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'RSZ to maintain headquarters in Kabwe'

By CHAMBONG'UNI CENTRAL Province Minister Ackimson Banda says the Railway Systems of Zambia (RSZ) has assured him that it will maintain its headquarters in Kabwe when it shifts some departments to Lusaka.

And RSZ chief executive officer Benjamin Even said yesterday that his company intends to relocate some departments to Lusaka for administrative coordination.

Mr Banda said in an inter-

view that he was recently assured by Mr Eyan that RSZ will not relocate the headquarters.

He said RSZ is aware that when Government decided that the headquarters of Zambia Railways Limited be situated in Kabwe, it was a deliberate decision aimed at promoting economic development in the district.

"Their intention is not to move the headquarters to Lusaka. We advised

the company that it will not be good if it moves the entire headquarters. Kabwe, historically, has been the headquarters of the railways," Mr Banda said.

He also said RSZ assured him that no employee will be declared redundant as a result of the relocation.

Mr Banda appealed to workers to remain patient so that their management can address all areas of concern.

And Mr Even said the

relocation of some departments is a cost saving measure to ensure that clients have easy access to the company.

Mr Even said only about 20 percent of RSZ staff based in Kabwe will move to Lusaka.

"It is a gradual process and I am not sure when it will take place... it is something currently on the table but not yet concluded," Mr Even said.

He assured the Railway

Workers Union of Zambia (RWUZ) that they will be involved in relocating some departments.

And RWUZ president Kelly Kazika said he is happy with the company's transparency on relocation of some departments.

Mr Kazika said all employees were briefed and management assured them that their jobs will not be affected.