



National Assembly of Zambia

Parliament Buildings

P O Box 31299

Lusaka

www.parliament.gov.zm

UNPARLIAMENTARY LANGUAGE HANDBOOK

(Covering the period up to December, 2020)

**RESEARCH DEPARTMENT
DECEMBER, 2020**

INTRODUCTION

The Parliament of Zambia derives most of its practices and traditions from the British Parliament at Westminster, normally known as the 'Mother of Parliaments'. In this regard, the Zambian Parliament exhibits most features of the Westminster parliamentary style including its parliamentary language.

One of the cardinal rules of debate in the National Assembly of Zambia is that the language should be civil and dignified. Good temper and moderation are the characteristics of parliamentary language. Language that tends to lower the dignity and integrity of the House is disallowed.

While there can be no exact definition of unparliamentary language, it is generally accepted that unparliamentary language is essentially any language that does not show good temper or moderation. In this regard, the use of offensive, provocative or threatening language including personal attacks, insults and obscenities amount to unparliamentary language and is strictly prohibited. Expressions imputing improper and unworthy notions, dishonesty, hypocrisy and insincerity of fellow Members are also prohibited.

Whether a word should be regarded as unparliamentary depends on the context in which it is used. Thus, language deemed unparliamentary one day may not necessarily be so the following day. As such, the codification of unparliamentary language has proven impractical as it is the context in which words and/or phrases are used that the presiding officer must consider when deciding whether or not they should be withdrawn. In dealing with unparliamentary language, the presiding officer takes into account factors such as the tone, manner and intention of the Member speaking; the person to whom the words at issue were directed; the level of provocation; and also whether or not the words created disorder.

The presiding officer will rule as unparliamentary and out of order language, expressions, and phrases that tend to degrade the House or its Members. Presiding officers have ruled

Members out of order for use of words such as “dog”, “evil”, “bogus”, “Blood-thirsty”, and “criminal”. If a Member takes exception to a remark on the ground that it is personally offensive, the presiding officer will request the Member to withdraw it, unless the complaint is clearly unjustified. If the words are extremely distasteful, the Member is also required to apologise. If a Member ordered by the presiding officer to withdraw the objectionable words refuses to do so, the Member may be named in accordance with the Standing Orders of the National Assembly of Zambia.

The National Assembly’s *Manner of Putting the question and Procedural Notes Handbook* lists some words or expressions which had been ruled unparliamentary based on their context at the time. Also, a glossary of unparliamentary language which has been the subject of censure in the House, normally appears at the index of the Bound Volumes of the Daily Parliamentary Debates for that particular session. This compilation contains words/phrases that have been ruled as unparliamentary from the First Session of the First National Assembly in 1964 to December, 2020.

Cecilia N Mbewe (Mrs)

CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF ZAMBIA

A

Abducting: “if you want to work with the opposition, you must write to leaders of political parties for a kind of a coalition in Parliament. That is civility. You cannot be abducting hon. Members of Parliament. They are betraying their own people.”

A heart of a beast: “Your Director General at ZAWA has a heart of a beast.”

Alcoholics: “Anybody who visits Mpulungu today will agree with me that those police officers require better accommodation. To be frank they have become alcoholics because of the temperature.”

ANC demagogues: All right. In 1964 ANC demagogues killed late Mumba and Phiri in Katete.

An hon: “An hon Member, after eating chicken and chips, rose on a point of order...”

Any normal thinking person: “I do not see how any normal thinking person can...”

Ant-hill politics in the House (a) “Ni kwao Niamwe banu baziphunzila kwanu. My sister thinks this is an ant-hill where she was when she was a Women’s Regional Secretary. This is different.”

Any normal thinking person: “I do not see how any normal thinking person can...”

Armed thugs : “It would appear that the chief export to us just now from the Congo for instance, is the spasmodic invasion of armed thugs.”

Are you Drunk: “Are you Drunk...”

Amount of Trash: “The work you do is an amount of trash.”

Asses: “The ministry of Agriculture should consider importing in this country asses ...”

B

Bachongololo: “Madam Speaker, I need your protection from bachongololo at the back ...”

Back door: “he has just come back from his unpaid leave although this time he has decided to come to Parliament through the backdoor...”

Bad: “Hon. Minister of Finance, I can tell you that they will dilute you because they are very bad people...”

Bambazonke: “It is your job to fight for what is being given to others. I am not saying that we should get bambazonke. All I am saying is let this country be fair to all of us. That is all I am asking for.”

Banana Republic: “Yes, in some of these banana Republics, you can do that and not in the Commonwealth.”

Bantustan: “...and hatred being exhibited by people who believe that if someone does not belong to their Bantustan, he or she is politically stupid...”

Barking: “Those who debate passionately should do so from a position of meaningfulness instead of barking unnecessary.”

Barotseland: “Hon. Members, from the authorities cited above, it is clear that the hon. Member cannot use the word ‘Barotseland’ to refer to the Western Province...”

Bastard: A Member was referring to some racist remarks by some people opposed to change giving an impression that whites were looking down on the black community.

Being in the dark: “People who are used to being in the dark are a problem.”

Bigheaded: “Freedom is good, but absolute freedom is dangerous. Ladies will not just become, for lack of a better word, bigheaded and...”

Blind: “Mr Speaker, may I know if there is a programme that has been put in place to sensitise the blind so that they know what to do?”

Bling, bling: “Madam, the hon. bling, bling pastor...”

Blood suckers: “...Some Zambians ...sucking this country of a lot of blood.”

Blood-thirsty: “Before 1973, a group of disgruntled leaders who were opportunists, blood-thirsty, old ...”

Bloody: “Indeed every Zambian wants money and a good home. Out of the six million Zambians, who are living in good homes? The majority are living in squatter compounds. Who has bothered? Unless the Government sits down and thinks twice about the Zambian people, those bloody Indians....”

Bloody Government: This is “Sanguinary Government.”

Bogus: “...what is the Minister of Religious Affairs and National Guidance going to do about the bogus or fake prophets?”

Bootlicker: “I am not afraid to say that the point of order came from someone who is a bootlicker.” Mr Chairman, Sir, this is the problem with one-party states. People tend to be arrogant and they also become bootlickers.”

Bottle of whiskey: Mr Speaker, I concur with you that the statement was good. If I had a way, I would have given my dear cousin a bottle of whiskey to jack him up.

Boss: I think the question of mobility for the Party workers at all levels, especially at the lowest has to be strengthened. It has to be looked into and this, of course will lead us to issues affecting our bosses who really matter in this affair. If the vote is of this

magnitude, then the Party bosses should see to it that our Party workers are provided with mobility.”

Bottoms: “Some just sit on their bottoms.”

Booze: “The common man’s similarities with a imperialist or ex colonist were that they were fond of cigarettes and booze”

Bought councillors: “...the Ruling Party went into some areas and ‘bought’ councillors...”

Brutal mentality: “...brutal mentality of the Armed Forces...taken into the Mechanical Services Department...”

Bugged: “...May I know whether the Hon Minister is aware that one of the reasons why theatres and operations tables in Livingstone and indeed, the entire Southern Province are buggered is because they do not use them for human beings.”

Bubble: “I will always ignore those who bubble.”

Bunches: “While I agree Mr. Speaker that our ministers should go out and see what is happening in other countries for the development of Zambia but these trips of moving in bunches of tens and hundreds should stop.”

Butcher: “is it in order to ‘butcher’ the Queen’s language in the manner the hon. Member is doing?”

Buttocks: “No buttocks of a chief should sit in a Government vehicle.”

Buzz off: “So I say, keep off, and if I was allowed to use some other language, I would have also said, “buzz off.”

C

Cantankerous: “Mr. Speaker, hon. Members of the Opposition have noted with concern that, in the Executive, there are cantankerous.”

Cash eaters: “I am requesting our Government to safeguard the interests of the small-scale farmers by reducing the amounts of creditors who are, in fact, ‘cash eaters’.”

Cavalier: “...when will the remaining positions be unfrozen, given the hon. Minister’s cavalier attitude?”

Chap: “these chaps!”

Characters: “I did not imagine that I would come to this House and find the characters that I found here.”

Cheap: “If we are going to revamp this nation’s economy with this K9 million then I feel that this is a cheap way and we are very sorry that our front bench can be so cheap as to accept this offer.”

Cheating: “If it is intended to hoodwink our traditional rulers into thinking that they have something important, namely that they are consulted when, in fact, their advice is not even taken notice of, then, I think we are cheating ourselves. We are not cheating them.”

Cheeky: “Sir, some of the receptionists on the public telephones need to be disciplined because indiscipline has increased. They are cheeky, when you talk to them.”

Chew: “... most of the money realized from the sale of houses ... has been ‘chewed’ through allowances for traveling Chief Executives of the Council... has been chewed through salaries.”

Chewing: “Mr Chairperson, nothing tangible has been done to bring the culprits to book. Those persons who have been chewing our money are busy enjoying the benefits of theft.”

Chicanery: “...no interference at all from political chicanery and power...”

Chicken run: “Kasama General Hospital can best be described as a chicken run, not a hospital.”

Chinese money “...when it is time for elections, they get Chinese money and buy people off for K20 or K50...”

Chop: “...mistrust among leaders – chopping each other’s throats.”

Chucked: “...my people have been chucked out and they are no longer there”.

Cinderella: “I should call my constituency a Cinderella Constituency.”

Civil Savages: “The Right Hon Prime Minister should look at his Cabinet office, so that we move well because the consequences may be, as that Boer said different to contemplate. What we feel for the civil servants, sometimes I call them civil savages.”

Clobbered: “Is he in order to remain silent instead of informing this House and the nation whether or not it is true that man was actually clobbered and, if so, who clobbered him?”

Clumsy: “Mr. Speaker, the death of any Zambian, whether here, at home, or in the diaspora, deserves to be handled with grace and care. However, His Honour the Vice President opted to dramatise the situation last week on this very question...by being clumsy, thereby showing lack of care.”

Colluding: "...the other thing that I would love to share with the House and the people of Zambia is that it is because of the ECZ, which has continued colluding with the PF and putting..."

Come on: "Mr Speaker come on."

Come on guys: "That is what we need to do in Zambia. Someone said that the speech was what and what. Come on guys..."

Comrade: "These are practical problems which we are facing and I hope that our comrades – referring to Members of Parliament – will understand our predicaments in these cases."

Confused: "Mr Chairperson, I think that hon. Members are getting confused because they do not know what a disaster is."

Conmen: "The Government is just a group of political conmen who want to continue holding on to power at all costs."

Constipation of the brain: "Mr Speaker, I am sure you are aware that, as we get closer to 2016, people will start suffering from diarrhoea of the mouth and constipation of the brain..."

Cooking up answers: "...Could he assure us that he is not just cooking up answers to satisfy this question and answer session..."

Counterfeit: "Sir, never again shall we have counterfeit hon. Members of Parliament."

Coups: "However, if the Government will concentrate on recruiting people from one or two regions, it should not be surprising when conflicts start in the army and coups happen..."

Coward: "And I would describe the previous speaker Mr. Speaker, with your permission as a coward because instead of condemning the person..."

Cowardice: “Order, I would like to say with that beautiful language that in Parliament we do not use the word”coward or cowardice.”

Crap: “Mr. Speaker, I believe that everything that we say on the floor of this House is recorded. I request that we have a replay of what Hon. Lubezhi said so that we can find out whether she said crap.”

Creatures: “Mr. Speaker, the Hon and his creatures with him...”

Criminal: “it is...criminal to allow a child in grade IV to leave school. It is very bad and unforgivable to deny a child the right to education.”

Crooked: “I told these crooked guys...”

Crooks: “The new investors whom we are inviting will be crooks because they know how to conduct business in Zambia.”

Cushions: “...we are not cushions on which somebody will feel comfortable to sit”.

D

Dagger: “...there could be some medical uses for this kind of drug, we know that it is already illegal to be found near dagger.”

Damn: “These ex Members of Boards who went into commerce and industry and are not so damn good.”

Dangerously incompetent: “...if so, let us do something about it. In my opinion, I see your defence in two ways. You are either dangerously incompetent or dangerous cowards...”

Deaf: "... I mean, "Is he deaf?"

Deceit: "... tried to do. I am very surprised that, in their style of deceit, they came back and brought this Bill to ..."

Deceive: "Sir, is my father who is on the Floor in order to deceive this House that policemen grow maize when in fact it is the prisoners who do so?"

Defraud, hijacking: "The motive is to defraud the electoral process ... I withdraw that word and replace it with 'hijack'."

Delusion: "Madam Chairperson, allow me to say that I find it very strange that all our colleagues on the left can see are the failures of the PF. When people are in denial, delusion or are practising..."

Demagogues: "... hoodwinked by demagogues or let the latter hide among them."

Demonised: "His Honour the Vice-President talked about numbers in the House and demonised our very good Hon. Members..."

Devil: "I would rather do away with that money and go naked than to have such dealings with the devil."

Diabolical: "...and indeed people are there who had witnessed the atrocities that have been committed by ANC youth diabolical organisation."

Diarrhoea of the mouth: "Mr Speaker, I am sure you are aware that, as we get closer to 2016, people will start suffering from diarrhoea of the mouth..."

Die-hard capitalist: "...He is a die-hard capitalist while I am a socialist."

Disgusted: “Madam Speaker, I do not know whether to thank the hon. Minister for the statement or not. I am very disgusted, having been a Copperbelt person...”

Dodging: “Minister is dodging the question by saying that there is no money for infrastructure development for the people of the North-Western Province...”

Dog in a manger: “...why behave like a dog in a manger.”

Donkey Work: “...all the contractors ... will...move to the sites and do all the donkey work”.

Donkey years: “...it would have taken donkey years to persuade the hon. Minister of Finance to agree to this proposal.”

Dorika: “Mr Speaker, I withdraw the term “Dorika” and I replace it with “hon. Minister...”

Double talker: “I will modify that statement and out of sheer respect for the House I will say that the Hon Member is a double talker.”

Double tongued: The words were used to refer to a Member of Parliament, who rose on a point of order to support the bill.

Dribbled: “Does the Government have plans to restrict these new gold sites to Zambians so that we are not dribbled by these multinational companies?”

Drunk: “Is the honourable Member for Livingstone in order to say that everything said by an MCC is correct , even when that MCC is drunk...”

Drunkards: “...they are just drunkards...”

Dubious: “... while the balance of 40 percent goes into some dubious pockets?”

Duck: “The conclusion of the matter is that if it quacks like a duck, it probably is a duck...”

Dull: “I do not support leaders who are dull.”

Duped: “...was campaigning in 2011, it duped the Zambian people that they were going to have more money in their pockets.”

Dustbin: “This Motion deserves to be thrown into the dustbin...”

E

Eat the money: “Mr Speaker, the way the civil servants eat the money is through long preparation...”

Eat these words: “Madam Speaker, I would like to make an assurance to the hon. Minister that she is going to have to eat these words she is using this afternoon, some day...”

Embezzlement: “... President funds are a good way of embezzling public funds.”

Evil servants: “They become evil servants and begin...”

Evil Spirits: “...those who practice these evil spirits must think of resigning”.

Evil: “They have said many evil things against this Government...”

F

Fake: “Peace and unity are key to moving forward. Thus, this theme really fits in so well. However, the question is: is this theme really attainable? I find this budget, fake.”

Failed state: “When we asked them where it had worked, they mentioned the Central African Republic (CAR). How can we emulate a failed state?”

Federal criminals: “All these are federal criminals.”

Fellows: “I am sorry, Mr. Speaker one of their fellow creators, Sir.”

Fiction: “...this House is told a lot of fiction.”

Filthy: “Mr Chairman, Sir, we have a problem with accommodation for the police officers.... Sir, the houses in which these people live are so filthy that it would seem that people living in there are also filthy.”

Fix: “On a point of order Mr. Speaker I want to fix that man.”

Folly: “There are no lapses in the way the Executive is executing its duties. So, I think it will be folly for her ask why Zambia should go...”

Fool: “...let the government not take us for granted as backbenchers. This is why I am saying that each fool, Mr Speaker, Sir, has his own supporters. Each person ...”

Foolish: “we are able to accommodate even foolish people in Lusaka Province”.

Fraudulent: “...one such example that I can give where Judge Chulu stood tall is in the Livingstone By-election that saw the fraudulent election of one Member who sits among us here.”

G

Gag: "...since I am gagged on Press freedom."

Gang: "We shall leave this place. How do we want to be remembered? Do we want to be remembered as a gang of people who were pretending ..."

Gayism: "What example are the Zambian people going to get from such kind of leaders who go outside the country to promote gayism, lesbianism and all sorts of things?"

Gentleman: "Mr Speaker, let me thank the Hon gentleman there, for his ..."

Get-out: "If you cannot be influential in politics, get out, you repulse people."

Gimmick: "It is just a gimmick or trick because halving the President's salary..."

Gone to the dogs: "... It is sad because we have simply gone to the dogs, and this is not acceptable..."

Gonna: "My response is gonna put to rest the speculations and innuendoes that are going around concerning..."

Government of criminals: "Why is she part of a Government of criminals?"

Grab: "...but actually whether small-scale miners who want to grab large-scale mining licences by force are doing the correct thing. I am aware..."

Greedy "They know the problems in Kaoma where we have refugee camps, but because we are dealing with a greedy political leadership which would like to use any vote to win..."

Greenhorns: "Then, we would have thought they had thought about this Motion but clearly, this is a Motion that greenhorns like to use to exercise their debate ability and it is allowed..."

Growing stomach: “Now that the truth has come out like a hidden pregnancy ... that manifests itself in the growing stomach...”

Guts: “Mr Chairman, I do not think most of the common men have the guts to buy a house which costs K10, 000 or K20,000.”

Guy: “...we are in danger of all you guys being bought.”

H

Half-baked mind: “Mr Chairman, Sir, those with half-baked minds regard this as half baked information.”

Half-baked: “Members of Parliament who pick half-baked information in bars and all over the country come and alarm the nation.”

Hallucinating: “Sir, is the hon. Minister hallucinating...”

He does not understand these things: “He does not understand these things, but I think he was doing this in the spirit of hoping that people...”

Heaps: “...we have ‘heaps’ of people employed, for example, at Freedom House.”

Heartless: “Why is the hon. Minister so heartless?”

He ran away: “I invited him to witness the launch of the facility, but he ran away...”

Hell: “...why the hell should we...”

Henchmen: “Even the children of the ‘untoucheables’ like the Hon Minister himself and his henchmen should learn to serve in rural areas.”

Hit and run father: “She has to look after these children without maintenance from the Hit and Run father.”

Hocus-pocus “...the support that we give him in here is not hocus-pocus political rhetoric.”

Hoodlums: “The Government must enforce the law. The cohorts or hoodlums...”

Hook or crook: “... politicians, and particularly the MMD Government which wants to do things their own way throughout, like they tried to win the elections in Mazabuka by hook or crook.”

Hooligans: “...these hooligans...”

How in hell: “How in hell can a farmer graduate from this?”

Hypocrisy: “Do not bring hypocrisy into the House.”

Hypocrites: “Mr Chairman, Sir, when the House adjourned on Friday 9th March, 1984, I was reminding hon Members on the Front Bench not to be hypocrites when dealing with matters concerning the underprivileged workers of this country.”

I

I am sure she actually repented: “Madam Speaker, I am sure Her Honour the Vice-President has just come from her prayers and I am sure she actually repented.”

Idiotic statement: “I would have said that I have never heard such an idiotic statement made in this Parliament than the one that the Hon Member has said.”

Idiots: “I want Government from today to stop harassing Zambians who own land because each time we talk about land, they say what about you Mr Natala? You also have

land. I am entitled to it because I am a Zambian. I am not the same as that idiot who is not a Zambia.”

Ignorant: “Mr Chairman, Sir, I realize that the majority of the hon Members are ignorant about the prevailing situation. Sir ... even those who have been in Parliament for ten years can be ignorant about the pricing policy ...”

In their blood offices: “When we see them in their blood offices”

Incoming government: “The phase ‘incoming government’ is irrelevant. All hon. Members in here are part of government. If somebody is coming, where are you going?”

Indolence: “Mr. Speaker, why did it take long for the Government to discover that no work was taking place there? Is this not a sign of indolence on the part of the Government?”

Informers: “He is not in but he has some informers.”

Insolent: “Hon. Minister, withdraw the reference to the people on my left as being insolent...”

Intelligible questions: “I would like my dear colleague to calm down when he is posing questions so that he poses intelligible question.”

Iron hand: “Minister must be using his power, whether it is with an iron hand, because people have become reckless”.

Irresponsible: “Therefore, to insinuate that the PF sends the police to beat up people and journalists, for that matter, is irresponsible.”

It is a damn shame: “You cannot go where you like without fearing you are going to be killed by Member of the Ruling Party. It is a damn shame.”

J

Jealousy: “I know the people on your left are very jealous, but he has done a lot ...”

Jims and Jacks: “Members to watch out for ...Jims and Jacks whose aim is to wreck Zambia”.

Jiving: “... People are jiving everyday because they have made money.”

Joint: “... that joint”

Joke: “They are even agreeing. That is discrimination. They think everything is a joke.”

Jokers: “Let us follow and respect the judgments. Otherwise, we will be a group whom the next generation will refer to as jokers...”

Jungle lawyer: “...and I am sure the jungle lawyer knows which way I am going.”

K

Kaffir: “being looked down as Kaffirs in the rural areas.”

Kangaroo: “You cannot hold a tribunal that is at the level of a kangaroo tribunal”

Kaput: “There are three diesel engines. One of them is kaput and there are only two left.”

Kill: “It is incompatible with plural democracy that you should kill one party to facilitate by influence a defacto one party state.”

L

Ladies and gentlemen: “If there is anyone of you ladies and gentlemen...”

Lay you on the table: “I will lay you on the Table, Madam Professor...”

Lesbianism: “What example are the Zambian people going to get from such kind of leaders who go outside the country to promote gayism, lesbianism and all sorts of things?”

Liar: “...Now whether I am in order or not, Mr. Deputy Speaker I would like to call the Hon Member a liar.”

Lie: “... it appears, when we present these issues here, that we are only exaggerating and telling lies ...”

Limited knowledge: “if the Hon Member wants to ask further questions with his limited knowledge, I would rather he asks a substantive question for oral answer.”

Looter: “Alas, we have in our midst, looters.”

Looting: “...I cannot accept the continuous looting of these funds.”

Lumpen: “Is the hon ‘Lumpen’ on the Floor ...”

Lunacy: “Sir, failure to appreciate what the MMD Government stands for is nothing but lunacy haunted by criminal hallucinations.”

Lunatics: “Some leaders thought that the Copperbelt does not belong to anybody. I think they were either drunk with power or they were lunatics.”

Lying and Killing: “If you want things to run correctly, advise the president that people are upset. If you keep telling him things are all right, you are lying and killing him.”

Lynched: “I wonder where we are going, if an hon. Minister of Justice can be lynched in his own constituency.”

M

Mad: “If someone says that that was self-help, it means that he is really confused and mad and is not a Zambian.”

Madness: “... It is madness to let other people suffer.”

Makes no sense: “Speaker, whenever we bring a progressive Motion to this House, the hon. PF Members gang up like children and oppose even what makes no sense...”

Malicious: “...some of the interjections are honest and some of them are malicious.”

Masquerading: “Sir, he was just a thug masquerading as a Patriotic Front (PF) cadre and terrorising people.”

Masqueraders “unfortunately, there were masqueraders, but we are not ashamed to have had masqueraders in our midst.”

Mendacity: “On a point of order Mr. Speaker Sir, I take it seriously when I see a Hon Member talking of all this classical mendacity...”

Mercenary: “Member who is struggling to make head or tail of what he wants to say, in order to only limit his statement and reference to me the fact that we used to sit together at the Backbench without him also declaring the fact that when he was a member of the MMD, he acted as a mercenary and filtered information...”

Mess: “Agriculture is in a mess, so what.”

Messed-up: “...Mr. Chairperson is the civil rights activist in order to use the phrase ‘messed up’ in this chamber?”

Milk you: “The colonialists let us down, they did not train us, we need you, but at the same time we are going to turn and milk you.”

Mischievous: “...Important for all of us here to understand that we cannot come into the House and bring mischievous private Member’s Motions which are calculated at nothing, but trying to”

Misguided political missile: “Mr Speaker the Hon.Member of Parliament for Roan debated like a misguided political missile.”

Monkeying around: “I want to find out whether the Government is not going to continue monkeying around with the lives of our people this year.”

Mooing: “We should not allow the one who has *mukwilo* out there, to whip us so that we start “mooing” in another direction...”

Moribund: “...however moribund you are as Hon. Ministers, we are not going to allow...”

Mother Province: “The Lusaka Province is a mother province.”

Mr Eurobond: “The hon. Minister of Finance, Mr Eurobond, is not here now...”

Mr. Prosecutor: “Thank you very much, Sir. Another thing, Mr. Prosecutor why you hear that...”

Mukesa kakwa: (You will go to jail): “However, we are only showing them two free channels after spending US\$273 million. Mukesa kakwa”

Mumbling: “... as I was mumbling and getting corrections ...”

My boy: “That is true my.... Oh nearly called you “my boy”....”

My pets: “I want to put it on record that I am not in support of the secession plans of the Lozi people because they are my pets. I will not have anyone to play with if a border is created ...”

N

Naked: “... to go and watch half-naked women in Swaziland.”

Native: “It is the Ministry which deals with the nation in every village and district. In short, it deals with the natives.”

Noise: “...after they have made all the noise and criticised our policies, they should tell us what their agriculture policy is...”

Nonentities: “I cannot listen to these nonentities.”

Nonsense: “What! With the lack of transport, bus transport and so forth, and people wanting to go to their lawful places of business, it is nonsense to say that in a country such as ours that motor cars are a luxury.”

Not brought in good faith: “I wish to withdraw the fact that this Motion was not brought in good faith. I replace it with the fact that it is a bad Motion...”

Not in their pockets: “If they put money where their mouths are, not in their pockets, it will be better for this country...”

Notorious: “Sir, this Government is notorious for implementing programmes....”

O

Obese: “we have seen that the body mass index for most hon. Members on your left has risen. They are now obese.”

Obnoxious: “Mr Speaker, the report further indicates that the stakeholders lamented that bidding for the tender was deferred twice, cancelled once and refloated without any amendments, despite numerous technical concerns raised by the bidders regarding the project not being adequately resolved. That gives the impression that we have obnoxious and stubborn people, who can refloat a tender without changing a word after concerns from stakeholders.”

Ok: “There is a lot to be done although I will not say that everything is Ok in my Constituency.”

Old man: “Is the hon. Minister in order to refer to cases which are before the courts of law? I expected him, as an old man, to have wisdom and to know that...”

On the face: “The inconsistencies the hon. Member has been levelling against the ECZ are also showing on the face of the hon...”

Opportunist: “The aim of the Party is to consolidate its objectives and the cadres in the Party must be those people who are committed to its cause. But today, you will see that the Party is being overwhelmed by opportunists and as a result, they are opposed to the objectives and ideology of the Party.”

Our beautiful women: “Particularly if a woman is beautiful they make sure that she is detained.”

P

Pathetic failures: “If Zambians continue to be pathetic failures, we will not go anywhere. The phrase ‘without leaving anyone behind’ is just a statement meant to pull wool over our eyes.”

Pedestrian answer: “...is the Government able to give us a more serious answer than this pedestrian answer.”

Pitched from his pocket: “Mr Speaker, I want the hon. Minister of Justice to explain to this House, and the people of Zambia, how he ignored the contents of the Draft Constitution Report, and based it on the few people he pitched from his pocket at the ministry to be part of the evidence here”

Plunderer: “What safety measures has the court put in place to ensure that plunderers will not launder money by grabbing all 25 percent shares considering that some plunderers walked away with K2 billion in their pockets.”

Poaching: “...a government which only terminated his contract because it did not want to be seen to poaching many people from the opposition”

Poking your nose: “Stop poking your nose in MSB affairs.”

Political bandits: “Sir, I substitute the word ‘bunch’ with a group of political bandits.”

Political chicanery: “Why don’t you stop this Political Chicanery”

Political mercenaries: “we do not want political mercenaries...”

Political mercenary: “You are just a political mercenary...”

Political novice: “We will not sit in this house listening to petty political novices who are benefiting from what Mr Akashambatwa Mbikusita-Lewanika stood for...”

Political sickness: “I wish to withdraw the term ‘political sickness’ and replace it with ‘the inability to see the obvious’ when people come to debate on the Floor...”

Political squatters: A Member of Parliament was debating that Lusaka belonged to everyone, and those who thought that the province belonged to them alone were “political squatters.”

Prophet of doom: “My cousin raised an interjection which has earned him the title of prophet of doom.”

Puppet: “These puppets never talk”

Q

Qualms: “Mr Speaker, we do not have any qualms about answering questions on infrastructure”

Quid: Opposition Member when referring to pounds sterling as quids.

R

Rabid: “I expect debate that is well balanced and not the one that has the tone of a person who is about to rabid.”

Ran away: “I invited him to witness the launch of the facility, but he ran away.”

Raping: “When we allow somebody to enter our homes and rape our wives and we just look on and say, “we shall discuss,” that is not Humanism. The people who are raping our economy ...”

Religious fanatics: “Now in certain areas we have Religious Fanatics, who have made up their minds to be subversive.”

Remnants: “...of the hon. Member of Parliament, according to the police, or the remnants of the mainstream PF...”

Ridiculous: “Some went to the ridiculous extent of urging leaders....”

Riff-Raffs: “Sir this House is supposed to be for gentlemen and ladies but it looks like even riff-raffs with money can come here.”

Rotten point of order: “I am grateful to you, Mr. Chairman. I am not surprised to get a rotten point of order from....”

Rubber stamp: “...Our role, as we go to the National Council, must be fully understood without prejudice because if we are expected to ‘rubber stamp’ everything here I will quit Parliament. I am not supposed to ‘rubber stamp’ anything without offering useful criticism.”

Rubbish: “...even ‘rubbish’ is parliamentary if you see it in a certain context.”

Rumbling: “Madam Speaker, yesterday, while I was in Ndola, I met some teachers of community schools because I wanted to come and contribute much more effectively instead of just rumbling in the Chamber.”

Rumour monger: “The record will be very clear. However, I am glad to know that he is also a rumour monger because he has to be for him to respond to one.”

S

Saboteurs (when referring to public company): "...the Ministry should dissolve the Board of Directors for the Agricultural Finance Company which is composed of saboteurs."

Satana: "I always call him 'satana', anyway he always calls me 'mwenye'."

Satanic: "I would like to appeal to the Party and its Government to look into this problem because teachers are part and parcel of that environment and I think it is satanic to deny their medical facilities. I think it is satanic."

Satchmos: "Therefore I think time has come whereby some of these satchmos must give way in this House and allow new brains to come and sit here."

Savage: "Sir, while I am still on politics and the Civil Service, I ask your protection Sir, from the savage interjections."

Scandalous: "He was Scandalous."

Scavenger: "Sir, I now want to talk about decentralization. The ones who were to blame are those people who were in the districts who were sending the wrong people. They were even going to the extent of changing people like office orderlies from the Ministry, for example and making them development officers, or picking a scavenger...."

Scheming: "How come that when we come here, we are scheming to inflict more pain on the people?"

Scrap "All I would like to remind my Hon Member for Chipili is that I will not accept such scrap next time."

Screw: “So, unless you ‘screw’ everybody and make them pay...”

Scum: “The scum in these *parties*”

Scurrilous language: “Do not use that scurrilous language here.”

Selfish: “Mr Speaker, these insensitive selfish leaders will one day disappear like...”

Sell-out: “He is a sell-out.”

Senseless: “That is why unplanned and, sometimes, senseless supplementary budgets are brought to the House.”

Sewerage: “Mr Speaker, Sir, the public service has become a reservoir – some sort of sewerage lake where rubbish is thrown.”

Sexy: “Like I have said on the Floor of this House, we will make agriculture sexy.”

Shallow thinking: “With regard to the Presidential Housing Initiative, I am disappointed that hon Members have concentrated on the name. But we should understand the objective. That is shallow thinking.”

Shambles: “Mr. Speaker, I think we must realize that TAZARA had been neglected for too long. We picked the company when it was in shambles.” (Hon. Minister responding to a question on plans for Tanzania-Zambia Authority).

Shame: “I guided yesterday that the word “shame” is unparliamentary...withdraw the word “shame” hon. Member.”

Shameful: “...What kind of sense is this? This is absolutely shameful. The National Health Insurance Bill should not even have come here.”

Shame on you: "...How can we make laws to insure our vehicles and houses and not our own lives? What kind of laws are those? Shame on you!"

Shanty constituency; "The issue of a railway system is under the Ministry of Power, Transport and Communications. There is the hon. Member for Luapula – whatever this shanty constituency is called – in order to talk about a railway line which is under a different ministry?"

Shivers: "...I would like the Hon Minister to confirm that there are no shivers by the management in the Electoral Commission in terms of what the intentions of the Government are concerning the electoral reforms."

Shut up: "I heard a voice saying the use of the word "shut up" is inappropriate. Mr Speaker, I beg to withdraw the word "shut up".

Silent masses: "It is therefore, my view that we have to protect the silent masses."

Silly: "It is painful to be given a silly call-out saying, "Come to the police," just to be told nothing..."

Siphoning: "Madam Chairperson, those are the issues that need to be addressed instead of siphoning money through toll gates..."

Skimpy: "...they will be skimpy loans..."

Slander: "Mr. Speaker when business was suspended I realised that I should not have said that the Hon Member was indulging in slander."

Small fry: "They are small fry."

So-called: “What I mean, Mr. Speaker, is that the so-called Gwembe District Hospital, which is built in Monze District...”

Some of you: “This is February, 2008. For example, some of you paid up to June last year.”

Somersaults: “He likes making somersaults...”

Something cooking: “We always have something cooking in my Ministry.”

Soul Sister: “I should not forget to congratulate my former junior and soul sister.”

Sound mind: “Nobody with a sound mind can criticise this Budget or agree with what critics are saying...”

Spears, bows and arrows “...they will find the oil fields surrounded by villagers with spears, bows and arrows. We will ‘defend’ our source of wealth if we are not involved.”

Sponsoring terrorism abroad: “Sir, we have learnt that their group is even sponsoring terrorism abroad, disturbing the sovereignty of certain countries...”

Stealing: “If they are being stolen, then, those who are stealing medicines should be brought to book ...”

Stinker: “...For instance, the Zambia Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) even refused to appear before your Committee. It only wrote a letter, which was nothing, but a stinker...”

Stinking: “The Post Newspaper is a stinking paper. It is useless...”

Stooge: “...they are stooges who do not do their own thinking...”

Stubbornness: “I do not want to use the word stubbornness...”

Students use thighs as desks: The term was used to simply tell the House that students at Kawambwa Secondary School had no desks to use when writing.

Stupid: “It is absolutely stupid for any government to expect a police force who is serving them so nicely to be loyal when they are being insulted so publicly.”

Sugar daddy: “Mr. Chairman, is it in order that the hon Member for Kabwe should deny these young girls who drop out from schools jobs if they get married to sugar daddies?”

Sugar mummy: “I am told there are sugar mummies who have toy boys.”

Sunday school picnic: “Mr Speaker, with your indulgence, I want to inform the Government Bench that when they come here, they are not coming to a Sunday school picnic.”

Swallow: “I fear for the windfall tax which will come from the mines. I fear for it because they are already preparing how to swallow that money.”

Swindle: “...the people of Kafue have been swindled.” It was used to refer to the Government’s failure to take development to the people of Kafue.

T

Tails: “They come to office with tails between their legs but speak with bravado when they are in the House...”

Tantrums: “...so that we can cut down on Government expenditure when making new ones and avoid tantrums from members of the public?”

Thefts: “Mr Speaker, thefts have continued in Governments that...”

Thieves: “The same people who have imprests here as councilors, want to come and start blaming us that we do not audit because they are thieves.”

Throw her hands in the air blaming God: “The Minister told the House that the sector was subdued in 2017/18. However, she went on to throw her hands in the air blaming God...”

Thugs: “UNIP when forming the Government was going to put thugs in all key parts.”

To kid: “Why do we want to kid ourselves and believe that we are pursuing economic diplomacy as opposed to legal diplomacy?”

Toddler: “You were not there. You were a toddler.”

Toilet paper: “...this Bill is not a White Paper. This is as good as toilet paper and is fit for the dustbin.”

Tokyo: “There must be something wrong in somebody refusing to accept money, unless his upstairs have gone Tokyo.”

Tom and Jerry: “...if he was not thinking about Tom and Jerry, must have heard ...”

Tom-Tom: “...purchase new vehicles ... cheaper than the Tom-Tom vehicles – the fiats”.

Toy boys: “I am told there are sugar mummies who have toy boys.”

Trash: “...they say some just come to talk trash...”

Tribal: “Sir, is this Hon Member in order to suggest that when we rise on the Floor of this House to put forward the dangers associated with the construction of the Itezhi tezhi dam from which we the owners of the land have benefited absolutely nothing we are being tribal?”

Tribal tramp card: “I want a university in Chikankata. I will be approaching the hon. Minister of Higher Education to find out if my tribal tramp card will work over that.”

Tricks: “They want to take over gold concessions using tricks.”

Tricksters: “The officials are not behaving like tricksters. For a very long time, we have been asking that Kafue be given district status.”

Truant Ministers: “I ask the hon. Minister to convince us to allocate money to the commission, which is creating problems in councils and failing to cage very truant Ministers like the hon. Minister ...”

Tummies: “...these police officers work for long hours... with nothing in their tummies.”

Tuntemba parties: “...today, these people are managing the Tuntemba parties such as the ...”

U

UFP’s are foolish: “But these UFPs are foolish eh!”

Unclean people: “They have despised Mporokoso, Mbala and Isoka districts and are trying their level best to please the people of Kasama more than others.”

Utter rubbish: “That is rubbish, utter rubbish.”

Useless: “This motion is completely useless.”

V

Vicious man: “Mr. Speaker, he is a vicious man, and he is listening to this debate.”

Vulture: “I have inserted it as vultures of fortune. They prevent other people from seeing His Excellency the President. It is vultures – birds that eat the carcass of either the elephant or buffalo when it is dead.”

W

Waffling: “It is painful to find that an hon. Member of Parliament can stand up and start ‘waffling’ over an issue as important as mental health...”

Weak kneed pseudo-rationalists: “...some are weak kneed pseudo-rationalists.”

What the hell: “What sort of contradiction is this? If you can’t respect the current constitution, what the hell do you think will make me believe that you will respect the next constitution?”

Whatever misfortune: “Even if the United Party for National Development (UPND) came into power by whatever misfortune, it would want to have a mouthpiece...”

Wife: “I would also like to thank my colleague, Hon Sakwiba Sikota for supporting this appointment while, at the same time, wanting to improve the dowry of my wife...”

Witchcraft: “Doing so amounts to practising witchcraft and shows that they lack morals.”

Witchdoctor: “Is the hon Member for Mbabala, who is a witchdoctor...”

Wolf-wolf: “Mr Speaker, thank you for your counsel. I withdraw the expression wolf-wolf and replace it with is it more bark than bite?”

Worms: “This is why I keep saying that one of these days this Parliament is going to be composed of worms.”

Wounded buffalo: “He is a wounded buffalo.”

X

Y

You are modern Judas Iscariot: The words were said as running commentaries.

Young man: “Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the young man...”

You sit down: “you sit down”

Yo-yo: “...even if you jump like a yo-yo, from one party to the other, they will look at your track record as a person...”

Z

Zambians are black in colour: “...were concessioned to foreigners or non-indigenous Zambians. By saying, “Non-indigenous Zambians”, I am only being politically correct and avoiding sounding segregative. However, the reality is that indigenous Zambians are black in colour.”

Zambia is a beggar: Zambia is bankrupt or broke: “Zambia today is a beggar; Zambia today is broke because a lot of money has been misdirected.”

Zambian on paper: “...not everyone who claims to be Zambian is actually Zambian. He might be a Zambian on paper.”