

THE WEEKLY TABLOID

excel

BUSINESS & LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE

BUSINESS | INDUSTRY | MINING | ECONOMY | SPORTS

VOL 1

ISSUE NO. 6

OCT 18-24 2026

K14.6bn for public service delivery

Ministry of Finance and National Planning released the funds in September to also meet debt obligations, support vulnerable households, finance national development programmes

PAGE 2



MUSOKOTWANE

State clarifies FRA fund freeze

Government has clarified that the Food Reserve Agency (FRA) will continue purchasing maize for national strategic reserves despite a decision to withhold fresh Treasury funding for the next farming season.

State House Chief Communications Specialist Clayson Hamasaka said the agency would retain its statutory responsibility of maintaining the country's food reserves, while Government explores alternative arrangements for wider crop marketing and exports.

The clarification comes amid concerns that small-scale farmers could struggle to find

reliable markets for their maize and soya beans if the FRA reduces its commercial purchases.

Finance and National Planning Minister Situmbeko Musokotwane said the Government had exceeded its budget after purchasing more maize than the targeted 500,000 metric tonnes.

The purchases followed a historic maize harvest of approximately 4.9 million tonnes during the 2025/2026 farming season.

Government is now considering the establishment of a private-sector-backed crop marketing entity to facilitate broader commercial trading and exports. **TO PAGE 6**

Fuel prices: Energy PS seeks regional input

Ministry of Energy Permanent Secretary—Energy, Professor Ephraim Munshifwa, has called for stronger regional oil pipeline networks to cut fuel transportation costs by up to 60 percent, strengthen energy security and boost cross-border trade across Africa.

Speaking at the Energy Forum for Africa Conference in Lusaka, held under the theme "Building a Borderless Future for Africa," Prof. Munshifwa said reliance on road transport, congested ports and fragmented supply routes continued to drive up fuel costs and expose landlocked countries to supply disruptions and price volatility. **TO PAGE 3**

ZCCM, IRH reaffirm Mopani growth deal

International Resources Holding (IRH) and ZCCM Investments Holdings Plc (ZCCM-IH) have reaffirmed their commitment to developing Mopani Copper Mines, with a US\$1.1 billion investment aimed at boosting production and strengthening Zambia's mining sector. **PAGE 3**

Zambia, Australia forge stronger mining links

Zambia's nationwide aerial geophysical survey has reached 95% completion and is expected to be finalised by the end of October 2026, providing high-resolution geological data to attract investment and unlock mining opportunities.

Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development Acting Permanent Secretary Anthony Chilengi says the development presents an opportunity for investors to participate in Zambia's mining sector.

Mr Chilengi was speaking in Lusaka when Australian company Feaver Group paid a courtesy call on the Ministry.

Feaver Group Managing Director Richard Stickland expressed interest in strengthening mining cooperation with Zambia, highlighting skills exchange and expertise sharing as key to advancing sustainable mining and

economic development.

The meeting was attended by officials from the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Zambia Development Agency and ZCCM-IH.-EXCEL



STICKLAND

K14.6bn for public service delivery

The Ministry of Finance and National Planning released K14.6 billion in September 2026 to sustain public service delivery, meet debt obligations, support vulnerable households and finance key national development programmes.

The expenditure reflects Government's efforts to maintain essential services while strengthening fiscal discipline, managing public debt and supporting Zambia's transition towards sustainable economic growth.

A significant share of the funds went towards public service salaries and debt servicing, including the clearance of outstanding domestic arrears owed to suppliers and contractors. The move is expected to ease financial pressure on affected businesses while strengthening confidence in public financial management.

Government also prioritised social protection

and public service delivery through funding for hospitals, universities, the Social Cash Transfer Programme, food security interventions and local authorities.

Infrastructure development also featured in the September releases, with funding directed towards road projects and other public infrastructure. Resources were further allocated to government operations and geological mapping to improve knowledge of Zambia's mineral resources and support future investment in the mining sector.

Looking ahead, Government has emphasised the need for stronger domestic revenue mobilisation, disciplined expenditure and sustainable debt management to protect priority programmes and support national development.-EXCEL

New-tech Engineering Solutions Limited
MECHANICAL | ELECTRICAL | CIVIL | LABOUR HIRE

EST. 2011
Zambian-owned

Built for Mining & Industry.

- Steel fabrication & structural works
- Pump, pipe & valve installation
- Civil construction & bridges
- Labour hire, mill relining & trading

NCC • EngRB • ZPPA REGISTERED

CALL US TODAY
+260 969 694 291

info@newtechengineering.zm.com
newtechzambia@gmail.com
www.newtechengineering.zm.co
Plot 1728 Liberia Rd, Heavy Industrial Area, Ndola | Solwezi

NORTHRISE UNIVERSITY
BEING EXCELLENT AT WHAT IS GOOD

**JANUARY 2027
INTAKE**
Applications Open

Main Campus
Plot 30029 Kitwe-Ndola Highway, Ndola

For More Information
Visit: northrise.edu.zm
Email: apply@northrise.net

Speak To An Enrollment Advisor
Office Line: +260-960-776-143
Mobile Line: +260-979-735-282
(SMS/WhatsApp on Mobile line)

ZCCM, IRH reaffirm Mopani growth deal



CHIPOMA

INTERNATIONAL Resources Holding (IRH) and ZCCM Investments Holdings Plc (ZCCM-IH) have reaffirmed their commitment to developing Mopani Copper Mines, with a US\$1.1 billion investment aimed at boosting production and strengthening Zambia's mining sector.

The partnership targets annual finished copper production of 300,000 tonnes by 2029, supporting Zambia's ambition to produce 3 million tonnes of copper annually.

The two shareholders have also emphasised employee welfare and job security, with Zambians accounting for over 99% of Mopani's workforce. The investment is expected to create opportunities for local suppliers and surrounding communities while supporting long-term growth in the mining industry.

The renewed commitment reinforces efforts to improve Mopani's productivity, sustainability and contribution to Zambia's economic development.

Meanwhile, the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) has received K110 million in dividends from ZCCM-IH, which has rewarded shareholders for the 11th consecutive year.

ZCCM-IH approved a final dividend of K1.13 per share for 2025, amounting to approximately K183 million. IDC received the largest share, reflecting its 60.28% stake, while other beneficiaries included the Ministry of Finance and National Planning, NAPSA and minority shareholders.

Board Chairperson Phesto Musonda said ZCCM-IH has returned approximately K2.4 billion to shareholders since 2015, with its market valuation on the Lusaka Securities Exchange surpassing US\$1 billion. Investment income also increased by 40% in 2025, with the dividend paid from internally generated cash.

IDC Chief Finance Officer Raphael Chipoma said the corporation would reinvest the proceeds in industrial development, job creation and rural economic growth. Meanwhile, Government has urged ZCCM-IH to balance shareholder returns with reinvestment, mineral value addition and local industry development to support Zambia's economic growth and 3-million-tonne copper production target. -EXCEL

Fuel prices: Energy PS seeks regional input

From Front Page

He said integrated oil pipelines offered a more efficient and reliable alternative, with the potential to lower logistics expenses and improve the competitiveness of African economies.

Prof. Munshifwa also called for harmonised regulations and transparent, non-discriminatory access to pipeline infrastructure to promote fair competition among licensed oil marketers and attract private investment.

He emphasised that regional cooperation, public-private partnerships and modern digital monitoring systems were essential to developing efficient cross-border energy infrastructure and advancing the objectives of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). - EXCEL

El Niño forces Zambia to cut growth projection

Zambia lowered its economic growth forecasts for 2027 and 2028 to 4.9 percent and 5.0 percent. The previous projections were 6 percent and 7.5 percent. Minister of Finance and National Planning Situmbeko Musokotwane cited the threat El Niño poses to agriculture and the prolonged impact of the Gulf war.

Dr Musokotwane announced the downgrade in Bangkok, Thailand, where he is attending this week's annual meetings of the International

Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group.

The weather threat is serious. Global forecasters predict that this year's El Niño will peak at an intensity never observed in the modern era, compounding man-made climate change. Some countries are already grappling with drought, while others face severe disruptions to monsoon rains that are damaging crops. - LT



CONTACT US

KASEMPA KREATIONS

PHONE / WHATSAPP

0965 985 549

EMAIL

kasempakreations2020@gmail.com



Lydia Lubobya: Postmaster General seeks to turn around ZamPost

ZAMBIA Postal Services Corporation (ZamPost) is turning to e-commerce, logistics and property partnerships to offset declining traditional postal services and secure its long-term financial sustainability.

First-ever female Postmaster General Lydia Lubobya says the corporation must rethink its business model and transform its nationwide infrastructure into a platform for delivering modern commercial and public services.

Speaking on Excel Magazine's Trailblazers programme, Ms Lubobya said the decline in letter writing, driven by digital communication, and growing competition in the courier industry had made diversification increasingly necessary.

"We either die or reinvent ourselves and become very innovative," she said.

Ms Lubobya said ZamPost was exploring opportunities to repurpose its properties through partnerships with private investors, including leasing spaces that could be redeveloped into modern commercial facilities.

She said the corporation's more than 100 service points could also support government

service delivery, financial inclusion and private-sector expansion, particularly in underserved rural communities.

Ms Lubobya said ZamPost was positioning itself to play a greater role in agricultural marketing by providing storage, warehousing and aggregation facilities to help small-scale farmers connect with markets.

She added that e-commerce presented an opportunity for small businesses to reach customers beyond their immediate communities, with ZamPost providing logistical support for the movement of goods.

Ms Lubobya said the corporation was also strengthening its parcel delivery services and exploring partnerships to improve efficiency and customer experience.

She said the transformation was intended to ensure that ZamPost remained commercially relevant while contributing to the Government's Grow Zambia agenda.

Ms Lubobya stressed that the corporation's existing infrastructure remained a valuable national asset that could support economic activity if effectively utilised. -EXCEL

Sunshine Millers
Breakfast & Roller

SUNSHINE MILLERS
SUNSHINE SPECIAL BREAKFAST
SUNSHINE ROLLER MEAL
SPECIAL BREAKFAST
ROLLER MEAL
25KG Net
25KG Net

Plot 5263, Liberia Road - Ndola - Zambia
Tel: 0212 650 116
Email: sunshinemillersltd@gmail.com

Why commodity traders are betting on African power

Mercuria's US\$250 million commitment to Africa-focused investor Exergy Energy signals growing commercial interest in African power infrastructure, traditionally financed by development banks and concessional lenders.

The investment reflects rising demand for reliable electricity, driven by the critical minerals boom, industrialisation and expanding regional power markets. Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo, with their vast copper resources, offer opportunities for power producers to secure long-term contracts with mining companies.

Mercuria sees Zambia as an entry point into the wider Southern African electricity market, where power shortages, drought-related generation challenges and uneven electricity supply create opportunities for cross-border trading.

Exergy's pipeline includes hydro and solar generation through Lunzua Power,

alongside transmission infrastructure through Lusitu. The integrated approach aims to connect electricity producers to major consumers and expand regional power trade.

Zambia's target of 10,000MW of electricity supply by 2031, coupled with its industrialisation agenda and proposed regional interconnection projects, further strengthens the investment case.

However, currency depreciation, electricity affordability and project delays remain key risks. The announcement's impact will ultimately depend on regulatory approvals, financing conditions and construction progress.

The investment signals that African power is increasingly being viewed as a commercial opportunity rather than solely a development priority, potentially attracting more private capital into the continent's energy sector. -**Zambia Business Times**

Zambia's \$1bn beef export ambition gains ground

Zambia's ambition to generate US\$1 billion annually from beef exports is gaining momentum, with Amatheon Agri Zambia launching an advanced cattle breeding programme in Mumbwa District.

The programme involves 500

elite Nelore embryos from Brazil, using embryo transfer and artificial insemination to improve cattle genetics and boost productivity.

By 2030, the company targets 7,000 breeding cows and feedlot capacity for 10,000 cattle. It also plans to make improved genetics from five cattle breeds commercially available to Zambian farmers by October 2027.

The initiative includes training local veterinary professionals in modern breeding techniques and supporting neighbouring farmers to improve cattle quality and access market opportunities.

The investment aligns with President Hakainde Hichilema's Grow Zambia agenda, which seeks to strengthen livestock production, expand agricultural investment and position Zambia competitively in regional and international beef markets. -EXCEL

K2,000 monthly stipend for interns in public institutions

THE State has standardised monthly stipends for interns at K2,000 across ministries and public institutions to promote fairness and eliminate payment disparities.

Ministry of Youth, Sport and Arts Director of Youth Development Mable Nedziwe says the programme will run in 12-month cycles, with participating institutions required to budget for implementation.

Applications opened on October 2, 2026, and close on October 31, 2026. Applicants must submit handwritten applications through the Imisepele App or physically at any ZAMPOST office.

All government ministries, provincial and district administrations, and other public institutions have been directed to participate. Recruitment numbers will depend on available positions up to principal officer level.

Nedziwe has urged young people to use the programme to develop skills, demonstrate their abilities and build professional networks that could lead to employment opportunities. Beneficiaries



NEDZIWE

who secure jobs may leave the programme before completing their term. - EXCEL

State clarifies FRA fund freeze

From Front Page

The proposed arrangement could create opportunities for private buyers to participate more actively in agricultural marketing, potentially reducing farmers' dependence on the FRA.

However, questions remain about whether private traders will offer competitive prices and reach farmers in remote rural areas.

For small-scale producers, the success of the new arrangement will depend on the availability of reliable buyers, fair prices and timely payments.

The challenge for Government will be to safeguard national food security while ensuring farmers retain access to predictable and sustainable markets. -EXCEL



Indicative Forex Rates

07:22 | 14TH October, 2026

Currency	Buying	Selling
USD	19.9000	20.2582
GBP	26.4133	26.8887
EUR	22.3009	22.7024
ZAR	1.2085	1.2303
CNY	2.9740	3.0275

Visit any Zanaco Branch to buy and sell foreign currency over the counter. This service is also available to non account holders. Rates are subject to change without prior notice depending on market conditions.

YOU FIRST



PUBLIC NOTICE

TAX CLEARANCE CERTIFICATES REINSTATED

16/10/26

The Zambia Revenue Authority would like to advise Taxpayers whose Tax Clearance Certificates (TCCs) were suspended as a result of the Data Migration Exercise that their TCC have been reinstated. Taxpayers whose TCC remain suspended are encouraged to reapply for a TCC.

Taxpayers are further encouraged to review and reconcile their accounts and take advantage of the tax relief provided through the Extended Voluntary Disclosure Scheme (EVDS) by 31st December 2026 to avoid any inconvenience.

For further information and support, contact your respective account manager, visit the nearest ZRA office or contact the ZRA Call Centre.



Call Centre:
☎ 4111
✉ advice@zra.org.zm
www.zra.org.zm

CONNECT WITH US



IMAGE CIVIL ENGINEERING LTD



SERVICES

GENERAL HOUSING PROJECTS

CORPORATE PROJECTS

HEALTH CARE PROJECTS

STORAGE FACILITY PROJECTS

EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

CIVIL & ROAD WORKS

STEEL STRUCTURE PROJECTS

STRUCTURAL DESIGNING

WATER WORKS

OUR LOCATIONS

We are currently situated on Stand No. 167 Deport Road, Ndola. Plot No. 2106 Industrial area, Serenje.

www.imagecivilengineering.co.zm

info@imagecivilengineering.co.zm

+260 957 645 993 | +260 974 758 688

Your Construction Partner.

EDITOR’S ENTREPRENEURSHIP NUGGETS

Appreciate business partnerships and collaborations because you share the load that you would have carried alone. Lone operations can be expensive and experience limited growth. Shared responsibilities and complimentary strengths help with cost containment and enable you to achieve a lot more.

Entrepreneurship&personalleadershipnuggetsbyDianaKabaaila



SUDOKU

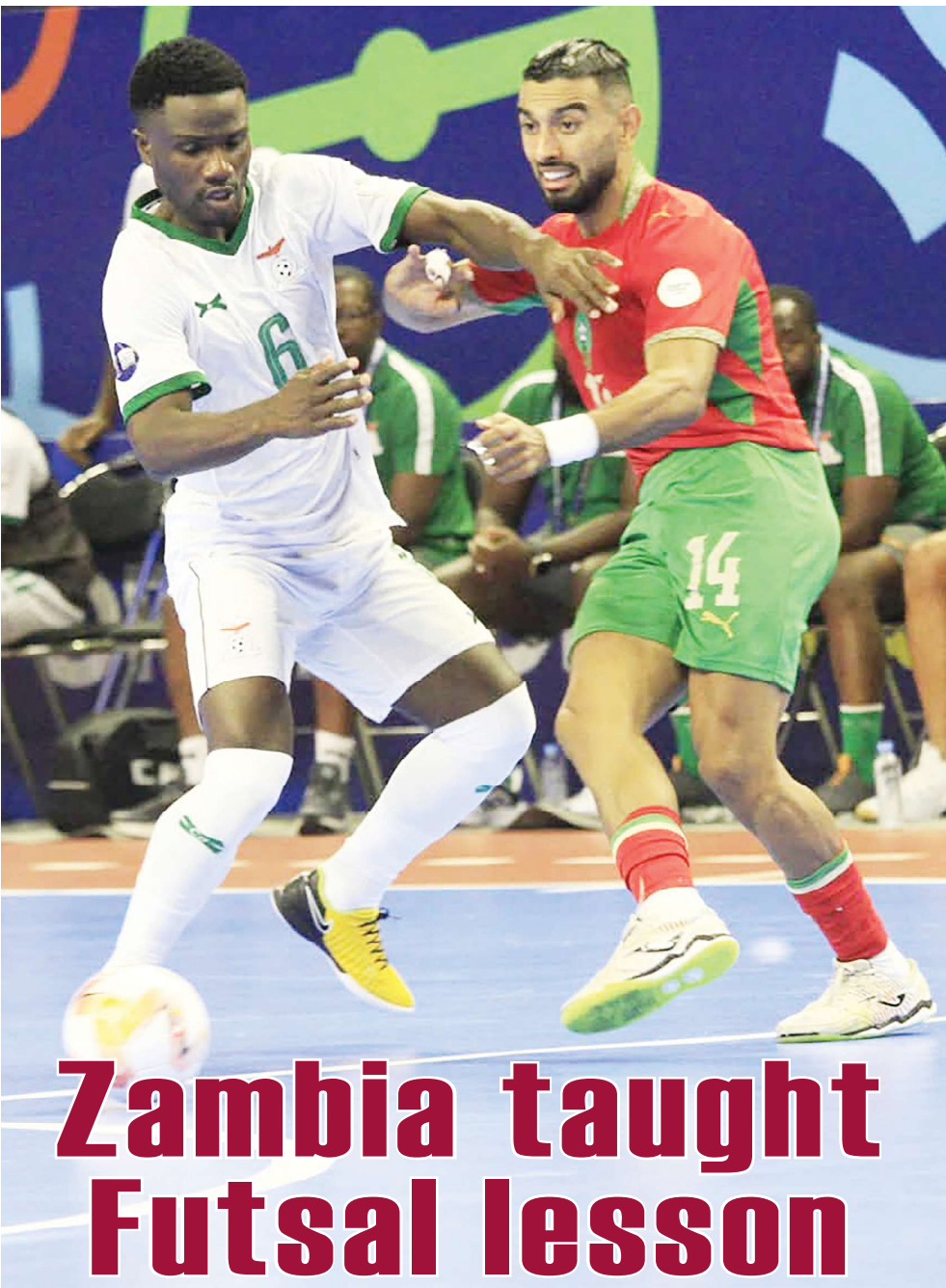
4	3					7	5
			7		6	3	
3	5					1	
	1		8				
				2			8
5							
		6	2		8		

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 4-by-2 block contain all of the digits 1 thru 8.
If you use logic you can solve the puzzle without guessing!

ODDS and EVENS PUZZLE

Odds and Evens R427D5RV							
				7			1
	6		7	4		5	9
6			9				4
	2	5	1		9		7
					7		
						8	5
5				1		9	2
			4				3
4	5		8				

Medium



Zambia taught Futsal lesson

Zambia’s 7-0 defeat to Morocco in a Group A encounter of the Futsal Africa Cup of Nations qualifiers was more than just a disappointing result; it was a performance that exposed the gap between the two sides in quality, organisation and execution. From the final scoreline, Morocco appeared to have controlled the contest, punishing Zambia’s defensive shortcomings while the Chipolopolo struggled to create meaningful attacking opportunities. Failing to score even once made an already difficult outing worse for the Zambian side. The most concerning aspect of the defeat was not simply

the seven goals conceded, but the team’s inability to respond effectively against a stronger opponent. At this level, defensive discipline, quick transitions and clinical finishing are essential, yet Zambia struggled to demonstrate the qualities required to compete consistently. Morocco, meanwhile, showed why tactical organisation and experience matter in futsal, where limited space and rapid exchanges demand concentration throughout the match. For Zambia’s technical bench, the result provides a clear indication of areas requiring urgent attention. Defensive coordination,

ball retention, attacking movement and decision-making under pressure must all come under review. Nevertheless, one defeat should not define the team’s entire campaign. What matters now is whether the players and coaches can draw meaningful lessons from the experience and translate them into improved performances. Ultimately, the 7-0 loss was a painful reminder of the work Zambia must undertake to become more competitive in African futsal. The response in subsequent matches will determine whether this setback becomes a turning point or another missed opportunity for progress.- EXCEL



Ndola City – the Forgotten Identity!

Unique and calm “Friendly City”, Ndola is the pulse of Zambia’s Copperbelt. It stands at the intersection of rich history, heavy industry, and deep community belongings. Founded in 1904, Ndola quickly transformed from an early administrative boma and trading post into a dynamic logistics, industrial and commercial giant. The arrival of the railway in 1907, unlocked the mineral wealth of the region, becoming the Copperbelt Provincial capital and the third largest city in Zambia sustaining some 700,000 people. For generations, Ndola wasn’t just a dot on the map; it was an industrial powerhouse, humming with the sounds of major manufacturing, assembly plants, petroleum refinery pumped via the 1,700km pipeline from Dar-es-Salaam, and copper refining. Most household consumables came out of Ndola. From historic institutions to bustling trade corridors, it pioneered the economic pace for our nation. The city’s identity is shaped by unforgettable landmarks that tell the story of resilience and progress. The Mukuyu Slave Trade tree, the Dag Hammarskjöld Memorial, a plane crash site that claimed the life of the UN Secretary General in 1961, the Zambia International Trade Fair, an annual celebration of commerce and innovation; the Levy Mwanawasa stadium, the only sports arena currently approved by FIFA to host int’l football matches and boasts of the 2nd largest international airport in the country, the Simon Mwansa Kapwepwe Int’l Airport. This is Ndola, our Friendly City, proud and free! Kalibu!

INDUSTRY BRAINWAVE #4

- In accounting, what document shows a company’s assets, liabilities and equity at a specific date?
- In economics, what is the general rise in prices over time called?
- In marketing, what do we call the process of building a recognisable identity for a company or product?
- In procurement, what is the formal process of inviting suppliers to submit offers called?
- In manufacturing, what measure compares actual output with the maximum possible output?
- In occupational safety, what document identifies workplace hazards and measures to control them?
- In logistics, what is the storage and management of goods before distribution called?
- In project management, what is a key event marking progress or completion of a stage called?

ANSWER CHECK:

- Balance sheet
- Inflation
- Branding
- Tendering
- Capacity utilisation
- Risk assessment
- Warehousing
- Milestone

NDOLA CITY COUNCIL

NDOLA 2027 CDF APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN!!!

Deadline for submission: 22nd December, 2026

Apply Online via: <https://icdfmis.grz.gov.zm/login>

Applications for the Constituency Development Fund are now open. This includes empowerment grants, skills development and secondary boarding school bursaries, and community projects.

EMPOWERMENT GRANTS, SKILLS DEVELOPMENT, SECONDARY BOARDING SCHOOL BURSARIES, COMMUNITY PROJECTS

WE ENCOURAGE YOU NOT TO MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY.

ZITFT ZAMBIA INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR TRUST

61ST TRADEFAIR

30TH JUNE TO 6TH JULY 2027

THEME: LOADING