONDON

JURGEN Klopp saluted Sadio Mane after the Senegal star's 100th Liverpool goal inspired a 3-0 win against Crystal Palace that sent his side top of the Premier League on Saturday.

Mane's milestone strike came in his 224th appearance for the Reds, breaking Palace's rearguard action late in the first half at Anfield.

Egypt forward Mohamed Salah and Guinea midfielder Naby Keita netted in the second half to move Klopp's team three points clear of second-placed Manchester City.

It was fitting that Mane should make it to his century against Palace as he set a new Premier League record for the most consecutive games a player has scored against one opponent.

It was the ninth successive match that Mane had netted against Palace.

More importantly for Klopp, Mane already has four goals this term, suggesting he is ready to put last season's disappointing personal campaign behind him.

"People forget around these 100 goals he worked incredibly hard, defended for us, pressed high, counter-pressed, created goals, set up chances, so the 100 goals are just one, there are so many numbers that are important," Klopp said.

"I am really happy for him he could reach it, a massive achievement in the glorious history of this club that only 18 players scored 100 goals."

"Nowadays players are not normally as long at clubs so I am really happy I could work so long with him."

After Liverpool's lacklustre, injury-hit defence of the Premier League title, they are back in the groove in the chase to regain the trophy from Manchester City.

Klopp's men have opened the season with an unbeaten run of four wins from five games, with just one goal conceded and 12 scored.

"We are not here today for sending any kind of sign for the outside world, we were here to fight against a really strong Crystal Palace team," Klopp said.

"I told the boys this was one of the most hard-fought 3-0s I ever saw. I'm really pleased."

AFP

Partey gives Arsenal foundation to begin building momentum

BURNLEY, England

THE expectation that comes with a £50 million transfer is that Ben White will improve Arsenal's defence by his mere presence, but in the 1-0 win at Burnley, that achievement was chiefly the preserve of his centre-back partner Gabriel.

Burnley made this a test typical of any trip to Turf Moor: combative, direct and awkward. It was a vote of confidence in White and Gabriel that Gunners boss Mikel Arteta opted for a back four with Thomas Partey a sole midfield pivot in a 4-3-3 shape.

Just five days earlier, Rafael Benitez had opted to deploy Everton with a three-man defence to counter Burnley's long-ball approach, and Arteta could easily have followed suit given his previous penchant for protecting his team in such a manner. But his faith in Gabriel in particular was rewarded, ensuring Martin Odegaard's superb 30th-minute free kick settled a hard-fought contest that delivers back-to-back wins for Arsenal and genuine momentum ahead of next weekend's north London derby.

One superb challenge to deny Ashley Barnes just before half-time was the highlight of Gabriel's three tackles, eight clearances, two blocks and ten successful aerial duels -- more than anyone else for either team -- on an afternoon of defiance as Arsenal passed



Thomas Partey, left, was instrumental in Arsenal's hard-fought win at Burnley on Saturday. (Agencies)Champions League (AFP)

a physical test they have so often failed in the past.

"We know he is a player with an incredible future," Arteta said of Gabriel, the Brazilian making only his 24th Premier League start after arriving a year ago from Lille in a £27m deal. "He has adapted really well to the league, that's why we signed him. He understands what we want. It does not get much harder than playing here in the Premier League. I thought he was terrific today."

Successive wins against Norwich City and Burnley are modest beginnings -- in East Anglia, Norwich lost their 15th consecutive Premier League game, against Watford, as the same time Arsenal edged past a Burnley team with

one point and three goals to show for their seasonal efforts -- but the durability the Gunners showed here will breed confidence.

White competed reasonably well in the air but looked shaky at times, none more so than when underhitting a backpass midway through the second half that almost cost the visitors dearly. Goalkeeper Aaron Ramsdale rushed out to meet substitute Matej Vydra and got the barest of touches on the ball before bringing down the Burnley forward. Referee Anthony Taylor awarded the penalty but overturned his decision after being encouraged to look again by VAR Lee Mason.

Games can turn on such fine margins, but Ramsdale deserved

his clean sheet for a composed afternoon in which he commanded his box well and maintained a presence his rival Bernd Leno has not always equalled. There was some surprise when Ramsdale was selected ahead of Leno against Norwich last weekend but he justified that decision here, and while there isn't much between the two on current evidence, the £32m summer signing from Sheffield United will be a hard man to dislodge if he maintains this promising start.

Arteta is under external pressure after a poor start to the season, but that is not yet reflected internally on the basis that we are yet to see the Spaniard's reformed lineup bed in and show their best.

They were more func-

tional than fluid here but Partey's importance to Arteta's vision for the future was underlined in his selection. Granit Xhaka's suspension may well have been a factor but utilising Partey -- who made his first start of the campaign following an ankle injury -- as the lone defensive midfielder allowed him to accommodate Odegaard, Emile Smith Rowe, Bukayo Saka, Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang and Nicolas Pepe in the same team.

"He is really important because he is the anchor," Arteta said of Partey. "He is the one who has to read what is happening and has to make the rest better."

"That's his biggest job, to get the right balance in the team, to get the right rhythm in the team in attack, how you manage the transitions

is top. He has a personality, a charisma and then he struggled at the end. He was cramping and that will come -- he has missed a long time and he needs some fitness back."

They might not yet be delivering the attacking cohesion Arteta would hope for, but having so many attacking players on the pitch heightens the chances of individual brilliance, and that was ultimately what won Arsenal the game.

Saka drove infield and was clipped by Ashley Westwood, giving Arsenal a free kick in a central position 25 yards out. Burnley goalkeeper Nick Pope gave Odegaard the left half of the goal to aim at if he could carve out a path over the wall, and the Norway international did just that, scoring his first goal since joining on a permanent basis from Real Madrid in a deal worth around £34m.

There were other dangerous moments. Saka and Aubameyang combined to feed Smith Rowe, who shot tamely at Pope before Pepe wasted a golden chance to play Aubameyang through on goal.

As against Norwich, though, this was an afternoon in which the result took priority over the performance -- and Arsenal ground it out in atypical fashion.

"We have players who are not at their strength playing in this type of game," added Arteta. "But they did their best and we got the win."

ESPN

Guardiola 'guilty' after Man City frustrated in Southampton draw

LONDON

MANCHESTER City left Pep Guardiola feeling "guilty" after his plea for more support from the club's fans was followed by a frustrating 0-0 draw against Southampton on Saturday.

Guardiola had irritated a section of City's fanbase by asking for more support after just 38,062 turned out at the Etihad Stadium for Wednesday's 6-3 win over Leipzig in the Champions League.

That low number was partly due to the almost complete lack of Leipzig fans and the attendance was much closer to the Etihad's 55,000-capacity for Southampton's visit.

Fans created a vibrant atmosphere after Guardiola's rallying cry, even if the players didn't rise to the occasion for once.

Despite the spat, Guardiola was greeted warmly by the near-capacity crowd, unsurprisingly given his record of sustained success at City.

And he conceded it was disappointing not to put on a goal-filled performance for the fans.

"Always when the game is not good I feel bad for them. They come to see a show, to see a game and when it doesn't happen I feel a bit guilty because we

didn't play good," Guardiola said.

Guardiola insisted on Friday he had not intended to question fans' loyalty and he reiterated that stance.

"I didn't say anything wrong after Leipzig. I said we had an incredibly tough game, had an incredibly tough game against Southampton and we would need the support of our fans," he said.

"I never complained about how many come or don't come. I have never thought this in my life. I don't know why people are asking me this question. I am grateful even if 85 or 100 people come."

It might have been even worse for Guardiola's side after referee Jon Moss controversially overturned decisions to award Southampton a penalty and send City defender Kyle Walker off in the second half.

City draw a blank - City had scored 16 goals in their last three home games, but the champions' usually potent attack was subdued by Southampton's well-drilled defence.

Raheem Sterling thought he had snatched victory for City with a last-gasp strike but the flag was raised for off-side and VAR confirmed



Pep Guardiola

the decision.

The result left City three points behind leaders Liverpool, with

Manchester United and Chelsea able to go above them if they avoid defeat on Sunday.

"We were not good in our build-up. We lost simple balls in our process because we were not clever and a little bit sloppy," Guardiola said.

"That is why I have to compliment Southampton. We move forward."

City eventually began to assert a measure of control and Sterling played Ilkay Gundogan in on goal, but Saints keeper Alex McCarthy was quick to deal with the danger.

Controversy erupted when Southampton were awarded a penalty after Walker appeared to bundle into the back of Adam Armstrong.

Moss had no hesitation in pointing to the spot and was quick to show the red card to Walker.

But the referee was invited to review the whole incident again on the monitor following a VAR check.

Much to the relief of City, he decided to cancel the penalty and overturn the sending off.

Guardiola responded to the let-off by introducing Kevin De Bruyne, Riyad Mahrez and Phil Foden off the bench in quick succession.

City thought they had found a way through when Sterling smashed home the rebound after McCarthy kept out Foden's header, but Moss and VAR combined to send the fans home frustrated.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Pochettino calls for
patience with all-star PSG

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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 SPORTS LIVE
22:30 Bongo Hits

TONIGHT @ 9:00

UJENZI

TONIGHT @ 9PM

Find out how using glass blocks from Canghui Traders Limited can improve your home decor

And Tanfix Quality Choice has an innovative solution for wall fungus

eastafrica 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

Former Taifa Queens' head coach appointed as INF ambassador

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE International Netball Federation (INF) has appointed former Tanzania's national netball squad "Taifa Queens" head coach, Mary Waya, as the federation's official Heart Ambassador.

Marya had as well had the opportunity to take charge of Coast Region's Filbert Bayi Schools' netball team technical bench.

Information from INF said the former Malawi netball team's player, who had a successful stint at both teams, has been offered the ambassadorial post due to her achievements both as a player and coach.

She becomes the world netball governing body's sixth ambassador since its rebranding from the INF.

The federation pointed out its president, Liz Nicholl, said they chose Marya for her contribution towards the development of the sport globally.

Liz disclosed in a statement: "Marya is a role model for millions in Africa through her legacy as an international netballer, coach, and entrepreneur."

The INF boss revealed: "Marya's vision to inspire and motivate young women and girls to become confident women through her foundation demonstrates why she is the perfect ambassador to represent our 'Heart' value."

"By educating others, providing opportunities, and showcasing the power of sport, Marya is using her experience and life lessons to give back to the community," the statement added.

In her new role, Marya is expected to be travelling around the globe, inspiring young girls to take the sport seriously and as a potential career.

Officials from the Tanzania netball association (Chaneta) on Sunday could not be reached for their comments on the former national netball team's head coach's appointment at INF.

Filbert Bayi Netball team was disbanded some years ago but, in previous interviews, Filbert Bayi Schools' Board of Directors' Chairman, Filbert Bayi, was quoted as saying Marya is a top coach who is dedicated to the development of the sport.

"Our netball team is doing well, mainly because we have a good coach, sound management, and dedicated players," he was quoted.

Azam FC, Biashara United seek to step up preps for CAF Confederation Cup



Tanzania's Azam FC midfielder, Paul Katema (L), negotiates his way past Somalia's Horseed SC defender as the clubs faced off in 2021/22 CAF Confederation Cup preliminary round's second leg at Azam Complex in Dar es Salaam on Saturday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's representatives in the 2021/22 CAF Confederation Cup, Azam FC and Biashara United, say they will intensify preparations for the second preliminary round of the competition.

Azam FC and Biashara United, on Sunday, progressed to the preliminary round's second round after seeing off their opponents, Horseed FC of Somalia, and Dikhil FC of Djibouti, respectively in the first round in Dar es Salaam.

Horseed FC conceded 1-0 to Azam FC in the first round's return leg at Azam Complex to crash out for 4-1 aggregate loss.

The visitors suffered a 3-1 loss to their opponents in the first leg, which took place at

the venue.

Biashara United notched a 2-0 win over Dikhil FC at the venue to make it to the following round with a 3-0 aggregate victory.

The Tanzanian outfit edged the Djibouti club 1-0 in the first clash in Djibouti.

In a monitored post-match interview, Biashara

United head coach, Patrick Odhiambo, said they need to prepare well.

The club is set to face aggregate winners of the preliminary round clash between Hay Alwady Nyala of Sudan and Al Ahli Tripoli of Libya.

The coach disclosed: "For today, it is over, but we

still have a long way to go, we need to prepare well, the coming games are expected to be tough but with good preparations, we can progress to the next stage."

The Kenyan tactician also disclosed that he will meet the club management to strategize for the coming CAF Confederation Cup

games.

"Everyone knows that we faced some challenges in our first away game, so we have to meet and prepare well for our coming games, we do not want a repetition of what happened in our first game, but all in all credit should go to my players that put a brave fight," he said.

The Mara-based side progressed to the preliminary round's second round on a 3-0 aggregate.

Sunday match's goals were scored by midfielder Ramadhan Chombo in the 19th and 23rd minutes of the first half.

Azam FC assistant coach Vivier Bahati said they need to prepare well for their next round's tie against Pyramids FC of Egypt.

He said the focus now is on the game against the Egyptian football giants.

"We are through to the next round, but we need to prepare well for our next game, we need to prepare well if we go for good preparations we can beat Pyramids FC," he said.

Azam FC knocked Horseed FC out with a 4-1 aggregate victory.

Azam FC's attacking midfielder, Ismail Aziz, notched the goal which made certain of their progression to the second round in the Saturday duel.

Dar company boosts Diplomatic Charity golf tourney

By Guardian Reporter

DAR ES SALAAM company, Insignia Limited, through its Galaxy Paints product, yesterday made its plan to actively boost efforts to promote golf domestically, handing over a dummy cheque of 14.5m/- to support the forthcoming Diplomatic Charity golf tournament slated for later this month in Arusha, Arusha.

The organizers of the annual event, Songea Mississippi Foundation, have had a series of functions for announcing event sponsors.

They recently also announced Fly Dubai agency as part and parcel of it.

The event coordinator, Reinafrida Rwezaura, said yesterday preparations for the competition are in full swing, thanking their new sponsors, Galaxy Paints, for coming on board.

"We thank you for supporting us as we are heading to the event," the coordinator noted.

She said that the proceedings of the two-day event will go to vulnerable orphanage centers in Songea.

The event will take place at Kilimanjaro Golf Wildlife Estate (Kili Golf) course at USA River in Arusha from September 24-25.

Reinafrida: "We thank you very much for the donation and for coming on board to join other sponsors for the much-anticipated event."

She called upon other firms



Insignia Limited's Marketing Manager, Adam Kefa (L), hands over a dummy cheque to Reinafrida Rwezaura of Songea Mississippi Foundation for the coordination of the Diplomatic Charity golf tournament slated for later this month in Arusha. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SONGEA MISSISSIPPI FOUNDATION

to show up and support the event that attracts diplomatic golf players to battle it out the charity event aimed at helping vulnerable children in Songea.

Insignia Limited's Marketing Manager, Adam Kefa, said that his firm is obliged to sup-

port the needy community as part of its agenda.

He had also promised continued support, looking for a long partnership with the tournament organizers.

"Apart from doing business, we also give back to the community," the official stated.

"We, therefore feel happy to do this through the golfing community," Kefa disclosed.

Apart from helping the needy community, the event is also aimed at promoting the sport as well as fostering relationships among diplomatic golf players in the country.

More than 150 participants from different countries, among others, are expected to battle it out in the 18-hole event.

Other event sponsors include Insignia Limited, Gran Melia, CRDB Bank Plc, Jibu Water, and Lemala.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

