

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT
ON
STATUS OF THE LUNDAZI/TIGONE CROSSING POINT
BY THE
THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND NATIONAL PLANNING AND ACTING
LEADER OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS IN THE HOUSE (DR MUSOKOTWANE),
MP

Madam Speaker, as directed by you, following a matter of urgent public importance raised by Hon. Brenda Nyirenda, Member of Parliament for Lundazi Constituency, I wish to provide an update on the status of the broken-down bridge connecting Chasefu and Lundazi districts.

Madam Speaker, the Government, through the Road Development Agency (RDA), awarded Sable Transport Contractors a contract worth K417,108,471.29 to work on the Lundazi/Chasefu Road. The start date for the contract was 26th January, 2016 and the completion date was 25th July, 2020. Initially, the contract that was awarded to Sable Transport Contractors was to upgrade the road to bituminous standard, but due to financial constraints, the road was downgraded to gravel. The contractor did 80 per cent of the work, and due to financial constraints, the contract period lapsed.

Madam Speaker, the current situation is that the Lundazi/Chasefu Road is no longer on contract as the contract awarded to Sable Transport Contractors lapsed as earlier alluded to, and there is no budgetary allocation for the road in the 2023 Budget. However, the RDA is attending to all critical points on the Lundazi/Chasefu Road, which includes Tigone crossing point. The RDA, through the provincial office, and using its contingency funds, is currently on the ground working on a portion of the road that is 30 km away from Tigone and Tigone crossing point will be the next to be worked on.

Madam Speaker, as an immediate measure, the RDA will construct a concrete reinforced drift considering that the water levels are low. This will facilitate the safe flow of traffic over the

crossing point. As a long-term measure, the RDA will put up a culvert on the Tigone crossing point.

Madam Speaker, I thank you.
