

# Namibia Today

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## High jobless rates irk Minister

**New measures to create more jobs on the way**

By Asser Ntinda

High unemployment, sub-living wages and the erosion of decent wages and conditions of employment through labour hire and other forms of casualization are some of the major challenges irk the government.

Labour and Social Welfare Minister, Cde Immanuel Ngatjizeko, told the National Assembly on Wednesday that high unemployment, particularly

among the youth and the widespread vulnerability among the elderly, especially in rural areas have left his Ministry with no option but to devise new measures

to address and overcome these challenges.

In such circumstances, he said,

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Horseshoe Market in Katutura, complete with MTC's colours and logos around the outside wall. Photo by Asser Ntinda.

## WHK Municipality says mural adverts 'illegal'

**Houses and premises displaying them given seven days to remove them**

By Asser Ntinda

The City of Windhoek has given residents in Windhoek whose houses, business premises and other structures display 'illegal mural advertisements' of various brands to remove them or face legal action by the Municipality to compel them to do so.

Windhoek Municipality's Acting Manager for Economic Development, Claidius Kaverua, wrote a letter dated May 19, 2010 to various owners of such businesses and

houses, telling them that such mural advertisements appearing on their premises were illegal and contravened the City's Outdoor Advertising Policy and Regulations as written in Gov-

ernment Gazette NO. 4094 of August 2008.

"You are hereby requested to approach Mr Alfred Haipare or Ms Fortune Kauautuku, (at Mu-

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When Ramatex Factory closed shop a few years ago, the closure sent thousands of these young men and women on the streets, raising unemployment rates even higher.

## US death toll in Afghanistan tops 1,000

By Bill Van Auken

The massive suicide bombing that ripped through a NATO convoy in Kabul Tuesday claimed the lives of five more US soldiers, a Canadian officer and a dozen Afghan civilians.

The attack demonstrated the failure of more than eight years of US-led occupation, not to mention that of the puppet government of President Hamid Karzai, to secure even the center of the Afghan capital. It also marked a grim milestone for American forces, bringing the total number killed in action in "Operation Enduring Freedom" to the



1,000 mark.

There is little doubt that the

Obama administration, like the Bush White House before it, will

seek to gloss over the significance of this casualty figure. A White House spokesman issued a brief statement Tuesday praising American military forces for their "extraordinary sacrifice", but made no mention of the number of American dead in this war having risen to 1,000.

Such numbers, however, do have an immense significance and demand serious reflection. Behind them lie devastated family members and loved ones, not to mention the tens of thousands more US troops who have seen their lives shattered by horrendous physical wounds as well as the immense psychological toll of repeated tours

of duty fighting a hostile population as part of an army of occupation.

In 2009, 17,538 military personnel were hospitalized for mental problems, compared to 11,156 for injuries and battle wounds. "War is difficult. It takes a toll," commented the Army's surgeon general, Lt. Gen. Eric Schoomaker.

No doubt, the same can be said for any war. But when soldiers are sent to kill and die in a war based upon lies, a war whose human costs are covered up by the government and a servile media and a war that is waged to suppress popular resistance to foreign oc-

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