







APPLY FOR REGISTRATION: ICT URGES EXPERTS PG5



GOVERNMENT PLEDGES TO IMPROVE INVESTMENT CLIMATE PG 6



20 VILLAGERS ADMIT TO HAVE LIED TO THE GOVERNMENY PG 7





HEALTH

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PM: Media laws need reviewing

• Media stakeholders will be fully involved, he declares



President Samia Suluhu Hassan (R) in talks with her counterpart, Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni after witnessing the signing of the government agreement on the construction of the 1,440 km crude oil pipeline from Uganda's Albertine region

By Guardian Reporter

RIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa yesterday opened the door to reviewing legislation on the media profession with the full participation of media professionals.

He gave this assurance in a speech to called on media practitioners to ensure that they adhere to professional ethics, and work hard to provide quality information to the public.

Majaliwa made the call yesterday in Morogoro when opening the 10th editors' conference and professional workshop organized by the Tanzania Editors Forum (TEF).

He said that adhering to ethics when carrying out their duties was the key to strengthening freedom in media organizations.

He urged journalists and their respective media outlets to prioritize national interests in whatever they dig to report, focusing on educating the society on positive things helping to build the country.

"As of your theme which promotes accountability in journalism, media houses should demonstrate patriotism when reporting or issuing information to the public. Eschewing patriotism can threaten peace and tranquility," he asserted.

He assured journalists and media houses of the government's entire support including the need to address statutory challenges hampering media industry operations.

"We will work hard to ensure that you continue



BANKING

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AFRICA DAY

Broadband backbone: MPs say ministry failing TTCL

By Songa wa Songa, Dodoma

DESPITE that the National Fibre Broadband Backbone is a cash cow for the government, the parliamentary standing committee for Infrastructure Development says it is not well maintained. Tabling the 2021/22 budget estimates fork the Ministry of Information Communication and

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Samia, Museveni witness pipeline project final act

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan and her Uganda counterpart Yoweri Museveni yesterday witnessed the signing of the Host Government Agreement (HGA) to finalize the \$3.55bn crude oil pipeline project preparations.

The agreements pave the way for starting the construction of the 1,440km (898 miles) crude oil pipeline from Albertine oilfield in northwest Uganda to Chongoleani harbour facility on the vicinity of the port city of Tanga.

in the project, witnessed the signing of the agreement.

Energy minister Dr. Medard Kalem-

Our people have heard about this project for over five years. We need to fast track its implementation so that it starts to operate by 2025

French oil giant Total and the China the government while EACOP operating National Offshore Oil Corporation firm was represented by CEO Martin John (CNOOC), the joint venture partners Tiffen, witnessed by the research and production division president at Total Africa, Nicolas Terraz.

President Samia underscored the need ani signed the document on behalf of for both countries to prioritize implementation of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project for it to become operational in 2025.

"Our people have heard about this project for over five years. We need to fast track its implementation so that it starts to operate by 2025," she said, highlighting some of the project's benefits in job creation and income generation.

EACOP which will traverse eight regions in Tanzania will see the government garnering 60 percent of tax revenues and Uganda obtaining 40 percent, she pointed out.

Tanzania expects to use the EACOP land corridor to put up another pipeline to ship gas from Tanzania and Mozambique to consumers in its western hinterland, while another pipeline will transport gas to Mombasa port in Kenya, she explained.

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working safely. The government will not spare anyone who will be seen trying to curb your rights. What I emphasize here is that media practitioners adhere to



As of your theme which promotes accountability in journalism, media houses should demonstrate patriotism when reporting or issuing information to the public. **Eschewing patriotism** can threaten peace and tranguility

the country's laws and stop misusing their pens," he explained.

The government will also continue working closely with media houses, engaging them in the implementation of several major projects, he stated.

"During the preparation of the implementation of the development plan, media practitioners will also be engaged so as to have broader understanding and thus be able to educate the public," he elaborated.

Ministries and government departments which are

TURN TO Page2

Parliament shelves business to mourn ACT-Wazalendo MP

By Songa wa Songa, Dodoma

THE National Assembly yesterday suspended its activities to mourn Konde legislator Khatib Said Haji (ACT-Wazalendo) who passed on early morning at the Muhimbili National Hospital in Dar es Salaam.

Soon after prayer which was to be followed by the questions and answers session and de-



With deep sadness I announce to you honorable members the passing on of our colleague Konde **Member of Parliament Khatib** Said Haji of ACT-Wazalendo who died today 5:40am ...

bate on ICT ministry estimates for 2021/22, Deputy Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson announced the news of the MP's death and a notice of shelving activities as per Standing Order number 173.

"With deep sadness I announce to you honorable members the passing on of our colleague Konde Member of Parliament Khatib Said Haji of ACT-Wazalendo who died today 5:40am while undergoing treatment at the Muhimbili National Hospital in Dar es Salaam," she said.

"The burial ceremony is scheduled to take place today at 4pm in Pemba and we are making arrangements for a section of MPs who are attending a today's signing of the oil pipeline project

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NATIONAL NEWS

Guardian

Broadband backbone: MPs say ministry failing TTCL

FROM PAGE 1

Technology (ICT) here on Wednesday, I minister Dr Faustine Ndugulile, said the ministry expects to earn a cool 50bn/- in the next financial year from highspeed broadband which is tied to the seafloor submarine cable. Its speed is still being improved and its reach expanded to outlying parts of the country, he said. The committee said that there is no contractual agreement with stipulated duties and responsibilities between the ministry and the Tanzania Telecommunication Corporation Limited (TTCL) which runs the facility.

"The committee found that in the TTCL management faces a long term challenge, the lack of funds for running the backbone, compelling TTCL to spend internal revenues on the facility and it isn't being refunded," MPs said in the report, delivered to the House by committee deputy chair Anne Kilango-Malecela.

"As of December 2020, the ministry owed TTCL a total of \$68,309,414 (over 150bn/-) in management fees, Value Added Tax reimbursement, collocation charges, maintenance fees, insurance as well as rent." There are no guidelines or contractual agreement between TTCL and the ministry on duties and responsibilities of each side with regard to running the project,

"leaving it to everybody's job adage that nobody does at the end.

"Because of this challenge, the committee recommends that the government come up with new guidelines on managing the backbone to improve efficiency. The broadband infrastructure currently covers close to 8,000 kilometres connecting 26 regions and 42 districts out of 132, with the Unguja and Pemba islands also connected to the broadband cable.

About 10 companies are so far approved as service providers of broadband services, namely TTCL, Vodacom, Tigo, Airtel, Halotel, Simbanet, Smile, Raha (Liquid Telecom), e- Government and Green Telecom.

The minister said that in the next financial year the ministry will extend the broadband network by 1,880 kilometres to reach 17 districts and several government agencies that are yet to be connected. Additional kilometers will cover Musoma-Simiyu-Shinyanga (304 km), Tabora-Uvinza (315 km), Manyoni-Mbeya (529km), Babati-Dodoma (270 km), Chato-Bwanga (60 km), Isaka-Kahama (42 km) and Ifakara-Mlimba-Songea (360

km). "We will also enhance its speed from the current 200 gigabytes to 400 gigabytes, he said in his remarks on Wednesday.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa in a group picture with representatives from various institutions moments after launching Tanzania Editors Forum AGM in Morogoro yesterday. Second (left) is NMB acting Chief Internal Auditor Benedicto Baragomwa holding appreciation trophy presented as main sponsor. Left (seated) is Information, Arts, Culture and Sports minister Innocent Bashungwa. Photo: PMO

PM: Media laws need reviewing

FROM PAGE 1

yet to pay advertisement dues and arrears to media houses should immediately do so as a gesture of supporting smooth operations and progress of media houses, he directed.

The premier directed the minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Innocent Bashungwa to fasttrack the establishment of the Media Accreditation Board that will work to regulate journalism professional ethics and thus facilitate the formation of an Independent Media

Council.

Earlier, the minister said that the ministry was working closely and supporting media houses so as to enable them implement their duties smoothly.

Deodatus Balile, the TEF chairman said the forum will continue working

with the government to achieve various development initiatives.

The editors acknowledge the government's zeal in supporting development of the media industry which includes promoting media freedom, he added.



Samia, Museveni witness pipeline project final act

FROM PAGE 1

President Museveni had earlier said that Uganda had so far explored 40 per cent of the oil basin be transported via the pipeline, and still has to finish exploring she underscored.

exploration efforts in other neighbouring countries like DRC, Burundi and South Sudan. In case of discoveries much of this oil will

Inspector General of Police Simon Sirro (C) receives part of 2,000 copies of guideline books on prevention and disclosure crimes in the Wards/ Streets level from Coca Cola Corporate Affairs director Salum Nassoro , printed under Coca Cola Kwanza sponsorship in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Left is Director of Criminal Investigations Robert Boaz. Photo: Po

Parliament shelves business to mourn ACT-Wazalendo MP

FROM PAGE 1

contract in Dar es Salaam to proceed to Pemba to represent us in the ceremony."

After the announcement, the saddened lawmakers left the debating chambers and stood outside the parliamentary compound in groups, remembering the outspoken legislator known for his contributions especially on matters of justice.

heart. "He always stood his

ground on issues he believed

Industry and Trade deputy minister Exaud Kigahe worked closely with Haji who served on the Indusstated. tries, Trade and Environment committee, describing the departed MP as a bold lawmaker who had the best interest of the country at

in," he stated. "His contributions were

valuable and useful for the development of the industries and trade sector," he

"He was a staunch supporter and defender of industries at the committee level as well as in the debating chambers. As a ministry we have lost a key stakeholder." he declared.

Bakari Ahmed Bakari, elected from the House of Representatives in Zanzibar, described Haji as a politician who mastered his game, working and collaborating with those from other parties when it came to issues of national interest.

"He spoke out without fear; we were from different parties but we collaborated and worked together on is-

sues we both believed in," he said.

"He was especially outspoken about matters of justice. I recall his last contribution where he agitated for the release of religious leaders being held in custody for years."

A statement released by the Speaker's Office issued the late MP's birth date as 31st July 1962.

the 600 per cent area remaining. It has so far discovered over 6.5bn barrels of oil, with President Samia complementing the remarks by observing expanded future use of the pipeline as Uganda widens its expansion work and Tanzania examines possible oilfields as well.

"This project will promote investment in the East Africa region and help our people to secure jobs. Total SA has built a factory in Nzega District, Tabora Region to stock materials for building the pipeline, which has created a good number of jobs," the president noted.

She highlighted Tanzania's experience in implementing pipeline projects, citing the the 1968 Tanzania Zambia Mafuta (TAZA-MA) pipeline, where Zambia has a 66.7 percent stake and and Tanzania 33.3 percent.

More recently built is the Mtwara-Dar es Salaam Natural Gas Pipeline, transporting gas from fields in Mnazi Bay in Mtwara region and Songo Songo gas wells and gas processing plant in Lindi region, she stated.

President Samia especially hailed the late president Dr. John Magufuli who started worked to see the oil pipeline project realized, continually conferring with President Museveni on the issue, and directing ministers and heads of discussion committees from the two countries to sort out issues rapidly for the successful start of the project.

She pledged that Tanzania would develop, nurture and strengthen ties with Uganda to ensure that this project is successful whereas President Museveni pointed out that the project generates cash and other projects that help cement East African integration

President Samia said the project will stimulate oil and gas

She said the project will also attract more investors to Tanzania and neighbouring countries as markets are opened up in the region, while President Museveni underlined the need for using revenues from the crude oil as a finite resource to improve sectors like agriculture and tourism which aren't finite in nature.

Petroleum will be finished after a certain period, but agriculture will last forever, he said, urging that both Tanzanians and Ugandans shift from subsistence to commercial agriculture to create wealth and jobs.

EACOP should be considered as infrastructure in fostering development, with improvement of infrastructures such as roads, railways and energy being vital in supporting industrial development.

"It is important for countries to strengthen markets and enhance the East African Common Market which guarantees manufacturers a reliable market," the Ugandan leader asserted.

Tanzanians and Ugandans should not get intoxicated with oil and gas and forget other sectors including agriculture, but use the monies to be generated from the project to improve these sustainable sectors, he emphasised.

Dr Kalemani said the signing of the agreement has completed the process of discussion and pipeline construction will now start, stretching 1,443 kilometers of which 1,147 kilometers is on Tanzanian soil.

The project will take three years and oil deliveries start by 2025, shipping 216,000 barrels of crude oil per day. There will be eight stations, 29 steel pipe lubricants, 76 valve points and tanks for storing 500,000 barrels of oil each on the Chongoleani facility close to the port of Tanga.



Tigo Tanzania managing director Simon Karikari shares his view on how technological advancement can enhance business efficiency during the innovation week ceremony in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. Tigo is a co-sponsor of the event. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

WaterAid spends 280m/- in hand washing campaign in Arusha and Arumeru districts

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

MORE than 280m/- has been spent to improve water infrastructure and sanitation through the 'Back to School' and 'Hand washing Campaign' implemented by WaterAid, an international organisation in Arusha and Arumeru districts and Arusha City.

In addition, a further 1.3bn/- has been spent to implement the projects in four regions including Arusha, Unguja Urban West A, Dar es Salaam and Geita.

Addressing reporters mid this week during the launch of the projects, WaterAid country director Anna Mzinga said the projects have been implemented in eight primary schools and Arusha Mt Meru Referral Hospital, health centres and dispensaries and at both Kilombero and Main markets in Arusha City.

She mentioned the primary schools include Oldonyosambu, Leminyor, Lemanyata, Seliani, Olmotonyi, Mringa, Olosiva and Enaboishu located in five wards in Arusha District Council in Arumeru District.

In regard to Arusha Region, she said 5,800 students will benefit from the projects and for the entire country a total of 1.3 million people will benefit, adding that the aim was to assist students and the people in general.

She said the aim to establish the projects stemmed from eruption of COVID-19 pandemic in the world and the efforts to fight it.

3

Anna further said so far the organisation has carried out various undertakings for the projects, including building up of hand washing stalls with running water, erecting various hygiene messages to mobilise for cleanliness.

For his part, Arusha Regional Administrative Secretary Agnery Chitukulo, said they the projects would assist in changing people's habits especially during the eruption of various diseases.

"We, as the region have great need of such equipment, as we have 393 health centres, 805 primary schools, 261 secondary schools, markets and areas with major assemblies people including bus stands, and if all these areas receive similar push, I believe we can defeat all infectious diseases ," he said.

The acting senior Arusha Mt Meru referral hospital medical officer Kipapi Mlambo said patients arriving or leaving the hospital use the hand washing equipment installed at the hospital.

"We offer our sincere thanks to WaterAid for providing these gadgets used by patients, and truly enough, people have been mobilised to wash their hands as prevention measure against infectious diseases.

Impact of COVID-19 on agriculture, manufacturing sectors in the EAC

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Business Council (EABC) is calling for an increment in the COVID-19 stimulus packages to the agriculture sector by EAC partner states and the establishment of an East Africa Community (EAC) food reserve to improve agricultural productivity and coordination of distribution of food across borders, amid the pandemic.

The new study by the East African Business Council (EABC) with the support of the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) and Bill and Melin-

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da Gates Foundation recommends an increase of the COVID Stimulus Package to the Agriculture Sector, from a paltry USD 3.14 million (0.002 per cent of the total stimulus, to USD 157.2 million at least 10 per cent of total stimulus). This is set to promote a deliberate shift from rain-fed agriculture and from low energy to high energy technology-based agriculture to improve agricultural productivity and household income as well as ensure food security.

According to the study, the COVID-19 containment measures by the East African partner states had far-reaching

effects as their impact drifted a sizeable number of agricultural households (over 15 million) into poverty (less than \$1 a day) especially those engaged in smallholder production of perishable commodities such as fruits and vegetables

Further, the study accessing the impact of COVID-19 on the agriculture sector in the region revealed; the number of food-insecure people in the region increased from 59.3 million in 2019 to 65.1 million in 2020 with the food gap in the region increasing by 13.5 per cent in 2020.

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Dar es Salaam

to have led to reduced agricultural imports and delays in international food assistance. Farmers were also reported to struggle to access sources of finance to enhance food security in the maize, coffee, horticulture, tea and rice value chains. The study reveals that in the first three quarters of 2020, Rwanda and Uganda, suffered from a retracted growth of -2 per cent and -4.7 per cent, respectively. This however changed and saw the two countries recover in the last quarter of the year. It notes that Tanzania and Kenya's agriculture sectors

The closing of borders was reported registered positive growth, throughout the Pandemic, however, the growth was low (below 5 per cent) and inconsistent.

The report outlines that apart from Kenya and Tanzania, food reserves were not functional. This, even in the presence of strong regional policy and strategy documents, including the EAC Food and Nutrition Security Action Plan (2018-2022), which espoused for the establishment of regional food reserves by developing and harmonizing policies, laws and guidelines governing the establishment of national and regional food reserves.

SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS UNIY ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING COMPANY LIMITED

P O BOX 6258 DAR ES SALAAM-TANZANIA SPECIAL RESOLUTIONS DULY PASSED AT THE EXTRA ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF UNITY ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING COMPANY LIMITED HELD AT THE REGISTERED OFFICE OF THE COMPANY ON THE 31st DAY OF MARCH.2021 AT 09:00AM

H.A.PATWA&CO. be appointed as the liquidator for the purpose of winding up the affairs and distributing assets of the company.

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JOB OPPORTUNITY - DATA QUALITY ANALYST

Affiliate of the University of California, San Francisco

JOB OPPORTUNITY - DATA VISUALIZATION ANALYST

COMPANY NUMBER 11556

PRESENT: 1. QUDSIYEH RUSTOM ROY chairperson 2. RUSTOM MERWAN ROY 3. HUSSEIN SHAABAN AKIDA membe

he following special resolutions were duly passed. Members of the company RESOLVED that, the company be wound up voluntarily effective 31st march, 2021 net MR.HAMZAALI AMIRALI PATWA c

Ve. the undersigned authorized representatives of the e, the undersigned adminized representatives of the regoing to be a true and bona fide resolution passed the company on the 31st day of march,2021.

Location	:	Dar es Salaam
Application Deadline	:	May 31, 2021
Start Date	:	June 14, 2021

Background: The University of California San Francisco (UCSF) is engaged in a five-year Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-Tanzania (CDC-Tanzania) to provide strategic information technical assistance to the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children as well as the United States' President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and their implementing partners (IPs). We are recruiting an individual through our affiliated international NGO 'Global Programs' to serve as a Data Quality Analyst for our projects. The assignment is based in Dar es Salaam, and the incumbent would begin working immediately after the hiring process is complete, with an estimated start date of June 14, 2021. This position will initially be until September 30, 2021 with the expectation of a one-year extension through September 30, 2022. The position will subsequently have the potential for annual renewal, subject to employee performance and funding availability.

Main Duties and Responsibilities:

Under the supervision of the Data Quality Lead for Tanzania, the Data Quality Analyst will work with the Global Programs in-country team in their work with CDC to continuously improve the quality of HIV and AIDS health data. Specifically, the Data Quality Analyst will:

- Support analysis of CDC implementing partner data quality, identification of data quality challenges, and development of strategies for remediation.
- Develop new and improved strategies for analyzing IP data quality.
- Track data quality issues flagged each quarter and verify remediation.
- Support development of a standardized data quality toolkit for use by CDC IPs, including a quarterly IP data quality scorecard.

Minimum Requirements:

- A Bachelor's degree in public health, statistics, mathematics, epidemiology or related fields is required. A Master's degree in a relevant field is an added advantage.
- Minimum of three years of professional experience working in public health in a data-focused position.
- Demonstrated knowledge of data quality concepts.
- Demonstrated knowledge of routine HIV and AIDS health data, including national data collection systems, tools, and reporting.
- Demonstrated data analysis skills including intermediate to advanced knowledge of Microsoft Excel.
- Demonstrated oral and written communication skills.
- · Availability to travel in-country to support remediation of identified data quality issues, pending the uplifting of COVID-19 related travel restrictions.
- Fluency in English and Kiswahili is required.

Other desired skills/qualities:

- Ability to prioritize, work under deadlines, work with minimal supervision and multitask.
- Strong interpersonal skills.
- Ability to summarize disparate information in a clear and concise manner.
- Working knowledge of statistical software (STATA or SAS) preferred.
- Excellent computer skills, including word processing and powerpoint.

To Apply:

All applicants must address each selection criterion detailed in the minimum requirements above with specific and comprehensive information supporting each item. All applications must include the following:

- A current CV with names and telephone numbers for at least 2 referees
- Copies of academic and professional certificates

Applications and supporting documents should be sent via e-mail to info.tanzania@ucglobalprograms.org and must be received by May 31, 2021.

NOTE: Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

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GLOBAL PROGRAMS

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Main Duties and Responsibilities:

Under the supervision of the Data Quality Lead for Tanzania, the Data Visualization Analyst will support the Global Programs in-country team in their work with CDC to continuously improve the quality, analysis, and use of HIV and AIDS-related health data, including through data analysis and visualization. Specifically, the Data Visualization Analyst will:

- Analyze routine HIV and AIDS-related health data.
- Develop data visualizations, including Excel dashboards.
- Support development of new and improved strategies for analyzing and visualizing routine HIV and AIDS data at all levels of the health system.

Minimum Requirements:

- A Bachelor's degree in public health, statistics, mathematics, epidemiology or related fields is required. A Master's degree in a relevant field is an added advantage.
- Minimum of three years of professional experience working in public health in a data-focused position that included both analysis and visualization work.
- Demonstrated knowledge of routine HIV and AIDS health data, including national data collection systems, tools, and reporting.
- Demonstrated data analysis skills including intermediate to advanced knowledge of Microsoft Excel. Working knowledge of statistical software (STATA or SAS) preferred.
- Demonstrated data visualization skills. Working knowledge of Power BI preferred.
- Demonstrated oral and written communication skills.
- Availability to travel in-country to support project activities, pending the uplifting of COVID-19 related travel restrictions.
- Fluency in English and Kiswahili is required.

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NATIONAL NEWS

10TH EDITORS RETREAT AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING PICTORIAL



Tanzania Editors Forum Secretary Neville Meena speaks at the 10th Editors Retreat and Annual General meeting held in Morogoro yesterday



Participants of 10th Editors' Retreat and Annual General meeting listen to Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa presents a trophy to senior editor Absalom Kibanda at the meeting





A cross section of participants at the 10th Editors' Retreat and Annual General meeting listen to Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa delivers his speech at the 10th Editors' Retreat and Annual General meeting held in Morogoro yesterday.

Acting TEF chairman Deodatus Balile delivers his speech at the meeting.





Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa in a group picture with TEF office bearers Photos: PMO

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa addresses the meeting

NATIONAL NEWS



Centre of Good Governance and Development in Tanzania (CEGODETA) chairman Thomas Ngawaiya (C) addresses a news conference in Dar es Salaam when he issued congratulatory statement to President Samia Suluhu Hassan for overseeing the rule of law. Others are the centre's officials Gabriel Duwe (R) and Everist Majaliwa. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

EU recommends projects to assist Tanzania's fight against climate change

Guardian

By Guardian Reporter

THE European Union (EU) has said to a large extent Tanzania's economy depends on rain based agricultural activities which has been adversely affected by climate change, hence, it added, in collaboration with the government, it has recommended projects that would assist Tanzanians.

The remarks were made on Tuesday by EU Ambassador in Tanzania, Manfredo Fanti at the launching of the Climate Change Exhibition involving a six-month campaign it organised to mobilise against climate change in the country.

Speaking at the event, Fanti said climate change phenomena are expected to increase and affect agricultural production, eco-systems, biodiversity and various infrastructures.

Ambassador Fanti said in the campaign, dubbed 'Resilience to Climate Change' they vow to assist Tanzania in the national mobilisation against the challenge that causes environmental destruction and biodiversity loss

"Climate Change is not affecting Tanzania alone; it is a huge problem

facing the world at the moment. EU's 'Green Plan' has enlisted steps to take to strengthen better use of resources by shifting to a cleaner rotational economy that restores the biodiversity and reduce environmental destruction," he said.

He said the EU was working together with 11 member countries and the civil society to spur shifting to agriculture based on climate change, alternative energy, little production of carbon dioxide that go in tandem with sustainable aims, better application of energy and sustainable management of resources.

EU Country Manager who deals in issues of climate change Mathew Mpanda said the EU has been Tanzania's big partner in the fight against climate change in collaboration with various ministries

Mpanda said in the period of 10 years, the EU invested Euro 10 million (25bn/-) in the issues of climate change

He said since to a large extent Tanzania's economy depends on rain based agricultural activities, once assisted it touches many Tanzanians in the fight against the challenge.

Nyerere Road, Plot No. 2384/75

TAFFA, TBS meet to discuss challenges facing goods clearance

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

THE government has convened a one-day meeting which aimed at discussing and coming up with solutions to remove challenges facing clearing goods at the ports and other boundaries in the country

The one-day interactive awareness meeting was convened in Dar es Salaam yesterday by Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) and attended by a section of members of Tanzania Freight Forwarders Association (TAFFA).

Speaking during the meeting, the TAFFA Executive Secretary Elitunu Mallamia, thanked the organisation for organising

Apply for registration, ICT commission counsels country's technology experts

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Information and Communications Technology Commission (ICT Commission) has called on technology experts of all cadres to apply for registration so that they can enjoy benefits and privileges that go with registration of professionals.

The Acting ICT Commission Director, Eng Samson Mwela, said that the commission knows that many experts have not applied for registration while the commission has made registration one of its priorities.

"On October 17, 2020 we launched the registration exercise. We have received 2,800 application only. We

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know a big number of experts have not applied for registration because technology is a multi-sector field. We appeal to those who have not, to apply without further delay," he pleaded. An applicant pays 20,000/for registration, he explained, adding that such a fee is not likely to be a cause for non-registration.

"We have made registration our priority because the commission cannot do all that is necessary in promoting technology without the support and cooperation of all the people in this sector. It is important to start with registration so that we know who the stakeholders are and where they are, so that we can jointly produce a good national technol-

ogy policy that reflects needs of our country," he explained.

Registered experts will be recognised in Tanzania and abroad, he explained, calling on employers to recognise and use technology experts, in their different branches, who have been registered by the commission. "We assure employers that we stand by all experts who have been registered by the commission," he guaranteed.

Mwela said the commission would like to see joint efforts being made in promoting technology in the country, putting to maximum beneficial use of the National ICT Broadband Backbone (NICTBB) and building a data bank of technology experts.

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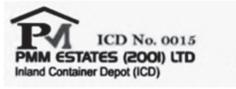
The role of the Technician is making sure that tyres used by vehicles and equipment are in good state.

Responsibilities:

- Conduct daily tyre and related inspection
- Check and maintain proper tyre inflation
- Assess worn and damaged tyres, tread levels, wear pattern, valve quality, and overall health
- Repair or replace faulty tyres and valves Supervise balancing and alignment
- Conduct timely tyre rotation
- Maintaining detailed tyre records and files
- Maintaining and Safe keeping tyre tools, equipment, and spare tyres in your stock
- Planning, reporting, and advising
- Assigning and supervising works to your subordinates
- Maintain and Abide to the tyre regulations and all company policies
- Perform any other duties assigned by your senior staff

Requirements

- College education
- Knowing different types of tyres, tubes, rims and accessories
- Ability to display professionalism
- Maintaining quality focus
- Attention to detail
- Skills on the construction of tyres
- Have tyre removal and fitting techniques



the meeting.

He said the meeting would discuss challenges facing both parties and come up with recommendations to help improve the economy, health of final consumers.

He said some challenges which they are facing include the single window system which was introduced by the standard body a few years ago.

According to him most freight forwarders were not aware of the whole structure of the system, hence reducing performance.

Another challenge is the introduction of some taxes which looked as a burden to them.

Mallamia said that TBS is a potential partner while executing their duties, and they want to serve their customers at quality and affordable charges.

He said time has come for them to discuss and recommend to the higher authorities review of various challenges which hinders poor performance including those of duties. He said the association,

which has more than 800 active members, was established many years ago to help the government and other persons in clearing of goods at the ports and boundaries.

He asked Standards Watchdog to work on challenges under the Pre-Shipment Verification of Conformity to Standards (PVoC) in order to facilitate business and improve the economy of Tanzania.

Location	:	Dar es Salaam
Application Deadline	:	May 31, 2021
Start Date	:	June 14, 2021

Background: The University of California San Francisco (UCSF) is engaged in a five-year Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-Tanzania (CDC-Tanzania) to provide strategic information technical assistance to the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children as well as the United States' President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and their implementing partners (IPs). We are recruiting an individual through our affiliated international NGO 'Global Programs' to serve as DAMES Technical Lead for our support to the DREAMS project. The assignment is based in Dar es Salaam, and the incumbent would begin working immediately after the hiring process is complete, with an estimated start date of June 14, 2021. This position will initially be until September 30, 2021 with the expectation of a one-year extension through September 30, 2022. The position will subsequently have the potential for annual renewal, subject to employee performance and funding availability.

JOB OPPORTUNITY – DAMES TECHNICAL LEAD

Main Duties and Responsibilities:

Under the supervision of the Country Representative for Tanzania, the DAMES Technical Lead will collaborate with the Global Programs in-country team and a team of software developers to:

- Coordinate the aggregation and visualization of DAMES data across PEPFAR IPs.
- Ensure the DAMES mobile application is fully functional and meets end-user needs.
- Track requests from PEPFAR IPs regarding the collection and analysis of DREAMS data via the DAMES system and ensure requests are met.
- Track data issues or challenges related to the DAMES system and ensure they are remediated in a timely fashion.
- Collaborate on the visualization of DAMES data.

Minimum Requirements:

- A Bachelor's degree in public health, community development, or related fields is required. A Master's degree in a relevant field is an added advantage.
- Minimum of three years of professional project management experience in public health.
- Demonstrated knowledge of the DREAMS project and familiarity with routinely collected DREAMS data.
- Demonstrated understanding of databases and skills to align and aggregate datasets.
- Experience working with mobile applications for data collection.
- Experience collaborating with a variety of stakeholders to successfully complete a project.
- Minimum of intermediate level Microsoft Excel skills.
- Demonstrated oral and written communication skills.
- Fluency in English and Kiswahili is required.

Other desired skills/qualities:

- Ability to prioritize, work under deadlines, work with minimal supervision and multitask.
- Strong interpersonal skills.
- Ability to summarize disparate information in a clear and concise manner.
- Ability to travel to support utilization of the DAMES mobile application, pending uplifting of COVID-19 travel restrictions.
- Excellent computer skills, including word processing and powerpoint.

To Apply:

All applicants must address each selection criterion detailed in the minimum requirements above with specific and comprehensive information supporting each item. All applications must include the following:

- A current CV with names and telephone numbers for at least 2 referees
- Copies of academic and professional certificates

Applications and supporting documents should be sent via e-mail to info.tanzania@ucglobalprograms.org and musi be received by May 31, 2021.

NOTE: Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

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TANGAZO LA MNADA WA HADHARA

Kwa idhini tuliyopewa na Kilimanjaro Airports Development Company limited (KADCO) tutauza kwa mnada wa hadhara baadhi ya mali zifuatazo.

- FURNITURES (eg: Chairs, Tables, Cabinets, sofa, shelves, passenger seats)
- MACHINES (eg: generators, transformers, water pumps, car engines, polishing) machine compressors, grinding machine, gearbox, air conditions, printers & scanner, gym machine,CPUs)
- SCRAPERS (eg: electrical and mechanical, alluminium, metal & plastic, ceilingboards, iron sheets, wood & steel,)
- OTHERS (Water tanks, water bozer, drums, horse pipes, batteries, Baggagetrolly, Cctv cameras, runway edge lights and more assets/items to be auctioned.)

MASHARTI YA MNADA

- 1. Mnada utafanyika tarehe 02.06.2021 na 03.06.2021 katika ofisi za Kilimanjaro Airports Development Company limited (KADCO) zilizopo Kilimanjaro international Airport (KIA)
- 2. Muda wa kuingia getini ni saa 03:00 asubuhi
- 3. Ukaguzi wa mali utafanyika asubuhi saa 03:00 04:00 asubuhi kwa siku zote za mnada.
- 4. Mnada utaanza saa 04:00 asubuhi.
- 5. Mali zitauzwa kama zilivyo.
- 6. Mnunuzi atakayeshinda atalipa kiasi chote cha fedha papohapo na kuchua mali zake.

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NATIONAL NEWS

Minister pledges to improve investment climate

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTER for Investment Geoffrey Mwambe has said the government will continue to improve the investment climate in the country and remove the nuisances that have been hampering growth of the investment sector.

He was speaking recently at an interactive round-table event attended by key stakeholders in Dar es Salaam to discuss a report released by an advisory firm, EY on the Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) economic and social impact in the country. The event was a forum for dynamic engagement amongst key decision makers to discuss the role of the agricultural and manufacturing industries in Tanzania's socio-economic development, and the route to Tanzanian prosperity through partnership and collaboration.

Mwambe commended the company for its plan to use locally available raw materials to produce its products which has significantly helped increase employment and improve the lives of farmers.

"I am glad to hear that TBL is now perfectly positioned to play its part in the realization of Tanzania's five-year development plan FYDP goals. Its commitment focus on skills development and socio-economic inclusion and protection fosters human capital development," he said.

According to Mwambe the company's labour and product markets comprise deeply ingrained value chains that multiply the effects of productive efforts.

"TBL focuses on financial inclusion, research

and development and on the adoption of bestpractice technology and processes that drive innovation and development," the minister added.

TBL Managing Director, Philip Redman said: "As the world's leading beer company, AB InBev, and by extension TBL, is helping people, businesses and communities prepare for a strong economic and social recovery by improving livelihoods, advancing inclusion, and affirming its commitment to sustainability and responsible drinking.

Redman said that TBL has, through its history and actions, proven that it is committed to the empowerment and prosperity of Tanzanians.

We are proud of the way that our focus on financial inclusion, agricultural initiatives and innovative services have improved the livelihoods of many and supported economic growth to the broader benefit of the country," said Redman.

The report, entitled Economic Impact Analysis of TBL was published in February this year describing TBL's valuable contribution to the country's economy and its plans for Tanzania's further socio-economic development, capital investment, and job creation.

According to the report, the company sourced its raw materials locally, 74 percent (130bn/-), the gross value added by TBL to the economy is 613bn/- which is equivalent to 0.5 percent of the GDP.

TBL employs 25,000 full-time equivalent workers, accounting for 0.1 percent of national employment whereas its annual economic output amounted to 755bn/-.



TADB's principal business development officer responsible for gender, women and youth Mboka Mwanitu speaks at a three-day training organised by the agro-bank in collaboration with the National College of Tourism (NCT) in Dar es Salaam yesterday. On her (R) is the college's director of entrepreneurship training Florian Mtei. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TADB partners with NCT to empower 150 women food processors

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) in collaboration with the National College of Tourism (NCT) have organised a special workshop targeting 150 women that aims to strengthen the capacity of women in the food vendor business and agro processing sector in the country.

According to a joint statement by TADB and NCT, shortly after the launching of the programme meant for women in catering, food processing and other foods and beverage services planned for three regions of Arusha, Mwanza and Dar es Salaam, with the view to enhancing the skills of small-scale women vendors on the preparation of authentic Tanzanian traditional food as a source of tourism attraction.

Speaking during the official launch of the workshop held at the NCT campus in Dar es Salaam yesterday, TADB's Principal Business Development Officer responsible for gender, women and youth, Mboka Mwanitu who represented the bank's managing director, Japhet Justine said that the bank was keen on strengthening the capacity of women in the food service industry because women

comprise of over 60 percent of the agricultural labor force in Tanzania as farmers, entrepreneurs, and labourers, and are playing significant roles in agribusiness supply chains. Thus, investing in women along agribusiness valuechains can maximize their contri-

bution to the sector. "As a development financial institution, we have a role to support initiatives done by different stakeholders that enhance the agricultural value-chains in the country. Our partnership with NCT is to ensure that women engaging in food vending and processing business are trained

to ensure the value added to food is authentic, of high standard and translate to increase of their incomes," said Mwanitu.

"In the near future, we hope to formalise the women participants into groups, assist them with the proper financial literacy and business planning skills, so that they can be bankable, and increase their chances of accessing finance with us and our partners through a special credit scheme for women. We believe that this will enable their businesses and incomes to be sustainable," explained Mwanitu.

On her part, the Chief Execu-

tive Officer of NCT, Dr Shogo Mlozi, said that the training is designed to empower women in topics such as; food safety, handling and hygienic practices; traditional foods recipe creation and application; processing and preservation of selected traditional cuisines.

"There is a good number of women who work in the food industry. Some are food vendors, entrepreneurs in food processing and others in packaging. All these need to be reached on how best they can provide their services in hygienic and qualified standards of food safety.

Our processed food should be safe for consumption by both domestic and international tourists. At the end of the day, we also want them to become financially stable and enjoy the fruits of the food service and agro processing industry in the country," Dr Mlozi emphasized. In addition to that, Mwanitu

emphasized that agriculture is the backbone of the nation's economy, and if properly utilised, Tanzania can promote tourism through food. "We can promote traditional

and local foods as touristic product and as a means of economic development and a way to retain our authentic cultural identity. With trained food vendors, we are able to open markets for grain staples, grain legumes, fruit, vegetables and other products that are produced by our farmers while attracting tourists into our traditional cuisines," Mwanitu elaborated.

The workshops will take place in three NCT campuses found in Arusha, Dar es Salaam and Mwanza. In every of the three campuses a batch of 50 women will be trained for three days. The training includes both theoretical and practical aspects.



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Mantra Tanzania Limited (Mantra), operating as a subsidiary of Uranium One, is focused on the potential development of a Uranium Mine at its Mkuju River Project (MRP) in the Namtumbo District of Ruvuma Region.

Now Mantra Tanzania Ltd invites eligible Civil Contractors to express their Interest (EOI) for the road upgrade from Namtumbo to Mkuju River Project site(approximately 80Kms) as per Scope of Work to be provided to short-listed contractors.

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- Detailed Company Information with Organization structure, List of workers with CVs of key personnel.
- · Details of completion of similar type of contracts in the last three years and similar contracts/agreements currently under execution under headings:
 - Brief scope of work a)
 - Value of work in USD b)
 - **Contractual Duration** c)
 - d) Clients name

- e) Contact details of the Client (Mantra may approach the client directly for the feedback).
- Details of Resources available in terms of number of manpower, equipment etc. for providing similar services
- Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) policies, procedures and statistics covering the last 4 years.
- Copies of Valid Quality Certifications / Accreditations, ISO certifications, If any
- Company's financial performance documents (Audited Balance sheets, Profit and Loss Account & cash flow statement, Auditors Report and Notes to Accounts etc.) for last 3 (three) years. Latest financial statement should not be older than 18 months on the date of submission of response to Expression of interest.
- Current Tax Clearance certificate from relevant authority.
- Corporate ownership including main shareholders by percentage.

The interested bidders should submit a soft copy of their Expression of Interest (EOI) via e-mail address; francis.rweyemamu@uraniuml.co.tz and the hard copy to the below address latest on 4th June 2021 at 16.00 hours.

Managing Director

Mantra Tanzania Ltd

Plot No. 1520, Masaki Ikon, Bains Avenue-Masaki, P.O. Box 23451, Tel +255762700440, Dar es Salaam.

Govt directs LGAs to ensure measurement equipment in hospitals are well calibrated

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has directed all local government authorities (LGAs) to ensure that measurement equipment in health facilities are well calibrated to give the right results.

The call was made here yesterday by the Permanent Secretary in the ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Prof Abel Makubi in a statement read on his behalf by Dr James Kiologwe.

Speaking while officiating at the event to mark the World Metrology Day, he noted that most health facilities in the country have not done calibration of equipment.

While stating that the government is working hard to increase the number of calibration cenres in the country, he called on the Tanzania Bureau of Statistics (NBS) to strengthen cooperation with other stakeholders to improve calibration services.

"Effects of poor calibration can cost people their lives as well as negatively impact the national economy," he said.

The PS noted that this year's World Metrology Day with the

theme, "Measurement for Health" reminds service providers, government and the public the importance of right measurements, especially in the health sector.

He added that the theme was chosen to create awareness of the important role measurement plays in health, and thus in the wellbeing of everyone in the world.

According to the PS, more widely metrology, the science of measurement, plays a central role in scientific discovery and innovation, industrial manufacturing and international trade, in improving the quality of life and in protecting the global environment.

The meeting was convened by TBS and brought together stakeholders from different institutions including higher learning institutions, government ministries and departments, among others.

Representing TBS director general, Johanes Maganga said in commemoration of the international event, the bureau organized a oneday conference for the stakeholders to share their views on how measurement methods are critical in achieving quality health practices.

He noted that experts from different offices were to make presentations that was to be followed by an interactive panel discussion session, where participants may join in and present their views or raise questions.

Earlier, in his welcoming remarks, College of Business Education (CBE) Rector, Kembo Bwana argued that quality measurement is very important for it affects every part of human life.

He thanked TBS for convening the meeting in line with other international community, saying, "We should all work towards improving measurements as we join the rest of the world in marking the day."

World Metrology Day is an annual celebration of the signature of the Metre Convention on 20 May 1875 by representatives of seventeen nations. The Convention set the framework for global collaboration in the science of measurement and in its industrial, commercial and societal applications.

The original aim of the Metre Convention - the world-wide uniformity of measurement - remains as important today as it was in 1875.





EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Management Sciences for Health (MSH), a global health nonprofit organization, uses proven approaches developed over 40 years to help leaders, health managers, and communities in developing nations build stronger health systems for greater health impact. We work to save lives by closing the gap between knowledge and action in public health. For more information, please visit our website www.msh.org

MSH is seeking to recruit highly motivated and result oriented individual Senior Technical Advisor (STA) for the Medicines, Technologies and Pharmaceutical Services Program (MTAPS) in Tanzania

The Senior Technical Advisor, (STA) provides management support and technical assistance for the design and implementation of the country interventions related to Global Health Security Agenda /Antimicrobial Resistance (GHSA/AMR), working independently or as part of the country MSH or MTaPS team.

The STA provides support to Country Director, advises the HQ's Manager and Technical Lead of GHSA/AMR portfolio, and provides direct technical assistance to Ministry of Health and other country partners and stakeholders. As required, the STA also provides technical assistance to other MTaPS country activities and works with MTaPS Technical Strategy Lead and other MSH technical staff on opportunities, new and existing tools, and country implementation programs related to strengthening pharmaceutical management systems.

Technical Assistance and Support (40%)

- Work with country stakeholders and international counterparts to help develop, review, implement, and monitor technical approaches and strategies for strengthening response to GHSA challenges in accordance with national strategies and action plans.
- Provide direct technical assistance to stakeholders and public and private facilities in designing and implementing AMR work plans and interventions including AMS
- Provide assistance in the development of specific AMR policies, guidelines, standard operating procedures, job aids, and other relevant materials
- Collaborate with stakeholders for the development, deployment and implementation of appropriate tools necessary to improve pharmaceutical management information systems and their appropriate use for decision making.
- As needed provide technical support to other MTaPS pharmaceutical systems strengthening and health elements activities in the country.

Capacity Building (40%)

- Participate assessments of the GHSA/AMR human resource capacity strengthening needs, and collaborate internally and externally to develop capacity strengthening strategy
- Work with national education stakeholders in designing and implementing required reform of pre- and in-service human capacity strengthening
- Develop costed project capacity strengthening strategies, roll-out plans, training and follow-up timelines
- In conjunction with country counterparts, develop/revise required training packages and materials
- Design, develop training packages, and conduct ToT exercises
- Facilitate AMR trainings and other capacity building exercises as planned
- As required, participate in the planning and delivery of broader capacity building programs aimed at national pharmaceutical system strengthening.

Monitoring and Evaluation (10%)

- In coordination with the M&E team, contribute to the development of country project M&E plan, and support the collection and validation of relevant data to report project indicators.
- Contribute to the adequate documentation and dissemination of program results and lessons learned, including the development and submission of abstracts and articles to scientific journals and conferences.

Coordination (5%)

- Coordinate with other MTaPS country project technical activities ensuring harmonized approach in line with MSH quality standards.
- Coordinate assigned technical areas and activities with other USAID-funded and international projects in the country.



Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority official briefs one of its customers in Kinondoni District on changes of meter reading and water billing recently. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Five local SMES focusing on nutrition selected to receive further support

By Guardian Reporter

FIVE local small and medium enterprises (SMES) focusing on nutrition-sensitive businesses were recently selected to receive further support and exposure to different stakeholders, including prospective investors.

The businesses were selected through Lishe Accelerator investor-ready programme held in Dar es Salaam organized by GAIN Tanzania and Sahara Ventures.

According to Lishe Accelerator Project Manager, Abbas Sykes, the selected teams are part of a project to nurture nutrition-sensitive SMEs which started in early December 2020 and lasted for 5 months until late April 2021.

"The peak was the investor-ready programme which aims at exposing SMEs to different stakeholders including financial institutions, hub managers, and SMEs from the like- minded persons who were invited and attended the event," he said.

He added that the benefits of the post acceleration support to the SMEs will not only be limited to be linked to experts but will also involve receiving guidance on how to manage books, prepare and execute branding and marketing strategies and generally improve their business models.

The selected businesses include Bionutra which produces science- based nutritious natural products from local ingredients for local and export markets, ALOHADO which produces organic food spices rich in various minerals and vitamins to help the body prevent and manage non-communicable diseases (NCDs).

Others are Luke Tanzania Ltd, producing beetroot paste that offers high source of iron and folate mostly to pregnant women, Sai Diary, a Zanzibar SME producing milk and yoghurt to improve nutrition in the Isles and Adeck Juice which produces fresh, healthy and affordable meal options.

Villagers now admit to have lied to late JPM over mining investor

By Guardian Correspondent having the investor evicted

TWENTY villagers of Chalangwa village in Chunya District, Mbeya Region who represented fellow villagers went to the District Commissioner's Office to admit having lied to the late President John Magufuli.

In their statement to fl the DC, Mayeka Simon c Mayeka, the villagers said a in April 2019 during the to late President's visit to the V village, they told him there was one mining investor w near the village's cemetery fl and water source hence he was posing hazards to their in safety.

Speaking on behalf of fellow villagers, Salum Hussein, a longtime resident of Chalangwa Village said the statement given to the late President Magufuli was not true at all, adding that they decided to say lies to make the late President assist them to evict the investor as he was not a resident of the village.

Hussein said some fellow villagers decided to lie before late Magufuli after having been encouraged by some people, who he did not name, to assist them in

and leave behind the mining plots for them to mine for gold, as they said there was huge quantities of gold under the surface.

He further said after they 'lied' to the late President, the latter directed the Energy Minister to follow up the matter and if possible

the investor's mining licence should be revoked and the areas handed back to the villagers. Chalangwa Village Chairman Thadeo Elias said the villagers who were intimidated to lie to the late President Magufuli had believed that once the investor was removed they would be given the area, but the situation did not turn so.

"After we lied to the late President Magufuli, the investor was stopped in his mining activities in the areas for the reason 'given' by the villagers, but as it turned out even the villagers themselves have been prohibited to mine in the areas for similar reasons," Elias said, and added that in the circumstances they saw it better to admit to their lies, and if possible the mining plots should be restored to the investor.

Performance Management (5%)

• Supervise assigned Technical Advisors ensuring the adequacy of their performance and their continuous professional development.

Education

Required:

• Graduate degree in pharmacy or medicine with practical hands-on experience in antimicrobial stewardship/AMR activities at health care facilities. Experience working with MOHCDGEC pharmaceutical services unit as technical person directly indirectly.

Preferred:

• Pharmacist or Physician with public health specialization preferred.

Experience

Required:

• 5 years of relevant experience in pharmaceutical management (PM) and pharmaceutical systems development and strengthening in developing country context, including experience in the areas of AMR containment including antimicrobial stewardship (AMS).

Preferred:

- Experience in AMR containment highly desirable.
- Field experience with public health programs in developing country context supported by bilateral agencies such as USAID, CDC and international agencies such as the Global Fund, UNITAID, WHO and World Bank preferred.

Knowledge and Skills

- Excellent writing and presentation skills in English are essential.
- Proficiency in English is required, languages of other USAID-supported countries is an asset.
- Strong computer skills; Excel, MS Word, MS Project, PowerPoint.
- Demonstrated competence to assess priorities and manage a variety of activities in a time- sensitive environment and meet deadlines with attention to detail and quality.

Competencies

- Cultural sensitivity and diplomacy
- Ability to work independently and in team
- Good judgment for decision making.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills; ability in consensus building and constructively leading a team. *Physical Demands*
- Ability to travel internationally and domestically up to 40% of time as required to support the progress of program activities.

For further detail and to apply for the position, please visit the Employment Opportunities section of our website at;https://msh.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/External/job/Tanzania-Dar-es-Salaam/Senior-Technical-Advisor--GHSA-Portfolio-and-Technical-Management_R918 by May 29th, 2021. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted

MSH is an equal opportunity employer and will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender or gender identity, religion, creed, citizenship, national origin, age, veteran status, or disability unrelated to job requirements. MSH will take affirmative action to ensure that qualified applicants are employed and that employees are treated without regard to their race, age, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, veteran and disability status. In compliance with U.S. Department of Labor Executive Order 11246, Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act, and Section 4212 of the Vietnam Era Readjustment Assistance Act, MSH has developed and maintains an affirmative action program and plan.

EDITORIALS.OPINION



PCCB cases show need to rethink institutional layout

ADMISSIONS that up to 147 cases relating to corruption - and in that case many relating to economic crimes accusations where bail isn't permitted - were quite simply trumped up is a moment of reckoning that should not pass unnoticed. This datum was made as part of remarks by President Samia Suluhu Hassan, noting that the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) has dropped those 147 cases, as it was clear there was no evidence for those cases. It is excess of zeal to move to arrest and wait.

The president was launching a police uniforms factory in Dar es Salaam, built through internal police revenues and costing upwards of 680m/-on the basis of the department's affirmation. This admission shows how far the president's new appointees find they have plenty of work to do not just to clear up dust in files and remove incompetently filed cases, but shore up the image of the specific organizations they are leading. Are 147 cases that had to be dropped illustrating inadequate investigations, or simple ill will?

What is apparent is that the president wished to be candid about the matter, in which case the logic of the remarks is that the cases had no evidence because they were trumped up, not that they lacked evidence and were thus thought to have been trumped up. The president then talked about the agency having to "carry self-evaluation" but it was in reference to dropping the charges if they have no evidence "so that we minimize congestion in our prisons.

' Many in the law profession are wondering if there is need for wider self-evaluation, or one that

One such question is whether the spirit (habit, practice, procedure) of trumping up charges was a result of individual misdemeanor (not to say abuse of office) or it was unavoidable in the way the agency conducts its work. The latter impression seems to be valid because 147 cases - even if there are other cases which are yet to be reviewed - are far too many for such practice to be seen as isolated instances of bureaucratic error or personal malice, unless it is conducted for systemic reasons, that are understood by higher levels. In that sense it can be said to have been part of someone's duties to write charges and let the ball roll on.

It appears also that for there to be need for hundreds of potential trumped up charges against individuals, it must be related to there being little interest or institutional vocation to fight corruption, as investigating real corruption puts at risk professional and other relationships. Corruption isn't fought with desks where people report any instances of corruption. The reason is that whoever is accused will socially be more important than the one sending that information, in which case deals can easily be arranged with the responsible officer, etc.

Democratic countries in the West don't have bureaucracies charged with fighting corruption but police desks. It is poor countries with large state outlays in vital economic spheres - where corruption is rife - who set up such agencies, to calm public sentiments.

The higher authorities know perfectly well that these bodies will not put anyone to shame for being corrupt; agents lay traps

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Justice minister lashes out at judiciary

By Carmel Rickard

IT'S been a weekend of great courtroom drama in Zimbabwe. Three High Court judges unanimously decided that the country's Chief Justice, Luke Malaba (pictured), was constitutionally barred from continuing in office beyond his 70th birthday on 15 May. In response to this decision, the country's Minister of Justice, Legal & Parliamentary Affairs, Ziyambi Ziyambi, issued a vitriolic statement that some lawyers claim amounts to contempt of court. And while the Minister wants to appeal the court decision, there might not be any judges qualified to hear the challenge. The case, brought as an urgent matter by human rights lawyer Musa Kika against the Minister, Malaba and others, was argued for 11 hours on Friday, beginning at 2pm and running deep into the night. Kika wanted to test the announcement, made late last week, that Zimbabwe's CI would not retire on turning 70 as required by the Constitution. Instead, in terms of a new constitutional amendment, President Emmerson Mnangagwa would allow him to stay on for a further five years. All members of the Supreme Court and the Constitutional Court are similarly affected by the sections permitting an additional five-year term after they turn 70, so Kika cited them all in his application as well. He also cited those judges of the High Court who were acting in the Supreme Court on the basis that any of them 'may very well be a substantive judge of the Supreme Court' by the time his application was filed or decided. (The amendment does not apply to High Court judges and they are not given the choice whether to stay on beyond compulsory retirement at 70.) Following a countrywide referendum, a new Constitution was adopted in 2013. Under that Constitution, judges of all the superior courts have to retire at 70. During December 2019, it became clear that the Cabinet had approved a constitutional amendment that would prolong the tenure of senior judges, a move



can be conducted by the Law Reform Commission to answer key issues.

for small bribes, or trump up charges, period. Can't we just beef up police investigations?

We should globally counter threats to cultural diversity

force of change and development, is increasingly under threat, United Nations agencies said, reaffirming support for the cultural diversity that stems from migration.

"Across the world, violent extremists have targeted cultural minorities and destroyed our shared heritage. to weaken the essential links between people and their history," said Irina Bokova, the Director-General of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

Marking the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, Bokova called for a new humanism for the 21st century, to renew the fundamental aspirations to justice, mutual understanding and dignity that guide all women and men.

She quoted Martin Luther King Jr., saying: 'injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny.' By embracing cultural diversity, the international community can more easily achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which draw upon "the strength and creative potential of humanity's diversity of cultures.'

Similarly, the Director-General of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), William Lacy Swing, urged governments and their citizens to embrace migration, despite its challenges, and help to develop common understandings, values and perspectives.

"It is sometimes asked whether the West's multiculturalism, its diversity, has reached its limits? Can

CULTURAL diversity, the driving a society only cope with so much diversity? The answer is no. There has never been a city or a country brought down by too much 'diversity," said Swing.

> IOM has compiled stories from some of the migrants with whom it has worked, highlighting their lives and journey, and how they are making their families and their new community better. In today's statement, Swing noted that all societies are so-called multi-ethnic because no single state lives with a single culture: "Even states averse to permitting entry to more 'foreigners' must acknowledge the multiple 'cultures' within their own borders. All countries have them: religious, ethnic, social, societal, sexual, occupational, educational, dietary specificities."

The World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in December 2002 and celebrated annually on 21 May, is meant to be an opportunity for mobilisation on the part of governments, policy makers, civil society organizations, communities and cultural professionals to promote culture in its diversity and in all its forms.

The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) has emphasised that cultural diversity is a good weapon in the fight against poverty.Cultural diversity is as necessary for humankind as biodiversity is for nature. Cultural diversity - the driving force of change and development - is increasingly under threat, United Nations agencies said, reaffirming support for the cultural diversity that stems from migration.

'stigmatised as a form of authoritarian consolidation'.

Kika's case was that the purpose of the amendment was to 'assail' judicial independence, and he added that it was a matter of regret that, as a result of the amendment, the impression could now be created that the judges concerned were 'being made to receive a favour, one which is fundamentally improper'.

The amendment was hurried through the national assembly and the senate, was given presidential assent on 7 May, and was now said to be in operation.

According to Kika, however, the Constitution required that such a change be the subject of a referendum - which had not taken place. Absent the proper formalities involved in changing the Constitution, the amendment could not lawfully extend the tenure of the senior judges. 'I must lament the fact that ... this matter causes much embarrassment to me as a Zimbabwean, particularly when I have to sue the entire superior court structure.'

He said the matter was urgent because if Malaba were to continue in office beyond his constitutionally mandated retirement date 'all his actions would be void.'

It was a dispute whose resolution would determine whether there would be a constitutional crisis in Zimbabwe, he said.

The three judges who heard the case agreed it was urgent. They delivered their unanimous decision just hours after argument, holding that, despite the amendment, Malaba was constitutionally required to retire as CJ from 15 May.

Ziyambi responded with a 20-point statement claiming that the judiciary had been 'captured by foreign forces', that 'certain members of the opposition' were being paid a monthly allowance to cause 'turmoil' and 'for being arrested'. He said and an appeal would be brought.

But the question now arises as to who would hear such an appeal, since all the judges of the senior courts are implicated. Thanks to the contentious amendment, they too are directly affected by the 'favour' of being able to stay on for an additional five years, and they are cited by Kika for that verv reason.

The only time a similar problem has arisen in the region seems to have been a case involving the Judge President of the Western Cape, SA, John Hlophe. In 2008, judges of the Constitutional Court complained that he had attempted to influence some of its members in relation to a case. Years later, after the judicial service commission decided that the complaint should not be pursued, two applicants challenged this decision in the High Court. The outcome in the two cases was taken to the Supreme Court of Appeal where, in 2012, Hlophe lost in both cases. He wanted to appeal, but the question was - to which court? There had been some new appointees since the 2008 complaint. But when, in 2012, Hlophe wanted to appeal to the Constitutional Court, many of that court's judges were still those who had been party to the initial complaint against Hlophe or had become involved in the matter in other ways. This meant they could not sit in the court because of their 'perceived or actual interest in the outcome of the matter'. If, however, those members recused themselves, there would be no quorum to hear and decide the matter.

In its judgment on the case, the Constitutional Court said that litigants did not have an 'automatic right of appeal' and that leave to appeal must only be granted if the court concluded that it was in the interests of justice to do so. This was a key concept and one that ultimately decided the matter. There was a suggestion that acting judges should be appointed to hear the appeal. But the court found that the Constitution provided for the appointment of an acting judge of the Constitutional Court only where there was a 'vacancy' or if a judge was 'absent'. However, recusal did not cause a vacancy, said the court, nor were judges who had recused themselves, 'absent'.

The court was also not convinced by the argument that the parties had agreed to the 'conflicted judges' sitting in the case when they would normally have had to recuse themselves. So what was the answer? Clearly, the matter had to be finalised. But that did not mean the Constitutional Court had to agree to hear the appeal.

The court therefore unanimously concluded that, 'to preserve the fairness of its own processes', the court should refuse leave to appeal.

It's a judgment that should have considerable weight when it comes to deciding what to do next in Zimbabwe.

FEATURE

Guardian

County climate risk profiles critical and timely for Kenya's struggling smallholders

NAIROBI,

ERIS Wanjiku, a smallholder farmer in Othaya, Nyeri County, which lies approximately 152 kilometres from Kenya's capital, Nairobi, has watched as her fellow farmers have slowly started to sell off their land in the face of increasingly erratic weather patterns.

"For the right price, more and more farmers are willing to give up their farms. We have seen it happen in Kiambu County and it is slowly happening right here in Nyeri," she told IPS.

The survival of Kenya's smallholder farmers, who predominantly rely on rainfed agricultural systems, is at stake as agricultural experts warn that farmers are increasingly battling floods, droughts and heat stress at more frequent, intense and unpredictable rates. It has led to severe crop and livestock losses.

Wanjiku said that in a good year, a commercial crop farmer makes between \$2,000 to \$3,000 per acre from crops such as maize, wheat, tea and coffee. At the same time the price of land was quite high.

"An acre of farm land in Kiambu generally goes for a minimum of \$100,000, depending on the area. If I hold on to my acre, how many years will it take me to make that kind of money? We are at a crossroads," Wanjiku said.

Government statistics show that the country's average smallholder land size is approximately 1.2 acres.

At the same time the average price for an acre of land in Kiambu County is \$323,000 - the third-highest land price across the county. According to the Hass Consult, a leading real estate company, the highest land prices are in Kenya's capital, Nairobi, followed by the coastal county of Mombasa.

It is within this context that the Alliance of Bioversity International and the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) has developed 45 Climate Risk Profiles for all agricultural counties in Kenya, with the exception of urban Counties of Nairobi and Mombasa.

All 45 profiles were developed in three phases. The first 15 profiles were completed in 2017, the second batch of 16 profiles in 2019 and the final batch of 14 profiles will be launched this year.

"Kenya's County Climate Risk Profiles are brief and comprehensive documents. They highlight priority value chains, farming systems and geographic areas that are highly sensitive and exposed to climate factors," Dr. Caroline Mwongera, a scientist at the Alliance, told IPS.

A value chain in agriculture is a set of actors and activities involved right from the production level to consumption.

"Further, these profiles provide an assessment of the programmatic interventions and the level of institutional capacity needed to help farmers and pastoralists cope with climate related risks and vulnerabilities," she said.

Mwongera explained that these profiles were developed in an effort to guide and prioritise climate-smart agricultural investments at county level. This is critical since Kenya has a devolved system of governance where power and resources are shared between the national government and all 47 county governments.

"In every county, key value chain commodities were identified and the most problematic climatic hazards outlined. They therefore detail the vulnerabilities and risks posed by climate risks to people, their livelihoods, investments and the environment," Mwongera said.

For example, one profile on Kakamega County noted the impact of drought and delayed onset of rains as well as higher temperatures dur-



Farmers like Peris Wanjiku continue to battle climate-related risks at a more frequent and intense rate.

ing the hot season and lower temperatures during the cold season and this impact on farmers.

The report then listed adaptation strategies that farmers were using to cope with the changing climate and listed additional on-farm and off-farm adaptation practices. Off-farm activities refers to farming activities undertaken outside of a farm setting such as marketing of produce etc.

Overall, all 45 profiles provide an overview of climate risk issues and, historical and future climate trends in this East African nation.

Kenya's Food Security report released in January

predicted a 30 percent decrease in harvest due to below-average rainfall experienced from October to December 2020.

A similar report released in March forecast belowaverage long rains from March through May this year and a subsequent low harvest.

Against this backdrop, climate risk profiles give a synthesis of the policy, institutional and governance frameworks that can create an enabling environment for farmers to overcome climate related risks.

Mwongera also said that the latest batch of profiles made reference to the need for a women-responsive

climate risk management plan.

Judy Matu, the chair of the Association of Women in Agriculture Kenya, explained to IPS: "Women play a very central role in agriculture. Building climate-resilient agricultural systems requires that women are involved, that they actively participate and are champions of climate smart agriculture."

World Bank estimates show that women run at least three-quarters of Kenya's farms. Meanwhile, women were allocated only 1.6 percent of approximately 10 million hectares of land that was registered between 2013 and 2017, according to the Kenya Land Alliance.

"We indeed have the issue of male-dominated land ownership and female-dominated land use. A majority of women farmers do not have the power to make decisions on how land is utilised," Matu told IPS.

Matu said that at the same time, not only do women farm on land that they do not own, all commercial crops and bigger livestock belong to men.

"Women run farms on a day-today basis and they need knowledge on proper farming practices such as agroforestry, organic and conservation farming. But trees also belong to men who decide whether a tree can be planted or cut," Matu said.

Matu said that initiatives are underway to overcome these challenges, including engaging both men and women in sensitisation sessions on the need to adapt more climate-resilient farming practices. This, she said, creates an enabling environment for women to put acquired knowledge into practice.

Meanwhile, farmers like Wanjiku continue to battle climate-related risks at a more frequent and intense rate. But Wanjiku said that if she could find solutions to overcome these challenges, she would not sell her land.

IPS



Rijk Zwaan Tanzania is located in Arusha. Tanzania. Currently with 450+ employees. Rijk Zwaan is an international

family company with a people-oriented culture. Rijk Zwaan is right at the start of the food chain. We develop vegetable varieties and sell the seeds produced from them globally. We have a long-term focus, which is why we offer our employees a permanent contract as soon as they join us. From our strategic position we contribute to the health and well-being of people all over the world. Everything we do is about growth. The growth of natural products that we export around the world. The growth of our company, which currently employs over 2,600 people in more than 30 countries. Above all the growth of our people: we give you every opportunity to use your own initiative and achieve your full potential. Working with colleagues to produce the best and tastiest vegetables. Reinforcing, helping and inspiring one another. That is how we continuously want to work together towards a healthy future. We have the following vacancy for dedicated diligent Tanzanians:

Job Title: Security Manager (1 Post)

- (a) Reports to: Managing Directors Tanzania
- (b) Job Summary: Security Manager will be responsible to safeguard all Rijk Zwaan Locations and lead the security organisation.

(c) Job Description

- i. Managing the security organisation
 - Leading the Team Coordinators Security directly and supervising the whole security staff.
 - Hierarchically responsible for the whole security team.
 - Responsible for correct training of the security team.
 - Responsible for the personal development of the Security team and monitoring the progress of individual team members and support team members in case of extraordinary circumstances like longer absence or subsequent reintegration.
 - Direct responsible for disciplinary issues in the security team, in collaboration with HR; handles and leads the personal development plan.
 - Also directly responsible for the guards at the residences.
 - End-Responsible for the monthly personnel planning prepared by the co-ordinators, in collaboration with team coordinators security.
 - Restructure and minimize overtime and improve planning.
 - Participate in the recruitment procedure of new team members.

ii. Strategic

- Responsible for creating and maintaining a professional security structure.
- Responsible for professionalizing and elevating the skills and competencies of the security team.
- Responsible for creating a solid security structure at all Rijk Zwaan Tanzania locations.
- · Advising and close involvement in the 5-year strategic personnel and investment planning of the security department.

iii. Operational

- Responsible for handling all security incidents.
- Investigates all security related issues; involving

for example theft, demolition, arson, trespassing etc.

- · Investigates or is a witness in disciplinary hearings.
- · Reports cases and incidents as soon as possible to Managing Directors, HR and the specific Station Manager.
- · Executes night patrols, twice a week on a non-routine basis, especially on Sunday nights.

iv. Advisorv

- Member of the management team, informs and gives advice to other managers about security.
- · Advises the Managing Directors and Station Managers on security risks; such as a lack of fencing, security measures.
- · Advisory role in health and safety issues and incidents.

v. Communication

- · Keeps in contact with surrounding villages in Swahili and English.
- Writes solid and structured reports on security issues.

(d) Requirements for a Security Manager

- Swahili and English good reporting skills.
- · Good people management skills

(e) Education and Experience

- · Security professional with proven management experience within the security industry.
- At least 7 10 years of experience in a similar field/role
- · Experience in an international setting is an added value.

(f) Status: Permanent Position.

How to Apply:

If you believe, you can clearly demonstrate your abilities to meet the criteria given above, please submit your application letter with a detailed CV attached with relevant academic certificates to, Rijk Zwaan at ajira@rijkzwaan.com

To be considered, your application must be received by 07th June 2021. Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

Rijk Zwaan is an equal opportunity company, everyone is encouraged to apply.

Request for Quotation RFQ No. 4430 Purchase of ICT Equipment

Due Date and Time for Receipt of Offers: Thursday, 3 June 2021 at 11:00 AM EAT

Jhpiego (pronounced "ja-pie-go"), is an international non-profit health organization affiliated with the Johns Hopkins University.

For more than 45years and in over 40 countries, Jhpiego has empowered front-line health workers by designing and implementing effective, low-cost, hands-on solutions to strengthen the delivery of health care services for women and their families. By putting evidence-based health innovations into everyday practice, Jhpiego works to break down barriers to high-quality health care for the world's most vulnerable populations. Jhpiego's focus is on training and support for health care providers-including doctors, nurses, midwives and health educators working in limited-resource settings throughout Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Jhpiego's program management strategy recognizes the technical complexity and geographical, cultural, socio-economic and political diversity among our programs. We develop global program initiatives and technical interventions that can be adapted for country-specific applications. In support of this field-driven philosophy, Jhpiego uses a decentralized organizational structure that consists of a global "delivery system" designed to implement the entire portfolio of Jhpiego awards with assistance from key technical, programmatic and administrative staff.

Jhpiego Tanzania office hereby invites submission of quotations from eligible suppliers for supply of ICT Equipment.

Interested eligible bidders may request for a complete set of bidding documents from the following email address: TZ-Jhpiegobids@jhpiego.org

A prospective bidder having any question regarding this RFQ shall send an email 3 days prior to the due date and time for submission of offers to the email address provided in this advert.

All proposals must be delivered to the email address provided in this advert before Thursday, 3 June 2021 at 11:00 AM EAT.

Jhpiego reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal, and to annul the bidding process and reject all proposals at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to bidders. Late proposals, electronic proposals, proposals not received shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

> **Country Director**, Jhpiego Tanzania. Plot No. 72, Block 45B, Victoria Area, New Bagamoyo Road P.O. Box 9170, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Tel: +255 756 888 388

FEATURE

Xi, Putin witness launch of joint nuclear energy project, high-quality China-Russia cooperation boosted

BEIJING

HINESE President Xi Jinping and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin on Wednesday witnessed the ground-breaking ceremony of a bilateral nuclear energy cooperation project, Tianwan nuclear power plant and Xudapu nuclear power plant, via video link.

Xi arrived at the main venue of the Great Hall of the People at around 5:00 p.m. Beijing time and waved to Putin, who had joined in from the main venue of the Kremlin.

He Lifeng, vice chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and head of the National Development and Reform Commission, co-chaired the ceremony with Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak.

Heads of relevant departments, local officials and constructor representatives of China and Russia attended the ceremony from the subvenue of Tianwan nuclear power plant in Lianyungang City, east China's Jiangsu Province, sub-venue of Xudapu nuclear power plant in Huludao City, northeast China's Liaoning Province, and two Russian sub-venues. The heads of the companies of both countries reported on the progress of the project to the two heads of state.

Xi and Putin delivered their speeches respectively.

Speaking at the ceremony, Xi extended congratulations on the launch of the China-Russia nuclear energy cooperation project and paid high respect to the constructors from the two countries.

Noting that this year marks the 20th anniversary of the signing of the China-Russia Treaty of Good-Neighborliness and Friendly Cooperation, Xi said that he and President Putin have agreed to advance the development of bilateral relations to a higher level and expand the ties to broader fields.

In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic unseen in a century, China and Russia have firmly supported each other and cooperated closely and effectively, which is a vivid demonstration of the China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era, he said.

Xi stressed that energy cooperation has always been the most important area of practical cooperation which generates the largest achievement and covers the widest scope between the two countries.

Noting that nuclear energy is the strategic priority for bilateral cooperation and a series of major projects have been completed and put into operation, Xi said the four nuclear power units that kicked off construction on Wednesday mark another major landmark in China-Russia nuclear energy cooperation.

Xi put forward a three-point proposal at the ceremony. First, he called on both sides to adhere to the principle of safety first and set a model for global nuclear energy cooperation.

It is necessary to construct and operate the four units with high quality and high standards, create a global benchmark in nuclear safety, give full play to complementary advantages, expand and deepen bilateral and multilateral cooperation on nuclear energy, and contribute more to the development of the global nuclear energy industry, he said.

Second, Xi suggested the two countries deepen scientific and technological cooperation on nuclear energy by sticking to the driving force of innovation.

He urged deepened cooperation on the basic research, key technology research and development, and transformation of innovative achievements in the field of nuclear energy, such as nuclear environmental protection, nuclear medicine, nuclear fuel and advanced nuclear power technology, so as to promote the deep integration of the nuclear energy industry and the new generation of digital technology, and contribute more wisdom to the innovative development of nuclear energy globally.

Third, he called for adherence to strategic collaboration to promote the coordinated development of the governance system of the global energy industry. He said that it is necessary to promote the building of a global energy governance system featuring justice, equity, balance, inclusiveness, openness and shared benefits, and contribute more solu-



Workers attend the launch ceremony for the construction of Unit 3 of the Xudapu nuclear power plant in Huludao City of northeast China's Liaoning Province, on May 19, 2021. (Xinhua)

the further development of Russia-China relations but also help achieve the goals to peak carbon dioxide emissions and achieve carbon neutrality.

It will also contribute to coping with global climate change and realizing the sustainable development of humanity, Putin added.

The Chinese representatives at the sub-venue of the Tianwan nuclear power plant and the sub-venue of the Xudapu nuclear power plant then reported to the two heads of state that preparations for the start of construction are completed.

President Xi issued the instruction "Start!"

After the Russian representatives reported to the two heads of state that the equipment is ready to be installed, President Putin issued the instruction "Start!'

The project was officially launched as the first tank of cement was poured at the construction site of the power plants.

Yang Jiechi and Wang Yi attended the ceremony. Units 7 and 8 of the Tianwan nuclear power plant and units 3 and 4 of the Xudapu nuclear power plant are significant projects in a package cooperation deal on nuclear energy. It was signed with a witness by the two heads of state in June 2018. When completed and put into operation, the annual power generation will reach 37.6 billion kilowatt-hours, which is equivalent to reducing carbon dioxide emissions by 30.68 million tonnes per year.

Nuclear energy cooperation is a traditional priority cooperation area for China and Russia. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Zhao Lijian said that the project is the biggest China-Russia nuclear energy cooperation project to date. Zhao said it represents a high level of practical cooperation between the two countries, adding that the successful beginning of the construction of the four units demonstrates the constructive cooperation outcomes in high-end equipment manufacturing and science and technology innovation between the two countries.

Gavrilin Alexander, a Russian engineer, said he has been working on the Tianwan nuclear power plant since 2003 and highly anticipates that the construction of units 7 and 8 could be completed and put into operation at an early date. He said the new units are "much more powerful, advanced, and safer."

The construction of nuclear power plants is technology-intensive, which requires both sides to mutually cooperate with sincerity and solidarity. "It reflects the deep friendship and mutual trust between the

two countries," Gavrilin Alexander said, adding that he believed China-Russia nuclear energy cooperation will achieve win-win results.

Deng Hao, secretary general of the China Center for Shanghai Cooperation Organization Studies, said with an increase in complementary trade between the two countries, the nuclear energy projects will further consolidate the material foundation of bilateral cooperation and enhance the trade and economic exchanges between China and Russia.

The event on Wednesday is also the first online bilateral exchange at the head-of-state level between the two sides since the beginning of this year. It is of great significance in guiding the China-Russia comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era to maintain high-level development, spokesperson Zhao said.

In recent years, the world has slowed down the pace of building new nuclear power plants. Experts believed that China-Russia nuclear energy cooperation will become a highlight in the global nuclear power industry and help boost worldwide confidence in this energy development.

Besides, since nuclear energy is clean and efficient, the four units will effectively reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Deng Hao said this cooperation project demonstrates that China and Russia take the same stand on combating global climate change and realizing green development.

"It also shows China's firm determination to peak its carbon dioxide emissions and achieve carbon neutrality, and its commitment as a responsible major nation," he added.



tions to global energy governance.

"Responding to climate change is a common task for all countries," Xi said, adding that China and Russia should promote more low-carbon cooperation projects and play a constructive role in achieving global sustainable development goals.

For his part, Putin expressed warm congratulations on the start of the construction of the Tianwan nuclear power plant and the Xudapu nuclear power plant. He said that Russia has the confidence to work with China to smoothly and safely advance the project's construction.

Noting that this year marks the 20th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Good-neighborliness and Friendly Cooperation between the two countries, Putin said Russia-China relations reached their best level in history. He added that the consensus reached between President Xi and himself has been well implemented with increasingly broader cooperation areas.

He said cooperation on the peaceful use of nuclear energy marks a significant part of the comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era between the two countries, and it is believed that the start of the four nuclear power units will not only inject new vitality into

Photo taken on May 18, 2021 shows a construction site where Units 7 and 8 of the Tianwan nuclear power plant are about to be built, in Lianyungang City, east China's Jiangsu Province. (Xinhua)



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

Guardian

11

Anti-soil acidity project launched in Songwe

By Guardian Correspondent, Songwe

THE project spearheaded by the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (Sagcot) that seeks to eliminate soil acidity in Songwe Region was launched here yesterday by Agriculture Minister Prof Adolf Mkenda.

The project is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and is also being implemented in Rwanda, Kenya and Ethiopia.

Prof Mkenda, whose speech was read by the acting Songwe Regional Administrative Secretary, John Mwaijulu, called on Songwe farmers to make most of the project and increase harvest per acre. A maize grower in Songwe harvests seven bags while ideally such a farmer would harvest 30 bags if fertilizer was properly used and soil acidity was eliminated.

The minister said Songwe farmers top the list in using fertilizer in Tanzania, but they get small harvests because they do not know that their soil had a lot of acid. The project, he said, seeks to end the challenge and called on farmers to take it very seriously. He also said it will be wise to open a lime factory in the region so that farmers can easily get lime to fight soil acidity.

Professor Mkenda thanked four other institutions (AGRA, CIMMYT, TARI, TFRA) that together with BMGF are sponsoring the project.

Sagcot Chief Executive Officer Geoffrey Kirenga also thanked the five sponsors and said there should be concerted efforts towards making Tanzania produce enough lime to fight soil acidity.

CIMMYT representative, Frederic Baudron, said their institution will cooperate with Tanzania and ensure requisite information on soil health and crop husbandry reaches farmers timely to increase productivity.

Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) Chief Executive Officer, Geoffrey Kirenga (R) exchanges views with Songwe Regional Administrative Secretary John Mwaijulu (C) during the launch of Acid Soil Management Investments in Africa (GAIA) project. Left is the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI) Director General Dr Geoffrey Mkamilo. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Coca-Cola Kwanza backs Police force's community engagement efforts on combating social crimes

By Guardian Reporter

COCA-COLA Kwanza Ltd has donated 2,000 copies of guidelines on crime disclosing and prevention worth over 6m/- to the Police force to strengthen efforts on community engagement in combating social crimes.

The handover ceremony was held at the Ministry of Home Affairs in Dar es Salaam

yesterday and was attended by high-ranking Police officers led by the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Simon Sirro and Coca-Cola Kwanza staffs led by the Director of Public Affairs, Communications and Sustainability Salum Nassor. Speaking during the func-

tion, IGP Sirro commended the beverage company for supporting the the Policet in-

sisting the force will effectively use the copies to educate communities to ensure they understand well the tactics and strategies of disclosure and crimes prevention. He said the documents will be distributed to communities at wards, villages, and streets level.

"Criminals live with us, it is our duty to disclose the information and work towards

a crime free society", he said. "Companies like Coca-Cola Kwanza know the importance of this and the work that the Police force do to ensure it is attained. We are pleased that they have supported our efforts", he added.

Coca-Cola Kwanza Director of Public Affairs, Communications and Sustainability Director, Salum Nassor said: "Just like the police force,

community is at the centre of decisions at Coca-Cola Kwanza, both institutions want to ensure their services is at arm's length of a Tanzanian, that is why there is Coke every corner of this country same way there are Police representatives, but we want to do more".

"After finding out about IGP's efforts to raise awareness on how to disclose and

prevent crimes at lower levels of our communities we decided to join hands and support the project as we believe in leaving our mark in the lives of our people. Safe communities bring about a safe business environment," he added.

Nassor went on to invite

other stakeholders to work

together with the govern-

ment in value adding projects

promising that Coca-Cola Kwanza will continue to support government efforts and its institutions to improve the lives of Tanzanians.

Coca-Cola Kwanza has a vision of improving the lives of the people it refreshes, through different youth and women programmes, recycling programs and different corporate social responsibilities.

Africa's rainforests in six countries found resistant to extra heat and drought

By Guardian Correspondent



AFRICA'S tropical forests appear more resilient as carbon sinks than Amazonian rainforests - mopping up planet-warming carbon dioxide even when sizzling El Nino heat halted absorption in other parts of the world, researchers said.

They studied the impact of the worst El Nino weather event on record - in 2015-16 - on intact rainforests in six African nations: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Cameroon, Ghana, Liberia and Congo Republic.

El Nino is a warming of ocean surface temperatures in the Pacific that occurs every few years. It affects wind patterns and can trigger both floods and drought across the world.

The new study found that trees in the African forests continued to remove carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, despite experiencing drought and a warming of 0.92 degrees Celsius above the 1980-2010 average temperature.

"We saw no sharp slowdown of tree growth, nor a big rise in tree deaths, as a result of the extreme climatic conditions," said Amy Bennett, lead author of the study and a professor at Britain's University of Leeds, in a statement.

"Overall, the uptake of carbon dioxide by these intact rainfor-

but they continued to and Borneo.' function as a carbon sink, slowing the rate of termine the tempera-

climate change." ture that the forests would completely stop According to the research, the forests across absorbing CO2, said re-Africa still removed 1.1 searchers, but a previbillion tonnes of carbon ous study showed they dioxide annually during started to lose carbon at the 2015/16 El Nino pearound 32.2C (90 degrees riod - equivalent to three Fahrenheit). times Britain's CO2 emis-

sions in 2019. highlight the important role that African rainfor-Researchers said their findings were surprising ests play in combating because similar condiclimate change, but also tions in rainforests in the the need to ensure they Amazon and Southeast are protected, said the re-Asia had led to a tempoports' authors. rary halting or reversal "The resistance of inof carbon dioxide abtact African tropical for-

sorption. ests to a bit more heat "This is the first onand drought than they the-ground evidence of have experienced in the what happens when you past is welcome news," heat and drought an insaid co-author Bontact African rainforest," said Simon Lewis, the a professor at Universistudy's senior author ty of Yaounde I in Camand also a professor at the University of Leeds.

"What we found surprised me. African rainforests appear more resistant to some additional warming and ther rises in air temperdrought compared to ature."

aventure Sonke, who is eroon. "But we still need to cut carbon dioxide emissions fast, as our forests will probably only resist limited fur-

It was difficult to de-The study's findings

UBA will this year celebrate Africa Day in line with the 3rd edition of its conversations

By Guardian Reporter

THE United Bank for Africa (UBA) Plc will this year celebrate the Africa Day in line with the third edition of its annual UBA Africa Conversations, headlined by Africa's international leaders.

The leaders include Rwandan President, Paul Kagame; Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Director-General of the World Trade Organisation(WTO), Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of the World Health Organisation(WHO) and Makhtar Sop Diop, Managing Director, International Finance

Corporation(IFC).

The conversation to be moderated by Tony O. Elumelu, UBA Group chairman and founder of the Tony Elumelu Foundation will discuss and focus on Africa's development in the areas of the economy and finance, trade, health and the unity of the continent.

The theme this year is 'Bringing Africa to the World', epitomised by the global success of the panellists' careers. The event will take place virtually on May 25th, 2021.

At a time of unparalleled African leadership in and beauty of Africa and its people. global organisations, the UBA Africa Conversations provides the opportunity for an African and global audience to hear directly from our distinguished guests on Africa's relationship with the world, the opportunities and the challenges, and their own personal journeys.

The Africa Day has been celebrated since 1963 on May 25th across the African continent and worldwide. The day was inaugurated by the Organisation of African Unity, in celebration of the unity, diversity

UBA, one of Africa's leading financial services institutions, with a pan-African footprint spanning 20 African countries and globally in the United States of America, the United Kingdom and with presence in France, continues to lead the narrative focused on the development, growth, and unity of Africa.

UBA Plc offers banking services to more than twenty five million customers, across over 1,000 business offices and customer touch points, in 20 African countries.

FEATURES

Jerusalem: A flashpoint for conflict or microcosm of peace?

NEW YORK

EGARDLESS of how the current and future violent conflicts between Israel and the Palestinians in Jerusalem will end, there will be no Israeli-Palestinian peace unless East Jerusalem becomes the capital of a Palestinian state while the city remains united.

Righting the Wrong

The flareup that has engulfed East Jerusalem over the past few days should surprise no one. The status quo could never be sustained; the Palestinians' resentment of the occupation was only deepening and any incident could have precipitated a violent outbreak.

This time it was the order to evict six families from the Palestinian neighborhood of Sheikh Jarrah in East Jerusalem. For the Palestinians, this became symptomatic of Israel's much wider scheme of ethnic cleansing to make more room for Jewish settlers and thereby Judaize East Jerusalem, which Israel views as an integral part of its capital.

Israel may hold onto East Jerusalem for another 54 years, but the Palestinians, and for that matter the Arab states, will never give up on their claim to East Jerusalem.

While we can find temporary solutions for the current violence, then what? A long-term solution is necessary to ensure that Jerusalem does not continue on its path as a flashpoint city for violence. That said, there is a way whereby both sides can live in a united city and make it a microcosm for peaceful coexistence.

Jerusalem is unique in that both Israelis and Palestinians-and Jews, Muslims, and Christians around the world-have a special affinity to the city. There are four major factors that attest to the city's uniqueness.

First, East Jerusalem houses the largest mixed Jewish-Arab community anywhere in the world, with roughly 215,000 Israelis and 328,000 Palestinians who move freely across the city, east and west, and throughout Israel.

Second, the city's infrastructure and services-roads, electrical grid, communications, and maintenance-are all fully integrated, and there is simply no way that they can be divided. In fact, neither Israel nor the Palestinians want to physically divide the city, regardless of its final political status.

Third, Jerusalem is home to the Jews' holiest shrine, the Western Wall, the third-holiest Muslim shrines, the al-Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock, and the holiest



sites in Christianity within the Church of the Holy The Al-Aqsa Sepulchre. The fact that the Jewish and Arab holy mosque viewed from a house shrines are adjacent to one another requires them in Jerusalem's to fully collaborate on security, tourism, access to Old City. the holy sites, and improvements.

Fourth, the main contentious issue between the two sides is the political status of the city. Given however that under any circumstances the city will remain united physically, and the majority of the population in East Jerusalem are Palestinian, it is essential that the city's administration reflects the reality on the ground.

To truly recreate Jerusalem as a microcosm of peace, East and West Jerusalem would be independent municipalities-East Jerusalem as the capital of the Palestinian state and West Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

In addition, a joint Israeli-Palestinian council must be established to handle any issues or services that impact the two parts of the city, including electricity, water, certain municipal services, crossborder crimes, and joint development projects, to name a few examples. The council should have a clear and well-defined mandate to ensure that neither side can infringe on the other's separate municipal responsibilities.

In this regard, since Israel occupied East Jerusalem in 1967, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has and continues to maintain the custodianship and the administration over the Muslim holy shrines, Haram al-Sharif, and will continue to do so regardless of the final agreement; Israel will maintain its control over the Western Wall.

As a part of this, a religious council encompassing Judaism, Islam, and Christianity would be established to address various issues related to their holy shrines.

In the final analysis, Israel will have to accept that the Palestinians will establish their capital in East Jerusalem, while all Israeli Jews living on the east side of the city can remain where they are. In fact, the Trump administration's official recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital clearly states that "We are not taking a position on any final status issues,

including the specific boundaries of the Israeli sovereignty in Jerusalem, or the resolution of contested borders. Those questions are up to the parties involved."

The ongoing disturbances actually present an opportunity for Biden to be very decisive that this violence is not something that will go away once the immediate flareup subsides. Biden should declare definitively that while West Jerusalem belongs to Israel and the US recognizes it as such (given that the US Embassy is located there), East Jerusalem is not part of Israel's capital.

There are many Israelis, perhaps a majority, who insist that the Palestinians' future capital can be established in either Abu Dis or Silwan, which would be incorporated into Greater Jerusalem. The Palestinians will continue to reject that offhand, especially because they have the backing of the international community and the Arab states and in particular Saudi Arabia. Indeed, the Saudis uphold the establishment of the Palestinian capital in East Jerusalem as sacrosanct to the Arab world as a whole.

Those Israelis who bask in the illusion that East Jerusalem will forever remain under Israeli control must realize that only through the use of force can Israel maintain control and even then, frequent flareups, such the current one, will happen and potentially escalate into a full-blown violent uprising.

The upcoming new Israeli government should view the unfolding events in Jerusalem as the catalyst for looking somberly at long-term Israeli-Palestinian relations. Moreover, every Israeli should remember that under any violent conflict, the Arab states will always land on the Palestinian side, and put an end to and possibly abrogate current diplomatic relations with Israel.

The Biden administration now has a golden opportunity to change the dynamic of the conflict over East Jerusalem. Biden should insist that given the history of the city, its religious symbolism and the reality on the ground, a solution to the future of East Jerusalem could become a microcosm of Israeli-Palestinian peaceful coexistence under the framework of a two-state solution. Only such an outcome will usher in a comprehensive Israeli-Palestinian peace.

From accountant to 'mushroom queen,' Ghanaian woman rakes in fortune over people's appetite

ACCRA

MUSHROOM has long been so beloved by Ghanaians that the wild ones have been far from satisfying their growing appetite. This, for some, means a golden business opportunity.

Fafape Ama Etsa Foe, a young Ghanaian female ac-

with rice bran and quicklime on an abandoned shoe rag, she has now been able to expand her farm and is now producing over 50,000 bags per month hence earning the name "Ghana's mushroom queen." She told Xinhua in an interview upon a visit to her farm located at Ogbojo, a suburb near Accra,



stered her confidence in expanding her own business in Ghana. "When it comes to the economic benefits that it gives me as the entrepreneur, I must say confidently that I have earned well in mushroom farming," she said. "I am happy that I am a mushroom farmer and a mushroom queen."

market is picking up gradually, you know with the increase and lifestyle-related diseases, people are becoming aware of eating healthy and mushrooms play a critical role when it comes to putting good food into our bodies," she ex-

ting the technology in order to speed up the work," she said. "We want to have our own laboratory that can produce everything in house so the process will flow smoothly."Hoping to attract more people in her business, Fafape said she plained. "People are beginning hopes the Ghanaian governto be aware that mushrooms ment will take a critical look

countant in her thirties, identified the gap and the potential in the product and abandoned her profession six years ago to veer into mushroom farming to respond to the growing demand of the Ghanaian market by establishing E90 Ghana Limited in 2015. With an initial production of 10 polythene bags containing sawdust mixed

that she was motivated to go into mushroom farming due to its huge potential.

"Taking care of the waste that we have in the environment by helping to take the sawdust that we have at the sawmills and then using that as the substrate for the production of one of the world's richest protein foods," she said, adding

that the opportunity also offers employment to others, including women and youths.

Owing to the positive contribution Fafape has made over the years, she won awards including the best farmer 2018 from the Adenta Municipality in 2018. She was also sponsored by the European Union to visit China where she learned how mushrooms were

cultivated in China. She said her trip to China where a mushroom-farming industry was booming bol-

The commercialization of the product, according to her, has increased the appetite of Ghanaians due to the health benefits with the consumption of mushrooms.

"I believe growing this on a commercial basis has given Ghanaians the opportunity to taste more of mushroom or see more of mushrooms. The of our key challenges is get-

are not just something to enjoy occasionally," she said, adding that it was an exciting time for the mushroom industry as the demand continues to grow.

Despite the remarkable improvement over the years regarding output, Fafape also shares some of her challenges as a mushroom farmer. "One

at the industry as it could offer employment to people.

Fafape also advised graduates and other unemployed people to look at opportunities around them and take advantage of them. "I am getting my gold in mushroom farming and I know you will also get yours as well," she said.

Xinhua

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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One 💽 **Radio One**



TASAC TARGETS TO FORMALISE 100 PIRATE PORTS ON INDIAN **OCEAN BEFORE END OF YEAR**

By Francis Kajubi

record 100 pirate ports along the country's Indian Ocean coastline will be formalised before the end of the year to curb smuggling of goods and narcotics.

Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (Tasac) Ports, Shipping and Maritime Transport Control Director, Deogratias Mukasa said the pirate ports will be officially placed under Tanzania Ports Authority.

Mukasa said to begin with, Tasac will issue licenses to the first batch of 24 unregistered ports in the next few months before handing over them to TPA while the others will formalised before December this year.

"We are aware of the pirate ports' existence but our option is to make use of them in a legalized manner. If these ports are identified and mandated with the authorities to make light shipments by reporting to TPA, smuggling can be reduced as we will be able to monitor them," he said.

Speaking on the success that the corporation has realized since its inception in 2019, Tasac Ports Services Regulatory Manager, Julius Mitije said that they have managed to register 48 gross mass verifier (GMV) companies which are responsible for verifying weights for cargos carried in containers.



An aerial view of Bagamoyo fishermen's port which was once a pirate port.

have so far been registered to facilitate and ease documentation processes for importers who are not in a position of handling shipping processes. On the other hand, about 929 clearing and forwarding agents have been registered to date from less than 500 registered as of 2017," Mitinje said.

"As a matter of fact, 24 shipping agencies to link itself to the Tanzania Electronic Single Window System to enable customers access all services at a single online platform. He further explained that, Tasac has so far licensed 24 cargo consolidators who have been helpful to the business community especially those importing cargo from China, Dubai and the US in coordinating the shipment procedures.

He said Tasac is now working on a system Other services being provided by the

corporation include shipping business, maritime safety and transport, maritime transport registration and economic regulation. The corporation also has three main core functions, vzi; to enhance maritime transport services in its regulatory role; to improve maritime safety, security and protection of marine environment and shipping business services.



Rising cement costs hamper Nigeria's building developers

LAGOS

Nigerian property developer Olawale Ayilara is building housing estates in the affluent Lekki district of mega city Lagos, the country's commercial engine. But the cost of the project is expanding rapidly due to the increased price of cement.

The price of a 50kg bag of cement rose by a third, from 2,500 naira (\$6.57) to 3,600 naira (\$9.46) around November last year, he said. "It has a large effect in what the price of a building development will be," said Ayilara, CEO of LandWey Investments, which is building 12,000 homes spread across 14 sites in Lekki. "There is nothing the developers can do," he said, as he gazed at rows of partially constructed apartments surrounded by wooden scaffolding.

Lawmakers last month said the dominance of three large firms was keeping prices high and impeding construction needed to aid the recovery of Africa's largest economy. Nigeria, where a third of the labour force is unemployed, emerged from its second recession in four years in late 2020.

a campaign dubbed, 'IPS ni Bomba' to sensitize customers on the need to buy original high quality clean water threaded pipes in the country.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam mid this week when the campaign was launched, Nabaki Afrika's CEO, Vatsal Shah said the product has been in the market since 2000 and was launched through an "IPS IPO" campaign.

Shah said IPS threaded pipe remain amongst the company's all-time top selling products since entering the Tanzanian construction market thanks to reputation on quality brown threaded pipe in the local market.

"This is one of the best

terfeits in the market," he said.

The Nabaki Afrika chief further added that it is high time Tanzanian consumers embraced quality as the IPS, which is manufactured in Argentina and has a warranty of 50 years due to its durability. According to Shah, IPS threaded pipes are made to International standards, from pure non recycled raw materials comprising four layers making them tough, safe, resilient to salt and tough chemicals and up to 50 percent stronger compared to other threaded pipes.

"The IPS threaded pipe is brown in colour with a green stripe, white writings and if you want to



Nabaki Afrika Limited's management officials displaying the IPS genuine water pipe during the launch of 'IPS ni Bomba' awareness campaign in Dar es Salaam mid this week. From left: the company's head of sales, Killian Nango, chairman of the board of directors, Hamish Hamilton, CEO Vatsal Shah, co-founder, Tania Hamilton and assistant sales manager, Mukiza Mushumba. Photo courtesy of Nabaki Afrika.

you will see Spanish words - CALIDAD IPS," he advised. "We are calling on Tanzani-

know the genuine product gives them value for money and ensure they do not have to go through the hassle and additional expense of replacans to go for quality as this ing pipes every time," Shah stated. Nabaki Afrika is one of the leading distributors and sellers of local and imported

building materials with shops

in Kariakoo, Masaki, Boko and Mikocheni Light Industrial Area in Dar es Salaam. The company is also present in Arusha.

Dangote Cement, founded by Africa's richest man, Aliko Dangote, has 60.6% market share. Lafarge Africa accounts for 21.8%, while BUA Cement has 17.6%. Their dominance stems from a cement import ban that has been in place for most of the last 20 years to develop self sufficiency in cement production.

Cement firms raised prices during Nigeria's 2016 recession to counter low sales volumes, and prices have continued to rise. Abdulrahman Ojo, an engineer, is building a mosque in Lagos and, like Ayilara, is struggling to reduce costs. He said he had seen cement costs double in price, from 2,000 naira a bag to 4,000 in recent years. "There should be a price control," he said, stating that his team uses up to 20 bags a day.

Nigeria's high prices are part of a continent-wide trend. Final cement prices in Africa are 183% higher, on average, than world cement prices, the World Bank said in a 2016 report. But Nigeria's prices are high, even compared to other African countries, according to Joachim MacEbong, a senior analyst at Lagos-based consultancy SBM Intelligence. He said the government could help by providing incentives to cement companies to enter the Nigerian market, echoing similar calls made by lawmakers last month.

The ministry of industry, trade and investment, which oversees the issuance of manufacturing licences, did not respond to a request for comment on calls for the government to ease licensing restrictions.

At a building site where a group of men pieced together walls made of concrete blocks held in place by mortar, Ayilara urged the government to intervene. "They have to come to the table and make sure that they do what is fair by everybody so that we can have a system that is balanced," he said.

KWS seeks private investors to run national parks, reserves

NAIROBI

The Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) is seeking partnership with private investors to run national parks and reserves in a bid to upgrade luxury lodges, restaurants and tented camps and cut reliance on taxpayers.

The private sector will manage the park entry fees, digitise payments, installation of internet service, build lodges and hotels, as well as roads within the parks, while KWS will focus on security and conservation, and not management. Tourism CS Najib Balala said the State is unable to fund and manage the parks due to depressed revenues leading to degradation of tourism attractions sites.

Kenya tourism has been ravaged by the coronavirus crisis that triggered a slump in travel, slashing KWS earnings from park entry fees. "We plan to remodel our businesses. We cannot continue the same way we used to do business both in tourism or in the wildlife sector," he said in an interview.

"The parks will remain national assets. One clear thing is that we are not selling and we are not privatising. The parks are dying and we are actually going down. The numbers are declining and we have no revenue and money to maintain the parks."

It will be modelled on how conservancies such as Ol Pejeta and Lewa are run, with the

private sector sharing revenues with the State. Under a previous deal, successful bidders were to run the luxury eco-lodges and tented camps on an initial 20-year-lease that is renewable for another six years, while those seeking to build restaurants and cafes will get leases for 10 to 13 years, same as those seeking to construct recreation areas.

The luxury lodges and tented camps were to be built on between five and 20 acres depending on location of the parks. Restaurants and cafes will be built on between one and five acres of land depending on location. The successful bidders will be required to set aside jobs for the local communities and provide other benefits.



Buffalos at Nairobi National Park.



CONSTRUCTION

ZANTEL WIDENS 4G COMMUNICATION IN Z'BAR



Zantel's head of mobile business, Aneth Muga (C) re-launching 'Pasua Anga Ki Zantel 4G' in Pemba earlier this week. Photo courtesy of Zantel.

By Property Watch Reporter

ESIDENTS of Pemba Islands who are smartphone owners can now enjoy using high speed internet communication thanks to Zantel's fourth generation (4G) technology introduction.

Through a campaign dubbed, 'Pasua Anga Ki Zantel 4G' which was re-launched in Pemba earlier this week, Zantel's Head of Mobile Business, Aneth Muga said it is also intended to educate the mass on the importance of 4G internet for social and economic benefits. Muga stated that the company has been investing heavily in latest technology to ensure 4G internet reaches every corner of the Spice Islands so that many people benefit through access to social media platforms.

"Today we are happy to re-launch this campaign in order to provide more awareness on the benefits of using our improved 4G internet for different social and economic activities that can be done online," she said.

Muga noted that Zantel is taking deliberate efforts to extend 4G coverage to align with the current digital world through upgrading all sites and building new sites especially in rural areas thus enabling many to get the service.

"Our long-term goal is to keep improving the network to ensure seamless communications for the entire Zanzibar. We understand that internet has become a vital part of our daily lives that is why we want to make sure customers get a reliable connection throughout a day," she added.

She further stated that in the current digital world, consumers want to get goods and services easily and fast from the comfort of their rooms and offices. "With 4G internet, our customer enjoys a fastest speed of internet that enables you to do different activities online faster and easier compared to the one using 3G internet," Muga noted.

Speaking at the same event, Zantel's Head of Distribution and Sales in Pemba, Said Masoud Ali said the plan is to make sure every person gets access to 4G internet through providing affordable 4G devices. "We also provide affordable smartphones that support 4G that are sold at affordable rates with discounts up to 5 percent plus free gigabytes to 24 for a whole year," Ali said.

Works on new airport back on track after Covid-19 disruptions

KIGALI

With construction works on the proposed international airport in Bugesera District back to pre-pandemic levels, the government is optimistic the facility could be ready for operations by 2023.

Works fell behind schedule after Covid-19-related measures forced significant reduction in the number of workers on the site at any particular time but the restrictions have since been eased, said Infrastructure Minister Amb. Claver Gatete. Rwanda has in the recent past seen consistent decline in Covid-19 cases in much of the country.

The first phase of the works is 40 per cent complete, Gatete told The New Times on the sidelines of a pan-African aviation summit in Kigali on Tuesday. The works, he said, include the construction of the runway and other horizontal facilities.

The construction project is a joint effort between the Rwandan government and Qatar Airways, which owns a 60 per cent stake in the proposed airport. The second phase of the works, Gatete said, is scheduled to start in two months' time, and this will include construction of the terminals and other facilities. "We are now in the recruitment process," he added.

While he warned of the continued uncertainty surrounding the Covid-19 situ-

How Lamu port is angling for top spot in the region

NAIROBI

When the Port of Lamu becomes operational on Thursday, it will bring major changes on freight business along the Indian Ocean in regard to transshipment activities along the sea. Currently, the Port of Durban remains the largest in Sub-Saharan Africa, as it plays a major role in transshipment activities by feeding other small ports with cargo.

The new facility, which is expected to become the largest port in sub-Saharan Africa, will target countries along the Indian Ocean Islands such as Seychelles and Comoros among others. The depth of the port, which is 17.5 metres makes it ideal for handling large ships that cannot dock at the Port of Mombasa whose depth is 15 metres.

"This port is going to be a game changer in the region, it will play a key role in handling the cargo that are destined to other countries, directly competing with the port of Durban in South Africa," said Mr Rashid Salim acting managing director at the port. "The port is expected to serve northern Ethiopia, south Sudan, Zanzibar and Mozambique that are currently served by the ports of Djibouti, Durban and Salalah in Yemen," he added.

MV CAP Carmel and MV SEAGO BREMERHAVEN will be the first ships to dock at the Port of Lamu tomorrow. They will be commissioned by President Uhuru Kenyatta. Kenya is targeting to wrestle out Djibouti as a key entry point for Ethiopian goods at the moment. Most of the sea cargo to landlocked Ethiopia use the Port of Djibouti.

To achieve this, Kenya will be sending a delegation to Ethiopia to sell the Port of Lamu to ensure that they are the first clients to call at the facility. To attract the traffic at the new port, Kenya is targeting to lower the cost of docking by making it slightly lower than what Djibouti is charging.



A ship delivering equipment docks at Lamu Port on April 28, 2021.

"Incentives relating to fees and charges for using and clearing goods at the Port as requested by stakeholders - will be gazetted for at least a period of one year, in the next few days, to promote usage of the port by the business and logistics sectors," said Treasury in a statement.

To make the Lamu port more competitive ships calling on the port will be given a 30-day free cargo storage moratorium and tax rebates of up to 40 percent. The Kenya Ports Authority has already engaged the shipping lines, the main customers, and have already taken them to the facility in Lamu.

"There is concern from our customers. They want us to increase the number of equipment for handling cargo at the facility," said Geoffrey Namadoa a senior marine pilot at KPA and head of

operations overseeing the movement of equipment to Lamu.

A number of equipment including cranes have already been moved to the facility from the Port of Mombasa. Port of Lamu General Manager, Abdullahi Samatar said procurement plans are still underway to have the necessary equipment brought at the port.

"We realised that by the time we commission this facility, we would not have received the necessary equipment and that is why we have had to bring some of the equipment from the Port of Mombasa," said Mr Samatar. The port is a key part of the wider Lamu Port South Sudan-Ethiopia Transport Corridor, which is being implemented at a total cost of Sh2.5 trillion (\$24 billion).



An illustration of Bugesera International Airport.

ation globally, Gatete said: "if all goes according to plan we envisage that all these activities will have been completed by 2023." Initial plan was to complete the project by end 2021.

"We want to increase the speed at which we are working," the minister said, adding that, besides Covid-19 restrictions, the other key factor behind delays in the construction works was redesigning the facility. "It was revised on several aspects but it has been finalised," he noted. Works on the proposed US\$400 million airport began in 2017.

Once complete, the proposed airport is projected to have a passenger terminal covering 30,000 square metres, 22 check-in counters, 10 gates, six-passenger boarding bridges, with capacity to handle some 1.7 million passengers annually. It is expected to boost Rwanda's bid to become a major conference hub in the region

CONSTRUCTION

CASHED-UP PROPERTY DEVELOPERS IN INDIA SNAP UP LAND BARGAINS

MUMBAI

ndian property developer Kamal Khetan is in an unusual position. For the first time since the 2008-2009 global financial crisis, he is being inundated with offers to acquire land in Mumbai from distressed sellers.

"We feel that this is the time to do acquisitions," Mr Khetan, chairman and managing director of luxury residential property developer Sunteck Realty, says. Landowners "are coming at a very reasonable price because it's now the buyer's market, not the seller's market."

The cracks started to show in 2018, when a crisis in the non-banking financial sector sapped liquidity for property companies. This was followed by the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic and now India's devastating second wave of coronavirus infections, which have combined to create a favourable environment for developers with strong balance sheets to buy up swathes of land.

Landowners - who in recent years were reluctant to give up their prized assets to developers - are now willing to sell. However, there are only a handful of developers in a position to buy, which means they the non-banking sector." are driving hard bargains.



Mumbai, India.

Mumbai, where land has long been scarce in the overpopulated financial capital. But it is a trend found across many major cities in India, including the national capital of Delhi and the tech hub of Bangalore, analysts say.

"Definitely, the land prices have seen some kind of a correction in the last 12 months," Piyush Gupta, managing director of capital markets and investment services for India at global real estate services company Colliers, says. "This is not only linked to Covid stress, but it's linked to the overall stress in the real estate and

The turmoil in the real estate sec-The situation is pronounced in tor linked to stress among non-bank-

ing financial companies, also known as shadow lenders, forced many developers to exit the market as funds dried up. For years, the sector had been highly fragmented with smaller players that had been taking advantage of easy funding from the nonbanking sector.

"Now, there are very few players who are active and who have the capabilities to acquire - both financial capabilities and operating capabilities - and develop large projects," Mr Gupta says. Land prices in the current market declined by about 15 per cent, but landowners are finding innovative ways to do deals by tying up with developers on projects, Mr

Gupta says.

'Very few companies have a strong balance sheet or that kind of a pocket in this market to go and acquire land in the current situation, where the second wave is really bad in India," Mr Khetan says, adding that land is being discounted by 20 to 25 per cent.

Mr Khetan's company, Sunteck Realty, last year snapped up 8 million to 9 million square feet of land in joint development projects with landowners, which are structured so owners receive a share of revenues from property sales. "We are confident this year will be similar or better than last year" in terms of land acquisition,

Mr Khetan says, adding velopers were buying land his company will consider purchasing land parcels outright, as well as joint projects.

Güardian PROPERTYWATCH

DISCOVER INFORM INSPIRE

About 150km away in the city of Pune, Rohit Gera, managing director of Gera Developments, is also benefiting from landowners prepared to part with their holdings. However, it is not only landowners who are selling - developers are also seeking to offload land to raise cash to pay off debts, Mr Gera says.

"The last thing a developer wants to sell is land, but now they are willing to do so," Mr Gera says. "Normally, we'd be competing with these developers in order to try and buy the land." The board of Gera Developments "last year approved our highest ever capital outlay towards land acquisition for this year and my next two-year plan", Mr Gera adds.

The developer is expecting to purchase 45 acres (18.2 hectares) of land this year, up from 12 acres in 2020. There are several factors that have played a role in the trend and "de-

pretty indiscriminately for quite some time", Mr Gera says. In 2106, the govern-

ment demonetised 500 and 1,000 rupee notes to clamp down on black money flows, while its real estate regulation act, which came into effect in 2017, also drove fly-bynight players out of the market.

The non-banking financial crisis then led to a tightening of credit, triggering financial distress among a number of developers and prompting further consolidation in the market, Mr Gera says. This led to opportunities for developers with strong balance sheets in a market now hit by a resurgence of Covid-19 cases.

Securing funding is not proving to be a challenge for his company and other major developers that have a solid track record, Mr Gera says. "We have access to both funding on the debt side as well as funding on the private equity side," Mr Gera adds.

Saudi Arabia's \$500bn futuristic Neom megacity to open first hotels end of 2022



Construction will begin before the end of March. There will be plenty of outdoor activities to keep the hotel visitors busy during their stay.

"If you came in now you can snorkel, dive, kitesurf, hike, mountain bike, so all of these natural assets will be developed in the next 12 months," he said. "Our first visitors will be either fly-and flop, sun-andsea, and a super-yacht audience because the Red Sea really lends itself to that." Off the coast of Neom there are 39 islands, 10 of which will be developed "over time", the executive said.

The initial number of visitors expected next year is expected to be between 20,000 to 50,000, Mr McEvoy said. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, which disrupted global trade and forced governments to shut borders, work on Neom's tourism project accelerated.

"During Covid, the kingdom ... doubled down, we worked harder, we got ahead of the game, we did not stop," he said. "So I think we're in a good position." The project's delivery targets will be met on time, Mr McEvoy added. The project will not require raising funds as it is backed by the Public Investment Fund, he said. The next tourism projects in Neom will be in the stretch along the Aqaba Gulf and the Red Sea coast, a "big development" at the port, and development in the mountains, Mr McEvoy said. This is in addition to The Line, a 170km-belt of reimagined urban development. "The next projects which will be announced, beyond The Line, will be one of those beautiful regional destinations that will put enough there so that people will have a great experience," he said. The futuristic city is built on the four pillars of heritage authenticity, environmental regeneration, Arabian hospitality and advanced technology. "We all watched Star Wars and Avatar, and I think this will be literally science-fiction brought to life," Mr McEvoy said.

RIYADH

Saudi Arabia's \$500 billion mega-city Neom is planning to open the first of its hotels by the end of 2022 as it targets hosting about one million visitors by 2025 and 5m by 2030, its tourism chief said.

The futuristic city will open up to 15 hotels a year in the period between 2023 and 2025, before ramping up the pace to 20 to 30 hotels annually thereafter, Andrew McEvoy, sector head of tourism at Neom, said during the Arabian Travel Market on Tuesday.

"We're now under way, so we're starting to develop our first assets, by the end of next year our first hotels will start to come out of the ground, there's a lot of construction going on," he said. "The first hotels will open by the end of next vear."

Neom, on the west coast of the kingdom north of the Red

The site of the \$500bn Neom project in the Tabuk Province of northwestern Saudi Arabia.

Sea, is one of the signature giga-projects in Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's drive to diversify Saudi Arabia's economy away from oil. It will develop 14 key economic sectors for the future from biotech to mobility. Neom's tourism sector is expected to contribute \$16bn to the kingdom's gross domestic product by 2030.

With a mix of four-star and five-star properties, the mega-city aims to attract all kinds of visitors. "If you think about getting five million visitors by 2030, you need a lot of room keys," Mr McEvoy said. "We're not just a sun and sea leisure destination," he said. "We'll have the full mix of what I call the

visitor economy: so everyone from corporate travellers to people who are taking an adventure trip or a holiday." Neom's tourism sector is currently in discussions with major hotel brands and is close to finalising the details, Mr McEvoy said.

"We've spoken to the big five brands, IHG, Hilton, Accor, etc. and we're well under way with that," Mr McEvoy said. Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has announced The Line, a 170km belt of hyper-connected future communities, without cars and roads. Images courtesy Neom

Plans for the city include "zero carbon emissions", Prince Mohammed said.

UK house prices surge 10.2pc in strongest annual increase since 2007

LONDON

UK average house prices rose 10.2 per cent on the year to a record £256,405 (\$363,747) in March, the highest annual growth rate in the UK since August 2007, as the country's housing boom continued.

The average price of a home was £24,000 higher than it was in March 2020, according to the Office for National Statistics, with the price rise in March following February's 9.2 per cent increase. Sam Beckett, head of economic statistics at the ONS, said the surge in March was also the 11th consecutive monthly rise for the property sector.

"The average price the sharp surge in of a house in the UK ity. now stands at a record

£256,000, which is £24,000 higher than this time last year," she said. "However, London continues to be the region with the lowest annual growth, for the fourth month running."

tivity even more. A

scheme for first-time

mortgage guarantee

Britain's property market has surged during the pandemic after the first Covid-19 lockdown created pent-up demand for homes, and Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak's stamp duty break, unveiled in July, boosted ac-

housing market activ-While Wales record-

ed the highest growth rate, with average house prices rising 11 per cent to £185,000, England secured the highest price, with prices increasing 10.2 per cent to an average £275,000. Elsewhere, Scotland saw growth

of 10.6 per cent to £167,000, and Northern Ireland saw average prices rise 6 per cent to £149,000.

London saw the lowest annual growth for the fourth month in a row, with prices rising 3.7 per cent, as more Britons sought larger houses outside the buyers further stoked capital with gardens,



An aerial view of Sloane Square in London.

better suited to working from home. Prices of detached houses rose 11.7 per cent in the year to March, compared with an increase of 5 per cent for apartments, the ONS said.

been hit by a lack of foreign can fly in and view properties

investors due to the country's tight travel restrictions. Estate agents and developers said that Gulf demand for homes in the capital is surging, but buyers are reluctant to com-The London market has also mit to a purchase until they

in person.

Meanwhile

Asking prices for property on Rightmove advertised between April 11 and May 8 were 1.8 per cent higher than a month earlier, when they rose

by 2.1 per cent. Compared with March 2020 just before the start of the Covid pandemic, asking prices are 6.7 per cent higher at an average £333,564 (\$469,892).

But the national rise masks big regional differences. Prices in London were just 0.2 per cent higher than a year earlier, while those in Wales had risen by 13 per cent, with double-digit rises across much of northern England as well.

"Last year's unexpected mini-boom is rolling on into 2021, with new price and market activity records again defying many predictions," said Tim Bannister, Rightmove's director of property data. After an initial slump in transactions during Britain's first coronavirus lockdown in April and May last year, activity and prices have risen sharply. Many richer Britons have sought larger houses better suited to working from home, and the government cut purchase taxes to spur sales.

Renewed violence over Gaza despite ceasefire moves gaining momentum

WORLD



A Palestinian demonstrator uses a slingshot to return a teargas canister toward soldiers during clashes with Israeli troops at the northern entrance of the West Bank city of Ramallah. (AP)

GAZA

DIPLOMATIC moves towards a ceasefire in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict gathered pace on Thursday after U.S. President Joe Biden called for a de-escalation, but Israel kept up its bombardment of Gaza and Hamas rocket fire resumed after a pause.

A senior official in the Hamas militant group predicted a ceasefire within days. An Israeli minister said Israel would halt its offensive only when it had achieved its goals.

Rocket attacks on Israel stopped for eight hours on Thursday - the 11th day of hostilities - before resuming against communities near the Israel-Gaza border.

Israel kept up its air strikes in Hamasrun Gaza, saying it wanted to deter the Islamist group from future confrontation after the current conflict halted.

Since the fighting began on May 10, health officials in Gaza say 228 Palestinians have been killed in aerial bombardments that have worsened an already dire humanitarian situation.

Israeli authorities put the death toll to date at 12 in Israel, where repeated rocket attacks have caused panic and sent people rushing into shelters.

Biden on Wednesday urged Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to in the air strikes.

seek a "de-escalation". An Egyptian security source said the sides had agreed in principle to a ceasefire but details needed to be worked out.

A Hamas political official, Moussa Abu Marzouk, said he believed the efforts to reach a ceasefire would succeed.

"I expect a ceasefire to be reached within a day or two, and the ceasefire will be on the basis of mutual agreement."

Asked on Israel's Kan public radio if a truce would begin on Friday, Intelligence Minister Eli Cohen said: "No. We are definitely seeing very significant international pressure... we will finish the operation when we decide we have attained our goals."

Qatar-based Al Jazeera television reported that U.N. Middle East peace envoy Tor Wennesland was meeting Hamas chief Ismail Haniyeh in Qatar.

Israel carried out over a dozen air strikes on Gaza after midnight, targeting what it said was a weapons storage unit in the home of a Hamas official, and military infrastructure in the homes of other commanders from the group.

Hamas-run radio said a woman was killed and four children were wounded in one attack on the town of Khan Younis in southern Gaza. Witnesses said several main roads were also damaged

In the Gaza City suburb of Sabra, Amira Esleem, 14, and three family members were wounded in one Israeli attack, which she said caused parts of their house to collapse.

"We were sitting on the sofa when a missile landed. There was heavy smoke and we couldn't see anything,' she said from her hospital bed.

Nearly 450 buildings in Gaza have been destroyed or badly damaged, including six hospitals and nine primary care health centres, the United Nations humanitarian agency has said. More than 52,000 people have fled their homes and most are sheltering in U.N.-run schools in Gaza, which is blockaded by Israel and Egypt.

Israelis living in areas frequently targeted by rocket fire began their workday on Thursday without the usual sound of warning sirens. But after an eight-hour break, the sirens blared again in southern Israel. No casualties or damage were reported. Israel said some 4,000 rockets have been launched at it from Gaza, some falling short and others shot down by its Iron Dome air defences.

DIPLOMACY

Washington and several Middle East governments have sought an end to the violence through diplomacy. The United Nations General Assembly was due to meet on the conflict on Thursday with several foreign ministers taking part, but it was not expected to take action.

The U.S. mission said it would not support a French call for a resolution in the 15-member U.N. Security Council, saying it believed such actions would undermine efforts to deescalate violence.

Commenting on Biden's push to lower the intensity of fighting in a movement towards a ceasefire, Gilad Erdan, Israel's ambassador to the United States and the United Nations, said Israel also wanted to see hostilities end quickly.

But, he told Kan radio, "for this to happen ... we have to feel that Hamas infrastructure has been hit significantly, and that it understands that it won't be worth it to fire rockets again at Israeli citizens several weeks from now.'

Any ceasefire is unlikely to address the fundamental issues in the conflict. Palestinian aspirations for an independent state free of Israeli occupation have received several setbacks in recent years, while an international peace process based on finding a two-state solution which also guarantees Israel's security has run aground.

Agencies

Britain's Prince William gets first dose of Covid vaccine

LONDON

BRITAIN'S Prince William, who contracted CO-VID-19 last year, revealed yesterday he had received his first dose of a coronavirus vaccine.



Prince William, 38, the grandson of Queen Elizabeth and second-in-line to the British throne, revealed on Twitter he had received the shot earlier this week, alongside a picture of the moment he had the injection at London's Science Museum.

"On Tuesday I received my first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine," he said. "To all those working on the vaccine rollout - thank you for everything you've done and continue to do."

Prince William fell ill with the disease last April, at about the same time as his father, heir-to-the-throne Prince Charles, although he kept the news secret until November. Media reports said he had not wanted to alarm anyone

and he had been hit pretty badly by the virus. Other members of the royal family have also disclosed that they have received their vaccine doses, including the 95-year-old monarch and Charles.

The Oueen said having the shot was very quick and did not hurt, and she encouraged the public to follow suit, saying those who were wary should think of others.

Britain has delivered the first shot of a vaccine to almost 37 million people in one of the world's fastest rollouts, with all those over 34 now eligible to receive a vaccination.

Lavrov called his meeting with Blinken constructive

REYKJAVIK

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov called the talks with US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken constructive.

"The conversation seemed to me constructive. There is an understanding of the need to overcome the unhealthy situation that developed between Moscow and Washington in previous years," the Russian Foreign Minister said following talks with his American counterpart.

Moscow confirmed its readiness to hold the dialogue on strategic stability with the U.S. and to discuss all aspects and factors influencing it, Washington did not reject such a concept, Russian Foreign Minister noted.

"Today we confirmed our proposal to start a dialogue, considering all aspects, all factors affecting strategic stability: nuclear, non-nuclear, offensive, defensive. I have not seen a rejection of such a concept, but experts still have to work on it," he said.



Party exchanges with CPC add strong impetus to LatAm-China cooperation, says Mexican party official

MEXICO CITY

POLITICAL parties in Latin America and the Communist Party of China (CPC) have strengthened exchanges by such mechanisms as the Forum of China and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), which has added strong impetus to their

PRI has actively participated in events such as the China-CEL-AC Political Parties Forum and organized party officials' visits to China, deepening mutual understanding and learning between the two sides, Carvajal said.

Especially in recent years, the

The PRI has always attached great importance to friendly



outstanding youths to study in think it is due to those three fac-China to offer them a broader vision, so that they can better understand China and promote bilateral relations between China and the region.

As this year marks the 100th anniversary of the CPC, Carvaof China." Thanks to the work, role in China's prosperity and

tors," the PRI official said.

The CPC has always maintained a high degree of organization and discipline in every aspect of national governance, and at the same time paid attention to formulating mediumjal has recently read the book and long-term development "Xi Jinping: The Governance plans, which played a decisive

all-round cooperation, said a Mexican party official.

In a recent interview with Xinhua, Sofia Carvajal, secretary of international affairs of Mexico's Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), said that her party has been established for more than 90 years and has maintained adequate and diverse inter-party exchanges with the CPC.

exchanges with the CPC, the official said, adding that the two parties can strengthen exchanges on areas such as public health, environmental protection and renewable energy development during ministerial meetings of the China-CELAC Forum and the China-CELAC Political Parties Forum.

Noting that youth is the future of a country, Carvajal sug-

gested Latin American political parties and the CPC enhance the training of and communication between young cadres.

The PRI, stressing the importance of cultivating young cadres, has been training young party members through party school programs and other means, she said.

She hoped that Latin Ameri-

she has improved her understanding of the CPC leading the Chinese people to their great achievements, and agreed with China's idea of building a community with a shared future for mankind.

"Organization, order and discipline is something that I think can be fused in all the matters, all aspects of governance, and continuous progress, she said.

As a century-old party, the CPC has always kept pace with the times and innovated continuously, Carvajal said, adding US Secretary of State Antony Blinken (L) and Russian Foreign that in this regard, her party **Minister Sergey Lavrov** can learn from the CPC to continuously innovate, develop, **Russia's Sputnik V vaccine effective against** and adjust itself to people's changing needs, so as to gain

Xinhua

Agencies

THE Sputnik V coronavirus vaccine gives enough antibodies to combat the virus' Indian strain, Alexander Gintsburg, director of the Gamaleya Center, the vaccine developer, told TASS on Tuesday.

Indian coronavirus strain, says expert

"If necessary, we will combat the Indian strain by high titers of antibodies triggered by the Sputnik V vaccine. As a rule, it generates antibodies 20, 30, 80 times as much as necessary to neutralize the biggest amount of the virus in an infected organism. Sputnik V will be effective against the Indian strain," he said.

India's health ministry reported in late March that a new coronavirus variant with E484Q and L452R mutations in the S protein had been detected in the country. The ministry said that it was especially worrying that the new strain had two mutations previously observed in other virus variants. It was also reported that these mutations occurred in some 15-20% of samples and were detected in the British, South African, and Brazilian strains.

Somali PM optimistic of new round of talks on delayed elections

MOGADISHU

SOMALI Prime Minister Mohamed Roble has expressed optimism about the new round of consultative talks due to begin in Mogadishu yesterday to help break the current political stalemate on the delayed elections.

"As we are fully prepared for the National consultative conference on elections, I am optimistic that it commences smoothly and ends satisfacto-

rily so that the country goes to transparent, free and fair elections," Roble (pictured) said ahead of the meeting between the government and five leaders of the federal member states.

All arrangements have been finalized to ensure a successful outcome.

The meeting, which was set to kick off later yesterday, will help finalize the Sept. 17, 2020, electoral model which was agreed



between the government and five leaders of the federal member states.It's not clear whether the newly-formed alliance for opposition presidential candidates, dubbed the National Salvation Forum, has also been invited to the talks.

"I am committed to taking all facilitative measures that will lead to the success of this conference," said Roble, who is tasked by President Mohamed Farmajo to be in charge of or-

to ensure the development and stability of the country. Failure to resolve the electoral impasse has plunged Somalia into a political crisis since Farmajo's term officially ended on Feb. 8 while the four-year term of parliament ended on

ganizing and invitations for the

The international communi-

ty has called on Somalia to hold

elections without further delay

conference.

Dec. 27, 2020.

Global vaccine shortage imperils Glasgow climate talks

LONDON

POORER nations struggling to access COVID-19 vaccines may make the "moral" choice not to send delegates to November's UN climate summit in Scotland if others more in need of the doses remain at risk, climate and health experts warned on Wednesday.

Giving climate-talks delegates priority in vaccine-short countries would go against the principle of not "jumping the queue", Dr. Ahmed Ogwell Ouma, deputy director of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, told journalists in an online briefing.

Such a move could dim prospects for success at the high-profile COP26

climate conference, which aims to swiftly ramp up action on climate change as the world veers toward failing on its targets to curb dangerous planetary heating.

After negotiations were postponed in 2020, COP26 organizers hope to hold the key gathering in person - but the pandemic has complicated efforts to safely bring tens of thousands of delegates and observers from around the world to Glasgow.

Britain's COP26 president, Alok Sharma, said last week that decisions had yet to be made about whether conference attendees must be vaccinated, but noted that "the safety of people in Glasgow and the UK, as well

as delegates" was a priority.

If vaccines are required, Ogwell Ouma said African nations might decide delegates would not be "preferentially vaccinated" before others on national priority lists if supplies remained insufficient.

So far the continent has received just 38 million doses out of more than a billion distributed around the world - far too few for its population of more than a billion, he said.

That has left even healthcare workers and other highly vulnerable people without protection, he said, urging wealthy countries ahead of an upcoming G7 leaders' summit in June to boost vaccine supplies for poorer

nations.

Failing to do so could harm efforts to reach climate and other key international goals, he warned, noting "generosity is a strategic issue" for rich G7 nations.

Ulka Kelkar, climate programme director for the World Resources Institute in India, said with vaccines running short in her country amid a major COVID-19 surge, ensuring vaccine equity was "a fundamental test" of global ethics.

Ongoing battles over rights to technology and patents to produce CO-VID-19 vaccines have many parallels to the roadblocks in getting clean energy technology - and more climate

finance - to developing nations, she added.

MOSCOW

"The way we approach technology transfer now in this crisis ... is a test of our values," she said.

Tasneem Essop, executive director of Climate Action Network International, a civil society coalition, warned that if G7 governments did not agree to provide more vaccines and "a radical boost" in climate finance, "they can forget any deal in Glasgow".

"We are looking for bold, moral and compassionate leadership" at the June G7 summit, also due to be held in Britain, said South Africa-based Essop.

She called the G7's handling of the

COVID-19 crisis "a dress rehearsal for how rich nations would address the climate crisis".

Former British Prime Minister Gordon Brown, speaking in a video message, said G7 countries should provide two-thirds of the estimated US\$66 billion needed over two years to complete global vaccinations and deliver the UN-led COVAX program to immunize the world's poorest people.

"We require the richest countries to end any selfishness," he said, noting the virus may continue to mutate and threaten even the already-vaccinated if immunization efforts are not swiftly stepped up.

Agencies

public support. can countries will send more that makes a country prosper, I



Hasty US withdrawal to create security black hole in Afghanistan KABUL

U.S. President Joe Biden's decision to bring home all U.S. troops from Afghanistan by Sept. 11, as an attempt to irresponsibly pull the United States out of the quagmire of war, will create a security black hole and aggravate the already heavy scourge suffered by the country.

The abrupt announcement by the United States of a complete troop exit has deteriorated the security situation in the conflict-battered country, causing mounting militant attacks and ensuing civilian casualties.

Since the start of the withdrawal of U.S.-led forces on May 1, the Taliban militants have stepped up activities. Moreover last week, three consecutive explosions

outside a secondary school for girls in western Kabul killed at least 50 people and injured over 100 others.

It was during the Cold War that the U.S. helped sow the seeds of unrest in the country by funding and arming militants to fight the then Soviet Union.

Over the following decades, Afghanistan has developed a malignant tumor of terrorism, and gradually descended into a hotbed of international terrorism and extremism.

After the U.S.-led War on Terror in 2001, Afghanistan has experienced a rise in terrorist acts instead of decline.It is a fact that U.S. military actions have caused heavy civilian casualties since then, yet brutal fighting and bloody attacks continue.

At the moment, a sudden U.S. withdrawal would only exacerbate the country's ongoing security crisis, as it would be a chance for terrorist groups and various political forces to fill the vaccum and stoke more unrests

A hasty departure of U.S. troops would also swiftly change the existing balance of power between the Afghan government forces and other armed factions, increasing the risk of violent confrontations.

Biden's decision to withdraw U.S. troops from Afghanistan is "a major mistake" with significant risks, according to a recent article published by U.S. think tank the Brookings Institution.

It pointed out that the most likely outcome of any quick troop exit this year is "very ugly, including ethnic cleansing, mass slaughter, and the ultimate dismemberment of the country.

"In retrospect, the current tumult facing Afghanistan is yet another chill reminder of the consequence of overuse of U.S. military power.

No wonder the past two decades of U.S. military presence in Afghanistan has been described by many global observers as a failure.

Spain accuses Morocco

of 'blackmail' over

Xinhua

COVID-19 devastates rural India

NEW DELHI

INDIAN Prime Minister Narendra Modi said last week that the COVID-19 pandemic that had claimed over 280,000 lives across the country was rapidly spreading in its rural areas.

He urged people living in the countryside to take precautions, timely testing and medication if feeling ill, and in particular, a shot of vaccine in the arm.

Although Vinod K. Paul, a recognized Indian medical scientist and public health exponent, said Tuesday that "there is stabilization" and "the pandemic is shrinking" as active cases are going down while hospital discharges are going up, deaths are still growing, and villages, in particular, are plagued.

THOSE WHO DIED

People living near the banks of the Ganga in the states of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have been witnessing the ghastly sight of bloated and decomposing bodies in water and along the banks, where over 2,000 bodies were reportedly found.

Authorities appealed to people not to dump bodies to the water and intensified police patrolling along the riverbed to stop people from doing that. Uttar Pradesh government even issued full-page advertisements in all newspapers on Sunday, urging residents not to dump corpses in water while saving that 5,000 Indian rupees (68 U.S. dollars) would be given to anyone who cannot afford the last rites of their loved ones.

On Saturday evening, P. Chidambaram, a Congress opposition leader, said his party had independently cross-checked the reports of vernacular Gujarati daily regarding the government's under-counting of its COV-ID-19 deaths. He called on all states to release figures on the number of death certificates issued.

"We have a strong suspicion that the government of India, in conjunction with some state governments, is suppressing the true number of new infections and COVID-19 related deaths," said Chidambaram.

DIFFICULTY IN MASS VACCINATION

According to the ministry, over 184 million people have been vaccinated so far across the country since the beginning of the vaccination drive on Jan. 16.

The majority of the beneficiaries have received only one dose of the required two, and experts say most of the testing and vaccination centers have been set up in urban areas or towns.

An Indian government panel has recommended widening the interval between two doses of anti-COVID-19 COVISHIELD vaccine to 12-16 weeks from four to eight weeks due to the shortage of vaccines, the second time



Prime Minister Narendra Modi

in three months such interval has been widened.

"First, it was 4 weeks for the second dose, then 6-8 weeks, and now we are told 12-16 weeks. Is this because there are not enough stocks of the vaccines for all who are eligible or because professional scientific advice says so?" another leader of the Congress Jairam Ramesh wrote on social media

CALAMITY TO VILLAGERS

In a country of over 1.3 billion people, estimates say 65 percent live in rural areas.

In the recently held Uttar Pradesh panchayat (village council) polls, a teachers' association claimed it has lost over 800 teachers.

Those teachers had been deployed to organize elections. They returned from poll duties and carried the deadly virus back home, and infected their family members.

"The news that pandemic was killing people made us apprehensive, but my mother kept on telling us that she would lose her job in case she refuses to join the poll duty," said Divya Singh, who was mourning the death of her 48-yearold mother, Sarita.

Sarita, who was deployed to help with the election in India's largest state, took a poll training in mid-April with other teachers. India had already begun registering a global record spike in daily infections by then.

Once coming back to her village -- Manikapur in Unnao District, Sarita felt unwell. Her condition deteriorated, and her family drove her over an hour to the nearest hospital in Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh's largest city.

"We took her to two separate hospitals but couldn't get her admitted to either because she hadn't had a COVID-19 test as only positive patients were being admitted," Divya said.

17

"On May 3, we had managed to get her tested but by then she was put on an oxygen cylinder that we had managed to secure from relatives living in the city. Unfortunately, she died the next day at home and her COVID-19 test results only came back the day after."

Sarita was COVID-19 positive, according to her test report.

Following her death, Sarita's family isolated themselves at home. Her husband and younger son have been told they are COVID-positive too.

The other three members in the family -- her daughter, her eldest son and daughter-in-law -- are showing symptoms.

In fact, the extent of COVID-19's wrath in rural India is not fully known while testing and medical care are deemed scarcer there, given a nationwide shortage of hospital beds and oxygen.

TIMELY ASSISTANCE

Last week, the World Health Organization (WHO) said India's COVID-19 situation remains hugely concerning, with several states continuing to see a worrying number of cases, hospitalisations and deaths.

Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said that WHO was responding to the COVID-19 surge in India and shipped thousands of oxygen concentrators, tents for mobile field hospitals, masks and other medical supplies.

China is also reaching out a helping hand.

Zha Liyou, consul general of Chinese Consulate General in Kolkata, India, tweeted on Sunday that "urgently-needed & Indian-purchased medical supplies arrived in Kolkata last night from Wuhan, China."

On Sunday, the Delhi airport received a jumbo charter off from China's Hangzhou "with the biggest-ever single consignment of over 3,600 oxygen concentrators from China," according to local media outlets.

Since April, China has supplied more than 5,000 ventilators, 21,569 oxygen generators, over 21.48 million masks and around 3,800 tonnes of medicine to India, Chinese Ambassador to India Sun Weidong said in a tweet on May 4, citing statistics from the General Administration of Customs of China.

"Thank you very much for saving thousands of lives, we treasure your support," tweeted Himadrish Suwan, operation director of the Indian Institute of Governance and Leadership. Xinhua

China-Pakistan Economic Corridor bears Amid rising Israel-Palestine tensions, US blocks UN statement for third time in one week fruit amid 70th anniversary of ties

NEW YORK

THE United States blocked on Sunday a joint statement calling for an immediate ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, leaving three United Nations Security Council emergency meetings over the past few days with no concrete results in de-escalating the violence, according to media reports.

Ceuta migrant surge ISLAMABAD

MADRID

SPAIN'S defense minister accused Morocco of "blackmail" yesterday over its passivity in the face of a surge in migrant arrivals in the Spanish enclave of





Ceuta earlier this week.

The rush of migrants began on Monday when Morocco appeared to loosen border controls, a move widely interpreted, including by the Spanish opposition, as retaliation for Spain's hosting of a Western Sahara independence leader. The Spanish government, however, has sought to keep the two issues separate.

Defense Minister Margarita Robles said that by creating the conditions for thousands of migrants to swim into Ceuta or climb over fences into the enclave, Morocco had endangered lives "for a purpose I certainly don't understand".

"We will not accept any blackmail, no matter how small, or any questioning of our territorial integrity," she told the radio station RNE.

Robles did not spell out what she was accusing Morocco of trying to obtain from Spain. Rabat has a territorial claim over Ceuta and Spain's other north African enclave, Melilla.

The crisis in Ceuta comes after Morocco protested against Spain's decision a month ago to allow Brahim Ghali, leader of the rebel Polisario Front fighting for Western Sahara to be independent from Morocco, into a Spanish hospital.

While there has been no official comment from the Moroccan government on this week's events in Ceuta, Minister of State for Human Rights Mustafa Ramid suggested in a Facebook post that they were connected to Ghali's case.

Ramid said Spain had committed a "reckless and totally unacceptable act" in hosting Ghali without consulting Rabat and that Morocco had "the right to lean back" in response.

Spain has said it allowed Ghali's hospital admission for humanitarian reasons.

Spanish opposition parties have strongly criticized Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez's left-leaning government over the Ghali and Ceuta situations.

Pablo Casado, leader of the center-right People' Party said that receiving Ghali in secret was a diplomatic blunder and that the government had shown weakness in protecting Spain's borders.

"The chaos of this government is our major weakness," he said.

After the initial surge of migrant arrivals in Ceuta on Monday, Spain deployed troops in the enclave. Over three days this week, Spanish police and soldiers detained as many as 8,000 migrants who swam into Ceuta or climbed over fences and sent a majority of them back to Morocco.

Yesterday morning, both sides of the border in Ceuta were quiet and the beach deserted after Moroccan police stepped in on their side to move away hundreds of youths from the border fence.

ed all-round cooperation.

As an important pilot project of the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative and one of the main platforms for deepening bilateral cooperation, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has been bearing fruit.

For 32-year-old Zulgarnian Khan, working as a geological engineer in the Suki Kinari hydropower station, only about 10 km away from his home, is what makes him and his family elated.

"My parents are happy. They I can learn lots of advanced techniques from my Chinese colleagues with a handsome income here," he told Xinhua.

Located in Pakistan's northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, the 884-megawatt hydropower station is a major CPEC energy project, with construction in full swing.

"Our project currently has around 5,000 Pakistani employees, and over 60 percent of them are from nearby areas of the station," said Deng Siwen, general manager of the project. "Since the start of construction four years ago, I have seen shops and hotels mushroom near our construction site, and many of our Pakistani colleagues began to afford a motorbike for commuting."

Having been working for the project for three years, Khan is joining hands with his Chinese and Pakistani colleagues to smoothly reach each milestone in the construction, including the second-stage river closure achieved in late April.

When starting commercial operation, the project is expected to generate some 3.21 billion kilowatthours of clean electricity annually to provide sufficient power supply and further improve Pakistan's energy structure while a number of CPEC power plants under operation have already made great contributions to solving the electricity

shortage in the country.

"The CPEC energy projects have

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor is a collection of US\$62 billion worth of infrastructure projects under construction across the South Asian country, including this metro train service in Lahore. (Xinhua)

added thousands of megawatts of installed capacity to the grid of the country, and the electricity shortage which was there for the last 20-25 years is no more," Mushahid Hussain Syed, chairman of the Pakistani Senate's standing committee on foreign affairs, told Xinhua.

The sufficient energy supply has paved the way for the boom of Pakistan's know I will have a bright future as economic and social activities, enabling the country to embark on a path of clean and green development.

> In Pakistan's eastern historic city of Lahore, the launch of the South Asian country's first-ever metro train service last October has provided a modern, comfortable and eco-friendly way of traveling for over 11 million residents in the city.

Adopting the Chinese standard, technology and equipment, the electricity-driven Orange Line metro train under CPEC has become a popular choice among local commuters and is expected to facilitate the traffic and reduce air pollution in the city.

"Earlier, it used to take me an hour via three different kinds of transport to reach my destination and I had to suffer dust since the rickshaw I used to take was open," said Lahore resident Tariq Siddiqui. "Now I am just using this one which takes me only 20 minutes. It's a very good facility for the public."

Meanwhile, CPEC's other transport infrastructure projects including the Karakoram Highway Phase Two and the Sukkur-Multan Motorway "have connected different provinces of Pakistan in a modern and better way, facilitating transportation, trade and people's travel," Syed said.

Facing the Arabian Sea, Gwadar port, one of the pillars of the CPEC, in Pakistan's southwest Balochistan province, has made a series of achievements including the inauguration of liner services, Afghan transit trade and liquefied petroleum gas business, and is sailing towards the dream of becoming a "New Dubai" in Pakistan.

Launched in 2013, the CPEC is a corridor linking Gwadar port with Kashgar in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, which highlights energy, transport and industrial cooperation.

According to the data recently released by the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan, a total of 46 CPEC projects are under construction or have been completed, and the corridor has brought 25.4 billion U.S. dollars in foreign direct investment to Pakistan and created 75,000 jobs for the locals, serving as a focal point for China and Pakistan to drive practical cooperation.

In late April, Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan said in a meeting with the country's high-level officials reviewing progress on CPEC that the corridor is a testimony to the time-tested and deep-rooted Pakistan-China friendship.

"After 70 years of development, this iron-clad friendship exists not only between the two governments, but has also become a broad consensus among the two peoples, which is what I feel after working in Pakistan for 13 years," said Deng. Xinhua

The move came after the United States last week twice blocked United Nations (UN) resolutions that would urge de-escalation amid the rising Israeli-Palestinian tensions, which have caused hundreds of deaths and thousands of injuries.

The UN's casualty count from hostilities in Gaza, the West Bank and Israel on Wednesday showed that 219 Palestinians, including 63 children, were killed in Gaza. In the West Bank, 25 Palestinian deaths were tallied, including four children. Israeli sources reported 12 people killed, including two children and a soldier. Thousands of people were injured, mainly in the West Bank and in Gaza.

While U.S. President loe Biden on Wednesday told Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in a phone conversation that he expected "a significant de-escalation" of the violence in Gaza, the United States has reportedly approved a 735 million-U.S.-dollar deal of precision-guided weapons to Israel, a move widely seen as "adding fuel to the fire" ravaging the Gaza Strip.

The move was condemned by Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, who on Tuesday criticized the United States for selling advanced weapons to Israel amid the flared-up of the conflict, saying that the United States sold Israel "precision" missiles to "kill more children with more precision."

Speaking with Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas on Wednesday, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres reiterated that the UN exerts every possible effort for reaching a ceasefire.

Guterres also said that the UN will continue its contacts with the International Quartet for peace in the Middle East to work on a political track that leads to a just and comprehensive peace under international law.

Executive Director Henrietta Fore of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) is calling for an immediate ceasefire and aid access to stave off disaster in the Middle East, according to UN News Wednesday.

"Gaza's 1 million children are reeling from the mounting consequences of violent conflict with nowhere safe to turn. Lives have been lost and families shattered," she said.

Concerned about the deteriorating humanitarian situation and mounting hostilities in the Palestine-Israel conflict, the European Union (EU) has urged "the immediate cessation of all violence and implementation of a ceasefire."

"Security for Israel and Palestine requires a true political solution," said EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell at a Tuesday meeting.

Guardian 5 PORT

Premier League Board issues ban on referee for poor showing

By Correspondent Ismail Tana

TANZANIA Premier League Board (TPLB) through the 72-hour Committee has removed assistant referee, Abdulaziz Ally, from the top flight referees' schedules in three rounds, for showcasing below-par performance.

The official issued what was termed a controversial decision at a top-flight game pitting Namngo FC against Yanga, which took place at Majaliwa Stadium in Lindi last wee.

Namungo FC held Yanga to a 0-0 draw in the well-attended clash.

Ally has disallowed a goal scored by Yanga forward, Yacouba Songne, with a header from midfielder Said Ntibanzokiza's corner kick.

The official's decision was based on the notion the ball had come out of play after Ntibanzokiza had taken the corner kick.

The conclusion visibly infuriated Yanga players who attempted to angrily expressed their dismay.

An official statement issued by TBLB stated that the 72-hour Committee met on May 17 to discuss recent events in the Premier League and First Division League.

The statement said that the committee punished the tie's first assistant referee Ally via removing him from the referees' scheduled three rounds. The punishment was issued because

of his failure to properly officiate game number 257 between Namungo FC and Yanga.

Gwambina FC's manager Mrisho Seleman has also been suspended for

two months for harassing a match official and using foul language against referees when they were on their way to the changing rooms.

The offense was committed at a league match between Gwambina FC and JKT Tanzania, which took place at Gwambina Stadium in Mwanza on May 14.

The JKT Tanzania posted a 1-0 victory over Gwambina FC in the tie.

The Gwambina leader is not allowed to participate in football activities for the two months and was also fined 300,000/-.

Azam FC goalkeeping coach Iddy Abubakar and the squad's goalkeeper Yusuph Nzawila have been suspended for two months for non-compliance with football matters.

They will further pay a fine of 300,000/- for insulting the referee when Azam FC locked horns with Kinondoni Municipal Council FC.

Azam FC's official Edward Msimbe was also handed the same ban and fine.

The May 15 match, which took place at Azam Complex, climaxed with Azam FC cruising to a 2-1 victory over KMC FC.

In the First Division League, Kitayosce FC manager Salum Jumbe has been suspended for two months and handed a fine of 300, 000/- for using foul language against officials at an encounter between the Tabora outfit and Mwanza's Pamba, which took place May 7 and climaxed with Pamba cruising to 1-0 win.

SUA Queens' cricketers trounce Morogoro Stars in TCA Moro Women League

By Guardian Reporter

OKOINE University of Agriculture (SUA) Queens' cricketers commanded a fivewicket victory Morogoro Stars in this season's Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) Moro Women League match, which took place in the region early this week.

The SUA Queens side raced to 103 runs, dropping six wickets 20 overs once they had the chance to start batting.

They got off t a wobbly start, after experienced allrounder Hawa Mgoha was dismissed in the very opening over, notching seven runs.

Sheila Shamte, batting at number three, had a two-digit score, as was the case for the opener, Malizia Salum, with the latter registering 21 runs and finishing as top run getter.

They were pegged back with Dorice Helment's early dismissal but then sought to stay in control thanks to Najma Saidi's good knocks as the batter posted 14 runs not out.

Dorice's efforts to flex her muscles were foiled Morogoro Stars' Scolastina John that caught the batter from delivery Sonia Chachala.

Middle order batter, Zulfa Hussein, stepped in with the squad posting 75 runs after 11.2 overs, the batter scored eight runs which slightly boosted the outfit's total.

Najma wrapped the innings with Mariam Haji, who though could not chip in with runs.

Perice Zakayo, one of the experienced all-rounders, posted two wickets as Morogoro Stars did all they could to keep SUA Queens in check. Scolastina, Martha Karisti, and Sonia chipped in with a



Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) Queens cricket outfit

wicket each.

Needing 104 runs to register victory, Morogoro Stars, in response, put spirited showing which however hardly helped them get down to a successful chase.

The Morogoro Stars' girls completed their innings, posting 98 runs, losing five wickets in 20 overs.

Martha should be credited for the team's acquisition of the respectable score, the opener registered 36 runs which consisted of five fours.

She effectively made up for less convincing displays fellow opener Perice put to show,

considering the latter ended five short of a double-digit score.

Much as she got back to the pavilion early, Perice showcased a bit of resoluteness, notching a boundary in her short stint.

Three more top orde batter ended with two-digit figures, seeking to keep alive Morogoro Stars' hopes of mounting successful chase

Morogoro Stars notched 14 runs, which included two fours, Sonia cracked a four on her way to notching 13 runs

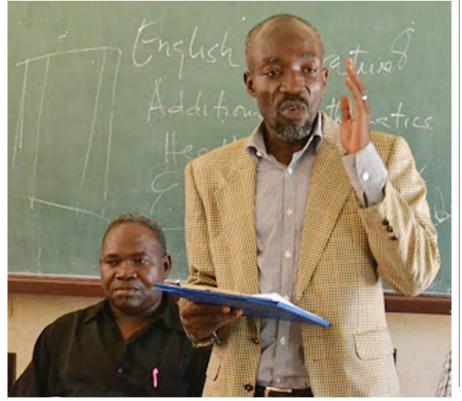
Moro's skipper, slotted in at six runs respectively. number three posted 11 runs

which consisted of two fours. Fatuma Dimoso and Fatuma Salimu ended the innings with the bat in hand in a performance that could nevertheless not change the course of the clash.

Najma, Dorice, Sheila, and Malizia took a wicket each as SUA Queens frustrated their opponents' efforts to reach the target.

Dorice, Sheila gave away 17 runs and 18 respectively in their four-over stints.

Najma and Malizia bowled two overs, conceding 19 and



Kaizer Chiefs' tactician counsels players

Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB) Chief Executive Officer, Almasi Kasongo.

Correspondent Nassir Salaam.

Bv

Nchimb

KAIZER Chiefs assistant coach Dillon Sheppard says they need to be well equipped to deal with all obstacles they could face against

Simba SC on Saturday. The South Africa football big guns will carry a 4-0 aggregate lead into their CAF Champions League quarterfinal secondmatch against leg Tanzanian giants the Benjamin Mkapa at Stadium in Dar es

Simba has confirmed that 10,000 supporters will be allowed in the stadium as the Msimbazi Street side looks to overturn a 4-0 deficit at home.

Sheppard feels that it is going to be different going away from home after the Soweto giants dominated the first-leg encounter at FNB Stadium last weekend. He noted: "It was a

great result in the first leg, I mean, to score four goals against a top team like Simba is always good nicely for us. We know it's going to be different going away from home." Simba is undefeated in the team's last 12 home matches in the Champions League and this includes a 4-1 win over DR Congo giants AS Vita Club last month.

Sheppard, aged 42, said it is imperative for his team, nicknamed 'Amakhosi', to prepare for a hostile reception in Tanzania where Simba is usually unstoppable.

"It's always going to be tougher but we know

and it has set up the tie what we need to do. We have to ensure that they don't score. We are not going there expecting things to be easy, we know what lies ahead," he added.

He disclosed: "We just have to stay focused. We have heard of all the things that could happen to go that side with the transport and at the stadium. We have to be prepared."

1979,

In

Simba overturned a 4-0 deficit against Zambian club Mufulira Wanderers and it remains the biggest history of the club.

comeback in the history of the CAF Champions League as they won 5-0 in the second-leg clash at home.

ing a Chiefs side which is undefeated in their last two away games in the competition having drawn with Angolan side Petro de Luanda and Guinean giants Horoya AC in the group stage.

Simba SC will be host-

A third successive draw on the road will be enough for Chiefs to reach the semi-finals for the first time in the

Pugilists out to break records in international bouts

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

FOUR Tanzanian professional boxers are on the verge of breaking records in the international bouts' series, nicknamed 'Rumble in Dar' second edition, scheduled for May 28 at the Next Door Arena, Masaki Dar es Salaam.

Hassan Mwakinyo, the country's leading Super Welterweight pugilist set to face Zimbabwean Brendon Denes for the African Boxing Union (ABU) title, will set a record of being the first boxer to beat the Zimbabwean if the former triumphs.

Denes has not been beaten since 2018 when he got into a professional career and on May 28 he will participate in his ninth bout.

Other records that are expected to be broken in the his first professional fight.

fights, sponsored by KCB Bank for 94.4m/-, are those of Burgaria boxers Joana Nwamerue and Pencho Tsvetkov.

The boxers along with Ardi Ndembo of Congo Brazzaville have also never been beaten, and if they lose their fights, their records will be broken for the first time by Tanzanians

Ndembo will trade blows with Hamisi Palasungulu, Joana will take on Halima Bandola and Tsvetkov will play with Daniel Matefu to accompany Mwakinyo and Denes.

Mwakinyo continues to prepare under his coach Hamis, who is also the former's brother.

The pugilist will break the unbeaten record of Denes, which has been set since May 2018 when he participated in

Denes, the number one boxer in his country, is ranked 72nd out of 1,572 boxers in the world at Super Welterweight. The pugilist is a two-and-

a-half-star boxer, Mwakinyo, a three-star boxer, is ranked 45th in the division globally.

"It is a challenge, if Tanzanians are to make good use of it, it will not only promote them but also bring forth opportunities internationally as long as they win," Kelvin Twissa, Director of Jackson Group Company, the series' organizers, noted.

He said apart from the feat, Tanzania's Cruiserweight pugilist Jongo Jongo will face Nigerian, Olanrewaju Durodora, the fight will see Jongo move to 12th spot in the division's ranking in the country.

The pugilist will be placed 211th globally, with Cruiser- ing is a job," she said.

weight having 977 boxers. Jongo will be out to rise to the occasion in the fight.

Durodora, the number two boxer in his country, whilst ranked 23rd in the world, will have his positioning affected should he face loss.

"Fans should stay tuned to witness the international bouts sponsored by KCB Bank, DStv, Plus Television, M-Bet, Onomo Hotel, Next Door Arena, Fight Vibe, and all other stakeholders," he said.

Christine Manyenye, KCB Marketing Manager, noted they expect strong competition in the fights and she stated boxing fans will get topclass entertainment.

"We have not made a mistake in supporting this fight, we believe it will open up opportunities for boxers as box-



Officials from Weight Measures Agency (WMA) verify different tools that are used by Dar Salaam's fitness training center, Herous Gym, for exercises to see if they have correct measurements in commemoration of the World Metrology Day, which is held on May 20 every year. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JOSEPH MWENDAPOLE

from a coach.

In the biggest games,

Barcelona repeatedly

fell flat. They took one

point from four matches

During matches, Koe-

bles over referees and

best

Barca may have been

attacking

fragility

SOCCER.NEWS

Maradona case: Seven charged with homicide

BUENOS AIRES

SEVEN medical professionals have been charged with "simple homicide with eventual intent" in the death of Diego Maradona.

The San Isidro's prosecutors' office, which opened an investigation into the Argentina legend's death, have requested to the judge that those individuals indicted not be permitted to leave the country.

If found guilty, those accused could face between eight to 25 years in prison.

Maradona died at the age of 60 on Nov. 25 from heart failure, two weeks after undergoing brain surgery.

Leopoldo Luque, the neurosurgeon who performed a successful brain operation on Maradona, and psychiatrist Agustina Cosachov, who treated the former Napoli star, are among the seven individuals charged. The two have denied any wrongdoing.

Audios of private conversations between doctors and people from Maradona's entourage were leaked to the media and have indicated that Maradona was not being properly looked after prior to his death.

Maradona's family has demanded justice and hold Luque among those responsible for his death.

The prosecutors' office appointed a medical board to determine if there was evidence of culpable homicide from Maradona's medical team.

The board revealed in a report that the medical team who attended Maradona prior to his death acted in an "inappropriate, deficient and reckless manner" and left him "to his own devices.'

Two nurses, a nurse coordinator, a doctor and a psychologist are also among the charged.

Maradona's autopsy determined that Maradona died in his sleep of acute pulmonary edema, a buildup of fluid in the lungs, because of congestive heart failure.

The toxicological report detected no alcohol or illegal substances, but the presence of psychotropic drugs used to treat anxiety and depression. The accused will begin to testify from May 31.

(Agencies)

Real Madrid rated football's most valuable brand

LONDON

REAL Madrid have topped the 2021 Brand Finance list as the most valuable football club brand in the world for a third straight year.

Despite suffering a 10% drop in its brand value, the Spanish giants head the world rankings with a €1.27 billion valuation, ahead of La Liga rivals Barcelona who are valued at €1.26bn.

"Real Madrid have consistently been able to secure Champions League qualification year after year," the report said.

"This consistent influx of Champions League

Shifting expectations put Koeman's Barca future in doubt

BARCELONA

G WE chose him because he knows Barcelona," said

the club's thenpresident Josep Maria Bartomeu and after nine months in the job, Ronald Koeman will know exactly how this works.

Barca stabilised, improved, won the Copa del Rey and won round Lionel Messi - at least for the season and perhaps for good - but while Koeman did a lot, it will almost certainly not be enough.

Joan Laporta, who succeeded Bartomeu as president in March, said on Tuesday a "cycle has finished" and although he may have been referring to another cull of expensive players,

a new overhaul could mean a new coach too. Laporta said "a

renewal process" is about to begin but that was Koeman's remit and in many ways he has done what was asked of him, overseeing a year of transition in which restored.



Yet when biggest prize suddenly came into view, Barcelona bolted, one win in four games leaving them adrift in the title race before defeat at home to Celta Vigo on Sunday left Koeman clinging to his job.

Ronald Koeman

La Liga's most exciting tussle in years will be contested this weekend between not the established grandees but Real Madrid and Atletico Madrid, Barca watching on in third, their game against Eibar so irrelevant their goalkeeper Marc-Andre hope and respect were ter Stegen is using the week to have knee

Spain's surgery.

Koeman sees it more positively, the season ending where it began, without any real chance of serious silverware due to the change the club demanded and he has dutifully begun to carry out.

"Barcelona are not about to win a lot of things right now," Koeman said in January. "We have to be realistic about where we've come from, the changes we've made."

reinforcing them be-

fore the 4-1 thrashing by Paris Saint-Germain in the Champions League cemented Barcelona's new-found status as pretenders to the European elite.

But the level required to win in Spain has been shown to be lower than in Europe and as the gap behind Atletico shrank through the spring, the stakes grew, a 14-match unbeaten run elevating Koeman while simultaneously increasing the distance he could fall.

When Koeman arrived, he was "welcomed home" as a "blaugrana legend" but his purpose was not so much to love the club he was returning to but to rip it up and start again.

He was tasked with bringing a powerful dressing room onside while jettisoning some of its most successful players.

He was told to make Messi happy after selling Luis Suarez, Messi's

to youth, not graduexperienced, winning demands

team, but all at once, the reliance on young talent a way of covering up the club's inability to afford proven stars. And in all those areas,

against Atletico Madrid Koeman largely sucand Real Madrid and ceeded, his pragmatism while a 1-1 draw away at and honesty offering a PSG was seen as a sign refreshing change from of progress, they were the political squabbling outclassed in the first leg while the tie was still that had engulfed Barcelona for so long. alive.

election Laporta's brought unity too and man's substitutions felt when the team found its increasingly incoherent, rhythm, the new regime and after matches, he was confronted with became embittered, enthe possibility Koeman gaging more and more could even continue. readily in petty squab-

Messi had started slowly but found form and seemed to revel in his role of mentor to the youngsters.

team in the league Frenkie de Jong looked but the mental and better than ever and the defensive excellent Pedri took his that has underpinned chance to shine. Oscar their biggest failures in Mingueza, Sergino Dest. recent years remains Ronald Araujo and Ilaix Moriba have all broken through under Koeman's

VAR.

the

watch. But as much as Koeman showed himself able to stabilise and mend, he also began to fall short in areas where excellence

unresolved. Instead, the players buckled under pressure and so did Koeman. When he was asked to fix things, he did it well but when the job became about winning, he lost control, to leave the club looking for change again. AFP

striker partner, neigh-For a while, many bour and best friend. subscribed to Koeman's He was urged to turn theory of low expectations, a poor start even ally, in the comfort of an an elite team normally

Benzema back for France: Why Deschamps recalled him for the Euros

By Julien Laurens, ESPN Correspondent

THEY met, and they talked. Just like that. After five-and-a-half years of silence and arguments through the media, of missed opportunities and stubbornness, too. Karim Benzema and Didier Deschamps spoke again after years without contact, culminating in the striker's recall to the France squad for this summer's Euros. Throughout all that time, they didn't even try

fell apart.

moved on.

"Everyone can make

mistakes," said Des-

champs on Tuesday. "I

have already had diffi-

cult relationships with

some players, but this

shirt is above everything



the Real Madrid striker, Deschamps consulted senior players (including Raphael Varane and Hugo Lloris) in the France squad. It was important to know that the dressing room would welcome Karim back. Asked on Tuesday if he has assurances that Benzema's return would not disturb the squad, the head coach was very clear. "I will be brief here. You have your answer within the choices that I have made. Otherwise I would have made like Presnel Kimpembe, Mbappe or Coman grew up watching him. For them, at 33, he will be a leader, the big brother who can help them improving and who will guide them through what promises to be a tough competition.

Back in France, the news has blown everything else out of the news cycle! From Tuesday morning, when the news started to leak, through the evening when Deschamps officially confirmed it, it's been the only topic of conversation up and down the nation. Is it good, is it bad, was it necessary, will it pay off, is it a gamble... so many questions asked. Overall, the majority of fans seemed happy and excited to see Benzema back in the fold. After the season he's having with Real Madrid (22 goals and eight assists in 33 league games, an exceptional return), his recall is totally deserved; at this point, France just can't wait to see it. To see Karim Benzema wearing the blue shirt again, with his new number: 19. To see him alongside Mbappe, Griezmann and the others. To see him at the Euros, taking part again in a big international tournament, for the first time since 2014. And to hopefully see him shine and win. After all, that's why he is back.

revenue and status has played a central role in the club's overall success."

Six of the top 10 ranked clubs in the Football 50 2021 report are Premier League outfits. Manchester United are third in the rankings and are England's most valuable brand club at €1.13bn, just 1% higher in brand value than Premier League champions Manchester City (€1.19bn), who are fourth overall.

United suffered a 14% decline in brand value this vear.

The failed European Super League project has negatively impacted the brand strength of the 12 founding clubs, eight of which are in the top 10 on the list. The ESL controversy knocked €600 million off brand values.

Nine of the 12 Super League clubs have formally renounced the breakaway league and committed to the existing European competitions, but they will have to give up 5% of UEFA revenue for one season.

Real Madrid, Barcelona and Juventus have refused to approve the "reintegration measures" and will be referred to UEFA disciplinary bodies for sanctions.

"The origin and demise of the European Super League is a story of branding," Brand Finance head of sports Hugo Hensley said.

"The 12 clubs considered their brands too strong and attractive to be sanctioned by other associations, and above the footballing pyramid that validates their success. However, the communication, promotion, and positioning of the project was poorly executed, fuelling a backlash from all stakeholders, leading to the dissolution of the group, and resulting in painful brand damage."

Bayern Munich (€1.06bn), who did not take part in the ESL, climbed to fifth place and was given a brand strength score of 91.9 out of 100.

The adverse impact of COVID-19 has seen an overall brand value drop of 11.2% of the top 50 clubs' brands this year with respect to the 2.2% drop last year.

Top 10 most valuable football club brands

- Real Madrid (€1.27bn)
- Barcelona (€1.26bn)
- Machester United (€1.13bn)
- Manchester City (€1.19bn)
- Bayern Munich (€1.17bn)
- Liverpool (€973m)
- Paris Saint-Germain (€887m)
- Chelsea (€769m)
- Tottenham Hotspur (€723m)
- Arsenal (€675m)

(Agencies)

to reconnect after they fell out over the Mathieu **Didier Deschamps** Valbuena scandal, for

which the Real Madrid think, to analyse my feelstriker is still expected ings. My job is not to surprise. I never said that in court this October. Karim was not eligible Deschamps and Benzema used to be very for France. We can't go close. Upon taking over back in time. The most from Laurent Blanc after important is that we saw France's disappointing

each other. I needed it, quarterfinal exit from and he did too. Euro 2012, Deschamps "In my head. I made built his first three years the decision a while ago. at the helm around the There were many discusenigmatic striker. But sions, weighing the pros after Benzema's last cap, and cons. It was done in October 2015 in Nice very discreetly, but it was only between Karim against Armenia, things and I," he continued.

The striker was ef-Benzema didn't unfectively "exiled" from derstand why he was the national team afdropped back in 2015. Deschamps didn't unter a scandal involving himself and Valbuena, a derstand why the Real former France and Lyon Madrid forward accused him of "bowing to the teammate. Benzema is accused of playing a role pressure of a racist part in blackmailing Valbueof France" when he left na, allegations he's conhim out of the squad sistently denied ahead for Euro 2016. Benzema of this year's trial. Howeven said in 2017 that he didn't think he'd play ever, as Deschamps has for France again as long repeated regularly when asked -- he was quizzed as Deschamps was in again on Tuesday night charge.

after the squad was an-Talking helps to heal nounced -- his choices wounds, especially these ones, and for these spe-"are always guided by cific Euros across the one thing only: the good of the French national continent this summer, Deschamps team." And for the good needed of France, both he and Benzema and Benzema Benzema put their pride wanted to help. aside, cleared the air and

The player's reaction on social media afterwards was priceless. "So proud of this comeback with the national team and of the faith showed in me. Thank you to my family, to my friends, to my club, to you and to else. I took the time to all who have always supKarim Benzema

Tuesday.

ported me and given me strength daily," he wrote.

Faith is the right word, too, for what Deschamps is showing. Without Benzema, France reached the final of Euro 2016 and then won the World Cup in Russia in 2018. Yet Deschamps felt that this particular version of Les Bleus would be so much stronger with the veteran striker in it. There is, of course, a possibility that the Benzema experiment doesn't work in 2021, though when there is so much quality in the same team, it rarely fails. A front three of Benzema, Kylian Mbappe and Antoine Griezmann would be something else, and Deschamps is very much aware of it.

"With quality, intellimanager knows that it gence and talent, we can should be a smooth reachieve a lot," he said on turn. Before recalling

other choices." Reading between the lines: if the other players had not been on board, I would Yet he won't have not have called him much time to work on back.

Deschamps has always tactics, as Les Bleus don't convene at Clairebeen big on team unity and team spirit in every fontaine until May 26 iob. He won the World and will have only two friendly games, against Cup partly because of Wales on June 2 and Bulthat. Aymeric Laporte garia on June 8, before didn't seem to mesh or their tournament begins integrate with the squad when called in, so he left on June 15. Remember: France are in the toughhim at home. Benjamin est group, with Germa-Mendy was judged to ny, Hungary and Portulack the right attitude, gal. Yet Deschamps has consistently arriving late so many options now, for team meetings or missing physio appointwith Kingsley Coman and Ousmane Dembele ments, so he's not been called up since the 2018 also in the squad. He has so many different tactriumph in Russia. tical systems he could With Benzema, the

use, the 4-2-3-1 seems the dressing room wanted most fitted but the 4-3-3 him back. He's played could be useful like the with some of them dur-4-4-2 or even the 4-3-2-1. ing his career (Lloris, Paul Pogba, Varane, More importantly, the Moussa Sissoko, Antoine Griezmann and Olivier Giroud), while others

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Simba SC can achieve feat in CAF CL quarterfinal, says legend

Shifting expectations put Koeman's Barca future in doubt

PAGE 19

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

ANZANIA's Simba SC can turn tables tomorrow when they take on South

Africa's Kaizer Chiefs in the CAF Champions League's last eight's second leg, the former's legend, Daud Salum, disclosed. Salum was one of the players that were in Simba SC's squad, which performed won-

ders in Zambia in 1979, as the outfit knocked Mufulira Wanderers out of the continental competition. The former defender is ada-

mant Simba can achieve the feat if they will bring out their best performance against Kaizer Chiefs. Simba SC will tomorrow

face Kaizer Chiefs in their second leg match of the quarterfinals of the CAF Champions League to be held at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in the city.

Simba lost 4-0 to Kaizer Chiefs in their previous match held at FNB Stadium in JohanThe hosts will require

the club, so after the first leg defeat, we felt we had a huge debt for the club." He added: "I remember

the late Joel Bendera, who was the national team head coach, was brought in for a while at the club and he was building us psychologically for the game."

He noted: "He told us if they (Mufulira Wanderers) could win 4-0 away, and we also could get similar results at their home ground."

He disclosed: "Every player knew his role. We made good preparations and we traveled to Zambia for a rematch, when we got there (in Zambia) opposifor our team. We fought tion fans were cracking

He insisted that Simba could follow suit.

He said their squad consisted of such talented performers as Athumani Mambosasa, Mohammed Kajole, Thuwein Ally, Abdallah Mwinyimkuu, George Kulangwa, Omary Gumbo, and many others.

"Even the current Simba SC squad have many good star players, it's just a matter of planning. I believe they can do well, but it's not an easy game, they have to fight, The decision is theirs whether they can succeed or not," he disclosed.

He said: "The first inci-

Sandy's Super Strikers stretch winning run in Kazim Nasser tourney's Division B

By Guardian Reporter

SANDY's Super Strikers have compounded Patel Brotherhood A outfit's woes in this season's Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML) Division B, as the former defeated the latter by five wickets early this week. Patel Brotherhood A side had the opportunity to start batting in the low-scoring clash played at Leaders Club venue, posting 80 runs all out in 16.3 overs of the scheduled 18 overs. Low order batsman, Riteshkumar Tailor, ended with the best innings, notching 21 runs not out in what was overall a less impressive outing. Dhavalkumar Patel, slotted in at number three, also ended with a two-digit figure given he registered 14 runs. The side's efforts to post a good score was dealt a blow early on, given Nishit Thakkar and Keyur Patel, who opened the innings, were dismissed for duck. Dhavalkumar came on with the squad at 39 runs after 7.5 overs, he did his best to bring



Mohammed Ali, recorded 10 runs, clearing the boundary on two occasions.

Abhishek, in the process, somehow made up for a frustrating outing Ali experienced, given the latter exited

CAF Champions League's last eight's clash against South Africa's Kaizer Chiefs, which will be held in the city tomorrow. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC nesburg, South Africa last mainly because most of us week. were fans and members of

a 5-0 win in their second match to reach the semifinals of the tournament.

Salum, famously known as 'Bruce Lee', said Simba had in 1979 conceded a 4-0 defeat o Mufulira Wanderers of Zambia at the National Stadium (now Uhuru Stadium) in Dar es Salaam and many people believed they had already been eliminated from the tournament, then known as Af-

rican Club Championship. But Simba turned the table when they went for the second leg match in Lusaka and won 5-0.

Salum noted: "We at that time played with love

Simba SC players participate in training in Dar es Salaam early this week to shape up for this season's jokes that their team would

have scored 10 goals in Dar es Salaam, so we should get ready for that in Lusaka." "We were weak in the

eyes, but strong in our hearts and everyone knew what we wanted to do. We planned well our game. We appreciated our work, we carried the hearts of Tanzanians and that is what the current Simba squad

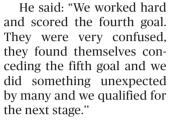
should do now," he said. The former defender. who still looks fit as he works out in the gym, said the day of the game was a big day at the stadium, where there were three major events, with the official guest being the then President of Zambia, Ken-

neth Kaunda.

there was a match between MPs and ministers, there was also their famous boxer I do not remember his name who was fighting another boxer from outside Zambia. Those events were followed by our match with Mufulira Wanderers, and the stadium was full of spectators." He disclosed: "Only in the

lent on the field I remember

third minute of the game we scored, then we scored the second and by the halftime break we had scored three goals. During the break, coach Bendera told us it was possible to get two more goals so we had to tighten our boots."



Kaizer Chiefs' coach zeroes in on psychological preparations

Guardian

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

SOUTH Africa's Kaizer Chiefs head coach Gavin Hunt has begun psychologically preparing for the second leg of the CAF Champions League quarterfinal stage against Simba SC of Tanzania.

Kaizer Chiefs are expected to be guests of Simba SC, at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam this weekend, with the highest number of goals scored by the South African side when the squads took on each other in the first leg.

Hunt has said that despite winning 4-0 at home, his players have to be fully prepared because he is aware of the environment of Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, which has become a stumbling block for several African clubs when they face Simba SC.

He said he would prepare his squad to play with all due respect in the stadium, believing that anything could happen and the world would be amazed.

Hunt disclosed: "We are happy to have this important first-leg victory against Simba, but I must admit that we have a difficult task to protect the result against Simba when we go to Tanzania."

He said: "Simba is the best team at home and the biggest problem for us is that our teammates have the advantage of playing with the fans, something that we have not had for two years now."

This season Simba SC has grown to be very impressive as they play at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, beating Al Ahly of Egypt, AS Vita of DR Congo, Al Mereikh of Sudan as well as FC Platinum of Zimbabwe.

Simba moreover settled for a goalless draw against Plateau United of Nigeria.

In the last eight's second leg match to be played tomorrow, Simba SC will have to look for a 5-0 victory or more, to secure a place in the semifinals.

Meanwhile, Kaizer Chiefs have unveiled a 'near full strength' squad ahead of their trip to Tanzania for their second leg CAF Champions League quarter-final tie against Simba SC.

Chiefs hold a 4-0 advantage heading into the return leg in Dar es Salaam this weekend after an exceptional display at FNB Stadium last Saturday.

Eric Mathoho, Leonardo Castro, and a Samir Nurkovic brace have put the Soweto giants in pole position to advance to the semi-finals of Africa's elite club competition where they will meet MC Alger or Wydad Athletic Club.

The Tanzanian giants do hold a record of 12 games unbeaten at home in the competition dating back to November 2018 but face an incredible task of having to score five unanswered goals to win or four to take the game to extra-time and a penalty shoot-out.

The Confederation of African Football has confirmed Burundian Pacifique Ndabihawenimana as the referee in part of an all East African officials line-up for the encounter.

Chiefs 23-man squad in full:

Goalkeepers: Bruce Bvuma, Daniel Akpeyi, Itumeleng Khune

Defenders: Njabulo Blom, Reeve Frosler, Daniel Cardoso, Anthony Akumu Agay, Happy Mashiane, Mulomowandau Mathoho, Ramahlwe Mphahlele, Kgotso Moleko, Yagan Sasman, Siphosakhe Ntiya-Ntiya, Siyabonga Ngezana

Midfielders: Philani Zulu, Kearyn Baccus, Lebogang Manyama, Willard Katsande, Nkosingiphile Ngcobo

Forwards: Bernard Parker, Samir Nurkovi, Leonardo Castro, Lazalous Kambole

The clash between the Tanzanian giants and Amakhosi at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium will kick off on Saturday afternoon at 15h00.



Sandy's Super Strikers cricket team

the skid to a stop, nailing two fours in his spell.

Harsh Patel got his hands on the bat after skipper Pinalkumar Patel's early dismissal and ended two runs short of a two-digit figure.

They later kept on dropping wickets, low order batsman Pradhan Shetty and middle order batsman Chetan Patel chipped in with eight runs (one six) and six runs respectively.

Sandy's Super Strikers' bowler Nanda Kumar had no mercy for Patel Brotherhood A squad, he registered a fivewicket haul, giving away 10 runs in four overs.

Kumar was ably assisted by Anil Dobani and Sirinanda, who ended with two wickets apiece.

Dobani leaked 13 runs in 3.3 overs, recording 3.71 in economy rate.

Sirinanda gave away 26

runs in four overs, ending with 6.50 in economy rate.

Sandy's Super Strikers smoothly chased the modest total recorded by Patel Brotherhood A outfit, notching 83 runs for the loss of five wickets in 12.1 overs.

Anand Monani, the team's skipper, led their batting onslaught, notching 17 runs not out

Abhishek Rathod, who opened the innings with

without a run to his name.

Top order batsman Narendra Kumar ensured the team is in control with his 15 runs, clearing the boundary once.

Sirinanda chipped in with 12 runs, which consisted of two fours.

Nanda formed an unbeaten partnership with Monani, registering 11 runs not out which consisted of two boundaries.

Patel Brotherhood A squad's bowler, Vipinkumar Patel, notched two wickets, as was the case for Keyur, who gave away 15 runs in three overs.

The duo however could not help the team prevent Sandy's Super Strikers from getting down to a successful chase.

Sandy's Super Strikers had, in their previous clash, recorded a six-run victory over K&P Constructions outfit on March 7.

Fexibles by David Chikoko

