

WATER CRISIS: BWB boss suspended

BY HENRY MCHAZIME

WATER scarcity that has hit Blantyre for the past week have not spared the suppliers themselves with Blantyre Water Board (BWB) directors suspending Chief Executive Owen Kankhulungo with immediate effect to pave the way for investigation.

Water problems are not new in Blantyre but the past seven days have been the worst to most residents, especially those staying in houses with water closet toilets.

Most taps in Blantyre have been dry and as of yesterday people were seen with buckets scampering for any water sources, irrespective of its health safety.

As if to demonstrate the extent of the problem, BWB head office was the scene of chaos, with residents from all corners of the city converging there for water.

People were travelling for more than 10 km in search of water while those with vehicles were seen with empty buckets moving around the city in search of water.

But speaking about Kankhulungo's suspension, BWB chairman Tarsizius Nampota said in a statement that the BWB boss was suspended to pave way for investigations on water crisis in the city.

"The board sincerely apologises

Turn to page 3 **BAD SITUATION**—Residents scrambling for water yesterday and inset is Kankhulungo.



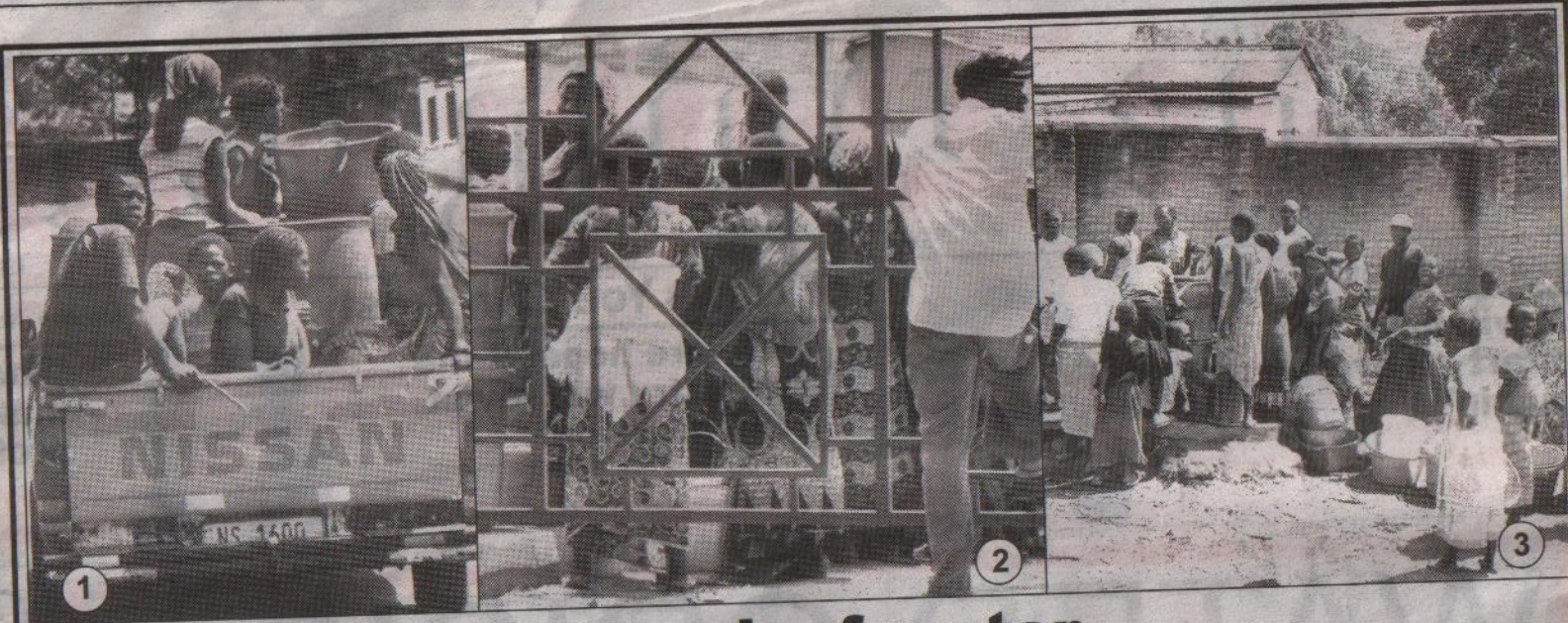
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In search of water...

BLANTYRE residents, used to irregular water supplies have, in the past four days, battled an unprecedented dry spell that left the city completely dry. Only a few locations have running water, resulting in people scrambling for water wherever the precious liquid was found. Picture 1 shows a family driving around in search of water, in picture 2, residents queue outside the gates of College of Medicine and in 3, Bangwe residents fetch water from a borehole. —Pictures by Lazarus Nedi.

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