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LIBERIAN DOLLARS PER US DOLLAR

DATE	BUYING	SELLING
MONDAY, JANUARY 06, 2025	L\$185.4221/US\$1.00	L\$187.2871/US\$1.00

These are indicative rates based on results of daily surveys of foreign exchange market in Monrovia and selected cities of Liberia. These rates are collected from the Central bank, commercial banks, parallel market and the license forex bureaux. The rates are not set by the Central Bank of Liberia. Source: Research, Policy and Planning Department, CBL.

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VOL. 14 NO. 230 MONDAY, JANUARY 06, 2025 PRICE LD\$50.00

The untold story of SRC's modern slavery

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-As workforce signals progress under new management



Court demands reinstatement of dismissed USG/S official

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MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Court demands reinstatement of dismissed LISGIS official

Former President George Manneh Weah dismissed Mr. Smith in 2023, based on allegations linking him to financial misconduct.

By Lincoln G. Peters

Monrovia, January 6, 2025: The Civil Law Court in Monrovia on Friday, January 3, 2025, ordered the reinstatement of dismissed Liberia Institute for Statics and Geo-Information Services (LISGIS) Deputy Director General Mr. Wilmot Smith. Smith was dismissed in 2023 by former President George Weah based on allegations of financial misconduct made on the Spoon TV

Information Coordination at LISGIS. The Court also granted the Petition for Declaratory Judgement filed against the Government of Liberia in 2023. The Spoon allegedly received the information from an employee of Ecobank-Liberia, Yussif Kromah, the bank Account office. Without any authorization, Kromah was said to have released LISGIS's Account Statements that were

challenged the dismissal by former President Weah, describing it as unconstitutional. Cllr. Johnson argued that the Act of LISGIS does not grant power to the President of Liberia to dismiss the Petitioner or the Director-General; rather, it is the Board of LISGIS. "The Act creating LISGIS is in line with Article 89 of the Constitution of Liberia, and this makes the Act constitutional and autonomy constitutional under Article 89 of the Liberian Constitution." Johnson insisted that for the president to claim dismissal of the Petitioner "for cause" in the absence of the due process of law is a violation of Chapter III, Article 20 of the Constitution of Liberia." He argued that the standard of this provision of the Constitution, institutions or agencies created by the Legislature, and given tenure status are constitutional. According to him, the removal of any official from any of these positions must be for a cause consistent with due process. He continued that removal after the tenure period expires is the only constitutional and legal means. In his case, Smith said that the facts revealed that President Weah strictly violated the Constitution and the Act creating LISGIS. According to him, the action of the ex-president to dismiss him was a violation of the Act of LISGIS. "In 2004, after the passage of the LISGIS Act, it was the previous president of Liberia, Madam Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, who made such an appointment," said Mr Smith. "And since that requirement of the statute of LISGIS was met, no subsequent president of Liberia has that authority to remove or dismiss the Director-General of LISGIS, the Deputy Director Generals of LISGIS, including members of the board of directors of LISGIS," he added.



Dismissed LISGIS Deputy Director General Smith

talk show. It was alleged that Smith was linked to financial misconduct regarding funds designated for enumerators. But the court has ordered President Joseph Nyuma Boaka's government to "restore, calculate and pay" Mr. Smith "all withheld entitlements." The court included salaries, allowances, and benefits from the date of Mr. Smith's dismissal from office up to the date of notification of this judgment. The Court also ordered the government to reinstate Mr. Smith as a Deputy Director General for

manipulated by Mr. Stanton Witherspoon and his collaborators in the persons of Martin K. N. Kollie and Alex Williams, former Deputy Director General for Statistics, to incriminate Smith of wrongfully withdrawing the money. In his ruling, Judge George Wah-Harris Smith held the government liable for the wrongful and illegal dismissal of Smith. "The dismissal of Smith was illegal, wrongful, and violated the Constitution relative to the Autonomous Agency," Smith further ruled. In his declaratory judgment, Smith's lawyer Arthur Johnson had

Electricity Tariffs dropped by 12% in Bong and Nimba Counties

- LERC announces

LERC Board Chairman Hon. Claude J. Katta, announces the new tariff in Gompa City, Nimba County The Liberia Electricity Regulatory Commission (LERC) has approved a 12% reduction in electricity tariffs for the Bong and Nimba counties grid, operated by Jungle Energy Power (JEP).

Monrovia, January 6, 2024/ The new tariffs, which will take effect on January 31, 2025, were announced by the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners Honorable Claude J. Katta during a ceremony held in Gompa City, Nimba County on Monday, December 30, 2024. The revised tariff structure has reduced the energy charge from US\$0.25 per kilowatt-hour (kWh) to US\$0.22 per kWh, benefiting electricity consumers in both counties. In addition, a new monthly fixed charge of US\$1.25 has been introduced to fund network improvements and ensure a higher quality of service. The commission is expected to sign an MoU with JEP, outlining how the fixed charge is expected to be used to serve the interest of consumers in JEP's operational areas. JEP has also seen a significant reduction in the connection charge, which has been lowered from US\$100 to US\$40 for new customers wanting to connect to the grid. This change is aimed at making electricity more accessible to residents

by covering the cost of materials for connections while the remaining costs will be recouped through the revised energy tariff. Chairman Katta emphasized that the decision was made after a thorough technical analysis in line with the 2015 Electricity Law of Liberia, which mandates the LERC to regulate and set tariffs for the electricity sector. He assured that the new tariffs strike a balance between enabling JEP to recover its operational costs, incentivizing system improvements, and providing affordable electricity to consumers. In a related move, the LERC issued a directive requiring JEP to

submit a comprehensive report on the collection of legacy debts on behalf of LEC. The legacy debts are debts incurred by customers prior to LEC turning over the Bong and Nimba operational areas to JEP. The commission requires the management of JEP to provide a detailed report outlining the amount of the debt collected so far and remitted to the Liberia Electricity Corporation (LEC), and outstanding balances by January 15, 2025. The Commission warned that failure to comply with this directive could result in regulatory action, including penalties, further investigations, or other measures. - Press release



Two suspected motorcycle thieves mobbed to death in 72nd Community

The lynching to death of two suspected motorbike thieves by a group of angry mob made of mostly commercial motorcyclists presents a clear and present danger of growing lawlessness in the country.

By: Emmanuel Wise Jipoh

An angry mob on Sunday, December 29, 2024, mobbed to death two suspected motorcycle thieves at 72nd Junction, Paynesville, as they attempted to make away with a stolen motorbike. The incident occurred days after a commercial bike rider was killed by suspected motorbike thieves and his bike stolen in the process around the same Paynesville area, Motorbike theft has become the new normal around the Paynesville belt, putting the lives of commercial motorbike riders in danger. The incident on Sunday occurred during Noonday when the suspected motorcycle thieves attempted to escape through a traffic light when an angry mob pounced upon them.

currently taking treatment at Gerlib Clinic, known as German Clinic in Paynesville as a result of injuries he obtained during the robbery. Reports said the two Motorbikes thieves had injected the commercial Motorcyclist with poison along Tubman Boulevard while succeeding in taking away the bike, when an alarm was raised, drawing the attention of other motorcyclists on the scene who chased the suspected thieves. "99 days for rogue, one day for Master, let them kill them," they just from stealing the bike at Boulevard, a passerby said. "Kill him," kill him, kill him." The man them wicked, things we struggled for. They just want to take it in an hour," a motorcyclist said. The two alleged suspects were beaten unmercifully, before Police could come on the scene, one die instantly, while the other was left unconscious and was later



Jaileibah Samba Fania (Daddy V) & Witheld

An eyewitness said one of the suspected thieves slid off the stolen bike while trying to beat the traffic light at the intersection of 72nd Junction and the Japanese Freeway, allowing both suspects to fall off the bike and were immediately surrounded by a group of commercial motorcyclists. Another, Saah Williams, told the New Dawn that the two suspected motorbike thieves were in motion, escaping with a brand-new motorbike stolen from one-commercial motorcyclist, who is

said to have been pronounced dead. Meanwhile, one of the suspected Motorbike thieves was later identified as Jaileibah Samba Fania, affectionately known as (Daddy V"), a resident of Sinkor Gbangay Town Community and a father of one. A National Identification and Voter registration cards were found in his pocket, while the other, who was rushed to a nearby Clinic, was said to have died upon arrival. At the same time, the victim of the suspected motorcycle thieves is still hospitalized. -Edited by Othello B. Garblah

Happy New Year to all our Readers

EDITORIAL

Looking forward to a smooth sailing

Liberians look forward with great hope in 2025 for the smooth sailing of the government and the state and for ultimate political and economic stability. 2024, which ushered in a new government here, saw the Motherland sailing on troubled waters characterized by political tension, uncertainty, fragility, and economic hardship.

Due to missteps, heightened tension, bickering, and near instability, 2024 did not achieve much for this country, with poverty staring at the population. Many parents could not afford to send their children to school while businesses, including commercial banks, were on the verge of closure because of insolvency and semi-recession.

But if we did not get it right last year, 2025 provides a fresh opportunity for the government, citizens, and our business partners to dream again, tighten the bolts, and take off for greater heights, for the upper space is the only option.

This means that the government that took an oath to provide an enabling environment for economic activities and stability must keep to its promise of creating a better country than it met rather than the other way around.

It is a disgrace that during the period in review under the new administration, the University of Liberia failed to reopen largely due to a lack of funds to pay pay-time lecturers and to appoint a new president.

Mismanagement of public money took center stage in the first year of the Boakai administration from the 55th Legislature to the Executive, particularly the Ministry of Public Work to the National Port Authority, where millions were spent just on salary, so much so that the NPA could not contribute to the national budget.

The mismanagement of state resources in 2024 under the new administration left many ordinary Liberians wondering whether transparency and accountability no longer exist in public service.

With a new year here, we as Liberians, particularly those entrusted with public offices, should do things differently in the state's interest, for the Motherland is all we have as citizens.

We should all be reminded that no amount of foreign support will fix this nation unless we Liberians sincerely desire better for ourselves and for the next generation.

President Boakai and his government should stand up to the task of nation-building instead of paying lip service. We have heard lots in words, but we need deeds right now!

Happy New Year to all our Readers

COMMENTARY

By Raghuram G. Rajan

Economic Development in a Protectionist World

CHICAGO – As apprehension grows in China, Europe, and Japan about a possible trade war triggered by the incoming Trump administration, one should also spare a thought for developing countries. Their tried-and-tested method of expanding beyond agriculture to achieve middle-income status has been to embrace low-skilled export-oriented manufacturing. How will these countries fare now?

Their prospects may be better than expected, especially if they choose alternative development paths. In the past, poor countries developed through manufacturing exports because foreign demand allowed their producers to achieve scale, and because abysmal agricultural productivity meant that low-skilled workers could be attracted to factory jobs even with low wages. This combination of scale and low labor costs made these countries' output globally competitive, despite their workers' lower relative productivity. As firms profited from exports, they invested in better equipment to make workers more productive. As wages rose, workers could afford better schooling and health care for themselves and their children. Firms also paid more taxes, allowing the government to invest in improved infrastructure and services. Firms could now make more sophisticated, higher-value-added products, and a virtuous cycle ensued. This explains how China moved from assembling components to producing world-leading electric vehicles (EVs) in just four decades.

Visit a cell-phone assembly plant in a developing country today, however, and it is easy to see why this path has become more difficult. Rows of workers no longer solder parts onto motherboards, because the micro-circuitry has become too fine for human hands. Instead, there are rows of machines with skilled workers tending to them, while unskilled workers primarily move parts between machines or keep the factory clean. These tasks, too, will soon be automated. Factories with rows of workers stitching dresses or shoes also are becoming rarer. Automation in developing countries has a variety of implications. For starters, manufacturing now employs fewer people, especially unskilled workers, per unit of output. In the past, developing countries moved steadily to more sophisticated manufacturing, leaving less-skilled manufacturing to poorer countries that were just embarking on the export-led-manufacturing path. But now, a country like China has enough surplus workers to undertake all manner of manufacturing. Low-skilled Chinese workers are competing with Bangladeshi counterparts in textiles, while Chinese PhDs compete with German counterparts in EVs. Moreover, given the declining importance of labor in manufacturing, industrialized countries have come to believe they can restore their own competitiveness in the sector. They already have the skilled workers who can tend the machines, so they are raising protectionist barriers to re-shore production. (Of course, the primary *political* motive is to create more well-paying jobs for left-behind high school-educated workers, but automation makes this unlikely.)

Taken together, these trends – automation, continued competition from established players like China, renewed protectionism – have already made it harder for poor countries in South Asia, Africa, and Latin America to pursue export-led manufacturing growth. Thus, while a trade war would be damaging to their commodity exports, it would not be as concerning as in the past. It may even have a silver lining if it compels developing countries to search harder for alternative paths. That path could be paved with high-skilled services exports. In 2023, global trade in services expanded by 5% in real (inflation-adjusted)

terms, while merchandise trade shrank by 1.2%. Improvements in technology during the COVID-19 pandemic enabled more remote work, and changes in business practices and etiquette have minimized the need for physical presence. As a result, multinationals can and do serve clients from anywhere. In India, multinational firms ranging from JPMorgan to Qualcomm are hiring talented graduates to staff global capability centers (GCCs), where engineers, architects, consultants, and lawyers create designs, contracts, content, and software that are embedded in manufactured goods and services sold globally.


Every developing country has a small but highly skilled elite who can profitably export skilled services, given the high wage differentials vis-à-vis developed countries. Workers who know English (or French or Spanish) may be particularly advantaged, and even if only a few have these capabilities, such jobs add much more domestic value than low-skilled manufacturing assembly, thus contributing enormously to a country's foreign-exchange earnings. Moreover, each well-paid service worker can create local employment through his or her own consumption. As more moderately skilled service workers – ranging from taxi drivers to plumbers to waiters – find steady employment, they will cater not just to elite demand but also to each other. High-skilled services exports only need to be the leading edge of broader job growth and urbanization.

All job growth, however, requires improvements in the quality of a country's labor pool. Some “last-mile” training and upgrading can be done quickly; as long as engineering graduates have basic knowledge of their field, they can be trained in state-of-the-art design software that a potential multinational employer needs. But over the medium term, most countries will need to invest substantial amounts in nutrition, health, and education to augment their peoples' human capital. Fortunately, these investments can also create employment. With the right development-appropriate policies, governments can substantially improve learning and health across the population. This may mean hiring more high-school-educated mothers in daycares to help teach children basic literacy and numeracy at an early age; or training more “barefoot” medical practitioners to recognize basic ailments, prescribe medicines, or make referrals to qualified physicians when necessary.

Developing countries need not abandon manufacturing, but they must explore other paths to growth. Instead of benefiting one sector or another through industrial policy, they should invest in the kinds of skills that are important for all jobs. Services are especially worth exploring, because developed economies are unlikely to erect protectionist barriers against them. As the world's largest service exporters in 2023, the European Union, the United States, and the United Kingdom have much to lose from a trade war in this domain. Insofar as global services competition affects their own workforce, it would be felt most strongly by doctors, lawyers, bankers, consultants, and other high-income professionals, implying a boon for consumers of these services in developed countries and potentially even reducing domestic income inequality. Those would be worthwhile outcomes in themselves.

Raghuram G. Rajan, a former governor of the Reserve Bank of India and chief economist of the International Monetary Fund, is Professor of Finance at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business and the co-author (with Rohit Lamba) of 'Breaking the Mold: Indias Untraveled Path to Prosperity' (Princeton University Press, May 2024).

JUDICIAL BRANCH
SUPREME COURT OF LIBERIA



NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
Invitation to Bid for Computer Supplies

OFFICE OF THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

DATE: December 27, 2024
IFB NO. JUD/NCB/005/2025

1. The Judiciary Branch of Government anticipates funding from the Government of Liberia through its 2025 fiscal budget for the procurement of **Computer Supplies**. Therefore, the Judiciary wishes to solicit sealed bids from reputable dealers of Computer Supplies. This invitation for bids follows the special procurement notice for this project which appears in two local dailies.

2. The Judiciary now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the provision of the goods described below. Bid submission begins on **December 27, 2024 from 10:00 AM to 4:00PM daily**; and the final date of submission is **January 29, 2025 @ 12:30 pm**.

Packages: Computer Supplies

IFB NO.	LOT:	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	BID SECURITY
JUD/NCB/005/2024	Lot-1	Computer Supplies	Assorted	2% of bid cost

3. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures as specified in the REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA Amended and Restated Public Procurement and Concession Act (PPC ACT) published and approved September 16, 2010. Bidding is opened to all eligible and qualified bidders as defined in the PPCC guidelines.

4. A complete set of bidding documents for the specified Computer Supplies that can be obtained by qualified and eligible bidders from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **US \$ 50.00**

5. Qualification requirements include the following:

((a) Current Business Registration Certificate (Liberia Business Registry), with the code or another appropriated code.

((b) Current Tax Clearance Certificate (LRA);

((c) Certificate of Incorporation (Ministry of Foreign Affairs);

((d) Financial Records of Performance for the past two (2) years with indication of at least two previous or current clients, with their Addresses and Telephone Numbers;

((e) Availability of products at all times.

((f) PPCC Vendor registry certificate

((g) Proof ability to pre-finance. Additional details are provided in the bidding documents.

((h) Include Business Activity Code.

((i) Bid security should be two (2 %) percent of the bid price in the form Bank Guarantee.

((j) Manufacture authorization.

6. Interested and eligible bidders may obtain additional information on the bidding process from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice Main Building, Fifth Floor Room # 501or 505, from Monday – Friday from 9:00 A.M. thru 3:30 P.M.

7. All Submissions must be signed and sealed in an envelope with one original and two duplicates and place in one envelope, including other requested information
IFB NO. JUD/NCB/005/2025 - CONFIDENTIAL BID for the provision of Computer Supplies to the Judiciary for Fiscal Year 2025


DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE MAIN BUILDING
FIFTH FLOOR RM. # 501
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

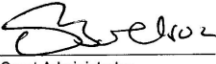
8. All Submissions must be delivered to the Procurement Unit latest **January 29, 2025 @ 12:30 PM** Moreover, no electronic bids will be accepted and late bids will be rejected.

9. A pre-bid opening meeting will be held on **January 22, 2025 @ 1:30 PM** in the office of the Director of Procurement in Room #501, to answer questions relevant to the bidding process, seven (7) days after which all further clarification requests would remain unanswered.


10. Sealed bids will be opened in the presence of all bidders or their representatives on **January 29, 2025 @ 12: 30 PM**. All potential bidders are asked to please take note of the time herein stated. Bids remain valid for a period of thirty (30) days from the deadline of submission.

11. **Note: The Judiciary reserves the right to reject or accept any bid without incurring any liability or assigning any reason thereof.**

Signed: 
Director of Procurement

Approved: 
Court Administrator

JUDICIAL BRANCH
SUPREME COURT OF LIBERIA



NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
Invitation to Bid for CARTRIDGES

OFFICE OF THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

DATE: December 27, 2024
IFB NO. JUD/NCB/005/2025

1. The Judiciary Branch of Government anticipates funding from the Government of Liberia through its 2025 fiscal budget for the procurement of **Cartridges**. Therefore, the Judiciary wishes to solicit sealed bids from reputable dealers of Cartridges. This invitation for bids follows the special procurement notice for this project which appears in two local dailies.

2. The Judiciary now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the provision of the goods described below. Bid submission begins on **December 27, 2024 from 10:00 AM to 3:30PM daily**; and the final date of submission is **January 29, 2025 @ 12:00 pm**.

Packages: Assorted Cartridges

IFB NO.	LOT:	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	BID SECURITY
JUD/NCB/005/2024	Lot-1	Cartridges	Assorted	2% of bid cost

3. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures as specified in the REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA Amended and Restated Public Procurement and Concession Act (PPC ACT) published and approved September 16, 2010. Bidding is opened to all eligible and qualified bidders as defined in the PPCC guidelines.

4. A complete set of bidding documents for the specified Cartridge Supplies that can be obtained by qualified and eligible bidders from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **US \$ 50.00**

5. Qualification requirements include the following:

((a) Current Business Registration Certificate (Liberia Business Registry), with the code or another appropriated code.

((b) Current Tax Clearance Certificate (LRA);

((c) Certificate of Incorporation (Ministry of Foreign Affairs);

((d) Financial Records of Performance for the past two (2) years with indication of at least two previous or current clients, with their Addresses and Telephone Numbers;

((e) Availability of products at all times.

((f) PPCC Vendor registry certificate

((g) Proof ability to pre-finance. Additional details are provided in the bidding documents.

((h) Include Business Activity Code.

((i) Bid security should be two (2 %) percent of the bid price in the form Bank Guarantee.

((j) Manufacture authorization.

6. Interested and eligible bidders may obtain additional information on the bidding process from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice Main Building, Fifth Floor Room # 501or 505, from Monday – Friday from 9:00 A.M. thru 3:30 P.M.

7. All Submissions must be signed and sealed in an envelope with one original and two duplicates and place in one envelope, including other requested information
IFB NO. JUD/NCB/005/2025 - CONFIDENTIAL BID for the provision of Cartridges to the Judiciary for Fiscal Year 2025


DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE MAIN BUILDING
FIFTH FLOOR RM. # 501
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

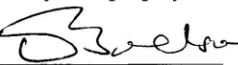
8. All Submissions must be delivered to the Procurement Unit latest **January 29, 2025 @ 12:00 noon** Moreover, no electronic bids will be accepted and late bids will be rejected.


9. A pre-bid opening meeting will be held on **January 22, 2025 @ 12:30 PM** in the office of the Director of Procurement in Room #501, to answer questions relevant to the bidding process, seven (7) days after which all further clarification requests would remain unanswered.

10. Sealed bids will be opened in the presence of all bidders or their representatives on **January 29, 2025 @ 12: 00 noon**. All potential bidders are asked to please take note of the time herein stated. Bids remain valid for a period of thirty (30) days from the deadline of submission.

11. **Note: The Judiciary reserves the right to reject or accept any bid without incurring any liability or assigning any reason thereof.**

Signed: 
Director of Procurement

Approved: 
Court Administrator




Wild Chimpanzee Foundation™

TENDER NOTICE (30 days)

The **WILD CHIMPANZEE FOUNDATION (WCF)**, invites **sealed bids** from eligible bidders in Liberia and business owners that are in compliance with the Liberian laws for the below listed items (**vehicles**), to be submitted by Tuesday, 4th of February 2025, 4pm:

LANDCRUISER Hardtop (LC 78 4.2L STANDARD 5-MT 4X4	1 Units	WCF/EU (01)/LC Hardtop Series /1/25
LANDCRUISER Pickup (double cabin) LC 79- STANDARD 5-MT 4X4	3 Unit	WCF/EU (03)/LC series Pickup/1/25

Details and Terms & Conditions are available in the tender document that can be obtained from our office: **Wild Chimpanzee Foundation, Opposite German Embassy, Congo Town, Monrovia, liberia@wildchimps.org**. WCF reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.



Wild Chimpanzee Foundation™

TENDER NOTICE (30 days)

The **WILD CHIMPANZEE FOUNDATION (WCF)**, invites **sealed bids** from eligible bidders in Liberia and business owners that are in compliance with the Liberian laws for the below listed items (**vehicles**), to be submitted by Friday, 31st, of January 2025, 4pm:

LANDCRUISER Hardtop (LC 76 4.2L STANDARD 5-MT 4X4	4 Units	WCF/EU (04)/LC Hardtop Series /1/25

Details and Terms & Conditions are available in the tender documents that can be obtained from our office: **Wild Chimpanzee Foundation, Opposite German Embassy, Congo Town, Monrovia, liberia@wildchimps.org**. WCF reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without assigning any reason thereof.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

Moye denies distributing money to officials

Sen. Moya has blamed his political opponents, particularly his rivals from the House of Representatives, for allegedly spreading false information.

By Stephen G. Fellajuah

Monrovia, January 6, 2025: Bong County Senator Prince Moye has strongly denied media reports accusing him of distributing money to public officials during past budget periods. He has vowed to resign from the Legislature if evidence is provided to substantiate these allegations.

On December 31, 2024, a

He blamed his political opponents, particularly those from the House of Representatives, for spreading false information. He accused them of fabricating the story due to his political success and his role in supporting the Unity Party-led government of President Joseph Nyuma Boakai. Moye criticized the newspaper for publishing the story without seeking his side

seen under the previous CDC-led government, including the controversial allocation of US\$1.4 million for the office of former Deputy Speaker Fonati Koffa, would not be repeated under his leadership. He linked the propaganda against him to the ongoing political crisis within the House of Representatives. Moye urged those involved to "deal with their issues" rather than attempt to discredit him. Further, Moye denied claims that the House leadership crisis was a plot to give the



local newspaper published a story claiming that Boulevard Palace Hotel's late General Manager Anwar Futloo, had a video showing key government officials distributing money. The local daily alleged that the officials in the purported video included Liberian Vice President Jeremiah Kounge, Sen. Moye, and Deputy Speaker Thomas Fallah. The paper claimed that the officials were allegedly distributing large sums of money to lawmakers and senior ministers. The video, allegedly captured by CCTV in Room 1026 at the hotel, was said to be part of evidence implicating high-level corruption. In an interview on January 2, 2025, Moye dismissed the allegations as "mere and half-baked propaganda."

executive full control over the national budget. He asserted that the Vice President and the Deputy Speaker have no role in budget discussions beyond their official duties. Moye questioned why, if the video footage had been in existence for so long, it had not been exposed earlier. He suggested that the failure to release it sooner raised doubts about the credibility of the allegations. Senator Moye then called on media institutions to uphold ethical journalism standards and avoid spreading propaganda that could damage individuals' reputations for political gain. He stressed the importance of truth and integrity in media practices.



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Over Christmas Money”

... Man 30's chops Father to Death"

By: Emmanuel Wise Jipoh

A Man believed to be in his 30s, identified as “Pa Shaka,” whose real name is Amos B. Johnson, has been arrested by Paynesville Police for allegedly killing his father, identified as Ela B. Johnson, affectionately known as old “Bonjay” over money demanded for Christmas Celebration.

The sad incident occurs on the early morning of December 25, 2024, around 1 Am, in Bassa Town, 72nd Community, Paynesville.

According to witnesses on the horrific scene, the alleged perpetrator, “Amos B. Johnson, was seen washing blood stains off his body upon arrival of the witnesses.

Further Investigation said Suspect Amos Johnson, known as “Pa Shaka,” had threatened to kill his father (Old Man Bonjay) on multiple occasions over money received as rental fees for the property, which he served as care-taker and had refused to give suspects (Amos) money for the Christmas Festival.

According to our sources, they both had gone through hated arguments a day before Christmas, and alleged Suspect Amos had constantly harassed the old man and threatened to kill him.

"This old man and his son, "Pa Shaka" has been arguing every day, even the day before Christmas and he has always threatened to kill, the papay, over how the papay kill, his mother and has not been fully taking care of him," Flomo, a witness told the New Dawn.

The eyes witnesses further said Amos B. Johnson, or "Pa shaka" as he is widely known, was seen in an argument with his father earlier on the Eve of Christmas, December 24.

Further narrations detail suspect Amos Johnson

was seen with blood all over his body on the bright morning of December 25, 2024, and tried to escape secretly when the witness met him.

Vasco Yeagbetus a witness and son-in-law to the deceased "Pa Boka" or old man "Bonjay" explains to this paper upon his arrival on the scene to verify the absence of "Pa Bonjay" from his usual post, in the unfinished House- facility, fence, where he works as a caretaker, upon the delivery of his Christmas Food, by his Grand-Children, of which he (Vasco) was informed that the decease (Pa Boka) was nowhere to be found.

“When the children came, because every time my Wife cooks, we bring his food, so this morning it was as usual, when the woman, got through cooking, she sent his grandchildren to carry his food, and when they arrived at his spot, the old man was nowhere to be found, Wedebudu, explained.

According to Mr. Yeagbetus how the children had informed their mother, who placed a call to him to rush to the scene and verify whether what Beatrice, a granddaughter of the deceased, said was true.



JUDICIAL BRANCH
SUPREME COURT OF LIBERIA

OFFICE OF THE COURT ADMINISTRATOR
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE
MONROVIA, LIBERIA



Invitation for Bids for Generators Repairs

DATE: December 27, 2024

IEB NO. IUD/NCB/003/2025

1. The Judiciary Branch of Government anticipates funding from the Government of Liberia through its 2025 budget year for the procurement of services appertaining to **Generators Maintenance & Repairs**. Therefore, the Judiciary wishes to solicit sealed bids from reputable agencies dealing in the provision of services relating to Generators Maintenance & Repairs. This invitation for bids follows the special procurement notice for this project which appears in two local dailies.
2. The Judiciary now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the provision of the services described below. Bid submission begins on **December 27, 2024 from 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM daily. The final date of submission is January 28, 2025 @ 11: 00 AM.**

Package: Generator Repairs.

IFB NO.	LOT #:	DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	BID SECURITY
JUD/NCB/003/2025	Lot-1	Generators Maintenance & Repairs	Assorted	2% of bid cost

3. Bidding will be conducted through National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures as specified in the REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA Amended and Restated Public Procurement and Concession Act (PPC Act) published and approved September 16, 2010. Bidding is opened to all eligible and qualified bidders' source as defined in the guidelines.
4. A complete set of bidding documents for Generator Repair that can be obtained by qualified and eligible bidders from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **US \$100.00**
5. Qualification requirements include the following:
 - (a) Current Business Registration Certificate (Liberia Business Registry) with the code or another appropriated code.
 - (b) Current Tax Clearance Certificate (LRA);
 - (c) Certificate of Incorporation (Ministry of Foreign Affairs);
 - (d) Financial Records of Performance for the past two (2) years with indication of at least two previous or current clients, with their Addresses and Telephone Numbers;
 - (e) Updated PPCC vendor registry certificate
 - (f) Proof ability to pre-finance. Additional details are provided in the bidding documents.
 - (g) Include Business Activity Code.
 - (h) Bid security should be two (2 %) percent of the bid price in the form Bank Guarantee.
 - (i) Manufacture authorization.
6. Interested and eligible bidders may obtain additional information on the bidding process from the Procurement Unit at the Temple of Justice

DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT
FIFTH FLOOR RM. # 501
TEMPLE OF JUSTICE
MONROVIA, LIBERIA

8. All Submissions must be delivered to the Procurement Unit latest **January 28, 2025 @ 11:00 AM**. Moreover, no electronic bids will be accepted and late bids will be rejected.
9. A pre-bid opening meeting will be held on **January 24 2025 @ 12:00 noon** in the office of the Director of Procurement in Room #501, to answer questions relevant to the bidding process, seven (7) days after which all further clarification requests would remain unanswered.
10. Sealed bids for Generator maintenance & repairs will be opened in the presence of all bidders or their representatives on **January 28, 2025 @ 11:00 .AM**. All potential bidders are asked to please take note of the time herein stated. Bids remain valid for a period of thirty (30) days from the deadline of submission.
11. **Note: The Judiciary reserves the right to reject or accept any bid without incurring any liability or assigning any reason thereof.**

Signed: _____
Director of Procurement

Approved: _____
Court Administrator

ONGOING TRANSFORMATION AT JETTY'S SRC IN PICTURES



The revamped health center



Doctor Malik with Liberian Nurse



Women cup cleaners at Camp -2



Renovated SRC School Campus



Inside the school's Lab



Tappers at Camp -2



The School Toilet before renovation



The School Toilet after renovation



The School's Power house



Old housing units



Giving the camp a new face lift



Transforming housing units

APM TERMINALS
Lifting Global Trade

2025



**HAPPY
NEW YEAR**

Français

Le Sénateur Brown lance la construction d'une école primaire moderne dans le comté de Maryland

Dans le cadre de sa tournée de remerciements, le Sénateur J. Gbe-bo Brown a procédé à la pose de la première pierre d'une école primaire moderne à Gbiabo, dans la localité de Taayetowiso, circonscription électorale n°3 du comté de Maryland.



La cérémonie a réuni de nombreuses personnalités locales, notamment le surintendant statutaire de Karloway, des commissaires de township, l'ancien

surintendant statutaire Samuel Johnny, des chefs traditionnels, des anciens, des jeunes, des groupes de femmes et des élèves. **Un projet pour réduire les obstacles à l'éducation** Lors de son discours, le Sénateur Brown a exprimé sa gratitude envers les citoyens pour leur participation à cet événement et leur soutien continu. Il a rappelé

« Malgré l'ancienneté de notre nation, il est inconcevable que des enfants doivent marcher de telles distances pour aller à l'école. Cette situation m'a profondément touché et m'a poussé à initier ce projet », a déclaré le Sénateur. Il a également souligné que bien que les élèves respectent les politiques éducatives du ministère de l'Éducation, les longues distances qu'ils parcourent dégradent la qualité de leur apprentissage. « Créer un environnement d'apprentissage adapté et accessible est essentiel, car ces enfants représentent l'avenir de notre nation : de futurs présidents, sénateurs, députés ou surintendants peuvent émerger de ces salles de classe », a-t-il ajouté. **Un engagement renforcé pour un second mandat** Réélu comme le premier sénateur du comté de Maryland à accomplir un second mandat, le Sénateur Brown a affirmé que ce mandat supplémentaire reflète la confiance des citoyens et la volonté divine. Il s'est engagé à intensifier ses efforts

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Le Gouvernement libérien clôture une campagne de sensibilisation sur le projet de budget 2025 dans le comté de Montserrado

Le Gouvernement du Libéria, par l'intermédiaire du Bureau de l'Initiative du Budget Ouvert du Ministère des Finances et de la Planification du Développement (MFDP), a récemment conclu une campagne de sensibilisation d'une semaine sur le projet de budget national pour l'exercice fiscal 2025 dans le comté de Montserrado. Cette initiative s'inscrit dans les efforts stratégiques du gouvernement visant à renforcer l'accès des citoyens à l'information publique tout en promouvant la transparence et la redevabilité dans la gestion des affaires publiques. **Impliquer les citoyens dans le processus budgétaire** La campagne de sensibilisation au projet de budget 2025 avait pour objectif de fournir au public un accès direct aux informations budgétaires et d'offrir aux citoyens l'opportunité de participer activement au processus d'élaboration du budget aux niveaux communautaire et départemental. M. Julius Boakai, Directeur de la Politique Budgétaire et de la Coordination au MFDP, a souligné que le budget national constitue un plan essentiel définissant les sources de financement ainsi que les priorités des dépenses gouvernementales. « Le budget identifie non

seulement d'où proviendront les fonds, mais précise également comment ces ressources seront allouées pour financer les activités prioritaires définies par le gouvernement », a-t-il expliqué. Il a ajouté que l'équipe budgétaire s'était rendue dans le comté de Montserrado afin de recueillir les contributions et les retours des citoyens représentant différents secteurs de la société. **Appel à un engagement fiscal des citoyens** Mme Carolyn Myers, Directrice Adjointe de la Diffusion Budgétaire et de la Transparence Fiscale au MFDP, a exhorté les citoyens à soutenir les initiatives de développement du gouvernement à travers un paiement régulier des taxes. « Le paiement des taxes est crucial pour permettre au gouvernement d'améliorer les infrastructures et les

services publics, tels que les hôpitaux, les écoles, les routes et les ponts. Cela contribue également à renforcer le secteur éducatif et à dynamiser l'économie nationale », a-t-elle affirmé. Elle a ajouté que la campagne visait à atteindre les communautés rurales et urbaines afin de recueillir une diversité de perspectives pour orienter les priorités budgétaires du gouvernement. **Une démarche saluée par les communautés locales** Dans la communauté d'Old Matadi, M. Kermo Sheriff, président de la communauté, a exprimé sa satisfaction face à cette initiative sans précédent. « En 62 ans, je n'ai jamais vu une équipe du ministère des Finances venir dans notre communauté. Cette démarche est nouvelle et très appréciée. Elle montre que le



Éditorial

La chute de la maison Assad

Par Daron Acemoglu

TEL AVIV - L'effondrement rapide d'une dynastie al-Assad vieille de 54 ans en Syrie vient transformer le paysage géopolitique du Moyen-Orient. L'offensive éclair de la milice islamiste Hayat Tahrir al-Sham (HTS) a surpris tous les voisins de la Syrie, comme le reste du monde. L'annonce de la [fuite](#) du président Bachar al-Assad en Russie confirme une vérité incontournable s'agissant des guerres : des conséquences inattendues peuvent s'étendre bien au-delà du champ de bataille. L'attaque du 7 octobre 2023 perpétrée par le Hamas contre des communautés civiles israéliennes à proximité de la frontière de Gaza a provoqué plusieurs séismes dans l'ensemble du Moyen-Orient. L'impitoyable offensive menée par Israël pour détruire le Hamas à Gaza et le Hezbollah au Liban a quasiment anéanti « l'axe de résistance » iranien, tandis que les États-Unis et le Royaume-Uni ont bombardé les Houthis soutenus par l'Iran au Yémen, en réponse à leurs attaques contre des navires commerciaux internationaux. La guerre civile syrienne a débuté en 2011, lorsque le régime d'Assad a écrasé les manifestations pacifiques du « Printemps arabe ». Puis les combats se sont largement atténués après 2015, l'intervention de la Russie, avec l'aide de l'Iran et du Hezbollah, ayant inversé le cours de la guerre en faveur d'Assad. Dernièrement, les proxies de l'Iran ayant été détruits, et les capacités de combat de la Russie étant éprouvées par la difficulté du conflit en Ukraine, les rebelles ont saisi l'opportunité. Avec l'[appui](#) de la Turquie, et semble-t-il du Qatar, les rebelles ont facilement pris d'assaut les défenses étonnamment fragiles du régime syrien, et l'armée d'Assad a capitulé sans combattre. L'Iran et la Russie, protecteurs d'Assad, ayant précipitamment [évacué leurs troupes](#) et abandonné le dictateur à son sort, le régime syrien fondé sur la torture et les massacres n'inspirait plus la peur. La fin de l'alliance de l'Iran avec la Syrie, principal bastion du régime de Téhéran dans le monde arabe, est vouée à redéfinir l'équilibre régional des puissances. Comme l'[exprimait](#) l'ancien vice-président iranien Mohammad Ali Abtahi deux jours avant la fuite d'Assad, un effondrement du gouvernement syrien « constituerait l'un des événements les plus importants dans l'histoire du Moyen-Orient... La résistance dans la région se retrouverait privée de soutien. Israël deviendrait la puissance dominante ». « Hayat Tahrir al-Sham » signifie la libération du Levant, qui dans le lexique politique du premier califat inclut la Syrie, le Liban, la Jordanie et la Palestine. Le chef du groupe islamiste HTS, Abou Mohammad al-Joulani, tente néanmoins de projeter l'image d'un islamiste d'un nouveau genre. Il semble avoir tiré les enseignements nécessaires des échecs d'al-Qaïda et de l'État islamique (EI), et se considère désormais comme un pragmatique [aspirant](#) uniquement à « libérer la Syrie de son régime tyrannique ». Signe de ce nouveau pragmatisme, Joulani a [ordonné](#) à ses hommes de laisser le Premier ministre syrien Mohammad Ghazi al-Jalali continuer de gérer les institutions publiques jusqu'au [transfert officiel](#) du pouvoir. Par opposition, l'EI aurait certainement procédé à des exécutions massives de soldats et responsables publics. Joulani n'en demeure pas moins à la tête d'une organisation islamiste radicale. Ceux qui [s'attendent](#) à ce que la Turquie tempère l'extrémisme du HTS présument que Joulani sera le soldat obéissant d'Ankara. Ce qui est sûr, c'est que Joulani va devoir composer avec de puissantes contraintes politiques, notamment avec les nombreuses milices rivales qui se sont unies pour faire tomber Assad, ainsi qu'avec les forces kurdes qui se sont [empressées de prendre le contrôle](#) de nouveaux territoires dans l'est de la Syrie, tout en subissant les [attaques](#) des forces turques au nord. Aux yeux du président turc Recep Tayyip Erdogan, les ambitions des Kurdes de Syrie menacent d'alimenter une rébellion nationaliste au sein des communautés kurdes de Turquie. En 2019, Erdogan a ordonné à son armée de mettre en place une « zone de sécurité » de 30 kilomètres de large dans le nord de la Syrie, et de repousser les combattants kurdes loin de la frontière turque, zone dans laquelle les Kurdes avaient saisi l'opportunité de la guerre civile pour consolider une enclave autonome.

Shlomo Ben-Ami, ancien ministre israélien des Affaires étrangères, et vice-président du Centre international de Tolède pour la paix, est l'auteur de l'ouvrage intitulé [Prophets Without Honor: The 2000 Camp David Summit and the End of the Two-State Solution](#) (Oxford University Press, 2022).

Français

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Le Sénateur Brown lance la construction d'une école

pour répondre aux besoins des habitants et réaliser des projets durables. Dans le cadre de sa tournée de remerciements, le Sénateur a distribué des dons aux communautés locales et aux institutions du comté. À l'hôpital de référence J.J. Dossen, il a offert 25 sacs de riz de 25 kg, 100 000 dollars libériens et une vache, en guise de soutien au personnel médical durant les fêtes. Il a également apporté une aide financière et matérielle aux jeunes en difficulté, aux forces de sécurité à la frontière de Pedebo, et à d'autres secteurs. Le Sénateur s'est également rendu dans plusieurs localités, dont Wartiken, Karloken, Wuluken et Manolu, pour identifier les besoins prioritaires des habitants et discuter des initiatives à venir. **Des projets structurants pour l'avenir** Outre l'école de Gbiabo, le Sénateur Brown a annoncé son intention de construire un arrêt de bus à Harper, qui permettra aux étudiants de l'Université William V.S. Tubman de se déplacer plus facilement, aussi bien pendant la saison des pluies que pendant la saison sèche. Ce projet répond à une demande formelle du conseil étudiant.

Kumar, le surintendant statutaire du district de Karloway, a salué les efforts du Sénateur et son engagement en faveur du développement. « La construction de cette école et de l'arrêt de bus représente une avancée majeure pour nos communautés. Ces infrastructures renforceront l'éducation et amélioreront la qualité de vie de nos citoyens », a-t-il affirmé. Le surintendant de Karloken a également souligné que les habitants de Gbiabo et de Taayetowiso attendaient depuis longtemps cette école, qui constitue une réponse concrète aux préoccupations locales. **Un appel à l'unité et à la paix** Le Sénateur Brown a conclu en réaffirmant son engagement à promouvoir l'unité et la paix dans le comté de Maryland. « Le développement ne peut être durable que si nous travaillons ensemble dans un climat de paix et d'harmonie », a-t-il déclaré. Avec ces projets, le Sénateur Brown s'inscrit dans une vision de progrès et de renforcement des infrastructures éducatives, sociales et économiques du comté, tout en honorant la confiance des citoyens qui l'ont reconduit à ce poste prestigieux.

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Le Gouvernement libérien clôture une campagne de sensibilisation

gouvernement s'engage véritablement à rendre des comptes à la population », a-t-il déclaré. **Des activités de sensibilisation étendues** La campagne de sensibilisation s'est déroulée dans plusieurs localités du comté de Montserrado, notamment à West Point, Central Monrovia, Old Matadi, Thinker's Village, Careysburg, Joe Bar (Paynesville) et au lycée SDA. Ces rencontres ont réuni des étudiants, des représentants des administrations scolaires, des

enseignants, des leaders communautaires et des membres du personnel du MFD. En clôturant cette campagne, le Gouvernement libérien réaffirme son engagement envers une gouvernance participative et inclusive. Ce type d'initiative marque une avancée significative vers une plus grande transparence et une gestion responsable des ressources publiques, contribuant ainsi à renforcer la confiance entre les citoyens et les institutions nationales.

Moye dément les accusations de distribution d'argent à des responsables publics

Le sénateur de Bong, Prince Moye, a formellement rejeté les accusations de distribution d'argent à des responsables publics lors des périodes budgétaires précédentes, rapportées par certains médias. Dans une déclaration sans équivoque, il a menacé de démissionner de son poste de législateur si des preuves tangibles venaient étayer ces allégations. Le 31 décembre 2024, un journal local a publié un article affirmant que le défunt directeur général de l'hôtel Boulevard Palace, Anwar Futloo, détenait une vidéo montrant des responsables gouvernementaux distribuant de l'argent. Parmi les figures présumées apparaissant dans la vidéo figuraient le vice-président libérien Jeremiah Koung, le sénateur Moye et le vice-président de la Chambre des représentants, Thomas Fallah. Le journal a allégué que ces responsables distribuaient des sommes importantes à des députés et à des ministres. La vidéo, supposément enregistrée par une caméra de surveillance dans la chambre 1026 de l'hôtel, aurait été présentée comme un élément de preuve dans une affaire de corruption de haut niveau. **"Des accusations sans**

fondement" Dans une interview accordée le 2 janvier 2025, Moye a qualifié ces accusations de « pure propagande sans fondement ». Il a attribué cette désinformation à ses adversaires politiques, notamment au sein de la Chambre des représentants, les accusant de propager ces rumeurs en raison de son soutien au gouvernement dirigé par le parti Unity Party, sous la présidence de Joseph Nyuma Boakai. Le sénateur a également critiqué le journal pour avoir publié ces informations sans avoir pris la peine de recueillir sa version des faits, dénonçant une pratique journalistique contraire à l'éthique. Il a ajouté que des « propagandistes du CDC » étaient responsables de la fabrication de ces accusations.

"Jamais de réunion secrète" Le sénateur a réaffirmé qu'il n'avait jamais rencontré de collègues ou de membres de l'exécutif dans la chambre 1026 de l'hôtel Boulevard Palace pour discuter du budget national ou pour participer à des activités financières illégales. En tant que président de la commission sénatoriale des voies et moyens, des finances et de la planification du développement, il a précisé que toutes les réunions budgétaires se tenaient dans des salles de conférence officielles du Capitole, et non dans des chambres d'hôtel privées. Moye a également souligné que les pratiques de mauvaise gestion financière observées sous l'administration précédente du CDC, notamment l'allocation controversée de 1,4 million de dollars pour le bureau de l'ancien vice-président Fonati Koffa, ne se reproduiraient pas sous sa direction.



Progrès sous la nouvelle direction de la Salala Rubber Corporation (SRC)

Comté de Margibi, Libéria — La Salala Rubber Corporation (SRC), l'un des principaux producteurs de caoutchouc du Libéria, a été confrontée à de vives protestations de ses travailleurs au mois de juillet dernier, principalement en raison de conditions de vie insatisfaisantes sur ses plantations. Ces protestations ont mis en lumière des problèmes persistants, notamment des logements vétustes, des soins médicaux insuffisants, des salaires faibles et des pratiques de gestion douteuses. Les manifestations ont conduit à des destructions importantes, notamment l'incendie du bâtiment administratif. SRC, fondée en 2007 à la suite d'une fusion, était précédemment détenue par la multinationale belge Socfin. Jusqu'à cette récente crise, la société était critiquée pour ses conditions de travail difficiles. Les logements de ses employés étaient jugés insalubres et anciens, certains datant des années 1950, et la gestion des soins de santé laissait à désirer, avec un accès limité aux services médicaux. **Un changement radical de direction** L'année dernière, l'entreprise a été rachetée par l'homme d'affaires indien, le Dr Upjit Sinch Sachdeva, également connu sous le nom de M. Jeety. Bien que le montant de la transaction soit resté confidentiel, ce changement de propriétaire a marqué une nouvelle ère pour SRC et ses employés. Une récente visite d'investigation de *The New Dawn*, le 3 janvier 2025, a permis de constater les améliorations notables sous cette nouvelle gestion. Sous la direction de M. Jeety, plusieurs des problèmes qui avaient été signalés précédemment ont commencé à être résolus. Des améliorations significatives ont été apportées en matière de logement, de soins médicaux et de rémunération, apportant un nouvel espoir aux travailleurs. **Des améliorations dans les soins de santé** L'une des premières mesures prises par M. Jeety a été la rénovation du Centre de santé SRC-Jeety Conglomerate. Le Dr Ahson Malik, médecin généraliste



à la clinique, a expliqué que l'établissement était resté fermé pendant plusieurs mois avant son intervention. "Il a réhabilité la clinique, recruté du personnel et élargi les services. Aujourd'hui, la clinique fonctionne 24 heures sur 24 et 7 jours sur 7, offrant des soins d'urgence, des consultations externes et des services de maternité", a précisé le Dr Malik. Les soins médicaux pour les travailleurs et leurs familles sont désormais gratuits, avec des tarifs réduits pour certains services, comme les accouchements. Les frais, qui étaient autrefois compris entre 3 000 et 5 000 dollars libériens, sont désormais fixés à seulement 1 000 dollars libériens. La clinique offre également des traitements gratuits pour des maladies telles que le VIH, la syphilis et le paludisme. Le Dr Malik a noté que le nombre de patients a augmenté de manière significative depuis la rénovation de l'établissement. "Nous recevons entre 20 et 25 patients par jour et assurons des urgences nocturnes, y compris des accouchements", a-t-il ajouté. "Nous avons également lancé des programmes de prévention du paludisme et de la tuberculose, ce qui montre que la communauté commence à avoir confiance en nos services." **Amélioration des conditions de travail et des salaires** Les travailleurs ont salué les améliorations apportées aux conditions de travail et à la rémunération. Joseph Sackie, responsable du Camp Deux, a expliqué que sous l'ancienne direction, les travailleurs se sentaient souvent délaissés. "Les conditions étaient vraiment mauvaises, mais depuis l'arrivée de M. Jeety, nous avons vu des améliorations notables", a-t-il déclaré. Fatu Fallah, une nettoyeuse de tasses, a évoqué une augmentation de son salaire sous la nouvelle direction. "Avant, je gagnais seulement 15 USD par mois, maintenant je touche 85 USD, plus un sac de riz de 25 kg", a-t-elle précisé. Elle a également noté que la situation financière des travailleurs s'était améliorée avec des primes de Noël et la possibilité de demander des avances sur salaire. D'autres travailleurs, tels que Abenego S. Cooper, superviseur au Camp Un, ont évoqué les efforts déployés pour améliorer les logements et la sécurité de l'emploi. "Il y a encore des défis, mais l'initiative de M. Jeety est claire : il veut améliorer la vie de ses employés", a ajouté M. Cooper.

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MORE HEADLINE NEWS

MoJ and Police differ on hotel manager's death

The Liberia National Police and the Ministry of Justice appear to be in disagreement over the mysterious death of a South African National and Manager, Mr. Anwar Futloo, recently in Monrovia.

By Lincoln G. Peters & Emmanuel Wise Jipoh

Monrovia, Liberia, January 6, 2025 - The Ministry of Justice and the Liberia National Police are in disagreement over circumstances leading to the sudden death of the Manager of Boulevard Palace recently in Monrovia. The Boulevard Palace is located adjacent to the Head Office of the United Methodist Church in Monrovia. Police initial findings attribute the death of Mr. Anwar Futloo, a South African National, to suicide. But the Ministry of Justice is ordering an immediate investigation, including an autopsy on the lifeless body of Mr. Futloo, who was reportedly found dead in his vehicle parked near the hotel in 12th Street Sinkor on December 30, 2024. Police Inspector General Gregory Coleman narrated in a recent news conference in Monrovia that the Police received a report from the Sinkor Community in the suburb of Monrovia about the death of the General Manager of the Boulevard Palace Hotel. According to IG Coleman, Mr. Futloo was reported to have injected himself with a chemical called De-color, which is usually put in drinks to change their physical look. He was subsequently rushed to the nearest health facility, where he was allegedly pronounced dead. The Inspector General of Police also disclosed that they have brought in foreign investigators to assist with the investigation process, but no arrest has been made. Col. Coleman continued that the deceased went from the humanitarian home into the bathroom with a bag from the Supermarket that contained a chemical or substance. According to the Police Chief, after the late Mr. Futloo consumed the chemical, he screamed, something which he said prompted the security and others to rush in, where they found him lying helpless, so they took him to a health facility. "We will not go further until we conclude this, but there is nothing like homicide for now to his death. We are

picking up connection to his death. We are investigating the circumstances surrounding his death. From the initial



look of things, it's synonymous with suicide. However, we are keeping an open mind in the investigation. Until we can get the final word from the team, we hold it as such – suicide," he pointed out. The Police maintain they are conducting an inquest, which is ongoing on the remains, and the team should be reporting shortly; once that is done, they will have a definite conclusion in the matter, but for now, it has all of the elements of a suicide. However, the Ministry of Justice, via a press release, says its investigation is intended to ascertain the actual cause of death. "Also, the Ministry of Justice has ordered an autopsy to be conducted on the remains of the South African national and businessman. The Government of Liberia is deeply concerned about the death of the South African national and will do everything within its power to thoroughly investigate and prosecute anyone found implicated in his death", the release reads. It calls on citizens and foreign residents to remain calm, exercise restraint, resist speculations, and be assured that the protection and safety

of all within the bailiwick of Liberia is a high priority despite this unfortunate situation. Meanwhile, the Government of Liberia extends its deepest

condolences to the bereaved family, the Government of South Africa, and the business community for the loss. The Ministry says it will keep the public and those with vested interests updated as investigation unfolds and new information becomes readily available. Earlier reports suggest that Mr. Anwar Futloo was discovered dead in his parked vehicle at the Boulevard Palace Hotel in Sinkor before he was rushed to John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital. Doctors confirmed his death. According to reports, the deceased became unconscious in his vehicle shortly after he returned from a friend's residence in the Sinkor community. A source who asked for anonymity alleged that Mr. Futloo had sat in his vehicle for a few hours before hotel staffers were alerted. Authorities at John F. Kennedy Medical Hospital (JFK) late Monday evening confirmed his demise. They stated the renowned hotel Manager may have consumed a chemical substance that burned his throat and internal organs, leading to his death. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

LNBA reflects on late Ex-President Carter's contributions to Liberia

The National Bar here consoles the United States on the passing of former President Jimmy Carter at age 100.

Monrovia, Liberia, January 6, 2025 - The Liberian National Bar Association extends messages of condolences to the United States Government and the people of America for the passing of their 39th President, Jimmy Carter, while extolling the late former President for his contribution and role played in strengthening Liberia's post-war rule of law program. The LNBA, in a statement released here over the weekend, says that it mourns the passing of the 39th President of the United States of America, President Jimmy Carter, in his 100 years. The Bar notes that Mr. Carter will be remembered for his selfless and unflinching support to Liberia's post-conflict Rule of Law program which served as a catalyst to enhance access to Justice for all. Former President Carter, who served as the 39th President of the United States from 1977 to 1981, was renowned for his unwavering commitment to human rights, democracy, and humanitarian efforts worldwide. His post-presidential endeavors, particularly through the Carter Center, have left an indelible mark on global health and peace initiatives, especially in Liberia. Reflecting on President Carter's legacy, the LNBA notes that President Carter's dedication to promoting peace and human dignity resonates deeply with the values they hold dear in Liberia. LNBA adds that his efforts in advancing

democracy and human rights have been a beacon of hope for many nations, including Liberia. The LNBA reflects that the Carter Center's Rule of Law Program (formerly Global Access to Information) successfully partnered with the UNBA, GOL. Civil society and international and regional bodies must improve governance and transform lives through a meaningful right to access information and justice. It continues that the Carter Center's Rule of Law Project in Liberia successfully partnered with the Ministry of Justice and the LNBA to identify rural justice needs, develop and implement civil education messages, and immediate short-term gaps to strengthen the formal Justice System. Over time, the LNBA avers that the project expanded, partnering with different actors to deliver sustained impact. On a specific note, the Carter Center and the LNBA, in June of 2022, executed an MoU to provide Pro-Bono Legal Assistance to citizens in need across Bong, Nimba Lofa, and Grand Gedeh Counties. In a related development, the LNBA consoles President Joe Biden, the government, and the people of the United States of America for the irreplaceable loss of an international legal icon whose passing has left a void in the global legal community. *Press Release*



APM Terminals Liberia donates to NPA

APM Terminals Liberia strengthens collaboration with the National Port Authority here.

By Lincoln G. Peters

Monrovia, Liberia, January 6, 2025 - APM Terminals Liberia Limited has officially donated and turned over dozens of advanced digital equipment to the National Port Authority (NPA), dubbed as a gateway to the Liberian economy, to enhance the operation and digitalization goals of the institution. The groundbreaking gesture to the NPA Digital Automation Initiative is part of APM Terminals Liberia Limited's social corporate responsibility. The initiative also seeks to increase the NPA's revenue generation within the 2025 fiscal year, as well as security surveillance and improved communication.

The gesture aligns with the NPA's commitment to modernizing port operations and enhancing efficiency through advanced technology. Items donated include 30 pieces of laptop, 30 pieces of monitors,

keyboards and, 30 pieces of mouse, 65-inch television sets, and radio sets, among others. The official turnover ceremony which was held over the weekend in the conference room of the Managing Director of the NPA, was graced by employees of both NPA and APM Terminals Liberia Limited.



The Managing Director of APM Terminals Liberia Limited, Clay Cran, underscored his company's unwavering commitment to the partnership with the NPA. Mr. Cean said, "This presentation is a testament to APM Terminals' continued support for the NPA's transformative agenda, and we remain dedicated to fostering innovation and operational excellence." Receiving the equipment, the Managing Director of the National Port Authority, Sekou A.M. Dukuly, said the donation was achieved through serious managerial discussions and patriotic negotiations on behalf of the Government of Liberia. Director Dukuly highlighted the significance of such collaboration in achieving the NPA's strategic objectives while emphasizing the need for even greater cooperation. According to him, the support demonstrates the potential for impactful partnerships. As a director,

he looks forward to fostering a more robust and mutually beneficial relationship with APM Terminals. "This is a great accomplishment at the NPA today, under my managerial watch as the Management of APM Terminals, for the first time in nearly 14 years of concession operations at the Freeport of Monrovia, handed over 112 digital (IT) equipment," he narrated. However, Dukuly expressed profound gratitude to APM Terminals for their invaluable contribution. "The donated equipment is expected to significantly enhance the NPA's digitization efforts, streamlining operations of the APM Terminals in a digital interface with the Port. We want to express our profound gratitude to APM Terminals for their invaluable contribution", Mr. Dukuly expressed. *Editing by Jonathan Browne*

The untold story of SRC's modern slavery

The Salala Rubber Corporation (SRC) was forced to shut down last July following a violent protest by workers. The unrest was primarily triggered by poor living conditions, including dilapidated estate housing units, accusations of bad labor practices, inadequate medical facilities, low wages, and high-interest loans given by managers. The protests resulted in significant damage to company property, including torching the administration building.

By Stephen G. Fellajuah

Margibi County, Liberia
January 6, 2024—
SRC, Liberia's third-



largest rubber producer, specializes in the production of semi-processed rubber for tire manufacturing. It was formed in 2007 through a merger and, until recently, was owned by the Belgian multinational Socfin. The company had been heavily criticized for providing workers with substandard housing, some of which was built in the 1950s, creating significant health and safety risks. At least, that is what is known in public. But under those rubber trees was an ongoing modern slave syndicate operated by Liberians in senior management positions, forcing tappers from the company's tapping school to work as laborers on private farms for their (supervisors') benefit. Some students graduating from the Tapping School also had to share their salaries with their immediate bosses if they wanted to be enlisted by the company. All these were happening under the noses of foreign managers without the slightest inclination. The syndicate succeeded during

Under the condition of anonymity, formers tapping students told stories of how they were told to work on private rubber farms as tappers for six months under the guise of internship while those who

sent them there collected their wages. In some cases, students were sent to the private farms of some of these black managers to work for free while promising them employment at SRC. Women cup cleaners were paid US\$15 per month by tappers. The women said they sometimes had to fight and threatened to report to management before the meager amount was paid. However, the storylines are changing under the new ownership. A Change in Leadership The company underwent a significant shift in ownership last year when it was acquired by Indian businessman Dr. Upjit Sinch Sachdeva, commonly known as Mr. Jeety, in Liberia. Although the exact price paid for the acquisition has not been disclosed, this transition marked a turning point for the company and its workers. A recent investigative tour by The New Dawn on January 3, 2025, sought to assess whether the problems under the previous

have been addressed since Mr. Jeety took over. Workers, particularly tappers, have reported noticeable improvements in their working environment. Improvements in Healthcare Services One of the most significant changes under the new management was revamping the SRC-Jeety Conglomerate Health Center. Dr. Ahson Malik, the general physician, explained that the clinic had been non-operational for several months before Mr. Jeety's intervention. "He refurbished the facility, recruited staff, and expanded services. The clinic now operates 24/7 and offers emergency care, deliveries for pregnant women, outpatient services, and more." Medical services for SRC employees and their dependents are free of charge, and fees for certain services, such as delivery, have been significantly reduced. Delivery fees, which previously ranged between 5,000 to 7,000 Liberian dollars, were reduced to just 1,000 Liberian dollars. The clinic also provides free treatment for sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV, syphilis, and malaria. Dr. Malik noted that although the clinic faces challenges, such as limited services and the lack of an ambulance, its patient intake has steadily increased, signaling growing trust in the facility. "We see 20 to 25 patients daily and address emergency services like deliveries at night," he added. "We are coordinating with the Community Health Team on malaria and TB programs and conducting training to gather progress reports." Improved Working Conditions and Pay Several workers shared their experiences under the new management, highlighting pay, housing, and job security

Fatu Fallah, a cup cleaner, expressed gratitude for her pay raise under the new management. She used to earn only US\$15 a month under the old system but now takes home US\$85 per month after taxes, plus a 25kg bag of rice. This increase has profoundly impacted her ability to support her family. "The job we are doing now, we can tell God and Mr. Jeety thank you because first, we were doing this work under a tapper who used to pay us US\$15 per month. But during that time, receiving payment became difficult, and we used to pressure the supervisor," Fatu Fallah lamented. Other workers also reported receiving Christmas bonuses, housing improvements, and salary advances. Abenego S. Cooper, an Estate One supervisor, noted that housing, the plantation school, and the clinic had all improved significantly since Mr. Jeety took over. However, despite the progress, some workers, such as James Teah, a head assistant, urged the management to increase the bonuses further to keep morale high. While he is still waiting for a housing unit, he expressed optimism about the future. "For example, it was difficult before Jeety took over when we used to go to the clinic to get treatment. We would sit the whole day and receive just one scrip of tablets. I suffered from a cold and had to treat myself at my own cost at different clinic, and the money was never refunded. But under Jeety, we are seeing improvement. My son is in school, which I pay US\$25 for annually," Mr. Teah said. He also urged Mr. Jeety to increase the bonuses, as it would motivate the workers. Housing Issues Persist While improvements have been made, housing remains a significant concern. Bigboy Todd, Camp One Master, explained that many of the housing units are still in poor condition, and there are not enough to accommodate all workers. However, Mr. Jeety has started renovations and promised to build more units in the future. This has brought some relief to the workers, but the demand for better housing remains high. Other workers, like Anthony Tardee, a tapper, recalled how life under the previous management was difficult, with inadequate medical care and poor treatment from management. However, Tardee noted that the situation has improved under the new management, especially with better access to healthcare at the SRC clinic. Tackling Loan Practices and Corruption Another area that has seen improvement is the loan system. Under the previous management, some workers were forced to take out loans with exorbitant interest rates, creating

financial hardship. Roland S. Johnson, the head of contractors, explained that under Mr. Jeety, there is now a greater focus on securing housing for workers, and the loan system is being restructured to ensure fairness and transparency, with no interest charged. However, some workers, like Jacob Folley, reported being asked to pay for housing under previous management under dubious circumstances. Despite these issues, many workers believe things are moving in the right direction under Mr. Jeety's leadership. Education Initiatives The SRC School System (SRCSS) has benefited from Mr. Jeety's investment. Principal Cuthbert Williams reported that the school, which also serves surrounding villages, was in poor condition before Mr. Jeety's acquisition. Since then, significant renovations have been made, including repairs to the floors, roof, and staff housing. Additionally, Mr. Jeety introduced a feeding program and promised scholarships to students



who excel in the West African Examinations Council (WAEC) exams. The school has also introduced a policy aimed at improving educational outcomes by ensuring that all staff are properly compensated and supported with housing, medical benefits, and bonuses. Mr. Jeety has promised to introduce night sessions at the school to accommodate employees who are busy during the day. "Jeety's intervention with the feeding program has improved standards and increased performance. He has also promised that if all 12th graders score high marks (Division One) in WAEC, they will be given scholarships to study in India," Mr. Williams said emphatically. Mr. Jeety is also putting systems in place for the school to begin running night sessions to accommodate employees and residents who are busy during the day. "We have a big task to perform when it comes to merit," he added. While there are still challenges to address, the changes under Mr. Jeety's leadership have brought noticeable improvements to the Salala Rubber Corporation. Workers are benefiting from better living and working conditions, improved healthcare, and higher wages. The progress in education and healthcare further highlights the positive direction in which the company is heading. The shift in management marks a turning point for SRC workers as they continue to work toward a better future for themselves and their families. *-Editing by Othello B. Garblah.*



the former management period because Weala, the community in which SRC is located, is highly traditional, and the culture of silence reigns supreme for fear of retribution.

management had been addressed under the new leadership. Reports indicate that many of the previous grievances, including poor housing, inadequate medical care, and unfair labor practices,

improvements. Joseph Sackie, Camp Two Master, acknowledged that things have significantly improved compared to the previous management, especially regarding worker satisfaction.

