



CENTRAL BANK OF LIBERIA

DATE BUYING SELLING

MARKET BUYING AND SELLING RATES

MONDAY, JULY 28, 2025

L\$199.8647/US\$1.00

L\$202.1917/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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Peace without prosperity is fragile

Rev. Dr. Emmett Lafayette Dunn = 178th Independence Day Orator cautions gov't

I very much enjoyed out meeting



-Donald Trump congratulates Boakai in Independence Daymessage

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ontinenta

Dozens killed in attack on church in the eastern DR Congo Tunisians protest against president on anniversary of his power grab operates in the borderland ozens of people were charity.

killed on Sunday in an attack on a church in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo believed to have been carried out by Islamic State-backed rebels.

Civil society leaders said suspected members of the Allied Democratic Force (ADF) stormed the building in the town of Komanda, armed with machetes and

The attack took place as Catholic Christians attended an overnight prayer vigil at The ADF, with ties to the

Several houses and shops were also burnt down and the search continues for missing people. Dieudonne Duranthabo, a civil

society coordinator in Komanda in Ituri province, said it was "incredible" that an attack like this could occur in a town where security officials are present.

He has demanded a military intervention as soon as possible saying they had been told that "the enemy is still near our town".

the church, run by the Caritas Islamic State, a rebel group that

between Uganda and the DRC, has routinely conducted attacks against civilians.

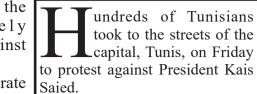
It was formed by disparate small groups in Uganda in the late 1990s following alleged discontent with Yoweri Museveni.

In 2002, following military assaults by Ugandan forces, the ADF moved its activities to neighbouring DRC and has since been responsible for the killings of thousands of civilians.

The United Nations Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Congo has condemned a recent resurgence in violence in Ituri.

Earlier this month, ADF killed dozens of people in the province in what a UN spokesperson described as a "bloodbath".

The DRC army has long struggled against the rebel group, and has now been grappling with a complex web of attacks since renewed hostilities with the Rwanda-



The demonstrations marked four years since he moved to consolidate his one-man rule in a country once known as the birthplace of the Arab Spring prodemocracy uprisings.

On 25 July 2021, Saied suspended parliament, dismissed his prime minister and invoked a state of emergency to begin ruling by decree.

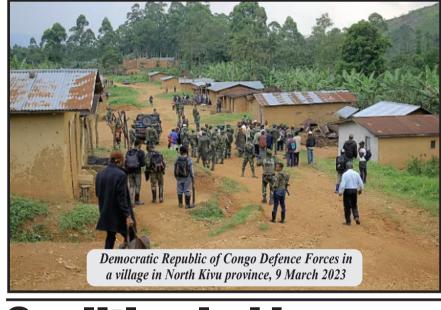
Salvation Front.

Saida Akremi, wife of jailed opposition lawyer and former justice minister, Noureddine Bhiri, called the day an "inversion of the republic" and "a betrayal of everything Tunisians stood for".

"I am here to demand freedom for political prisoners, freedom for all detainees, lawyers, judges, and honourable citizens filling the prisons," she said.

Since 2021, Saied has dissolved key judicial bodies, dismissed judges, and overseen the jailing of numerous opponents.

Though some cheered his efforts, Jailed political opponents,



backed M23 rebels. Coalition led by paramilitary RSF forms parallel government in Sudan

L coalition led by the legitimacy. paramilitary Rapid Support The military, led by General The ongoing conflict between parallel government.

months after it announced its until it controls all of Sudan.

Presidential Council.

Abdel Aziz al-Hilu, leader of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) - one of the country's largest rebel groups - was appointed as vice-president.

Civilian politician, Mohamed Hassan Al-Ta'ayshi, who served on the Transitional Sovereign Council from 2019 until the 2021 military coup, was named as prime minister. The parallel government aims

to challenge the military-

intention to do so, and raises It holds the north, east, and increasing hunger and famine.

Hamdan Dagalo was named Darfur (west) and parts of million people.

fter 27-months of aligned international- where recent attacks left civil war, a Sudanese recognised administration's hundreds dead, according to local human rights groups.

Forces says it has formed a Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, the RSF and the military has condemned the creation of a created an unprecedented The announcement on parallel government and has humanitarian crisis, with the Saturday came nearly five promised to keep fighting United Nations saying about half the population faces concerns that the move could centre of the country, after Tens of thousands of people prolong the devastating recently retaking the capital have been killed in the Khartoum. fighting which has resulted in RSF leader General Mohamed The RSF controls most of the displacement of nearly 13

critics called the move a coup and lawyers, and journalists face beginning of Tunisia's descent toward authoritarianism.

In Tunis on Friday, crowds chanted "No fear, no terror, power to the people".

Banners and posters carried the faces of imprisoned opposition leaders, most notably Rached Ghannouchi, the head of Ennahda, Tunisia's largest Islamist party.

The message was clear. What began in 2021 as a promise of reform has become, for many Tunisians, a return to repression. "July 25 was supposed to be Republic Day, but it's become a day of oppression. The revolution in the opposition National to target marginalised groups.

said the events marked the lengthy prison sentences under anti-terrorism and conspiracy

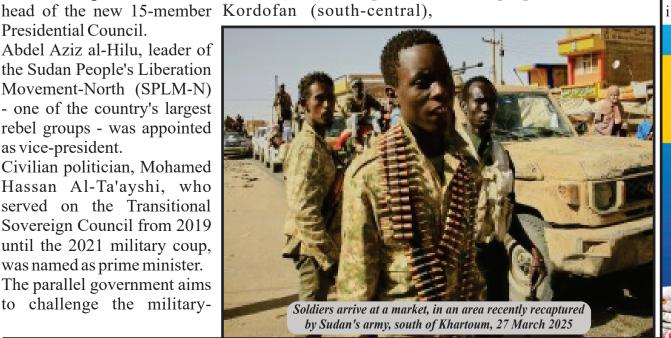
Protesters in Tunis, 25 July 2025

Women led much of the chanting, demanding the release of imprisoned opposition figures from across the political spectrum, including Abir Moussi and attorney Sonia Dahmani.

"More than 15 women have been jailed. No one imagined we'd see free Tunisian women imprisoned for their opinions," said activist Hafsia Bourguiba.

Tunisia's political turmoil has unfolded against a backdrop of economic hardship and deepening public disillusionment.

Amnesty International in a report was crushed. We've seen one man last June wrote that the country's take over all powers. Absolute authorities have intensified their power is absolute corruption," crackdown on opposition voices said Samir Dilo, a leading figure and used vague legal justifications





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<u>Liberia needs economic independence i</u>

elebration of political independence is meaningless for Liberia unless the country and its citizens rise up to fight for economic ✓ independence, which hinges on our survival as a nation. The sooner Liberians realize this, the better it would be for this country and its unborn generation.

We agree with the orator of the 178th Independence Day celebration that Liberians can't talk about true independence without talking about economic independence. Rev. Dr. Emmett Lafayette Dunn, stressed that it is time Liberians confront a painful truth, because too much of Liberia's economy is owned and controlled by foreign interests.

This is the stark reality that faces a country of 178 years old that has sat back and allowed its economy to be piloted by foreigners all these years, giving them freedom to take away profits, leaving the country bare. This must change and only Liberians both at home and abroad can do it; no one else.

"While foreign investment is welcome", Dr. Dunn stressed, "it must not be at the expense of our dignity. The soul of our economy must be Liberian. Liberians must be actively involved in owning businesses. Liberians must be positioned to create wealth, not just consume it. To do that, we must nurture and grow a vibrant middle class, one built on entrepreneurship, skilled labor, professional excellence, and innovation."

But we like to remind that economic independence does not come on a silver platter. And no Liberia should be under any elusion. It will require toil and sweat, sincerity, sacrifice and discipline that would some time lead to self-denial, amid challenges.

Also, Liberians would have to demonstrate sincerity and trust in order to turn the economic wheel around in their favor. For too long, successive governments had preached Liberianization Policy without walking the talk: Former President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf set aside a special fund to empower Liberian entrepreneurs, but the scheme was mismanaged thru political patronage with official organizing bogus companies and taking the money. Former President Weah promised that under his administration, Liberians would not be spectators in their own economy, but a financial scheme initiated by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry under the leadership of former Minister Professor Wilson Tarpeh, was characterized by lack of transparency and accountability, leaving deputy Minister Jemamah Wolokollie to resign.

Besides, most Liberian-owned companies are noted for defaulting on contracts and absconding with public funds meant to deliver social services. Not just that, most Liberians are not trustworthy in paying back loans taken from commercial banks.

We need to first clean our backyards and put our houses in order to wage the battle for economic independence or else, the foreigners will continue to be far ahead of us.

Orator Dunn also emphasized that a strong middle class is the backbone of every stable society, adding that it generates jobs, drives demand, pays taxes, and anchors democracy.

However, government he says should create an enabling environment for small and medium enterprises to grow and to make access to credit easier, as well as to invest in technical and vocational training and modernize agriculture so that farming becomes profitable again.

The road ahead of us in achieving economic independence will be tough and clouded temptations, because many Liberians have gotten accustomed to during business as usual; they have been used to fronting for foreign-owned businesses for peanuts and having life the easy way, instead of laboring with their hands for a better future. In this new front being called for, we have no choice, if we as nation must be truly independent in the sense of the word.

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by Rick van der Ploeg, Rabah Arezki

The Scramble for Critical Minera

reactors). The International Energy Agency transport what they wanted. possess them.

having gained ownership or control over an grapple with internal and external conflicts. estimated 60-80% of the critical minerals Consider the mineral-rich provinces of the capabilities.

2024, China restricted exports of critical guarantees. minerals to the US in retaliation for US But the resource curse is not inescapable, microchips to China.

he has suggested that Canada, with all its well-being, both have a critical role to play. critical minerals."

economies – and, nowadays, China.

In principle, this asymmetry creates ideal Inward-facing institutions must also manage counterparts.

advanced technology, and military might – which they do business. technology to help them explore and exploit efforts to strengthen institutions. Africa for resources like copper, tin, rubber,

ARIS – The world's superpowers have timber, diamonds, and gold in the nineteenth developed a seemingly insatiable century. This, together with more advanced appetite for the critical minerals that weaponry and other technologies, meant that, are essential to the ongoing energy and far from offering local communities fair digital transitions, including rare-earth compensation for their valuable resources, metals (for permanent magnets), cobalt (for European powers could subjugate those batteries), and uranium (for nuclear communities and use their labor to extract and

forecasts that demand for these minerals will But even countries that are exporting their more than quadruple by 2040 for use in resources for a profit have often struggled to clean-energy technologies alone. But, in make progress on development, not only their race to control these vital resources, because of imbalanced deals with more China, Europe, and the United States risk powerful resource importers, but also because causing serious harm to the countries that their governments have often mismanaged the associated bonanzas. It does not help that As it stands, China is leading the pack, resource-rich countries and regions often

that are needed for industry (such as for DRC, such as Katanga and North Kivu, which magnets) and the green transition. This have long suffered from violence and control extends across the supply chain: lawlessness, fueled by neighbors such as China is heavily invested in mining across Rwanda and Uganda. Today, the advance of Africa, Central Asia, and Latin America, and the Rwanda-backed M23 rebels is fueling has been building up its processing bloodshed in eastern Congo - and creating an opportunity for outside powers to gain access For Western powers, China's quasi- to critical minerals. The DRC-Rwanda peace monopoly over critical minerals looks like agreement brokered by the Trump an economic and national-security threat. administration promises precisely such This fear is not unfounded. In December access to the US, in exchange for security

restrictions on exports of advanced especially for countries with strong outwardfacing institutions to manage the economy's Since then, US President Donald Trump has external relations, including its resource forced Ukraine to relinquish a significant sector's ability to attract investment and share of its critical minerals to the US in what generate revenues for the state, and inwardhe presents as repayment for American facing institutions to govern how those support in its fight against Russia. Trump revenues are used. If a country is to translate also wants US sovereignty over mineral-rich its resource endowments into economic Greenland, to the dismay of Denmark. And development and improvements in human

natural resources, become America's 51st Outward-facing institutions must negotiate state. The European Union, for its part, has fair and transparent mining contracts with sought its own mining contracts, such as in multinational corporations and strengthen the Democratic Republic of the Congo local governments' ability to do the same. (DRC), touted as the "Saudi Arabia of Such contracts should include local-content requirements, which keep more high-value-From the Scramble for Africa in the added processing activities at home, increase nineteenth century to Western attempts to local employment, and strengthen the claim Middle Eastern oil in the twentieth, capacity of local suppliers and contractors. such resource grabs are hardly new. They Since acquiring a 15% stake in De Beers, reflect a fundamental asymmetry: less Botswana has sought to ensure that diamond industrialized developing economies tend to cutting - not just mining - occurs consume fewer resources than they produce, domestically, which requires inward-facing whereas the opposite is true for developed institutions to deliver adequate investment in these capabilities.

conditions for mutually beneficial risks raised by resource extraction, from agreements: industrialized economies get health and environmental damage the resources they desire, and non- (deforestation, biodiversity loss, pollution) to industrialized economies get a windfall, labor-rights violations (including child labor). which they can use to bolster their own Unfortunately, as it stands, many mineral-rich development. But, in reality, vast natural- countries are falling far short, leading some to resource endowments have proven to be advocate boycotts of critical minerals coming more of a curse than a blessing, with from conflict zones or countries using forced resource-rich countries often developing labor. While such boycotts are unlikely to more slowly than their resource-poor sway these governments, they could convince multinationals and foreign governments to A key reason for this is that developed demand better enforcement of environmental economies have more economic clout, and social standards from countries with

all of which they bring to bear to acquire the Ultimately, however, it is up to mineral-rich resources they seek. For example, European countries to defend their interests and make imperial powers used steam-engine the most of their endowments. This starts with

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2REDY

MONDAY

By Jozef Síkela

Reimagining Sustainable Development for a Fractured World

RUSSELS – "Poverty," Aristotle famously observed, "is the parent of revolution and crime." History has repeatedly proven the point: inequality often fuels political and social instability, giving rise to conflict and despair.

Today, in the face of widening economic disparities and climate disruption, international cooperation on sustainable development is no longer just an expression of solidarity – it is a strategic imperative. Yet just as development challenges grow increasingly urgent, the resources to confront them are steadily declining.

In 2015, world leaders adopted the United Nations <u>Sustainable Development Goals</u> (SDGs), outlining a shared vision for a more equitable, low-carbon future. Since then, however, overlapping global crises – from the COVID-19 pandemic to rising geopolitical tensions and escalating climate change – have reversed much of the progress made over the past 25 years.

The realities of our increasingly multipolar world call for a shift in mindset. Policymakers must focus on doing more with less, which means fostering effective partnerships between the public and private sectors. This was my main takeaway from the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) in Seville, Spain: to meet climate and social targets, we must rethink how development is financed—and by whom. While every country relies on access to financing to manage crises, support growth, and provide essential services, this need is especially acute in developing countries, where

investment in infrastructure and human capital is crucial to long-term progress.

To achieve the SDGs, developing countries will need to raise roughly \$4 trillion annually. With development budgets under pressure globally, it is clear that public funding alone is not enough, and that closing today's investment gap requires mobilizing private capital. Public budgets should serve as a catalyst, not a substitute, for private investment. That's the thinking behind the European Union's Global Gateway initiative, which focuses on creating the conditions necessary for sustainable financing. By combining guarantees, grants, and long-term loans, it aims to reduce risk, unlock private capital, and enable transformative investments in high-quality infrastructure projects, with a strong focus on education, job training, health, and climate resilience.

At FfD4, for example, we signed a €75 million (\$88 million) guarantee agreement with Spain's COFIDES to expand off-grid energy access in underserved regions across Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, and the Caribbean. Projects like these often cannot move forward without effective risk mitigation. By reducing financial exposure, EU guarantees help make long-term financing viable and more accessible.

We are also developing innovative financing vehicles such as the <u>Digital Leap Fund</u>, which uses grants, guarantees, and first-loss equity to attract private investors to projects they might otherwise avoid. The goal is to mobilize up to €500 million for digital infrastructure, including 5G networks, data centers, and broadband connectivity.

At the same time, we are working to remove barriers to investment. As a former international banker, I understand that investors tend to seek safe, long-term returns – the kind that well-designed development projects can offer. But they also need predictability, transparency, and robust regulatory frameworks.

Our local partners, for their part, need the capacity to build value chains that align with their strengths and priorities. Too often, developing countries that produce or extract highly sought-after resources retain only a fraction of their final value. A cashew grown in Africa may be shipped to Asia for processing and then exported to Europe, delivering limited benefits to local communities while imposing a high environmental cost.

The EU's value-based model tackles this imbalance head-on by focusing on three key areas: job creation and investment in skills, education, inclusion, and sustainability; high-quality infrastructure; and supporting local ownership, governance reform, and stable investment conditions.

This approach is already being implemented in Angola and Zambia, where we are helping to transform the <u>Lobito Corridor</u> – an EU-backed project to renovate the railway linking Angola to landlocked, mineral-rich regions in Zambia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo – into more than just a trade route for critical raw materials.

To ensure that the economic benefits remain in the region, we are supporting vocational training, education, and local processing. In Zambia, we are using grants to strengthen sustainable agriculture, combining value-chain development with technical training in beekeeping, agro-processing, and rural entrepreneurship. Meanwhile, in Angola, we are investing in vocational programs tailored to the transportation, logistics, and energy industries.

Achieving lasting impact requires long-term planning, which is why our approach is demand-driven, skills-oriented, and focused on creating good jobs and promoting local ownership. The Namibia Green Hydrogen Program, which aims to help Namibia realize its green hydrogen potential while supporting Europe's energy transition, is a prime example. Led by national institutions and developed with private partners like Hyphen Hydrogen Energy, the project provides specialized training for workers in the hydrogen and electricity sectors.

In fragile settings, the stakes are even higher. When institutions and basic services break down, instability and unrest often follow. With <u>nearly one-quarter</u> of the world's population living in areas affected by conflict, natural disasters, and displacement, initiatives like the Global Gateway help bridge the gap between humanitarian aid and long-term development by working to restore essential services and build resilience where it is needed most.

Europe has the tools to lead this effort, but lasting progress depends on local ownership, commitment, and resolve. National governments and local communities must take the lead on meaningful reform, effective governance, and sustainable development. Our role is to stand beside our partners and provide reliable, transparent support.

Jozef Síkela is European Commissioner for International Partnerships.

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By Julie McCarthy and Patrick Odier

Nature Risk Is Financial Risk

EW YORK – On December 26, 2004, a massive undersea earthquake triggered a tsunami that left 230,000 people across Southeast Asia dead. Almost everyone, both human and animal, was caught off guard, with a notable exception: elephants. In places like Thailand and Sri Lanka, elephants became agitated hours before the waves hit. Wild elephants fled to higher ground, and captive ones defied their handlers, sometimes with tourists still on their backs. Sensing low-frequency vibrations undetectable to most species, they acted on early warning signals – and were far more likely to survive.

Today, another, far larger disaster is brewing, as rapid <u>planetary warming</u> and escalating environmental degradation threaten every sector of the global economy. And while many investors continue with business as usual, as if unaware of what is coming, one group is attempting to get out of harm's way: long-term asset owners, such as pension funds and sovereign wealth managers.

These investors, unlike hedge funds or private equity firms, take a generational view of the assets they manage. They cannot afford to ignore the inextricable link between global financial stability and environmental stability, an awareness reflected in new initiatives like the <u>Debt Suspension Clause Alliance</u> and the <u>Global Hub for Debt Swaps for Development</u>. While <u>some claim</u> that accounting for climate change amounts to "mission creep" for global financial stewards like the International Monetary Fund, bellwether investors recognize that nature and climate risks will materialize in near- and medium-term shocks, affecting every facet of the global economy.

So, even as many shareholders and CEOs remain focused on quarterly results, long-term asset owners have begun to scrutinize companies for natural-capital risk, in order to anticipate environmental shocks that could reduce the long-term value of their assets. Norway's Government Pension Fund Global, which manages \$1.7 trillion in assets, is now assessing a whopping 96% of its portfolio for such risk. This is not some internal refinement of environmental, social, and governance (ESG) pledges; it is a major institutional change.

Norway is not alone. Finland's State Pension Fund recently began exploring ways to quantify nature-related financial risks in relation to long-term pension liabilities. And Temasek Holdings in Singapore has started using satellite monitoring and biodiversity data to evaluate natural-capital risks and opportunities.

At a time when ESG frameworks have become a flashpoint in political and culture wars, there can be no doubt that these actions are driven not by political pressures or social trends, but by pragmatism – and a growing sense of urgency. Already, extreme weather, biodiversity loss, water stress, and resource scarcity are disrupting economies, with vulnerable low-income countries especially hard hit.

In 2022, floods in Pakistan devastated agriculture – which employs 40% of the workforce – driving up food prices and pushing the country to the brink of default. In Indonesia, deforestation and peatland degradation from unsustainable palm-oil production led to the imposition of a temporary export ban in 2022. In Brazil and Ethiopia, rising temperatures and erratic rainfall have slashed coffee yields in recent years, causing global prices to spike and undermining rural incomes and export revenues.

High-income countries are far from immune to these risks. In the United States, prolonged droughts are reducing crop yields from Arkansas to Oklahoma, forcing farmers to drill deeper wells and switch to less profitable crops. Meanwhile, climate-related disasters, such as hurricanes and wildfires, are causing home insurers to raise premiums, reduce coverage, and even exit high-risk regions. In Europe, nature-related risks have affected olive oil production in Italy and Greece; wine grapes in France, Italy, and Spain; timber supplies in Central and Northern Europe; fishing in the Mediterranean; and transport on the Rhine and Danube rivers. And this does not even begin to cover the vast human costs of the nature and climate crisis, evident in places like Valencia and Texas.

Yet such risks have not been adequately priced into financial models. This is partly because data on natural capital, unlike on greenhouse-gas emissions, remain fragmented, inconsistent, and difficult to access. The risks are complex and systemic – water scarcity, biodiversity loss, and climate change cut across sectors and borders, triggering cascading effects – and there are no measuring or reporting standards in place. As a result, most banks lack the information they need, especially location-specific data, to evaluate borrowers' environmental dependencies.

But new tools are emerging that can help close these gaps. For example, <u>Exploring Natural Capital Opportunities</u>, <u>Risks and Exposure</u> (ENCORE) is a free online tool that helps financial institutions identify nature-related risks to which they are exposed through their lending, underwriting, and investment in high-risk industries.

Moreover, the <u>Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures</u> (TNFD) has devised a set of disclosure recommendations and guidance aimed at helping businesses and financial institutions integrate nature into their decision-making. Some central banks have developed integrated <u>scenario models</u> aimed at assessing the impact of climate- and nature-related risks on the economy and financial system. Add to that new biodata technology, and the means to act are already here. Investors do not need to fly blind.

This is no longer a matter of awareness. With investors already confronting the financial consequences of ecological instability – from stranded agricultural assets to declining sovereign-credit ratings in climate-vulnerable economies – there can be no doubt that nature risk is financial risk. Asset owners, central banks, and institutions like the IMF now have a responsibility to integrate this recognition into all their activities – before the next preventable shock materializes. The institutions that lead will be those willing to move beyond silos, align capital with planetary boundaries, and invest not only in markets, but also in the systems that support them.

Julie McCarthy is CEO of NatureFinance. Patrick Odier is Chair of Building Bridges and Chair of the Supervisory Board of Lombard Odier Group.

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Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission

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Contact number: 0886-667-439

Press Release

Date: Monday, July 28, 2025

The Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC) informs the public that, during the May A.D. 2025 term of court, the Commission secured true bills in three major indictments as part of its ongoing mandate to investigate, prosecute, and deter acts of corruption and financial misconduct in public service. These indictments pertain to the following institutions:

1. National Oil Company of Liberia (NOCAL)

Three individuals have been indicted:

- Rustonlyn Suacoco Dennis, Suspended CEO, NOCAL
- Richman Jallah, Comptroller, NOCAL
- **Edmond Massaquoi**, IT Technician, Ministry of Transport

They face multiple charges, including:

- Economic Sabotage
- Tampering with Public Records
- Criminal Attempt, Solicitation, Facilitation, and Conspiracy
- Violations of Public Procurement and Concessions Commission (PPCC) and Project Management Framework (PMF) laws

All three defendants appeared before **Criminal Court 'C' on Tuesday, July 22, 2025**, and presented Judge-approved criminal appearance bonds. They were formally served with writs of arrest and indictments, placing them under the jurisdiction of the court.

2. Liberia Telecommunications Authority (LTA)

The LTA indictment involves:

- Madam Edwina C. Zackpa, Former Chairperson, LTA
- Temma Corporation, through its CEO Mr. Abdullah Kamara

The charges include:

- Economic Sabotage
- Theft of Property
- Misapplication of Entrusted Property
- Criminal Facilitation, Solicitation, and Conspiracy

On service of the indictment, Mr. Kamara presented a criminal appearance bond and is now under court jurisdiction. He has filed several motions, including:

- Motion to Dismiss
- Motion for Severance and Separate Trial
- Motion for Change of Venue
- Motion to Correct Bail Bond

These motions have been heard, with final rulings pending. Meanwhile, Madam Zackpa remains outside the Republic of Liberia, and efforts are ongoing to ensure her appearance.

3. Liberia Refugee Repatriation and Resettlement Commission (LRRRC)

Four former officials face indictment:

- Patrick Tarnue Worzie, Former Director-General
- Alieu Fofana, Former M&E Manager
- Joseph Wea, Former Comptroller
- **Jeredine Kolleh**, Manager of Humanitarian Department

The charges include:

- Economic Sabotage
- Theft of Property
- Misapplication of Entrusted Property
- Criminal Conspiracy

 $\mbox{Mr.}$ Worzie appeared at Criminal Court 'C' on Monday, July 21, 2025, and filed a criminal appearance bond

. The remaining defendants are yet to appear, and the Commission is actively coordinating with relevant authorities to pursue further action.

The LACC is assessing the validity and adequacy of the bond submitted and reserves the right to challenge it within the legal timeframe inf found defective.

The LACC reaffirms its commitment to transparency, accountability, and zero tolerance for corruption. These indictments reflect our steadfast pursuit of justice and the protection of Liberia's public resources.

The Commission will continue to keep the public informed on developments as proceedings unfold.

Signed: Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission (LACC)





Office of the Secretary General Mano River Union Secretariat 32s Fudia Terrace, Spur Loop, Freetown, Sierra Leone. Email: info@mru.int Visit us at www.mru.int

FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE

JULY 25, 2025

Celebrating the Independence of the Republic of Liberia

The Secretariat of the Mano River Union (MRU) extends its heartfelt congratulations to the Government and People of the Republic of Liberia on the occasion of the 178th Anniversary of Independence, commemorated on the 26th of July 2025.

This historic milestone stands as a powerful symbol of Liberia's enduring legacy as the first independent African republic and a beacon of freedom and hope on the continent. The MRU Secretariat wishes to pay special tribute to His Excellency Joseph Nyuma Boakai Sr., President of the Republic of Liberia, for his visionary leadership and steadfast commitment to national development, democratic governance, and regional cooperation.

Liberia's contributions to peacebuilding, economic integration, and regional stability within the MRU space have been vital to the advancement of our shared vision for unity, prosperity, and sustainable development across Member States As a founding member of the Mano River Union, Liberia continues to inspire the region with its resilient spirit, vibrant culture, and unwavering pursuit of progress.

On this momentous occasion, the MRU reaffirms its solidarity with the people of Liberia and looks forward to continued collaboration with the Government of Liberia in strengthening regional partnerships that benefit the citizens of our Union

May Liberia continue to flourish in peace, dignity, and prosperity. Long live the Republic of Liberia.

Issued by:

Office of the Secretary General

Mano River Union Secretariat

Freetown, Sierra Leone

Cllr. Yvette Chesson-Wureh receives prestigious National Honor

Cllr. Dr. Yvette Chesson-Wureh, an iconic Liberian female, has been awarded the nation's highest honor, the Order of the Star of Africa (Grand Band).

By Stephen G. Fellajuah

onrovia, Liberia; July 28, 2025 -In a momentous celebration of _Liberia's 178th Independence Anniversary, Cllr. Dr. Yvette Chesson-Wureh has been awarded the nation's highest honor, the Order of the Star of Africa (Grand Band), in recognition of her exemplary leadership, peacebuilding work, and lifelong dedication to justice, unity, and women's empowerment.

Speaking at a special cocktail program hosted in her honor on July 24, 2025, at the Cecil Dennis Auditorium of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cllr. Chesson-Wureh expressed profound gratitude for the recognition. "I thank His Excellency, President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, for this gracious honor and for the confidence it

the so-called divides of our nation. We are the evidence that peace, reconciliation, and unity are not abstract ideals, but living realities when we choose to embrace each other as Liberians first."

Calling on all citizens to reject the ghosts of ethnic and civil conflict, she declared that Liberia will rise when its people rise together, accepting the honor in the name of the women who birthed nations, the youth who dare to dream, the elders who have endured, and the peacebuilders, who labor every day for a better future.

"May this Grand Band not simply be a decoration, but a call to deeper service, louder advocacy, and unshakeable faith in Liberia. May God bless Liberia. May God bless all of us, one people, one nation united in purpose", she expressed.

The ceremony attracted dignitaries,



expresses in the work that I and so many others have been privileged to carry out in service of this beloved nation," she stated.

She emphasized that the honor was not for her alone but for generations of Liberians, past and present, "who have dared to serve, to hope, and to believe in the dream of a united, just, and peaceful Liberia."

Chesson-Wureh passionately urged Liberians to embrace unity that transcends tribal, ethnic, and political lines. "My life, like many others, stands as living proof that Liberian unity transcends tribe, ethnicity, and all divides that have threatened to tear the nation apart," she said. "We are one people, richly diverse, beautifully complex, and deeply interconnected."

She continued, "There are many of us across this country who are bridges between President

diplomats, civil society leaders, and international guests, many of whom were women from around the world, including the United States, who lauded Dr. Chesson-Wureh for her transformative impact in Liberia and beyond.

Among those who spoke was Olubanke King-Akerele, former Foreign Minister of Liberia, who described the moment as "extraordinary" and a well-deserved tribute to Chesson-Wureh's tireless service.

Cllr. Dr. Yvette Chesson-Wureh serves as the Establishment Coordinator of the Angie Brooks International Centre (ABIC) for Women's Empowerment, Leadership Development, International Peace, and Security, an institution born from the 2009 International Colloquium co-convened by

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Board Chairman NTALCUCS

KHDGOL

et's embrace value of mercy and dignity

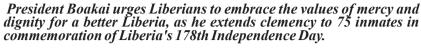
-Press Boakai pleads with Liberians

By Lewis S. Teh

onrovia, Liberia; July His decision to grant executive their sentences but remain inmates from various correctional Independence Day celebration. facilities across the country, The decision followed a formal Others include terminally ill Liberia.

embrace the values of mercy, Division. dignity, and second chances", The gesture of clemency reflects Felons with no more than two President Boakai said.

justice must be both firm and fair, within Liberia's correctional President Boakai said, "As we



2025

28, 2025 - Following clemency was part of activities incarcerated due to an inability the release of 75 marking Liberia's 178th to pay restitution of not more

President Joseph N. Boakai called recommendation from the inmates with medical on citizens to embrace the value of Ministry of Justice, based on certification, indicating a low mercy and dignity for a better assessments conducted by the likelihood of survival beyond Bureau of Corrections and July 2025; Elderly inmates "As we celebrate our national Rehabilitation (BCR) and the aged 50 and above, convicted of Independence, we must also Human Rights Protection non-capital crimes with

the President's ongoing years remaining on their He disclosed that the act of commitment to justice, expected date of release (EDR). clemency reaffirms his belief that rehabilitation, and compassion In announcing the pardons

than USD 2,000.

consistent good behavior; and

celebrate our nationa independence, we must also embrace the values of mercy dignity, and second chances."

He further instructed the Ministry of Justice to ensure that the release of the pardoned individuals is handled in an orderly and humane manner and to facilitate their reintegration into society.

Meanwhile, the President provided 100 bags of 25kg rice and cash for correction staff in commemoration of the July 26 Independence Day celebration.

Mr. Boakai said this gesture



and that redemption remains system. possible for those willing to The categories of pardoned aligns with his broader agenda change.

inmates include: inmates who for criminal justice reform by President Boakai spoke on Friday, have served more than 50% of decongesting Liberia's prison July 25, 2025, at the Monrovia their sentence for non-capital system and restoring hope and Central Prison when he granted offenses and have demonstrated dignity to underserved executive elemency to 75 inmates good behavior; and misdemeanor populations. *Editing by* from various correctional facilities offenders who have completed Jonathan Browne

-Says Lima Commissioner Lighe at EFLA Assembly in Belgium

By Stephen G. Fellajuah

Antwerp, Belgium, July 27, 2025), Maritime Commissioner and CEO of Despite the notable achievements, the Liberia Maritime Authority Commissioner Lighe acknowledged (LiMA), Neto Zarzar Lighe, has the challenges the sector still faces described Liberia as a "beacon of including limited surveillance capacity, perseverance," celebrating the nation's outdated maritime legislation, and resilience and progress during remarks at underdeveloped port infrastructure the Annual General Assembly of the outside Monrovia. European Federation of Liberian However, he called these issues Associations (EFLA) and the "opportunities in disguise," urging commemoration of Liberia's 178th Liberians especially those in the Independence Day.

the event held in Antwerp, Belgium, sector. Commissioner Lighe paid tribute to the Enrollment at the Liberia Maritime indomitable spirit of Liberians who, Training Institute, which continues to despite enduring decades of conflict, offer rigorous training to future political instability, and economic seafarers, has significantly increased. hardship, continue to uphold the values of democracy, peace, and sovereignty.

Liberia stands today with unyielding Accra, Ghana, a promise fulfilled by courage and dignity," Commissioner President Joseph Nyuma Boakai. Lighe said. "From the ashes of war, we Full-time offices have been established have risen into an era marked by peace, in Buchanan, Harper, and Greenville to democratic continuity, and global enhance monitoring and ship

environment under international law," Commissioner Lighe explained.

diaspora to seize investment Addressing Liberians in the diaspora at opportunities in the growing maritime

Meanwhile, the country recently constructed a new student dormitory at Despite the trials we have endured, the Regional Maritime University in



<u>ice warn ag</u>ainst resisting al

By Stephen G. Fellajuah Fula community here over the arrest crime. You cannot hide behind it." National Police's commitment to of a Muslim woman accused of Clarke confirmed that both justice, stating, "This matter will power theft, Police Spokesperson Madam Bah and the arresting be fully investigated. If Madam Cecelia M. Clarke has cautioned that officer are under investigation and Bah is found culpable, she will be resisting arrest is both unlawful and that a full inquiry will be dealt with in accordance with the dangerous. She called for calm and conducted into the incident.

process. video surfaced showing the July 17 "Enough is Enough" Liberian National Bar Association controversial arrest of Madam protest during which police Zainab Bah, during which she officers were stoned, but the allegedly struck an officer and poured boiling soup on him. Protesters dispute the police account and claim her hijab was forcibly removed, sparking allegations of religious insensitivity.

However, speaking on state broadcaster ELBC, Clarke condemned the protest and rejected suggestions that the incident was motivated by religion. She emphasized that religious attire does not exempt individuals from arrest.

"It is wrong for people to make this look like a religious war. That is not good for our country," Clarke said, and stressed, "Yes, Madam Bah was wearing a hijab, but that cannot prevent an arrest."

-Amid controversy over woman's arrest Despite issuing an initial apology to aggrieved protesters in Monrovia, the Liberian National Police warns the public that resisting arrest is both unlawful and dangerous.

onrovia, Liberia; July 28, She added, "You can wear your incident drew little public 2025 - Following a mass cleric [attire] or hijab and still be condemnation.

urged citizens to respect the legal She also criticized what she involved." described as double standards in In a related legal commentary,

protest by members of the arrested when you commit a Clarke reaffirmed the Liberia

The protest erupted after a viral public reaction, referencing the Cllr. Varmah, President of the

law. The same goes for the officer



cooperation. Our journey is far from over, inspection and for the first time since but the path ahead holds promise for independence, Liberia has initiated hope, prosperity, and transformation."

Commissioner Lighe praised the contributions of the Liberian diaspora, encouraging them to view themselves as Recalling missed opportunities during ambassadors of Liberia's culture, values, past oil exploration efforts, the and economic aspirations.

emphasized. "You reflect the image of opportunities to slip away, adding that Liberia to the world. Your unity, patriotism, and involvement are shaping economic goldmine, and with the right the trajectory of our nation's development."

Turning attention to Liberia's maritime achievements, Lighe highlighted the country's continued leadership in global shipping. With over 5,600 vessels flying its flag, Liberia now boasts the world's largest ship registry, representing 17% of the global fleet.

He traced the origins of this maritime success to 1949 with the registration of the World Peace, the first vessel to sail under the Liberian flag. Since then, Liberia's open ship registry has become a critical pillar of the national economy, "This Independence Day, let us development.

contributing to public revenue, reaffirm our faith in Liberia's destiny. international visibility, and workforce Let us invest in the future, take pride in "At LiMA, we don't just manage ship registrations, we oversee all maritime-

domestic shipbuilding efforts to support short-sea shipping along the

Commissioner pointed out that "Your role in the diaspora is vital," he Liberians must not allow future the maritime sector is an untapped investments, Liberians can lead the charge in transforming the sector.

> "We must not allow future opportunities to slip away. Our sector is an untapped economic goldmine and with the right investments, Liberians can lead the charge in transforming our maritime landscape."

> Moreover, he told the gathering that as Liberia celebrates 178 years of independence, it was important for all citizens, especially those abroad, to reflect on their roles in the nation's forward march.

our accomplishments, and remain united in our pursuit of progress. Liberia's fame shall remain green, and the gallantry of its people will never related matters, including safety at sea and the protection of our marine

Le LMTI pris dans les filets du Sénat libérie

Liberia Traffic **⊿**Management Incorporated (LMTI), qui cherche à prendre en charge la gestion du système de circulation routière du Liberia au détriment du ministère des Transports, s'est retrouvée au cœur d'une vive controverse au Sénat, accusée

société étrangère suspension immédiate des opérations de LMTI avant même leur lancement, évoquant des faits de fraude et d'incohérence dans les documents contractuels.

> Le contrat de concession de la société, qui prévoyait la prise en charge de fonctions clés telles que la délivrance de permis de conduire, l'immatriculation des véhicules, les inspections routières et d'autres

suppression de près de 300 emplois au sein de l'administration.

Mais au-delà des conséquences sociales, un autre problème majeur a été mis en lumière : selon les révélations faites au Sénat, deux versions différentes du contrat existent — l'une ayant été approuvée par le Sénat, et l'autre circulant dans le domaine public.

La Sénatrice du comté de Grand Cape Mount, Dabbah Varpileh, qui a soulevé le dossier, a affirmé que le document rendu public diffère sensiblement de celui ratifié par le Sénat et transmis au Président Joseph N. Boakai.

« Le contrat de concession de 2018 signé avec le LMTI, que nous avions validé, ne correspond pas à la version actuelle. C'est pourquoi je demande au Sénat d'ouvrir une enquête pour identifier les irrégularités, notamment en ce qui concerne les pertes d'emplois, les recettes publiques et les hausses éventuelles des frais de service. Ces derniers jours, les travailleurs concernés ont manifesté, et il est impératif que l'Exé cutif



d'irrégularités documentaires et de tentative d'usurpation de fonctions publiques.

Lors de la séance plénière du jeudi 24 juillet, les sénateurs

attributions relevant du ministère des Transports, a déjà suscité une vague de protestations de la part des fonctionnaires publics. Sa mise en œuvre, prévue pour la fin juillet ou libériens ont voté la début août, entraînerait la

SRC et Jeety Rubber offrent une ambul des lampadaires solaires dans 56 comm

a Salala Rubber Corporation (SRC) et sa filiale Jeety Rubber ont fait don d'une ambulance entièrement équipée aux travailleurs et résidents du district n°5 du comté de Margibi, renforçant ainsi de manière significative l'accès aux soins d'urgence dans cette région rurale.

La remise officielle du véhicule s'est tenue le 23 juillet 2025 lors d'une cérémonie à laquelle ont participé des autorités locales et des leaders communautaires. Cette initiative s'inscrit dans le cadre de la politique de responsabilité sociétale des entreprises (RSE) des deux sociétés.

L'ambulance est destinée à desservir non seulement les employés de SRC et de Jeety Rubber, mais également les populations environnantes, notamment dans les zones difficilement accessibles pendant la saison des pluies, lorsque l'état des routes entrave les déplacements rapides.

« Cette ambulance sauvera des vies », a déclaré M. Upjit Singh Sachdeva, PDG de SRC et Jeety Rubber. « Elle permettra des interventions plus rapides en

cas d'urgence médicale et facilitera l'accès à des soins spécialisés lorsque la situation l'exige. »

Le véhicule est équipé de matériel médical moderne, notamment de bouteilles d'oxygène, de défibrillateurs et de médicaments d'urgence. Par ailleurs, du personnel médical local a été formé pour assurer l'utilisation et la maintenance adéquates de l'équipement.

Un appui à l'éducation rurale

Dans une autre action sociale, les deux entreprises ont mis à disposition un autobus scolaire de 24 places afin de faciliter le transport des enfants des employés et des élèves des villages voisins vers les établissements scolaires de la région. Cette mesure vise à améliorer les taux de fréquentation scolaire, en particulier pendant la saison pluvieuse.

« De nombreux enfants devaient marcher plusieurs kilomètres pour se rendre à l'école », a expliqué Mme Irene Darwolor, présidente du comité communautaire de Baypolou. « Ce service de transport régulier réduira considérablement le taux d'abandon scolaire. »

L'autobus suivra un itinéraire fixe, desservant plusieurs villages pour garantir un transport sûr et fiable aux élèves.

Renforcement des infrastructures communautaires Dans le cadre de leur engagement envers le dévelo ppement local, SRC et Jeety **&** 217.' 21\$*3(

Editorial

Un agent de la LDEA tué par une foule en colère à Caldwell

ne tragédie s'est produite à Caldwell, dans la banlieue de Monrovia, le mardi 22 juillet 2025. L'agent Emmanuel Payne, membre de l'Agence libérienne de lutte contre la drogue (Liberia Drug Enforcement Agency, LDEA), a été lynché à mort par une foule en furie, composée de présumés délinquants communément appelés « zogos » ainsi que de certains habitants de la communauté.

Selon un communiqué officiel de la LDEA, l'agent Payne rendait visite à un collègue de la Liberia Immigration Service (LIS) sur Benson Street, à Caldwell, lorsqu'il a aperçu un individu suspect transportant un sac en plastique noir en direction d'un ghetto bien connu dans le quartier.

Agissant conformément à son devoir, l'agent Payne aurait tenté d'intercepter le suspect. C'est à ce moment, indique l'agence, qu'un trafiquant notoire identifié comme Franklin B. Feawoe, alias « Black Bottle », aurait ordonné à un groupe de personnes d'attaquer l'agent. Malgré le fait qu'il portait son uniforme officiel et s'était clairement identifié, M. Payne aurait été accusé à tort d'être un voleur de moto (« motorbike rogue »), avant d'être pourchassé et violemment agressé par la foule. Dans une tentative désespérée de se défendre et de disperser ses agresseurs, il a tiré deux coups de semonce. Mais loin de se calmer, la foule se serait renforcée, devenant de plus en plus

Gravement blessé, l'agent Payne a été transporté d'urgence à l'hôpital John F. Kennedy (JFK) à Monrovia, où son décès a été constaté peu après son admission.

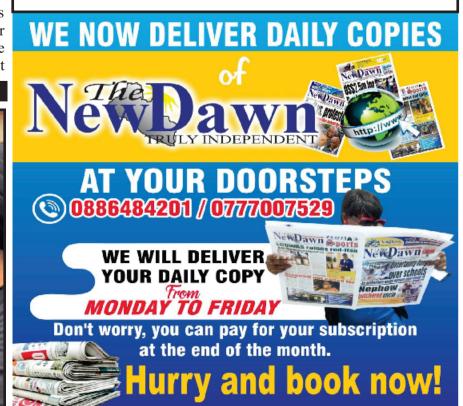
Dans un communiqué, la LDEA a fermement condamné ce qu'elle qualifie d'« acte odieux et lâche » perpétré contre l'un de ses agents les plus engagés dans la lutte contre le trafic de drogue.

L'agence a déclaré coopérer étroitement avec la Police nationale du Liberia (LNP) ainsi que d'autres forces de sécurité pour identifier, arrêter et traduire en justice tous les auteurs de cette attaque. Une attention particulière est portée au principal suspect, Franklin B Feawoe, actuellement en fuite et activement recherché.

En réponse à ce drame, la LDEA a lancé une série d'opérations de ratissage à Caldwell. Plusieurs ghettos ont été démantelés et incendiés, et de nombreux suspects présumés impliqués dans le meurtre ont été arrêtés.

« Nous adressons nos plus sincères condoléances à la famille, aux amis et aux collègues de l'agent Emmanuel Payne. Son courage, son intégrité et son sacrifice dans la lutte contre les stupéfiants ne seront jamais oubliés. Que son âme repose en paix », a déclaré la LDEA.

L'agence appelle par ailleurs la population à fournir toute information susceptible d'aider à localiser Franklin B. Feawoe. Elle exhorte les citoyens à ne pas tenter de l'interpeller eux-mêmes, mais plutôt à contacter immédiatement la LDEA au numéro suivant : 0777 133 333.



6 W D U W V I U R Les LMTI pris dans les filets du Sénat libérien Bong

se penche sérieusement sur cette affaire », a-t-elle l'exécution du contrat.

Dans son intervention, le Sénateur du comté de Margibi, Nathaniel F. McGill — ancien ministre d'Etat au moment des négociations — a précisé que l'ancien président George M. Weah n'a jamais signé l'accord de concession avec LMTI.

Selon lui, les documents actuellement mis en œuvre par l'entreprise sont différents de ceux approuvés par le Sénat et transmis à l'Exécutif, ce qui expliquerait pourquoi le gouvernement précédent, dirigé par le CDC, n'avait pas procédé à

Le Sénateur Nyonblee Karnga-Lawrence, de son côté, a renforcé cette position en déclarant : « Si le gouvernement précédent, à l'origine de cette concession, a refusé de la mettre en œuvre, pourquoi devrait-ce être au tour de ce gouvernement de le faire?»

Il a également rappelé que l'entreprise avait saisi la justice, avant de retirer sa plainte et de laisser le dossier en suspens pendant plusieurs années, preuve selon lui que des problèmes fondamentaux entachent la validité du contrat.

6WDUWV IURSKE CHEETY RUDDER O

Rubber ont également rénové et inauguré une nouvelle mairie pour la communauté de Barpolu. Le bâtiment comprend des salles de réunion, des bureaux pour les autorités locales ainsi qu'un grand hall destiné aux rassemblements communautaires.

« Avoir une mairie fonctionnelle permettra à notre communauté de mieux s'organiser, de tenir des réunions dans la dignité et de disposer d'un espace où notre voix pourra être entendue », a ajouté Mme Darwolor.

Sécurité et développement durable

Par ailleurs, les sociétés ont achevé l'installation de 58 lampadaires solaires dans 56 villes et villages situés dans les zones d'opération de la SRC. Ce

projet d'éclairage public vise à améliorer la sécurité nocturne et à favoriser les activités sociales et économiques après la tombée de la nuit. Ces nouvelles actions viennent compléter une série d'initiatives RSE mises en œuvre par SRC et Jeety Rubber dans le district n°3 du comté de Margibi et au-delà. Les entreprises exploitent déjà des cliniques médicales offrant des soins de santé de base, des campagnes de vaccination et un soutien à la santé maternelle.

Elles ont également foré des puits et installé des systèmes d'approvisionnement en eau potable dans plusieurs localités, don't Weala, réduisant ainsi les risques de maladies d'origine hydrique.

Des membres de la communauté Fula manifesten devant le siège de la police nationale

d'assaut le siège de la Police grave des droits humains ». nationale du Liberia (LNP), situé Ø communauté.

L'Incident à l'origine de la colère Selon des sources policières, concerne Mme Zainab Bah, une femme issue de la communauté Fula, accusée de vol d'électricité. Une vidéo devenue virale sur les réseaux sociaux montre une altercation violente entre Mme Bah et un agent de police, au cours de laquelle elle semble de procéder à son arrestation agents. alors qu'elle porte son bébé.

Ce qui a particulièrement choqué l'opinion, c'est l'allégation selon laquelle le voile (hijab) de Mme Bah aurait été arraché de force par le policier pendant l'arrestation, un geste perçu comme une atteinte grave à la dignité et à la foi musulmane. Des voix issues des milieux religieux et des organisations de défense des droits humains dénoncent une violation flagrante des droits fondamentaux et un manque de respect culturel.

L'opinion publique reste divisée : certains condamnent les actes de Mme Bah envers le policier, tandis que d'autres s'indignent de la manière brutale et humiliante

e jeudi 24 juillet a été don't l'arrestation a été effectuée. l'avoir dénudée partiellement marqué par une vive Présent lors de la manifestation, devant son enfant, est non Itension à Monrovia, Mohamed Bah, leader de la seulement inhumaine, mais aussi lorsque des membres de la communauté Fula à Monrovia, a profondément irrespectueuse des communauté Fula ont pris qualifié l'incident de « violation sensibilités culturelles.

contre ce qu'ils qualifient de rapide, indépendante et brutalité policière à l'encontre impartiale. La justice doit être d'une femme de leur rendue », a-t-il déclaré à la presse.

Mme Bah faisait l'objet d'une arrestation pour vol d'électricité une infraction de second degré au regard du droit libérien passible d'une peine de deux à sept ans de prison ou d'une amende allant de 400 à 1 000 dollars américains. La police frapper le policier et lui jeter une affirme qu'elle aurait opposé une soupe bouillante. La séquence vive résistance à son arrestation montre également l'agent tentant et agressé physiquement les du style de leadership de Gregory

Toutefois, de nombreux mandatest marqué par une police observateurs estiment que la brutale et des atteintes répétées méthode utilisée pour l'arrêter, aux droits des citoyens les plus notamment le fait présumé de vulnérables.»

L'affaire a relancé le débat « C'est inacceptable. national sur les brutalités au centre-ville, pour protester Nous exigeons une enquête policières, les droits des femmes et les abus des forces de l'ordre au

> Sur le plan politique, la réaction a été immédiate. Le secrétaire général du parti d'opposition CDC, Jefferson Koijee, a exigé la révocation sans délai de l'Inspecteur général de la police, Gregory Coleman. Il accuse ce dernier d'avoir instauré une culture d'abus et d'impunité au sein de la LNP.

> « Il ne s'agit pas d'un incident isolé causé par un agent indiscipliné. C'est le reflet direct Coleman », a-t-il déclaré. « Son

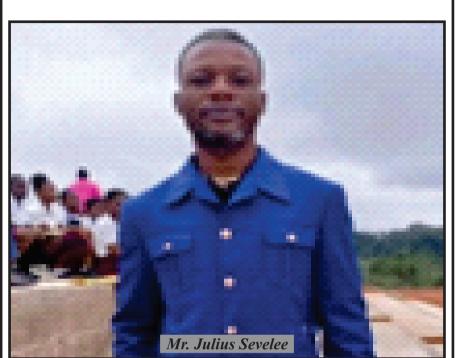


County : Un enseignant

n scandale d'envergure secoue le lycée Nathaniel Varney Massaquoi, à Gbarnga, où Julius Sevelee — enseignant de chimie et doyen des élèves, connu sous le surnom de « Chemical J » — est accusé d'avoir entretenu une relation sexuelle avec une élève, laquelle serait tombée enceinte à la suite de cette liaison présumée.

L'affaire a été révélée au grand public après qu'une plainte formelle a été déposée par le père de l'élève auprès de l'antenne locale de la Police nationale du Liberia (LNP) dans le comté de Bong. Depuis, une enquête a été ouverte conjointement par les autorités policières et éducatives.

Le directeur du district scolaire de Gbarnga, M. P. Kohnkahn Cole, a convoqué M. Sevelee à une audience prévue pour le jeudi 24 juillet 2025 à 10 heures. Cette rencontre est considérée comme déterminante dans la suite



administrative du dossier.

Si les faits sont avérés, ils constitueraient une violation manifeste du Code de conduite de 2014 à l'usage des enseignants et administrateurs scolaires du Liberia, en particulier l'article 4.2.1, qui interdit formellement toute relation sexuelle ou sentimentale entre un enseignant et un élève, indépendamment de l'âge ou du consentement. Ce code vise à préserver l'intégrité morale des établissements scolaires et à assurer la protection des élèves.

L'Incident a suscité une vague d'indignation parmi les parents, les défenseurs des droits des élèves et les membres de la communauté, qui réclament une enquête impartiale et des sanctions exemplaires si les accusations sont confirmées.

Interrogé par la presse, M. Sevelee a nié toute implication, qualifiant les allégations de « fausses, malveillantes et politiquement motivées », affirmant être victime de représailles en raison de sa proximité avec le représentant du district n°2 du comté de Bong, l'honorable James Kolleh. Il a reconnu avoir été contacté par la police le 16 juillet 2025, suite à la plainte initiale, qui comportait des accusations de viol. Selon lui, ces accusations auraient été abandonnées à l'issue d'une première enquête policière.

Cependant, il a confirmé avoir reçu une mise en demeure de la part de l'administration de l'école concernant la grossesse de l'élève. Au cours d'une réunion avec le proviseur et d'autres responsables, il aurait admis la possibilité d'être le père de l'enfant à naître, tout en se référant au document de « non-incrimination » émis, selon lui, par la police.

« J'ai dit au proviseur que je m'en tiendrai à ce que dit le rapport de la police », a-t-il déclaré, soutenant que ses propos étaient faits de bonne foi, convaincu d'avoir été blanchi de toute infraction pénale.

Malgré cette défense, des rumeurs persistantes font état de tentatives présumées d'arrangement financier avec la famille de l'élève en vue d'étouffer l'affaire. Ces allégations, actuellement à l'étude, renforcent les inquiétudes concernant d'éventuelles pressions et une politisation du dossier.

Le ministère de l'Éducation, par l'intermédiaire du bureau éducatif du district, a réaffirmé son engagement à faire respecter les normes professionnelles et à garantir la sécurité des élèves. Un responsible, s'exprimant sous couvert d'anonymat, a assuré que « le ministère prend cette affaire très au sérieux et veillera au respect rigoureux de la procédure ».

Cette affaire relance le débat national sur l'éthique professionnelle dans les écoles et les abus de pouvoir don't peuvent être victimes les élèves. De nombreuses voix appellent le ministère et la justice à agir avec fermeté pour garantir la transparence, la responsabilité et la sécurité dans l'environnement scolaire.

La réunion avec les autorités éducatives sera décisive quant à d'éventuelles sanctions contre l'enseignant, notamment une suspension ou un licenciement, selon les conclusions de l'enquête.

Entre-temps, les organisations de la société civile et les défenseurs des droits de l'enfant plaident pour des réformes plus larges dans le système de supervision scolaire, ainsi qu'un renforcement des mécanismes de contrôle du comportement des enseignants.

Rédigé et édité par Othello B. Garblah

GOL

SWDUWY IURPOlice warn against resisting arrest MOH Received 42 New Ultrasound Machines

(LNBA), weighed in on the incident, stressing that serious harm. resisting a lawful arrest is prohibited under Liberian He also addressed the religious concerns raised by law, even if the individual believes the arrest is protesters, stating that Article 14 of the Constitution unjustified.

He explained that arrests are governed by the Criminal Procedure Law and the 1986 Constitution, which prohibits arbitrary arrests and guarantees due process.

"The law does not grant a citizen the right to resist a lawful arrest; even if an arrest appears unjust, the proper recourse is through the courts, not resistance."

He noted that only limited resistance may be justified in rare cases of unlawful arrest, especially where excessive force is used. Still, such determinations can only be made retrospectively by the courts.

On the use of force, Cllr. Varmah emphasized that police officers are permitted to use only the amount of that respect for human dignity and the rule of law are force reasonably necessary to carry out an arrest. non-negotiable in a democratic society", the Bar Deadly force is allowed only to prevent death or

guarantees freedom of religion and that all citizens deserve equal protection under the law.

"While the underlying offense was not religious in machines, funded by the nature, allegations of religious insensitivity must be taken seriously," he said.

"Public authorities must ensure arrests are carried out with cultural sensitivity and respect for human dignity."

He concluded with a call for independent transparent investigations in all incidents that generate public concern.

"The incident in Monrovia must serve as a reminder president noted. Editing by Jonathan Browne

By: Emmanuel wise Jipoh he Ministry of Health (MOH) has received 42

brand-new ultrasound Government of Liberia. The machines are intended to improve access to quality and affordable healthcare for all citizens and residents.

The equipment, identified as the Mindray Ultrasound System Z50, represents a state-of-the-art diagnostic tool designed to elevate the quality of imaging and patient monitoring in health facilities nationwide.

advanced features, including mobile color modes, convex and linear probes, endocavity 3D/4D

the country.

The Ministry has also outlined plans to conduct comprehensive training for health workers on the usage, interpretation, and routine maintenance of the machines. These training sessions will ensure that the equipment is used efficiently and sustainably, empowering healthcare professionals to deliver highstandard services.

The acquisition of the ultrasound equipment comes at a time when Liberia is intensifying efforts to strengthen its primary healthcare Each machine comes with delivery system and reduce dependence on external referrals.

The Ministry calls on county health teams and facility heads to imaging, Live Smart Face, Smart ensure proper stewardship and



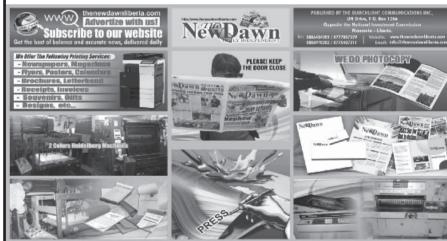
B, Auto IMT package, and iScape maintenance of the equipment as technology.

The units are mounted on durable trolleys, making them ideal for both static and mobile use in clinical settings.

The new ultrasound systems will be distributed to various hospitals and major health centers across

the country moves toward a more modern and resilient healthcare infrastructure.

The Ministry of Health reaffirmed its dedication to equitable healthcare delivery and pledged that no county will be left behind in the allocation process.



revealed."

He further urged that the process parties involved.

review.

cooperation with the The allegations have sparked investigation. "I understand and concern in the Gbarnga education respect the Ministry's community and beyond, with commitment to upholding parents and stakeholders calling discipline and ethical conduct in for a swift and transparent our schools," he said. "While I resolution. As the investigation maintain my innocence, I support progresses, attention remains a fair and unbiased investigation focused on ensuring to ensure that the truth is accountability while safeguarding the rights of all be free from personal bias, The Ministry of Education has

political pressure, or public yet to issue additional public speculation, emphasizing his statements but affirmed its zerotrust in the Ministry's ability to tolerance policy regarding conduct a thorough and just teacher-student misconduct. Edited by Othello B. Garblah.

6 W D U W V I U R CHIR SYVETTE Chesson-Wureh receives prestigious

s Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and Tarja Halonen.

initiated the Women's Situation Room (WSR), an legislator for Montserrado County. award-winning early warning and rapid response Her paternal lineage includes Joseph Chesson, one mechanism against electoral violence, which has been of Liberia's famed merchant princes. Her father, implemented in over ten African countries. She chairs Cllr. Joseph J.F. Chesson served as Minister of the Eminent Women's Room of the WSR and co- Justice and was tragically executed during the 1980 chairs FemWise-ECOWAS, a network of women coup. She remains a dedicated member of the April mediators across the region.

Her leadership has also extended to critical national moments: chairing logistics for the 2015 inauguration of President Sirleaf, leading ethical and legal advisory efforts during the Ebola crisis, and mobilizing youth through ABIC plat forms.

securing Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Bar, and the Association of Female Lawyers of undocumented Liberians in the U.S, a victory that Liberia (AFELL). She holds additional granted legal status and work permits to thousands.

legacy of leadership and resilience. On her maternal side, she is the great-great-granddaughter of King National Academy of Sciences and the National Zolu Duma (also known as King Peter) of the Vai Academy of Medicine. Editing by Jonathan people and the great-granddaughter of President Browne Hilary R. W. Johnson, Liberia's first native-born

president. Her mother, Catherine Leona Tucker A trailblazer in gender-responsive peacebuilding, she Chesson, was a renowned lawyer and former

> 22nd Memorial Group, honoring the legacy of President William R. Tolbert Jr. and others lost during that period.

Cllr. Chesson-Gibson earned her Juris Doctor with honors from North Carolina Central University School of Law and is a member of the U.S. While in the diaspora, she played a pivotal role in Supreme Court Bar, the U.S. Federal District Court certifications in Mediation and Arbitration from Cllr. Chesson-Gibson is deeply rooted in Liberia's Bowie State University and has served on national and international boards, including the U.S.

ng County: MoE suspends teacher named to Sex Scandal

The Ministry of Education (MOE) has suspended Julius Sevelee, in sexual relationships with a Chemistry teacher and Dean of Students at the Nathaniel students under their Varney Massaquoi High School in Gbarnga, following supervision. allegations of sexual misconduct involving a female student.

By Edwin N. Khakie

barnga, Bong County, July 28, 2025: The suspension follows a report published by The New Dawn newspaper detailing claims of an inappropriate relationship between Sevelee, also known as "Chemical J," and a student, which reportedly resulted in the student's pregnancy.

The matter first came to light when the student's father lodged a formal complaint, alleging that the teacher had raped his daughter.

An initial investigation conducted by the Liberia National Police's Bong County Detachment cleared Sevelee of the rape allegation after he maintained his innocence during questioning.

However, the case was further escalated when the student's family brought the matter to the attention of Gbarnga District Education Officer, Mr. P.

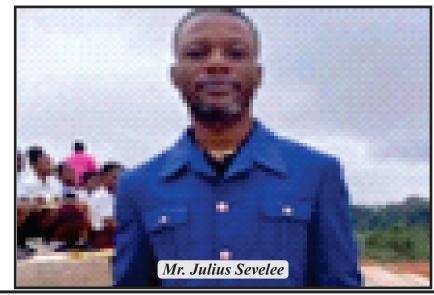
David Boakai.

allegations and in accordance investigation. 6.3.1.2(d) of the Ministry's further disciplinary action. Code of Conduct, which In a formal statement, Sevelee prohibits teachers or school acknowledged receipt of the

According to CEO Boakai, the Kohnkahn Cole, and County suspension takes effect Education Officer (CEO), immediately and will remain in place pending the outcome of a Based on the seriousness of the five-day administrative

with internal procedures, the The letter also bars Sevelee Ministry of Education issued an from entering the school official suspension on July 25, compound or interacting with 2025. The suspension letter students or staff, warning that cites a breach of Section any violation could lead to

administrators from engaging suspension and pledged full



www.thenewdawnliberia.com **NEW DAWN 11 MONDAY JULY 28** 2025

The Orator of Liberia's 178th Independence Anniversary has called she needs solutions. on the Boakai Administration to confront economic disparity with robust, practical policy actions.

By Lincoln G. Peters

onrovia, Liberia; July 28, 2025 - Liberia's .178th Independence Day Orator, Rev. Dr. Emmett Lafayette Dunn, has urged the Government of Liberia to address skyrocketing economic disparity across the country, warning here

Independence, bringing together four African heads of State in Monrovia, namely John Dramani Mahama, President of Ghana; Faye of Senegal; President Julius time to confront a painful truth, Maada Bio of Sierra Leone; and as too much of Liberia's EMBALÓ of Guinea-Bissau.



prosperity is fragile.

speech on Saturday, July 26, Building the Future". practical policy action.

resources as ours, why are so representative of the American global stage. To my fellow many Liberians still poor? This is Embassy in Monrovia. not just an economic issue; it is a Dr. Dunn reminded the government has done all this, as Dunn urged.

celebrated 178 years of does not need promises; rather,

that peace without economic This year's celebration was held government to support small under the theme: "One People, and medium-sized enterprises, Delivering the Independence Day One Destiny: Healing the Past, make access to credit easier,

2025, in Monrovia, Dr. Dunn The program was also graced by vocational training, and recommended that the international partners and modernize agriculture so that government must confront members of the diplomatic farming becomes profitable economic disparity with robust community, including the again. Chinese Ambassador to Liberia, "We must embrace technology "In a country as rich in natural Yin Chengwu, and the so our youth can compete on a

moral one. We must focus on government that a hungry child I know this government would, economic justice, because peace can't wait for macroeconomic without prosperity is fragile." Dr. policy, while a farmer without tools can't wait for committee Over the weekend, the reports, and a mother who can't government and people of Liberia afford healthcare for her child

Independence Day Orator sense of national celebration. further indicated that Liberians can't talk about true controlled by foreign interests.

"While foreign investment is of our economy must be companies. Liberian. Liberians must be The pledged amounts include like July 26." actively involved in owning just consume it. To do that, we must nurture and grow a vibrant middle class, one built on entrepreneurship, skilled labor, innovation." He recommended.

He believes that a strong middle class is the backbone of every stable society, adding that it generates jobs, drives demand, pays taxes, and anchors democracy.

Dr. Dunn urged the invest in technical and

Liberian businesses, when we must endeavor to prove that we are trustworthy by honoring our contracts and commitments", he concluded Editing by Jonathan Browne

6WDUWV IURP SRC: Jeety-Rubbe share Independence Day

s SRC's five plantation camps received Meanwhile, Jeety Rubber LLC, carefully selected Independence Day also based in Weala, has Accordingly, the vocal gifts, bringing joy and reinforcing a

Many of the children, dressed by their parents for the occasion, were visibly independence without excited, reflecting the companies' discussing economic commitment to fostering a brighter President Bassirou Diomaye independence, stating that it is future for Liberia's youth and promoting unity and hope.

In a move to encourage youth President Umaro Sissoco economy is owned and recreation and community bonding, Mr. Upjit Singh Sachdeva, popularly known as Jeety, announced additional welcome, it must not be at the cash prizes for an ongoing local expense of our dignity. The soul football tournament organized by the

> L\$25,000 for the winner, L\$15,000 for businesses. Liberians must be second place, and L\$10,000 for third positioned to create wealth, not place. These are in addition to the tournament's existing prize structure.

> The Independence Day gesture followed just days after a July 23 CSR event, during which SRC and Jeety professional excellence, and Rubber donated a fully equipped ambulance, school bus, and a renovated Town Hall to the people of Weala.

These donations aim to address key local needs, improve emergency healthcare access, support student transportation, and provide a space for community events.

Once plagued by internal strife and aging infrastructure, SRC, one of Liberia's oldest rubber plantations, has undergone a dramatic transformation under Mr. Jeety's leadership. Key improvements include ongoing renovations across the company's five camps and schools.

Expansion of management housing, increased employment opportunities with better pay structures, and solar lighting installations in surrounding communities.

become a hub for processing raw rubber into finished and semi-finished products, including TSR10, for both local use and export.

Mr. Jeety emphasized that his efforts go beyond corporate image.

"This isn't just about giving food or gifts," he said. "It's about compassion, ensuring that even inmates, disadvantaged youth, motorcyclists, and children are not forgotten on a national day

He further emphasized the importance of corporate citizenship, urging Liberian businesses to make positive contributions to the communities in which they operate.

The initiative drew widespread praise from residents of Weala, including motorbike riders, community leaders, and parents, many of whom described Jeety's actions as a model of meaningful social impact.

"Mr. Jeety continues to show that he cares. He's not from here, but he's doing more than most," said a local resident.

This year's Independence Day celebrations, marked by SRC and Jeety Rubber's humanitarian outreach, have not only fed bodies but lifted spirits, reminding Liberians that progress comes from unity, compassion, and shared responsibility. Editing by Jonathan Browne

international partners and members strengthening bilateral relations of the diplomatic community, and opening trade avenues including the Chinese Ambassador between the two nations. to Liberia, Yin Chengwu, and The visit was also part of a broader representatives of the Embassy of African diplomatic initiative of the United States in Monrovia.

Nyuma Boakai was invited by U.S. President Donald J. Trump, along with four other African leaders, for a significant two-day working visit to the United States. The invitation highlights the strengthening diplomatic ties between Liberia and the United States and sets the stage for important multilateral

President Boakai's visit was from

The program was also graced by July 9 to 11, 2025, aimed at

President Trump, for which he also On July 7, 2025, President Joseph invited Presidents Bassirou Diomaye Faye of Senegal, Brice Clotaire Oligui Nguema of Gabon, Mohamed Ould Ghazouani of Mauritania, and Umaro Sissoco Embaló of Guinea-Bissau. The multilateral gathering sought to foster collaboration in addressing regional security challenges and strengthening economic partnerships. Editing by Jonathan

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President Donald Trump has sent a National Day Message to President Joseph Nyuma Boakai, lauding his recent interaction with the Liberian Leader in Washington, D.C.

By Lincoln G. Peters

onrovia, Liberia; July 28, 2025 -United States of America President, ■ Donald John Trump, has expressed appreciation and gratitude to Liberian President, Joseph N. Boakai, saying that he very much enjoyed the meeting held with President Boakai in Washington, D.C., while extending congratulations to Liberians on behalf of the Government and People of the United States.

President Trump, in a message posted on the official Facebook page of the Embassy of the United States in Liberia and read during Liberia's 178th Independence Day celebration, said it was a great honor to host President Boakai in Washington recently.

"National Day Message from President Trump to Liberian President Boakai. Dear Mr. President: On behalf of the American people and the Government of the United States, I send our best wishes to you and the people of Liberia as you celebrate the 178th anniversary of your independence. It was a great honor to host you at the White House earlier this month, and I very much enjoyed our meeting." President Trump

The U.S. President, in his message, said that on this occasion, they are proud to reflect on both countries' shared commitment to democracy, economic growth, and regional stability, and look forward to strengthening this partnership for the discussions. betterment of both the United States and Liberia.

"We are grateful for your friendship with the United States and your commitment to enhancing peace and prosperity, and we look forward to continued cooperation in the years ahead. Sincerely, Donald J. Trump", the message concluded.

Over the weekend, the government and people of Liberia celebrated 178 years of Independence, which brought together four African Heads of State in Monrovia, namely, President John Dramani Mahama of Ghana, President Bassirou Diomaye Faye of Senegal, President Julius Maada Bio of Sierra Leone, and President Umaro Sissoco EMBALÓ of Guinea-Bissau.

Rev. Dr. Emmett Lafayette Dunn delivered the 178th Independence Day oration under the theme: "One People, One Destiny: Healing the Past, Building the Future".





G, Jeety Rubbe share Independence Day gifts to over 7,000 Liberians

Indian businessman, Upit Singh Sachdeva (A.K.A. Jeety) has meal to 1.600 inmates at the extended Independence Day gesture to 7,145 Liberians in Monrovia overcrowded South Beach and Weala, Margibi County.

By Stephen G. Fellajuah

onrovia, Liberia; July 28, 2025 - The -Salala Rubber Corporation (SRC) and its subsidiary, Jeety Rubber LLC, have extended a significant Independence Day gesture to 7,145 Liberians in Monrovia

included hot meals to 1,600 inmates at the Monrovia Central Prison (South Beach) and support to 500 disadvantaged youths (commonly referred to as Zogoes). The exercise also aided 45 struggling motorbike riders and provided gifts to 5,000 children across five SRC

Prison.

The meal, which included rice, chicken, beans, cake, water, and soft drinks, was a notable upgrade from the prison's typical fare and offered the inmates a moment of dignity and inclusion on a day of national pride.

Beyond the prison walls, the companies also extended help to over 500 disadvantaged youths on Center Street and nearby communities, many of whom have long been marginalized due to drug addiction and societal neglect.

As part of the outreach in Weala, SRC and Jeety Rubber targeted motorbike riders, a vital yet often overlooked segment of Liberia's informal economy. These 45 riders, many of whom struggle daily to provide for their families, each received a 25kg bag of rice.

The distribution process, held at a company facility, was orderly and well-organized. Several riders expressed heartfelt gratitude, noting that the rice would greatly ease their household burdens amid a rising cost of living.

The initiative wasn't limited to

It's Raining Rewards.

is a Winner

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and Weala, Margibi County, as part of ongoing corporate social responsibility efforts. The initiative, driven by compassion and deep community engagement,

camps in Weala.

The cornerstone of the Independence Day outreach, commemorating Liberia's 178th Independence Anniversary, was the provision of a nutritious hot

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