

Budget a
book of
lamentations
- SNAT

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Swazi OBSERVER

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Woman
defrauds
Old Mutual
E100 000

Page 5

FRIDAY MARCH 1, 2019

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**NOT CHANGING
OUR MINDS:**
Eswatini
Electricity
Company Acting
Managing
Director Patrick
Mathunjwa
addressing the
employees at the
company's head-
quarters yester-
day. The EEC
striking employ-
ees demand
indiscriminate
implementation
of the KPMG
Salary Alignment
Report.
(Pic: Sifiso
Dlamini)
**STORY ON
PAGE 3**

COURT ORDER DEFIED AS...

EEC WORKERS CONTINUE WITH STRIKE

...They stormed company's
offices to demand answers
on the implementation of
Salary Alignment Report

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Mboro lays a charge against 'resurrection' pastor and church

PROPHET Paseka 'Mboro' Motsoeneng has laid a fraud charge against Alleluia Ministries International Church leaders, who were involved in the so-called resurrection that South Africans are talking about, and its pastor.

Mboro, of the Incredible Happenings Church, and other religious leaders had the case opened at the Sandton Police Station yesterday afternoon.

"We want to warn all pastors and preachers who are scamming people. It must stop," he said. "All of you who are scamming our people, you must run. We are coming." Earlier in the day, Mboro visited the church, which is led by Pastor Alph Lukau in Kramerville, Sandton.

He said the so-called resurrection performed last Sunday brought disrepute to the ministry of Christ and asked for proof of the miracle.

"If we say God is working, let us be open to investigation. Let it be verified," he said outside the church. "I'm here to say to my brother: 'Stop what you are doing. If I am misinformed, show me the proof and I will apologise,'" he added.

Mboro was not allowed to enter the church venue and pleaded his case to those watching from inside.

Meanwhile Lukau said on radio on Wednesday that the man was already alive when he arrived at the church.

News24

IN PRAYER:
Prophet
Mboro prays
outside
Alleluia
Ministries
International.
(Lerato
Sejake)



Resurrection pastor shifts blame to man's family

ALLELUIA Ministries Church Pastor Alph Lukau, who is said to have resurrected a man who was in a coffin at the weekend, has said the man was already alive when he arrived at the church.

Speaking to Gauteng broadcaster PowerFM's Power Drive host Thabiso Tema on Wednesday evening, Lukau said he was busy with a sermon last Sunday when he was interrupted and told that a person in a coffin had been brought to the church.

"Before entering the premises of the church, the coffin began to shake, meaning the person was alive," Lukau explained.

He said when they heard that the man in the coffin was alive, they began to pray for him, made him stand and ushered him inside the church.

The CRL Rights Commission on Tuesday said it will be investigating the allegations that a dead man was resurrected at the Alleluia International Ministries church. When asked by the host why the man had been brought to the church in the first place, Lukau said: "I am not sure if I can make a statement that he was brought to me. We are the house of God and I'm just a pastor serving in the house of the Lord."

Lukau said the man was brought to the church by his family, who believed that something would happen if he was prayed for.

He added that further questions about why the man was brought to the church would be better answered by the man's family.

"I think that they brought the person to church because they believed that God had the ability to resurrect the person," Lukau said.

The pastor seemed to dodge Tema's questions on whether he had the ability and powers to bring a dead person back to life.

After repeated attempts by Tema, Lukau eventually said he had no ability, 'except if God used me as an instrument.'

"I can safely say and clarify that I did not pray to resurrect the person, I don't want to take that credit. Should God ask me to resurrect somebody and give me grace and the power, by faith I will try that," said Lukau.

He added that it was the first time there had been such a case at the church. Earlier, the Commission for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities (CRL Commission) said it would summon the church to explain last Sunday's incident. News24

TEMPERATURES TO REACH 34°C AT HLANE

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

THE Swaziland Meteorological Services has said temperatures at Hlane are expected to reach 34 degrees Celsius.

Today, it will be cloudy with sunny intervals and cool but warm in the Lowveld. Today's temperatures at Hlane are expected to reach a maximum of 28 degrees Celsius from a minimum of 23 degrees Celsius.

Tomorrow morning, fog is expected,

Today	Mankayane	Manzini	Siteki	Mhlume	Big-bend
Mbabane 18/23	19/24	21/26	20/25	23/28	24/29
Tomorrow 19/29	20/30	22/33	21/31	24/34	25/35
Sunday 17/21	18/22	20/24	19/23	22/26	23/27

but it will be very hot during the day, with a maximum of 34 degrees Celsius.

However, there is a possibility of a thunderstorms with chances of rains standing at 20 per cent.

Temperatures are expected to drop on Sunday with drizzles for possibly the better part of the day.

Temperatures are expected to start from a 19 degrees Celsius to a maximum of 23 degrees Celsius.

From Taiwan with love:

90 LOCAL DOCTORS IN THE NEXT FOUR YEARS

STORIES BY SABELO MAJOLA
Mbabane

ESWATINI will in the next four years have about 90 local doctors expertly trained to become specialists.

Through the assistance of the Republic of China (Taiwan) government, the future medical experts are currently enrolled in medical schools in Taiwan and other countries like Russia and South Africa.

They will then be trained to become specialists as the country is deficient on that aspect, which then delays treatment for patients.

This was revealed by Director of Health Dr Vusi Magagula during a meeting for the parliament portfolio committee and the ministry of health and the World Health Organisation (WHO) at Sibane Hotel yesterday. The committee is chaired

by Maseyisini MP Mduzuzi 'Small Joe' Dlamini, who was in attendance together with Minister of Health Lizzy Nkosi.

Magagula was making a presentation centred on the universal health coverage (UHC).

UHC means that all people and communities can use the promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative health services they need, of sufficient quality to be effective, while also ensuring that the use of these services does not expose the user to financial hardship.

"Our doctor to patient ratio is not reflecting a good image and lack of specialists in the country remains a big challenge, hence the need to strengthen our own ground.

"Our main goal is to achieve the UHC as per the call by the African Union and the World Health Organisation and we are thriving to reach that milestone and our approach is primary health care,"

he said.

The country's life expectancy stands at 59 years for males and 64 years for females, but the aspiration is to have a life expectancy at 67 years for males and 71 years for females by 2022.

UHC means that all people and communities can use the promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative health services they need, of sufficient quality to be effective, while also ensuring that the use of these services does not expose the user to financial hardship

New cameras to nab 'thieves' at drugs storage facilities

THERE is a concern over drugs, which are allegedly stolen from storage facilities by doctors on duty in local hospitals.

This concern was raised by Khubuta Member of Parliament Musa Mabuza, who is a member of the Parliament health portfolio committee.

He wondered what the ministry was doing over the issue of drugs that were allegedly stolen by doctors at the storage facilities.

In response, Assistant Director Pharmaceuticals Thuli Magagula, in her capacity as Acting Deputy Director Pharmaceuticals, said there are already cameras installed in central medical stores at the Raleigh Fitkin Memorial Hospital and the trucks that ferry the drugs have trackers. However, she mentioned that the cameras were yet to be installed in other hospitals. "The issue of drugs being stolen is being scrutinised and there are means for

improved security tracking in hospitals. "All of them will have cameras, which will be monitored by independent personnel," she said.

Principal Secretary (PS) in the Ministry of Health Dr Simon Zwane said the client management information system will help in curbing the habit by patients of hopping from one health centre to the other, while getting the same medication because that was a waste of the medication.

Threatened

The issue of drugs shortage has been haunting the country for a long time now, with the health sector coming under a lot of scrutiny and the health system threatened.

To mitigate the issue, a company based in India is currently undergoing valuation in a bid to be granted a licence to operate a factory which will manufacture drugs for medicinal purposes.

Minister wants E70m for malaria zero deaths

ESWATINI is among the highly-rated countries in the fight against malaria and projections depict that these would be zero deaths by 2022.

However, Minister of Health Lizzy Nkosi said the objective will be achieved with the right funding and about US\$5 million, which is equivalent to E70 million, is needed to attain this landmark. It was only in 2017 that Eswatini recorded a high number of deaths due to malaria, as 21 Emaswati died but since then, the country has been fighting a good fight in this regard.

Eswatini pumped in E5 million into the Malaria Fund, while His Majesty King Mswati III was still chairman of the African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA). The King was nominated into the position in February 2017, succeeding Chadian President Idriss Déby Itno after Eswatini became one of seven countries to be recognised for significant achievements in malaria control and elimination.

"We are aiming at having zero deaths going forward and the African Union together with the World Health Organisation will monitor five to 10 years on the zero deaths," she said.

Consumers adversely affected by electricity faults left unattended as:

EEC WORKERS DEFY COURT ORDER, ENGAGE IN STRIKE

STORIES BY SIFISO DLAMINI AND
NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

TRUE to circulating messages on social media warning the nation to ensure that their electricity faults were attended to before yesterday or they would be in for a shock, indeed some Eswatini Electricity Company (EEC) customers felt the blunt yesterday.

Yesterday, scores of EEC employees abandoned their workstations and assembled at the company's headquarters in Mbabane to engage in the strike action.

This is despite a court order that was issued last Thursday stopping the strike action.

Customers were, therefore, left in the lurch and subsequently stranded as faults were suddenly not attended to with the workers engaged in the strike action yesterday.

A number of customers, including those that decided to go straight to the headquarters to report their faults, were told pointblank by the striking workers that they will not be attended to as they (workers) had



GIVE US WHAT IS OURS: EEC employees listening to the acting MD Patrick Mthunjwa while he made his remarks yesterday.

downed their tools.

EEC Corporate Marketing and Communications Manager Sifiso Dhlamini, however, explained that while the employees were on strike, managers from different sections, units and departments were deployed to attend to the customer needs.

Dhlamini stated that EEC management did not wish for things to go as far as they did.

He also advised that the employees and management should find a way to get back to the negotiation table for discussions so they can find an amicable solution to the commotion.

"We also hope that the employ-

ees will go back to their posts so as to avoid any more inconveniences to our customers," he pleaded.

The employees that convened at the gate yesterday morning were made to wait for over five hours for an audience with the company's acting Managing Director (MD) Patrick Mathunjwa. There was a visible presence of police officers that manned the locked gate at the EEC headquarters as the unyielding employees waited to be attended to. They sang and chanted slogans while demanding that the police open the gates and allow them to have a dialogue with the acting MD.

The strike action follows a salary

alignment report delivered by consultants, KPMG, giving the company's management a route to follow in addressing the salary alignment within the company.

However, the employees argue that management opted for the adoption of part of the report leaving out some of the employees from the salary alignment.

The employees are demanding that management should adopt the entire report or they would continue with the strike action.

According to the salary alignment review report by KPMG, the company's payroll is set to increase by E2.087 million per month if all 690 employees benefit from the 13 per cent payroll increase projection.

What has left the employees angry is that it has been 27 months since Circular No.3 of 2016 came into effect, inclusive of the current month.

They feel they have been kept waiting while the company's executive management received their salary alignment back in 2016.

According to unconfirmed reports, the company is composed of 90 managers and 600 junior employees with 574 of them unionised.

Stalemate as management adopts part of salary alignment report

AFTER numerous consultations with the police, EEC acting Managing Director (MD) Patrick Mathunjwa decided to open the gate and address the employees.

The employees demanded to know what was the hold up in the salary alignment and when it would come into effect as it had already been approved by all the structures, including Cabinet.

Mathunjwa said management acknowledged that the alignment had been approved, but also stated that salaries have cycles and since this month's cycle had already passed, the alignment would be implemented in the following cycle.

He also stated that management will not oblige to the employees demands but would stick to the original

arrangement which entailed that not all the employees would benefit from the salary alignment.

When contacted for comment, Trade Union Congress of Swaziland (TUCOSWA) Deputy Secretary General Muzi Mhlanga said the decision by EEC management to adopt part of the report was the main cause for the ongoing dispute between management and staff.

He further stated that by management deciding to stick to their decision; it meant that they wanted the dispute to continue.

Mhlanga also stated that the EEC employees were adamant that they will not accept anything else besides the option that enables all the staff members to benefit from the salary alignment.

E220 000 FOR JA MEMBERS

BY MBONO MDLULI
Mbabane

PUPILS who are members of Junior Achievement are set to share an amount of E220 000 from today.

Junior Achievement Eswatini and Lubane Savings and Credit Cooperative will be releasing the 2018 savings to all pupil members of the schools cooperatives. This is according to a commitment made during the November 2018 Annual General Meeting held at BOSCO Skills Centre. According to a statement sent to this publication by JA management, the pupils' savings will be distributed to members from today to Wednesday after completing the reconciliation of accounts which caused the delay from the earlier set date. "We kindly request all teacher facilitators to ensure that funds are issued to pupil members as soon as they are received, as per the final statements for amounts to be issued. The teachers are further requested to ensure that each member signs the disbursement sheets when issuing the monies for proper record keeping," said the statement in part. The management concluded by thanking all its stakeholders for working together to make this initiative successful. "We look forward to another good year of working with all of you to empower the youth in the country on financial literacy," said the management.

Lawyers challenge appointment of acting Supreme Court judges

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE
High Court

THE Law Society of Swaziland (LSS) has filed an urgent application at the High Court challenging the appointment of three acting Supreme Court judges.

LSS is of the view that the way the acting judges were appointed was improper. The matter is expected to be in the uncontested roll of the High Court. The society feels that constitutionally, the appointment of the acting judges was improperly done and the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) has been cited as one of the respondents in the matter that is pending before court. In a bid to curb the backlog of appeal cases at the Supreme Court, three lawyers were appointed judges on an acting basis. The three in former Deputy Attorney General Sabelo Matsebula, lawyers Judith Currie and Mabandla Manzini were sworn-in by the Chief Justice Bheki Maphalala last year and they have been handling a number of appeals since their appointment. The three have been acting for a period of three months since their appointment last year and according to the Supreme Court roll for the last session in 2018, about 70 appeals were heard and finalised before the close of that session. Matsebula left the position of deputy attorney general in December 2015 when he reached the mandatory retirement age of 60 set for civil servants. This is not the first time lawyer Manzini appointed as acting Judge as he was once appointed acting Supreme Court Judge in 2016 together with six other lawyers.

E7bn to pay civil servants

BY MBONO MDLULI
Mbabane

AN amount of E7 194 000 000 will be spent towards the payment of civil servants in the 2019/2020 financial year.

Government has set itself an expenditure of E21.8 billion for the 2019/2020 fiscal year and 33 per cent of that money

will be used to pay civil servants.

This is contained in the country's national budget for the coming 2019/2020 financial year. Government has employed approximately 46 000 civil servants.

Meanwhile, government also purchases goods and services to carry out all its necessary functions across ministries. This includes stationery, computers, drugs to stock hospitals, utility bills for schools and other necessities. Goods

and services account for 13 per cent of government's total expenditure, which is about E2 834 000 000.

On another note, infrastructure investment or capital expenditure includes all of government's construction activities. For instance, government has committed E5 million towards the building of classrooms for secondary schools. Infrastructure investment accounts for 26 per cent of the government's total expenditure. This means that money is about E5 668 000 000.

Transfers include all money paid out

by government to parastatals, social grants for the elderly, orphaned and vulnerable children (OVC), disabled persons, scholarships for students and other necessities.

Streamline

Transfers account for 28 per cent of government's expenditure. This means about E6 104 000 000 will be committed towards this course.

Going forward, government plans to streamline expenditure, increase tax revenue by broadening the tax base, and manage the size of the government work-

force, which is the major source of expenditure for the government.

With the new administration, government will put in place new policies and pass the required legislation to open the economy for business to enable an environment that will allow the private sector to take the lead. The focus will be on job creation, allowing the private sector to thrive, enhanced food security, healthcare, accessible and affordable internet infrastructure, a renewable energy industry, increased tourism and full utilisation of the special economic zones.



SWAZIMED PRESS STATEMENT

Following an article which appeared in the Times of Swaziland on 25th February 2019 titled "Swazimed demands full payment from companies that want out."

The Board of Swazimed wishes to inform Emaswati that Swazimed is a **NOT FOR PROFIT** Medical Aid Scheme and it is **OWNED BY MEMBERS**.

The Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Fund states that

"The income and property of the Association, whensoever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Association as set forth in this Memorandum of Association, and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly, by way of dividend, bonus, or otherwise howsoever by way of profit, to the shareholders of the Association".

Profits are not shared by shareholders but instead are ploughed back into reserves for future financial sustainability of the scheme. The reserves help to smooth or control contributions increases and to enhance members' benefits.

The Scheme's guiding principle or funding model is **GROUP SOLIDARITY** and **COMMUNITY RATING**. The scheme pools members' contributions and pay health providers in an equitable manner. Under this principle the healthy subsidize the sicker members of the scheme. All members of the scheme pay the same monthly contribution for the same benefit based on their salary.

Any employer is free join the Fund and employees will not be rejected based on age, social and health status.

The **GROUP SOLIDARY** and the **COMMUNITY RATING** forms the basis of Swazimed's funding model which is key to the survival of the scheme and the provision of superior benefits to members.

Swazimed continues to offer additional support to members through **EXGRATIA**, where members have exhausted their normal benefits. This is a unique feature world over.

The Scheme invites employers and employees to join in pursuit of group solidarity which allows their elderly parents to join without discrimination. Pre-existing chronic conditions are not charged extra.

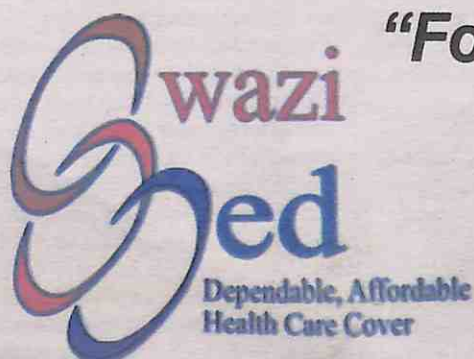
It is important for members to familiarise themselves with the difference between a **MEDICAL AID SCHEMES** and **MEDICAL INSURANCE SCHEMES** as well as **FOR PROFIT** vs **NOT FOR PROFIT** in the Eswatini context.

Finally, the Board of Swazimed would like to place it on record that Swazimed **DOES NOT** force members to remain in the scheme. If a group wants to exit, they may do so, provided they follow the laid down scheme rules which include a notice period and the GROUP will be exited accordingly in line with the **GROUP SOLIDARITY** principle.

Dr ZM Dlamini
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Budget speech a book of lamentations - SNAT

BY SABELO MAJOLA
Mbabane

THE 2019/20 national budget speech is a book of lamentations, the Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) has said.

SNAT Secretary General Sikelela Dlamini said the nation at large; particularly the association's members, patiently waited for the budget speech that was delivered by Minister for Finance Neal Rijkenberg in Parliament on Wednesday hoping that something of mutual benefit to the majority of the people of Eswatini would come up.

He said the budget speech contained various statements that were not only devoid of meaning, but were also off-tangent.

"Right from the introductory part, this Book of Lamentations (Budget Speech) espoused the age-long song of a wage bill that has grown by 125 per cent for the last 10 years. There is nothing that has been said by the minister regarding the release of the report of the skills audit that was carried out in 2013. The ghost employees who inflated the budget remain unnamed because the criminals were actually investigating themselves during this exercise," he claimed. Dlamini said pinning the financial challenges on failure to leverage resources and that the country was unable to address corruption that has become carcinogenic in recent times by the minister was founded on shaky grounds. "It is an open secret that the ordinary people do not benefit from the country's resources, but only a selected few. Talking about corruption without workable strategies to deal with same is an obsolete strategy to amass public sympathy. We have been saying, over and over again, that corruption has been institutionalised in this country and that the best way of dealing with it is through a process that seeks to overhaul the whole political system, and replace it with one that is more responsive, transparent and accountable to the basic needs of the people," he said. He said appealing to public service associations (PSAs) for cooperation as there is no money, was disappointing.

"Government employees do not exist in isolation neither do they suffer from memory failure such that they have forgotten what he himself said at Esibayeni a few months ago, campaigning for royal recognition. The policies which he proposes are an extension of his purely capitalist tendencies that of believing that those who work hard must be given peanuts that will sustain them for the next pay day, thereby cementing the development of underdevelopment in this, our motherland," said Dlamini. He said the pledge of more support to the military to ensure stability by tightening security and maintaining peace country-wide, told them about the paramount priority area for the Ambrose Mandvulo Dlamini-led government.

He said this meant labour unions and other civil society organisations shall be silenced, violently

so and no voices of dissent will be allowed.

"Citizens must keep quiet, toe the line and that equals to peace, money has been set aside to procure guns and all sorts of artillery for that exercise. The 7.5 per cent increment on the budget for the education sector is just academic. The projected E3.5 billion (from E3.3 billion in 2018-19) is far lower than the expected 26 per cent share of the budget. With the increase of learners in schools every year, this allocation is worse than an insult.

As a country, we can predict that we are not going to meaningfully achieve even a single target of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goals 4 and 5. Another glaring omission in this budget is that, nothing has been said on the provision of scholarship for our children who annually graduate from secondary schools. We cannot overemphasise the fact that tuition fees skyrocket, each year, in this country, particularly at tertiary level. Failure to increase scholarship grants is actually a well-thought-out genocide that will hit hard on posterity," he added.

Woman arrested for E100 000 Old Mutual fraud

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE
High Court

A former employee of Easy Grow Insurance has been arrested for allegedly defrauding Old Mutual E100 000.

The former employee Nontobeko Magagula is alleged to have in actual fact defrauded Old Mutual a sum of E107 000 between December 15, 2017 to March, 2018.

According to the charge sheet, Magagula is charged with fraud in that at or near Manzini she did unlawfully, wrongfully and with intent to defraud misrepresented to Old Mutual through Easy Grow Insurance Brokers that it was her honest belief that disinvestment application forms dated December 15, 2017 to March 2018 in favour of Pires Goncalves Amadeu Braulio for the sum of E107 000 was good and would be met upon presentation to the said insurance company and by such means, induced Old Mutual to the said loss.

Magagula yesterday filed an urgent applica-

tion for bail at the High Court where she was granted bail fixed at E15 000 by Judge Ticheme Dlamini.

But she was ordered to pay E3 000 in cash while E12 000 shall be in a form of a surety which she managed to pay, at least by the time this report was compiled yesterday afternoon.

According to Magagula in her affidavit, she denies having committed the offence and instead accused her former employer of framing her in the whole matter.

She submitted that the charges against her were framed by her former employer who is allegedly trying to protect his daughter who is involved in the alleged fraudulent practices as the daughter was her (Magagula's) immediate supervisor. She informed the court that she resigned from Easy Grow as she received a better paying job from their competitor Coverite Insurance as her former employers used to threaten, her adding that her new employers have even terminated her services. She submitted that she will not abscond trial but would abide by all bail conditions given to her by the court.

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- Indzaba yakho ayibe ngemagama lasemkhatsini kwalatinkhulungwane letingemashumi lamane kuya kulatinkhulungwane letingemashumi lasiphohlongo (40 000-80 000)
- Bhala usebentisa buso-mbhala i-Times New Roman nombolo-12
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Tecwayiso:

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- Tisebenti nalabasondzeleni nenkampane i-Macmillan neLiphephandzaba i-Swazi Observer abakavumeleki kungenela lomncintiswano
- Bantu labahlala Eswatini kuphela labangangenele lomncintiswano

Imikokole:
Kutawuklonyeliswa labashilani labahlabene, kanje:

- Imali letinkhulungwane letingemashumi lamane (E40, 000.00) kanye nangcondvumashina lophatsekako (laptop)
- Imali letinkhulungwane letingemashumi lamatsafu (E30, 000.00)

kanye na mahlalekhukhwini wakanokusho (smart phone)

- Imali letinkhulungwane letingemashumi lamabili (E20, 000.00) kanye na mahlalekhukhwini wakanokusho (smart phone)
- Imali letinkhulungwane letilishumi (E10, 000.00) nembhukudvu wetincwadzi
- Imali letinkhulungwane letishilani (E5, 000.00) nembhukudvu wetincwadzi

Mashiya ngumashiya! Ungasali!

macmillan education 40 Swazi Observer

With Learners for Life Kuva kabanti shayela Bertha Jele: +268 2518 4533 | bertha.jele@macmillaneducation.co.sz

Monthly account for ministries' expenditure

STORIES BY MBONO MDLULI
Mbabane

GOVERNMENT ministries are expected to account monthly for the money they have been allocated in the national budget.

This was said by Minister for Finance Neal Rijkenberg on Wednesday after he delivered the 2019/20 national budget speech in the House of Assembly.

He said it was important to ensure that all cabinet ministries were fiscally disciplined to avoid another financial mess.

Rijkenberg said he was hopeful that the country could take a relatively short time to come out of the present financial mess it found itself in. The minister urged all Emaswati to support government and encourage fiscal discipline throughout all the ministries.

He believed that the size of the country could be an advantage to Emaswati.

The country was a small economy and that meant the country could take a short time to get out of a financial mess.

The only thing that Emaswati needed to do was to support government, while it tried to revive the country's economy.

The minister on Wednesday tabled a national budget of E22.97 billion for the incoming 2019/2020 financial year. The



ACCOUNT: Cabinet ministers and MPs during the national budget presentation on Wednesday.

budget includes total revenue at E17.41 billion, grants at E550 million and proposed revenue measures amounting to E500 million. Government, according to Rijkenberg, targeted E400 million from the sale of government assets.

The minister, during the tabling of the budget speech, said an exercise was underway at the ministry of finance to identify

government assets that could be sold to this effect.

Loans

Financing for the 2019/20, according to the minister, came in the form of external loans that had been secured for specific capital projects and domestic financing in the form of Treasury bills and bonds. From this amount, E3.19 billion

Private sector should take the lead

THE way out of the current economic crisis is for the private sector to take the lead and generate the country's revenue.

This was said by Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg on Wednesday during an interview after he delivered his budget speech. Rijkenberg said the time for Emaswati to look up to government for everything was over.

The private sector is the engine that would help the country in resuscitating its ailing economy. Rijkenberg viewed the government as an organisation that was there to ensure that the country was the place of choice for businesses to be started and sustained.

He said the government was not supposed to be the employ-

er, but the private sector was supposed to be one.

The government was supposed to be the one that was to ensure that the environment in the country was enticing for local and foreign investors in order for the economy to be turned around.

When delivering his speech on Wednesday, Rijkenberg said meaningful growth would be achieved by enabling the private sector to lead and do what it did best, which included growing the economy and creating employment. "Government can no longer be the employer of choice in the kingdom as it is.

Today, I call on everyone to unify your support for our economic recovery and truly collaborate to build the proud nation that we all envision and deserve," Rijkenberg said.

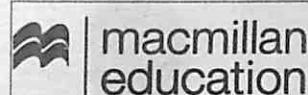
has been raised through external loans and E925 million was a baseline projection for domestic debt financing.

The budget speech came with good news for low income-earners. Government intended to increase the minimum taxable income threshold from E41 000 to E55 000 annually. This means people who earn E3 416 monthly would no longer

be compelled to pay taxes.

Paying taxes would start from E4 583 and anyone earning below that would not pay any tax.

"This revision in the primary rebate will take significant tax pressure off the lower income earners and offset some of the increased expenditure pressures on low income earners through the consumption tax revision," Rijkenberg said.



CAREER OPPORTUNITY: EDUCATIONAL SALES AND MARKETING REPRESENTATIVE (AMRS19/ESMR)

Macmillan Education wants YOU!!! If you are a dynamic, passionate, skilled and experienced Sales and Marketing professional with a teaching background, this opportunity is for you. Suitably qualified candidates with a deeper understanding of the eSwatini education landscape are invited to submit their applications for the position highlighted above.

Purpose of the job:

The Educational Sales and Marketing Representative will be responsible for managing and growing sales within a given geographic territory. This can be achieved through securing new as well as maintaining existing clients. This position reports to the Sales and Marketing Manager.

This position is responsible for:

- Promoting Macmillan's product range to targeted schools, College staff, booksellers, education officials and librarians using a needs-based methodology.
- Developing and maintaining knowledge of the product range to ensure existing clients are maintained and new opportunities are capitalized on.
- Identifying new opportunities and customers to whom we can promote our product range in order to grow our market reach and revenue in an effective manner.
- Complying with the customer centricity plan to ensure long-term relationships are cultivated such that the win-win principle is achieved.
- Giving excellent service to customers by providing information and samples of appropriate products and samples.
- Communicating with line manager regarding market intelligence to position the company to capitalize on opportunities.
- Executing administrative duties timeously and accurately in order to aid planning, improve productivity and maintain the integrity of market information.

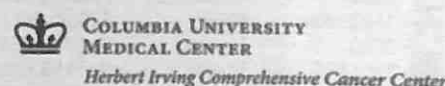
Minimum Qualifications and Experience Requirements

- Bachelor's degree in Education or equivalent teaching qualifications.
- Diploma in Sales and Marketing will be an added advantage.
- 2-3 years' experience in a similar sales position.
- Experience in negotiating with teachers, principals, education officials or other relevant decision makers.
- Valid driver's license

Applications Procedure:

Applications accompanied by detailed resumes and certified copies of tertiary certificates should be emailed to carol.amrecruitment@gmail.com by Friday, 08 March, 2019 at 15:30 pm. Please quote the job reference code in the email subject line. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. (Should you not be contacted within two weeks of the deadline, please consider your application unsuccessful.)

Doc:18695



VACANCY

JOB TITLE: Breast Cancer Early Detection (BCED) Research Nurse

REPORTS TO: Associate Director - Research
LOCATION: Mbabane

OVERVIEW: ICAP-Eswatini, in partnership with the Ministry of Health, and with funding from The National Institute of Health/The National Cancer Institute (United States), is conducting a study called, 'Nurse Training in Evaluation of Breast Complaints and Clinical Breast Exam to Increase Early Detection of Breast Cancer in Eswatini'. The study is evaluating if nurse training in evaluation of breast complaints and clinical breast examination will increase early detection of breast cancer among women in five health facilities of Eswatini and further assess the feasibility of integrating this intervention into routine HIV care.

OVERALL JOB FUNCTION:

The Research nurse will coordinate training of Nurses and HIV counsellors from the participating facilities, conduct participants' enrolment and follow-up as well as data collection, data management and other research activities for the BCED study.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Conduct facility sensitization meetings on the study with focus on study objectives, outcome, procedures and related SOPs.
- Coordinate trainings, recruitment, mentoring and assessment of HIV/ART nurses and counsellors from implementing facilities on the study training program.
- Conduct facility visit to support and mentor clinic staff on the study procedures (SOPs) specifically eligibility criteria, evaluation of breast complaints management, clinical breast examination and referral algorithm.
- Conduct participants' recruitment, consenting and follow-up activities.
- Conduct paper and tablet-based data collection activities, including collating participants' information scripts, questionnaires, medical records extraction and aggregate data.
- Lead data management and data quality assurance activities.
- Maintain study regulatory file, approvals and related communication.
- Facilitate communication between study team and site-level clinical staff to improve data quality.
- Regular reporting on study activities and progress to study

team.

- Participate in study trainings, workshop and capacity building activities.
- Any other duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

- Degree in nursing or equivalent.
- Certification in good clinical practice will be an advantage.

EXPERIENCE

- At least 2-3 years experience in the provision of clinical care at clinic or hospital level in Eswatini.
- Clinical research experience, including but not limited to experience with obtaining informed consent, collecting and managing clinical data and performing data quality assurance activities.
- Knowledge of breast complaints evaluation and management as well as conduct of clinical breast examination.
- Experience in operational research activities.
- Strong interpersonal, organizational, verbal and written communication skills.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite Applications.
- Experience and knowledge of survey CTO.
- Fluency in English and siSwati.
- Must be flexible to adapt to a changing environment.
- Must be culturally sensitive and have strong team building skills.
- Must be attentive to detail and conscientious about timeliness of activities and deadlines.
- Strong problem-solving skills and analytical capabilities.
- Willingness to spend substantial time in the field.

How to Apply

Interested applicants should send their application and resumes named after their surnames by email with a subject line of the position you are applying for e.g. "Breast Cancer Early Detection (BCED) study coordinator" to icac-job@swaziland.columbia.edu.

Closing date for applications to be submitted: Friday 08 March 2019 at 17:00pm.

Please do not attach any certificates when submitting on line. Only short listed applicants will be contacted with preference given to qualifying Swati nationals.

Please consider your application unsuccessful if you don't hear from us 3 weeks after the closing date

Doc:18692

'SANU students ungrateful'

BY SABELO MAJOLA
Mbabane

MINISTRY of Labour and Social Security Principal Secretary Thulani Mkhalipli has slammed students of the Southern African Nazarene University (SANU) for being ungrateful to government.

In a letter dated February 25, 2019, responding to a petition delivered by the students last Saturday at the ministry, which, among other things, demanded the urgent release of student allowances, Mkhalipli expressed his disappointment at the manner on which the Students Representative Council (SRC) President Gebevu Simelane elected to present the issues, particularly considering that the ministry has always kept their door wide open for the students even at times when the ministry felt they were abusing the openness of the door.

"We take student leadership very serious and will always be willing to engage and find solutions but in an atmosphere where mutual respect, trust and common goals are the key values. We hope the negative insinuations about the character of the ministry of labour and social security may have been unintended considering the so many positive discussions we have had, including increasing the number of students to be awarded scholarships at SANU. We are noting that you conveniently omitted to express gratitude to government, for even in these very difficult financial times, was able to give an additional 143 scholarships to SANU stu-

dents who were left out due to reaching the limit number allocated to SANU," said Mkhalipli.

Mkhalipli said instead of spending energy shouting at each other, government, parents, academic institutions and students need to work together in finding solutions to help students who could not afford tertiary education. He added that delayed students allowances would be processed until the end of next week. New systems are being introduced to make processing much faster. The PS refuted that the book allowance was cut, but the ministry introduced a system to ensure that allowances issued out for this purpose was exclusively used for buying books.

About E2 000 is for books.

"In the past year, we have been lenient and allowed students to go up to E4 000 without showing proof. We will now be more strict and if there is no proof on the initial E2 000, there will be no justification for any additional book allowance for that year," he said. Mkhalipli said uniforms for programmes which require such were standardised for all tertiary institutions in the country providing similar programmes. He said SANU students leadership must actually be credited with this decision because they are the ones who brought it to the table and government acted accordingly. Practical allowances for students doing similar programmes in all institutions in the country, like teaching practice, were standardised. "The issue of excessive tuition fees vis-à-vis that which is paid by government has been discussed at length and we have always been consistent to say our ministry will

The students demands to the ministry of Labour:

1. Urgent release of students allowances
2. Book, uniform and practical allowances increment
3. Sufficient tuition allowances
4. Increment of project allowances
5. Adequate provision of scholarship awards to year one students especially the ECCD programme
6. Starter-pack refunds
7. Removal of starter-pack policy
8. Conducive learning conditions

be guided by the ministry of education on the new fees/tariffs to be charged by SANU. Until such guidance is obtained, the ministry of labour will pay at the ceiling of what it has been paying over the years. Students were advised and can still approach the ministry of education on this matter. The issue of project allowance was discussed and concluded with SANU management. Deserving students undertaking academic projects that warrant support in this regard will be supported," he added. The PS said Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) was one of government priority programmes and can be funded. However, before they fund a new programme there has to be certification from the ministry of education. He stated that it was not the ministry's responsibility to look for programme certifications, theirs was just to ensure that the program has all the necessary approvals to warrant funding of qualifying students in that programme.

SHEC inundated by complaints

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane

THE Swaziland Higher Education Council (SHEC) is flooded with complaints from students enrolled in privately-owned institutions of higher learning.

It is alleged some institutions of higher learning do not follow stipulated rules and regulations by SHEC.

Following disturbing reports that were received previously by the council from students and parents who are stakeholders of privately owned institutions of higher learning, the council has vowed to do a thorough check on the learning institutions. This week, the Swazi Observer published a story of would-be students who claimed they had paid monies to an institution, whose owner has since vanished. SHEC Secretary Mboni Dlamini said they have been disturbed by these allegations and have instituted an investigation. Dlamini said SHEC had the responsibility to develop and implement a system of quality assurance for higher education in the country. He said it was worth mentioning they have noted that most of the institutions that they received complaints about are mostly privately-owned. "In order to be registered, institutions should meet standards as set out in the Higher Education (General) Regulations of 2016, published in Legal Notice 14 of 2016," he said. SHEC was established in 2015 in terms of the Higher Education Act of

2013 to regulate higher education provision in the country. Its mandate is to develop and implement a quality assurance system for higher education, covering, among other areas, registration, accreditation, institutional audits, quality promotion and setting of standards. The Higher Education Act defines higher education as all learning programme commenced after secondary education and leading to a higher qualification. For an institution to operate and be recognised in Eswatini, it must be registered in terms of the Higher Education Act, 2013. "It has come to our attention that the minute these institutions are registered or given recognition by the council, they start to disregard rules stipulated by the council," he said. Dlamini said the council will soon be inspecting institutions of higher learning, adding that some might be closed if they are found not to be conforming to the council's rules and regulations. Last year, SHEC closed down four higher learning institutions in the country which were not granted recognition by the council. The institutions that were closed were African Prime Institute of Science and Technology (APIST), Corporate Development and Training Centre (CDTC), Providence International Training Centre (PITI) and Management Training and Development Institute (MTDI) and all four failed to meet the required standards set by SHEC. Dlamini said some of these institutions are still struggling to meet the minimum package.



SWAZIS AND AMERICANS
IN PARTNERSHIP TO FIGHT HIV/AIDS



VACANCY

JOB TITLE: Research Officer
REPORTS TO: Associate Director - Research
LOCATION: Mbabane

OVERVIEW: ICAP-Eswatini, in partnership with the Ministry of Health, and with funding from the United States Government is engaged in various partnerships to strengthen epidemiology and research in the country. This includes health systems strengthening support to selected Ministry of Health departments and collaboration with other Government of Kingdom of Eswatini Ministries and development partners.

OVERALL JOB FUNCTION: Working with the Associate Director - Research, the Research Officer will be responsible for supporting implementation, coordination, and monitoring of health systems strengthening (HSS) activities implemented for the Ministry of Health (MOH) and other Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini departments.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Develop training materials and conduct health research related trainings
- Lead in research dissemination activities.
- Support work plan development and track progress on activities including preparation of monthly reports and providing updates to the senior management team, stakeholders and during internal meetings.
- Track all communication relevant to portfolio, and create and maintain archive of all relevant documentation (electronic and hardcopies).
- Plan, coordinate and minute meetings relevant to this portfolio including internal ICAP meetings, TWG meetings and other stakeholder meetings.
- Support HSS activities for NHRRB:
 - Scale up and monitor implementation of an online submission system known as Research for Health and Innovation Organiser (RHInO Ethics).
 - Provide continuous capacity building for NHRRB on bioethics related topics including on Health & Safety Policy (HSP) risk assessment and internal SOPs.
 - Support NHRRB develop guiding documents: National policy for ethics, Strategic plan and Reviewers' guidelines.
 - Support NHRRB monitoring capacity of approved studies and related guiding documents.

- Support HSS activities for HRU:
 - Review guiding documents ending between 2018/2019: Strategic plan and National Health Research agenda.
 - Support HRU to produce bi-annual Health Research Newsletter for research dissemination.
 - Conduct health research capacity building trainings and initiatives; focusing on research methods, scientific writing, and data dissemination.
- For both unit (HRU & NHRRB), develop a written transition plan for MOH ratification.
- Carry out other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

- Candidate must hold a degree preferably in Epidemiology, Public Health or a health-related discipline.
- An advanced degree will be an added advantage.

EXPERIENCE

- At least 2-3 years of research experience, experience with health systems, health facilities or data systems.
- Knowledge of RHInO Ethics preferable.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite Applications
- Must be attentive to detail and conscientious about timeliness of activities and deadlines.
- Strong problem-solving skills and analytical capabilities.
- Excellent interpersonal, organizational, verbal and written communication skills.
- Flexible and adaptable and able to multi-task effectively.
- Fluency in English.

How to Apply

Interested applicants should send their application and resumes named after their surnames by email with a subject line of the position you are applying for e.g. "Research Officer" to icap-jobs-swaziland@columbia.edu. Closing date for applications to be submitted: Friday 08 March 2019 at 17:00pm.

Please do not attach any certificates when submitting on line. Only short listed applicants will be contacted with preference given to qualifying Swati nationals. Please consider your application unsuccessful if you don't hear from us 3 weeks after the closing date

DOC:18463

AFRICAN LEADERS
MALARIA ALLIANCE



Background: The African Leaders Malaria Alliance (ALMA), which is presently chaired by His Majesty the King, is hiring a qualified individual to help establish and manage a public-private fund to finance malaria in Eswatini. Responsibilities will include establishing the Fund's secretariat, supporting the Board of Directors, and liaising with donors and the national malaria program.

Deadline: 4 March 2019

How to Apply: Email your CV and three references to srooke@alma2030.org

Requirements:

- Advanced university degree in management, finance, or accounting
- At least 7 years of relevant experience, preferably in management
- Experience in project, contract, and budget management
- Understanding of financial statements and business reports
- Experience working with senior corporate executives and/or government officials

More Information is available at <http://alma2030.org/about/jobs> (see "Director, Malaria Fund Secretariat" job posting)

DOC:18664



CONGRATULATIONS: Prime Minister Ambrose Dlamini congratulating Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg after delivering his first budget speech in Parliament on Wednesday. (Pics: Simon Shabangu)

2019/20 BUDGET SPEECH DELIVERY IN PARLIAMENT



I HAVE LANDED: Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg on arrival for the delivery of the 2019-2020 budget speech.



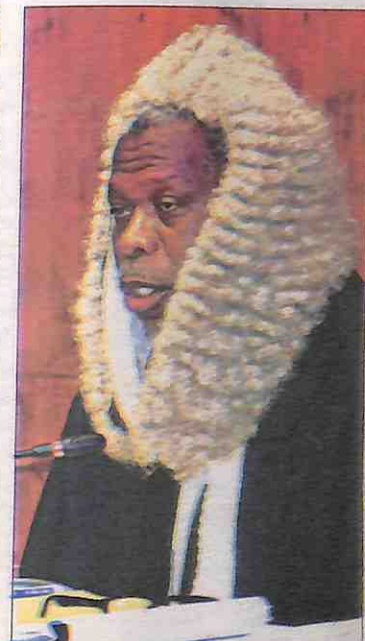
TABLED: The minister tabling one of the Bills before Parliament.



IN SUPPORT: Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg flanked by Governor of Central Bank Majozi Sithole and DPM Themba Masuku, who are both former ministers of Finance.



HONOURED: Kubuta MP Musa Mabuza posing with pupils from Lamdladla High School who were accompanied by their teacher Mr. Nhlabatsi to witness the budget speech delivery.



MR SPEAKER: Speaker Petros Mavimbela leading proceedings.



Eswatini Medical Christian University

Accredited by the Eswatini Higher Education Council
2019/2020 Application for Enrolment

APPLICATIONS FOR ENROLMENT

EMCU invites applications from suitably qualifying candidates for enrolment in the following programmes:

- Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Sciences
- Bachelor of Nursing
- Bachelor of Pharmacy
- Bachelor of Radiography
- Bachelor of Computer Science
- Bachelor of Social Work
- Bachelor of Psychology

Applicants must have a minimum of 6 credits (C grade or better) in GCE O'Level/ IGCSE' SGCSE including English Language, Mathematics, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Combined Science or any other equivalent qualification.

Application forms are available at EMCU Reception or can be downloaded online: www.emcu.ac.sz

Deadline for submission of applications is 08th March 2019

Doc:17999

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185/65R14	E550.00	All 16 inch Sizes from E300.00 up	
175/70R14	E540.00	All 17 inch Sizes from E330.00 up	
175/65R14	E530.00	All 18 inch Sizes from E350.00 up	
		All 19 inch Sizes from E500.00 up	
		All 20 inch Sizes from E500.00 up	
		315/80R22.5	E2500.00 up
		12R22.5	E2300.00 up
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Email: superfityressdz@gmail.com
Physical Address: King Sobhuza avenue Opposite
Brewery Matsapha Next to S&B Restaurant

DOC18511



DRESSED UP: MPs Princess Phumelele and Nokunceda Bujela were well dressed for the day.



CLARIFYING: One of the facilitators Vesna Garvanlieva clarifies some issues raised by the MPs during the budget literacy workshop held at the Royal Swazi Sun Libandla Room on Tuesday. (Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)



ON ARRIVAL: MPs Musa Mabuza and Robert Magongo arrive for the workshop.



BRAINS BEHIND: The workshop's facilitators Vesna Garvanlieva, Marjan Nikolov and Baly Mourad in a discussion.



PRESENT: Cabinet Ministers David 'Cruiser' Ngcamphalala, Lady Howard-Mabuza and Harries 'Madze' Bulunga also attended the workshop.

BUDGET LITERACY WORKSHOP @ ROYAL SWAZI SUN



GRASPING: Part of the MPs, including Dumsani Dlamini from the American Embassy, grasping a few points.



FOLLOWING: Some of the MPs following the proceedings during the workshop.



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PLANNED POWER OUTAGE NOTIFICATION

Kindly note that there will be power interruptions on our electricity lines due to routine maintenance as per the following schedule;

DAY:	DATE:	MAINTAINANCE BY (DEPOT):	AFFECTED AREAS:	DESCRIPTION OF WORK:	PERIOD:
Monday	4 Mar	Stonehenge	Ntambade	Routine Maintenance	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Manzini	Sidzakeni, KaShali, Lwandle, Gundwini, Ntozakhe	Breaker and GIS Installation	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Sithobela	Mgwaveni, LaMdladla, Mphambano, Nhlalabantfu, Latsamela, Bugeleni	Transformer Installation	9:30am – 5:00pm
Tuesday	5 Mar	Stonehenge	Manzana Zone 1, Manzana Zone 2, Manzana Zone 3, Hilltop	Routine Maintenance	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Manzini	Mbekelweni, Magwaza, Mpholi, Mshayankomo, Nsingweni, Lubhaceni and surrounding areas	Routine Maintenance, Transformer Uprating and Closing Span	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Sithobela	Ethemba	Transformer Uprate	9:00am – 4:30pm
		Siketi	Mpaka, Manyeveni, Manyeveni Clinic, Manyeveni Primary School, Lubhuku, Njabulweni Primary School	Pole Replacement and Bush Clearing	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Pigg's Peak	Luhlangotsini, Ndlembeni	Reconductoring	10:00am – 4:00pm
		Malkerns	Malutha Border, Tinyonini, Malutha MTN	Routine Maintenance	8:30am – 5:00pm
		Madlangempisi	Nyakatfo Schools and surrounding areas	Transformer Relocation	9:00am – 4:45pm
Wednesday	6 Mar	Matsapha	Sigombeni Clinic, Ndlembeni, Sibuyeni	Routine Maintenance	10:30am – 4:00pm
		Stonehenge	Mangwaneni	Routine Maintenance	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Manzini	GIS Installation, Service Connection and Closing Span	Nhlambeni, Ntozakhe, Nyakeni, Mbuluzane, Kukhanyeni	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Sithobela	Mphelelaphi	Transformer Installation and Upgrading	9:30am – 5:00pm
		Malkerns	Makhanguja	Routine Maintenance	10:00am – 3:00pm
Thursday	7 Mar	Madlangempisi	Myakatfo area	Transformer Relocation and Dual Line Stringing	9:00am – 4:45pm
		Stonehenge	Sigangeni, Silekehla, Mahamangweni	Routine Maintenance	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Manzini	Mgconyeni, Joy Mission, Ngculwini, Nsigweni, Lubhaceni and surrounding area	Transformer Uprating, Line Relocation and Routine Maintenance	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Siketi	Mindazwe, Ntamakuphila, Mfalabane, Lubombo Hospital, Flame Tree Park, Siteki Nazarene Church, Siteki Primary and High School, Jezi, Assembly Primary School, Mzilikazi	Bush Clearing and Pole Replacement	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Sithobela	Mkhulunyelwa	Transformer	9:00am – 4:30pm
		Malkerns	Nsangwini	Closing Span	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Pigg's Peak	Kwakheni, Sicokweni, Mbeka, Ndlembeni	Reconductoring	10:00am – 4:00pm
		Madlangempisi	Nyakatfo area	Transformer Relocation and Dual Line Stringing	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Malkerns	New Hebron, Nsangwini	Routine Maintenance and Project Construction	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Matsapha	Police Collage, 999 Station Airport, New Police Camp	Underground Cable Installation	9:30am – 4:30pm
Friday	8 Mar	Madlangempisi	Nyakatfo Schools and surrounding areas	Closing Span	9:00am – 4:45pm
		Manzini	Ka-Shali and surrounding area	Transformer Uprating	9:00am – 4:00pm
		Malkerns	Phondo Royal Residence, Brookside Lodge, Green Valley	Routine Maintenance	11:00am – 2:00pm

MARKETING AND CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

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VACANCIES

JOB TITLE: Laboratory Manager
REPORTS TO: Project Coordinator
LOCATION: ICAP/Eswatini Health Service Laboratories (EHLs)

OVERVIEW: ICAP-Eswatini, in partnership with the Ministry of Health, and with funding from the United States Government is conducting a number of research studies and surveillance activities. The ICAP portfolio includes various health systems strengthening (HSS) activities and clinical trials to respond to pertinent research questions in the HIV response. ICAP recently completed the second Swaziland HIV incidence measurement survey (SHIMS2), and will be implementing the Eswatini HIV recent infection surveillance project (EHRIS). The EHRIS activity will entail continuous surveillance and characterization of recent HIV infections, towards identification of potential recent infection hotspots and appropriate intervention.

OVERALL JOB FUNCTION The Laboratory Manager will work closely with the Eswatini Health Laboratory Services (EHLs), Ministry of Health, Epidemiology and Disease Control Unit (EDCU), Central Statistics Office, in-country partners, CDC and survey teams to ensure planning, management and coordination of all laboratory related EHRIS activities including EHRIS testing procedures, viral load sample collection, and transportation and processing.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Assist with development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the implementation of all lab related aspects of EHRIS.
- Lead role in ensuring central and regional laboratories are prepared for EHRIS activities including ensuring adequate space, equipment, supplies, training, documentation, machine calibration etc
- Hire, train and supervise a team of laboratory officers, as needed;
- Liaise with the procurement officer to ensure appropriate equipment and supplies for EHRIS are procured, and stored according to standard procedures and oversee distribution of the equipment and supplies to all molecular laboratories.
- Review the development and implementation of QA/QC procedures for point of care Asante HIV rapid testing. Review the development and implementation of QA/QC procedures for the collection, transportation and processing of blood samples for viral load testing.
- Ensure the logistics and technical support for shipping of collected laboratory specimens at appropriate conditions to the central laboratory
- Ensure laboratory information management systems (LIS) are set up to manage and track study samples
- Ensure regular collection of viral load results from LIS data to sync with data sets collected from HTS testing points.
- Regularly supervise and review laboratory equipment to ensure continued functioning in the appropriate conditions e.g. temperature monitoring for freezers. Recalibrate or supervise maintenance/service work on equipment to ensure continued adequate functioning.
- Assist with the interpretation of laboratory results from the EHRIS project and provide feedback on ways to improve/streamline lab procedures and systems;
- Assist the EHRIS team to develop strategies to ensure timely return of viral load results for linking with other data sets for analysis. Represent EHRIS project in discussions with national stakeholders and assess ways in which national capacity to process samples can be developed and strengthened;
- Liaise with laboratory technical staff in ICAP NY Headquarters (HQs), and CDC Country.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Degree in a laboratory sciences or a relevant scientific field. A Masters will be an added advantage.

PREFERRED EXPERIENCE AND OTHER SKILLS:

- 5+ years of experience managing a clinical or research laboratory;
- Extensive knowledge and experience in design, implementation and management of laboratory services in HIV programs;
- Knowledge/experience of procurement procedures and equipment/supply/stock tracking and inventory management;
- Experience with lab-related data management systems;
- Previous participation in large surveys, which included an aspect of blood sample collection, transportation and processing.
- High level of proficiency in relevant computer applications, particularly Excel;
- Excellent interpersonal, management, and communication skills.

JOB TITLE: Regional Coordinator
REPORTS TO: Project Coordinator
LOCATION: Hhohho, Manzini, Shiselweni, Lubombo

Overall Job functions:

Assist the Project Coordinator in field-level coordination of project activities including supervising field staff and overseeing implementation according to standard operating procedures.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Participate in development of standard operating procedures, data collection tools and training materials.
- Lead pilot testing of study instruments.
- Develop field work plans and keep them updated, including regular review of progress.
- Support the Project Coordinator to assemble the regulatory files at ICAP and keep these files updated.

- Participate in hiring and training of field teams. Provide general training, management, and guidance to field staff throughout project implementation.
- Ensure distribution of project materials and resources to field teams, to facilitate data collection and other procedures.
- Coordinate all field activity logistics and operations, including implementation of work plans, transportation schedules, and progress monitoring.
- Routinely compile reports of field activities to inform the Project Coordinator and investigators of study progress.
- Routinely conduct data quality assurance and study monitoring activities to ensure data quality.
- Alert the Project Coordinator of any field incidents and adverse events immediately.
- Address protocol non-adherence events and field incidents with guidance from the Project Coordinator, and work with the Quality Officer and other Project Monitors to implement Corrective Actions/Preventive Actions (CAPA).
- Assist the Project Coordinator and investigators in organizing and preparing for local and international stakeholder meetings.
- Carry out other duties and responsibilities as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- Candidate must hold a diploma or professional equivalent in nursing, epidemiology, public health, social sciences or related discipline. A degree is preferable.
- 2-3 years of experience in operational or clinical research or surveys. Demonstrated experience in coordinating household surveys or large studies an advantage.
- Experience in participating in research quality control and supervising field staff.
- Knowledge of Good Clinical Practice.
- Detail oriented and highly organized, able to multi-task.
- Willingness to spend substantial time in the field.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite applications.
- Excellent interpersonal, organizational, verbal and written communication skills.
- Detail oriented, flexible and adaptable.

Job Title: Quality Research Assistant (QRA) (2 positions)
Reports To: Senior Quality Officer (SQO)
Location: ICAP

Overall job function: The Quality Research Assistants will support the Senior Quality Officer (SQO) to conduct internal monitoring and quality assurance of research activities in the ICAP portfolio, including development of monitoring tools, conducting audit, writing monitoring reports and feedback of findings to the study team for quality improvement.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Support SQO to develop electronic and paper tools for internal study monitoring, quality assurance procedures and audits
- Regularly conduct monitoring of study documentation including regulatory files at ICAP and in the field
- Conduct regular field monitoring to ensure adherence to good clinical practice, including appropriate screening and consent of participants, and recruitment of eligible participants
- Conduct regular field monitoring to ensure adherence to study standard operating procedures for participant assessments and follow-up, data collection, lab procedures and other relevant study procedures
- Assist in following up data queries and monitoring queries till resolution
- Work with SQO to conduct regular data quality assessments for critical aspects of study implementation e.g. fidelity to interventions as well as study end-points
- Contribute to writing monitoring and audit reports
- Assist in following up on implementation of corrective action / preventive action (CAPA) plans
- Other duties as assigned

Qualifications:

- Candidate must hold a diploma or professional equivalent, preferably in a health-related discipline. A degree is an advantage.
- 1-2 years of experience in operational or clinical research related involving human subjects
- Demonstrated skills, training and/or experience in conducting quality assurance procedures or study monitoring
- Must be attentive to detail and conscientious about timeliness of activities and deadlines
- Knowledge of good clinical practice
- Strong problem-solving skills and analytical capabilities
- Willingness to spend substantial time in the field.
- Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite applications.
- Excellent interpersonal, organizational, verbal and written communication skills.
- Detail oriented, flexible and adaptable.

How to Apply

Interested applicants should send their application and resumes named after their surnames by email and the subject line will be the position applied for e.g. "Laboratory Manager" to icap-jobs-swaziland@columbia.edu. Closing date for applications to be submitted: Friday 8th March 2019 at 17:00pm.

Please do not attach any certificates when submitting on line. Only short listed applicants will be contacted with preference given to qualifying Swati nationals. Please consider your application unsuccessful if you don't hear from us 3 weeks after the closing date.

DOC:18481

Wage bill at 33% of total govt expenditure

BY SIFISO DLAMINI
Mbabane

WAGES of government employees account for 33 per cent of government's total expenditure.

Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg while delivering his budget speech on Wednesday, stated that Eswatini government's total expenditure for the next financial year 2019/20 is estimated at E21.83 billion.

This includes the appropriate recurrent expenditure,

which is at E 14.90 billion, the appropriated capital expenditure, which is at E5.77 billion, as well as the statutory expenditure, which is at E1.16 billion.

Debt

He also stated that in addition E1.09 billion has been provided for the redemption of the public debt, which he said following the budget convention this item comes 'below the line' and is, therefore, not included in the estimates of total expenditure.

Government currently employs approximately 46 000 civil

servants, paying their salaries accounts for about 33 per cent of the total expenditure. This amounts to around E7.2 billion; the exact figure is at E7 203 900 000.

He also added that goods and services account for 13 per cent of the expenditure, which is around E2.83 billion.

These are goods and services purchased by government to carry out all its necessary functions across ministries, these include stationery, computers, drugs to stock hospitals, utility bills for schools to mention a few.



VACANCY

Title: TB/HIV Technical Advisor
Position Seconded to: SNAP
Positions Supervised by: National ART coordinator
Co-Supervised by: ICAP TB/HIV Care and Treatment Technical Director
Location: Mbabane

Overview:

The CDC/PEPFAR support for strengthening the national TB program implementation and provision of comprehensive care and treatment services in Manzini region comprises support to NTCP and SNAP to ensure comprehensive TB/HIV care and treatment service delivery along the continuum of care and achieve the eNSF targets to reduce incidence of TB/HIV, achieve standard of care for TB/HIV, improve quality of care and reduce mortality from TB/HIV.

The TB/HIV Technical Advisor will support the HIV/TB focal person at SNAP to coordinate TB/HIV collaborative activities and offer technical guidance on implementation activities focusing on integration, scaling up for impact, quality assurance, innovations to improve access and utilization of services.

This will include implementation of effective strategies to increase TB Preventive Treatment (TPT) coverage, support PEPFAR's clinical implementing partners and Regional Health Management Teams (RHMTs) to oversee and implement TB/HIV infection prevention and control (IPC) in all health facilities, expansion of TB and HIV interventions including TB screening, monitoring treatment of latent TB including completion of the TPT course, coverage of cotrimoxazole prophylaxis, optimization of anti-retroviral treatment for TB-HIV co-infected patients using tenofovir, lamivudine and dolutegravir, and strengthening surveillance of TB among health care workers in the country. S/he will also be a link between SNAP and NTCP to coordinate joint planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of TB/HIV collaborative activities.

Responsibilities:

Coordination and Service Delivery

- Strengthen the mechanisms for delivering integrated TB and HIV services.
- Support the TB/HIV National Coordinating Committee (NCC) to plan, and oversee collaborative TB/HIV activities, and ensure functionality at all levels
- Strengthen TB/HIV collaborative activities at regional and facility level
- Support the TB/HIV focal person at SNAP and NTCP to coordinate joint TB/HIV planning by SNAP and NTCP to integrate the delivery of TB and HIV services
- Support the TB/HIV focal person at SNAP and NTCP to coordinate the quarterly TB/HIV Technical Working Group meetings, NCC meetings; this entails preparations of the agenda of the meetings and documentation of the proceedings from those meetings.
- Monitor INH and pyridoxine forecasting, quantifications and stock level to provide timely solutions to avoid interruption of TPT.
- Support the NTCP and SNAP in the revision/development of evidence-based standards for competency in TB/HIV and related training materials
- Collaborate with PEPFAR clinical partners and all other stakeholders in order to ensure that the TB/HIV collaborative activities and routine HIV viral load monitoring activities follow the requirements and national standards/protocols.
- Support the SNAP HIV/TB focal person to provide technical updates to SNAP, and other implementing partners on successes, challenges and lessons learned pertaining to TB/HIV collaborative activities and routine Viral load monitoring.

- Together with the HIV/TB focal persons at SNAP and NTCP, support integration of TB and HIV services at community level.
- 1. Assist the HIV/TB core-team in reviewing related TB/HIV policies, guidelines, and SOPs
- 2. Assist SNAP/NTCP in developing related IEC materials.
- 3. Work closely with other HIV thematic areas to integrate TB/HIV services like Key pops, SRH, NCDs etc
- 4. Support IPT implementation by health care workers and ensure that data is generated annually to monitor TB incidence amongst PLHIV.
- 5. Support in strengthening of Regional Coordinating Committees.
- 6. Facilitate trainings related to TB/HIV and other related areas as per required.
- 7. Conduct joint onsite mentoring support for TB/HIV integration at facility level.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Work very closely with Ministry of Health Strategic Information (SID) advisors at SNAP and NTCP to monitor the TB/HIV cascade
- Monitor HIV prevalence among TB patients and TB prevalence among people living with HIV
- Work closely with the SNAP ART programme team (paeds, ART program officers) on setting TB/HIV program priorities and directions, and responding to requests for support from PEPFAR's clinical partners.
- Coordinate and work closely with HIV and TB SID officers/advisors to monitor TB/HIV program data
- Assume overall responsibility for the sound execution of the TB/HIV collaborative activities, focusing at regional and national level.
- Provide monthly updates on the national TB/HIV collaborative activities in preparation for project reports.
- Support TB screening among health care workers to ensure that data is generated annually to monitor TB transmission among health care providers in the country.
- Work closely with M&E staff to monitor national and regional viral load cascades and provide quarterly reports
- Work closely with SID focal person at SNAP to ensure TB/HIV collaborative activities and indicators are on the newly launched Client Management Information System and APMR.
- Work closely with the ICAP and all other PEPFAR clinical partners on setting TB/HIV program priorities and direction, and responding to requests for support from PEPFAR.

Qualifications

- MD with post-graduate training in public health or epidemiology
- A minimum of 5 years' experience supporting implementation of public health programs preferably focusing on TB/HIV.
- Experience in facilitating trainings, development of guidelines and curriculum
- Experience in writing reports including publications
- Advanced proficiency in the English language.
- Proficiency in Microsoft office computer packages (Word, Excel, Outlook and Power point) and basic skills in statistical software (SPSS, stata or epinfo)
- Willingness to travel and perform additional tasks as required

How to Apply

Interested applicants should send their application and resumes named after their surnames by email with a subject line "TB/HIV Technical Advisor" to icap-jobs-swaziland@columbia.edu. Closing date for applications to be submitted: Friday 8th March 2019 at 17:00pm.

Please do not attach any certificates when submitting on line. Only short listed applicants will be contacted with preference given to qualifying Swati nationals. Please consider your application unsuccessful if you don't hear from us 3 weeks after the closing date

Doc 18459



SPEECH: Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg.

Transfers for example to public enterprises get the second highest share of the total expenditure

and are at 28 per cent, which amounts to E6.1 billion.

Transfers include all the money paid out by government parastatals such as social grants for boGogo, OVC, disabled persons, scholarships for students and many more.

Lastly, infrastructure investment is at 26 per cent of the expenditure, which is about 5.7 billion. Capital expenditure includes all government construction activities. For instance, government has committed E5million towards the construction of secondary school classrooms.

The 2019/20 budget has been able to allocate additional money to key sectors that are critical to the country's economic and social development. This is despite the fact that government was able to deliver a fully-financed budget, added the minister.

Senior magistrate concerned with rise in assault cases

BY NONDUDUZO KUNENE
Mbabane Magistrate's Court

THOUGH the SODV Act, which boasts serious sentences, is in full swing, assault cases are on the rise.

Senior Magistrate Nonhlanhla Dlamini even noted the court presides over assault cases almost daily.

The magistrate made this observation when Musa Shabangu (38) of Khorinte area under Chief Mabhedla in the Hhohho region, had come to answer for the offence of assault with an intention to cause grievous bodily harm.

It is said upon January 23, 2019 Shabangu wrongfully and unlawfully assaulted Hlengiwe Hlophe with open hands and fists several times on her face.

He further pelted her with a stone on the head and threatened her with a knife and screw driver. The accused is said to have threatened to kill her

if he reported the incident.

Shabangu said he would plead guilty to the charge during trial.

He pleaded with the court to admit him to bail as he had three minor children who could suffer if he is incarcerated.

After careful deliberation by the senior magistrate, Shabangu was granted bail fixed at E2 000 pending trial setting on March 8, 2019.

Meanwhile, in the same court, Nomalungelo Dvuba appeared having been charged with an offence of assaulting Phwayinkhosi Zwane, her child. She assaulted her when he was from school on February 12, 2019 at Ekupheleni area. Dvuba told the court she did not think she was committing a crime, as she was disciplining her child, whom she found on the road playing instead of going straight home after school. Dvuba was found guilty of the charge and was sentenced to three months imprisonment with a fine option of E500.

Man fined E12 000 for 44.5kg of dagga

BY SIZWE DLAMINI
Pigg's Peak

THERE was an overbearing smell of dagga at the Pigg's Peak Magistrate's Court when Mfanufikile Sifundza (31) had come to answer for his crime of illegally possessing dagga.

He was fined E12 000 for the possession of the dagga weighing 44.5kg.

Sifundza, who is from Nyakatfo, was arrested last Sunday with two of his siblings, who are minors.

After the arrest, the minors were acquitted and discharged on Monday by Principal Magistrate Joe Gumede. Speaking inside the

courtroom, Sifundza said the illegal herb was not his, but belonged to his brother who evaded police arrest by fleeing the homestead when police pounced. "I have to take responsibility for the dagga because I am the eldest at the homestead. Unfortunately, my parents passed away, so I am caring for all my siblings, wife and two children. The dagga isn't mine," he said. Magistrate Gumede sentenced Sifundza to four years in a correctional facility if he failed to pay a fine of E12 000 for the dagga possession. The sentence was suspended for a period of three years with the fine reduced to E5 000 provided the accused is not arrested again for dagga possession.



VACANCIES

JOB TITLE: Laboratory Technologist (7 positions)
REPORTS TO: Laboratory Manager
LOCATION: Regional Laboratories (Hhohho, Manzini, Shiselweni, Lubombo)

Overview: ICAP- Eswatini, in partnership with the Ministry of Health, and with funding from the United States Government is conducting a number of research studies and surveillance activities. The ICAP portfolio includes various health systems strengthening (HSS) activities and clinical trials to respond to pertinent research questions in the HIV response. ICAP recently completed the second Swaziland HIV incidence measurement survey (SHIMS2), and will be implementing the Eswatini HIV recent infection surveillance project (EHRIS). The EHRIS activity will entail continuous surveillance and characterization of recent HIV infections, towards identification of potential recent infection hotspots and appropriate intervention.

OVERALL JOB FUNCTION: The Laboratory Technologist will be stationed within the Eswatini Health Laboratory Services (EHLS) molecular laboratories. They will work closely with the Ministry of Health, Epidemiology and Disease Control Unit (EDCU), Central Statistics Office, in-country partners, CDC and survey teams to ensure implementation of laboratory related EHRIS activities, including QA/QC for recency testing and viral load sample collection, transportation and processing.

Duties and responsibilities:

- Perform laboratory tests and ensure timely processing of results and their abstraction by the EHRIS project team for completion of the HIV recency-testing algorithm.
- Perform quality control and verification testing
- Maintain high standards in good laboratory practice (GLP) and adhere to project protocols.
- Perform other Medical Laboratory Technology duties within the scope of work
- Collaborate in the development and implementation of new policies and procedures for the EHRIS project.
- Work with Eswatini Health Laboratory Services (EHLS) and regional molecular laboratory personnel to support implementation of EHRIS activities.
- Participate in the designing and implementation of overall laboratory quality control and quality assurance system for EHRIS project.
- Participate in the development of EHRIS laboratory related standard operational procedures.
- Provide guidance and coaching to staff and assist in the orientation and training of new staff on recency testing procedures in line with EHRIS protocol and SOPs.
- Keep proper and clear documents and records of tests performed as per protocol.
- Participate in data quality audits/reviews
- Participate in laboratory quality management systems (QMS) activities.
- Executing other responsibilities as assigned by the immediate supervisor.

Qualification & Minimum Requirement:

- At least a Diploma in Medical Laboratory Sciences
- A Bachelor's Degree in Biomedical Laboratory science or related sciences is an added advantage.
- Ability to conduct phlebotomy
- At least 1 years' experience working in a clinical diagnostic laboratory.
- Knowledge and understanding of laboratory quality management systems (LQMS) and ISO 15189.
- Previous experience working in molecular diagnostics and research laboratory is an added advantage.

JOB TITLE: Logistics and Warehouse Officer

REPORTS TO: Lab Manager
Location: Eswatini Health Services laboratory (EHLS)

OVERALL JOB FUNCTION: The Warehouse Officer is the focal person for managing inventory in the central warehouse for the EHRIS project. Working from a designated warehouse space, he/she will track supplies and equipment reception, storage and disbursement to field teams according to project procedures.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Reception of Goods & Services: ensure appropriate inspection of goods received and prepare a Goods Receive Note (GRN). Work with appropriate personnel to inspect goods received e.g. Laboratory Manager, Project Coordinator, IT officer, fleet manager etc
- Stock Administration: ensure goods received are stored safely and in the correct manner.
- Enter the new inventory onto the Stock Card and maintain paper and electronic inventory.
- Ensure storage conditions are adequate and protected for the type of commodities stored. In brief, the store must e.g. adequate protection against weather, insects & rodents, fire and theft.
- Ensure separation of commodity groups to avoid hazardous mixing
- Ensure storage space is neat, clean and organized.
- Prepare and maintain warehouse documentation
- Stock packaging and distribution according to study SOPs, including completion of a Goods Issue Register (GIR)
- Participate in stock audits and quality control exercises.
- Alert the Project Coordinator of any impending stock shortages to facilitate restocking as needed

Minimum Requirements

- A University Degree/Higher National diploma in logistics or related field.
- 1-3 years of experience in warehouse management
- Experience in logistics management
- English, SiSwati proficiency
- Excellent planning and organizational skills
- Competency with Microsoft Excel and Word.
- Previous use of other logistics software is a plus.
- Excellent communication skills and an ability to develop and maintain good relationships with colleagues and counterparts

JOB TITLE: HTS Officers (6 positions)

REPORTS TO: Nurse-in-Charge
LOCATION: Health Facilities

Overall Job functions:

The HTS Counsellors are responsible for the provision of HIV testing and counselling services to clients at the facility and linking clients to services as appropriate.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provide HIV education to clients and their families.
- Provide pre-test information giving, post-test and on-going counselling to individuals, couples and families seen at health care facility according to National HTS Guidelines.
- Perform HIV rapid testing, adhering to nationally recommended rapid testing algorithm.
- Perform HIV recency testing in line with the protocol, SOPs and recency testing algorithm
- Perform EHRIS data collection according to project protocol and SOPs.
- Conduct phlebotomy for viral load and ART baselines
- Refer/link clients, as needed, to prevention, treatment and care, on-going counselling, sexual reproductive health, medical and psychosocial care and support services.
- Establish appropriate collaborative relationships for referrals and maintain an up-to-date referral directory.
- Conduct individual/couple and group health education sessions on HIV for clients and their partners in the facility.
- Conduct TB and NCD screening and link appropriately using the standard tool.
- Promote HIV prevention by providing prevention messages and methods, including condom demonstrations and providing one-on-one information to client.
- Participate in activities aimed at promotion and advocacy for HTS, TB, SRH, NCD and HIV

- treatment and care with other health professionals, disciplines, NGOs in the catchment area.
- Update HTS and other related clinic tools on services conducted and submit monthly, complete, accurate and timely reports using the standard reporting format.
- Report any problem arising in the service immediately to supervisor.
- Participate in facility HTS external QI activities including HIV and TB trainings.
- Document and share best practices.
- Carryout any other duties upon request.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- Formal certification in HTS provision from a recognized training institution, i.e Task or PSI.
- Ability to perform to conduct phlebotomy
- 2-3 experience in provision of HTS services and phlebotomy
- Experience working in clinical research/surveillance project conducting data collection
- Experience in using tablets or other electronic data collection tools
- Excellent interpersonal organizational, verbal and written communication skills
- Proficiency in both English and SiSwati

JOB TITLE: Surveillance Officer (4 positions)

REPORTS TO: Regional Coordinator
LOCATION: Hhohho, Manzini, Shiselweni, Lubombo

Overall Job functions:

The Surveillance Officer will be responsible for conducting all field level coordination of EHRIS project activities including supervision of data collection activities from HTS points and regional laboratories in the four regions of Eswatini.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provide mentorship and support supervision to HTS officers conducting EHRIS project activities.
- Assist in piloting of EHRIS project data collections tools.
- Conduct health facility assessment and design site-specific EHRIS patient, sample and data flow plan.
- Work with project team to conduct site sensitization on EHRIS activities.
- Assist in conducting EHRIS trainings to all HTS officers from facilities implementing the project.
- Work in collaboration with data team to ensure accurate, complete and timely data collection for clients enrolled in the project.
- Collect viral load results for EHRIS clients from regional laboratories.
- Routinely compile reports of field activities to inform the Regional Coordinator and investigators of project progress.
- Assist Communications Advisor and Regional Coordinators in dissemination results regional stakeholders.
- Routinely conduct data quality assurance and study monitoring activities to ensure data quality.
- Maintain confidentiality of project participants and adhere to principles of Human Subject Protection (HSP) and Good Clinical Practice (GCP).
- Assist with designated aspects of study including ensuring site compliance with study protocols, all relevant procedures, policies and regulations.
- Monitoring HIV trends and monitoring effectiveness of the EHRIS project.
- Carry out other duties and responsibilities as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- Candidate must hold a diploma or professional equivalent in nursing, epidemiology, public health, social sciences or related discipline. A degree is preferable.
- 2-3 years of experience in operational or clinical research or surveys.
- Experience in working health facilities providing mentorship and support supervision.
- Experience in participating in research quality assurance and control.
- 2-3 years' experience in provision or supervision of HTS services
- Knowledge of good clinical practice
- Willingness to spend substantial time in the field.
- Detail oriented, flexible and adaptable.
- Excellent communication skills.

JOB Title: Data Clerk (7 positions)

REPORTS TO: Analyst
LOCATION: Health Facilities

Job Summary: Under the supervision of the Analyst data clerk will conduct data collection, data management, and other project related activities for the EHRIS project. He/She will conduct paper- and tablet-based data collection activities including questionnaire and clinical record extraction from clients undergoing EHRIS procedures. This position will require extensive travelling to all health facilities in the 4 regions of Eswatini.

Roles and Responsibilities:

- Conduct data collection activities including medical record abstraction and survey questionnaires.
- Extensive travelling as needed throughout Swatini to conduct EHRIS project activities
- Collaborate with health facility staff to ensure that EHRIS procedures are conducted in accordance with protocol and SOPs in all eligible clients.
- Review completed project forms for completeness, legibility and accuracy as applicable.
- Review and resolve data entry queries and make follow up with health facilities to obtain any missing or questionable data.
- Maintain complete and accurate records and files pertaining to project data collection activities (including EHRIS data collection form and viral load test result log).
- Implement data security, storage, and management procedures.
- Conduct training, mentorship and support supervision for health facility staff on the use tablet.
- Ensure proper use and safety of tablets
- Trouble shooting tablet issues
- Conduct tablet competency
- Provide field support for EHRIS data collection
- Upload of EHRIS data into servers
- Conduct data quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC)
- Implement data security procedures.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications

- A Diploma in Information Technology or equivalent. Related Degree will be an added advantage.
- A minimum of two years experience in public health program evaluation and operational research, preferably related to HIV/AIDS.
- 2-3 years demonstrated experience with data collection, especially in health facility-based studies.
- Experience in using electronic based data collection, specially tablets.
- Excellent planning and organizational skills.
- Competency with Microsoft Excel and Word. Previous use of tablet-based data collection tools is a plus.
- Excellent communication skills and an ability to develop and maintain good relationships with colleagues and counterparts.

How to Apply

Interested applicants should send their application and resumes named after their surnames by email and subject line will be the position applied for e.g. "Data Clerk" to icap-jobs-swaziland@columbia.edu. Closing date for applications to be submitted: Friday, 8th March 2019 at 17:00pm.

Please do not attach any certificates when submitting on line. Only short listed applicants will be contacted with preference given to qualifying Swati nationals. Please consider your application unsuccessful if you don't hear from us 3 weeks after the closing date.

Keep your kingdom clean-up

BY COLISILE SACOLO
Mbabane

AS part of Premier Swazi's social responsibility programme to raise environmental awareness amongst the youth, the company launched the SUB 'Keep Your Kingdom Clean Campaign' that encourages schools nationwide to collect SUB bread bags and keep their learning centres and surroundings clean.

This past week, Magubheleni Alliance Primary School received a computer as well as donations such as bicycles, T-shirts, rulers, backpacks, lunchboxes, water bottles and school necessities. The SUB Keep Your Kingdom Clean campaign will run until March 15 and participating schools will be rewarded weekly.



WINNERS:
Magubheleni Primary School won a computer for being the cleanest learning facility around.



THANK YOU PREMIER SUB: Pupils from Ntfontjeni Primary School smiling after receiving backpacks.



HAPPY PEOPLE: Ndlalambi Primary School pupils were also rewarded by Premier Swazi for participating in the 'Keep Your Kingdom clean campaign'.



The Swaziland National Fire and Emergency Services

ADVERTISEMENT FOR INVITATION TO TENDER

INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF SPECIAL FIRE FIGHTING GEAR

Tender Reference 152 of 2018/19

The National Fire & Emergency Service now invites sealed Tenders for the provision of special fire fighting gear.

The Tender document can be obtained at Government Central Stores, Mbabane, Swaziland for the price of E300 (three hundred Emalangeni), which against receipt should be paid at Mbabane Revenue Office) account number 26/2/1101/06601

A pre-tender meeting will be held at Fire Services Headquarters on 15th of March 2019, at 10:00 hours. The Contact Person for this meeting is: Mr S Mazibuko, Procurement Officer.

Tenders must be enclosed in a sealed envelope, which must be marked as follows:
"The Secretary to National Tender Board"
Treasury Building,
Mhlambanyatsi Road,
MBABANE"

Further the envelope must be marked with following information: Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, 'Tender No. 152 of 2018/2019', Supply and Delivery of Fire and Emergency Service Special Fire Fighting Gear, 'Do not open before 09:00 hours on the, 29th of March 2019.

Tenders must be delivered to the offices of National Tender Board, Treasury Building, Mhlambanyatsi Road, Mbabane, Swaziland, by 09:00 hours, 29th March 2019 and deposited in the Treasury Tender Box.

Tenders received in time by the latest date and time for submission will be opened at the Treasury Building at 09:00 hours, 29 March 2019, which normally is the same as submission deadline. Tenders not deposited in the Treasury Tender Box, as well as late, telegraphic, electronic and faxed tenders will not be considered. Tenderers may attend the opening procedure.

The documents specified in "Instructions to Tenderers", including copies of current Tax Clearance Certificates, Labour Compliance Certificate, Trading Licence, Form J, Form C and eventual a Tender Security must be included in the Tender.

The Government does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

For further information contact the following: Mr. Senzo Mazibuko (Procurement Officer) P. O. BOX. 773 Mbabane, Swaziland Tel 2404 1322

Doc.18420



ESWATINI WATER & AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISE LTD

LOWER USUTHU SMALLHOLDER IRRIGATION PROJECT

INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF A 4x4 TRACTOR LOADER BACKHOE (TLB)

TENDER No. ESWADE/0404

Tenders are hereby invited from eligible Suppliers OF Construction Equipment wishing to tender for Supply of One (1) 4x4 TLB. Tenders will only be accepted from a company which meets the following Criteria; (i) 60% of the controlling shares are owned by Swazi citizens.

A E350-00 non-refundable deposit is required from a prospective tenderer on issue of the tender document. Only cash or bank guaranteed cheques made out to "ESWADE" will be accepted.

Queries relating to the issue of these documents, administrative and technical matters may be addressed to Mr Musa Masilela, Tel No. 2344 1873 or 2344 1671/2/3, Fax No. 2344 1665, e-mail musa@swade.co.sz.

Bid Reference No.	ESWADE 0404
Date of commencement of sale of tender documents	Monday, 04 th March 2019 (Tenders will be sold between 08:30 a.m. and 15:00 p.m.)
Tender Documents will be sold at:	ESWADE-LUSIP Siphofaneni Office
Last date of sale of tender documents	02 nd April 2019
Deadline for Submission of Bids and Opening of Proposals.	03 rd April 2019 at 14:00 p.m.
Address for Submission of Bids and Public Opening of Bids.	ESWADE Headquarters, Mhlabi St., 3 rd Floor MVA Building, Mbabane, Eswatini.
Expected Delivery Schedule	Within 2 Calendar Months after contract signature

Completed tenders should be delivered in a sealed envelope to the ESWADE Head Office and the envelope should only show the Project Name, Project Number and addressed to:

Chairman of the Tender Board
Eswatini Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (ESWADE)
MVA Building, 3rd Floor
Mbabane
Eswatini

Any actions or tendencies that will be interpreted as an attempt to interfere with or influence the tendering process will result in immediate disqualification of the Tenderer. Telegraphic, telephonic, telex, facsimile, e-mail and late any other means.

ESWADE does not bind herself to accept the lowest or any tender.

Doc.18705

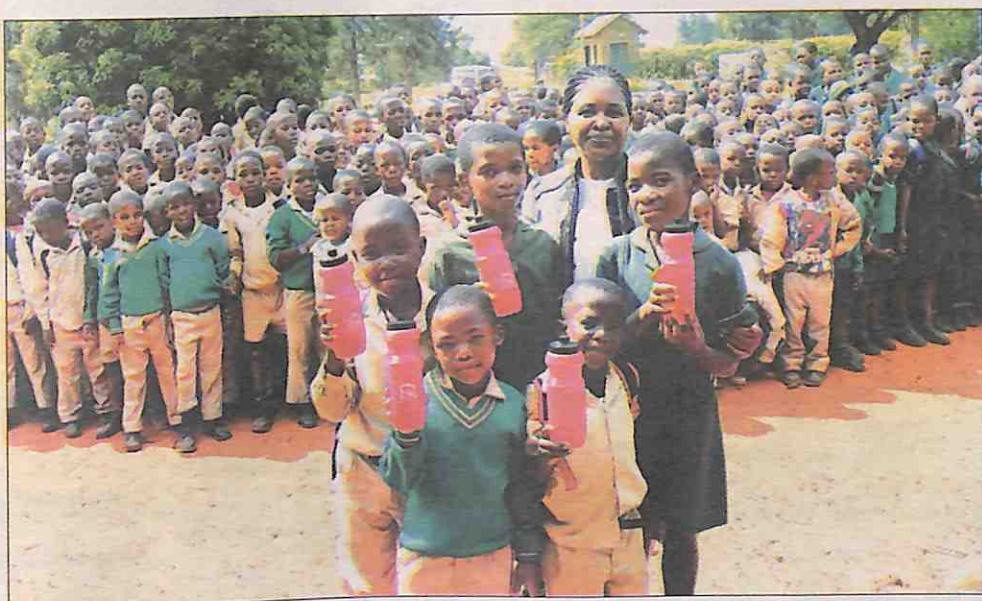
campaign rewards schools



SMILES: Joy all over the faces of pupils from Ntfontjeni Primary School after getting rewards from Premier Swazi for participating in the SUB 'Keep Your Kingdom clean campaign'.



GOT IT: Pupils from Mpaka Primary and the products received from Premier.



BOTTLED UP: Pupils from Ntfontjeni Primary School showing their water bottles from Premier SUB.



LOOKING THE PART: Pupils displaying their T-shirts.

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- Eswatini Higher Education Council (ESHEC)
- Ministry of Education & Training

Department of Education

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DOC18100

PRO PRO-LEARNING  **KaShali Pro-Learning High School**

2018 SGCSE RESULTS

The Directors, Management and Staff of KaShali Pro-Learning High School, take this opportunity to congratulate the SGCSE Class of 2018 for the excellent results in the final examinations, where the school obtained position 38 out of 255 schools in the Kingdom of Eswatini. Our gratitude goes to the Almighty, who has constantly sustained this school all these years. We also extend our gratitude to the parents who have cooperated in making Pro-Learning a success.

We note with sadness the continued use of English Language as stumbling block to the academic progress of many students in the country. It is indeed an embarrassment that after 50 years of independence, we still have the former colonialists' language as an entry requirement in institutions of higher learning within the Kingdom of Eswatini. This is done in even courses which have nothing to do with the mastery of the English Language. We therefore urge the Ministry of Education and the relevant stakeholders to put the interest of the country first and remove this unnecessary barrier with immediate effect.

Sandiso Nkambule First Language: Siswati: C Mathematics: A Geography: A Physical Science: B	Mxolisi Mdluli English Language: B Mathematics: A* Business Studies: B Physical Science: B	Bongumenzi Dlamini First Language: Siswati: B English Language: B Biology: A Mathematics: A Business Studies: C Physical Science: A* Geography: C
Minenhle Dlamini First Language: Siswati: B English Language: A* Biology: C Mathematics: D Physical Science: C Religious Education: C	Candy Mazibuko First Language: Siswati: A English Language: A* Biology: A* Mathematics: B Physical Science: A Geography: C Religious Education: C	Evander Dlamini English Language: B Physical Science: A Business Studies: A*
Nonfundo Mkhwanazi Upgrading English Language: C Biology: A Geography: B	Linda Dlamini Upgrading Biology: B Physical Science: B	Zukiswa Mavuso English Language: B Mathematics: A Biology: B Physical Science: A Geography: C Religious Education: C
Mgiyo Khaya Simelane First Language: Siswati: A English Language: C Mathematics: C Biology: B Physical Science: B Geography: B Religious Education: C	Nombulelo Nhleko First Language: Siswati: B English Language: B Mathematics: B Biology: C Physical Science: B Geography: C Religious Education: B	Swelihle Ndlovu First Language: Siswati: C English Language: C Mathematics: B Accounting: B Business Studies: B Economics: A*
Samkeliso Dlamini Upgrading Mathematics: B Physical Science: B	Njabulo Bhembe Upgrading Mathematics: B Physical Science: B	Nhlenipho Ndlovu English Language: B Biology: B Science: A
Mandisa Matsenjwa Upgrading Mathematics: A Physical Science: A	Lungiswa Nkambule First Language: Siswati: B English Language: B Mathematics: C Biology: D Geography: C Religious Education: B	Brian DuPont Upgrading English Language: B Mathematics: A Biology: C Physical Science: B
Hlobile Mkhonta English Language: B Mathematics: C Business Studies: B	Bandzile Sukati Mathematics: C Physical Science: B Geography: B	Nosipho Ntimane English Language: B Mathematics: B

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IN THE HIGH COURT OF ESWATINI



UNCONTESTED CIVIL ROLL BEFORE THE HON. JUSTICE S.A. NKOSI 1ST MARCH 2019 COURT 'E'

Case No.	Parties	Attorney/S
1. 1269/18	Vollex (Pty) Ltd T/A Vollex Nelspruit VS Supa Savers Investments Ltd And Another	Rodrigues
2. 841/18	Sunset Bay Trading 226 (Pty) Ltd VS Spintex Swaziland Ltd And 2 Others	M.C. Vilakati
3. 1656/18	Moses Bobane Cindzi VS Welile Dlamini	L.R. Mamba
4. 152/19	Alta Rautenbach (Nee Antwerpen) VS Patience Mngomezulu And Others	M.E. Simelane
5. 203/19	Caron Mfanuzile Matsebula VS Siphwe Fiona Matsebula (Nee Mhlanga) And 2 Others	N.E. Ginindza
6. 1805/18	Mary Queiros And Another VS December Dlamini And 3 Others	Robinson Bertram
7. 1844/18	Standard Bank Swaziland Robinson Bertram VS G.I.L.L.O Investments Ltd And 2 Others	Robinson Bertram
8. 224/19	Ngwane Street Properties Ltd VS Family Worship Centre	Rodrigues
9. 128/19	Mduduzi Terrence Dlamini VS Wilson Khumalo And Another	Robinson Bertram
10. 151/19	Helford Bhunya Msibi VS The Principal Secretary Ministry Of Public Service And Another	M.H. Mdluli
11. 61/15	Sihlangu Nhlabatsi VS Ayanda Dlamini	S.V. Mdladla
12. 53/19	Fsra VS Financial Services Appeals Tribunal And 2 Others	Robinson Bertram
13. 1940/18	Mndeni Benson Simelane VS Nomsa Abdulah (Born Hlatshwako) And 3 Others	Z. Magagula
14. 1836/18	Patrick Simelane VS Cmac Arbitrator Mangaliso Shongwe N.O. And 2 Others	Simelane Mtshali
15. 2170/16	Lindiwe Gama (Dlamini) VS Swazi Mahewu	V. Nhlabatsi
16. 95/19	Eagles Milling (Pty) Ltd T/A Crane Feeds VS Stempe Investments Ltd And Another	Robinson Bertram
17. 168/19	Timber Product Management Services Ltd VS Sntc And Another	M.M. Sibandze
18. 10/19	Green Pastures Transport VS Melusi Transport	M.C. Vilakati
19. 147/19	Rainbow 344 Investments VS Ngubs Delights Logistics Ltd	M.J. Manzini
20. 315/19	Gabsile Nobile Mncina - Exparte	M.J. Manzini

RULE 45 (13) (I) BEFORE THE HON. JUSTICE D. TSHABALALA 1ST MARCH 2019 COURT 'H'

URGENT APPLICATIONS BEFORE THE HON. JUSTICE T. DLAMINI Court 'F'

CONTESTED BAILS BEFORE THE HON. JUSTICE C. MAPHANGA 1ST MARCH 2019 COURT 'G'

CASE NO.	ACCUSED	CENTRE	ATTORNEY
1. 147/18	SIBONGISENI KENNETH MPOFU	MATSAPHA	N. MABILA/ MKHONTA MAHLANGU
2. 43/19	THABO COLLEN DLAMINI	NHLANGANO	N. LUKHELE/IN PERSON
3. 84/18	DAVID MZONDI MSIBI	REMAND	N. LUKHELE/IN PERSON
4. 40/18	SIBUSISO SANELILE MALINDZISA	BIG BEND	N. LUKHELE/IN PERSON
5. 36/19	SIPHO ALEX SHABANGU	REMAND	B. NGWENYA/IN PERSON
6. 37/19	ABILID JACKY MHLANGA	REMAND	N. LUKHELE/IN PERSON
7. 27/19	SPHAMANDLA TFWALA	NHLANGANO	N. LUKHELE/IN PERSON
8. 351/18	DELISA NDZABANDZABA SIPHO MBUYISA SANELE MBUYISA	BIG BEND	N. LUKHELE/ MABILA

Case No.	Parties	Attorney/S
1. 806/16	Swaziland Development & Savings Bank VS Mempusi Investments Ltd And 2 Others	Robinson Bertram
2. 1774/17	Nedbank Swaziland Limited VS Zamindela Duncan Dlamini	Robinson Bertram
3. 752/17	Southern Trading Company Ltd VS Alternative Investments Ltd And Another	Robinson Bertram
4. 977/18	Ramon Desouza VS Mao-Shen Sun	G.A. Reid
5. 1780/15	Women Working Together Initiative VS Mpumelelo Mdlalose	S.V. Mdladla
6. 684/16	Nedbank Swaziland Limited VS Themba Samkelo Nkonyane	S.V. Mdladla
7. 1355/15	Oscar Mkhabela VS Sifiso Luther Bhembe	Bhembe
8. 1614/16	Swaziland Development & Savings Bank VS Bongani Fanafana Magagula	Robinson Bertram
9. 44/17	Swaziland Development & Savings Bank VS Mandla Masilela	Robinson Bertram
10. 1937/17	Swaziland Development & Savings Bank VS Mphumelelo Simelane T/A Shiselweni Copiers	Robinson Bertram
11. 1232/13	Swaziland Development & Savings Bank VS Tatabb Investments Ltd And Another	Robinson Bertram
12. 1113/13	Swaziland Development & Savings Bank VS Njoma Developers Ltd And Another	Robinson Bertram
13. 1931/16	Standard Bank Swaziland Ltd VS Bhubesi Makhehla Magagula	S.V. Mdladla
14. 1930/16	Std Bank Swaziland Ltd VS Big Bhu Investments Ltd And Another	Mdladla
15. 1349/18	Nedbank Swaziland Ltd VS	Robinson

Case No.	Parties	Attorney/S
16. 1023/18	Sabelo Khumalo VS Haja Investments (Pty) Ltd	Waring

DEFAULT JUDGMENTS BEFORE THE HON. JUSTICE D. TSHABALALA 1ST MARCH 2019 COURT 'H'

Case No.	Parties	Attorney/S
1. 52/19	Mbongeni Dlamini VS Mzimele Simelane	L.R. Mamba
2. 11/19	Robinson Bertram Attorneys VS Timothy Myeni	Robinson Bertram
3. 88/19	Eswatini Development & Savings Bank VS Siphamandla P. Simelane	Mlangeni
4. 90/19	Eswatini Development & Savings Bank VS Malindane S. Thomo	Mlangeni
5. 139/19	Lowveld Meat Industries Ltd VS Hancy Investments	Robinson Bertram
6. 89/19	Eswatini Development & Savings Bank VS Bhekithemba Lucky Kunene	Mlangeni
7. 159/19	Farm Chemicals Ltd VS T & S Enterprises Ltd And Another	Waring
8. 76/19	Nedbank Eswatini Ltd VS Majaha German Mtshali	Mdladla
9. 78/19	Nedbank Eswatini Ltd VS Lokuhle Nelsy Mabuza	Mdladla
10. 1894/18	Tshala Seeds Enterprises (Pty) Ltd VS Smiling Through Investments Ltd	Simelane Mtshali
11. 1341/18	Esquire Technologies Ltd VS FII Investments Ltd And Another	Magagula Hlophe
12. 714/18	Baylor College Of Medicine Children's Foundation - Swaziland VS Busisiwe H. Bhembe And 2 Others	M.M. Sibandze
13.		

102/19	Swaziland Building Society VS Duma George Zwane	Robinson Bertram
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14. 74/19	Diamond Investments T/A Total T-Junction Filling Station Henwood VS Shiselweni Gum Contractors Ltd	
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15. 1731/18	Limkokwing University Of Creative Technology VS Anped Security Services	M.M. Sibandze
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16. 81/19	Nkonyeni Homeowners Association VS William Mohale N.O. And Another	S.V. Mdladla
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UNCONTESTED BAILS BEFORE THE HON. JUSTICE D. TSHABALALA 1ST MARCH 2019 COURT 'H'

Manzini Remand

1. 78/19	Mmeli Sicelo Sibandze
2. 77/19	Mndeni Shongwe
3. 74/19	Celusa Mangaliso Dlamini
4. 75/19	Sibuso Maziya
5. 67/19	Thabiso S. Motsa
6. 76/19	Colani Nxumalo
7. 59/19	Zama Dlamini

Mawelawela Correctional

1. 65/19	Caroline Lydia Kyara
2. 79/19	Ntentwane Nomvula Khumalo
3. 66/19	Vumile Malaza

Nhlangu Correctional

1. 279/18	Sanele Motsa
2. 28/19	Sandile Gamedze

CONTESTED CIVIL ROLL BEFORE THE HON. JUSTICE M. LANGWENYA 1ST MARCH 2019 COURT 'I'

Case No.	Parties	Attorney/S
1. 1896/18	Fletcher Electrical Ltd VS Elias Mabuza And 2 Others	M.H. Mdluli
2. 1520/18	Faith Ntshintshali VS Jd Group Swaziland Ltd And Another	Waring
3. 262/15	G.S. Chiyanda Property Consultants Ltd VS Mrs Samkelisiwe Peterson N.O. And 2 Others	Nzima Associates
4. 749/18	Globeflight Swaziland (Pty) Ltd VS Evolution Media Ltd T/A Branding Design	Simelane Mtshali
5. 775/16	Zwelli Fana Dlamini VS The Swaziland Government	S.V. Ngwenya
6. 2011/16	Stealth Security (Pty) Ltd VS Cargo Carriers Swaziland (Pty) Ltd	Simelane Mtshali
7. 661/16	Ezulwini Municipality And 3 Others VS Presiding Judge Of The Industrial Court Of Appeal And 3 Others	S.V. Mdladla
8. 31/17	Abigail Sibongile Dlamini (Nee Bhembe) VS Victor Henry Dlamini And 2 Others	N.E. Ginindza
9. 1109/18	Luzaluzile Farmers Association LTD VS The Registra of companies	Dlamini Kunene

Business Eswatini welcomes formation of income tax tribunal

BY SIFISO NHLABATSI
Manzini

MINISTER of Finance Neal Rijkenberg has been hailed for introducing an income tax tribunal.

Business Eswatini Chief Executive Officer Nathi Dlamini said the minister in his budget speech ditched the tried and tested norms of political correctness by calling a spade a spade, and not a garden implement.

"To this end, I think the minister was brutally honest and transparent, but at the same time very sincere. As business owners and taxpayers, we want to hear the truth, and the truth of the matter, according to the minister, is that we are in trouble. Indeed we are in trouble," Dlamini said.

He said what is encouraging though is that throughout his speech, the level of hope for the future which the minister exuded was unmistakable.

Vision

He congratulated the minister and further pledged their support so as to ensure that the new vision was realised.

Dlamini also appreciated the fact that the minister placed the private sector in the front, centre and foremost in his economic turnaround strategy. He concurred with the minister that the private sector, big and small business, is the nation's meal ticket out of the predicament it is in.

He said the private sector must punch above its weight, however, to do so, government must make sure the environment is hassle-free and without artificial impediments. "We welcome the formation of an income tax tribunal. It is long overdue," he said.



APPRECIATES: Business Eswatini Chief Executive Officer Nathi Dlamini.

Dlamini said the budget was pro-poor and seeks to improve the social security offering, especially when it comes to the elderly which is a good thing. He said as Business Eswatini, they were encouraged by the intentionality of the minister regarding his approach to fiscal consolidation and public finance management.

Support

He said this is an important exercise, especially if government does not want to create another serious fiscal cliff, the likes of which the nation is sadly seeing today. He said in pursuing this strategy, which they strongly support, vanity projects should be a thing of the past.

The CEO said the country was in the financial mess it is in this because it spent too much on projects whose return is questionable, if not totally absent.

"We created many problems for ourselves and instead of resolving them as

we should, we threw money at them and they disappeared; now the money is all gone and the problems are rearing their ugly heads once more," he said.

Adding, Dlamini said while it is a global norm for sin products like alcoholic beverages and tobacco products to be slapped with punitive taxes, they hoped the minister was alive to the fact that such companies in the country create a lot of quality job opportunities for Emaswati and tend to contribute disproportionately higher tax revenues to government.

He said in this regard, therefore, they hope the minister will not be heavy-handed in his proposed new Alcohol and Tabaco Levies Bill. Dlamini also pointed out that Eswatini has not received FDI projects for a while, and this was not a good sign.

He further called for EIPA to be strengthened and refocused as a matter of priority. Another thing that Dlamini picked out on the speech was that 24-hour border gate hours will be reviewed shortly, which according to him is long overdue. He said it would go a long way towards the ease of doing business here in Eswatini and in more ways than one, assist the private sector in trading with foreign counterparts. Dlamini said as Business Eswatini, they have been advocating for this for a long time now. "We are looking forward with keen anticipation to the revised corporate tax regime and we think it will spawn new investment projects. I am happy that state-owned enterprises who underperform will henceforth come under the spotlight. Corruption is a cancer in our society and it needs to be rooted without mercy. The minister has stated just as much. As a private sector, we will support him until the mission is fully accomplished," the CEO said.

Pakistani supermarket operator won't go back home

BY SANDILE NKAMBULE
High Court

THE saying that there is no place better than home seems not to apply to some as a Pakistani supermarket operator does not want to go back home.

Amanat Ali Minhas, who runs a supermarket business at Mankayane, has filed an urgent application at the High Court where he is seeking an order reviewing and setting aside an order issued by the Manzini Magistrate's Court to the effect that he be deported to his country of origin.

He is also seeking an order that he be released from custody upon payment of E1 000 fine for being in the country illegally, which the Magistrate's Court had ordered him to pay before being deported to his country of origin.

Argued

However, the crown is vigorously opposing his application as it filed a notice of intention to oppose over the bar yesterday.

He was sent back to jail where he is serving a 10 months sentence pending his deportation and the application is yet to be argued in court. It was postponed to next Thursday for the applicant's (Amanat's) lawyer to file his answering papers.

According to the Magistrate's Court record of proceedings annexed to the application, the court found him guilty on two counts and sentenced him to E500 fine or five months imprisonment on each count and ordered that he be sent back home after serving the sentence or paying the E1 000 fine.

On the first count, he was convicted for contravening the Immigration Act No.17 of 1982 in that on February 21 at or near Matsapha industrial site at SHAMAS Engineering he, not being a citizen of the Kingdom of Eswatini, unlawfully and wrongfully failed to comply with any term or condition imposed by an entry permit or pass, to work as a director for Nesser Brothers, thus contravened the Act. On the second count, he was convicted for contravening Section 5 (1) of the Trading Licenses Act of 1975 in that at the same place in Matsapha, not being a holder of a valid permit or license

did wrongfully and unlawfully operate SHAMAS Engineering, thus contravening the act.

The Magistrate's Court had further ordered during sentencing that after paying the fine or serving his sentence, the Royal Eswatini Police Service (REPS) should escort him to the King Mswati III International Airport after obtaining an air ticket.

However in his founding affidavit, Amanat submitted that he is legitimately in the kingdom, arguing that he entered and remained in the country pursuant to being granted a residence permit.

He submitted that as part of his duties as director of the company, he is tasked with not only the present operations but is also looking for other investments opportunities and that at one time he was approached by Muhamed Rafik who wanted him (applicant) to assist him (Rafik) financially in the operation of his business of an engineering shop.

He told the court that he then agreed with the said Rafik that they would own a 50/50 shareholding which was currently the situation at SHAMAS Engineering.

Permit

Represented by Manzini based lawyer Sipho Simelane, Amanat submitted that he was approached by the Matsapha police who found him at the workshop and was asked to produce a resident permit which he allegedly produced.

"Upon producing my resident permit, I was told that same would not allow me to work at Matsapha but at Nesser Brothers which is the company for which the permit was issued. I was then arrested and charged for contravening the Immigration Act," he submitted.

He further informed the court that he was arraigned before the Magistrate's Court where he was tried and sentenced to the five months or E500 fine on each count and a deportation order issued by the Magistrate's Court.

He argued that the application for detention pending deportation did not comply with the prerequisites of the rules of natural justice and the right to fair hearing entrenched in the constitution of the Kingdom of Eswatini as contained in the provisions of Section 8 (8) of the Immigration Act of 1982.

IN HIS OWN WORLD



ADDICTED: A cellphone addicted man could not even mind the traffic as he crosses the street in Manzini yesterday. (Pic: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)

Cutting of allowances must be brought to the table - NAPSAWU

BY SIFISO DLAMINI
Mbabane

GOVERNMENT must bring the issue of cutting commuting allowances to the table for debate, says President of National Public Services and Allied Workers Union (NAPSAWU)

Aubrey Sibiyi.

This follows a minute dated February 8, stating that all government staff members commuting between the Manzini-Mbabane corridor should register their names.

This is because government intends on cutting expenditure by providing transport for civil servants commut-

ing between the nation's two biggest cities; Manzini and Mbabane.

In turn, government intends on cutting the civil servants commuting allowances as it is too costly.

However, the ministry stated that the minute was not yet approved as it would be assessed for feasibility.

Contacted, Sibiyi said all they can

say as NAPSAWU, is that if government wants to implement this, it must be brought to a negotiation forum.

The negotiation forum will provide an option where the terms and conditions of civil servants can be dealt with accordingly. He also stated that the issue of commuting allowance forms part of the negotiated items.

Also, the consultant during the review of salaries touched on the issue allowances.

He further stated that there are so many questions that would need to be clarified before anything can be agreed upon. He concluded that this is why they say the issue must be brought to the table. Negotiable issues must be addressed at the Joint Negotiations Forum (JNF), he added.



Nqobile Magagula
Corporate Affairs Manager

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Email: nqobilem@sptc.co.sz

POSTAL & TELECOMS on Observer



LET'S TALK ABOUT SPEED

SPEED! Speed! Speed! This is the buzzword amongst internet consumers, more so customers of EswatiniTelecoms who are using our EswatiniTelecom WiFi Product.

Internet Speed has become the prerequisite in the WiFi world in order to ensure that customers get a good surfing experience when using the internet. We will take this opportunity to discuss about the issue of Internet Speed in order to assist our valuable existing and potential customers on what to expect when using WiFi, by answering a few questions that are frequently asked by our customers in relation to their EswatiniTelecom WiFi product.

What are good upload and download Internet speeds?

The uploading speed of an internet connection describes the rate at which data is transferred from in the opposite direction – from a user's computer to the internet. Upload speed is typically less of a priority than download speed to the average residential user, but a fast upload speed is useful for tasks such as making video calls and uploading photographs to online albums or social networking sites.

Upload and download speeds depend on your internet plan and needs. One should be generally seeking at least 25Mbps down and 2Mbps up from your internet plan. If the house has multiple people using the internet, especially from any streaming video needs, then 100Mbps down and 5Mbps or more up is a "good" standard. Good off course is always subjective per individual and is dependent on your needs/usage.

Why is my internet speed so slow?

Check whether you're streaming or downloading something that might be using bandwidth during a Speedtest and the try testing again. If your speed test result still seems slow, try rebooting your device or your router and ensure that your router does not have any Quality of Service (QoS) features turned on.

If that doesn't fix the problem, here are a few more steps you can try. If none of that works, contact your

EswatiniTelecom for help. Keep in mind that on higher bandwidth connections (150Mbps and above), you will need a higher quality router to keep up.

Why am I getting different speeds between my computer and my phone/tablet?

Speedtest is measuring your real-time network connection, so tests taken within a few minutes of each other might vary a little based on network congestion and available bandwidth.

If your Speedtest results are significantly different, make sure that you're:

- **Testing the same connection.** If one device is on Wi-Fi and the other is not, you're testing the speeds of different connections.

- **Testing to the same server.** Speedtest automatically selects a server to test to based on ping, but you can also select a server to test to.

Also, note that there are large variations in Wi-Fi and cellular radio quality and MIMO stream handling quality between devices.

These variations can cause a device to deliver slower test results than another device or computer.

What do these terms mean? (Glossary)

- **Download:** How quickly you can pull data from a server on the internet to your device. Most connections are designed to download much faster than they upload, like loading web pages or streaming videos, consists of downloads.

- **Upload:** How quickly you send data from your device to the internet. A fast upload speed is helpful when sending large files via email, or in using video-chat to talk to someone else online (since you have to send your video feed to them).

- **Ping:** Also called latency, ping is the reaction time of your connection – how quickly your device gets a response after you've sent out a request. A fast ping means a more responsive connection, especially in applications where timing is everything (like video games). Ping is measured in milliseconds (ms).

- **Packet loss:** Packet loss occurs

when a packet of data is being sent over the internet is not received or is incomplete. This is described in percentage of packets lost compared to packets sent. Packet loss in most cases is a result of poor signal/line quality.

- **Jitter:** Also called Packet Delay Variation (PDV), jitter frequency is a measure of the variability in ping over time. Jitter is not usually noticeable when reading text, but when streaming and gaming a high jitter can result in buffering and other interruptions. Technically, this is a measure of the average of the deviation from the mean.

- **Mbps:** Megabits per second. A megabit is one million bits of information. This is a standard unit of internet speed measurement.

- **MB/s:** Megabytes per second is an alternate unit of internet speed measurement. There are eight bits in a byte.

Keep your ADSL modem protected and secured

With the rainy season upon us, people should know how they can best keep their ADSL modems protected. Heavy rains and thunderstorms cause power surges, interrupting our power supply, instantly overloading and shorting out the circuitry of ADSL modems. Over time, surges can cause cumulative damage to your modem, incrementally decreasing the life span or directly destroying the modem.

To avoid this from happening, please follow these steps:

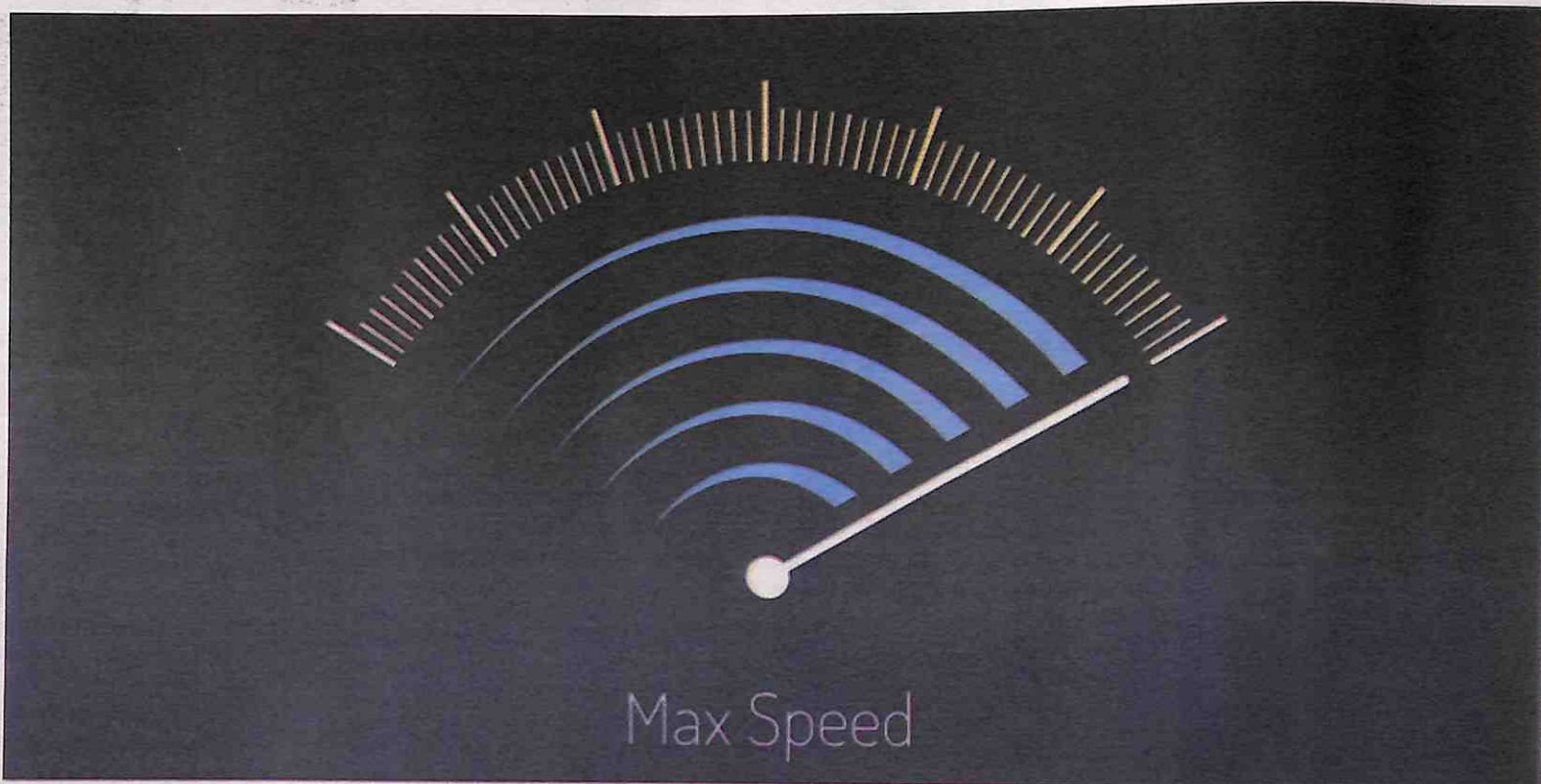
- Un-plug the modem during thunderstorms
- Un-plug the modem when you are not using the service
- Do not place the router under high humidity and high temperatures
- Do not use the same power source for the device with other equipment
- Do not open or repair the case yourself. If the device is too hot, turn off the power immediately and contact us through 971 for technical assistance

● Avoid using this product and all accessories outdoors

● Place the product on the stable surface

● Only use the power adapter that comes with the package

● Please remember to switch off the modem/router if you are a time-based or volume-based user.



Cuisine. Leisure.

Travel

YORUBA LOUNGE'S SAVOURY RECIPES

BY DELISA THWALA

YORUBA Lounge, which is located in the heart of The George Hotel, is the restaurant that is making waves and leaving a mark with customers all over Manzini.

It is a restaurant that welcomes all kinds of races and ages and it is a friendly environment to children.

They have different kinds of food on offer; from starters, main course to dessert with drinks in between and very drinkable cocktails.

Light salads are also on offer and they range from chicken to avocado salad. The main course offers a delicious pizza, while the most popular and most ordered is the meat deluxe, which goes for as little as E120.

They are also offering a mouth-watering double beef burger, which is accompanied by fresh French fries and a sauce which is usually required by the customer and a side on the salad, this meal is guaranteed to make you full.

The lounge also offers breakfast all day, which contains bacon, sunny side up eggs, pork sausages and a small bowl of cooked beans, this breakfast is guaranteed to give your day a good boost.

The

lounge, which is decorated by a very alluring mini bar, has all kinds of beverages on offer and also cocktails of all kinds.

The ones that are always a go for the customers are the Sex on the beach and Pina Colada, Strawberry Daquire and Long Island. The coffee is also their best seller, mostly their hot espresso.

The dessert department does not disappoint either with a very delicious chocolate cake and a carrot cake is offered too for as little as E35.

Ice cream and milkshakes are always made on request by customers and they leave a long lasting taste on the mouth.

In general, the restaurant offers healthy food, which is not too much on the body, they offer the healthiest salads and main courses.

Food is the fuel that drives the body so imagine if you are filling your body with the wrong fuel, this becomes a very dangerous health hazard therefore always make sure that you fuel your body with the right fuel, to avoid frequent visits to the hospital and one way to avoid such is to pay a visit to Yoruba Lounge, and indulge in their healthy menu and soft drinks, which will not do much damage to the system.

Also have desserts that are served with the right needed amount of sugar to the body.



BREAKFAST: This is the breakfast that is served all day at Yoruba Lounge, found at The George Hotel in Manzini. (Pics: Delisa Thwala)



SMALL HEAVEN: This is how the inside of the lounge looks like. It is an intimate small heaven.



WALL: The writing is on the wall.



BON APPETITE: The deluxe pizza is also served with this cocktail.



MEATY: The restaurant also offers a delicious double beef burger with fresh French fries on the side, accompanied by a delicate salad.

ON THIS DAY

...March 1

1498 - Vasco de Gama landed at what is now Mozambique on his way to India.

1562 - In Vassy, France, Catholics massacred over 1 000 Huguenots. The event started the First War of Religion.

1692 - In Salem Village, in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, the Salem witch trials began. Four women were the first to be charged.

1781 - In America, the Continental Congress adopted the Articles of Confederation.

1784 - In Great Britain, E. Kidner opened the first cooking school.

1790 - The US Congress authorized the first US census.

1803 - Ohio became the 17th US state.

1810 - Sweden became the first country to appoint an Ombudsman, Lars August Mannerheim.

1811 - Egyptian ruler Mohammed Ali massacred the leaders of the Mameluke dynasty.

1815 - Napoleon returned to France from the island of Elba. He had been forced to abdicate in April of 1814.

1845 - US President Tyler signed the congressional resolution to annex the Republic of Texas.

1862 - Prussia formally recognised the Kingdom of Italy.

1864 - Louis Ducos de Hauron patented a machine for taking and projecting motion pictures. The machine was never built.

1867 - Nebraska became the 37th US state.

1869 - Postage stamps with scenes were issued for the first time.

1872 - The US Congress authorised the creation of Yellowstone National Park. It was the world's first national park.

1873 - E. Remington and Sons of Ilion, NY, began the manufacturing of the first practical typewriter.

1879 - The library of Hawaii was established.

1890 - 'Literary Digest' was available for the first time.

1896 - The Battle of Adowa began in Ethiopia between the forces of Emperor Menelik II and Italian troops. The Italians were defeated.

1900 - In South Africa, Ladysmith was relieved by British troops after being under siege by the Boers for more than four months.

1907 - In Odessa, Russia, there were only about 15,000 Jews left due to evacuations.

1907 - In Spain, a royal decree abolished civil marriages.

1907 - In New York, the Salvation Army opened an anti-suicide bureau.

1911 - Industrialist Henry Frick acquired Velasquez's 'Portrait of King Philip IV.'

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Lupita Nyong'o
(Movie Actress) March
1, 1983 (36 years old)



Justin Bieber (Pop
Singer) March 1, 1994
(25 years old)

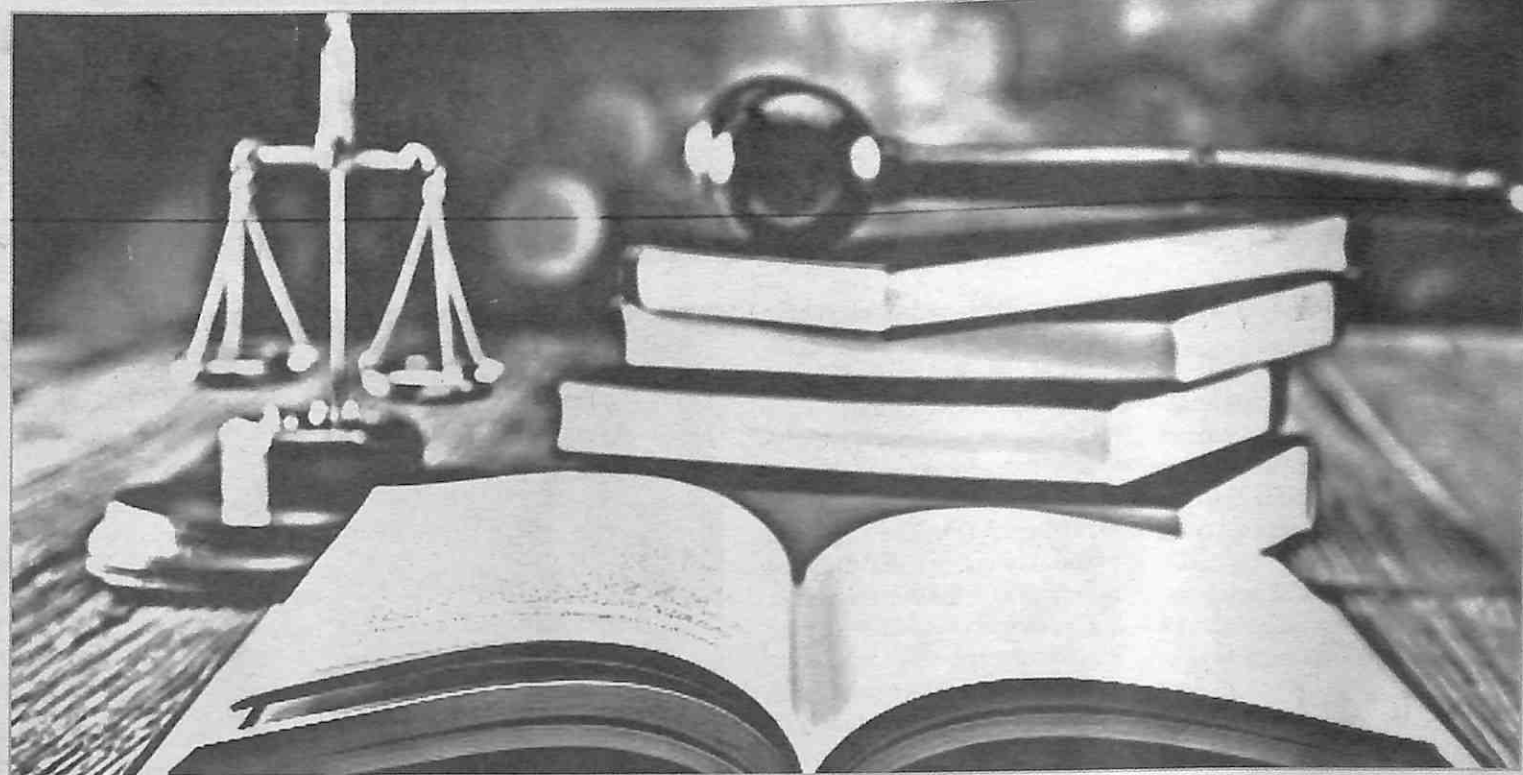


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What's in Your Mind

Features & Opinions

Refresh What You Think



The long periods spent by accused persons in detention, awaiting trial

SERIES – PART 5

THERE has been a concern over perpetrators of violence spending long periods in pre-trial detentions, leading to the non-finalisation of some cases and a denial of justice.

The adage of 'justice delayed is justice denied' becomes a reality in this instance.

There are several reasons why some perpetrators spend a long time without being brought for trial, particularly where they have not applied for bail, or the court has refused to grant them bail:

1. The prosecution lacking the necessary evidence to try a case – at times, the police do not give a prosecutor evidence that would result in a conviction, therefore, the prosecutor then requests for more time to allow the police to give him/her that evidence. This is seen mainly in cases where forensic evidence has been gathered and the results have not yet been received.

2. Cases for committal to the High Court – There are some cases, such as those of murder, that require that an accused person is tried at the High Court. The accused first appears for remand before a magistrate's court and will continue being remanded there until his/her case has undergone the normally lengthy procedures of being transferred to the High court for trial.

3. A backlog of cases in the court – The number of cases that are brought before a presiding officer also determines the speed at which a case

is heard. Presiding officers at times handle a large number of cases and do not have the required time and resources to hear cases, resulting in a delay of some cases.

4. Lack of resources – The number of courts, presiding officers and prosecutors available for trials is small, compared to the urgency required in prosecuting cases speedily.

5. Defence attorneys – Other lawyers unnecessarily delay cases by seeking postponements for various reasons. At times, in the hope that the case will be overtaken by events, resulting in a withdrawal of charges.

6. Accused persons – Some accused persons delay the court process for similar reasons as lawyers. Others, on the other hand, delay such cases just for the sake of socio-economic reasons, such as having a roof over their heads or

receiving three meals a day.

For whatever reasons that a case is delayed, it results in the lengthy detention of accused persons, who then take advantage of loopholes in the legislation to gain their freedom.

The consequences of this long detention is that it adversely affects victims of sexual and gender-based violence:

1. Victims spend many years carrying the burden of having to testify in court, and continuing to suffer trauma due to the lengthy wait.

2. Some victims, due to trauma or as a coping mechanism, lose some memory or recollection of the offence over the years, resulting in a loss of some evidence, which would be crucial for a conviction.

3. Other victims die before the case is heard, resulting in the perpetrator getting away scot-free.

4. At times, the perpetrator dies while in custody or awaiting-trial, resulting in the victim being robbed of justice.

The government, therefore, needs to engage in infrastructure development to construct more courts, particularly special courts to deal with sexual and gender-based violence as provided for by the SODV Act.

Once that is done, there is need for the recruitment of more presiding officers and prosecutors to try the cases; the redeployment of the existing presiding officers and prosecutors to the special courts will not be sufficient as there is a deficit already.

“Presiding officers at times handle a large number of cases and do not have the required time and resources to hear cases, resulting in a delay of some cases”



Women and Law

in Southern Africa Research and Educational Trust - Swaziland

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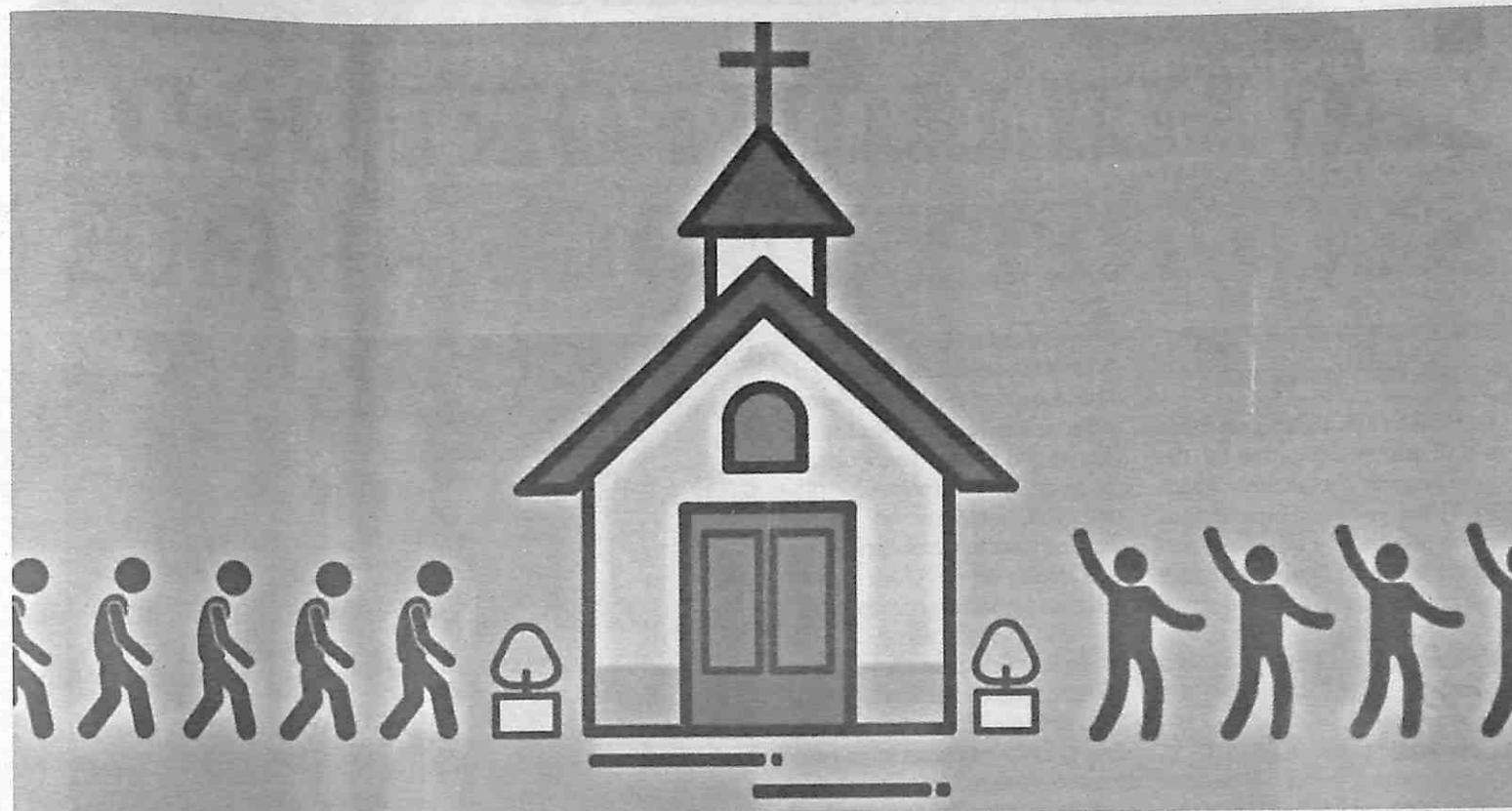
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Katimalito Road, Olympia
Extension, Lusaka, Zambia

Your Religious Corner

Unpacking the diverse religious beliefs in the country

with Futhie Dlamini



WHY GOING TO CHURCH IS SO IMPORTANT

THE Bible tells us we need to attend church so we can worship God with other believers and be taught His Word for our spiritual growth.

The early church 'devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer' (Acts 2:42). We should follow that example of devotion and to the same things. Back then, they had no designated church building, but every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts.

"They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts." (Acts 2:46). Wherever the meeting takes place, believers thrive on fellowship with other believers and the teaching of God's Word.

Church attendance is God's will for believers. Hebrews 10:25 says we should 'not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another - and all the more as you see the Day approaching.'

Bad habit

Even in the early church, some were falling into the bad habit of not meeting with other believers. The author of Hebrews says that's not the way to go. We need the encouragement that church attendance affords. The fact that we live in the last of the last days should prompt us to be even more devoted to going to church.

Church is the place where believers can love, encourage, spur one another to love and good works, serve, instruct, honour and be kind and compassionate to one another as the Bible states.

When a person trusts Jesus Christ for salvation, he or she is made a member of the body of Christ. For a church body to function properly, all of its body parts need to be present and working.

It's not enough to just attend a church; we should be involved in some type of ministry to others, using the spiritual gifts God has given us (Ephesians 4:11-13).

A believer will never reach full spiritual maturity

without having that outlet for his gifts, and we all need the assistance and encouragement of other believers.

For these reasons and more, church attendance, participation, and fellowship should be regular aspects of a believer's life. Weekly church attendance is in no sense required for believers, but someone who belongs to Christ should have a desire to worship God, receive His Word, and fellowship with other believers.

Jesus is the cornerstone of the church and we are like living stones being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 2:5).

As the building materials of God's 'spiritual house,' we naturally have a connection with one another, and that connection is evident every time the church goes to church.

Salvation is found in Christ. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).

God gave His son so that we may have eternal

life, thus destroying our need to perform good works, including going to church, to go to heaven. Eternal life is attained by faith alone in Christ alone.

'He who has the son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life,' (1 John 5:12). Those who believe in Christ, who have accepted His sacrifice in payment of their sins, will spend eternity in heaven. Those who reject Him will not.

No amount of church attendance will earn eternity in heaven. No lack of church attendance will result in the loss of salvation.

Attendance

However, church attendance is important. The church, made up of all who believe in Christ to the glory of God the Father, is Christ's body as well as His Bride.

A church is a place of Christian fellowship. In addition, as members of the body of Christ, we possess certain gifts of the spirit, and we are to exercise those gifts for the glory of God and the edification of the rest of the body. For a church body to function properly, all of its "body parts" need to be present.

Christians have been made new creations in Christ and have a desire to attend church because they recognise that doing so is crucial to their spiritual development and maturity. Reluctance toward church attendance may indicate a lack of spiritual growth or a disillusionment with organised religion.

There are indeed false churches today, and there's no perfect church, but there are local bodies of believers in most communities.

The true, universal church is modelled in congregations whose doctrines are scripture-based, who honour Christ in all things, who worship God together, and who minister to each other. Although church attendance will not guarantee eternal life, finding a good local church is crucial for Christians.

“Church is the place where believers can love, encourage, spur one another to love and good works, serve, instruct, honour and be kind and compassionate to one another as the Bible states”

TODAY'S WORD

You can defeat your Goliath

Scripture reading: 1 Samuel 17
GOLIATH is from the word Gol-of-Gath, which means Golgotha, a place where David buried Goliath's skull.

All the time in Israel, when people were crucified, they were positioned upside down as a way of embarrassing them even in death.

It is only during the time of Jesus' crucifixion that He was crucified the right way up, with His feet stamping on the head of the Goliath that was buried there.

Goliath mocked the children of Israel without any of them challenging him back until David comes along, asking one important question: what shall happen to the man who kills this Goliath? to which he was told he would be very rich.

Skilled

The Bible records that Goliath was a very protected and skilled warrior, who knew everything and what to do to intimidate the Israelites.

Before David fought, he already had victory in his mind, hence the reason why he went into the battlefield to question those who were around what would be done for the man who killed the Philistine and remove the disgrace from Israel (1 Samuel 17:26).

He knew that he was the ambassador of Christ.

David understood one thing, that when he fought Goliath, he would lose physically for Goliath was a giant and bigger than he was.

Thus David looked for a weakness in Goliath, to which he found one! The Philistine was not under the covering of God.

Victory was already guaranteed because he (David) had the backing of heaven. David had 5 stones; apostle, prophet, evangelism, pastor and teacher and chose one that he knew had direction; the prophetic rock, that forced Goliath to bow down before the God of David, fulfilling the prophecy that every knee shall bow at the mentioning of the Name of the Lord.

Victory

The same applies to us, we are ambassadors of Jesus Christ. We don't walk alone for the parliament of heaven is watching over us, making sure that we move through this life in victory.

Know who you are! Be like David and use your stones.

Stand up against the Goliath in your life; it may be financial woes, unemployment, marriage problems, sickness or life challenges.

We all know that every gadget comes with a manual which speaks of the mind of the creator.

God created us and gave us the Bible as our manual to make it through life. The Bible carries the light of God which speaks of revelations. Remember, Jesus wants us completely free!

BUSINESS UPDATE

YOUR DAILY SOURCE OF FINANCIAL/BUSINESS NEWS

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VITALS

Prime Rate	10.50%
First National Bank	
Inflation Rate	5.2%
Central Statistical Office	
Mortgage Rate	10.25%
Swaziland Building Society	
Bank Rate	7.0%
Central Bank	
Petrol (u)	E12.80 per litre
Replacement	E12.85 per litre
Diesel	E12.80 per litre
Paraffin	E 9.15 per litre
Engen Garage	

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

Correct as at 28 FEB 2019

CURRENCY	BUY	SELL
US Dollar / SZL	13.9277	13.9777
British Pound/SZL	18.5273	18.5938
Japanese Yen/SZL	7.9283	7.9547
Swiss France/SZL	13.9514	13.9959
Botswana Pula/SZL	1.3162	1.3321
Australian Dollar/SZL	9.9402	9.9787
Canadian Dollar/SZL	10.5858	10.6222
Mozambique Meticals/SZL	5.5211	5.5942
Euro/SZL	15.8421	15.8989
Gold	1,319.0000	
Oil	65.49	

For more information contact:
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Standard Bank

E30 MILLION FOR FOOD SECURITY PROGRAMME

STORIES BY QONDILE NTIWANE

GOVERNMENT has set aside a E30 million allocation for the food security programme which provides subsidised farm inputs.

The programme also pays particular attention to soil conditioning and mechanisation. This was revealed minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg in his budget speech presented in Parliament on Wednesday.

The minister said in the 2017/18 planting season, the country received good rains, which had a positive impact on crop production especially in the Highveld and Middleveld.

He said this resulted in a good harvest for maize at national level where total production stood at 114 000 MT when compared to the previous season's total production of 84 000 MT, an increase of 36 percent.

"This increase in production is also attributed to the food security program and government has set aside E30million for this programme. "It goes without saying that the livelihood of our people remains a priority to government. And agriculture plays a large role in stimulating the economy and

driving transformation in the country's rural communities," he said.

He also noted that, in an effort to mitigate the severity of climate change and improve agricultural productivity, government has prioritised the implementation of projects relating to water harvesting and irrigation development to increase agricultural production.

Accelerating

"Government is accelerating the construction of dams and irrigation schemes in various areas. Budgetary allocations have been made to finalise feasibility studies for large dams in the south of Eswatini, to increase Eswatini's irrigation potential by another 25 000 hectares.

"Additionally, the second phase of LUSIP seeks to develop approximately 5 200 hectares, which will be used for agricultural production under irrigation is now reaching completion. The achievement of increased crop and livestock production addresses the challenge of food insecurity and poverty.

"High production levels are expected to ensure food self-sufficiency, while at the same time facilitating import substitution and export promotion.

Through the High Value Crops



MINISTER FOR FINANCE

BUDGET: Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg.

and Horticulture Project, cold storage facilities and pack-houses have been established in strategic loca-

tions to facilitate the storage, handling and marketing of high-quality farm produce," he said.



FOLLOWING: Senior government officials and captains of industry from different sectors also attended.



PARTNERS: International guests and cooperation partners also witnessed the budget presentation.

E-VISA FOR ESWATINI TOURISTS

ESWATINI will launch an e-visa and visa on arrival for tourists.

The move is aimed at improving the country's tourism, which has been identified as a priority sector that has the potential to catalyse economic growth across

the economy. Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg said on Wednesday that government would be reviewing the country's visa regime by launching these products.

Proven

He said the sector had proven to be resilient and a fundamental contributor to economic activity in the

country, by generating foreign currency and creating jobs. He, however, noted that in 2018, the country experienced a 5.1 per cent decline in tourist arrivals, an issue which needed to be addressed urgently. "Government continued to create awareness of the country and to promote it in various international and

regional platforms. "Government would like to thank our cooperating partners, the SADC Trade Related Facility, for funding the formulation of the National Tourism Bill.

The proposed legislation seeks to effectively regulate the tourism sector through active participation of all stakeholders," the minister said.



TOGETHER: Eswatini Mobile CEO's representative Wandile Mtshali posing with technical teams from both the communications company and FNB. This was during the launch of a partnership between the companies at House on Fire in Malkerns yesterday. (Pics: Qondile Ntiwane)

FNB PARTNERS WITH ESWATINI MOBILE



INNOVATIVE: FNB Head of Corporate and Investment Banking Ncamiso Dlamini making his remarks.

...Customers now able to buy Swazi Mobile airtime free of charge

BY QONDILE NTIWANE

FNB clients will now be able to access the bank's various products using Eswatini Mobile network.

This follows a partnership between the two companies launched at House on Fire in Malkerns yesterday.

Some of the products available include buying airtime with cellphone banking and e-Wallet, sending money to an Eswatini Mobile number as well as registering your Eswatini Mobile number as a primary contact number at FNB

Worth noting is that the customers will access all these products free of charge.

Making his remarks during the launch, FNB Head of Corporate and Investment Banking Ncamiso Dlamini said as the leading innovator in the banking sector, FNB saw the need for mobile integration with Eswatini Mobile to allow for a new client base have easier access to FNB products. "When Eswatini Mobile was born in 2017, FNB started consultations with the team around the integration project and today marks its conclusion. We see a need for our customers to interface with FNB through

mobile devices and where the bank is concerned, the cellphone is taking over from branch as the primary interface.

This is supported by internal data, and is true for retail customers," he said

He added that cellphone banking and the FNB App provided 24-hour real time banking convenience. He added that pricing was a sensitive factor for many of their customers and they were cognisant of this.

"The media reports that FNB In-contact services were charged at E1.60 per notification were misleading. InContact service is free of

charge across all mobile networks.

We have also taken great efforts to keep our withdrawal fees unchanged for the past two financial years and also cut electricity units charges by 62 per cent.

"Convenience is what we aim to bring to our customers and this integration with Eswatini Mobile is a testament to that," he said.

Meanwhile, Eswatini Mobile Chief Technical Officer Wandile Mtshali, who represented the CEO during the event, said they were happy to see the partnership being launched.

"I would like to express sincere thanks to FNB for partnering with us.

As a company, we are all about digitalisation and a first world mobile company. Our customers will now be able to get various services through this partnership.

"Finally I would like to thank the technical and marketing teams from both Eswatini Mobile and FNB Eswatini for collaborating tirelessly to deliver the services we are launching today," he said.

Legumes can boost country's economy - NMC CEO

STORIES BY BAHLE GAMA

NATIONAL Maize Corporation (NMC) CEO Sabelo Msibi has disclosed that legumes can boost the economy as farmers are likely to generate a lot of income if production is high.

This was revealed during the legumes farmers meeting hosted by NMC and Eswatini Water Agricultural

NMC & SWADE content with agriculture budget

BOTH NMC and ESWADE have expressed contentment with the increase in the agriculture budget allocation.

The budget of E1.7 billion shows an increment of 20 per cent as the ministry received E1.4 billion in the previous financial year.

"We are thankful that a certain amount of money has been budgeted towards our projects. However, we would appreciate it if we could get the money in time so that we can implement all programmes in time," said NMC CEO Sabelo Mnisi yesterday.

He said in previous years, the transaction would only end on paper and the money did not reach them on time but was quick to state that they were

Development Enterprise (ESWADE) at Bethel Court yesterday. He said they had a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ESWADE in the production of legumes, which is why they had invited all those involved in the chain of producing legumes.

Msibi further disclosed that NMC was not doing well as they have imported more than 600 tonnes of maize with E12 500 cashflow per ton, some-

thing he said was a disadvantage to the country.

"We are hoping that with time the imports will decrease to a point where there will be zero imports by 2022 and we will be having our own circulation in production in the kingdom," he continued.

He also stated that it is expected that there would be an increase in the legumes production in due time in the kingdom as well.

NMC, ESWADE/SLP MOU MAIN OBLIGATIONS

NMC	ESWADE
Sourcing of legumes produced from the project area	Development and strengthening of the legumes value chain.
Enter into agreements with smallholder producers in the project areas. (Contract of Sale to 100 farmers)	Support establishment and functionality of innovation platform for the legumes value chain in the Project area.
Provide market-oriented extension support to targeted farmers in the project areas.	Support establishment or operations of Collection and Information Centers (CICs) within the Project Area

hopeful that things would be different this time around.

ESWADE's National Project Director Lynn Kota said they were also pleased with the increment in the budget but added that they were disappointed that it did not meet the 10 per cent allocation of the national budget as per the Maputo Declaration.

"Having 30 per cent of the entire budget for agriculture would boost the country's economy and Eswatini would be able to feed themselves.

Also, increasing the budget in this sector would enable us to reduce imports in the country but we are grateful to the ministry as it provides subsidies," she said.

Eswatini secures E30 million for national adaptation planning

BY BAHLE GAMA

ESWATINI has secured \$3 million to build the country's capacity to advance the National Adaptation Planning Process (NAP).

This was confirmed by United Nations Task Manager in the African office Koudio N'Goran.

N'Goran was speaking during the GCF readiness seminar held at the Royal Villas this past week.

"The National Adaptation Plan readiness is the foundation to build long-term climate change resilience and as such needs a high-level mandate and commitment by creating an enabling political and leadership environment," he said.

He said the NAP readiness project took almost two years to prepare by a committed national climate change team.

He also mentioned that the climate variability would impact future development and pose a serious challenge to poverty reduction efforts and sustainable development in developing countries, particularly in the African region. "Climate change is unfortunately exacerbating these problems

by increasing the frequency and intensity of such extreme weather events," he added. "Furthermore, Eswatini is vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and variability. In particular, extreme weather events such as droughts, floods and cyclones are becoming increasingly severe and frequent.

These events are threatening inter alia water resources, food security and health therefore impending kingdom's progress towards sustainable development," he said.

He also stated that in response to these challenges, the NAP process established under the CAF as part of the climate change negotiations is one of several processes that created both the political and financial space for countries to make systematic efforts to mainstream climate change into national development planning processes.

"The NAP process has to be country-driven, continuous, participatory, progressive and iterative, multi-stakeholder oriented and based on and guided by the best available science, analysis of appropriate data and consideration of experiences and good practices within and outside countries," he said.

Watch:

How Africa's booming E-commerce sector supports business growth

AFRICA has one of the most digitally connected populations on the planet, with 400 million internet users.

Sacha Poignon, co-founder and co-CEO of Jumia, Africa's largest internet group, discusses why the e-commerce opportunity in Africa is so great for companies large and small in this interview with McKinsey's Georges Desvaux. An edited transcript of his remarks follows.

From the outside, you look at Africa, you read the news, and you think it's going to be very difficult—everything is going to be very difficult. We started the business in Lagos, and on the first day we had consumers buying mobile phones. I was so surprised. On the very first day we opened the website, nobody knew us, and yet 10 consumers bought mobile phones.

We were very surprised by the appetite of consumers for products that are sometimes expensive. We were very surprised that we could find a way to make the deliveries happen. A lot more positive than negative things were happening. I'm very bullish about e-commerce in Africa because what is unique in this continent is you have this very big population—over one billion people—and they are very connected.

There are more than 400 million internet users in Africa, which is the second-largest internet-user population on the planet, just after China.



And yet distribution for goods and services is challenging. And it's notorious that in Africa, for consumers, it's more difficult to find goods and it's more difficult to shop. Because of mobile and because of the internet, consumers now have a way to access goods and services in a more efficient way.

Understanding Africa's consumers

Consumers in Africa want the same thing as consumers everywhere else: they want good products at a good price, good quality. It's the same thing. I speak to a lot of business partners who are thinking about Africa and

how different it is. There are some things which are the same everywhere. And for us, consumers want to save time and save money.

In terms of consumer segments, what is surprising is we have a lot of consumers who are not necessarily in the big urban areas. From an outsider, one could think, "OK, e-commerce is for the inhabitants of Lagos and Cairo and Nairobi." We have a lot of consumers who live in the small villages and in the small cities. Why? Because they see a lot of choice on Jumia, and they don't really have that choice in the areas where they live. For them, it's very difficult to have access to the goods.

Overcoming barriers to business

ONE of the barriers, obviously, of e-commerce is the logistics because we have to move the products from the merchants who are selling the products to the consumer who is ordering the product.

And logistics is obviously a big challenge for whoever knows Africa.

In Africa, there's no address system in most of the cities. For someone to find a consumer, you need to have a local partner who knows where the consumer is, based on very subjective information. And, for example, if you say in a city in Africa, "I live in the third street by the church with the blue door," that's the address.

You and I, we would not find this consumer. But if you partner with the right local player, who has the

right local knowledge, then they can find those consumers because they understand that. Now the challenge, of course, is that to have a lot of fragmented logistics players is a risk, unless you have what we created, which is a very good set of standard technology tools and processes that we give to the local players so that they can operate their last-mile, cash-on-delivery, door-to-door-delivery businesses according to international standards.

Building Africa's business eco-system

I very much believe e-commerce provides a much safer and cheaper way for small businesses to grow, because the investment required is smaller, and yet you are able to reach so many consumers. For example,

one of our largest sellers in Tunisia is a person who started from scratch, and he was designing T-shirts. Then he started to sell them online. And then he was selling more T-shirts, and he hired one person to help him with the production of the T-shirts, and now he has 20 employees. And he is selling maybe 80 per cent of his merchandise online, and now he opened a store.

This is one of the many examples that we see where someone can start from zero and grow. Start small, invest, and from there you grow, and then you go from online to offline instead of doing the same thing as in Europe or the US, where the merchants go offline to online.

Georges Desvaux is a senior partner in McKinsey's Hong Kong office. Sacha Poignon is co-founder and co-CEO of Jumia.

Africa.Com

Bank of England prepares cash access boost

LONDON - The Bank of England on Tuesday said it was preparing to give lenders greater access to cash borrowing in its latest move to help bring financial stability ahead of Brexit.

"The bank will increase the frequency of existing market-wide sterling (cash loans)... from monthly to weekly over the weeks surrounding the planned EU withdrawal date," the BoE said in a statement.

"This change will apply from March and will run until the end of April."

The BoE added: "This is a prudent and precautionary step, consistent with the bank's financial stability objective, to provide additional flexibility in the bank's provision of liquidity insurance in the coming months."

Updating a panel of cross-party British MPs Tuesday on Bank of England forecasts and policy, Bank of England governor Mark Carney insisted that the liquidity announcement was 'part of normal contingency planning' and that commercial banks were functioning well.

"We are not seeing any liquidity stresses in the market," Carney said.

The central bank carried out the same measure ahead of and following Britain's referendum on leaving the EU in June 2016.

Britain is on course to leave the European Union on March 29, although there has been increasing talk of a possible delay.

"The Bank of England is today announcing a temporary amendment to its liquidity insurance facilities," the BoE said Tuesday.

"The Bank will increase the frequency of existing market-wide sterling operations, Indexed Long-Term Repos (ILTRs)."

In ILTR operations, financial institutions can offer assets to the Bank of England in return for six-month cash loans.

Ticking

This helps banks and the wider financial industry keep ticking over during periods of market turbulence. Similar lending was also carried out in 2008 during the global financial crisis.

Tuesday's announcement comes a day after the Bank of England said that authorities in Britain and the United States had agreed to maintain how multi-trillion-dollar financial transactions are carried out between the two countries after Brexit.

The agreement concerns trades of derivatives - securities whose value is based on an asset such as currencies, stocks and commodities.

Fin24

Rolls-Royce swings to £2.9bn loss

LONDON - Engineering giant Rolls-Royce swung into loss last year, as it increased the charge for fixing problems with its Trent 1000 engines.

The company also took a charge of £186m after Airbus said it was stopping production of its A380 superjumbo aircraft.

Rolls-Royce reported a pre-tax loss of £2.9bn for 2018, down from a profit of £3.89bn the previous year.

The company's shares were the biggest fallers on the FTSE 100 - down four per cent.

Underlying operating profit, which strips out the exceptional items, jumped 71 per cent to £633m, up from £317m in 2017.

"Underlying financial results are ahead of expectations, with good growth in profit and cash flow. Following the restructuring we announced in June last year we are starting to see the crucial behavioural changes needed to sustain our momentum," Chief Executive Warren East said.

The company announced last summer that it was cutting 4 600 jobs over two years as part of a major reorganisation.

Last year, a fault with Rolls-Royce's Trent 1 000 engines grounded planes at British Airways and other airlines. The engine powers Boeing's 787 Dreamliner.

At the time, the company said the issues would take 'some years' to fix. It said parts in its Trent 1000 engines were wearing out faster than expected but that it "had a solution" to the problem.

BBC

"Underlying financial results are ahead of expectations, with good growth in profit and cash flow. Following the restructuring we announced in June last year, we are starting to see the crucial behavioural changes needed to sustain our momentum," Chief Executive Warren East said

5G PRESENTS SECURITY CHALLENGE FOR TELECOM OPERATORS

BARCELONA - While Washington's concerns that future 5G wireless networks could be vulnerable to spying by China have dominated headlines, businesses have long been pushing to make sure the technology is as secure as possible.

With fifth-generation wireless networks, or 5G, starting to be rolled out this year, the issue of 5G security was in focus at the Mobile World Congress trade fair which got under way Monday in Barcelona.

Unlike upgrades of wireless net-

works in the past, 5G will deliver not just faster phone and computer data but also help connect up cars, appliances, cargo and crop equipment.

Washington has warned that allowing Chinese firms like Huawei to provide the equipment to build 5G net-

works could leave them vulnerable to spying on the part of China but this is only one of the risks.

5G's much faster speeds, vast data capacity and lower latency - or response time - are expected to underpin entirely new technologies such as self-dri-

ving cars and telemedicine - which in turn may attract cyberintrusions by criminals or terrorists.

"There will be more data which will be transferred... it is clear that security is much more complicated," said Yannick Sadowy, the director for telecoms and media at consulting firm Accenture. *AFP*

UN seeks US\$234 million for drought-hit Zimbabwe

HARARE - The United Nations on Thursday launched an international appeal for aid for Zimbabwe following a drought that it expects to affect around a third of the population as crop yields plummet.

Seasonal rains have been patchy at best, hitting the harvest of the staple

maize crop and deepening an economic crisis marked by an acute dollar crunch that has already led to shortages of medicines, fuel and food.

The UN was seeking \$234 million in emergency aid in response, its Under Secretary General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency

Relief Mark Lowcock told reporters in Harare. Farmers groups say the maize harvest, which starts in April, may be less than one million tonnes compared with 1.7 million in 2018, and the UN estimated on Tuesday that 5.3 million Zimbabweans would require aid.

Zimbabwe's annual maize consumption is 1.8 million tonnes and the ministry of agriculture said it is still assessing the extent of the drought, while Finance Minister Mthuli Ncube said the country has 500 000 tonnes in a strategic reserve.

After a meeting with President

Emmerson Mnangagwa, Lowcock was to launch the appeal later yesterday.

As well as trying to resolve an economic crisis, Mnangagwa is struggling to maintain control over security forces following brutal crackdowns against anti-government protests that carried reminders of the regime of long-time leader Robert Mugabe.

Reuters

Giant wealth fund plans rising UK investment

LONDON - Norway's giant state investment fund has said it will increase its investment in the UK.

The sovereign wealth fund, which has US\$1tn (£750bn) to invest from Norway's oil and gas income, is already one of the biggest investors in UK assets.

Its chief executive has said that it will continue to be a 'significant' investor in the UK, despite Brexit.

The fund takes a long-term investment view of 30-years and expects its UK investment to rise over that period.

"We foresee that over time that our investments in the UK will increase," Yngve Slyngstad told Reuters.

Commenting on whether the risks associated with the UK's decision to leave the European Union on March 29 had affected the fund's investment plans, he said: "With our time horizon, which is 30 years plus, current political discussions do not change our view of the situation."

The fund has investments in nearly 200 UK properties and is a co-owner of London's Regent Street.

It holds about £5.6bn in UK government debt, and is also a big shareholder in UK-based firms, with investments in 394 UK companies.

The stakes it holds include:

- 0.97 per cent of engineering giant Rolls-Royce
- 2.4 per cent of Marks and Spencer
- 1.65 per cent of Sainsbury's
- 2.3 per cent of BP
- 2.97 per cent of Barclays.

It employs nearly 250 staff in London and Slyngstad said he did not expect that to change even in the case of a no-deal Brexit.

"We see no operational consequences of any possible outcomes," he said.

The Norway fund is the biggest in the world. In 2018, the US attracted the biggest share of its money, followed by Japan and then the UK.

Normally the UK attracts a big-



PLANS: Yngve Slyngstad says the UK will continue to be 'significant' investment for Norway's wealth fund.

ger share of the investment, but Slyngstad said it was overtaken by Japan last year because the yen had strengthened against the pound.

Slyngstad's comments came as he presented the fund's 2018 annual report, which showed it lost

value, dragged lower by global falls in share prices.

The only other time the fund declined, since the first money was transferred into it in 1996, was when it fell slightly in 2002.

BBC

Mondi posts 19 per cent rise in annual profit

VIENNA - Packaging and paper group Mondi yesterday reported a 19 per cent rise in full-year underlying core profit, driven by robust demand for its products and higher average selling prices.

The group, which is listed in London and Johannesburg, said underlying earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) rose to 1.76 billion Euros (US\$2 billion) in the year ended December 31, up from 1.48 billion euros a year earlier.

The 52-year-old firm — like its peers Smurfit Kappa Group Plc, Sappi Ltd and DS Smith Plc — has been plagued by pricing pressures from higher costs for raw materials and said yesterday it had implemented 'strong' cost control across the group.

Mitigating

"I am particularly pleased to report on strong cost containment, mitigating the inflationary pressures on our cost base," Chief Executive Officer Peter Oswald said.

The company, which makes office paper and corrugated cardboard boxes, expanded over the years from being predominantly a producer of printing paper into a packaging manufacturer for consumer goods, with a market capitalisation of about 8.99 billion pounds.

"Pricing is mixed going into 2019, with recent price reductions in containerboard grades and market pulp and stronger pricing in our kraft paper markets," Oswald said.

Reuters

CHINA MAY NOT SOAK UP ALL 2019'S NEW LNG

SINGAPORE - Not even China's voracious appetite for liquefied natural gas may be enough to absorb the additional supplies hitting the market this year, with the price of the super-chilled fuel potentially a casualty.

While China's LNG imports got off to a rollicking start in 2019, it's unlikely that will match the 41 per cent growth experienced in 2018.

Imports were 6.58 million tonnes in January, a record-high and up 27.8 per cent from the same month in 2018, according to customs data released on Feb. 23.

But the sharp rise in January imports is likely to unwind in coming months as much of the LNG is being used in coal-to-natural gas switching projects that run out of steam as the northern winter ends.

Some three million Chinese homes were switching from coal heating to natural gas this winter, boosting demand for LNG. However, this demand drops sharply after the win-

ter heating period ends on March 15. China will likely increase its LNG demand by about 8 million tonnes in 2019, Nicholas Browne, director of Asia gas and LNG at consultants Wood Mackenzie, told the LNGc Asia conference in Singapore this week.

Optimistic

While other analysts at the event were somewhat more optimistic about the prospect for increased demand from China, none were forecasting that the 15.7 million tonne jump seen in 2018 from 2017 would be repeated.

The problem for the LNG market is that it's likely that more than 30 million tonnes of additional LNG supply will be available in 2019.

Poten & Partners Head of Business Intelligence Jason Feer told the LNGc Asia event that his company expected 33 million tonnes of new supply in 2019, but only 16 million tonnes of extra demand.

Reuters

Zwane flew to Zurich to facilitate Optimum mine sale to Guptas

JOHANNESBURG - The state capture commission has heard that former Mineral Resources Minister Mosebenzi Zwane flew to Switzerland to do the bidding for the Gupta family to take over the Optimum coal mine.

Former CEO of Glencore Clinton Ephron took the stand at the commission in Parktown on Wednesday.

He described events suggesting that former Eskom CEO Brian Molefe used his powers to force Optimum coal mine out of business so that the Gupta family could swoop in and buy the company.

The so-called Gupta leaks previously revealed that Zwane flew to Zurich with the Guptas to facilitate the sale of the mine to the controversial family.

Zwane denied more than once that he flew to Switzerland to pressure Glencore to sell its Optimum coal



mine to the Gupta family.

But Ephron says not only did Zwane and Gupta associate Salim Essa meet with Glencore's CEO Ivan Glasenberg in Zurich, but his office also initiated that meeting. "The meeting between Mr Zwane and Glasenberg took place at the Dolder hotel in Zurich. When he Glasenberg asked who Essa was, he was told that he was an advisor to the minister."

But Ephron says Glasenberg told Zwane his company had decided to keep the mine.

"Glasenberg had clearly told the minister that we were keeping the mine, but that we were willing to consider a sale at an appropriate price."

He says Zwane then told Glasenberg that quote "I am sure Glencore will reach a deal with the Guptas".

Eyewitness

Focus on SA Scene

Your Daily Mzansi News

SA could run out of money by 2042 - Parliament told

CAPE TOWN - South Africa has edged closer to the so-called fiscal cliff and could run out of money by 2042, Parliament has been told.

The fiscal cliff is the point where civil service salaries, social grant pay-

ments and the cost of servicing government's debt swallow up all state revenue.

Hearings

Parliament's finance committees on Wednesday held public hearings

on the budget.

The head of the Fiscal Cliff Study Group, Professor Jannie Rossouw, says South Africa's position has deteriorated since last year's budget.

"At the rate we are going, this coun-

try is going to run out of money by 2042. We cannot continue."

Rossouw says the gap between revenue and spending on state employees' wages, social assistance and debt service costs is now bigger than ever

before.

"This ratio was 55 per cent in 2007/2008. After this last Budget, it is 71.8 per cent. We are in serious trouble."

Rossouw says state-owned entities, especially Eskom, pose the biggest risk to the fiscus.

Eyewitness

RAMAPHOSA ON KODWA, MABE MATTERS:

'ANC must address these issues openly'

CAPE TOWN - African National Congress (ANC) president Cyril Ramaphosa has emphasised that the party will always tackle serious issues head-on.

He was referring to allegations of rape and sexual misconduct levelled against two ANC spokespeople.

Zizi Kodwa and Pula Mabe have been suspended while the allegations are being probed.

Mabe is being accused of sexual harassment by his former personal assistant. Rape allegations have also recently been levelled against Kodwa. Both have denied the claims.

Ramaphosa says the ANC must address these issues.

The ANC must address these issues openly. We are improving ourselves and renewing ourselves, even while handling difficult issues like this."



ADDRESS ISSUES OPENLY: President Cyril Ramaphosa addresses Cape Town residents during the Presidential Conversation that took place at City Hall on Wednesday.

Ramaphosa kicked off the ANC's election campaign in the Western Cape with a visit to Khayelitsha on Wednesday.

Eyewitness

'SA must become a country where rule of law is order of the day'

CAPE TOWN - President Cyril Ramaphosa says South Africa is currently in a new dawn 'oozing with hope'.

Ramaphosa addressed a packed Cape Town City Hall on Wednesday night - for a presidential conversation - that saw 20 people in the crowd pose questions about issues ranging from gangsterism to housing and spatial planning.

Believes

The crowd included professionals, business leaders, traditional leaders, NGO members and ordinary civilians.

President Ramaphosa says he believes South Africans are looking forward to positive change in the country.

"As we move forward, we

want to see corruption being dumped, we want to see state capture leading to consequences, we must become a country where the rule of law becomes the order of the day."

Accountability

Ramaphosa says it's time this country's leaders realise they should show accountability for their actions.

"They should be answerable to our people, that if we take positions of leadership, we must know it's not for self-gain but to be servants to our people."

Ramaphosa says this new period is also about increasing service delivery and addressing the needs of ordinary South Africans.

Eyewitness



LEAVES SPARKS: Deputy President David Mabuza has sparked outrage with his comments on load-shedding. He repeated three times in Parliament that the electricity shortage was the result of economic growth. Therefore, he said, it was a good sign.

Load-shedding take leaves Mzansi in shock

CAPE TOWN - Deputy President David Mabuza's take on the electricity crisis left many on Twitter in disbelief.

"The shortage of electricity is a sign of growth."

Mabuza made this remark in Parliament on Wednesday, while responding to questions on youth unemployment and the fourth industrial revolution.

"Yesterday, electricity was only given to a few people. Today, electricity is given to millions of people ... this economy is growing and, therefore, we are bound to have

challenges. These challenges are very positive because they propel our growth," he said.

Mabuza's comments coincided with Eskom's announcement on Wednesday that there was a possibility of load-shedding yesterday.

"Deputy president, I'm sure you'll agree with me that one of the first and most basic requirements of any industrial revolution is, in fact, electricity," DA MP John Steenhuisen said in reply in parliament.

Mabuza's comment did not sit well with many on Twitter.

Timeslive

'Miracle' man was healthy, has pulled a similar trick before

JOHANNESBURG - The man who 'died' and was brought back to life by pastor Alph Lukau is Brighton Moyo - and he was 'very strong and healthy', his former employer said.

"His name is Brighton ... He's an idiot, not Elliot. How can someone do that to God?" asked Vincent Amoretti in an interview on SAfm yesterday.

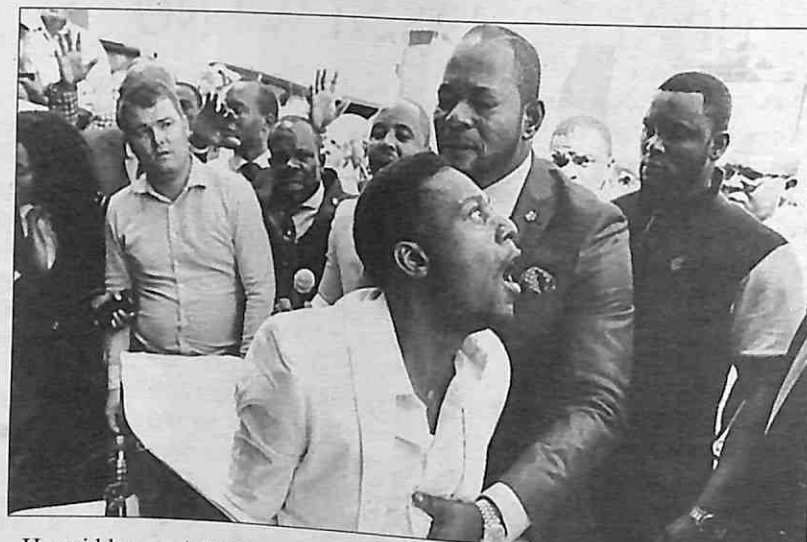
"He did work for me. He worked on my machines," he said. "He's a nice guy ... He was not sick. He was strong and healthy. He had a very strong will," said Amoretti.

Moyo, who was initially identified as 'Elliot', made headlines when a video of him in a white, silky suit being 'resurrected' by Lukau started trending on social media. Lukau's church, Alleluia Ministries, has since distanced itself from claims that he brought Moyo back from the dead.

Amoretti, the owner of Vincent Amoretti Timber and Construction, said Moyo had worked for his company for six months.

"He was suspended on full pay. We suspended him on the 4th of February."

"He missed work the Monday and he was late the Tuesday. He was supposed to come back the following Monday and he didn't," said Amoretti.



He said he was initially heartbroken when his staff told him that Moyo had died. "When the guys came and said Brighton has died, my heart broke. I love my staff and I will do anything for them."

However, when he saw the video of Moyo being 'resurrected', Amoretti said he laughed.

"When we saw the video, there was a big laugh. When they showed me the video where he was brought back to life,

I could have gone to his coffin and rung his neck properly. You don't do that type of thing."

According to Amoretti, Moyo had previously pulled another stunt at the church.

"From what they say he was in a wheelchair once before and they got him to stand and walk. I found out that he was trying to recruit people here to go to this ministry to do these acts."

Timeslive

THE TODDLER WITH GIANT HANDS



MINNESOTA - A toddler who suffers from a rare condition that left her with giant hands was forced to have liposuction to reduce the build-up of fluid in her fists.

Cora Ruben has lymphedema, which occurs when the lymphatic system does not work properly, leading to abnormal swelling.

The two-year-old, of Minnesota, had an accumulation of fluid in her abdomen, legs, feet and - most obviously - hands.

Cora endured numerous treatments, including massages and compression bandages, however, her fists continued to get bigger.

Desperate, her parents Kasey and Brett Ruben, met with an expert in Germany, who discovered 80 per cent of the youngster's swelling was down to fat and just 20 per cent lymph fluid.

After having the fat sucked out of her hands, Cora can pick things up and wear normal clothes like any other little girl, with experts being optimistic she will lead a 'normal life'.

Abnormalities

Speaking of his daughter's condition, Ruben said: "Her hands are obviously the biggest thing people see."

"But what people don't know is she's actually got it in most of her body."

"It's through her abdomen, both legs, both feet. Her genitals, through her arms. And as she gets older it's only going to get worse."

Mrs Ruben had a normal pregnancy, however, doctors noticed abnormalities in Cora's hands as soon as she was born, which they put down to swelling from the birth.

"The first few weeks we thought the swelling would go down," Ruben said.

"That's what we were told."

"But we saw the paediatrician and that's when she suggested it may be lymphedema."

Despite doctors' best efforts, nothing helped to reduce Cora's swelling.

Options

"In her case it has been growing, and that's what alarmed doctors and her physical therapist," Ruben said.

"And it still is worsening and we haven't been able to control it like you usually can with massages and wrapping and compression."

Just when her parents thought they had run out of options, a lymphedema expert suggested they meet Professor Etelka Földi, of the Földi Clinic in Hinzertzen, Germany.

"Lymphedema is in essence a chronic disease caused by the inefficiency of the lymph drainage

system," Professor Földi said.

"When the lymph drainage system is inefficient then inflammation develops."

Professor Földi initially prescribed a lymph-drainage therapist who used specialised massage techniques to prevent the build-up of fluid in Cora's hands.

Overgrowth

However, she then discovered the swelling in the toddler's hands was made up of just 20 per cent of lymph fluid, with the remainder being an overgrowth of fatty tissue.

"She said it was 80 per cent fat, 20 per cent lymphedema, and the reason why her swelling wasn't responding was because the fat was basically keeping us from appropriately compressing her hands," Ruben said.

The cause of Cora's fatty tissue build-up is a mystery and not usually linked to lymphedema. To remove the fat, Professor Földi suggested liposuction, which then enabled massage and compression bandages to reduce the rest of Cora's swelling.

"I don't think anybody likes the thoughts of having their child go through surgery but I think anybody with a child would do this," Ruben said.

"It's not her fault she was born with this, so I'll do anything I can to help her live a quality and happy life."

Despite some swelling still being evident, Cora's condition has significantly improved.

"Her ability to pick up things is just tremendously better," Ruben said.

"Her hands are soft now and they fit in her garments which compress her hands."

"When those are on, she can fit her hands in regular sleeves and she can do anything else anybody else can do."

Professor Földi added: "I am almost certain Cora can lead a normal life. Someday she will be a happy woman."

Cora features on Body Bizarre, which is on Saturdays at 10pm on TLC UK.

Daily Mail

SHOCKING: Cora Ruben suffers from lymphedema, which occurs when the lymphatic system does not work properly, leading to abnormal swelling in her hands, making it difficult for her to pick up food and feed herself. Lymphedema expert Professor Etelka Földi, discovered the swelling in the youngster's hands was made up of 80 per cent fat and 20 per cent lymph fluid, which stopped her responding to treatment like compression bandages.



WHAT IS LYMPHOEDEMA?

Lymphoedema is a long-term condition that causes swelling in the body's tissues.

It usually develops in the arms or legs. Lymphoedema affects up to 10 million people in the US and more than 200 000 in the UK.

It occurs when the lymphatic system does not work properly.

The lymphatic system is a network of channels and glands that remove excess fluid and help fight infections.

As well as swelling, which is often worse during the day, other symptoms may include:

- An aching, heavy feeling
- Difficulty moving
- Repeated skin infections
- Hard, tight skin
- Wart-like growths
- Fluid leaking from the skin
- Folds developing in the skin



Lymphoedema can be inherited or occur as a result of infections, injuries or cancer treatment.

Around one in five women with breast cancer and half with vulval cancer develop lymphoedema.

There is no cure.

Treatment focuses on minimising fluid build up via compression stockings and a healthy lifestyle.

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Focus on Africa News

Continental News

SUDAN SLAMS WESTERN POWERS FOR REBUKING STATE OF EMERGENCY

KHARTOUM - Sudan on Wednesday hit back at Western powers for calling President Omar al-Bashir's decision to impose a nationwide state of emergency a 'return to military rule' in the African country.

The United States, Britain, Norway and Canada had on Tuesday rebuked Sudan over the state of emergency.

"Those countries have no right to intervene in Sudan's affairs," Khartoum's foreign ministry said in a statement.

"In President Bashir's measures, they saw only the state of emergency but not his call for holding a dialogue," the statement said.

"The state of emergency will not impact freedoms of people and their rights".

Bashir declared the year-long state of emergency last Friday after a sweeping crackdown led by security agents failed to suppress more than two months of protests against his three



SLAMS: Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir is seen during a swearing-in ceremony last Sunday.

decades in power.

The president also dissolved the federal and provincial governments and appointed 16 army officers and two officers from the feared National Intelligence and Security Service as provincial governors.

Bashir announced a slew of measures, including banning unauthorised demonstrations, and gave sweeping powers to security forces to carry out raids and search people.

"Allowing security forces to act with impunity will further erode human rights, governance and effective economic management", in Sudan, the four Western countries had said on Tuesday in a joint statement issued by their Khartoum diplomatic missions.

"The return to military rule does not create a conducive environment for a renewed political dialogue or credible elections."

Sudan's Vice President Awad Ibnouf claimed on Wednesday that the state of emergency was not linked to the protests.

"The state of emergency has nothing to do with the demonstrations, as those who are demonstrating are Sudanese citizens," he told reporters after a meeting with Bashir. **AP**

Opposition welcomes firmer stance from US against army violence

LAGOS - Nigeria's President Muhammadu Buhari on Wednesday said his re-election was 'free and fair', after his beaten rival denounced the results as a 'sham' and promised a legal challenge that could dominate politics for weeks.

The 76-year-old one-time military ruler's victory was confirmed late on Tuesday, after rescheduled polling blamed on logistical difficulties.

Buhari's winning margin over his nearest challenger, Atiku Abubakar, was 3.9 million votes, more than enough to ensure he remained head of Africa's most populous nation and leading oil producer for the next four years.

Leading civil society election monitors YIAGA Africa, which has US and British backing, said 'the announced election results reflect the votes cast', even if there were problems.

But Abubakar's Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) cried foul, claiming Buhari's All Progressives Congress (APC) colluded with the electoral commission to manipulate the outcome.

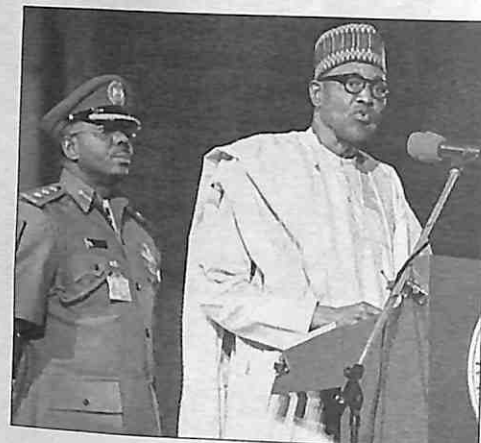
The former vice-president broke his silence nearly 10 hours after results were announced to explain he would have congratulated Buhari, had the vote been 'free and fair'.

Instead, he said: "I hereby reject the result of the February 23, 2019 sham election and will be challenging it in court."

Buhari called last Saturday's vote 'another milestone in Nigeria's democratic development', 20 years after the country returned to civilian rule. Thanking his opponents for a 'hard-fought campaign', he said: "From the comment of several observers, both local and foreign, it is obvious that the elections were both free and fair."

Buhari's supporters began celebrating at his campaign headquarters in Abuja late on Tuesday, as he took an unassailable lead.

AFP



FREE AND FAIR: Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari's winning election margin over nearest challenger Atiku Abubakar was 3.9 million votes

Zim sold up to US\$20m to banks for trade on new forex platform

HARARE - Zimbabwe's central bank has sold up to US\$20 million to banks for trading on a newly-launched forex interbank market, but the money could be exhausted by the end of next week due to high demand, banking sources said on Wednesday.

Zimbabweans had hoped the end of Robert Mugabe's rule in 2017 after an army coup would change their economic fortunes, but have instead watched as a severe dollar crunch hobbles businesses and brings shortages of medicines, fuel and food.

Many anticipated walking into banks to buy US dollars after the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ) scrapped a discredited 1:1 dollar peg for surrogate bond notes and electronic dollars last week, merg-

ing them into a lower-value transitional currency called the RTGS dollar.

But banks were under orders to restrict transactions to companies and individuals with foreign payments to make that would stimulate economic growth, according to a central bank directive seen by Reuters. That, and the fact the exchange rate has remained stuck at around 2.5 RTGS to the dollar since the currency started trading on Friday, brought criticism from bankers and economists that it was not the monetary reform needed.

The central bank sold what it called 'seed' USDollars to a handful of banks last Friday, but RBZ governor John Mangudya and Finance Minister Mthuli Ncube have refused to say the amount. **Reuters**

Cyril Ramaphosa congratulates Buhari

PRETORIA - President Cyril Ramaphosa on Wednesday congratulated his Nigerian counterpart Muhammadu Buhari on winning second term as president.

Ramaphosa commended the patience of the Nigerian people in dealing with the week-long delay in the election.

Buhari is basking in the congratulation of friends having beaten Atiku Abubakar and winning a second term as president.

He advised his followers not to gloat about their victory.

In his message to Abuja, Ramaphosa noted the findings of the African

Union observer mission that the election was peaceful and conformed with Nigeria's legal framework.

He said he looked forward to working with Buhari to build on the close ties between the countries. They have no fewer than 34 bilateral agreements in place, especially in the economic fields.

Eyewitness

BRIEFS

Senegal president on course

DAKAR - Senegal President Macky Sall is on course for victory in the February 24 polls with nearly 60 per cent of votes, according to preliminary figures provided by local media and a source inside the electoral commission.

Media website **Dakaractu.com** said that Sall had won over 58 per cent based on preliminary data from polling stations, while the commission source said he won 59.5 per cent.

Official results are expected later this week.

Reuters

Seychelles ex-president dies

SEYCHELLES - Former president of Seychelles France-Albert Rene, who seized power in a coup and stayed in power for nearly three decades, died on Wednesday aged 83, state television said. Rene, who died in hospital, was the 'modern day architect of Seychelles', President Danny Faure said in a statement.

"He was a true patriot who cared about his country and his people." Rene, who studied as a lawyer in London, served as prime minister before overthrowing the archipelago's founding president James Mancham in a bloodless coup in 1977. "Rene's vision was nothing less than acquiring and retaining absolute power for himself at all costs," said a former member of Parliament, who was forced into exile under his rule.

AFP

Booby-trapped corpse kills 17

BAMAKO - Seventeen civilians were killed in a blast caused by a booby-trapped corpse in central Mali, security sources and a local official said on Wednesday.

The incident occurred on Tuesday in Diankabou, a small town in central Mali, with a local official telling AFP it was caused by 'an explosive device which was planted on the body of a man who had been shot dead'. A security source confirmed the information, saying: "The body exploded, killing 17 people."

AFP

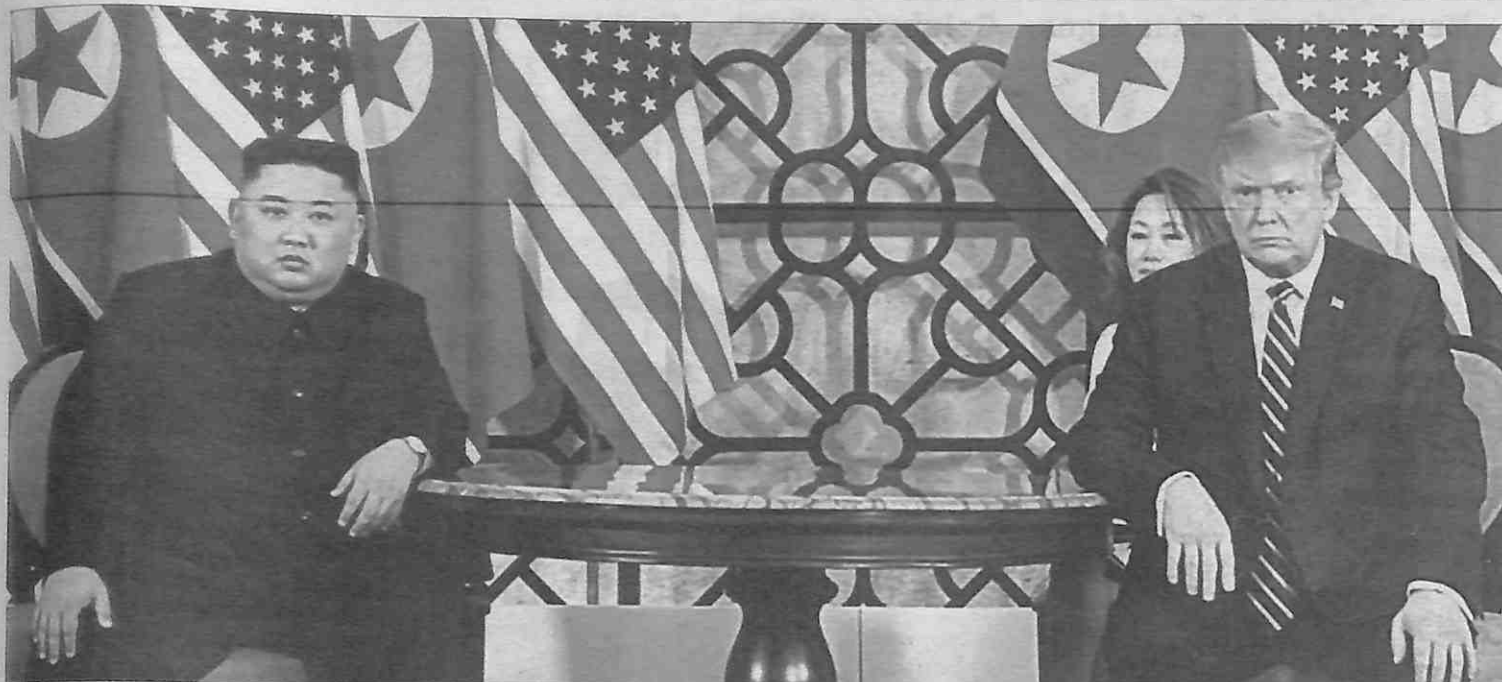
Ebola medical centre attacked

BUTEMBO - The mayor of a city in the Democratic Republic of Congo and medical aid group Doctors Without Borders say intruders wreaked havoc at an Ebola treatment centre in the eastern city of Butembo, the second Ebola clinic in the region attacked in a week. Butembo Mayor Sylvain Kanyamanda said unidentified raiders burned tents and other equipment at the centre on Wednesday.

Doctors Without Borders, which runs the treatment centre, says it is focusing on the safety of staff and patients. Assaults attacked another Ebola treatment centre run by the aid group on Sunday in Katwa, killing one person and injuring another. Attacks by multiple armed groups and instability have been challenges in stemming an Ebola outbreak that began in August. **AP**

Focus on World News

Global News



Trump 'walks' as N. Korea talks end without deal

WASHINGTON - The US-North Korea nuclear summit in Hanoi ended abruptly without a deal yesterday, with President Donald Trump saying he had decided to 'walk' in the face of Kim Jong Un's demands to drop sanctions.

The much-anticipated second meeting between the two leaders was supposed to build on their historic first summit in Singapore, but they failed to sign a joint statement as initially scheduled and the talks ended in deadlock.

"Sometimes you have to walk and this was just one of those times," an unusually downbeat Trump

told reporters.

"Basically they wanted the sanctions lifted in their entirety and we couldn't do that," said.

But Trump insisted he was 'optimistic that the progress we made' before and during the summit left them 'in position to have a really good outcome' in the future. "I'd much rather do it right than do it fast," he added.

He noted Kim had vowed not to resume nuclear or ballistic missile testing - something he previously identified as a yardstick for success - but said a third summit with the Pyongyang strong-

man was not on the cards so far, despite reiterating their 'close relationship'.

"We just like each other, there's a warmth that we have and I hope that stays, I think it will," said Trump. The outcome in Hanoi fell far short of the pre-meeting expectations and hopes, after critics said their initial historic meeting in Singapore was more style over substance.

"This is a major failure," tweeted Joe Cirincione, president of the Ploughshares Fund peace foundation.

AFP

Trump hints at de-escalation between India, Pakistan

NEW DELHI - United States President Donald Trump said yesterday there would be some 'reasonably decent news' on the ongoing conflict between India and Pakistan, a day after the two nuclear powers both downed enemy jets and Pakistan captured an Indian pilot.

The US, China and other world powers have urged restraint from the two nations as tensions escalate following tit-for-tat airstrikes in the wake of a suicide car bombing that killed at least 40 Indian paramilitary police in Indian-

controlled Kashmir on February 14.

Indian and Pakistani troops traded fire briefly along the contested border in Kashmir on Thursday morning, but speaking at a press conference, Trump said the US had been mediating between the two sides.

Involved

"They have been going at it and we have been involved in trying to have them stop," Trump said.

"We have been in the middle trying to help them both out."

Yesterday India's Prime Minister

Narendra Modi, who faces a general election in a matter of months, told a rally of supporters that India would unite against its enemies.

"The world is observing our collective will. It is necessary that we shouldn't do anything that allows our enemy to raise a finger at us," he said, in his first remarks since the downing of planes on Wednesday.

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has called for talks between the two nations.

Reuters

China warns party members to stick to Marx, not 'ghosts and spirits'

BEIJING - China's ruling Communist Party warned party members to stick to Marx and Lenin and not believe in 'ghosts and spirits' or practice 'liberalism', in the latest effort to root out superstitious practices and further tighten party control.

China officially guarantees freedom of religion for major belief systems such as Christianity, Buddhism and Islam, but party members are meant to be atheists and are espe-

cially banned from participating in what China calls superstitious practices such as visiting soothsayers.

There have been numerous scandals in recent years where senior party members have been accused of involvement in superstition.

A lengthy statement on how best to strengthen the party's role and its leadership, issued on the official Xinhua news agency on Wednesday, said Marxism was the guiding thought for China and the party. AFP

Labour Party backs Brexit referendum

LONDON - Britain's opposition Labour Party will support a new referendum on Brexit after parliament defeated its alternative plan for leaving the European Union, the party's leader Jeremy Corbyn said.

With 29 days left until the United Kingdom is due to leave the European Union, the leaders of Britain's two main parties have been forced into making key turns on the divorce in recent days.

After months of saying that Britain must leave the EU on time on March 29, May opened up the possibility on Tuesday of a short limited extension to the exit date.

Corbyn, who voted against membership in 1975 and gave only reluctant backing to the 2016 campaign to stay, on Wednesday gave an ambiguous backing for another referendum saying he would push for one alongside a national election.

Alternative

"After tonight's votes in parliament, we'll continue to push for a close economic relationship based on our credible alternative plan or a general election," Corbyn said.

"We'll also back a public vote in order to prevent a damaging Tory Brexit or disastrous no deal."

John McDonnell, the second most powerful man in the Labour Party, said the party would put down an amendment calling for a second referendum as soon as May brought a deal back to Parliament.

After May's deal was rejected on Jan. 15 in the biggest parliamentary defeat in modern British history, she is hoping to bring back a tweaked divorce accord for a vote, which could come as early as next week but may not take place until March 12.

Reuters

BRIEFS

Indian pilot captured in Pakistan

KASHMIR - An Indian pilot shot down over Pakistan and paraded by his captors has become a hero in his own country, a trump card for Islamabad and perhaps the key to bringing the arch-rivals back from the brink. Footage of the airman identified as Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman being beaten and interrogated has gone viral in India and Pakistan, and humanised an escalating crisis between the nuclear-armed foes.

India confirmed on Wednesday that a fighter jet was downed and a pilot missing in action after a dogfight with Pakistani jets over the disputed de facto border with Kashmir.

Reuters

China expresses 'deep concern'

SHANGHAI - A senior Chinese diplomat expressed 'deep concern' over the escalation of tensions between India and Pakistan on Wednesday, after the two countries said they shot down each other's fighter jets. State Councillor Wang Yi, the Chinese government's top diplomat made the comments in a telephone conversation with Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi, China's foreign ministry said in a statement on its website yesterday. Qureshi telephoned Wang to inform him of the latest developments in the conflict and to express hope that China would continue to play a 'constructive role' in easing tensions, the statement said.

AFP

Vatican to open probe into Cardinal Pell

VATICAN CITY - The Vatican will open an internal investigation into Australian Cardinal George Pell following his conviction for sexually assaulting two choirboys, its spokesman said on Wednesday. Pell, once one of Pope Francis' closest advisors, is the most senior Catholic cleric ever to be convicted of child sex crimes. "The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith will now handle the case following the procedure and within the time established by canonical norm," Vatican spokesman Alessandro Gisotti said in a statement. The investigation could result in a canonical trial and Pell's eventual expulsion from the priesthood.

AP

Venezuela's Guaido to visit Brazil

BRASILIA - Venezuelan opposition leader Juan Guaido was due to arrive in Brazil on Wednesday night to meet with Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro as part of a tour of several nations to ratchet up international pressure on President Nicolas Maduro to step down. Guaido last month invoked constitutional provisions to assume an interim presidency, arguing Maduro's re-election was fraudulent. He has since been recognized by most Western nations - including Brazil - as Venezuela's rightful leader. The congress chief has organised nationwide protests over the past month while the United States has imposed crippling sanctions on Venezuela's key oil industry and government officials.

Reuters

Observer Entertainment

New Reviews Star Signs Celebrity Watch Cartoons

AKA is here tonight!

COMPILED BY AYANDA DLAMINI

HELLO March.

The month of February sped by pretty fast, didn't it?

It's time for a fresh start, a new beginning, another chance at living your dreams. We love new months because it gives us the opportunity to set new goals for ourselves and work towards achieving them. So my wish for you this month is that you find something you love and have fun doing it. So, let's welcome this month with a fun-filled weekend. It's going down this weekend.

TONIGHT

AKA FELA IN VERSACE PARTY

WHERE: Solani's Shisanyama

TIME: 4pm

Finally the day has come, Supa Mega is finally, here. It's going down at Solani's Shisanyama tonight as AKA will be performing live. He will be sharing the stage with Eswatini's finest Mozaik Tha Producer, 80 Script and Size Killer. MegaSound Crew and Solani's resident spinners will be doing the most on the turntables. Tickets retail at E200 and E250 at the gate.

PROPHET NKOSINGIPHILE DLAMINI'S #SIZENEKHAMBI CD LAUNCH

WHERE: Divine Healing Ministries (Manzini)

TIME: 6pm to 6am

Tonight Prophet Nkosingiphile Dlamini and Abundance of Praise will be hosting the six to six launch of their latest album under the theme #Sizenekhambi.

The event would see over 25 local gospel music artists grace it. They include the likes of Frans Dlamini, Mduduzi Nezinceku Zamagawugawu, Apostle Maculuve, Police Gospel Messengers, PD Manana, Gcina Masuku, Shiba and the Travellers, Nonhle Mthethwa, Scara Maziya, Ntokozo Dlamini, Insali kaJehova, Loveness Mavimbela, Lonhlanhla and Mafucula, Come to Jesus, Zaga Dlamini, Mduduzi Magagula, Pillars of Faith, Amadodana AkuMatsapha, Siphwe Tsabedze, Can't get Dancers, etc.

Bishop Nash Shongwe of Divine Healing Ministries will be sharing the Word of God at the event.

Tickets cost E300 VVIP, inclusive of a snack and CD, VIP ones retail at E200 per head, whilst it would be E100 for general entry.

Nelisiwe 'Awu Mine' Motsa and Siphesihle 'Sihlabani' Nxumalo from Eswatini Broadcasting and Information Services (EBIS) would be directing proceedings.

Tickets are available at: Galito's (all outlets), Christian Bible book shops in Mbabane and Manzini, all OK stores, Mgavuzi Manzini and Mbabane, Ocean Basket (all branches), Saverite Supermarket in Pigg's Peak as well as all Bread of Life International Ministries branches.

TOMORROW

ELFOE'S DOPEST BIRTHDAY PARTY

WHERE: Déjà Vu Cocktail Lounge

TIME: 6pm

TV personality Elfoe Masilela will be celebrating his birthday with his fans and friends at the classy lounge. SwaziBoy Entertainment spinners will be ushering the TV personality into a fun filled night with good music. Entry fee is free before 10pm and E50 thereafter.

EKHAYENI CHILLAZ LAUNCH

WHERE: Ekhayeni Chillaz in Matsapha, opposite UNESWA Kwaluseni Campus.

TIME: 2pm,

Another chilling spot hits Matsapha. Tomorrow is the official launch of the spot dubbed 'Ekhayeni Chillaz'.

Welcoming the new spot with music will be award-winning DJ Master P, Karly B, Mey Le Muso, Jominho, Waar Wa JYE and Knoxman. It's free entry.

WORSHIP ENCOUNTER 3

WHERE: Sibane Hotel

TIME: 6pm

Worship Encounter is here! This year's edition will be headlined by Banele Dlamini, Putuma Tiso and Ndimiso 'Papa Ndu' Manana. Entry fee is E200.

M NATION'S SWAZI GQOM FEATURING MAPHORISA

WHERE: Gobolondlo Hall, Pigg's Peak

TIME: 6pm

M Nation will be hosting his album dubbed 'Swazi Gqom'. The launch

SAVE THE DATE

MTN BUSHFIRE 2019

WHERE: Malandelas

WHEN: May 24-26

STANDARD BANK LUJU FESTIVAL

WHERE: Malandelas, Malkerns

WHEN: August 3

will see South African award-winning DJ Maphorisa, Cuebur, DJ MBO, Master P, Matanza, DJ Lolo, Cloth, Dynamic Groover to name a few. E120 gets you in.

BLACK AND YELLOW COOLER PARTY

WHERE: Emfuleni Lifestyle

TIME: 2pm till late

Hosted by Illa Pen Boy, another edition of Black and Yellow Cooler party is here. Entry fee is E50.



LIVE: AKA, DJ Mbo, Illa PenBoy and Master P.

CASTRO WORKING ON 'MA OUT' VIDEO

BY DELISA THWALA

CASTRO has dropped his second single and is already working on the visuals for it.

The single is titled 'MA OUT' 'MA OUT' is a chilled fun song which talks about going out with friends and enjoying yourselves under a good weather too, it brings out the god vibes that people have when going

out with friends, the things that you get up to during this hanging out, which is usually drinks, food and good music.

The artist said he wanted to capture the good party vibes with this song.

"I wanted something light that depicts the hang out sessions with friends," said Castro. This single comes after the much-hyped up single titled 'Camp chair,' which solely focused on emotions and rejection, yet this second single is all about happiness. The artist said he was switching up the moods with this single. "Camp chair has a

rejection feel to it and a bit emotional but then 'Ama out' is totally different" said the singer.

The songwriter is already working on visuals for the single and has already started shooting. They started shooting at Sibebe Resort and they now need two more scenes before the video is out.

E4.5M FOR ARTS AND CULTURE

BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

THE allocated arts and culture budget has increased by E21 000 in the 2019/20 financial year.

The ministry of sports, culture and youth affairs has been allocated E4 530 679 from which, will be utilised by the arts and culture department.

This comes after the Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg on Wednesday tabled E22.97 billion 'fully financed budget' for the year 2019/2020.

He has allocated to the Department of Arts and Culture an estimated budget of E4 530 679, indicating an increase of E21 003 from last year which stood at E 4 509 676.

The allocation has been escalating for the past three years as in the year 2017/2018, the amount was E3 842 885.

Eswatini National Arts and Culture CEO Stanley Dlamini said he was happy with the reviewed allocation as they would be able to structure their work.

"We are happy because we can now start working. Although it could have been better given the volume

....Increased by E 21 000 from the previous E4 509 676

of work at our disposal but we understand that this was government could not afford plus it is an increase from last year so we are happy," said Dlamini.

Eswatini Arts and Music Association (SWAMA) President Melusi 'Zox' Dlamini shared the same sentiments.

He said it will not be fair to expect an improved budget allocation right now because of the current financial strain that the country is facing.

"We trust the new government to turn around the situation soon and eventually consider arts as an important sector for both social and economic development. In the meantime, we hope the government considers artists inclusion in the tax exemption bracket of low income earners," said Dlamini.

He also said independently, they would continue to advocate for the creation of music with the global market in mind.

"Music has an economic importance that extends far beyond the scope of recorded music sales," he added.

HAPPY: Eswatini National Arts and Culture CEO Stanley Dlamini and SWAMA President Melusi 'Zox' Dlamini.



ORIGINELLE DROPS 'CROOKS'

BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

SWAZI female rapper artist Originelle continues to take major strides in the industry.

Originelle, real name Khosi Thwala, has released another single titled 'Crooks'.

The diminutive gifted star has been on a roll, releasing singles and she has found the best way to start the year. She started the year with a banger single.

She has released a number of singles in her career.

Some of those tracks helped her claim a spot in the biggest hip hop show in the land Hipnotik main stage where they dazzled with big names in the region such as Nasty C and A Reece.

She then released a single 'Shots fired' which saw her won the Best Female Award in the inaugural and controversial Swazi Hip Hop awards.

"So it was a random weekend, I had gone out with a couple of my friends in Hatfield, Pretoria. It was fun, but I guess I couldn't help but still think of certain things I wanted to accomplish musically so I headed home and decided to go on YouTube and find a beat because making one was just too farfetched

at that time.

"I wanted something immediate to just express myself however I wanted really, just let go you know.

"So, I found the beat, listened and found it perfect for what I wanted to say, I mean, the opening line alone 'not for the industry, I'm for the music' says it all. I'm constantly being told what I'm supposed to do as an artist and it really is annoying because I honestly just have a passion for creating music," she said.

She said 'Crooks' for her was letting go, speaking her mind and also playing around with certain bars how she sees fit.

She also said the title 'Crooks' made sense to her because, on one hand she was conversing with herself and unconsciously telling herself she has nothing to lose.

"I tell myself do you, don't mind the Crooks.

I had just listened to Mobb Deep 'Shook Ones, Pt II' that's how that last part comes into the song really," she added.

Originelle has opened for Rick Rose and spent New Year's Eve in a foreign country.

She has also hoisted the country's flag beyond the borders. Swazi rapper Originelle's latest single is a dark heavy trap banger about money.

She also topped charts with her singles and was also nominated for the hip-hop awards.

All set for music business workshop

BY NOKWANDA SIBANDZE

ALL is set for the music business workshop to be hosted by Leserato Events and Morolong Inc.

The half day music business workshop will be hosted tomorrow at Sibane Hotel at 8am.

This was confirmed by Leserato Events Manager Sphiwe Nxumalo who said all is set and ready.

She said added to the list of panellists was Mandla Nxumalo, who will be leading a discussion on marketing and promotion of artists and music.

"He is currently the director of Leserato Events, a company that is into events management and manages several artists including; gospel sensation Nothando Hlophe, poet Majaha Nkonyane, gospel artist Banele Dlamini, and the Swazi Praise ensemble. An accountant by profession, he adds the business aspect to the workshop," she said.

She said the main speaker would be Dumisani Motsamai, a renowned entertainment law practitioner and music business consultant.

"The speaker most recently presented at the Iziko National Gospel Music Conference at the Durban ICC, last November. This is a conference held annually as part of the gospel week, seven days build-up to the annual SABC Crown Gospel Awards.

"Topics to be covered are production, licensing, publishing, marketing and promotion," she said.

Tickets are available at Nomakunini outlets at OK Foods and at the door. The tickets cost E100 for this four hour presentation.

"We are excited to host this workshop with Morolong Inc. as it emanates from our passion to grow our artists, both as musicians and business people. It is important for all artists to attend and get an understanding of this industry before making commitments that are to their detriment," she said.



ADDED: Mandla Nxumalo.



RELEASED: Originelle.



Celebville

International Celebrity News

Jordyn went to Jada because Kardashians were out for blood

HOLLYWOOD - Jordyn Woods feels her life is ruined because she's no match when it comes to the wrath of the Kardashians ... so she went to Jada Pinkett Smith because she felt she'd get a fair shake to tell her story.

Sources tell TMZ, Jordyn believes the Kardashians, especially Kim, can break her in every way, professionally, socially and monetarily. We're told she's been "despondent" since we broke the story she hooked up with Tristan Thompson. She feels like she has a Scarlet Letter plastered on her forehead.

As for going to Jada, Jordyn is like



LIFE IS RUINED: Jordyn Woods.

family to the Smiths, she calls Will her uncle. She feels Jada is one of the most non-judgmental people she knows, and she has a huge platform on the 'Red Table Talk' Facebook show. **TMZ**

Lady Gaga on Bradley Cooper romance rumours

HOLLYWOOD - Lady Gaga has just one thought for everyone who thinks she and Bradley Cooper looked madly in love during their steamy performance of 'Shallow' at the Oscars. Good!

The newly-minted Oscar winner is still soaking in the excitement of her big night this past Sunday, and she even brought her Oscar with her to 'Jimmy Kimmel Live' on Wednesday night. Frankly, she couldn't believe that people were so hung



SHALLOW: Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper.

up on that performance and reading so much into what they assumed must be going on behind the scenes to get a performance so intimate and raw. **TMZ**

Netflix addresses outrage over 'Notebook' ending in UK version

LONDON - Netflix UK is working its ass off to fix a huge issue in the version it released of 'The Notebook', with an alternate ending that doesn't show the flick's main characters die together!

For the uninitiated, Netflix UK released the 2004 film on its streaming service. Fans were completely caught off guard after the original ending, showing Allie and Noah get into their hospital bed together, hold hands and die, is completely cut out. This is the original ending:

The alternative ending that's got fans foaming at the mouth shows no one dying, the couple holding hands and talking about miracles before cutting to a scene showing birds flying over a lake. Netflix tells us there



OUTRAGE: A scene from 'The Notebook'.

are a couple things fans should know, Netflix did not edit the film. The streaming giants went on to say, "An alternate version exists and was supplied to us - we are getting to the bottom of it asap. Apparently, some films have more than one ending?!" **TMZ**

Kim Kardashian begs YouTube to help stop 'Momo Challenge'

HOLLYWOOD - Kim Kardashian's put herself squarely in the middle of the modern-day ghost story known as the 'Momo Challenge'.

Kim is begging YouTube to help remove all 'Momo Challenge' videos. If you haven't heard about it ... the videos contain a creepy figure popping up, instructing kids to kill themselves, and intimidating them to keep the video secret from parents. Kim posted a plea for YouTube to get on the stick and shut it down, but the video platform tells us they've seen no evidence the 'Momo' clips



BEGS: Kim Kardashian.

actually exist. At this point, it's more urban myth than a real thing. Kim reposted a bunch of messages from concerned parents who've heard about the 'Momo' - although we suspect none have seen it themselves. **TMZ**

Dr Malinga to build his own resort, water park

SOWETO - Dr Malinga has dubbed himself 'a man with solutions' and his latest business is a resort and water park for the African summer.

The musician is on a mission to leave generational wealth in his family, come hell or high water, and told TshisaLIVE that he is building two resorts to provide a 'solution' in his hometown of Hammanskraal and Siyabuswa. "Everyone that knows me, knows that I am a solutions guy. I think of solutions and the reason I am different from other people is that I always look for ways to bring those solutions to people. So now, I am busy building a resort, one



TO BUILD OWN RESORT: Dr Malinga.

that will have swimming facilities and chillas equipment like braai stands, one in Hammanskraal and one in Siyabuswa," he said. **Times Live**

Brenda Ngxoli on alleged sexual abuse

DURBAN - Actress Brenda Ngxoli has once again opened up about the sexual harassment that happens on the sets of local productions, explaining that she's had to forgive the people who allegedly harassed her, for her own peace of mind.

Speaking on hit talk show Trending SA this week, Brenda said that she was not the first, and won't be the last to be harassed on set.

"The fact that they did not apologise does not affect me. It happened. What can I say? I'm not the first to get fondled and it doesn't make it right, but clearly in SA I'm not going to be the last one if no one wants to be accountable. But it's okay. I am Brenda Ngxoli and



OPENS UP: Brenda Ngxoli.

I'm still standing."

Brenda first spoke about what happened to her about three years ago and has since elaborated on social media.

Times Live

Actress Keke Mphuthi is expecting!

PRETORIA - While many celebs have confirmed news of their pregnancies with snaps of them holding their bellies, Unmarried actress Keke Mphuthi has gone to a whole new level by announcing the good news dressed in nothing but doughnuts and a panty.

The star took to social media on Wednesday to post a pic of herself really enjoying a sweet treat, her belly on full display.

Reflecting on the news, Keke called her unborn baby her 'biggest blessing' and said she and her partner had prayed for the little one



EXPECTING: Keke Mphuthi.

'day and night'. On Instagram stories, Keke wrote about her friends' relief at the news. **Times Live**

Trevor Noah on his super awks moment with Beyoncé

CAPE TOWN - It's no secret that Trevor Noah's life is just levels on levels, but being invited to a 'super, super exclusive' Jay-Z and Beyoncé afterparty takes the cake. Trevor reflected on some of the highlights and super awkward moments from the party during a segment of Between The Scenes. "The event was amazing and there were all these after parties that comes afterward. Like there's the first afterparty and then another one after that, it's called the Vanity Fair Afterparty and it's super super exclusive."

Trevor spoke about how weird it



LEVELS: Trevor Noah.

was to mingle with people he had admired all his life and how some of the interactions freaked him out a lil bit. Like when he was doing his thing on the dance floor as DJ Black Coffee played on the ones and two and then Usher joined him.

Sowetan Live

WEEKLY SOAPIE DIGEST



TODAY



DISAPPEARED: Sibongile.

Dabula's attempts to fix things with Ntwenhle spiral quickly out of control. Meanwhile, Mpiyakhe makes a heartbreaking assumption about Sibongile's disappearance and Blade and Jabu make a breakthrough in their hunt for Sibongile's captor.



TODAY



RECEIVES: Nina.

Lincoln gives Nina an unexpected ultimatum. Elmarie makes a terrible discovery. Sibibi comes to a devastating conclusion that doesn't bode well for Gatanga.



TODAY

HAS OTHER PLANS: Mulalo.



Tenda flaunts his new relationship. Azwindini wants to hide the truth, however Mulalo has other plans. Gugu accuses Imani.



TODAY



RUNS OUT OF FRIENDS: Bash.

Bash has run out of friends, but it seems like he might have found a new one very close to the investigation. Dumi agrees to leave the 68s.

When the class monitor hands in the list of noise makers but the teacher forgives everyone



TODAY'S HOROSCOPE

Capricorn December 22 – January 19
Be more aggressive when it comes to your intentions in a romantic situation, Capricorn. It would be a great idea to impress your lover with a delicious home-cooked meal on a night like this. Put a bit more passion into the equation and relight the spark that might have recently gone out. Don't hesitate to be the instigator in love.



Aquarius January 20 – February 18
It would be a good idea to socialise with others today in a comfortable, open setting. Say what you feel instead of just concentrating on what you think, Aquarius. Be just as good a listener as you expect others to be for you. Join a writing circle or take a painting class. Your creativity is looking for an outlet today, so you might as well share this gift among friends.



Pisces February 19 – March 20
Stick with what comes naturally, Pisces. If something feels difficult or abrasive, this is a sign that your energy is better used elsewhere. But don't turn away until you're sure that what you're facing is actually a combative force instead of your own skewed sense of reality. You could be overly sensitive about a given situation and thereby making up scenarios that don't even exist.



Aries March 21 – April 19
Your heart may feel extra loving today, Aries, which is good, since you will probably need it. There is most likely someone close to you who needs a lift of some sort. You may be like the tow truck that arrives to pull a car out of the ditch. Be careful when you hook up the chains. Don't scratch the bumper or pull too hard all at once!



Taurus April 20 – May 20
You may feel a bit protective today, Taurus, and with good reason. Others are likely to be aggressive when it comes to moving in on your territory. Be strong. Assure yourself as well as those in your charge that everything will be fine. Take reasonable precautions, but don't completely close yourself off to the outside world. That knock at the gate could just as easily provide much-needed help.



Gemini May 21 – June 21
You may be a bit confused today, Gemini. More than likely, it will be hard for you to get an accurate read on your emotions. One of your automatic responses in situations like this is to turn to a close partner for advice. Unfortunately, this advice may throw you into even more of a tailspin. What you need more than anything is to spend quality time alone.



Leo July 23 – August 22
Break through the potential moodiness of the day, Leo. Burst into song while walking down the street. Encourage others to sing back to you, as if your life were an opera. Your creativity is extra strong at this point, so let it shine in unexpected areas of your world. You have the wonderful ability to turn even the most mundane situations into something exciting.

Virgo August 23 – September 22
You may be plagued with restlessness, Virgo, to the point that you may not be able to get anything done. If you sense that this is happening to you even in the slightest degree, stop whatever you're doing and take a break. Your work isn't worth the sacrifice of your sanity. Consider going to a spa or call up a friend with a hot tub so you can soak in some warm, relaxing water for a while.

Libra September 23 – October 23
Be careful of exerting your will too strongly toward someone who really isn't receptive to it, Libra. Be conscious of other people's feelings. Be gentle when it comes to love and romance. You have a yellow light, which means that it's OK to proceed. Be careful that the other person is receptive to your advances. Don't come across as too aggressive and end up making a fool of yourself.

Scorpio October 24 – November 21
Overall, this should be a pretty good day for you, Scorpio, as long as you don't get overly sensitive about certain things. Your awareness is bound to be extra sharp today, so use this ability to stay alert and open to what's going on around you. Perhaps you're feeling a bit restless when it comes to matters of the heart. This is telling you to stop fidgeting and take action.

Sagittarius November 22 – December 21
This is one day in which your heart pounds with excitement. For some reason, Sagittarius, there's a quiet voice inside warning that you may be getting yourself into a great deal of trouble. An enthusiastic approach toward love may be necessary, but this may not be the best day to act. People are too sensitive and not necessarily that impressed with your potentially abrasive demeanour.

BABY BLUES



BUCKLES



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

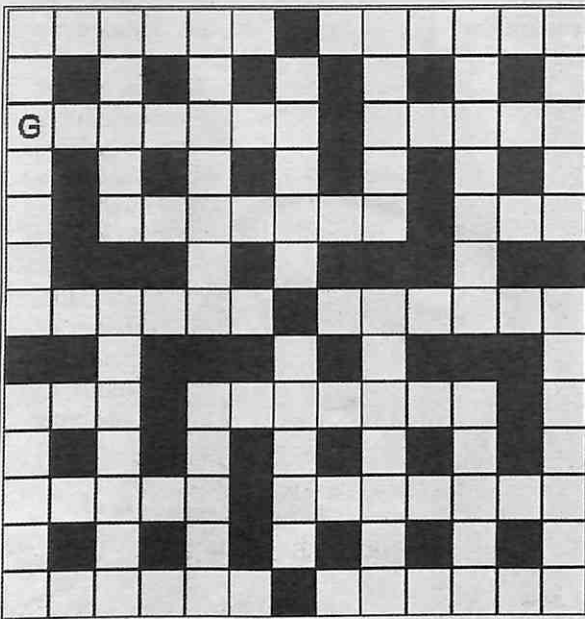


HOME WORD SEARCH

PUZZLE CHOICE

Alpha-Cross 08

The first letter of each answer is written next to its clue in alphabetical order. One letter has already been entered. Can you find the words then fit them correctly into the grid?



K. Small falcon (7)
L. Pamphlet (7)
M. Enlarge (7)
M. Wonder (6)
M. Fruit (5)
P. Go before (7)
R. Detection device (5)
R. Rating (7)
R. Uncover (6)
S. Twilled fabric (5)
S. Elementary (6)
S. Ophidian (5)
T. Topics (6)
Y. Annually (6)

A. Justify (7)
A. Jelly based on stock (5)
A. Insist (6)
C. Tapers (7)
C. Small boat (5)
E. Tripod (5)
E. Long fish (3)
E. Signs up (7)
E. Perpetual (7)
G. Gizmos (7)
G. Ambit (5)
G. Fuel (3)
I. Topping (5)
I. Notions (5)

LOL
Laughing Out Loud

ENGINEERING STUDENTS

Two engineering students were walking across campus when one said, "Where did you get such a great bike?" The second engineer replied, "Well, I was walking along yesterday minding my own business when a beautiful

woman rode up on this bike. She threw the bike to the ground, took off all her clothes and said, "Take what you want." The second engineer nodded approvingly. "Good choice; the clothes probably wouldn't have fit."

USELESS FACTS

1. Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite.
2. Porcupines can float in water.
3. The average person's left hand does 56 per cent of the typing.
4. A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.
5. The longest one-syllable word in the English language is 'screched'.

BRAinteasers
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Yesterday's Brainteasers

1. Mark went to a restaurant for dinner last night. When he received his cheque he paid with a 100 USDollar bill. When the waiter returned his change, Mark received one of every denomination of currency under 100 USDollars. What was the total cost of Mark's meal?
Answer: US\$13.59, the waiter returned to him a US\$50 bill, a US\$20 bill, a US\$10 bill, a US\$5 bill, a US\$1 bill, a quarter, a dime, a nickel, and a cent.

2. If 1 = 5, 2 = 10, 3 = 15,

and 4 = 20. What does 5 equal?

Answer: 1, if one is equal to 5 then 5 is equal to one.

Today's Brainteasers:

1. We can hurt without moving. We can poison without touching. We can bear the truth and lies. We are not to be judged by our size.

2. How could the 22nd and the 24th president of the United States have the same parents when they were not brothers?



M-Net movies epic battle

Pop-Up channel here!

● Take cover as swords are drawn and bullets fly on the M-Net movies epic battle Pop-Up channel

FANS of sports-themed movies will own the remote for the M-Net Movies 'Game On' Pop-Up channel (channel 109 on DStv) currently broadcasting to DStv Premium, Compact Plus and Compact subscribers.

There will be battles raging in boxing rings, on baseball fields, basketball and tennis courts, ice rinks and wherever else blood, sweat... and jeers are part of a normal day.

And as soon as the dust has settled, war gets real. The next Pop-Up channel in the M-Net Movies stable is built around the biggest conflicts of all time.

The M-Net Movies Epic Battles Pop-Up channel will explode onto the screens of DStv Premium customers from March 22, until Sunday, April 14.

These 24 days of thrilling, shock-



ing and heart-breaking top-notch cinema will feature more than 70 films, showcasing the greatest war stories

ever told, battles that shaped human history for more than two millennia. You can almost smell the cordite of

the trenches, or feel the earth move as a tank brigade rumbles towards enemy lines.

The adrenaline starts pumping on the first weekend with historical epics such as 'Troy' and 'Rise of an Empire', followed by films about the Vietnam War – an event that left an indelible scar on an entire generation of Americans.

More than 50 000 US soldiers never returned. The war is depicted brilliantly in classics such as 'Apocalypse Now', 'The Deer Hunter', and 'Full Metal Jacket'.

The major battles of World War II, the most destructive conflict the world has ever seen, are featured in films such as 'Pearl Harbour', a re-imagining of the day that sparked America's entry into the war, and 'Saving Private Ryan', a tale of selflessness and bravery of the first rank.

Imaginary interstellar conflict is the theme of 'Independence Day' and 'War of The Worlds', and the channel will turn back the clock for the great battles from way back in 'Braveheart', 'Kingdom of Heaven' and 'Elizabeth: The Golden Age'.

Alongside the stark reality of films inspired by real events, viewers will be able to indulge in pure fantasy, such as: 'Pirates of The Caribbean', 'Transformers' and 'Lord of The Rings'.

Each day's viewing will end around midnight.

TEAMS FILLING UP FAST – THE VOICE SA

THE Coach's teams are acquiring some phenomenal talent in 'The Voice SA Season 3'.

Coach Francois van Coke caught up fast in Episode 4 of 'The Voice SA' Season 3, adding three new singers to #TeamVanCoke to bring his tally up to a total of five. #TeamRiana and #TeamRiky each gained one new singer and #TeamLIRA recruited two, to bring all three of them up to eight members.

The first contender up on the stage at tonight's Blind Auditions to sing for a shot at a new life was 39-year-old pub singer Chezelle Shahadat, singing a dark rock rendition of the Paul Simon classic 'Sounds of Silence' that had coach Francois van Coke almost in tears. It was yet another #TeamRiky and #TeamVanCoke showdown, but Chezelle confessed that she always wanted to work with Francois, so #TeamVanCoke added its third member to the team.

And then he made it two in a row when 25-year-old Richard Barnard's version of the Springsteen love song 'I'm On Fire', earned him three chair turns. Richard confessed that he originally wanted to be in #TeamRiana, but she was the one coach who didn't turn for him, so despite earnest entreaties from coach LIRA, Richard joined TeamVanCoke.

38-year-old musician and car-enthusiast Shane Sonkind dedicated himself to a creative life

so that he could be more available to his son, Ezra. "I'm going to sing the best I can so that at least one chair turns for me," he told Ezra before his audition, and then he got the rare four-chair turn! As always, coach Francois tried his level best to win Shane over, even showing off his tattoo of his and Shane's shared birth year, 1980. But Shane said he didn't want to go with his most obvious choice, and he joined #TeamRiana.

Travelled
The Voice SA host Anele Mdoda personally travelled to Germiston to invite 23-year-old musician and teacher Leon van Zyl to the Blind Auditions, but his passionate rendition of

Ben Howard's 'Keep Your Head Up' wasn't enough for even one chair-turn. With the audience chanting "bring him back!", LIRA ran after a dejected Leon and admitted that she made a big mistake not turning for him in time. "I can't change the rules of the game," she said. "I made a mistake."

Katlego Makgotlwe (22) from Vosloorus was a hit with the studio audience, performing Asa's 'Jailer' in her mom's graduation outfit, but the coach-

es seemed unsure. Until Riky Rick punched his red button on the very last note of the song, causing the bubbly student to literally jump with joy.

The 33-year-old Nicki van Niekerk from Port Elizabeth says she's been pursuing a career in singing for most of her life. "It's now or never," she said as she took the stage to perform Coldplay's 'Fix You'.

Eager

Both coach Francois and coach LIRA slammed their red buttons and were literally climbing onto their chairs in eagerness. And then right at the end, coach Riana also turned. Nicky was eager to announce her choice but Riky Rick made sure that his colleague Francois got a chance to make his case. But in the end, Nikki became the seventh member of #TeamLIRA.

Joburg-based singer-songwriter Bianca Wood (30) had LIRA and Riana's mouths agape with her performance of Blk Sonshine's 'Born in a Taxi', but despite serious consideration, none of the coaches turned.

24-year-old Pretoria attorney Reinier Joubert chose 'Matthew Reid' as his professional stage name, to differentiate his singing career from his law persona. Coach Francois van Coke and his nemesis Riky Rick both turned for Matthew's version of Adele's 'When We Were Young'. Riky flattered Matthew that he remind-

ed him of Freddie Mercury, but Matthew said he's actually Afrikaans and his middle name is also 'Francois', so he joined #TeamVanCoke.

Yahto Kraft (18) from Alberton studies Musical Theatre and he performed the showstopper 'Never Be Enough' from the movie 'The Greatest Showman' and earned himself turns from Riky, LIRA, and Francois.

"What a performance!" Riky marvelled. "I should have turned for you, you deserved a four-chair turn," Riana admitted. Yahto had his choice of coaches, but in the end he threw his lot in with #TeamLIRA.

Spots

Three teams are now up to eight singers each, with #TeamVanCoke catching up fast with five members. That means Riky, Riana, and LIRA only have four more spots to fill on their teams, and Francois van Coke has seven empty spots left: #TeamRiky: Joel Zuma, Keanu Harker, Amy Tjasink, Joshua Parker, Sabelo Mthembu, Christiaan Baartman, Morgan Beesley, Katlego Makgotlwe

#TeamLIRA: Ross Charles, Petro De Villiers, Mo George, Krista Jonas, Rayleen Padayachee, Lora Joplin, Nicky van Niekerk, Yahto Craft

#TeamRiana: Greunen Parker, Lelo Ramasimong, Felicia Seeohle, Verona Goslett, Siki Jo-Ann Owazi, Francois Viljoen, Ilan van Staden, Shane Sonkind

#TeamVanCoke: Sade Ross, Tasché Burger, Chezelle Shahadat, Richard Barnard, Matthew Reid.

'The Voice South Africa' premieres on M-Net 101 every Sunday at 17:30 and is repeated on VUZU, Channel 116, on Mondays at 20:00. It will also be available on DStv CatchUp.



THE CLASSIFIEDS OBSERVER

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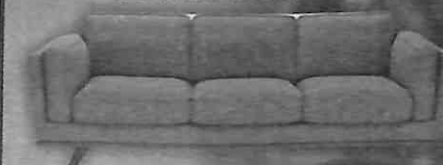
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WELILE S DLAMINI
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R/N 201201 Dc 28 FEB 2019

ESTATE LATE:
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ESTATE NO. EL 44/2016

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Any person objecting to the account may lodge his or her objection in writing with the executor and with the Master of the High Court at any time before expiry of the said period.

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Lady with a qualification in Journalism, media Studies, and secretarial and admin. Almost 10 years in Marketing and sales. Great communication skills. Contact 76031199.

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A male graduate holding an associate degree in event management, with experience in Public relations and media Call:76718381

A male graduate qualified with an associate degree in creative multimedia. Seeking for an internship with experience in design and marketing. Call: 78276140

Looking for an internship. 23 years old young man pursuing my Associate Degree in International Tourism seeking for internship. Please call: 7847 5328

A female seeking for a Job, with an Associate Degree in Business Management. I have 2 years experience in accounting for more information contact me at +268 76756937/ +268 79766938

Male 24 years old, graduate qualified with an Associate Degree in Architecture Technology

seeking for a job with experience in being a Draughtsman, Building Design and Building Services. Please call: 76995054/79995054.

I am a male student qualified with an Associate Degree in Business Management seeking for an Internship in department of Accounting Call: 76712630

Swazi citizen, experience: - Elections Clerk in year 2013. -5 year driving 8 tone truck in one of the companies in Swaziland from 2015-2019. Educational background: Form5 certificate, computer certificate, firefighting certificate, diploma basic ambulance assistance. Contact: +268 76870274 email:normanzwide06@gmail.com

A lady of 25 years with BSc in Business Management and Administration Cell: 76527128

Lady of 33 years with Graduate Diploma in Business Management and Administration- Cell: 76136049

Lady of 31 years with BSc in Accounting & Finance - Cell: 76411405

Lady of 24 years with Graduate Diploma in Accounting & Finance Cell: 78109617

Lady of 42 years with Graduate Diploma in Social Work & Community Development -Cell: 76237836

Lady 26 years old with Diploma in Call

Centre Management Call: 7653 9033

A female of 27 Years holder of a Diploma in Social Work & Community Development - Cell: 76384886

A female of 23 Years holder of a Diploma in Social Work & Community Development - Cell: 78509535

A female of 23 Years holder of a Diploma in Social Work & Community Development - Cell: 78528286

A female of 27 Years holder of a Graduate Diploma in Social Work & Community Development - Cell: 76665965

A female of 22 Years holder of a Graduate Diploma in Social Work & Community Development - Cell: 76592497

A female of 24 Years holder of a Diploma in Business Management & Administration Cell: 76212347

A male of 23 Years holder of a Diploma in Information Technology-Cell: 7608 3697

A male of 23 Years holder of a Diploma in Information Technology- Cell: 76242672

A male of 24 Years holder of a Graduate Diploma in Accounting & Finance- Cell: 78293787

A female of 28 Years holder of a Graduate Diploma in Accounting & Finance- Cell: 76113574

Male with Certificate in

MVM (Diesel /HP. Cell: 76361044

Male with Certificate in MVM (Diesel /HP. Cell: 78158069

Male with Certificate in MVM (Diesel /HP. Cell: 78485546

Female with Certificate in Health & Safety Cell: 76254239

Female with Certificate in Health & Safety Cell: 78440771

Female with Certificate in Health & Safety Cell: 78617271

Female with Certificate in Health & Safety Cell: 76662283

Male with Certificate in Light Motor Vehicle Cell: 78672015

Male with Certificate in Light Motor Vehicle Cell: 78714289

Male with Certificate in Light Motor Vehicle. Cell: 76846113

I am a male seeking for internship in Information Technology (IT) Please call: 76893399

Good final year IT student. Skills include Desktop Application and web development and networking. Good with java, c++, html, bootstrap and php. 76404197

A lady 28 years of age holding a degree in HR plus a diploma in secretarial frm SCOT.6 years wrking experience as a P.A can be contacted at ceboqm@gmail.com

Committed to perfecting skills and

staying current with developing automotive technologies and systems auto electrician looking for a freelance auto electricAl job call 76525384/79681444

A male graduate qualified with an Associate Degree in Creative Multimedia seeking for a job, with experience in corporate identity and knowledge of Adobe Creative suits & microsoft office suit. Please call: 78528819

25 year old lady is looking for a job. I have Diploma in Secretarial and business skills with 2 year experience as Office administrator. Contact 76185052

23 year old lady is looking for a job. I have Diploma in Secretarial and Business skills with 1 year experience as office clerk. Contact 76916993

22 year old lady is looking for a job. I have secretarial and business skills with 1 year experience as office clerk. Contact 78101029

24 year old lady is looking for a job. I have Diploma in secretarial and business skills with 1 year experience as office administrator. 76778627

24 year old lady is looking for a job. I Have AAT level 3 with experience as payroll officer. Contact 76644202

26 year old guy is looking for a job. I have AAT level 3 with 1 year experience as account clerk. Contact 76309464

25 year old lady is looking for a job. I have AAT level 3 with 1 year experience as account clerk. Contact 76922414

Female graduate with an Associate degree in Film and Television Production seeking for a job, with experience in video shooting and editing. Please call 76818487/79481157. Thank you.

lady with an advanced diploma in procurement and supply chain, plus a Bcom, good experience and a light duty driver seeks employment Call 76810335

Lady with Advanced Diploma in Accounting and Bachelor of Commerce -Rusj Management seeking a job. Vast work experience. Call 76447499

I am female graduate with an Associate degree in Film and Television Production seeking for a job, with experience in video shooting and editing. Please call 76818487/79481157. Thank you.

25 year old is looking for a job. I have diploma in secretarial and business skills with 1 year experience as receptionist. Call: 76334732

A male, 26 years seeking employment, with Dip. business Management, Certificate in project management.

Have vast experience in sales, marketing and communications, with excellent public speaking, presentation, and sale closing techniques. Computer literate. Contact: 76140559/79052632

A 30 year old lady with

diploma in accounting and finance, computer literate, 9 years experience in administration and accounting. Call 76483492

Auto Electrical repairs, installation, rewiring, diagnosis/ scanning call/ WhatsApp 76525384

Lady with an Advanced Diploma in Finance and Accounting with 3 years working experience as Accountant. Seeking for a job. 76918493

Am a male 26 with a Bachelor's degree in commerce majoring in Management from Uneswa. Looking for a job. My cell: 76637310

A male of 23 years old, seeking for job in earth moving machinery, I have bulldozer certificate WTH 3 years experience WTH heavy duty driver s licence +268 7695 2973

Hello, I am a female with a certificate in Journalism and mass Communication and BA in Government Administration and Development with more than ten years experience as Admin Seretary Seeking employment. Contact: 76158953 Thank you.

A male graduate holding a B.A Humanities majoring in History and African Languages (SiSwati) & Literature as well as a Post Graduate Certificate in Education (P.G.C.E) with 5 years experience, looking for a teaching job. Phone: 22176380 Cell: 78299587/79299587

A qualified Multimedia Professional with

experience in Video Production, Sound editing, Photography, 2D animation, 3D modeling, Magazine layout, Logo and Banners design etc. Is seeking employment. Contact: 7655 4623

Good morning please help me find a Job, I am a lady 30 years with a diploma in accounting. +268 76734837

ALady 27 years of age holding a HTS certificate from TASC and Certificate Psycho-Social Support from UNISWA, looking for a job, with experience in HIV testing & Counseling including Rapid Testing and Plebotomy. Please Call: 76683787/76545456

Male, with Bsc. Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness Management, from UNESWA Contact no.: +26835021759

A lady 29 years of age holding a diploma in secretarial and business skills with four years working experience as a secretary persuing a diploma in procurement and supply also having two years driving experience contacts: siphililenyaw odlamini@gmail.com cell: 78135832

26 year old lady with a diploma in Entrepreneurship and a Btech in Business administration seeking for employment 78415191

Lady with Associate Degree in Event Management with experience in Stock Control and Customer Service, seeking employment. Contact 7683 9615



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DEATHS

Majazi Johane Ntshakala



Funeral: 03/03/2019
Vigil: 02/03/2019
Place: kaLogoba

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani waMajazi Johane Ntshakala kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Utawufihlwa eSt Phillips kaNgcamphalala kaLogoba. Kwatiswa bekhakhakhe baka Mtjali, bashana bakhe bakaDlamini kaPhunga nebasekhaya kubo eOur Lady. Umlindzelo ungeMgicibelo mhlaka 02/03/19 ekuseni. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumkakhe Sipiwe Flomena Ntshakala egameni lemndeni.

I/N 201175

Dudu Jenneth Sifundza



Funeral: 03/03/2019
Vigil: 02/03/2019
Place: kaDvokolwako

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani baDudu Jenneth Sifundza lebekendze ka Sibandze kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa baka sifundza endwabangeni nebaka gogo wakhe kaDwandwe eNkambeni embukweni nebasekhakhakhe kaSibandze kaDvokolwako. Umgawabo umhlaka 3 March 2019 nga 06:00 ekuseni kaDvokolwako emva kwemlindzelo. Simemetelo sikhishwa nguLudvondvolo Sibandze uyisetela.

Menzi Kunene



Funeral: 02/03/2019
Vigil: kute
Place: Mbekelweni

Relatives, colleagues and friends of Menzi Kunene are notified of his demise. Funeral service at St Paul's Methodist Church, Manzini. On the 02/03/2019 at 4:45am and thereafter proceed to Mbekelweni kaMlambo for burial. No night vigil Announcement by the Mlambo Family.

Nelly Nomsa Dlamini



Funeral: 02/03/2019
Memorial: 01/03/2019

Kwatisa tihlobo nebangani ba Nelly Nomsa Dlamini lobekendze kaSimelane kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Kwatiswa bakaVilakati eNsingweni nebaka Dlamini kaLanga (eSiteki). Kutoba nenkondzo yesikhumbuto esontfweni eManzini Fellowship Church of Christ ngaleSihlanu 2pm. Ufihlwa ngeMgicibelo simemetelo sikhishwa ngumndeni waka Simelane.

Ngcebo Sibusiso Dlamini



Funeral: 02/03/2019
Vigil: kute
Place: eMbekelweni

Kwatiswa tihlobo nebangani baNgcebo Sibusiso Dlamini lobekasebenta eH.M.C.S. eBig Bend kutsi akasekho emhlabeni. Utawufihlwa ekhaya kubo eMbekelweni eSoweto ngeMgicibelo mhlaka 02/03/2019 kutaba nenkonzo yekumkhumbula eSoweto Church of the Nazarene ngaleSihlanu mhlaka 01/03/19 nga 1:00 emini. Kutawuba nenkonzo lemfisha ekhaya kubo eSoweto nga 8:30pm. Kute umlindzelo. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumndeni

Mathokoza Thabani Dlamini



Funeral: 03/03/2019
Vigil: 02/03/2019
Place: eNkamanzi

Kwatiswa Tihlobo nebangani ba Mathokoza Thabani Dlamini kutsi sewusishiye emhlabeni. Kunenkondzo yesikhumbuto esontfweni nga 2:00 pm eSt Paul's Methodist. Utawufihlwa eNkamanzi ekhayalakhe ngeliSontfo emva kwemlindzelo. Simemetelo sikhishwa ngumkakhe egameni lemndeni.

Makhanya Absalom Magongo



Funeral: 01/03/2019
Vigil: 02/03/2019
Place: Ezindwendweni

Relatives and friends of Makhanya Absalom Magongo are notified of his demise. Funeral on Saturday 02/03/2019 at Ezindwendweni (Lavumisa), after a night vigil on Friday 01/03/2019. The Makhanya and Lushaba family of Hluthi are also notified. Announcement by Mthunzi Makhanya his son on behalf of family.



May the gates of heaven open up to reveal strength and comfort in your times of trial and sorrow. God will comfort you.

Our Deepest Condolences

Death is only a bridge towards eternal life with God. Certainly Heaven is rejoicing for another soul has finally reached his true home.



It's almost unbearable when so much hope turns in deep sorrow wishing you much strength

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COURAGE
TO FACE
THE DAYS AHEAD
AND LOVING
MEMORIES TO
FOREVER HOLD
IN
YOUR HEART

Though He slay me,
yet will I hope in him;
I will surely
defend my ways to
his face.

The LORD is close to
the broken-hearted;
He rescues those

It's almost unbearable
when so much hope
turns in deep sorrow



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Mesut Ozil keeps Arsenal on top four

LONDON - As Alexandre Lacazette wheeled away to celebrate Arsenal's fifth goal, the chant from the terraces came loud and clear.

'Tottenham Hotspur, we're coming for you,' they teased and on this evidence, Mauricio Pochettino's side have cause for worry. Tomorrow lunchtime's north London Derby at Wembley now has more at stake than local pride.

This victory, the biggest home win of Unai Emery's debut season, kept Arsenal in the Champions League places and cut the gap to Tottenham to four points. It also marked an eighth straight Premier League home win and a sense of gathering momentum emerges after a winter wobble.

On a night when the jigsaw came together for Emery, this ought, on the surface at least, to have encouraged Mesut Ozil. A starter in a Premier League game once more, a goal inside three minutes, an assist inside half-an-hour. For the first time in a long time, the German wore a wide smile, the supporters sang his name and the thumb-sucking celebration came back out to play.



GOOD GAME: Mesut Ozil.

Lukaku scores twice against Crystal Palace

LONDON - Ten weeks since Ole Gunnar Solskjaer arrived at Manchester United as interim manager, and his transformative powers remain strong.

His latest trick proved to be the revival of Romelu Lukaku in front of goal as United kept their momentum rolling with victory at Crystal Palace while in the grip of a crisis of injuries.

'Ole's at the Wheel' chorused the jubilant away fans as they celebrated with the players and Solskjaer exchanged pleasantries with supporters near the tunnel and posed for photographs on his way back to the dressing room as if he had not a care in the world.

"This is a game I dreaded," said the United boss. "Well, not dreaded, but I knew it was going to be difficult. But tactically we were so focused and there was no complacency. The key was a good start, taking control of the game and a fantastic response when it went 2-1. And great finishing by Rom."

Lukaku's first Premier League goal since January 2 fired United ahead in the first half.

It owed much to a fabulous run by Luke Shaw, dribbling deep into Palace territory from the left before sliding a short pass to the Belgian, who accepted the ball on the turn and finished with stylish confidence.

The goal took him into double figures in club football this season.

Daily Mail

Yet when the team-sheet emerges an hour before Arsenal kick-off at Wembley against Tottenham tomorrow at lunchtime, Emery will almost certainly serve another reminder of Ozil's standing in the Arsenal dressing room. This is not only due to the qualities of Henrikh Mkhitaryan, scorer of the second and creator of the third for Laurent Koscielny and fourth for Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, but also because the manager does not trust Ozil on the biggest stage.

Since Boxing Day, Ozil has only started home matches against Cardiff, Bate Borisov and now Bournemouth. This tells its own story. For context, Eddie Howe's team have now lost nine consecutive Premier League away matches, conceding 28 goals. "We can't kid ourselves that today was acceptable," Howe said.

Daily Mail

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EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO CEO Reporting to: Chief Executive Officer

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THIS JOB:

The Executive Assistant to the CEO's main responsibility to ensure smooth running of the day to day operations of the CEO's Office.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Diploma in Secretarial Studies
- Certificate in Public Relations
- Minimum 5 years secretarial services experience at senior management level
- 2 years office management experience at an organization.

REQUIRED FUNCTIONAL APTITUDES:

- High level office management - Organisational, planning and multi-tasking skills
- MS Office proficiency
- Communication skills
- Information gathering and information monitoring skills
- Problem analysis and problem-solving skills
- Professionalism and Confidentiality
- Attention to detail and accuracy
- Maturity

THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- Office Administration
- Typing confidential documents including EXCO and some Board documents
- Minutes taking in EXCO and other CEO's meetings
- Maintain Personal Files for Management
- Make travel arrangements for the CEO
- Performing any other lawful duties that may be assigned

REMUNERATION:

Competitive package.

HEAD OF AGRICULTURE Reporting to: Manager Business Development

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THIS JOB:

The Head of Agriculture position's main priorities will be: taking responsibility to promote the agribusiness finance portfolio in line with IDCE's approved strategy anchored by the company's investment guidelines and principles.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Bachelor's Degree in Finance, Agriculture Economics and Agribusiness Management or equivalent
- Post Graduate Degree would be an added advantage
- 5 years' experience, 3 years of which were in middle management
- Understanding operations of credit function within the financial industry
- Awareness of regulatory requirements governing the financial industry
- Driving is a must.

REQUIRED FUNCTIONAL APTITUDES:

- MS Office
- Management Reporting
- Problem Solving
- Confidentiality and Integrity
- Attention to detail
- Have a strong financial acumen

THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- Identifying and using suitable promotion strategies to grow the agribusiness portfolio.
- Keep a current, credible and well diversified pipeline of projects within the agribusiness portfolio.
- Appraise potential agribusiness opportunities
- Prepare board papers and/or committees' briefs in respect of agribusiness applications
- Implement the loan facilities in line with agreed terms
- To conduct regular site visits on agribusiness projects.
- Regular review performance of IDCE clients against criteria set at approval stage through analysis of management and audited accounts to ensure remedial action is taken
- Provide regular reports on the performance and those that may have significant impact on the agribusiness portfolio
- Staff management under the department
- Performing any other lawful duties that may be assigned

REMUNERATION:

Competitive package.

Applications

Interested applicants should send their applications and CVs with three contactable references quoting the job title on the subject line; accompanied by certified academic qualifications to nontsikelelo@idce.co.sz on or before 8 March 2019. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

(Should you not receive feedback within 14 days after the closing date, you may consider your application unsuccessful)

Man City agree 10-year £650m deal with Puma

LONDON - Manchester City have signed the biggest kit deal in their history and the second-highest in the Premier League, with a 10-year agreement with Puma worth a reported £650 million (US\$863m).

The deal sits only behind Manchester United's with Adidas when it comes to the most lucrative in the English top-flight.

City, who currently work in partnership with Nike, will see a new sponsorship contract kick in from the summer of 2019.

The club's chief executive, Ferran Soriano, has said: "It's a historic day for us because what we are doing has not been done before, an unprecedented partnership covering five clubs over four continents."

Puma's deal includes not only Manchester City but also sister clubs Melbourne City, Girona, Club Atletico Torque and Sichuan Jiuniu and involves the male, female and youth sides.

Bjorn Gulden, the CEO of Puma, told City's official website: "PUMA's partnership with City Football Group is the largest deal that we have ever done - both in scope and ambition."

"We are very excited to partner with City Football Group, whose success,



CELEBRATION: Manchester City players embracing each other before their recent game.

ambition and drive for innovation has seen them setting new standards, on and off the field.

"We look forward to building the most innovative partnership in football by redefining the sports partnership model both on and off the pitch."

"We want to maximise on-field performance as well as football culture, in areas such as music, gaming and fashion to connect and inspire the fanbase

of each team."

Soriano added: "This announcement marks the start of an exciting new chapter for City Football Group."

"Our relationship with PUMA, covering five City Football Group clubs across four continents, will reset the model for sports partnerships on a truly global scale whilst being locally relevant and authentic for fans around the world." *Goal*

Former Olympic champion DeGale hangs up his gloves

LONDON - Former two-time super middleweight world champion James DeGale announced his retirement yesterday days after he took a pummelling from fellow Briton Chris Eubank Junior.

The 33-year-old, who as a middleweight won Olympic gold in Beijing in 2008, said he had been on an 'amazing journey' but 10 years to the day of his first professional bout was an apt one to hang up his gloves.

De Gale was the first British pugilist to progress from the Olympics to a world title after turning professional. He won the IBF world title belt in the United States in 2015 against Andre Dirrell before defending it three times across the Atlantic.

"Today marks 10 years since my professional debut fight on February 28, 2009 and today is the day I am

announc-

ing my retirement from boxing," said DeGale in a statement.

"It's been an unbelievable journey and I've had an amazing decade - if I'm honest, the best years of my life."

DeGale, who lost his world title in an upset points decision to American Caleb Truax in December 2017 before regaining it in a rematch in April the following year, admitted the Eubank bout had exposed to him how far he had fallen as a pugilist.

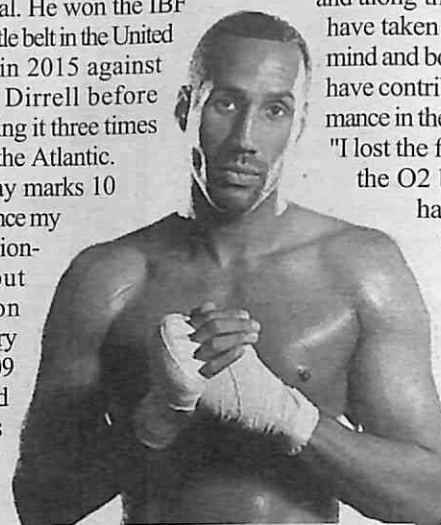
"It's hard to admit that I'm not the fighter I once was, but I'm human and along the way, my injuries have taken a toll - both on my mind and body and these things have contributed to my performance in the ring," said DeGale.

"I lost the fight on Saturday at the O2 but I'm touched to

have a good send-off from the fans in my home city."

"I'm proud to say that I've made history as the first ever British Olympian boxer to turn professional and to win a world title."

AFP



RETIRED: James DeGale.

William slams football clubs

LONDON - Prince William has launched a withering broadside at football clubs, lambasting them for a 'dereliction of duty' in their lack of care for players' mental health.

Prince William, who along with younger brother Prince Harry have spoken openly about their own mental health issues, said clubs appeared to only see the players as investments not as human beings.

Prince William, who is the President of English football's governing body the Football Association (FA), made the remarks during a meeting at Windsor Park, the home of the Irish Football Association in Belfast.

"Some clubs don't do anything about mental health. We've got to change the whole way we look after players," the 36-year-old Prince said to members of Ahead of the Game, an organisation that delivers mental health support to grassroots football clubs.

"Many players come from difficult backgrounds and may have all sorts of issues going on. 'So just to have them as a complete financial asset... it's a dereliction of duty, I think.'"

Prince William, who decried the manner in which players are 'discarded' and said they should be 'supported' instead of the clubs wiping their hands of them and told to 'move on,' said he was in talks with the FA over the possibility of organising a 'Mental Health FA Cup.'

"We're working on something with the FA at the moment, trying potentially to get a mental health FA Cup to have a really punchy campaign we can base something around," said the Prince, who is a noted supporter of second tier English side Aston Villa. Prince William's rare outspoken comments drew praise from across the football community including Michael Bennett, the Professional Footballers' Association's head of welfare. *AFP*

TOTTENHAM, ARSENAL, MAN U, CHELSEA BATTLING IT OUT

LONDON - Tottenham's crushing defeat at Chelsea on Wednesday night has ensured there are now just two teams left in the running for the Premier League title.

Liverpool and Manchester City have pulled clear of the chasing pack but, as we enter the final stage of the season, the battle to secure Champions League football is just as tense.

Spurs, Arsenal, Manchester United and Chelsea are separated by just seven points as they look to join Europe's elite next season. Here, Sportsmail assesses all four team's chances of clinching those remaining two places inside the top four.

Tottenham

Form: Most fans would have thought Harry Kane's return to action from injury would have coincided with a dazzling run to the title for Spurs. It has not panned out at all like that though with Mauricio Pochettino's side losing at both Burnley and Chelsea to leave their title chances in tatters.

Spurs had won four league games in a row without their leading marksman and they will be hopeful they can halt the slide sooner rather than later.

Squad depth: This is potentially the area that could cost Spurs the most. Without Kane, Son Heung-min stepped up and scored in three games in a row but there was always a sense that he surely couldn't maintain that level of form.

They have a largely fit squad at present but star man Dele Alli has an unknown return date and that is cause for concern.

Distractions: Spurs were knocked out of the FA Cup by Crystal Palace in round four and that leaves them fighting on two fronts. They have an impressive three-goal lead over Borussia Dortmund in their Champions League last-16 tie and look set to move through to the quarter-finals with the return leg pencilled in for March 5.

Remaining fixtures: A game Spurs wouldn't fancy after two straight defeats is Arsenal but a north London derby is what awaits them on Saturday lunchtime. They also face daunting away trips to both Liverpool and Manchester City and host Everton on the final

day of the season.

Arsenal

Form: Since losing at West Ham at the start of the year, Arsenal's form has been rather impressive. In their last five games they have recorded four wins and one defeat - a 3-1 loss at Manchester City. Unai Emery's side climbed into fourth place with a 5-1 thrashing of Bournemouth on Wednesday and that comes after routine wins over Southampton and Huddersfield.

Squad depth: The Gunners are pretty much injury free aside from Hector Bellerin and Danny Welbeck, who will both miss the rest of the season. They have two world class strikers in Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang and Alexandre Lacazette and a good supply chain in Henrikh Mkhitaryan, Alex Iwobi and Mesut Ozil.

January signing Denis Suarez is yet to show his true colours while Aaron Ramsey didn't even get off the bench on Wednesday with Lucas Torreira and Matteo Guendouzi impressing in midfield.

Distractions: Arsenal and Chelsea have a lifeline for Champions League football in the form of the Europa League and both are serious contenders. The Gunners have a favourable draw in the last-16 against French side Rennes and Emery has pedigree in the competition having won it three times at Sevilla.

Remaining fixtures: If Arsenal can get through their next two games unscathed then there is definitely cause for optimism.

They face Spurs on Saturday before hosting United on March 10. Every game is winnable after that though with trips to Wolves and Everton the most challenging games left.

Manchester United

Form: United's win over Crystal Palace ensured the Red Devils claimed a club record eighth consecutive win away from home and extended their unbeaten league run under Ole Gunnar Solskjaer to 11 games. They are the team's in-form league, having dropped points against just Burnley and Liverpool in the league since the Norwegian's arrival in December.

Squad depth: United were missing eight first-team players at Selhurst Park but still managed to win,

showing the strength in their squad.

Jesse Lingard, Ander Herrera, Juan Mata, Anthony Martial, Nemanja Matic, Phil Jones, Antonio Valencia and Matteo Darmian all missed the trip to Palace and most remain doubts for Saturday's game at home to Southampton.

Distractions: United appear to be on their way out of the Champions League after Paris Saint-Germain scored two unanswered away goals in the first leg of their last-16 tie. They are in the quarter-finals of the FA Cup though and most would fancy them to win at Wolves and reach a Wembley semi-final.

Remaining fixtures: United probably have the toughest run of fixtures between the top four rivals. They've still got three 'top six' teams left to play and travel to both Wolves and Everton.

Chelsea

Form: Inconsistent form has left Maurizio Sarri on the brink of the sack but a morale-boosting 2-0 win over Spurs on Wednesday looks to have brought the Italian some time. The Blues were thrashed 6-0 by City and 4-0 by Bournemouth earlier this year and also lost at Arsenal.

Squad depth: Sarri has a lot of talent at his disposal but it seems the former Napoli boss has opted to select from a core group of around 14 players. The front three looks to be formed around four players while Jorginho and N'Golo Kante are guaranteed midfield starters with Mateo Kovacic and Ross Barkley rotating for the other place.

Distractions: Similarly to Arsenal, Chelsea have a real opportunity to get into the Champions League via this season's Europa League. After cruising past Malmo in the last-32, they have been drawn to play Dynamo Kiev next and will be favourites to progress.

Remaining fixtures: Chelsea have to go to both Liverpool and Manchester United, two games that could have a major influence in the races for the title and Champions League football. They do have a game in hand on their rivals but Eden Hazard and Co will fancy themselves to take maximum points from games against weaker opposition.

Daily Mail

Weekend Sports Fixtures

...Compiled by Jongile Xuba

ESWATINI BANK CUP LAST 16 FIXTURES

Tomorrow at Somhlolo Stadium			
Ludzeludze Killers	vs	G. Mamba FC	2pm
Mo. Citizens	vs	Young Buffaloes	4pm
At Killarney Sports Ground			
Black Swallows	vs	Malanti Chiefs	3pm
At Tambankulu Stadium			
Tambankulu Callies	vs	Vovovo FC	3pm
At Mavuso Sports Centre			
Mon. Pirates	vs	Royal Leopard	3pm
At King Sobhuza II Stadium			
Tambuti FC	vs	Mb. Swallows	3pm
SUNDAY			
At Somhlolo National Stadium			
Matsapha United	vs	Mb. Highlanders	1:30pm
Manzini Wanderers	vs	Manzini Sundowns	3:35pm

U20 QUARTER - FINAL FIXTURES

Tomorrow at Somhlolo Stadium			
Young Buffaloes	vs	Green Mamba	9am
Malanti Chiefs	vs	Manzini Sundowns	11am
Sunday			
At Somhlolo Stadium			
Vovovo	vs	Mbabane Swallows	9am
Tambuti	vs	Royal Leopard	11am

LADIES LAST 16 FIXTURES

Tomorrow at Lobamba Technical Centre			
Mbekweni Ladies	vs	Y. Buffaloes Ladies	11am
Sileki Ladies	vs	S. Divas Ladies	1pm
Sunday			
At Simunye Stadium			
Mhume Ladies	vs	M. Wanderers Ladies	11am
Sunday			
At King Sobhuza II Stadium			
Shiselweni Roses Ladies	vs	Royal Leopards	11am

MANDLA MAHEWU MBABANE JUNIORS LEAGUE

Tomorrow at Supply Centre Sports Ground - U13			
Dark City	vs	Umbelebele	8am
The Waiters	vs	Mangwaneni	9am M.
Swallows	vs	Manganenani	10am
Mphalati	vs	Hurricane	11am
Tomorrow at United Sports Ground - U13			
Wizards	vs	Mantsholo	8am
Supersport	vs	Amawele	9am
M. Fighters	vs	Celtics	10am
Real Tec	vs	Imbumbwe	11am
Tomorrow at Msunduzi Sports Ground - U15			
Malanti	vs	Supersport	8am
Real Tec	vs	Habbana	9am
M. Swallows	vs	Mphalati	10am
Buka Stars	vs	White City	11am (U17)
Tomorrow at Police Sports Ground - U15			
Malangwane	vs	Mangwaneni	8am
M. Classic	vs	Hurricane	9am
Wizards	vs	Amawele	10am
The Waiters	vs	M. Fighters	11am

SWAZI TRAC HHOHO SUPER LEAGUE E77 000

Southern Zone			
Tomorrow at Maphalaleni Sports Ground			
Billy Ocean	vs	Burning Spear	3:30pm
Tomorrow at Kuphelani Sports Ground			
Kuphelani	vs	PMT	3:30pm
Tomorrow at Motshane Sports Ground			
Shooting Stars	vs	Umbelebele	3:30pm
Sunday at POW Sports Ground			
Wizards	vs	Imbumbwe	3pm
Sunday at Casino Sports Ground			
Swazi Sun	vs	Sibovini	3pm
Sunday at Mhlambanyatsi Sports Ground			
Community	vs	Emajukujuku	3pm
Northern Zone			
Tomorrow at Fontotje Sports Ground			
N. Swallows	vs	Khanjana	1:30pm
Sigodlo	vs	Machibini	3:30pm
Tomorrow at Ntfontini Sports Ground			
M. Arsenal	vs	Manchester	3:30pm
Tomorrow at Ngonini Sports Ground			
Mshaheni	vs	Mvuma	3:30pm
Sunday at Prison Sports Ground			
Pachanga	vs	Vultures	3pm
Sunday at Fontotje Sports Ground			
Kappa Kappa	vs	Horo Spinners	3pm

SOUTH STAR MDZIMBA LEAGUE E65 000

Tomorrow at Hhukwini Sports Ground			
Arsenal	vs	Cosmos	1:30pm
Killers	vs	Rebels	3:30pm
Tomorrow at Mdzimba Sports Ground			
Africa Stars	vs	Highlanders	1:30pm
Driekoppies	vs	Rhinos	3:30pm
Sunday at Nsukumbili Sports Ground			
All Stars	vs	Top Centre	1pm
Swallows	vs	Kasiko	3pm
Sunday at Hhukwini Sports Ground			
Sundowns	vs	Chiefs	11am
Bush Bucks	vs	Timbungulu	1pm
Sibuyeni	vs	Rangers	3pm
Sunday at Mdzimba Sports Ground			
Rhumbas	vs	Barcelona	11am
Monaco	vs	Mashuba	1pm
Green Sea	vs	Amacabane	3pm

MANDLA MAHEWU MBABANE LEAGUE E70 000

Tomorrow at Msunduzi Sports Ground			
Classic	vs	Supersport	1:30pm
Mvakweli	vs	Corporation	3:30pm
Tomorrow at Sidwashini Sports Ground			
Pine Valley	vs	Sandia	3:30pm
Sunday at Msunduzi Sports Ground			
Mb. Arsenal	vs	Real Tec	11am
Mbabane Celtics	vs	Interstars	1pm
Amawele	vs	Sidwashini	3pm
Sunday at Sidwashini Sports Ground			
Double Action	vs	Pot O Gold	1pm

Veni Cosmos	vs	White City	3pm
Tomorrow at Police Sports Ground			
Mangwaneni	vs	Free Style	1:30pm
Royal Dynamos	vs	Mpolonjeni	3:30pm
Tomorrow at Sidwashini Sports Ground			
Lusoti	vs	D. Darkies FC	1:30pm
Sunday at Police Sports Ground			
Hurricane	vs	Movers	11am
Mantsholo FC	vs	Mphalati	1pm
Mbabane Utd	vs	The Waiters	3pm
Tomorrow at Sidwashini Sports Ground			
Mantsholo Utd	vs	The Waiters	9am
National Rangers	vs	FC Vaal	11am

POTS CONSTRUCTION SIGANGENI FOOTBALL LEAGUE E30 000

Tomorrow at Sigangeni Sports Ground			
Young Fighters	vs	Real Utd	1:30pm
U. Eagles	vs	Total Xi	3:30pm
Tomorrow at Ntsetse Sports Ground			
Kangaroo	vs	Sigangeni	1:30pm
Ntsetse Flyers	vs	Mighty Chiefs	3:30pm
Sunday at Sigangeni Sports Ground			
L. Nationals	vs	Villa Sport	1pm
Manz. Celtics	vs	Real Touch	3pm

BUY CASH PIGG'S PEAK LEAGUE E50 000

Sunday at Lazwane Sports Ground			
Magaga	vs	Thuluzobona	11am
Hotspurs	vs	Citizens	1pm
Rockville	vs	Supersport	3pm
Sunday at Plantations Sports Ground			
Darkies Utd	vs	19 Celtics	1pm
Mhlalane	vs	Peak City	3pm
Sunday at Malanda Sports Ground			
Mangwaneni	vs	Bush Bucks	11am
Phophonyane	vs	Ndeva	1pm
White Killers	vs	Rise & Shine	3pm

MP NELSON MAMBA TIMPHISINI REGIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Tomorrow at LFTC Sports Ground			
My All United	vs	Sikheleni	9am
Juventus	vs	Beaufort	11am
Stone Breakers	vs	Young Stars	1pm
Ellegence	vs	Mb. Swallows	3pm
Sunday at LFTC Sports Ground			
All Stars	vs	Red Lion	9am
Zamalek	vs	JB Arsenal	11am
Vusweni Cosmos	vs	Matsamo	1pm
Soccer Rose	vs	Star Wanderers	3pm
Sunday at Ndlalambi Sports Ground			
Young Tigers	vs	Ak 47	11am
Blue Birds	vs	Njakeni City	1pm
Golden Arrows	vs	Sundowns	3pm
Sunday at Ngonini Sports Ground			
Njakeni Utd	vs	Y. Bombers	9am
Y. Swallows	vs	Y. Savilla	11am
H. Pirates	vs	Kudweleni	1pm
Ngonini	vs	Gunner	3pm

MP BAKHANYISELE MABULALA & GONGZ MAPHALALENI LEAGUE E60 000

Eastern Stream			
Tomorrow at Maphalaleni Sports Ground			
Thuluzobona	vs	Professionals	1pm
Tomorrow at Bizza Sports Ground			
Liselesele	vs	Killers	11am
Luvunjelo	vs	Hotspurs	1pm
Young Stars	vs	Manchester	3pm
Sunday at Maphalaleni Sports Ground			
Barcelona	vs	Experience	1pm
Khulungwane	vs	Y. Lovers	3pm
Sunday at Bizza Sports Ground			
Umkhokha	vs	Blue Birds	1pm
Junior Stars	vs	Rangers	3pm
Futis Nkhaba League - E30 000			
Tomorrow at Motshane Sports Ground			
Ngwenya Utd	vs	Nkoyoyo	1:30pm
Shooting Stars	vs	Umbelebele	3:30pm
Tomorrow at Majotini Sports Ground			
Mhl. Celtics	vs	Kasi Xi	1:30pm
Dribbling Stars	vs	Real Rovers	3:30pm
Sunday at Motshane Sports Ground			
Nkoyoyo Jnr	vs	Fast Movers	9am
Lubhedze	vs	Atletico	11am
Crocodiles	vs	Manyisa	1pm
Barcelona	vs	Super Stars	3pm
Sunday at Majotini Sports Ground			
Majotini	vs	Bafana	2:30pm

TEE & JAY LOBAMBA LEAGUE E90 000

Top 8 KO			
Tomorrow at Elangeni Sports Ground			
Luvu Killers	vs	Power Stars	1pm
Fast Reaction	vs	Emaselesele	3pm
Sunday at Elangeni Sports Ground			
L. Wanderers	vs	X- Eleven	1pm
Kasi Warriors	vs	L. Sunrise	3pm

MP SHEBELEZA NTABINEZIMPISI LEAGUE E50 000

Tomorrow at Mkhuzweni Sports Ground			
Super Stars	vs	Golden arrows	1:30pm
Russian Bombers	vs	Manchester	3:30pm
Tomorrow at Ntamakuphila Sports Ground			
Hungry Lions	vs	City Cosmos	3:30pm
Sunday at Buhleni Sports Ground			
Mawombe Arsenal	vs	Buhleni Aces	1:30pm
Seven Stars	vs	Special Killers	3:30pm
Sunday at Mkhuzweni Sports Ground			
Maz. Sundowns	vs	Y. Professional	3pm
Sunday at Fontotje Sports Ground			
Fontotje	vs	City Stars	3pm

BHULANE RESORT NDZINGENI LEAGUE E50 000

Mvuma Stream			
Tomorrow at Mvuma Sports Ground			
M. Celtics	vs	Tihlabani	9am
Mphondla	vs	Volcano	11am
Bulandzeni			
Tomorrow at Bulandzeni Sports Ground			
Sweet Banana	vs	M. Aces	11am
Young Stars	vs	Arsenal	1pm

Liverpool	vs	Roman Utd	3pm
Sunday at Bulandzeni Sports Ground			
Young Chiefs	vs	Supersport	11am
K. Celtics	vs	B. Rebels	1pm
Winners Park	vs	White City	3pm

MP MHLANGATANE LEAGUE E50 000

Western Stream			
Tomorrow at Tikhuneni Sports Ground			
Fast Movers	vs	Lonhlanane	1:30pm
Democracy	vs	Celtics	3:30pm
Tomorrow at Mfonjeni Sports Ground			
Hot Fighters	vs	Arsenal	1:30pm
Mpofu Aces	vs	City Stars	3:30pm
Sunday at Mfonjeni Sports Ground			
M. Professionals	vs	Zinyane	11:30pm
Weirama	vs	Manchester	1:30pm
Thuluzobona	vs	Chelsea	3:30pm
Eastern Stream			
Tomorrow at Manjengeni Sports Ground			
M. Bombers	vs	Makhweya	1:30pm
Tomorrow at Machibini Sports Ground			
Tigers	vs	New Castle	3:30pm
Sunday at Zintanjane Sports Ground			
H. Defenders	vs	Xi Men	1:30pm
Liverpool	vs	Manjengeni	3:30pm
Sunday at Makhweya Sports Ground			
T. Wizards	vs	M. Cosmos	3:30pm

SOMPISI NTFONJENI LEAGUE - E40 000

Tomorrow at Ntfontjeni Sports Ground			
Liverpool	vs	Sdwasini	11am
Seven Up	vs	Teenagers	1pm
Hellenic	vs	Gunwane	3pm
Tomorrow at Mshinande Sports Ground			
Pirates	vs	Barcelona	1pm
Suncity	vs	Chelsea	3pm
Sunday at Ntfontjeni Sports Ground			
Zibonele	vs	R. Madrid	11am
Express	vs	Mbabatane	1pm
Nkonjani	vs	Ntintinyane	3pm
Sunday at Mshinande Sports Ground			
Trounge	vs	Casino	1pm
Foster Utd	vs	Young Tigers	3pm

DU'S CORNER

THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT

WITH
DUMSANE SIBANDZE

PLS Youth Development
Communications Manager



SOLO INJE: EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

IT is fair to say that the EswatiniBank Cup is a unique tournament for a number of reasons.

This tournament has gained huge popularity over the years, and has literally become a national event. What makes this tournament stand out is the fact that it is very unpredictable because there are no underdogs.

It is a tournament that will always provide surprises for football followers such that you must expect the unexpected this weekend in the last 16 round of this competition. This column wishes to congratulate all the 16 teams that defied all odds in the opening round to reach this stage of the tournament and it must be said that this was done by merit, not favour.

The 16 teams worked very hard to get where they are now, but the road ahead is still long and tedious. They still need to put more effort to get to the promised land, which is the final where they not only stand to benefit handsomely financially, but probably the most significant value of being champions in this tournament is securing the ticket to represent the country in

...it will be survival of the fittest as 16 teams battle to win a berth in the last eight of this prestigious tournament this weekend



FAT CHEQUE: EswatiniBank Managing Director Zakhele Lukhele presenting a Two Million Nine Hundred Thousand Emalangenis sponsorship for Eswatini Bank Cup tournament to Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Harries 'Madze' Bulunga, Eswatini Football Association President Adam Bomber Mtsetfwa and Premier League of Eswatini Chairman Thabo Magagula at the Convention Centre.

the CAF Confederations Cup.

This should be a motivation on its own for the remaining clubs to double their efforts and work extra hard to get the top prize, which will without any doubt make their bank accounts look pretty healthy.

We also must commend the eight

teams that have reached the quarter-finals of the Under 20s category under the same banner of EswatiniBank Cup.

This is a stage where there is no margin for error for the teams involved, because the reality is that half of them would be eliminated

from this tournament this weekend.

They, therefore, must be well prepared for any result and most importantly, they must provide the soccer supporters good football display in the field of play. Good luck to all the clubs!

EswatiniBank Cup Under 20s: Use over-aged players at your own peril!

THESE games will serve as curtain raiser for the senior tournament's games at Somhlolo National Stadium tomorrow and Sunday.

The draw has already been done and fixtures released by the tournament's management committee (MC). We can conducted warn the teams to use only players who are eligible to play in this tournament, which are players who are under 20. We do not expect players who are above that age to feature anyhow.

Let me also clear the air on players that are registered under the Esibayeni Lodge Under-17 League, as they are not eligible to play in this tournament for the simple reason that you cannot register for two leagues.

If you are found to have contravened this warning, rules will simply apply accordingly.

This means you will forfeit the game to the opposition, something we always discourage because we want teams to win the battle in the field of play, not through ignorance of the rules.



Last 16 draw: EswatiniBank MD a cut above the rest

THE EswatiniBank Cup last 16 draw conducted early this week was blessed by the presence of the bank's evergreen Managing Director (MD) Zakhele Lukhele alongside National Football Association (FA) President Adam 'Bomber' Mthethwa and the tournament's management Committee (MC) chairman Dr Comfort Shongwe.

It is worth noting that the workaholic Shongwe is also FA's vice-president and there were also other top dignitaries present from the bank, the Premier League of Eswatini (PLE) not forgetting the teams' officials. It was a wonderfully organised event and the interesting draw made the function even more colourful.

We cannot forget the speech by the MD, which was a cut above the rest and defined who this man is.

In fact, from his speech, you could tell that the MD is well informed or let me say well equipped about what is happening in this tournament, which shows that he has huge passion for football development. He is a great inspiration in the football

fraternity and we will forever be grateful for the love that he continues to show towards this game of billions. He is a true gentleman and a great leader.

We also thank the FA president for his continued involvement in our developmental activities. Here is a football man who rarely misses our football functions.

He is a flexible and dynamic man, who is clearly clued up about what is happening in our development structures.

He is always there to encourage and offer proper advice where needed. Some, even in the media fraternity, call him a walking dictionary of local football, obviously for a justifiable reason because he has not only been a loyal servant of the game for a long time now but he commands huge respect even in the corridors of world football power, which is a plus for us as a footballing nation to have him around. Football lovers should refer to the local media (both print and electronic) to get the full fixtures of the weekend games.



Sihlangu ready to start preparations for Tunisia

As previously stated, our league this season is the most competitive in so many years and with

that, I believe we are going to have the strongest national soccer team ever.

I have been informed that the national team Sihlangu will begin their preparations mid next week under the guidance of new coach

Costadin Papic and mine would be to wish the technical bench all the best as they



Supporters

WE take this opportunity to invite all football lovers in the country to come in their big numbers for the exciting Eswatini Bank Cup games this weekend.

Our football will never be complete without the supporters of the game which we normally refer to as the 12th player in the

prepare the boys for the vital AFCON Qualifier against Tunisia later this month away from home. My appeal to local football followers is to give the new coach time to instil his coaching philosophy to the play-

ers. Let us not put the technical bench under unnecessary pressure and I was glad to hear that our local coaches have promised to support Papic and his team, which is what we always encourage.

Lady ref Leticia putting country on world map

LADY referee Leticia Viana has without doubt been a great source of inspiration for other aspiring female referees.

She has stood her ground in what is relatively known as male profession and exceeded expectations.

She is one of the top referees in the country, and this is even proven by the fact that she has been regularly getting invitations to officiate in international tournaments.

Such invitations are normally done on merit, not by favour. We can agree that she has represented us well in those international competitions and who knows, we could finally have a local referee officiating in a big tournament like the AFCON finals or even the World Cup, like we see with our neighbouring countries, including South Africa.

Through the efforts of referees like Leticia, other footballing nations are beginning to take us seriously as a country, where refereeing is concerned and we need to appreciate her efforts the best way we can. Our message to Leticia is to keep her head level and continue to put the country on the world map.



FUTSAL KINGS: Mangwaneni FC U-13 captain Phila Matola lifts the trophy won by his team. This was during the Brand Active Pre-season tournament at Msunduza Sports Ground last Saturday. (Pics: Jongile Xuba)



TRUE LEADER: Sivutsa FC captain Senzo Dlamini receiving his trophy from the sponsor, while Mbabane Regional League Secretary Themba Motsa and Juniors chairman Merika Dlamini look on.



TROPHIES: Brand Active MD Essau Dlamini watching the games.



WELL DONE: Mbabane Juniors Chairman Merika Dlamini congratulates a Sivutsa player after his best performance that made his team champions.

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ESWATINI ENERGY REGULATORY AUTHORITY

PRESS STATEMENT

INVITATION TO A STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP ON NEW POWER GENERATION CAPACITY PROCUREMENT IN ESWATINI

The Eswatini Energy Regulatory Authority (ESERA) kindly invites industry stakeholders and parties who may be interested in participating in the development of new generation capacity in Eswatini to a workshop to be held on 14th of March 2019 at Esibayeni Lodge, starting from 08h30 until 16h30.

The main objective of this workshop is to provide information and/or clarifications regarding the new **competitive power generation capacity procurement process** that will soon be launched by ESERA and to provide a forum for industry stakeholders, potential developers, financiers, contractors and other interested parties to dialogue on the proposed competitive tendering process.

The topics that will be discussed in the workshop include the following:

- Overview of the new generation capacity to be procured in the short term;
- Stages envisaged in the procurement of private power generation project in a competitive manner;
- Typical contractual arrangement for private power generation projects;
- Potential for local participation in the new generation projects, market appetite and capacity;
- Project financing arrangements and;
- Indicative roadmap for the procurement process.

ESERA requests that parties who intend to attend the workshop RSVP by no later than [07 March 2019]. The RSVPs shall be addressed to ESERA by email to: nkambules@sera.org.sz.

For any questions relating to the proposed workshop kindly contact [Mr Sikhumbuzo Nkambule] on:

Tel: (+268) 24042103

Email: nkambules@sera.org.sz

ESERA welcomes the involvement of participants in the workshop and thank you in advance for your positive interest in the development of the Eswatini energy sector.

MR VUSUMUZI MKHUMANE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.



● Manchester United's Belgium forward Romelu Lukaku, 25, wants to join Juventus this summer if he is forced out of Old Trafford. (Sun)

● Tottenham and England striker Harry Kane, 25, needs to move to a 'big club' to prove himself and win trophies, according to former Sweden international Zlatan Ibrahimovic. (Metro)

● Spain goalkeeper David de Gea, 28, wants to stay at Manchester United and is ready to sign a new deal worth a potential £375 000 a week. (Mail)



● Leicester City boss Brendan Rodgers wants to bring in £40m-rated Bournemouth and England striker Callum Wilson, 27. (Sun)

● Manchester City are monitoring on Benfica and Serbia striker Luka Jovic. The 21-year-old is currently on loan at Eintracht Frankfurt. (Mail)

● Chelsea are among a number of Premier League clubs looking at Maritimo's 26-year-old Croatian midfielder Josip Vukovic. (Talksport)

● Arsenal will recall 26-year-old Argentine goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez from his loan spell at Reading to become the club's number two as they cannot afford to sign a replacement for the retiring Petr Cech. (Sun)

● Arsenal and Southampton tried to sign Miguel Almiron on loan before the Paraguay midfielder moved to Newcastle United on a permanent deal, according to the 25-year-old's agent. (ABC Cardinal, via Star)

● Chelsea asked their fans on Twitter who the club should sign in the close season, despite currently being banned from making transfers. (Reuters)

● Manchester United striker James Wilson, 23, says he chose a loan move to Aberdeen this season to put himself 'in the shop window'. (ESPN)

● Real Madrid have identified Ajax's Argentine left-back Nicolas Tagliafico, 26, as a replacement for 30-year-old Marcelo. (Tuttosport, via Mirror)



● Juventus should consider a swap deal involving Argentina striker Paulo Dybala, 25, and Napoli's Senegal defender Kalidou Koulibaly, 27, says the club's former president. (Radio Kiss Kiss, via Goal)

'Swazi Bolt' headed for Tshwane next Tuesday

STORIES BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

ATHLETICS - THE country's fastest man Sibusiso 'Swazi Bolt' Matsenjwa will next Tuesday continue with his World Championships preparations by taking part in the 4th AGN meeting.

The Eswatini Royal Police sprinter will compete in the 100m and 200m race of the annual invitational ath-

letics competition slated for the Tuks Stadium.

Matsenjwa is expected to lead the Eswatini delegation comprising of Phumlile Ndzinisa, Thandaza Zwane, Sebenele Dlamini, Mlandvo Shongwe and Mcebo Mkhali. Eswatini Athletics Association (EAA) Secretary Thoba Mazibuko confirmed the invitation of local athletes to the competition yesterday.

"All our athletes have been invited to the race and those

interested to take part in the race can contact our office. We encourage our athletes to attend such competitions because it gives them international exposure," he said.

Matsenjwa recently won the 200m AGN series race in South Africa with a time of 20.81s.

The former Manzini Athletics Club athlete, Matsenjwa is currently preparing for the 2019 World Championships set to take place in October in Doha, Qatar.



PREPARING: Sibusiso 'Swazi Bolt' Matsenjwa.

Erikah Seyama for SA varsity championships

ATHLETICS - THE country's elite high jumper Erikah Seyama will today compete in the South Africa varsity championships.

The reigning African champion forms part of the Tuks team that will be competing in the track and field event slated for Cape Town. Seyama will further represent her institution in the next series of the championships set to take place on March 15 at Potscheroom. The former Manzini Athletics Club athlete said she was ready for the two upcoming events when reached for comment. "I am looking forward to the two events and I am confident I will do well in both competitions," she said.



TALENTED: High jumper Erikah Seyama.

Taekwondo grading on March 15

BY NOMY NYANDZENI

TAEKWONDO - THE Eswatini Taekwondo Federation will on March 15 continue with its new talent search mission during the grading competition slated for the St Michael's Hall.

This will be the first grading session of the year following the successful hosting of the Correctional League which took place last month.

The local panel of coaches will be scouting athletes to represent the country in the upcoming World Championships set to take place next month at Manchester, England, during the grading session.

The association's Secretary Mbongeni Sibandze yesterday invited all clubs and ath-

letes to attend the upcoming event in their numbers.

"We will be having a grading session at the St Michael's from 9am where we will be monitoring all athletes from the different categories.

We urge all teams to attend the session in their numbers since we will begin our national team selection programme during the upcoming session.

"The outstanding athletes will represent the country in the international competitions for this year and we want to select the outstanding athletes from the different age groups," he said.

The Kingdom of Eswatini is also expected to host SADC countries during the inaugural President Cup in June at a venue yet to be announced.

SWADANSA changes name, announces dance competition

BY JONGILE XUBA

DANCE - THE Swaziland Dance Sport Association (SWADANSA) has officially changed its name to Eswatini Dance Sport Association (EDANSA) and will be hosting its first competition of the year.

This was revealed by EDANSA Public Relations Officer (PRO) Jo Leung, who said the name change came together with a new logo.

He then revealed the details about the next competition and who was

eligible to compete. "EDANSA will host the first National Dance Competition of

the year on April 6 at Esibayeni Lodge. We will have dancers starting from tiny tots up to professional level competing on the day. Registration starts at 10am and the competition commences at 11am," she said.



Tickets for spectators are available and cost E40 each. Dancers partic-

ipating in the prestigious event will fight for the winning titles in different categories which include Latin American and Standard Ballroom dances such as the cheeky Cha Cha, the festive Samba, the graceful Waltz and the passionate Tango, to name a few. Meanwhile,

dance sport is a well recognised international sport and fast growing phenomena in the Southern Africa region. EDANSA is the national governing body dedicated to bringing dance sport to the next level. "The dancers are full of character, enthusiasm and impressive dance moves that will leave anyone who attends the competition in awe." Follow EDANSA on Facebook (@EswatiniDanceSport) and Instagram (@_edansa) to keep up to date on the dance sport movement in Eswatini.

Minister calls on private sector to step-up, aid sports

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

SPORTS – MINISTER of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Harries 'Madze' Bulunga has called upon the private sector to step-up and assist government in developing sports in the country.

The minister said this during an interview with the Swazi Observer Sports Desk yesterday.

Minister 'Madze' said in the plight of the fiscal challenges that the country was faced with, it was difficult for government to fully commit itself to the sports, and hence partnerships with the private sector were a need.

He said the decrease in the funds for sports from E20m to E15m in the national budget tabled by Minister of Finance Neal Rijkenberg didn't even move him.

"The decrease by over E5 million didn't shock us in any way. If anything, we are aware of the financial problems we are faced with in the country, because we submitted our proposal and we now



STEP-UP: Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Harries 'Madze' Bulunga.

just have to make sure we find a way to work with what we have," he said. Bulunga then made special mention

of the issue of development and infrastructure.

"Infrastructure and development is very important in the growth of sports in the country, and that means we need to do more in terms of development. Unfortunately, for the running of sports successfully, there is a need for funding. At the moment, government simply does not have enough funds to get into projects such as the infrastructure, and this is where the private sector would come in handy.

"Again, the ministry is looking at partnering with international federations, to get help for such projects. We have seen this with the tennis centre and the International Tennis Federation (ITF). Truly speaking, we have moved backwards because just only a few years back, we were at par with other countries in the region such as Lesotho and Botswana, but now we are nowhere close to them, and this is because they invested in development – not just for the athletes, but for administrators and coaches too," he said.

Musa boost for Green Mamba

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER – CORRECTIONAL Services side Green Mamba will be boosted by the return of their top striker Musa Dlamini in their crunch EswatiniBank Cup last 16 tie against Moneni Pirates at the Mavuso Sports Centre tomorrow.

The pint-sized talisman missed the clubs' previous league outing against the same opposition due to an ankle injury last Saturday at the Somhlolo National Stadium.

The former Mbabane Swallows player will be available for selection for the Caleb Ngwenya-led side together with midfielder Khethokuhle Mkhontfo, who sat out of the previous outing due to the infamous yellow card rule.

The club's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Thame Phakathi confirmed the return of the two players when reached yesterday.

"We will be welcoming Musa and Khethokuhle during our upcoming match against Pirates after they both missed the previous match. We are happy to have the two players back in the team and the entire squad is looking forward to the upcoming



BACK: Musa Dlamini.

match. We invite our fans to come in their numbers to support the team."

The two-time champions Green Mamba will be out to keep their dream of winning their third crown alive at the expense of the 2015 champions Pirates during the ongoing 16th edition of the annual soccer tournament.

Three teams face DC in Women's Football League

BY JONGILE XUBA

SOCCER – THREE teams under the Women's Football League will appear before the disciplinary committee after failing to honour their fixtures leading to their games' abandonment.

The teams include Mbekelweni, Shiselweni Roses and Mhlume, who did not play the seventh fixture during the on-going league earlier in the year.

According to the Women's Football National League Rules and Regulations Article 5 (11), any club 'walking out' or refusing to play a match, or causing abandonment of a match shall if found guilty lose the match, with three points and three goals awarded to their opponents if the score was not more than three and if it was more the score shall be upheld, a fine of not less than E1 000 imposed on them. WFL Secretary Aaron 'Khathalala' Mavimbela confirmed that the teams would face the DC where they would have to plead their cases. "I can confirm that there are teams that will appear before the DC but, the issue will be discussed after the ongoing tournaments which include the EswatiniBank Cup. We will communicate the dates for when we expect the teams to appear before the DC in due course," he said. Mavimbela added that none of the teams had been suspended from competing and would be given enough time to prepare themselves.

The did not play the seventh fixture during the on-going league earlier in the year

MATSAPHA, SEA BIRDS CLASH SHIFTED

BY JONGILE XUBA

SOCCER – THE MTN Premier League fixture between Matsapha United and Manzini Sea Birds has been shifted from next Tuesday to Wednesday.

This was revealed by the Premier League of Eswatini (PLE) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Simanga Nhleko.

"Due to logistical operations, the match between Matsapha United and Manzini Sea Birds has been moved from March 5 to March 6. Any inconvenience is highly regretted and the game will be played at the same venue and time," he said.

Other matches that will be played next week Tuesday include Mbabane Swallows against Green Mamba at Somhlolo National Stadium, starting at 7pm. Green Mamba are second on the log table and are up against a team that is also playing catch-up to the log leaders.

Mavuso Sports Centre will host Manzini Wanderers and Royal Leopard on Wednesday night as the current leaders Leopard look to stretch their lead at the top.

Somhlolo will see Sundowns take on Young Buffaloes at 6:30pm, followed by Mbabane Highlanders against Mbabane Citizens in a capital city derby at 8:35pm.

FIXTURES

Tuesday at Somhlolo National Stadium		
Swallows	vs G Mamba	7pm
Mayaluka Stadium		
Tambuti FC	vs Vovovo FC	6:30pm
Wednesday at Nsukwansuku Stadium		
Matsapha United FC	vs Sea Birds FC	6:30pm
At Mavuso Sports Centre		
Pirates	vs Malanti Chiefs	6:30pm
Wanderers	vs R Leopard	8:35pm
Somhlolo National Stadium		
Manzini Sundowns	vs YBuffaloes	6:30pm
Highlanders	vs Citizens FC	8:35pm

MTN PREMIER LEAGUE LOG STANDINGS

TEAM	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Leopard	19	13	3	3	32	11	21	42
GMamba	19	12	3	4	33	10	23	39
Buffaloes	19	10	7	2	27	12	15	37
Swallows	19	11	3	5	23	14	9	36
Highlanders	19	10	6	3	24	16	8	36
Sea Birds	19	7	3	9	19	23	-4	24
Malanti	19	5	7	7	16	25	-9	22
Wanderers	19	6	3	10	19	26	-7	21
Pirates	19	5	5	9	18	28	-10	20
Sundowns	19	5	5	9	16	25	-9	20
Tambuti	19	5	5	9	18	22	-4	20
Matsapha	19	6	2	12	19	28	-9	17
Vovovo	19	4	5	10	12	23	-11	17
Citizens	19	2	9	8	12	22	-10	15

Sundowns optimistic of a win against Malanti

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

SOCCER – MANZINI Sundowns Under-20 head coach Percy 'Dambai' Shongwe says he is confident of winning against Malanti Chiefs and making it to the last four of the EswatiniBank Under-20 tournament.

"I think we have great chances of victory against Malanti Chiefs. I have watched them play and they are still at a stage where they are also still trying to get the players to know each other better. But, nonetheless, they are a good side and they showed their potential by coming from two goals down against Matsapha United to force a draw and eventually won after penalties."

He said the legacy left behind by his predecessor in seasoned mentor Penuel Malinga had set the standard high.

"The team was renowned for its



KAPPA BOYS: Manzini Sundowns Under-20 players pose for a group picture before their match in the knock-out stages of the EswatiniBank Cup.

development exploits and I think Sundowns have left a mark when it comes to that aspect, so for me, it's a matter of getting back to the top. These boys need to be taught the basics of football, but at the same time, we need to teach them charac-

ter and the culture of just being winners, and that's where this title comes in." Shongwe started off his campaign with a 1-0 win against his former side (Wanderers) in a tension-filled hub-city encounter.

There will also be a security forces

UNDER 20s QUARTER-FINAL FIXTURES

Tomorrow at the Somhlolo National Stadium		
Young Buffaloes	vs G Mamba	9am
Malanti Chiefs	vs Sundowns	11am
Sunday at Somhlolo National Stadium		
Vovovo FC	vs Swallows	9am
Tambuti FC	vs Royal Leopard	11am

derby pitting army side Young Buffaloes against their fellow counterparts Green Mamba at the same venue.

Both teams were among the four teams seeded in preliminary round, and hence they will both be playing their first matches of the tournament.

Their recent encounter was in the league about a fortnight back, where Buffaloes emerged victorious with a 3-1 win. On Sunday at the Somhlolo National Stadium, the defending champions will take on Vovovo and the match will be followed by the battle between police side Royal Leopard and Tambuti at 11am.

FIXTURES

TODAY

Absa Premiership	
20:00 Mantsingwana United	vs AmaZulu FC
Bundesliga	
21:30 Augsburg	vs Borussia Dortmund
Italy Serie A	
21:30 Cagliari	vs Internazionale
Spanish La Liga	
22:00 Rayo Vallecano	vs Girona

E5 million for national teams

BY SIBUSISO DLAMINI

SPORTS – THE Minister of Sports, Culture and Youth Affairs Harries 'Madze' Bulunga has confirmed that the country's national soccer teams will once again get E5 million.

When quizzed on the funds to be directed to the national team Sihlangu, the minister said it was now standard that the national team gets E5 million – which would be shared across all the other national teams such as the women teams, the Under-23 and the Under-20 squads.

"It is now a standard measure in the ministry to have E5 million allocated to the national team and we are not going to temper with that. The senior men's national team will be sharing the funds with all the other national soccer teams though, and we hope it will be enough to get them to a level where they can compete against the very best in the region," he said.

The minister further revealed his excitement at the fact that the country's soccer MECCA Somhlolo National Stadium would soon be renovated, adding that the long-term dream was to build another stadium.

"It's a fact that not having Somhlolo Stadium at an acceptable FIFA or CAF level has worked against us, because we have been subsequently forced to take our games to the Mavuso Sports Centre. I am ecstatic with the fact that we will soon have it fully renovated and up to standard. Again, the stadium comes with a lot of history for the people of Eswatini, so it wasn't pleasing to the eye for it to be so dilapidated."

"It is now a standard measure in the ministry to have E5 million allocated to the national team and we are not going to temper with that."

SPORTS

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Friday March 1, 2019

COULD IT BE REAL...

SIHLANGU SQUAD LEAKED

BY SIBUSISO MASILELA

SOCCER – NATIONAL team Sihlangu coach Kostadin Paic is expected to announce his squad to face Tunisia later this month but already it appears to have been leaked as there is a circulating 24-member team list before its official announcement by the head coach.

Sihlangu will play their last AFCON 2019 qualifier against the North Africa side in a match that will also serve as Paic's first official assignment.

The 24-man squad is circulating on social media and has also seen the exclusion of longest serving captain Tony 'TT' Tsabedze, ahead of their trip to Tunisia on March 23.

The former Super Sport United player Tsabedze is notably missing in the team together with team mate and ex-Black Leopard winger Wonder 'Samba Jive' Nhleko.

The list comprises of Swallows talisman Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa, who is expected to make a return to international football after his two-year absence due to a serious head injury.

Ndzinisa has been included in the list alongside central midfielder Njabulo 'D4D' Ndlovu and defenders Siboniso Ndzabandzaba and Ndumiso Ndaba (all from Swallows).

Young Buffaloes have six players in the circulating team which includes National Under-17 captain Lindani 'Rio' Matsenjwa.

Other notable faces from 'Amathole Ezinyathi' are defenders Linda Mkhonta, Siboniso Ngwenya and Siboniso, who all previously appeared for the nation's pride earlier during

- 24-man team circulating on social media
- Squad likely to face Tunisia later this month
- 'TT', 'Samba Jive' left out of circulating list



the AFCON qualifiers and the 2018 COSAFA Senior Challenge.

The goalkeeping panel has seen the overlooking of two experienced goalkeepers in Nhlankhla Gwebu and Sandanezwe Mathabela, who have both made way for Mbabane Highlanders Khanyakezwe Shabalala and Phephisani Msibi from Royal Leopard.

Impassable sources have also revealed that the coach has included the five international players in the new set-up. These are Justice

Figuaredo (Maritzburg United), Banele 'Pupu' Sikhondze (Polokwane City), Felix 'Fela' Badenhorst and Sandile 'Nkomishi' Ginindza (both Mbombela United) and Sanele Mkhweli (TS Sporting). Sought for comment, EFA's Muzi Radebe said there was nothing he could say about the said circulating 24-member list.

"I prefer not to say anything about the list you are talking about until I get a formal communication. All I know is that the squad will now go to camp on March 6."

THE LEAKED SQUAD:

GOALKEEPERS: Khanyakezwe Shabalala, (Mbabane Highlanders), Phephisani Msibi (Royal Leopard)

DEFENDER: Lindo Mkhonta, Siboniso Mamba, Linda Mkhonta (All Young Buffaloes), Vusi Vilakati (Highlanders), Ndumiso Ndaba Siboniso Ndzabandzaba (both Swallows), Jose Machado (Manzini Wanderers), Mthunzi Motsa (Moneni Pirates), Banele Dlamini (Green Mamba),

Machawe Dlamini (Tunisia)

MIDFIELDERS: Menzi Sithole (Highlanders), Njabulo 'D4D' Ndlovu (Swallows), Wandile Shabangu Lindani Matsenjwa (all Young Buffaloes), Wandile Nhleko, Muzi Tsabedze (both Sea Birds), Mxolisi Mkhontfo (Green Mamba), Leon Manyisa (Vovovo)

STRIKERS: Sabelo 'Sikhali' Ndzinisa (Swallows), Phinda Dlamini (Green Mamba), Sandile Gamedze (Young Buffaloes)

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