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Zambian newspaper staff strike over pay

LUSAKA: About 270 journalists and other workers at the state-run *Times of Zambia* went on strike on Monday, 16 July 2012, to demand their unpaid salaries from last month, a union official said.

"The situation is that unionised employees have decided to go on strike in view of delayed salaries for June," Zambia Union of Journalists president Anthony Mulowa said.

"The employees are worried that this is almost July month-end and no single employee has accessed a salary for June," he added. Mulowa said the employees would only resume work once all unionised staff were paid.

Two weeks ago, the information ministry announced that the *Times of Zambia* was almost bankrupt and urged the newspaper's board to come up with a turnaround strategy.

But two new board members have recently bought new company cars for their personal use, a perk of the job, angering staff still waiting for paychecks.

Source: AFP

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