

30/01/08

The Railways Systems of Zambia has disclosed that it is losing huge amounts of money due to the high levels of vandalism.

RSZ General Manager Babe Botana told Hot FM News this afternoon that the high levels of vandalism have continued to pose a major challenge to the railway firm.

Mr. Botana said RSZ is losing millions of Kwacha per trip due to vandalism to its facilities.

The RSZ General Manager said it is sad that even the newly refurbished coaches have suffered at the hands of vandals.

He said the trend of throwing stones at moving wagons is common particularly in places such as Garden compound in Lusaka.

Cue... Mr. Botana

Meanwhile, the Railway System of Zambia has embarked on a programme to rehabilitate both its passenger coaches and station facilities.

A budget of one billion kwacha has since been set aside for the rehabilitation programme.

RSZ Shareholders Representative Zion Elani disclosed that the railway company has already spent 650 million Kwacha in rehabilitation works.

Mr. Elani said the company has from December 2003 embarked on a 50 billion kwacha project of improving its operations.

He said the vigorous rehabilitation program was done according to the Concession Agreement.

Mr. Elani also disclosed that RSZ has to date rehabilitated over 1420 wagons.