

Madhvani

Group Magazine

Volume 22 No 1 | February 2014

Kakira Sugar bags three Corporate Social Responsibility Awards

Aberdare Country Club is Africa's leading green hotel

Madhvani Steel resumes operations

KAKIRA SUGAR

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Editor's Note

Dear Readers

Welcome to this special edition of the Group Magazine. Special in a sense that it kick starts 2014! What a great year 2013 was for the Madhvani Group! For starters staff, partners and consumers of Kakira Sugar Limited agree that there is no better way to end a year than with more sugar and more power, we bring you the latest updates on the land mark expansion of the sugar and co-generation plants.

Kakira Sugar's days could get even brighter if the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) heeds to the directive of legislators on the trade and tourism committee, read on and find out what the sugar manufacturers need.

Marasa Africa could not have had a better year and besides highlights from each of their Lodges, we bring you the much needed boost Marasa gave to Miss Tourism, the Award Aberdare Country Club won as Africa's leading green hotel and its participation in a study that revealed a need to review the conservation status of the Rothschild's giraffe. Our one and only Cornelius Schalkwyk brings you a minute by minute account of how the Marasa Lodges delivered beyond expectation on the Eclipse Safari.

We also bring you up to speed on the latest developments of Steel Corporation of East Africa Limited following the resumption of operations, the Madhvani Tea that is set to expand its plant, the newly refurbished tranquil Jinja Sailing Club, Makepasi Match Limited helping youth with hearing impairments and what the team that man our security (the Industrial Security Services) have been up to.

But this edition would not be complete if we did not show you some roses from Kajjansi Roses and if we did not go sporty. In the sports arena, the Kakira Open was on with a pledge from Joint Managing Director Mayur Madhvani to continue funding the tournament.

I did not do this alone, sincere gratitude therefore to all contributors.

Enjoy

Harriet Namukasa

Group Magazine Editor



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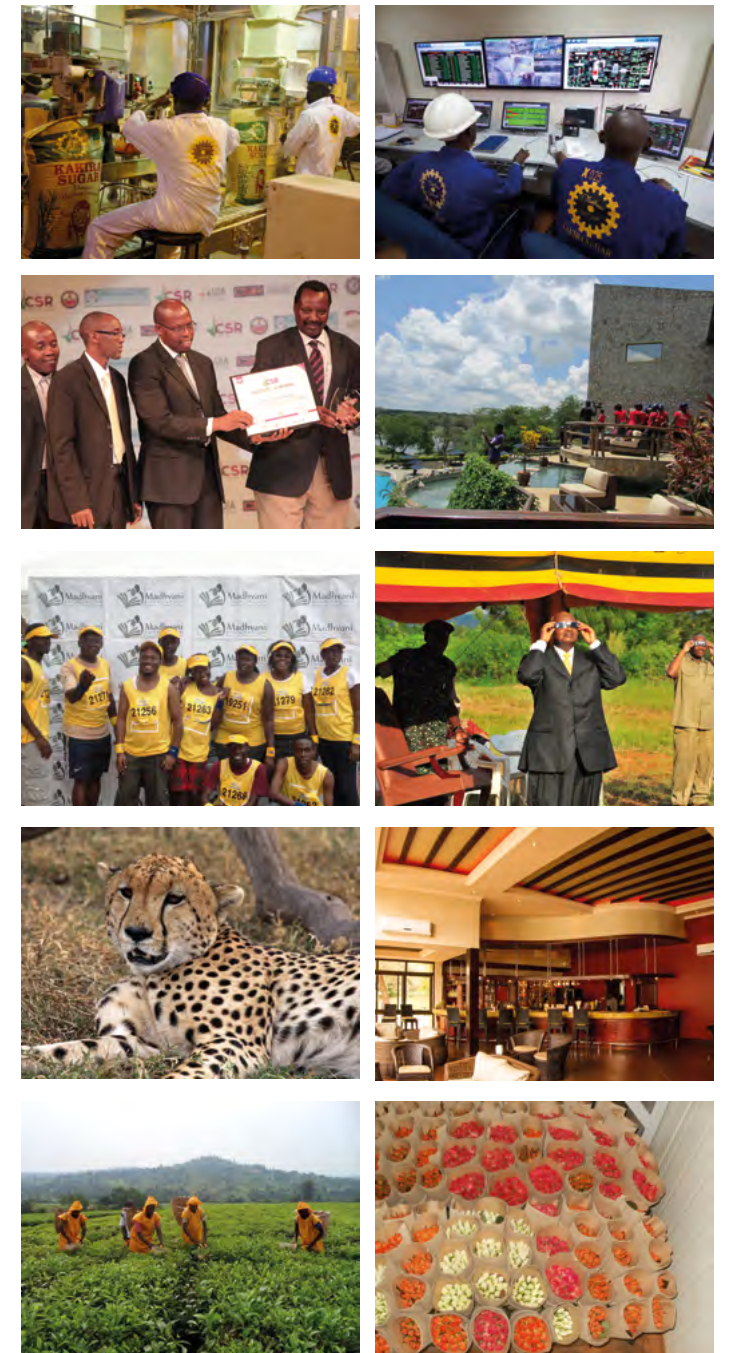
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Sugar policy: MPs want sugar licencing regulated

Lawmakers on the tourism and trade committee have asked the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) to immediately halt the process of issuing new licences to sugar companies until a law has been put in place to regulate the industry.

They made the appeal on 19th November 2013 while meeting officials from UIA following a recent petition by the Uganda Sugar Manufacturers' Association calling for enactment of a law to regulate the sugar industry. The General Manager of Kakira Sugar Limited Mr. Christian Vincke and the Director of Madhvani Group who is also the association Chairman Mr. Jim Kabeho attended the meeting.

During the presentation of the petition, Mr. Jim Kabeho had warned that without the law in place, investor's confidence would wane owing to growing uncertainty in the investment climate, generated by clamor for a share in the sugar business with no regard for existing investments.

He further added that "a regulated environment will enable the industry to attract and retain only viable long term investments that will contribute to Uganda's economic development." The national sugar policy was formulated in 2010 to address the regulatory gaps that exist but it is yet to be enacted into an act.

Some key issues specified in the policy
Ensuring that Uganda Investment Authority (UIA) issues licences to new sugar factories based on cane zoning areas which is within a radius of 25km though players in the industry want to move it to at least 40 km.

Empowering farmers to negotiate fair prices and protect the industry currently flooded with sugar smuggled from foreign countries which is sold at cheaper prices.

Sector stake holders will task government to institute a national sugar board to help address misunderstandings in the industry.

With a law in place it is hoped there will be harmony in the sugar industry, promote sustainable industrial growth thus making the sector more competitive.

The association is thus operating under the 1938 Sugar Control Act which does not reflect the current developments in the sugar industry.



Kakira landmark expansion complete: more power for households

In a bid to increase sugar and power production and meet the ever increasing demand for both, Kakira Sugar Limited has successfully expanded its factory and the co-generation plant.

The expansion has propelled sugar production from 1.66 million tonnes to a whopping 2 million tonnes of cane crushed per crop season. This cane is crushed at a rate of 7,000 tonnes per day which translates into 292 tonnes of cane per hour. The increase in the crushing rate directly influences the quantity of sugar bagged that currently stands at 186,000 tonnes of sugar per crop season.

The Works Manager Chris Strathern says there is still a lot of pressure in the factory to meet the target of 1.8 million tonnes of cane crushed this year. So far 1.2 million tonnes have been crushed and another 560,000 tonnes will be crushed up to April 2014.

The co-generation capacity has also risen and the Minister for Energy and Minerals, Hon. Irene Muloni on her recent visit to Kakira Sugar Limited, witnessed a landmark co-generation of 46MW of which 34MW were exported to the national grid. And this could go even higher an indication that over 320,000 ordinary Ugandans can expect to have more power in their households.

And the factory continues to set new records for sugar production and power co-generation with the latest being in the month of January 2014 when 6500 tonnes of cane were crushed per day translating into 300 tonnes of cane crushed per hour (TCH) and 26.3 MW of electrical power on average was exported per day.



What has been accomplished so far?

A 160 tonne per hour boiler and a 30MW electrical generating set have been completed together with new bagasse carriers. A new cooling tower to cool the water from the condenser of the power turbines; a larger reverse osmosis plant to supply boiler feed water and a new export line to supply power to Umeme have also been installed.

The cane yard, front end and process house have been expanded. The cane yard unloading capacity has been increased to handle additional cane. Two new feeder tables with Hilo unloaders have been installed one each on Pomini and F&S mills.

The Pomini mill has successfully been upgraded with new knives and a fibrisor with a 2MW electrical drive.

A new evaporator set, vacuum pumps and condensers have replaced the old inefficient ones.

Works to be done:

Installation of 3 Double Effect Vapour Cells, one B Continuous Vacuum Pan, Juice Heaters and one vacuum filter.

The staff have already undergone training and are operating the equipment installed.

Kakira Sugar bags three Corporate Social Responsibility Awards



Kakira Sugar Limited (KSL) was on a winning spree and left no stone unturned, winning every award that crossed its path! The latest win is the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) 2013 Awards where KSL scooped several awards including, the 'Overall 2013 CSR Award', 'Best Environment Program Award' and its brainchild Kakira Outgrowers Rural Development Fund (KORD) that is definitely following in the footsteps of its parent won the 'Best NGO/Business Partnership Award'.

The Awards were organised by a partnership of Uganda Manufacturers Association (UMA), Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, Federation of Uganda Employers (FUE), Uganda Investment Authority (UIA), CSR Consultative Group (CCG), Uganda National NGO Forum (UNNGOF) and Uganda Small Scale Industries Association (USSIA) in association with Talent Africa.

Kakira Sugar won because of its historical alignment between social development and strategic planning. It also implements an all-round CSR plan through sustainable projects in many areas, especially in the aspects of health, education and physical infrastructure, all of which are the best in the region.

Kakira Sugar's use of renewable energy during the process of making sugar also played in its favour after the installation of the 160 tonnes/hour boiler that is one of the largest bagasse fed boilers in Africa. The initiative for power co-generation using bagasse that produces over 50MW, the environment management plan that exceeds legal requirements and regular environment reports gave KSL an absolute advantage over other contenders.

KORD on the other hand won because of its uniqueness, the jury felt that the impact of its CSR activities will continue for as long as there is sugar cane being supplied to KSL by out growers because their financing comes from sales. For every tonne of cane supplied to KSL by out growers, KORD gets UGX 250 and for every tonne supplied by KSL, KORD gets UGX 125. Mr. Jim Kabeho, Mr. Kenneth Barungi, Mr Mike Kintu and Mr.

Julius Kisere received the awards on behalf of KSL and KORD. In his speech, Mr. Barungi dedicated the awards to the founder Mr. Muljibhai Madhvani for his inspiring legacy, "Your wealth is your people"; to out grower farmers and employees for their loyalty and to management for commitment to CSR. He implored government to enact laws favourable for the private sector and also appealed to businesses to borrow a leaf from KSL and Madhvani Group and integrate socially responsible activities in their strategic planning.

But the CSR Awards were not an all KSL affair and there were other serious contenders. And among the other winners were Standard Chartered Bank for 'Community Involvement and Development (Health Sector) Award, Airtel Uganda Limited won the 'Community Involvement and Development (Skills Development and Education)' Award while Century Bottling Company Limited won the 'Best Labour Practices' and Nile Breweries Limited took 'Best Sustainability Reporting'



MARASA Africa

Marasa Africa, where the unforgettable happens



Marasa Africa partners with Giraffe Conservation Foundation for Rothschild's Giraffe study

Rothschild's Giraffe remains one of the most endangered (sub) species with less than 1,050 individuals remaining in the wild and only less than 800 in their native range in Murchison Falls and Kidepo National Parks. This was revealed in a study titled "Conserving Africa's last natural and viable population of Rothschild's Giraffe – Uganda's Murchison Falls National Park" conducted by Dr. Julian Fennessy, a Conservation Scientist of Giraffe Conservation Foundation (GCF), Co- Chair, IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC), Giraffe and Okapi Specialist Group with recommendations to review their conservation status lest they become extinct among other things.

Marasa Africa that is committed to securing a future for all giraffe populations in the wild and other species supported the study together with UWA, UWEC, Naples Zoo, Blank Park Zoo, Giraffe Conservation Foundation and Tier Park Berlin.

The study was necessitated by the apparent lack of any previous scientific assessment and conservation research on the Rothschild's Giraffe in Uganda's Murchison Falls National Park and it is hoped that the ongoing project will provide the first comprehensive scientific review of Rothschild's giraffe ecology and behaviour with a view to developing a sustainable conservation policy for the future of the Rothschild's giraffe considering the increasing pressures from not only illegal hunting but also oil exploration.

And among its preliminary findings was the presence of some form of skin disorder among adult giraffes. In GCF analysed photographs of 198 different giraffes taken during the field trip, 41% (82) were found to have some degree of skin disorder, 37 of these were female while 45 were male. Besides ongoing monitoring as a temporary measure, options are being assessed to assist in curbing this skin disorder.

Additionally, over 23 Skin biopsies samples for genetic (DNA) analysis were randomly collected from the remnant giraffe population in Murchison Falls National Park using a DanInject remote biopsy dart delivery system, these are currently stored at UWEC awaiting permission to be flown to Germany for further study.

And in an attempt to raise Rothschild's giraffe numbers, discussions were held and Stephanie Fennessy of GCF who was also part of the project team in Uganda was nominated to coordinate the Red List update and ascertain the best way forward for reviewing the current endangered Red List assessment of the Rothschild's giraffes.

Marasa Africa provided invaluable accommodation and logistical support to the researchers at both Paraa and Chobe Safari Lodges that are located in Murchison Falls National Park.

The international world Giraffe day for 2014 has also been launched to celebrate the conservation and awareness of all the nine subspecies of giraffes.

It is hoped this will secure the safety of giraffes in the wild while increasing support through education and awareness for giraffe conservation.





Two Ugandan entries compete for top prize in Africa Travel and Tourism Association inaugural photo competition.



Marasa Africa and Premier Safaris, all from the Madhvani Group, are competing against each other for the top prize in the Inaugural Africa Travel and Tourism Association photo competition.

Two pictures from Uganda are among the 11 selected to compete for the top prize in the Africa Travel and Tourism Association inaugural photo completion.

One features a boat in the delta of River Nile near Lake Albert and submitted by Marasa Africa while the other shows a prized gorilla and was submitted by Premier Safaris.

And while launching the competition, Africa Travel and Tourism Association said 'We are, as always, aiming to fulfil our mission statement with this competition by creating a positive image of Africa and creating a greater awareness of Africa as a travel destination by hosting this competition on a social networking site. We hope to increase dialogue between the experts and the general public'.

The winner will be able to reach the global ATTA audience through a specially arranged 'Webinar', allowing the

showcasing of their destination and products, potentially giving added priceless exposure.

The London based Africa Travel and Tourism Association – membership is considered quintessential for Africa's leading hospitality and safari businesses.

Adapted from Wolfgang H. Thome's article.



Marasa gives Miss Tourism pageant a much needed boost



In its usual flamboyant style, Marasa Africa did not disappoint when they came on board to sponsor the Miss Tourism Uganda 2013/2014 competition. Marasa hyped the competition giving it a much needed boost by taking the contestants to tour Uganda's top tourist destinations. They visited Murchison Falls National Park among others.

And as part of its celebrations to mark the World Tourism Day on 27th September 2013, Marasa went ahead and hosted the contestants at Paraa Safari Lodge for the first leg of their tour before moving to Chobe Safari Lodge for day two of their tour.

At the Miss Tourism pageant final gala, Marasa Africa was recognised as one of the sponsors and Paraa, Chobe and Mweya Safari Lodges were cited as the best places all Ugandans should endeavour to visit.

The winner of Miss Tourism was Barbara Nakitto and she did Uganda proud at the recently concluded Miss Tourism International Pageant held at Putrajaya Marriott Hotel in Malaysia by walking home with the "Miss Friendship" award. She was vying with 60 other beauty queens from around the world.

The award is well deserved owing to her warm nature and friendliness as exhibited during the Miss Tourism Uganda pageant last year



Madhvani Group staff members donate blood



As part of its Corporate Social Responsibility the Madhvani Group Kampala staff took part in a blood donation drive organised by the Uganda Red Cross on 18th October 2013 that saw the Uganda Red Cross raise 25 units of blood.

Members of staff were also sensitised on the importance of healthy life styles through responsible living.

Honesty pays as ISS security staff is rewarded for foiling theft



It is often said that honesty pays and when Adam Ratib carried out his duties judiciously, little did he know that the act would eventually pay off. Well, it did pay off when management learnt of his good deed and Roni Madhvani rewarded him with cash and a bicycle.

On Friday 6th September, 2013 Adam Ratib an ISS guard was on duty in the Business Park Industrial Area on Plot 96-98, 5th Street, Kampala, manning the main gate to the property that has a good number of warehouses and where road repairs were going on.

As guards their duty is to randomly check the vehicles that leave the premises especially if they are suspicious of things being carried out and at the same time to direct those driving within the premises.

That afternoon, Adam randomly stopped and checked a pickup that was sneaking out excavated cables that were supposed to have been taken to Excel Construction stores, he noticed there was no document allowing the vehicle to take out the cables and immediately stopped them, closed the gate, and called for his supervisors.

In the process of calling the supervisors, the foreman of the contractor pleaded to bribe him with Shs100,000 so that he could allow the vehicle out, and not involve others. Adam said no to the bribe and instead called the supervisor who both reported the foreman and the vehicle owners to the Administration Manager.

Adam's action of rejecting a bribe was considered outstanding and Roni Madhvani rewarded him with a bicycle and cash reward in appreciation for his service to the Group with honesty.

Madhvani Group spearheads Heritage preservation



The Madhvani Group is a family business rich in heritage and sponsored the 2013 Annual Heritage Awards prize at a ceremony held at Golf View Hotel Entebbe on 3rd October 2013 to recognise individuals and institutions that preserve national heritage. The Madhvani Group offered for all prizes an amount totalling to US\$ 5,000,000.

The ceremony was organised by the Cross Cultural Foundation of Uganda and the winners were selected in categories of "Built" and "Intellectual" heritage. The Award for the former went to Mr. Ham Mukasa's house built in 1902 and the latter to Mr. Festo Karwera for preserving African languages.

The Muljibhai Madhvani & Co. Office in Jinja (Vithaldas Haridas & Co, Madhvani Building) was recognised by International National Trusts Community as a Built heritage property.

The Chief Guest at the ceremony was the Buganda Kingdom Minister of Tourism, Hon. Rita Namyalo who represented the Nabagereka of Buganda.



Staff get-together and farewell party

On Friday 20th December 2013, staff attached to the Corporate Office in Kampala had their annual end of year get together which brings together all companies departments to sit together and learn more about each other's work through a cocktail party.

There was, however, something special about this get together, it served as a farewell party for Joy Mutabazi who was retiring after serving the Group

for over 15 years in the projects office as secretary to Farhan Nakhoda- Director (Projects)

"There is nothing much that can be said to someone loyal for any services rendered for this period of time. You have been an inspiration to many and so you have given us the challenge to serve the Group with honesty" were some of the remarks from the Admin Manager.

Joy Mutabazi was given a trophy to commemorate her time with the Group and a few other gifts presented by Roni Madhvani.

Roni Madhvani delivered a speech in which he said, "you have been an inspiration to others and thank you for passing the test of time. This remains your family and you are welcome back any time you need help. We wish you all the best as you retire"



Thanking the Group for sponsoring his treatment

He could have been like a candle in the wind if he had not received timely specialised treatment.

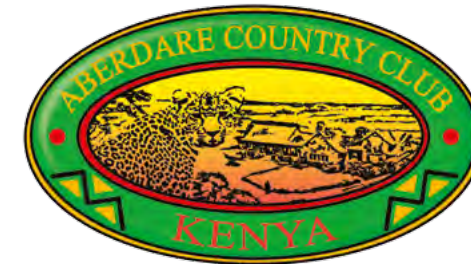
Mr. Bob Francis Musisi, 68 received a new lease on life after the Madhvani Group sponsored his colon cancer treatment in Apollo Hospital in New Delhi, India. He says the type of treatment he received in India was the best there was in the world and as he recuperated, he was a recipient of tremendous support and sympathy from all Directors.

A Senior Executive (Airport Operations) since 1999 and responsible for coordinating all imports of over 25 companies of the Madhvani Group, coordinating domestic and international flights of Premier Safaris among other duties, he has a long history with the Madhvani family whom he met in 1969 and now considers himself a member of the family. And as he reminisces, nostalgic memories of the courtesies he extended to the family way back come back to mind.

Now completely cancer free and revitalised, Mr. Musisi says the word thank you is too small to express his gratitude.



Aberdare Country Club is Africa's leading green hotel



The World Travel Awards for Africa 2013 held at Safari Park Hotel in Nairobi on 16th October proved to be a night to remember for Aberdare Country Club.

The Club, that has undergone a revival since Marasa Africa took it over and refurbished it earned itself as a result of that transformation the prize of Africa's leading green hotel. The award was presented to the Kenya team by the President WTA Graham Cooke.

A Haven in the Hills...The Aberdare Country Club is only a two and a half hour drive Northeast from Nairobi. It is nestled on a slope of Mweiga Hill in the Aberdare Highlands that are part of the Great Rift Valley.

This captivating site was the homestead of an English couple that decided to settle in Kenya. Almost half a century later, their home and previously called "The Steep", was renamed the Aberdare Country Club and opened up for guests. Considered a heritage property in Kenya, the Aberdare Country Club has retained the charm of a private home with the simple comforts of a country inn

Aberdare Country Club wins 2014 Trip Advisor Award



The Aberdare Country Club was one of the few properties in East Africa to be awarded a Trip Advisor award for Top Hotels for Families based on the opinions and reviews submitted by guests to the influential online site. "We are extremely proud of

this achievement and the entire Team is committed to driving a process of continuous improvement in customer service excellence" said Richard Hodgson the General Manager on hearing the breaking news.



Muljibhai Madhvani Alumni



Association update: Entrepreneurship training, participating in the MTN marathon and election of new office bearers



Muljibhai Madhvani Foundation had a busy schedule all year round in 2013. To start with, they supported an entrepreneurship training organised by Muljibhai Madhvani Alumni Association (MMASS) that was held at Grand Imperial Hotel Kampala. The training that was attended by over 110 participants was intended to enhance skills, creativity and innovation among fresh graduates and alumni. Ms Beatrice Apoto represented MMF.

The Executive Director of Enterprise Uganda, Mr. Charles Ocici who was the key facilitator advised participants to be visionary and make smart goals.

And as if that was not tight enough, MMASS was part of the over 18,000 participants in the 9th edition of MTN Kampala Marathon on 24th November 2013. The proceeds from the marathon are to go towards the provision of water for the people of Karamoja region in Kotido District.



New Executive Committee members of MMASS were also voted into office and L-R is Asad Jagwe (Secretary), Eyalu Francis (Deputy Secretary), Fredrick Kawule, Aaron Ssemakula (Publicity Secretary), Emmanuel Ngolobe (Vice Chairperson) and Betty Achana (Chairperson).



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1. Vice President Hon. Edward Ssekandi (Centre) visiting the Madhvani Group stall at UMA trade show Lugogo.
2. JMDs Mayur Madhvani, Kamlesh Madhvani, Director Madhvani Group Mr. Jim Kabeho and the General Manager Kakira Sugar Mr. Christian Vincke handing over a US\$45m cheque for Kakira Open.
3. L-R Kakira Sugar Limited JMDs Kamlesh Madhvani, Mayur Madhvani, Works Manager Chris Strathern during Minister for Energy Hon. Irene Muloni's tour of the factory.
4. Land, Housing and Urban Development Minister Hon. Daudi Migereko with his daughter and son along with JMD Mayur Madhvani during his visit to KSL.
5. The Quilliam family donates stationery to Kakira Estate Primary School.
6. General Manager Kakira Sugar Mr. Christian Vincke and Group Sales and Marketing Manager Mr. Raju Sareen receive the 2013/2014 Superbrands award from Nishat Mawji of Superbrands Africa. Kakira Sugar was recognised for being Uganda's most respected brand.
7. Kakira Sugar's Agriculture Manager Dr. Reddy talks about Kakira Sugar's agricultural practices with Lt. Gen. Moses Ali at the Jinja trade show.
8. Mr. Christian Vincke, Mr. Farhan Nakhoda, Mr. Ravi Bhatnagar, Mr. Kenneth Barungi and Mr. John Mukasa host the GETFIT team
9. Jinja Mayor Hajj Muhammad Baswale Kezaala receives a donation from Kakira Sugar's JMDs Executive Assistant Mr. Krishna Swamy, Company Secretary Mr. S.K Iyengar, Corporate Financial Controller Mr. V.G. Modi, Chief Finance Officer Mr. Satish Kumar and Process Manager Mr. Wilfred Pacoto.

10. JMD Kamlesh Madhvani and his wife officially commission Kakira Secondary School dining hall.
11. Kenya's High Commissioner to Uganda H.E Maj. Gen. Geoffrey Ojanga and his family with JMD Kamlesh Madhvani and Nikesh Madhvani on a recent visit to Kakira Sugar.
12. Parliament Speaker Hon. Rebecca Kadaga with Mr. Jim Kabeho during the Kakira Open at Jinja Golf course.
13. The Kakira Sugar Limited team after the Kaguli Hill climbing competition. Kakira Sugar's Gilbert Ezadi was the best participant.
14. Kakira Sugar receives food sector Uganda National Bureau of Standards (UNBS) Award at the National Quality Gala in recognition of its efforts in maintaining the quality of sugar.
15. Kakira Estate Team with JMD Mayur Madhvani, Rickin Madhvani and management after they returned victorious with Gold medals from National competitions.
16. JMD Kamlesh Madhvani handing over a trophy and TV set to the female winner of the Kakira Open.
17. General Manager Aberdare Country Club, Richard Hodgson handing over a cheque to the Mahinga School for donations collected under the \$1 for the future scheme
18. Richard Hodgson and Turk Pipkin of the Nobility Project (www.nobility.org) sizing up the tomatoes grown in a local community project for purchase by the Aberdare Country Club
19. Team Civicon display trophy won at Kakira Nile Polo Tournament late last year.

With seven properties spread over Uganda and Kenya there are always exciting things happening at Marasa Africa's lodges. Here we share some of the highlights:



The Ark gets Land scope long-range observation binoculars



The new Land scope Long-Range Observation Binoculars will add a new dimension to your experience at The Ark. This will be particularly helpful to spot those rare elusive animals that use the perimeter of the forest to hide from view



Mara Leisure Camp welcomes Michiel Reinecke



Recent Sightings at Mara Leisure Camp

Michiel is a results-oriented hospitality professional with 19 years experience in different 4 to 5 star operations. He was most recently General Manager at a 4 star hotel & resort in Western Uganda. He worked in South Africa from 2003 after returning from America. He opened and managed several high end operations that included restaurants, casino hotel operations, convention centres, lodges and a 200 year historical hotel. He was promoted to several positions including Operations Manager, Group General Manager and lastly Operations Director before he decided to take up a position in East Africa

New Activities

Mara Leisure Camp also hosted a guide-ranger workshop in November and has started working with Meru cheetah program which assists with capturing cheetah sightings as well as data collection and monitoring Mara cheetahs





The Aberdare Country Club is now home to Sykes monkeys

These are rare white – throated Monkeys that will usually have a large white patch on the throat and upper chest. They live in groups numbering 20 - 40 usually with a single adult male.

The females protect their territory against other groups while the males stay with the group for a few weeks stretching at best up to 2 years.

Their diet includes fruits, flowers, nectar, leaves, shoots, insects, birds and small mammals. These monkeys are very interesting owing to their unique characteristics and key among them; they breed seasonally depending on the area and a single youngster is born after a gestation period of 5 months. At birth, the youngster is fully furred with its eyes open and male offspring detach from the group upon attaining sexual maturity.

Golf at The Aberdare Country Club

The beauty of playing golf on the course at the Aberdare Country Club is that one can play amongst the animal population within the Club's private grounds. Tee off with Zebra and Giraffe in the near distance!



The **Solio Game Reserve** which is add on destination for guests staying at both the Aberdare Country Club and The Ark offers sightings of Rhino, which are increasingly becoming threatened due to increased poaching across the continent



Sighted regularly and with increased protection against poaching from the Kenya Wildlife Services

Mweya Safari Lodge under new command



Hennie Carstens has been in the hospitality industry for 20+ years, working in restaurants, lodges, catering companies and hospitality management companies.

After leaving school he did his military service in South Africa, and then went on to study Hotel Management. After qualifying, he worked for a privately owned Hotel/Lodge in Mpumalanga called Casa do Sol, then moving to a group of Hotels called Karos Hotels. From then on his experience grew working for the Kegg Restaurant Franchise Group, as well as Southern Sun. Hennie is passionate about wine and started his own restaurant called The Pinotage Restaurant and Wine Cellar. He then joined Celsius Hospitality as Operations Manager; handling big banquets for clients such as Northwest Premier and President Jacob Zuma. Since then he has worked in Western and Eastern Africa. We welcome Hennie who will no doubt deliver great contributions for the future growth of Mweya Safari Lodge.

Mweya Safari Lodge will be partnering with UWA to introduce Night Game Drives



Our Safari Vehicles will use special night lights for viewing game and animal behaviour after dark

Murchison Falls National Park attracts hundreds for Solar Eclipse!



(Kim Allen - GM, Chobe Safari Lodge, greets the President on airstrip)



Not only was H.E President Museveni staying at Chobe Safari Lodge during the Eclipse, but the Lodge was completely full during this historic time.



The new luxury tents at Paraa Safari Lodge will have similar amenities that our tents at Chobe Safari Lodge and Mweya Safari Lodge have. We realise that some of you may prefer to stay in accommodation that is a little more exclusive and away from the main lodge building, giving you a more private and intimate nature experience. All our tents at Paraa have a fantastic view over the River Nile flowing below



Premier Safaris has also joined forces with Ugandan conservationist Dr. Gladys Kalema-Zikusoka to ensure not only an informative Gorilla tracking experience but also to provide a unique insight into gorillas, their health as well as other conservation aspects that impact on their survival. This unique new way of approaching gorilla safaris is only available through Premier Safaris.



The Marasa lodges were on everybody's lips as the preferred hosts for the Eclipse chasers, dignitaries and celebrities wanting to share this spectacle and lodges delivered beyond expectation



Yoga at Chobe Safari Lodge - The Perfect Getaway for Mind, Body and Soul

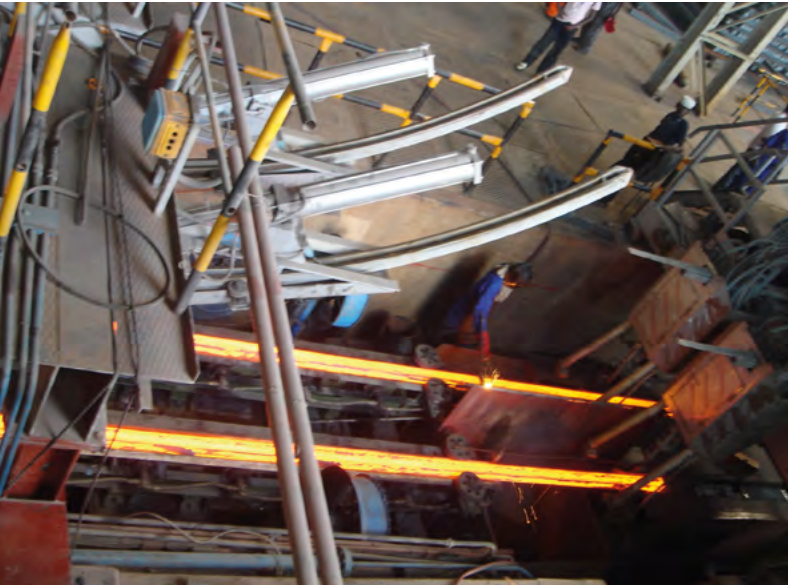
Leyla Ahmet recently started Yoga workshops at Chobe Safari Lodge. She is extremely experienced and has travelled the world hosting workshops as well as practicing Reiki massage healing together with her husband, Peter Meredith,



Premier Safaris launches Game fishing safaris on the River Nile

Premier Safaris, specialists in adventure/luxury safaris in East Africa, is launching Fishing Safaris in Uganda on the River Nile with professional fishing guides for short trips and specialist guides for longer trips. Anglers can fish from the banks of the Nile at Chobe Safari Lodge as well as from a boat at Paraa Safari Lodge, near Murchison Falls, where the river gushes through its narrowest point to form a foaming pool below called the Devil's Cauldron. The park has extraordinary game viewing and birding and the area is internationally famous for its plethora of Nile Perch. The largest game fish in Africa, weighing in at 250 pounds, was caught here

Madhvani Group's Steel Factory resumes operations with world-class products



The Group's Steel unit in Jinja resumed its operations on 1st October 2013 following the completion of the rehabilitation exercise that had been going on for some time.

The rehabilitation has turned around the production quality and quantity as well as the control measures in the factory. It has also seen immense improvements in equipment available for use in the establishment. Among these are:

- A new 15 MT induction furnace from a world class manufacturer
- A modern continuous casting machine from Italy has been commissioned
- Complete modernisation of the rolling mill with full PLC controls put in place
- A new TMT quenching system for making stronger TMT (Thermo Mechanically Treated) bars.
- A new Nail Making Machine to make Roofing Nails
- New modern water safety systems on the mill have been installed
- And a state-of -the-art spectrometer to check bar quality

Additionally, an ISO programme has been implemented as well as an online billet rolling system to improve productivity and efficiency.

According to the General Manager of Madhvani Steel, A. F Sebastian, this new equipment is the best in East Africa and the envy of the other players in the sector. "This will give you a product like no other."

How it all works

Scrap is melted in the new induction furnace after which molten steel at 1680°C is taken in ladles to the continuous casting machine which produces billets of 100mm x 100mm size. Hot billets are then cut into the required sizes and are then reheated in a furnace up to a temperature of 1100 to 1200°C. These heated billets are then sent to a three - high roughing mill which reduces the cross-section size to 27mm x 27mm. This material is then sent to an intermediate mill with 4 stands and

then to a continuous rolling mill with six stands through the TMT machine to make the final product. The final rolling mill is from Danieli of Italy and is totally computerised with a modern PLC system. It also has loop and tension control systems to enhance the product quality.

The Madhvani Steel mill produces various product profiles of construction steel such as rounds, squares, twisted, TMT, angles, flats, coils, etc. In addition, the unit has a wire-rod block mill that produces coils of rods of 6.5 to 8mm diameter.

The modern HMI (Human Machine Interface) system is all automatic and centrally controlled and may be the only one in East Africa.

Mr. Sebastian believes that with such high quality equipment, it is no wonder the unit will meet its sales target of 25,000 tonnes this year and he expects an output of 40,000 tonnes next year.

The company is thus cashing in on the increasing local and international demand for steel products and theirs are selling like hot cakes. Try their products for exceptional quality.

Makepasi Match Ltd now helping the deaf community in Jinja



Makepasi Match Ltd, located on Factory Street in the heart of the Industrial District of Jinja, has expanded significantly since the first matches left the production line in September 2007. The factory now employs over 700 people and a second factory has also been constructed – Makepasi II.

As part of its commitment to the community the factory currently employs around fifty people who are either deaf or have severe hearing impediments. The deaf community is marginalised and although they appear normal, it is sometimes difficult for them to be understood by others especially if one is not aware that they are deaf. Furthermore very few industrial employers are able or willing to employ the deaf due to this perceived lack of communication. Unlike other countries in Europe for example where people with disabilities are helped to find employment there is no such thinking at present in Uganda and the onus is on the employers if they want to employ people with hearing impairments.

In the wax match production process the filling of the individual matchboxes and also the wrapping of ten individual matchboxes into a small pack known as a "tenner" is done manually. The deaf and hearing impaired are employed in Makepasi principally for tenner packing. As part of the integration process the senior management and directors have made an effort to try and learn the basics of sign language but this has been complicated by the fact that there are different sign symbols in the UK and the USA – it is not universal. A large red light has been placed near the packing tables which a supervisor will activate in case of any danger.

The results of all this are very positive – after an initial learning period the tenners produced by the deaf employees are as good as or better quality than those packed by the other employees and Makepasi actively encourages more deaf people to join its packing sections.





Madhvani Tea set to expand after ISO certification

Madhvani Tea is set to expand its plant capacity and utilise all the available land in its two estates of Mwera and Nakigalala. This as the estate received the ISO9001:2008 certification early last year with UNBS certification under progress.

The factory has also had its production rise by leaps and bounds from 2.91 million kg in 2005-06 to 3.40 million kg of green leaf tea in 2012-13, the highest they have registered in the past seven years and this is expected to go even higher to 3.5 million kg of green leaf tea by the close of April 2014, and progressively in the subsequent years.

The entire estate has over 504 hectares of land at its disposal and is looking towards developing all the land keeping a pace of 40 hectares per year resulting in 200 hectares that will be planted in the next 5 years.

And in a bid to maximise output and quality, high yielding, drought and pest resistant clones purchased locally from Bushenyi tea and also imported from Kenya will replace low yielding ones, close plant spacing will be adopted and the factory is to acquire a modern low power consumption Drier with better parameters to fluidise tea and produce cleaner and blacker tea.

According to the General Manager Madhvani Tea Mr. Sushil, continuing to apply NPK fertilisers since 2010, has resulted in increased yields per hectare observed over a three year



period from 1750 to 1950 kg of made tea per hectare. He added that shear plucking had increased the productivity of a plucker from 55 kg to 70 kg on average. Construction of more staff houses is under way to accommodate more seasonal pluckers.



Uganda's beautiful moment: Solar eclipse safari, Marasa lodges deliver beyond expectation



MARASA Africa

Marasa Africa, where the unforgettable happens



Paraa and Chobe Safari lodges were on everybody's lips as the preferred hosts for Eclipse chasers, dignitaries and celebrities wanting to share this spectacle and the lodges delivered beyond expectation.

Is this the Moment? As the air cooled with the advancing eclipse, the large cloud shrivelled away and out came the Sun, bathing the landscape with the distinctive golden hues of a pre-totally eclipsed Sun. It was now obvious that we were going to have an unobstructed view of totality. The chase was over and it was worth it...the moment we have been waiting for has finally arrived.

We drove to Murchison Falls National Park in the days preceding the eclipse, where we would enjoy some wildlife game drives and a boat safari along the Victoria Nile. We stayed at the friendly historical Paraa Safari Lodge, located in

the north west of Uganda overlooking one of nature's best kept secrets, the River Nile, on its journey from its source at Lake Victoria to join Lake Albert. Paraa Safari Lodge offers a unique blend of comfort, relaxation and adventure with a safari décor of a bygone era of early explorers, enshrined with a modern touch.

The lodge slowly filled up as the day of the eclipse approached. Our guests were all here, by flight and by road. The Premier Safari contingent have all gathered to prepare for the big day. As we drove to the gate to exit the park we encountered an unexpected obstacle, dutifully reminding us of the previous evening's lightning and thunder display that led to the heavy rains. Large sections of the road leading out of the park were flooded and the once dirt road was now underwater and had turned into a river. The unexpected surprise on-route didn't keep the Premier convoy back for long. The river was no match for the purpose built Safari vehicles as they pushed through the 18 inches of water saving us a nasty two hour detour.

There was a festive atmosphere as our convoy entered the village, as thousands of visitors had arrived. Security was tight as the President was due to see the eclipse from Owini School in the centre of the village. We noticed a military gunship overhead that followed us from the park to our viewing spot. The Partial Eclipse began well with the bite from the Sun visible through our eclipse filters. More detail could be seen through a large school telescope set up by John for eclipse chasers and locals to view.

About half way through the Partial Eclipse a large cloud covered the Sun. The Sun did peek out as it moved across but then several clouds combined to block the Sun. Things looked grim. Our specialist guide and NASA's meteorology expert from Travel Quest Jay Anderson updated us on his predictions and the decision was made that we would out run the cloud to our backup spot to ensure clear visibility. This led to a very impressive chase that made us feel like tornado chasers, and a new breed of Eclipse chasers was introduced to Uganda as our four specialist green Safari vehicles sped away with guests to ensure we catch the 2nd contact with clear visibility.

Having reached our new "plan B" destination in the nick of time, guides and operational staff from Premier helped guests get themselves and their equipment setup to capture one of nature's rare events. Jay once again confirmed his status as a bit of an "Eclipse Guru" and we all now knew why Eclipse chasers wanted their photo taken with him and why they religiously used Anderson's eclipse weather reports for all their eclipses including this one. It was time and we were ready.

The light dimmed and we could see the Moon's shadow approaching from behind where the Sun was.

Totality came and thrilled us with a wonderfully bright corona and red flames dancing around the edge of the Sun. The locals gasped with awe. One man was dancing a jig with delight while some of our guests popped champagne to celebrate the moment. All too quickly, the Moon's shadow rushed past and a brilliant diamond ring appeared at the bottom of the Sun.

The eclipse was over. Totality had lasted a mere 22 seconds. But it had been darker than expected as the shadow was long in its direction of travel.

I had captured the event on my camera and even managed to get a good diamond ring and "a lot of Bailey's Beads" as was explained to me later by our specialists on the Eclipse Safari.

Jay collected money from the "eclipse chasers" and I was asked to hand it over to the village school that so kindly hosted us on our mad dash to the eclipse. We thanked them for their hospitality, and finally some of the locals commented that now they understood what all the madness was about and why we had come so far to see the eclipse.

Our tourism sector in Uganda has received a boost in the years gone by. Lonely Planet voted Uganda the best travel destination for 2012, this was followed a year later, when National Geographic Society rated Uganda among the top 20 global tourism destinations for the year 2013; in essence, putting Uganda up as one of the must-see places in the world. But nothing did more recently for Marasa Africa, than the Eclipse! The Marasa lodges were on everybody's lips as the preferred hosts for Eclipse chasers, dignitaries and celebrities wanting to share this spectacle and the lodges delivered beyond expectation. As Premier Safaris we were glad to be part of such a momentous occasion, after all our slogan is going beyond the extraordinary and this time we definitely did. This Safari was one of those once in a lifetime unmatched adventures, a journey to view the Solar eclipse and memories that will last a lifetime.

Credit - Bob Stephens, Randy Pack (Clarence), Olga and Cornelius Schalkwyk for the photo contributions.



Jinja Sailing Club, refurbished and opened to the public



It has often been said that those who live near water find tranquility, and that's exactly what is on offer at Jinja Sailing Club. Located in Jinja at the shores of Lake Victoria, the Club that has been undergoing renovations has opened its doors to the public.

The entire property underwent a major refurbishment at a substantial cost making it a prime attraction in Jinja for fine dining, conferences or a place for some rest and relaxation with incredible views.

The Sailing Club Manager Siva Shanker Davuluri advises that you visit and enjoy a boat ride to the source of the Nile from the Sailing Club.

The Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development Mary Karoro Okurut, the Sri Lanka First Lady Shiranthi Rajapaksa who was on a four day visit to Uganda, Resident District Commissioner of Jinja District Richard Gulume and H.E Ambassador Nimisha Madhvani are among the dignitaries to have already experienced the newly developed Jinja Sailing Club.





Kajjansi Roses gets hot

As the Madhvani Group continues to spread its operations and contribute to the national good, one of their latest additions has been Kajjansi Roses Ltd, the chillies in particular and in trying to describe these, beauty is an understatement.

Lying on over 8.75 hectares at Kajjansi along Entebbe Road, the budding roses spread far and wide, in red, yellow, white and pink apparel strongly contrasting with the green leaves, the eye is simply awed by the beauty.

The small bud roses have become their preserve because of the high temperatures experienced in this part of the country. The roses are mainly exported to Europe.

And to compound an already colourful surrounding, the chillies stand out red from afar covering over 2.5 hectares of the total area. These are the latest addition to the farm. Red Habanero and Thai Ravit have a ready market in the United Kingdom, Netherlands and Switzerland and are the two varieties produced here.

Currently employing 180 people and operating under the leadership of the long serving General Manager K.K Rai, Kajjansi Roses provides internship opportunities and takes Corporate Social Responsibility seriously.



Industrial Security Services: the way to go in security

Industrial Security Services (ISS) is set to pass out 140 of its newly recruited and trained officers at Kimaka training wing in Jinja. These will join a force of over 1000 security operatives that man all the Madhvani Group companies in addition to other companies that seek their professional services.

These have undergone comprehensive training in weapon handling, parade and drill as well as professional skills. Skills like guard duty, searching, client liaison and communication for radio will now come naturally to ISS officers.

And with many Ugandans losing confidence in private security organizations following many media reports highlighting incidents of theft, armed robberies and fraud at the hands of private security organizations, it is probably time to give ISS a try.

Perhaps you have tried all those other alternatives and you are not getting value for your money and you are cautious about your security as everyone should be, consider hiring ISS. They are not like any other and they are the best on the market. "They have a professional appearance and portray a good image." said the training manager of Industrial Security Services, Ramadan Egesa.



Bermuda Director Richard Pearman passes away.



Bermuda's longest established lawyer died at the age of 79. Richard Pearman also known as Dick, died at his home in Bermuda on 8th December 2013.

Mr. Pearman was a partner at law firm Conyers, Dill & Pearman (CD&P) for more than 40 years, a firm that his father Sir James Pearman helped to found. He had however retired in 2000.

He was a Director of the Madhvani Bermuda Trusts and his death was a blow to the Madhvani Group and his son, fellow Director in the Trusts and lawyer with the same firm Scott Pearman said "As someone who did not like to fly, he spent more time than he would have wished on aeroplanes, travelling extensively across the globe to promote the interests of CD&P and Bermuda." He added "Although he did not visit every country on the planet, he made it to a huge number of them, bringing with him considerable charm and a mischievous sense of humour."

Mr Pearman acted for Hollywood stars Charlie Chaplin and Elizabeth Taylor, whose huge diamond collection he helped to insure, and met two American presidents, including Ronald Reagan.

He also worked in Hong Kong in the 1980s, helping to set up the CD&P's first office in Asia and in the 1990s, spent time in London as the firm opened its office in the City of London.

Mr Pearman was also President of the Bermuda International Business Association, as well as a member of the Young Presidents Association International and the related organisation CEO.

Scott Pearman said: "His career paralleled a time of huge growth in the offshore world and the development of international business."

Mr Pearman was educated at Saltus Grammar School, before moving to the English public school Stowe.

He won a Rhodes scholarship and studied at Merton College, Oxford, before becoming a barrister in Bermuda, joining CD&P with his older brother James.

Mr Pearman was also a keen sportsman — a member of the Royal & Ancient Golf Club in St Andrews, Scotland, the spiritual home of golf, he obtained the Island's first Oxford Blue for golf while still in his first year at Oxford.

He is survived by wife Jeannie, son Scott Pearman and two stepchildren, Gigi Mortimer and Penn Newhard and by his first wife Louise Blake and their daughters Helen Orchard and Sally Clinton, as well as by 16 grandchildren.

Adapted from The Royal Gazette

Kitatta wins Kakira Open

Joint Managing Director (JMD) Mayur Madhvani has pledged to continue funding the annual Kakira Open Golf Championship. He disclosed this while attending the three day golf event that took place at Jinja Golf course from 8th to 10th November 2013 that saw winners receive various prizes from Kakira Sugar Limited.

Willy Kitatta from Entebbe golf club won the Kakira Open Golf Championship. He concluded the three day event with a 154 gross to defend his title at the 8th edition of the tournament. Kitatta who has won the Kakira Open for the third time in a row was not impressed with his performance. He expected a better win at the Jinja course.

National player Robert Oluba also from Entebbe Golf Club was runner up scoring 77 and 80 with a total gross score of 157 to win on count back.

Ronald Bukenya who led on day one registered a score of nine over par 80 to end with 157 gross on the final day. Men's group A was won by Abraham Ainamani with 135 while group B was won by Jerome Matwa with 139 and Silver Damulira won group C with 137.

Ladies golf saw Entebbe's Irene Nakalembe win group A with 157 gross while Prossy Zawedde won group B with 138 gross.

The tournament that attracted over 150 golfers from various clubs in the country is an annual event and is fully sponsored by Kakira Sugar Limited.



East African Packaging Solutions mourns Mr. Garud Swamy

**East African
Packaging**
S O L U T I O N S



A sombre mood and tense atmosphere surround the premises of the East African Packaging Solutions Limited as staff and Directors mourn the passing on of their General Manager Mr. Garud Swamy. Garud passed away on 10th November 2013 due to cardiac arrest on his way to Kakira Hospital.

The 68 year old Garud joined the Madhvani group at 33 years of age and worked with the group in different capacities for a period spanning over 35 years. At the time of his death, he was the General Manager of East African Packaging Solutions Ltd, a position he had held for 3 years. Garud was a pillar in the formation of East African Packaging Solutions Ltd and was instrumental in building it to its present glory.

The Finance Manager Sanjiv Malhotra who sits in the office next to the late Garud's was a friend and says he was not only hard working, but a passionate and dedicated man and misses him like one would miss a family member.

The East African Packaging Solutions team and friends will miss his wise counsel and guidance.

He is survived by a widow, daughter and son and his remains have been repatriated to Bangalore India. May his soul rest in Eternal Peace.



Pearl of Africa Rally: Excel's very own Satvinder Saini (Vik) excites

The Director of Excel Construction Ltd. Satvinder Saini (Vik) put up an excellent show at the 2013 most competitive and prestigious motorsport event, the Pearl of Africa Rally Championship.

Satvinder Saini who was driving a Subaru Impreza N12B that was prepared by Prodrive in UK was navigated by Joseph Kanya. The two day event started off with a 3 km sprint in Lubiri Kampala and saw the duo outside the top 10 on day one. However, an early morning start on day 2, the main event saw the crew pushing the car to its limits and they were lying 4th overall just after three stages - a big leap from the previous day's 18th position!

But the unpredictability that characterizes rallying saw mechanical problems setting in. To start with, the car's turbo failed, then the crew lost second gear and in a haste to catch up on time, they hit an uphill trench too hard bending the front right suspension arm.

In the end Vik, Joseph, their families' and support crew's determination helped them finish the event 7th overall despite all those problems. It was disappointing but a finish in a rally is better than no finish! The rally was eventually won by Jas Mangat and Gihaan De Silva of Uganda.

The crew of Vik and Joseph also participated in the recently concluded Independence Rally in which they were swapping leads with Jas and Gihaan for most of the event and with one stage to go, all they had to do was drive the last 16km stage and win the rally, but misfortune struck again and they went off road hitting a tree and losing more than 10 minutes trying to get out and eventually finishing 3rd overall. Again the rally was won by Jas Mangat who was also crowned the National Rally Champion for the year 2013.

Vik and Joseph's goal for 2014 is to compete in the Ugandan NRC season and the prestigious Safari Rally in Kenya and finish both with top honors.

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