



# MCL NEWS

A Publication of Maamba Collieries Limited October - December 2018. Issue No.25



# MCL CELEBRATES THE FESTIVE SEASON

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**Mr. Ashwin Devineni - Resident Director**

Reflecting on the past year, I draw inspiration from the interventions that MCL has made in making a difference to our community.

The year started on a very difficult note with torrential rains disrupting the water and sewerage network of Maamba in February - but quick intervention by our engineering team, working with their colleagues from SWASCO averted a potential human catastrophe.

The untimely passing on of His Royal Highness Chief Sinazongwe last December was saddening and regrettable. As MCL, we unite in offering our condolences to the family and indeed the people of Sinazongwe during this time of mourning.

On a positive note, the momentous completion of reconstruction of 5.1 kilometres of brand new asphalt roads in the township remains the pinnacle of our CSR activities during the year. I am happy that MCL gifted the community brand new roads for the first time in over four decades.

I am sanguine that the completion of construction of a dam in Sinankumbi area will greatly ease the challenges of access to fresh water for the locals in that remote area and their livestock, in one of the driest areas in the region.

I wish you all the very best for 2019 – good health and every success!

***Ndalumba kapati, Natotela saana, Dzikomo kwambiri!***

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## Message by the Chief Executive Officer



**Rear Admiral Venkat Shankar (Retd) - CEO**

As we come to the end of the year and celebrate the festive season, I extend my greetings to each and every member of the MCL Community and to their family members. I also extend my greetings to the larger Maamba Community whose continued support to MCL helps us to conduct our operations with enthusiasm.

We at MCL look forward to the continued support from all the stakeholders as we strive to achieve profitability in our operations.

On a sombre note, the passing on of His Royal Highness Chief Sinazongwe has led to MCL losing a strong supporter and an elder to whom we have often leaned for guidance since privatization.

The MCL Community offers its deepest condolences to the immediate and extended family of His Royal Highness, and to the Community of Sinazongwe.

As always, I end with an appeal to MCL employees to make safety a habit and ensure MCL operations are conducted in a 'zero accident' environment.

# MCL Sponsored Eye Camps provide rays of hope for Sinazongwe Community

Eye-related diseases in African countries like Zambia are often lower down the list of health priorities. This despite studies indicating that diminished eyesight or blindness impacts people just as much, if not more, than some infectious diseases.

Loss of vision affects productivity, consequently impacting negatively on the socio-economy of communities, especially in rural areas.

The challenges of preventable blindness are most prominent in rural parts of Zambia where people experience difficulties in accessing eye care services. Statistically, Sinazongwe and its surrounding areas has the highest level of blindness in Zambia.

The major cause of blindness, most of which are treatable especially in early stage, includes allergic conjunctivitis, glaucoma, uveitis, cornea opacities, trachoma trichiasis and cataracts. To complicate such conditions, the blind and visually impaired often suffer prejudice and social discrimination, much to the frustration of their families.

To overcome this medical problem and social issue, and to alleviate the shortage of optometry professionals and other eye health practitioners in the country, MCL in October 2018 sponsored the second screening and surgical camps in 10 different locations in Sinazongwe District including less accessible and more remote regions.



An Ophthalmic Nurse conducting one of the many eye operations

During this laudable and comprehensive eye care programme, Operation Eyesight Zambia conducted outreach screening and surgical camps over two months in Sinazeze, Muziyo, Buleyamalima, Maamba Township, Chiyabi, Siatwinda, Siansowa, Siameja, Kafwambila and Sinamalina areas.

The screening and surgical camps by OEZ were conducted with the help of Maamba

Collieries Limited, Maamba General Hospital and Sinazongwe District Health Office.

A total of 1, 742 people were screened of which 1, 595 received treatment, while 176 patients underwent surgery in the 10 sites where the screening camps were held.

The majority of the patients were suffering from allergic conjunctivitis, while other conditions included glaucoma,



An elderly patient about to undergo treatment



Phillip Mweemba

uveitis, cornea opacities and trachoma trichiasis.

The camps provided hope and succour to the many patients and also served as an eye-opener to the health providers as to the extent of the prevalence of preventable blindness in Sinazongwe and its surrounding areas.

Notably, cataracts are mostly age-related, but children and young people are not immune from this problem. Phillip Mweemba, a young 17-year-old, saw his dream of becoming a school teacher fade when his vision started failing and he was forced to leave school at the age of 15 due to cataracts.

After undergoing a successful cataract surgery on his left eye, Mweemba said he sees his dream of becoming a teacher



resurrected. “Now that I can see again, I will go back to school and live my dream of becoming a teacher,” Mweemba said while recuperating on his hospital bed.

Mweemba was the youngest among all the people that attended the surgical camp at Maamba General Hospital. He

is booked to undergo a second eye surgery on the other eye to restore his full vision.

Such initiatives provide the proverbial light at the end of the tunnel for the old and young alike – and MCL pledges to continue such initiatives to help the needy and **“making a difference.”**

# Ministry of Mines Director commends MCL for environmental-friendly practices

*“We are working towards zero fatalities in the mining sector and that is not something we can accomplish alone,” says Mr. Gideon Ndalama, Director of Mines Safety.*

**M**inistry of Mines - Director of Mines Safety, Mr. Gideon Ndalama during a recent visit to Maamba, encouraged MCL to continue sharing best safety and health practices with the Government and other mining companies.

Mr. Ndalama stated that Zambia fully supports the commitment by global mining firms to work towards achieving zero-fatalities in mining operations, ensuring that all employees go to work in the knowledge that they will safely return home every day.

During his visit to MCL in November 2018 as part of his tour of various mines in the Sinazongwe District, the Director said enhancing workers' safety and health requires consistent good workplace practices across the industry.

“What is critical to ensure, is that we engage in continuous improvement processes; there is nothing that is too perfect not to be improved upon,” Mr. Ndalama said. “We are working towards zero fatalities in the sector and that is not something we can accomplish alone. We need you (MCL) to come along as partners first and foremost as Maamba Collieries, and secondly as a member of the industry.”

The Director also urged MCL management to share with other mining companies in Zambia, its ambitious project of planting thousands of saplings as part of improving the environment

in Maamba.

“We want you to make arrangements with your colleagues (from other mines) to just come and take a walk around and see that they can pick one or two things on how to green their (operational) sites,” Mr. Ndalama said.

He also commended MCL for employing environmentally-friendly mining practices to ensure that dust emissions and possible hazardous materials from mining operations were continuously mitigated.

During the visit, MCL SHEQ Manager, Mr. Yotham Phiri, brought out that the Company has invested heavily in safety of its employees and workers to minimize loss of manpower due to accidents.

Mr. Phiri said MCL has a fully-fledged SHEQ Department, manned by qualified personnel to ensure protection of safety & health of employees as well as safety of equipment.

He also highlighted that MCL has stringent reporting procedures for safety and health as the Company is required to comply with standards set by the Government regulatory institutions like ZEMA as well as the Safety, Health, Environment Technical Committee set up by the Lenders, who provided funding for the US \$ 920 million project and to actualize Zambia's first coal-fired Thermal Power Plant.



Mr. Ndalama (centre) during the visit to the Thermal Power Plant

# MCL plays lead role in keeping Maamba - clean, green & healthy



MCL employees taking part in the “Keep Zambia clean, green & healthy” campaign in Maamba

**A**part from the ongoing ‘Green Maamba’ initiative, MCL is soon to start distributing saplings to individual households in Maamba as part of the national programme to support the “Keep Zambia clean, green and healthy” campaign among community members.

In 2018, the Government launched the “Keep Zambia clean, green and healthy” campaign; with a call to all citizens to embrace efforts aimed at making cities, towns, villages, public institutions and places clean as well as to improve health standards and well-being of the communities.

In Maamba, MCL has been leading the local community and simultaneously working with the Sinazongwe District Council, providing them with the essential equipment required to support the campaign and to ensure the programme succeeds.

Towards this goal and to support the ‘Keep Zambia clean, green and healthy campaign,’ MCL’s Environmental Coordinator, Mr. Felix Mwange, indicated that MCL management has plans to enhance the ‘green’ aspect by extending the tree planting programme to members of the community, to ensure preservation and a sustainable environment.

Mr. Mwange said apart from providing equipment needed for the programme during last Saturdays of the month, MCL ensures its employees participate and also makes manpower available to educate community members on the need to preserve a clean and healthy environment. He added, “as the SHEQ Department of MCL, we have assumed a leadership role in Maamba for progressing the

keep Zambia clean and healthy campaign, for which MCL interacts regularly with the community and the Sinazongwe Council.”

“In 2019, in order to enhance community appreciation of the need to sustain the ‘Green Maamba’ campaign, we intend to focus on individual households by giving them plants, so that the whole community participates and ensures concurrent greening in the town areas, along with that in MCL operational areas.

Towards this overall aim, MCL in 2017 had donated a 30-Ton Tipper Truck and a Back Hoe loader; worth Kwacha 1.2 million to Sinazongwe District Council for solid waste management in the area and supplemented this in 2018, by donating refuse collection bins for solid refuse collection.



Maamba residents with MCL employees after a clean up exercise

# Maamba Collieries Limited celebrates the



The MCL family is a unique environment – with employee diversity and a multi-culture fabric being one of its greatest strengths. Employees from different nationalities, cultures, religious and ethnic backgrounds live, work, play and celebrate together at Maamba.

It is often said celebrating the diversity of an organization allows all staff members to feel their values, beliefs and experiences are fully and equally appreciated, contributing to camaraderie and a happy work environment.

At MCL, this practice of celebrating culture and traditions as one family, has contributed greatly to the creation of a homogenous work space as well as a harmonious existence, and greatly contributes to a happy and friendly atmosphere at Zambia's largest coal mine and first coal-fired thermal power plant.





# imited family jointly Festive Season

This multi-culture facet of MCL is best seen during the last quarter of every year when locals and expats of the community join together to enjoy 'Diwali', the festival of lights symbolizing the victory of good over evil and Christmas, celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. Apart from jointly enjoying the cultural activities and cuisine, it offers the employees an opportunity to learn about other cultures and ways of life.

At Maamba, Christmas and Diwali invariably attract the highest presence, as employees, spouses and children alike flock to the functions to enjoy the activities, join in the revelry as well as to relish the sumptuous food on offer.

The Management thanks the MCL community for coming out in large numbers to celebrate these festivals and looks forward to jointly celebrating more such events this year.



# MCL constructs dam for locals of remote Sinankumbi



The newly-constructed Sinankumbi Dam in Sinazongwe

**M**CL last year completed construction of a dam in the remote region of Sinankumbi in Sinazongwe District. Sinankumbi is one of the hottest and driest areas in Zambia, and the dam is crucial for the indigenous people, as it will help alleviate their problems of acute water shortages, hitherto negatively affecting human and animal life.

The Sinankumbi region located 12 kilometres South West of Maamba, comprises 15 villages and is home to over four thousand native people and over 4,500 herds of cattle. MCL's aim of constructing the dam is to help the villagers easily access water, and to provide source of water for their livestock.

Previously, both humans and livestock depended on the community borehole located near the local school as the only source of water. This was after the dam they had previously depended on for over 16 years collapsed in 2007. Consequent to completion of the dam by MCL, the people of Sinankumbi, for the first time in 11 years are enjoying adequate availability of water for use by livestock as well as for other economic activities.

The dam, that will serve as a lifeline to hundreds of families

and support other economic activities of the communities along the banks of both streams, was undertaken by MCL from August to November 2018, in readiness for the 2018-19 wet season.

The Dam was constructed under MCL's CSR initiatives, following a request from the locals of the Sinankumbi community. The dam which is four metres deep and about 80 meters wide, with a backflow of about 500 meters that receives water from two streams, is capable of harvesting up to 1,000 cubic metres of water - enough to cater for economic activities of the community and also sufficient for the cattle population in the area during the dry season.

Headman, Mr. Richard Simachembele commended MCL for the initiative which he said had improved the livelihood of the people of the area. The Headman added that the new dam would enable the area rear healthier animals and grow greener vegetables to improve their livelihood by increased earnings.

Meanwhile, local community members expressed happiness with this timely intervention by MCL, and for promptly responding to the request of the community.



# MCL Conducts Sports Festival at Maamba

In December 2018, MCL conducted a sports festival at Maamba just before the festive season. The festival combined various sporting disciplines including badminton, football, volleyball, chess, a cricket tournament as well as a quiz contest, for those inclined to more cerebral activities. The sports festival drew enthusiastic and keen participation from the employees and a total of 405 participants and 42 teams took part in the various events. While employees enjoyed participating, the winning employees were awarded medals in various categories.



# Maamba Energy Stars FC dazzles on promotion to Super Division



Maamba Energy Stars players during a pre-season training at Kanzinze Stadium

**M**CL-sponsored Maamba Energy Stars Football Club performed extremely well last season, after winning a promotion to the Division One following an excellent showing in the 2017 football season.

In the recently concluded 2018 season, Maamba Energy Stars narrowly missed clinching a top two finish, during the tightly contested promotion campaign last year. The team finished third in the FAZ Division One Zone 4, just six points separating them from the eventual winners, Manchester U.Z. Academy.

Maamba Energy Stars Club General Secretary, Mr. Simon Chali, said the team enjoyed a spirited campaign despite not winning the league. “We started very well but in the later stages of the season, we suffered a few reverses and some minor challenges. Notwithstanding, third position is a good showing considering the team’s maiden venture at this level and we congratulate the players and management,” he mentioned in an interview.

Mr. Chali attributed unfortunate injuries that forcibly laid off some key players in the latter part of the season as a contributing factor to the lesser showing of the team towards the end stages of the campaign.

The MCL management remains committed to carry forward the recent successes of the recently re-named Maamba Energy Stars, formerly called Zamcoal Diggers, once a dominant force in the Zambian football scene. The name change reflects the company’s transformation from purely a coal mining concern to its expanded role of generating electricity for Zambia and also to showcase the hometown of the team.

In a quest to further improve team morale, the MCL management acquired new gear for the players, apart from extending sponsorship to the team and showing its

commitment to the Community at large.

MCL and the team management remains quietly confident that Maamba Energy Stars will play top flight football in the coming season. As preparation for the current season gains momentum, Maamba Energy Stars FC is also recruiting new players to bolster the squad.

The Club General Secretary highlighted that, “The sponsors are supportive and the players are motivated and training hard. Our aim in 2019 must be to gain promotion to the FAZ Super League.”

| FAZ Division One Zone 4 - 2018 |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |        |
|--------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|--------|
| Team                           | P  | W  | D  | L  | F  | A  | GD  | Points |
| Manchester U. Z. Academ        | 30 | 13 | 16 | 1  | 28 | 7  | 21  | 55     |
| Young Green Eagles             | 30 | 13 | 11 | 6  | 31 | 17 | 14  | 50     |
| Maamba Energy Stars            | 30 | 13 | 10 | 7  | 29 | 19 | 10  | 49     |
| Zesco Victoria Falls           | 30 | 12 | 11 | 7  | 24 | 14 | 10  | 47     |
| Maramba Stars                  | 30 | 13 | 8  | 9  | 33 | 25 | 8   | 47     |
| Sinazongwe United              | 30 | 10 | 15 | 5  | 29 | 16 | 13  | 45     |
| Kalomo Jetters                 | 30 | 11 | 10 | 9  | 28 | 26 | 2   | 43     |
| Livingstone Pirates            | 30 | 8  | 16 | 6  | 24 | 17 | 7   | 40     |
| Mumbwa Medics                  | 30 | 9  | 11 | 10 | 24 | 23 | 1   | 38     |
| Choma Football Stars           | 30 | 10 | 8  | 12 | 25 | 31 | -6  | 38     |
| Zesco Shockers                 | 30 | 8  | 12 | 10 | 24 | 25 | -1  | 36     |
| Yeta                           | 30 | 8  | 11 | 11 | 25 | 30 | -5  | 35     |
| Mazabuka United                | 30 | 5  | 16 | 9  | 19 | 27 | -8  | 31     |
| Kascol Rangers                 | 30 | 6  | 12 | 12 | 19 | 29 | -10 | 30     |
| Luena Buffaloes                | 30 | 7  | 7  | 16 | 22 | 49 | -27 | 28     |
| Chikuni Coops                  | 30 | 3  | 8  | 19 | 14 | 43 | -29 | 17     |

# MCL mourns His Royal Highness Chief Sinazongwe

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of Maamba Collieries Limited would like to convey their deepest condolences to the family and the people of Southern Province on the untimely demise of Chief Sinazongwe.

We were deeply saddened to hear about the recent loss of His Royal Highness, who played a key role in ensuring MCL's investment in Maamba was actualized for the benefit of the community, the district and surrounding areas and Zambia as a whole.

Please accept our heartfelt sympathy for the loss, our sincere condolences and may one and all find the strength to carry on during this difficult period.



His Royal Highness Late Chief Sinazongwe

## MCL in Pictures October - December, 2018



DG - Dept. of Immigration, Mr. Denny Lungu (3rd from left), in the MCL TPP Control Room

# MCL wins award at the EIZ 2018 Engineering Excellence Awards



MCL receiving an award for “Outstanding Contribution to Solving Problems of Society” during the EIZ - 2018 Engineering Excellence Awards in Lusaka

L to R: Director HR - Ministry of Infrastructure Development, Mr. William Katongo, MCL Head – Corporate Affairs, Commodore PJ Sudhir (Retd); TPP Engineer, Mr. Norbie Mwelwa and MCL Automobile Workshop Manager, Mr. Paul Zyambo Ntali

## 3rd PAPs Graduation Ceremony




Participants of the 3rd batch of MCL-funded Livelihood Restoration Programme proudly display their certificates at the Graduation Ceremony on 5th October, 2018




# Coal Product Specifications

MCL established a modern, Coal Handling and Processing Plant (CHPP) which has facilitated production of washed coal of different specifications with consistent quality and eliminated pollution of nearby streams.

## Product Specifications

| Washed Coal Nuts   | Parameter               | Min & max   |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|
|  | Size                    | +20 - 50 mm |
|  | Inherent moisture %     | 1.5 - 1.9   |
|  | Total moisture %        | 3.0 - 9.0   |
|  | Ash %                   | 18 - 20     |
|  | Volatile Matter %       | 18 - 21     |
|  | Fixed Carbon %          | 59.1 - 60.5 |
|  | Phosphorous % (Average) | 0.0025      |
|  | Total Sulphur %         | 0.7 - 1.5   |
| Gross Calorific Value (kcal/kg)  | 6294 - 6482             |             |

| Washed Coal Peas  | Parameter               | Min & max   |
|---|-------------------------|-------------|
|  | Size                    | +10 - 20 mm |
|   | Inherent moisture %     | 1.5 - 1.9   |
|   | Total moisture %        | 3.0 - 9.0   |
|   | Ash %                   | 18 - 20     |
|   | Volatile Matter %       | 18 - 20     |
|   | Fixed Carbon %          | 60.1 - 60.5 |
|   | Phosphorous % (Average) | 0.0025      |
|   | Total Sulphur %         | 0.7 - 1.5   |
| Gross Calorific Value (kcal/kg)   | 6294 - 6482             |             |

| Washed Coal Fines   | Parameter               | Min & max    |
|---|-------------------------|--------------|
|  | Size                    | +0.5 - 10 mm |
|   | Inherent moisture %     | 1.5 - 1.9    |
|   | Total moisture %        | 5.0 - 12     |
|   | Ash %                   | 18 - 20      |
|   | Volatile Matter %       | 18 - 20      |
|   | Fixed Carbon %          | 60.1 - 60.5  |
|   | Phosphorous % (Average) | 0.0025       |
|   | Total Sulphur %         | 0.7 - 1.5    |
| Gross Calorific Value (kcal/kg)   | 6294 - 6482             |              |

| Unwashed Coal Fines   | Parameter | Min & max    |
|---|-----------|--------------|
|  | Size      | +0.5 - 10 mm |

### Maamba Collieries Limited Head Office

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