



REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON THE ANNUAL
MAINTENANCE SHUTDOWN ISSUED BY HON.
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WATER DEVELOPMENT**

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Mr. Speaker,

I thank you for this opportunity to make this statement and through this August House inform the nation on the 2015 annual maintenance shutdown of Indeni Petroleum Refinery.

Zambia consumes about 36 million liters of petrol, 66 million liters of diesel and **1,488 Litres** of kerosene per month. With regard to petrol and diesel, 60% is produced at the refinery and 40% is imported. Currently, we have fuel storage capacity that can store 46 days of petrol, 38 days of diesel and 198 days of kerosene. As you are aware, Mr. Speaker, my Ministry has embarked on a program to construct fuel depots across the country to increase storage capacity. In view of this, before the end of this year My Ministry shall commission a 15.5 million liters depot in Solwezi.

As you will recall, every year Indeni Petroleum Refinery undergoes a planned maintenance shutdown. It is mainly to regenerate the catalyst for premium production which expires after a year of use. In addition, they replace or clean certain parts such as columns and heat exchangers which are part of the refinery equipment.

This year, the planned annual maintenance refinery shutdown will take place from midnight of 15th November, 2015 to 15th December, 2015. This is a period of 30 days.

Mr. Speaker,

In the past, the Indeni refinery shutdown has been associated with public panic buying leading to shortages of fuel. As you are aware, my Ministry imports diesel and petrol to supplement the production of the Indeni refinery. Therefore, in preparation for the shutdown, my Ministry has put in place mechanisms to ensure that the supply of fuel in the country will not in any way be disrupted as a consequence of the refinery shutdown. To this effect, we have and continue to build sufficient fuel stocks to last the period of the refinery shutdown and beyond.

Mr Speaker,

Kindly be informed that as of 11th November, 2015, the available national stock levels in the Government depots

(located in Ndola, Lusaka, and Mpika) is 37 days for diesel, 18 days for petrol and 55 days for kerosene.

Our target is to have 25 days stock of petrol by 15th November, 2015. As stated above, our target has been exceeded for diesel whose consumption volume is twice that of petrol as well as kerosene. However, we currently only have 18 days of stock of petrol. To meet the 25 days stock target, we have discussed with our suppliers to bring in about 41 trucks per day for petrol, therefore, we shall have 21 days stock by 15th November. During the period of the shutdown, imports will continue to be brought in by our suppliers.

With regard to aviation fuel (Jet A1), the Oil Marketing Companies who sell the product have been importing and will continue to import for their customers.

In addition, for Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LGP), Indeni refinery has not been able to produce LPG to cater for the Zambia demand, therefore, distributors such as Afrox, have been and will continue to import for their consumers.

Mr. Speaker, by this statement we expect local fuel suppliers and retailers to ensure that all measures are taken to avoid disruptions in supply. Government will not take kindly to any entity that will neglect to do its part in ensuring that fuel supply continues to run smoothly in the whole country.

As has been in the past, the Ministry appeals to all consumers to go about their normal business without any anxiety or panic as the country has enough fuel for the period of the shutdown and beyond.

I thank you.