

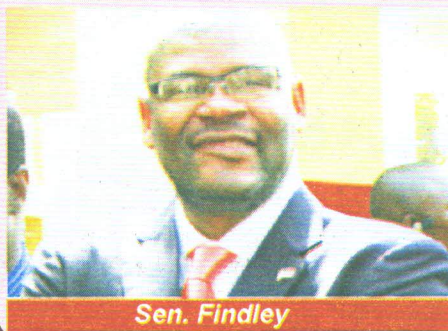
Ends Regional ent Meeting P.5

NEWS

THE NATION'S NEWS SINCE 1989

SDAY JANUARY 23, 2014 LD\$30.00

Senate Braces For 15% Nat'l Budget -For Development Purposes



Sen. Findley

Members of the Liberian Senate are expected to pass into law an Act seeking to provide 15 percent of the fiscal budget for the development of the counties.

The decision by the Senate follows a communication from the Senate statutory committee on Ways, PAGE 8

e Vulnerable To Poverty"

...Rock Crushers Cry

A group of Liberians making life by means of crushing rocks say they are vulnerable to poverty due to the lack of employment opportunities.

Speaking Wednesday to The NEWS at the Congo Town, ELWA and GSA Road rock crushing sites, the group, composed of young people said life is becoming unbearable for them.

They said they are yet to

see the impact of government's promise for job creation.

They said considering the high rate of poverty they experience, they are constrained to venture into rock crushing to make ends meet.

They said despite government promise to create jobs for its citizens, especially young people, poverty remains visible with few group enjoying the country's wealth. PAGE 8

am Impressed Business Trend

"Early Warning Critical To Dev."

-UNDP Deputy Director



Cleohpas Torori

The Deputy Country Director for Programs at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) says early warning systems are critical for sustainable development in Liberia.

Mr. Cleohpas Torori said it is a laudable venture for the government of Liberia to prioritize early warning system especially on issues relating to climate change.

Speaking Wednesday at the Early Warning System (EWS) Project Inception Workshop in Monrovia, Mr. Torori called on stakeholders to get involved with the project to ensure its successful implementation in Liberia.

...enis without the n's consent. The n is less than 18 of age, provided the is 18 years of age." e Yuoh told the that the defendant dicted by the grand n June 22, 2009 for

Associate Justice he indictment, upon Massaquoi was and convicted, that on April 17, he enticed the 11-old girl into his om and held her at point and forcefully sexual intercourse er.

Record revealed that allegedly abusing girl, Rev. Massaquoi her L\$20.00 and ened that if she tells e, he would kill her.

Associate Justice that during the trial, ecution paraded witnesses including Toe, mother of the n, the victim and Aladdin, a police r assigned with the al Gender Base nce Unit (SGVB) of Liberia National e (LNP).

e Yuoh told the that the state also uced an expert ss, Augustus Chea s, a Physician tant, assigned at the l Clinic and one tal witness, Yatta aquoi, a resident of lock Spring Valley munity, who lives in ame house, where cident occurred.

e added that the se produced two sses including r Massaquoi and Rufus Toweh Sam, s a member of the ant's Church.

e Yuoh said after sides rested with the ction of evidence, ry retired from their

when she admitted into evidence the testimony of witness, Rose Toe on grounds that it was a 'hearsay evidence'.

Justice Yuoh said when Madam Toe took the stand as prosecution's first witness, she testified that she noticed blood stain on her daughter's skirt when she returned from school.

According to the record, it was the blood stain discovered on the victim's under clothes that prompted her mother to report the matter to the police.

She concluded that the court holds that the sentence be commuted from life imprisonment to 50 years.

Associate Justice Yuoh ordered the Clerk of the Supreme Court to send a mandate down to the lower court to resume jurisdiction over the case and give effect to the judgment.

We Are

Mr. Abraham Gargar, 17, who crushes rocks in Congo Town said instead of reducing poverty, it remains high among the population.

Expressing his frustration over the appalling condition of Liberians, Gargar said, ordinary citizens are experiencing too much hardship because the resources were benefiting few people.

"I started crushing rocks since 2008 and now I am 17 years; this is where I get money to pay my school fees, and take care of myself; blasting rock everyday is not an easy thing, but we are forced to do this to make life," he noted.

A 25-year old man at the ELWA rock crushing site

marking what could be the first senior executive visit to Liberia by a major financial institution.

He said Liberia and other countries in African have experienced growth and a new trend is rising, prompting the company to increase services to the public.

Peyret indicated that Liberia is a growing market and could also become a key market for MoneyGram, revealing that the number of MoneyGram locations in the country has increased from 28 to nearly 100.

He reiterated the company's confidence in the Liberian financial sector and said MoneyGram will support the financial inclusion agenda of the country.

The MoneyGram Executive disclosed that the company is one of the world's leaders in money transfer with over 330,000 locations worldwide, including 20,000 points of sale in Africa.

He informed Journalists that remittance is the key factor behind the company and the market is growing in Africa. He said the United States market is driving the growth, noting that new trends have shifted to the Middle East, Russia and o t h e r countries. MoneyGram offers over the counter money transfer services in Liberia through its agent partners; namely international bank, FI Bank, LBDI, UBA, Ecobank, Global Bank, GT Bank and Afriland First Bank.

Through these agents, MoneyGram is now available all over Liberia in almost 100 locations.

MoneyGram has invested over a million dollar in the

Early

He revealed that the total grant awarded to the project is US\$6.7 million in Least Developed Countries Fund (LDCF) of the Global Environment Fund (GEF) with co-financing in kind from the Government of Liberia through line ministries and agencies and US\$200,000 from UNDP.

"I wish to emphasize that the project is in line with Liberia's United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) and UNDP Country Program Document (CPD) for 2013-2017, the National Adaptation Plan for Action and the Agenda for Transformation (Vision 2030)," Mr. Torori said.

Transport Minister S. Tornorlah Varpilah who also spoke at the program said the implementation of the four-year EWS project is vital to ongoing development drive of Liberia.

He said the Ministry of Transport considers the EWS project important in the sustainable socio-economic development of Liberia.

Varpilah said the EWS project is also important because it aims at building the infrastructures of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs) to enable the government and partners provide weather and climate information.

The project seeks to, among other things, increase capacity of hydro-meteorological services and associated networks to monitor and predict extreme weather, climate-related hazards

Maritime Author National Port Author Ministry of Health and Ministry of Planning Economic Affairs with Environment Protec Agency (EPS) serving implementing partn *Writes, Sam Zota, Jr.*

Senate

Means, Finance and Bu read in plenary Tuesday. The Committee, through chairperson Sumo Kuppe Lofa County, pleaded his colleagues for enactment of the considering its importan

When passed into law noted, it would enh speedy developm throughout the country increase the production local commodities.

Senator Kupee said important for the Senat pass the act because t has been slow pace in development of the coun

Commenting on the Grand Kru County Ser Cletus S. Wortorson ca on his colleagues to obs the financial implication Senator Wotorson infor the committee about need for quantity descrip of the document.

The senator said the does not explain in d whether said fund requ for will be adequate to c out development in districts.

Some senators, inclu Isaac W. Nyenabo sugge that the act be transfor into administrative dist instead of electoral dist as stated in Article 39, 34 3 of the Liberian constitu owing to the fact that it w financial bill that calls financial consequences impact.

However, it was agreed the communication be back to the committee proper revision subsequent submiss within two weeks.

Early Warning System (EWS) Project Inception Workshop held at the Corina Hotel in Sinkor, Monrovia-Liberia in pictures. January 22, 2014



Transport Minister S. Tornorlah Varpilah



Mr. Benjamin Larroquette, EWS Regional Advisor



UNDP Deputy Boss, Cleophas Torori



TECH

'Fastest Ever' Passes 3



The test was carried out between BT's central London tower and a fibre line, the more potential there is for interference. But the breakthrough is being seen as highly important amount of information can be sent through existing upgrades.

"BT and Alcatel-Lucent are making more from their broadband analyst firm Point Topic.

"It allows them to increase their capacity without having Alcatel-Lucent told the BBC that the demand for high-speed need for more efficient ways to transfer data a massive popularity of data-heavy online services, such as film. How much?!

The speed achieved by the researchers topped out at 1.4 Data transfer is measured in bits, not to be confused with 1.4 terabits is a huge amount, enough capacity to transfer To give that context, the current fastest package for second.

There are 1,024 megabits in just one gigabit and 1,024 There are faster methods of transmitting data - such as to achieve such high speeds in "real world" conditions. Rush-hour traffic

The high speeds were achieved using existing fibre cables UK and other parts of the world.

Kevin Drury, optical marketing leader at Alcatel-Lucent lanes on a busy motorway, enabling more lanes of traffic. He said flexibility meant some could be adapted to suit a rush hour.

In internet terms, this would mean, for example, streaming standard web pages would need only a small part of the However, pushing more data through fibre cables provides The test will be welcome news for Reed Hastings, chairman of BBC earlier this month

"The trade-off is, the more you squeeze into a fibre line explained Mr Johnson.

"What has got better is the fact they are able to pack the Alcatel-Lucent and BT said their test demonstrated "





Mr. Benjamin Larroquette, EWS Regional Advisor



UNDP Deputy Boss, Cleophas Torori



Participants posed for photograph



Cross-section of participants during deliberations

broadband analyst firm Point Topic.
"It allows them to increase their capacity without having to lay more fibre."
Alcatel-Lucent told the BBC that the demand for high-speed data transfer is a massive need for more efficient ways to transfer data as a result of the popularity of data-heavy online services, such as film downloading.
How much?!!
The speed achieved by the researchers topped out at 1.024 terabits per second.
Data transfer is measured in bits, not to be confused with bytes. 1.024 terabits is a huge amount, enough capacity to transfer 128 gigabytes of data.
To give that context, the current fastest package for fibre optic is 1.024 megabits in just one gigabit and 1.024 terabits in just one petabit.
There are faster methods of transmitting data - such as radio waves - but they are more expensive to achieve such high speeds in "real world" conditions.
Rush-hour traffic
The high speeds were achieved using existing fibre optic cables in the UK and other parts of the world.
Kevin Drury, optical marketing leader at Alcatel-Lucent, said the test was conducted on a busy motorway, enabling more lanes of traffic to be used.
He said flexibility meant some could be adapted to suit different traffic patterns during rush hour.
In internet terms, this would mean, for example, that a standard web page would need only a small part of the available bandwidth.
However, pushing more data through fibre cables provides a significant benefit.
The test will be welcome news for Reed Hastings, chief executive of Netflix, who told the BBC earlier this month.
"The trade-off is, the more you squeeze into a fibre, the more expensive it is," explained Mr Johnson.
"What has got better is the fact they are able to pack more data into the same fibre."
Alcatel-Lucent and BT said their test demonstrated

