

BRIEF

Girl, 12, found dead in rest house

A 12-year-old girl was on Monday found dead in a rest house in Thyolo District. Thyolo Police Station spokesperson Rebecca Kashoti identified the deceased as Mwai Phiri from Magombo Village, Traditional Authority Nchilamwera in the district. "We can confirm that the girl was found dead in a rest house on July 24 2023," she said. Group village head Magombo said he was shocked after receiving the complaint from the deceased's parents. "We arrived at the police station and after giving the statement, they asked us if we could identify the girl," he said.—BENI BAMUSI, MALAWI NEWS AGENCY

Our free advice Stick with us on your way to the top.
sales@mwntation.com

THE NATION *Neighbourhood* NATION *of Sunday*

MDAs tipped on Shire Valley irrigation project

MARTIN GELA JNR
CORRESPONDENT

Presidential Delivery Unit (PDU) has asked the ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) involved in the implementation of the Shire Valley Transformation Programme to coordinate to ensure success.

Speaking in Blantyre on Tuesday, PDU head Janet Banda, who toured the project on Monday, said it is one of the major enablers of Malawi 2063.

She said: "I am pleased to learn that about 223 000 farmers from 48 400 farming households from Nsanje and Chikwawa will engage in large-scale commercial farming under the programme.

"This is in line with the country's transformative



PHOTOGRAPH: MARTIN GELA

Banda: Identify gaps to address

agenda President Lazarus Chakwera is championing."

Banda said PDU engaged controlling officers from MDAs to discuss roles and responsibilities expected from them in the programme's implementation.

"They should identify gaps to be addressed for the

programme to achieve its intended goals considering its complex nature. I urge the MDAs to constitute technical working teams to strategise on the proposals made in the short, medium and long-term," she said.

Commenting on behalf of Ministry of Health, director of health sector and inter-

governmental coordination Amon Nkhata said one of the impacts highlighted to be addressed by his ministry was the potential for water-borne diseases in the beneficiary districts.

"With the irrigation schemes, there is potential for waterborne diseases. As a ministry, we have the personnel on the ground like district environmental officers and others to assist in such situations," he said.

On his part, Shire Valley Transformation Programme coordinator Stanley Khaila said they invited the MDAs to raise awareness on the roles and responsibilities towards the programme.

He said there is need for collaboration from other ministries for the programme to achieve its goals. ■

Checkpoint, IGCSE students encouraged to work hard

BRIAN ITAI
STAFF REPORTER

Zomba Private Secondary School principal BalaRaju Rachakonda has urged Checkpoint and International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) students to work hard to achieve their goals.

He said this on Saturday during the graduation of the students in Zomba.

Rachakonda said the event symbolised the untiring work towards academic excellence that teachers displayed in the just-ended academic year.

He said: "Allow me to take you through what we have achieved, not for ourselves, but for the academic benefit and future of our students.

"This is the beginning of your journey towards a successful life. I wish you all the best for the future."

Rachakonda said they have started preparing for the next academic year by procuring more



PHOTOGRAPH: BRIAN ITAI

The students pose for a photo with their principal

textbooks, which was difficult in the previous year because of shortage of forex.

He said: "The school has stepped up the establishment of mutual respect, esteem and discipline among teachers and students. Parents have also been part of this chain and we cherish your support and trust which you always invest in our institution."

One of the graduating students, Karama Chintedza, thanked the teachers for ensuring that they got the best academic instructions.

She said: "To achieve academic excellence needs hard work, plenty of study and dedication.

"I am thankful to the teachers who had the patience to teach us and help us understand various subjects." ■



twitter @nationlinemw.com