

ZAMBIA National Service (ZNS) officers in Nakonde District have impounded eight trucks loaded with Mukula tree logs.

Muchinga Province Permanent Secretary Bright Nundwe said that ZNS officers impounded the trucks as they were on their way to Tanzania through the Nakonde border post.

Mr Nundwe said the drivers were from Tanzania and Zambia and upon being intercepted by the ZNS officers, they abandoned the containers and ran into the bush.

"On Wednesday between 09:00 and 10:00 hours, ZNS officers impounded eight containers loaded with Mukula logs," Mr Nundwe said. "Police have since launched a manhunt for the eight drivers of the trucks."

He said illegal transportation of the Mukula tree should not be allowed to continue as selfish individuals working in partnership with some foreigners were robbing the country of revenue that could be channelled to developmental projects.

Mr Nundwe said his office would continue to monitor the border to ensure that no illegal activities took place and all the transactions were done in a corruption-free manner.

He said it was sad that some criminals received help from some unpatriotic civil servants in the province by helping them (criminals) to obtain papers to legalise the criminal activities.

Mr Nundwe said after searching the containers, it was found that some of them had seals from various Government departments that were making it easy for the culprits to move without being intercepted.

He warned civil servants in the province to desist from engaging in illegal activities as those found wanting risked being fired, saying the Government would not tolerate indiscipline from

ZNS officers in Nakonde for containers.

'Develop sustainable initiatives'

By HOPE BWALYA
ONE Planet Café Zambia (OPCZ), a banana paper manufacturing company has called on Zambians to develop sustainable initiatives that will benefit the country's economy and the environment.

OPCZ director Peo Ekberg said sustainable initiatives would help preserve the natural resources of the country and ensure longevity of the resources.

Mr Ekberg was speaking during the tour of the K1 million Japanese-funded paper-making factory by Japanese Ambassador to Zambia, Hidenobu Sobashima in Mfuwe.

Mr Ekberg said due to unsustainable practices, the world was losing about 50 animal and plant species a day out of about five million species in the world.

"Our vision is to reduce poverty while offering business solutions. We need sustainable development so as to strike a balance between nature, people and profits. We believe that one should not take more from nature than they can take back," he said.

The company currently has about 23 employees that benefit more than 250 families and, as a result of the grant, the company is expected to increase to 80 employees with more than 1,000 families to benefit.

The company is currently manufacturing its refined finished products in Japan and selling them on the Japanese and European markets. As of last year, it shipped about four tonnes of banana fibre to be refined into paper in Japan.

Mr Ekberg appealed to the Government for support and partnership to enable it expand its business to other places of the country.

Eastern Province deputy

Permanent Secretary Patrick Mwanawasa said the factory would help reduce poverty, thereby empowering the local community socially and economically.

Mr Mwanawasa said the factory would also enhance trade and spur foreign direct investment in the province.

Meanwhile, Mr Sobashima urged the company to utilise the facilities to the best of its ability in order to ensure longevity and increase economic growth.

PF Secretary General chides Chipimo

By JAMES KUNDA
THE Patriotic Front (PF) has taken exception to a statement attributed to National Restoration Party (NAREP) leader Elias Chipimo that there is "deep" corruption in the Government.

PF secretary general Davies Mwila has since challenged Mr Chipimo to furnish the law enforcement agencies with evidence of the corruption he was talking about.

Mr Mwila said agencies like the Anti-Corruption Commission, which operated under an Act of Parliament, were on hand to deal with perpetrators of graft either in the public or private sector.

The opposition leader was quoted in yesterday's edition of the Mast newspaper saying corruption in President Edgar Lungu's government was rampant.

The newspaper quoted Mr Chipimo as speaking during a NAREP women's convention in Ndola on Monday.

EU Ambassador Alessandro Mariani said the funds would help Zambia achieve its national development plan that was aimed at turning the country into a prosperous middle income country by 2030.

Mr Mariani said through

Cops in

By HELLEN TEMBO and MUNAMBEZA MUWANEI

INSPECTOR General of Police Kakoma Kanganja yesterday led a team of police officers in cleaning the University Teaching Hospitals (UTH) surroundings as part of

EU Ambassador Alessandro Mariani said the funds would help Zambia achieve its national development plan that was aimed at turning the country into a prosperous middle income country by 2030.

Mr Mariani said through

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•CHIPIMO

Mr Mwila, in an interview yesterday said the ruling party was surprised at Mr Chipimo's statement because it was not backed with facts.

"As a party, we will not take Mr Chipimo seriously because he has not provided any evidence to back his claim, moreover, he is a lawyer and what we know is that lawyers talk with facts," he said.

He advised Mr Chipimo to desist from playing "petty" politics as such a strategy would not earn his party any mileage on the political playing field.

FEATURES

Effects of tobacco on eco-system

By HOPE BWALYA

'TOBACCO is harmful to your health,' is a statement that many are aware of, however, others are ignorant of its role in the eco-system.

The bad effects of humans are more known tobacco when smoked by than its effects on the

natural surroundings of our environment.

The negative impact it has on the environment begs the question why governments, including our own, have still continued to support

its growth.

In the 1600's, tobacco was so popular that it was equivalently used as money; it was literally as good as gold.

Governments have still continued to support its growth

even with its proven harmful effects on human health.

It is therefore also important to delve into the plant's place in the eco-system, mainly to explore its benefits on the environment.

Ecology is defined by the Longman's Dictionary of Contemporary English as the scientific study of the pattern of relations of plants, animals and people to each other and to their surroundings.

Therefore an ecosystem is an ecological system which relates all the plants, animals and people in an area to their surroundings considered as a whole.

Tobacco is a plant that is part of the genus *Nicotiana*, of the Solanaceae (nightshade) family and has a botanical name of *Nicotiana tabacum*.

It is a plant that is believed to have its origins in North and South America.

The plant is believed to have started being grown in about 6,000 B.C. in South and North America and as early as 1 B.C., American Indians began using tobacco in many different ways, such as in religious and medicinal practices.

Tobacco was believed to be a cure-all, and was used to dress wounds, and as a pain killer.

The negative effects of the plant were only noticed in the 1600s and it was in the same period that people noticed that it was not easy to quit the bad habit of smoking as the plant as it is super addictive and gives the hype.

Several research works have shown that in as much as the plant had shown undeniable significant negative effects in the human body once inhaled, it had however shown positive effects on the environment.

In Zambia, one of the Tobacco growers the Japanese Tobacco International (JTI) company which supports more than 7,000 farmers countrywide to produce it's

Burley and its Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco, with a production rate of more than 7,000 Kg of the merchandise, highlighted some of the positive effects of the plant.

JTI Zambia leaf production manager Peter Chibale said the company continued to grow the product as it understood the many benefits of the plant.

"One of the positives about tobacco is that it can be used as a pesticide in agriculture production and it is also used in skin care products like glycerin which is used by both babies and grownups," he said.

The company, which mainly grows its product in Western and Eastern provinces of Zambia, has about 3,341 farmers in Eastern Province alone with a hectare of 3,920 and a production rate of 4,000 tonnes per year.

While in Western Province, particularly Kaoma and Nkayema, it has about 3,500 farmers and has a production of 3,534 tonnes of mainly FCV.

In pursuit of its commitment to growing the tobacco sector, the company had ventured into planting trees and had since set a target of 7.2 million trees by the year 2022.

Mr Chibale said this year, the institution intends to empower about 3,287 farmers in its tobacco and tree planting venture with a total of 4000 ha.

So, back to its place in the ecosystem the plant is a good insect repellent for the gardens. By simply soaking as little as

a cigarette amount of tobacco in water and allowing it to soak overnight, the nicotine released in the water would create an all-purpose insect repellent.

It can be used as an Aphid and Peach tree borer control. By sprinkling tobacco dust around peach trees, the product would deter the borers from infesting the tree.

The plant can be used as an insecticide on leaf rollers, garden centipede, gophers, moles and spider.

In relation to its place in the ecosystem and relation to humans, the Journal of the American Medical Association said those that suffer from mental disorders such as, schizophrenia, Alzheimers and dementia and other disorders may experience positive effects from smoking.

According to studies, patients' cognitive abilities slightly improved.

It can also be used as toothpaste. In India, powdered tobacco is rubbed on the teeth for cleaning. This method is still used in India and marketed in stores around the country.

Dr Anne Charlton, in her

2004 (292-296) publication on the medicinal uses of tobacco in history outlined some of the uses of the plant like in the treatment of wasp, fire ant, scorpion and bee stings.

She suggested further study of the plant as in the past it showed that a lot was expected from the plant than it could offer.

"I suggest we should set aside the prejudices generated by the ill-effects of tobacco smoking and examine the leaves systematically for substances of therapeutic value," she said.

The plant could be described as a relationship enhancer as the Zambian and the Japanese governments have built long standing ties that have enabled for increased cultivation of the plant on grounds of employment and trade.

Japanese Ambassador to Zambia Hidenobu Sobashima said Japan was determined to enhance the bilateral relations that existed between his government and Zambia.

Mr Sobashima said his government was focused on partnering with the Zambian Government in empowering its people.

Bank Of Zambia

Vision: To be a dynamic and credible central bank that contributes to the economic development of Zambia.

PROVISION OF CATERING SERVICES TO THE TWO (2) CANTEENS AT BANK OF ZAMBIA FOR THREE YEARS

REP NUMBER NO.B0Z/PAMS/ONE/06/2017 -

1. The Bank of Zambia has made a provision towards the cost of outsourcing catering services for the Bank of Zambia Canteens at Head Office Lusaka and Regional Office Ndola and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this provision to cover eligible payments under the contracts for provision of catering services for Bank of Zambia for a period of three years.

2. The Bank of Zambia now invites sealed bids from prospective Bidders in the hospitality industry to submit technical and financial proposals for the provision of catering services for the following Bank of Zambia Canteens:-

Lot	Canteens
1	Head office Canteen on the 2 nd Floor of the Bank of Zambia Annex Building, Lusaka
2	Regional Office canteen on the Ground Floor of the Bank of Zambia Executive Building, Ndola

3. The Bidder is allowed, at its option, to bid for an individual lot or for both lots, but in each case Bidders must quote for quantities specified in each lot. Bids not quoting for the quantities specified in a lot will be considered as non-responsive. The basis for bid evaluation on contract will be by individual lot basis and will be selected in using Quality Cost Based Selection (QCBS) Method.

4. Interested Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the Bank of Zambia, Cairo Road, Lusaka, 8th Floor, Executive Building or Bank of Zambia, Regional Office - Ndola. The fax numbers are 211-221848 or 212-614251.

Late, faxed and electronic bids will be rejected.

Bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders from either the Bank of Zambia, 8th Floor, Executive Building, Cairo Road, Lusaka or Bank of Zambia Regional Office, Butete Avenue, Ndola, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Five Hundred (K500.00) inclusive of VAT or its equivalent in a freely convertible currency at the prevailing exchange rate, in cash or Bankers' cheque.

5. Sealed bids clearly marked "PROVISION OF CATERING SERVICES FOR THREE YEARS TO THE TWO CANTEENS AT BANK OF ZAMBIA - RFP NO. B0Z/PAMS/ONE/06/2017" ACCOMPANIED BY A BID SECURING DECLARATION FORM must be deposited in the tender box situated on the 8th Floor, Executive Building, Bank of Zambia, Cairo Road Lusaka on or before Wednesday 5th April, 2017 at 10:00 hours local time. Tenders will be opened thereafter in the presence of bidders or their representatives who choose to attend.

6. The Bank of Zambia shall, in evaluating a bid, adjust the bid price in order to facilitate Preferential Evaluation of a bid as follows:

- a) for a Citizen-influenced Company, by 4%;
- b) for a Citizen-empowered Company, by 8%;
- c) for a Citizen-owned Company, by 12%; and Nationality of the bidder shall not be a condition for eligibility.

Bidders should therefore provide Certificates issued by the Citizen-Economic Empowerment Commission as documentary evidence in order to benefit from the preferential evaluation.

7. The renting of the Bank of Zambia Cafeteria will be accompanied with water, electricity, stove, tables, chairs and other

Window cleaner who fell from skyscraper and lived

By HARRY LOW

Only half of the people who fall three storeys survive. From 10 storeys almost no-one does. This is the tale of a window cleaner who survived a 47-floor fall from the roof of a New York skyscraper.

"I loved to see the windows really clean," Alcides Moreno says.

"I liked the water and the soap, how you press the squeegee."

"We would start at the top and clean all the way to the bottom, I loved it."

Moreno and his younger brother Edgar set out to clean

Axaeda, New York City Fire Department

"On the left side the cable came off first. That was my brother's part. My brother fell off, all the way down," Alcides Moreno says.

Edgar plummeted 472ft (144m), landing in a narrow alley. By the time he reached the ground it's estimated he would have been travelling at more than 120mph. Alcides



washing equipment from the roof they said that he might still have intended to go back and put on the harness before starting work.

Speculation continues as to how he survived. By holding tight as he fell, did the scaffolding take most of the impact? Did the scaffolding somehow surf the air? Did Alcides Moreno bounce off the side of the building on the way down, slowing his fall?

The two brothers, originally from Ecuador, had arrived in the US in the 1990s looking for work.

"Losing him was a big deal for me," Alcides Moreno explains.

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a failed to give
answers, prompting
e committee to ask
s.

MP Mwansa
said the NCZ is
e nation and should

therefore be well managed.

"NCZ is a very strategic
company. The demand for
fertiliser is real and we cannot sit
idly by and watch it waste away
because of poor management,"
Mr Mbulakulima said.

He said Zambia has embraced
agriculture as an economic
activity and NCZ has as a key
role in this quest.

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purporting that the amount was percent of
the performance security guarantee for the
printing and supply of campaign materials
for a named political party for the 2016
general elections when in fact not," she said.

Ms Katongo said a Toyota Land Cruiser
has been seized as part of money laundering
proceeds of the crime and that the two
suspects are currently on police bond and
will appear in court soon.

Ms Katongo said the commission had
also arrested a truck driver in Chibombo
district who was later found guilty and
sentenced to five years imprisonment for
trafficking in 1,650 tonnes of cannabis.

JTI to plant 7.5m trees in Chipata

VIOLET MENGU
Chipata

JAPANESE Tobacco
International (JTI) is set to
plant 7.5 million trees by
the year 2022 to help reduce
deforestation in the district
and for use in tobacco curing.

Leaf manager Peter Chibale
told a team comprising Eastern
Province permanent secretary
Chanda Kasolo, Japanese
Ambassador to Zambia
Hidenobu Sobashima and
officials from the government
and the Japanese Embassy
who visited the tobacco
plantation in Chipata district
that in 2015/2016, JTI planted
1.7 million trees.

Mr Chibale said JTI works
with 3,035 small-scale farmers
and producers to produce
about 4,000 tonnes of tobacco
each year.

"We want to deter farmers
from cutting down trees, so we
have planted senaspectabilis
trees which will be used as live
buds in the curing of tobacco
and will also help in reducing
soil erosion," Mr Chibale said.

And Mr Kasolo said
Government is in the process
of adopting a school feeding
model that encourages a high
retention of children in school.

Vizenge Primary School,
which was built in 1967,
implements a feeding
programme.

It grows different crops, sells
them and uses the earnings to
buy maize samp which is used
to feed the pupils.

"Most of our schools have
enough land to cultivate, and
once implemented, our local
business community will surely
buy in the programme. Such



KASOLO

an initiative is not common in
Zambia," Mr Kasolo said.

He said the model is self-
sufficient, sustainable and
affordable for most schools and
serves as a learning model for
the pupils who also take part in
cultivating the land.

"It is important as Eastern
Province to emulate the Japanese
feeding model and ensure we
also add value to our crops in the
long term. We also hope pupils,
once they graduate, will help in
advancing the agro business in
the province," he said.

Mr Kasolo said the feeding
programme would be used to
teach other schools.

And Mr Sobashima said he
was glad the feeding programme
was a success story that
Government would scale up to
other schools.

JTI has also rehabilitated
Vizenge School and equipped it
with a computer lab to enhance
computer lessons.



Japan hands over 3 Katete primary schools

By AARON CHIYANZO
in Katete

THE Japanese government remains a key friend of Zambia in extending the education sector to the under-privileged children in rural areas, Eastern Province permanent Chanda Kasolo has said.

Speaking at a ceremony where the Japanese government was handing over three primary schools to Government in Katete district, Mr Kasolo thanked the Japanese for the continued support to the Zambian people in various sectors.

He noted that community schools played a key role in providing education to millions of Zambian children especially the under-privileged.

He reiterated that the support the Japanese government had rendered to the under-privileged in Zambia had greatly improved the learning ability of pupils in community schools.

Mr Kasolo said that community schools had not been spared from challenges despite the positive gains that had been recorded so far.

"I thank the Japanese government for these three community schools and the numerous support they have rendered to Zambia. They remain a key friend in extending education to the under-privileged in rural areas. This will greatly improve the proficiency of pupils in these schools. But they have however not been spared from challenges," he said.

The permanent secretary also thanked Zambia Impact Network, who lobbied for funding for the three community schools, and disclosed that the network had now facilitated for a total of 10 community schools in Katete district.

And Japanese ambassador to Zambia Hidenobu Sobashima disclosed that his government had so far funded 160 projects throughout Zambia under the Grassroots Human Security Projects.

Ambassador Sobashima explained that the primary objective of the programme was to support various development and human security projects that enhanced the livelihood of vulnerable people.

He explained that the Japanese government was prompted to give the Zambia Impact Network over \$45 million after getting information that pupils in Katete were learning from church buildings.

Meanwhile, Zambia Impact Network regional director Daniel Mwanza said that his organization had secured another grant from an American agency for the construction of two community schools in Sinda and Petauke.

Mr Mwanza said that the two community schools would be fully furnished and provided with solar power.

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Daily Nation

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Mr Sobashima

Japan supports Mfuwe paper-making factory

By AARON CHIYANZO

THE Japanese government has officially handed over a US\$ 102, 170 project for the expansion of a banana paper-making factory in Mfuwe to One Planet Cafe Zambia in an effort to support growth of local industries and creating jobs for the local people,

Japanese ambassador to Zambia Hidenobu Sobashima has said.

Speaking at the handover ceremony in Mfuwe, Mr Sobashima said that the Japanese government appreciated the activities of One Planet Cafe Zambia for the innovative undertaking of making paper from banana stems.

The ambassador pointed out that banana stems were usually just thrown away and that it was inspiring that a Zambian firm had come up with an initiative to utilize the resource.

The ambassador said the mini-factory which was constructed in 2014 now has 18 employees but that the project would employ a lot more once expanded.

He explained that the firm requested Japan to assist in expanding the project after presenting them with a plan and that they responded positively by giving them over US\$ 100,000 for the expansion and procurement of necessary equipment.

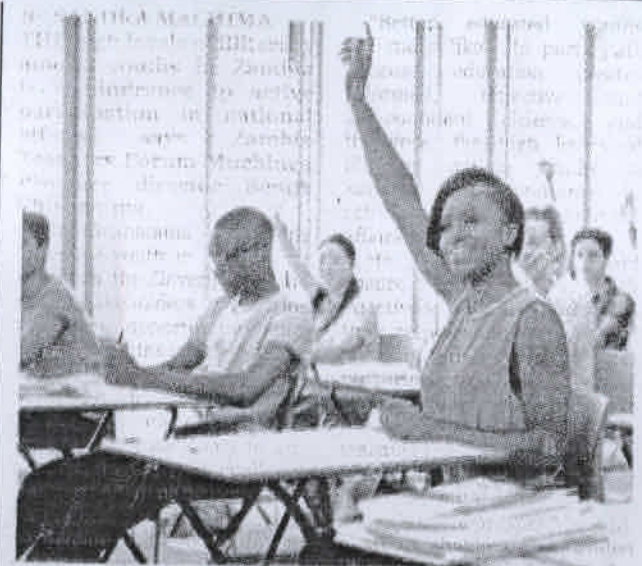
"One Planet Cafe Zambia prepared a plan for making banana paper and paper products here, and requested Japan to assist them. We considered and decided to extend a total of US\$ 102,170 for expansion of factory and procurement of necessary equipment," said Mr Sobashima.

And Eastern Province deputy permanent secretary Patrick Mwanawasa said that the factory would boost trade in the province once fully expanded.

Mr Mwanawasa expressed happiness that paper products would be manufactured from in the province and that more direct and indirect jobs would be created.

One Planet Cafe Zambia chief executive officer Billy Mwanza assured that the money given by Japan would be used expand the factory and buy more equipment.

Mr Mwanza said that the factory would transform the lives of nearby farmers whom he said had been supplying the factory with the banana fibre used for making paper.



Illiteracy impedes youth participation

By SANDRA MACHIMA

THE high levels of illiteracy among youths in Zambia is a hindrance to active participation in national affairs, says Zambia Teachers Forum Muchinga Province director Benny Chishatama.

Mr Chishatama said being an active youth in Zambia, he called on the Government and other stakeholders to provide necessary opportunities that prepared youths in a democratic society such as empowering them with education.

He said youths were the key drivers of the economy in any country, therefore the challenge was for them to be proactive and economically viable for them to participate in the development of the country.

Mr Chishatama urged youths to be active citizens because it was the key ingredient to development.

"Better educated youths are more likely to participate because education creates informed, reflective and self-confident citizens, and therefore, the high levels of illiteracy among youths in Zambia is a hindrance to active participation in national affairs," he said.

He said education would ensure that each youth effectively and fully exercised their responsibilities, roles and rights of citizenship as well as nurturing citizenship skills.

"Youths need to take their responsibilities through teaching them to think critically about issues in our country in all learning institutions at any level if Zambia is to prosper," he said.

Mr Chishatama commended President Edgar Lungu for appointing youths, saying this had provided the youths an opportunity to be part of the governance system.



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We wish to advise all our esteemed customers and the general public that following the Bank of Zambia announcement of the reduction of the Monetary Policy Rate from 15.5% to 14% our Kwacha Credit Facilities that are linked to the Monetary Policy Rate are reduced by 1.5% effective 1st March 2017.

For further details, please contact your nearest branch.