



Last 2 weeks have been worrisome for UPND government Kantanshi MP

By Thomas Ngala

VICE-PRESIDENT Mutale Nalumango has interpreted the negative news headlines the UPND government has been getting in the past two weeks into a very good governance environment.

Yesterday, during the Vice-President's Question Time in parliament, Kantashi PF member of parliament Anthony Mumba highlighted some of the headlines as the resignation of a Zesco board member who cited micromanagement from the board chairman.

Mumba said the headlines are very worrisome, especially that there are some "very good policies" that the cabinet had been trying to carry out.

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Dr Kasolo was wrongly dismissed by ZCCM-IH, rules Court of Appeal

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A GRUDGE No.1 so what
AGAINST devpt do you expect,
PETAUKE asks Nkhoma

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While others imitate - We originate

Insulin wasn’t made for profit, subsidise it - Vaghela

By Kholiwe Miti

WHEN insulin was made it wasn’t made for profit, says Diabetic Association of Zambia chairperson Kaajal Vaghela.

The Diabetic Association of Zambia (DAZ) has called on relevant authorities to subsidise the price of insulin or “make it almost free”.

During a monthly walk

session and group discussion on the plight of diabetes patients recently, Vaghela said the government should look into the procurement of insulin products and medication to make it free for the under-privileged.

“The fact that we are still thinking about this now, like you starve the child so that they do not have high sugar is not right. This is why I am

happy that they put me as the chairperson for the Diabetic Association of Zambia. When insulin was made it wasn’t made for profit. It was made for people in need. So it’s big a pharma[ceutical]’s market and it doesn’t need to be K800 per pen [needle]. It honestly has to be cheaper. So obviously manufacturing companies need to manufacture pens and what

not. So there is basic concept from the manufacturing,” she said. “So am hoping and my plan is that if we can bring in even if it’s insulin strips, whatever it maybe, even if it is at a subsidised price so that it’s almost free - even when we know it’s going to finish in the next three months but if you give us for free it will push hopefully it lasts, hoping Zesco

helps.”

Vaghela said it is a bad feeling for mothers who give birth to kids with diabetes and are unable to fund their children’s lives.

“If the pen is going to denature in three months, I mean we have people here who need a pen per day, send it to us for free or maybe at a very relatable price. And if we have such kind of order coming in every three months, we should give it for free to kids and people will not have to worry about putting their child in the clinic because they do not have the costs for it,” said Vaghela. “You have given birth to a child to give them life and then there is something that is stressing that. And you as a parent wants to still provide that life and you are going to feel bad because you can’t provide a life and can’t fund it. But why should you not fund it, when it should be for free? And this is why I didn’t know about that... So I might need to get a few contacts. I would like to go in and say if we can get things for free, the fact that you are getting 90 per cent price that should be the way it is...”

Lusubilo Ng’ambi, a mother to a diabetic child, explained how she could no longer keep going to the University

Teaching Hospital (UTH) with her son because of emotional stress.

She said she could not bear seeing parents starve their children because they could not afford strips.

“What they do is when they have clinic on that particular day, the child won’t eat so that after they are checked... and what it is at UTH is that if it’s above 10 then [the child is taken] straight to admission. So the mothers do not want their children to be admitted and the fact that they cannot afford to buy the strips and to monitor [the sugar] they would rather their children starve and after they are checked and the sugar is 1.5 then the child quickly gets a Fanta and they go eat and see the doctor,” narrated Ng’ambi. “So that’s happening and maybe the society should take it up because UTH has that diabetic clinic where you really find underprivileged kids who are diabetic and they are a lot. It was actually too depressing for me to continue taking him there because every time, you see, when the kids are checked if the sugars are low you think maybe it’s normal but it’s because the child has been starved. And for an average Zambian you can’t afford the strips. It’s very expensive.”

President has right of way, we pray that no other accident happens - Nalumango

By Thomas Ngala

THE President has the right of way on the road and he will move and we pray that no other accident happens, says Vice-President Mutale Nalumango following the death of sergeant Mike Mumba, a presidential motorcade sweeper who died on duty on Thursday as President Hakainde Hichilema was moving from his private residence Community House to State House.

During the Vice-President’s Question Time yesterday, Mpika PF member of parliament Francis Kapyanga blamed the death of the officer on the President’s movements to and from Community House and State House.

Kapyanga however wanted to know when President Hichilema was going to move to State House.

“The official residence of the Republican President of Zambia is the State House. The movements of the President from Community House to Nkwazi office has thus far caused the death of two people. The recent one of a police officer who was doing sweeping for the motorcade and I commiserate with the family,” said Kapyanga.

But Vice-President Nalumango said “even if my President was living in the State House he would be coming here to address people in this House and an accident could happen.”

She urged the lawmaker not to incite people to think wrong stressing that accidents happen.

“You started with a kind of concern and the concern actually was something that my mind was at... because you are asking, in asking you put a preamble that death was caused because the President was moving from his home to his office where he operates from,” she said.

“That is very sad. Let us not sensationalise, let us not incite people to think wrong. Accidents

happen. Accidents happen all the time. We had an accident, the one that is in my mind is the vehicle that passed through Mwense Constituency, the bus this week and we lost lives. So for us to say it’s because it was the President then he has caused it, honestly we are not sincere. Even if the President was living in the State House he would still come out, he would still be going to different places.”

Vice-President Nalumango also wondered how the accident happened.

“So are you going to attribute an accident of that nature to the President? No, you are not being sincere. An accident happened, indeed all of us should feel sad with the situation. A life was lost. And I am sorry, I can say

something very wrong, Madam [Speaker], we have to see. How did this accident happen? Because the roads are clear, why should a person just come like that? We can also start saying, was it a plan? But we will not do that because accidents happen,” she asked. “He could be travelling to Mulungushi and an accident could happen. He is not locked up. I think let us take responsibility as leaders in this country rather than make a sensational [statement] and try to make every situation political. A life is lost, let us think of a life that is lost rather than, you know, start blaming... When such a thing happens, if you have no agenda, no political agenda to convince people, please don’t use misfortune to sway people to your side.”

She also recalled that during the PF government similar accidents happened but no one blamed the then president.

“Accidents happen. The members on your left madam during their reign we had accidents, we had deaths involving the motorcades of the president, who said the president was...? Can we please stop! It is not correct. Accidents happen, we should feel bad but nobody would in their proper mind to say we must go and kill people,” said Vice-President Nalumango. “The President has the right of way on the road, and he will move and we pray that no other accident happens. But if it happens, it is an accident just as it is. So colleagues, let us not politicise where there is no need.”

Let’s build safer, resilient and inclusive digital future for all, urges Nanjuwa

By Edwin Mbulo in Livingstone

WE must engage our communities to build a culture of cyber security, says Southern Province minister Credo Nanjuwa.

Opening the First AfricaCERT International Symposium at Avani Hotel, Nanjuwa said there is need to build resilient cyber ecosystems.

“We must engage our communities to build a culture of cyber security and promote responsible digital practices among citizens,” he said. “Cyber security is not just a developmental issue, it is a technical issue. It is a developmental issue, a governance issue and a societal

issue. We must invest in capacity building to close the cyber security skills gap and empower our youth to take the lead in this critical field.”

Nanjuwa urged the delegates to develop actionable strategies to secure the region’s cyberspace.

“Together we have the opportunity to make Africa a global leader in cybersecurity. Let us seize this moment to build safer, more resilient and inclusive digital future for all,” Nanjuwa said.

He added that Zambia stands ready to work with international partners to advance shared goals in its “unwavering commitment to cyber security so as to secure a collective future”.

Acting ZICTA director

general Collins Mbulo said in today’s interconnected world the rapid evolution of digital technologies has revolutionised the way “we live, work and communicate”.

“However, this transformation has brought with it an equally evolving landscape of cyber threats and crimes. Among the cyber related crimes that have thrived courtesy of the rapid expansion of technology include social engineering, different types of fraud, child online abuse, cyber bullying, cyber stalking, data breaches, identity theft, phishing, hacking and ransomware,” he said.

“With these threats colleagues it is important to indicate that as Africa progresses on its digital journey ensuring the

security of our cyberspace is no longer a necessity but a fundamental pillar of trust and resilience in our increasingly digital world. As we become more interconnected our personal, business and national infrastructure rely heavily on technology.”

Mbulo said this reliance exposes people to evolving threats that can disrupt operations, compromise privacy and undermine confidence in digital systems.

He said rather than just a necessity, cybersecurity has become a critical enabler for innovation and growth.

“It ensures that data remains safe, transactions are

secure and systems function without interference from malicious actors. In this context, cybersecurity isn’t just about protection. It’s about creating a secure foundation for everything from financial transactions to digital identities, enabling progress without the fear of catastrophic breaches or data theft,” said Mbulo.

The symposium was attended by Dr George Ah-Thew, a senior programme officer (SPO) ICT, representative from the SADC Secretariat, Jean Robert Hountomey Co-Founder of AfricaCERT and Mona Elisabeth Østvang, the first board member.

Trump is ‘not safe’ – Putin

US President-elect Donald Trump is “not safe,” Russian President Vladimir Putin believes.

The Russian President made the remarks on Thursday at a press conference in Astana, Kazakhstan, following a two-day Collective Security Treaty Organisation (CSTO) summit.

President Putin said he was astonished by the way the US election campaign had unfolded, citing the “absolutely uncivilised methods used to battle against Trump, including repeated assassination attempts.”

“In my opinion, he is not safe now,” he emphasised noting that “various incidents have happened in US history.”

President Putin praised Trump as an experienced and intelligent politician, saying he hopes the President-elect is “cautious and understands this.”

Trump survived an assassination attempt on July 13 during a campaign rally in Butler, Pennsylvania, when a bullet fired from around 150 metres away grazed his ear.

The Secret Service responded by taking down the shooter who was later identified as 20-year-old Thomas Crooks, a resident of a suburb of nearby Pittsburgh.

Another would-be assassin Ryan Routh was arrested in

September after he set up an ambush at a Florida golf course belonging to Trump.

On Wednesday, ABC News reported, citing court documents, that US federal authorities have arrested an Arizona man who allegedly threatened to kill Trump and his family via a series of Facebook videos, which he had been

posting on a “near daily basis.”

President Putin said he was even more astonished that Trump’s political opponents had targeted the Republican’s family and children.

He called such behaviour “revolting” and indicative of the US political system’s decline, noting that even criminal groups would not

resort to such methods.

President Putin said he couldn’t rule out that the Biden administration has been trying to create difficulties for Trump’s relations with Russia.

Nevertheless, Moscow is “ready for dialogue with the United States, including with the future administration,” stressed President Putin.-RT



Together, we can prevent AMR crisis – MQHZ

By Thomas Ngala

MEDICAL for Quality Healthcare in Zambia (MQHZ) has warned that the alarming rise in antibiotic misuse in Zambia poses a signif

In a statement, MQHZ director general Quince Mwabu called for collective action to address the growing crisis.

Dr Mwabu said antimicrobial resistance (AMR) occurs when bacteria, viruses and fungi develop resistance to medicines designed to kill them.

“Without effective antibiotics, routine surgeries and medical procedures become high-risk, and common infections can turn deadly. The World Health Organisation has identified AMR as one of the biggest threats to global health, food security and development,” he said. “The gravity of this situation demands immediate attention and collective action. MQHZ calls on policymakers, healthcare professionals and the general public to join forces in promoting responsible antibiotic use and combating AMR. To this end MQHZ urges the Zambia Medicines Regulatory Authority (ZAMRA) to intensify its efforts to regulate antibiotic sales and distribution, and to educate pharmacists, veterinarians and other

stakeholders on responsible antibiotic use.”

Dr Mwabu disclosed that MQHZ also advocates increased public awareness about the risks of AMR and the importance of proper antibiotic use.

He said this includes completing prescribed antibiotic courses, avoiding self-medication and not consuming animals treated with antibiotics before the drugs have cleared from their systems.

Dr Mwabu added that by adopting the simple yet effective measures, Zambians can play a critical role in preventing the spread of AMR.

“The consequences of inaction are dire and the time for action is now. MQHZ is committed to leading the charge against AMR and we urge all stakeholders to join us in this critical effort. By working together we can prevent the AMR crisis and ensure a healthier future for generations to come,” said Dr Mwabu. “MQHZ’s call to action is aligned with Zambia’s National Health Strategic Plan, which aims to improve access to quality healthcare and address major public health concerns. By addressing AMR, Zambia can also strengthen its healthcare system and improve health outcomes for its citizens.”