

**BOMBSHELL
FROM PAGE 1**

At Walvis Bay, the new pump price for diesel will be N\$7,07 per litre. This is seven cents per litre more expensive than in January.

Announcing the adjustments on Friday, Mines and Energy Minister Erkki Nghimtina said international oil prices averaged US\$78 per barrel in November, about US\$2 per barrel more than the average in October.

"It is apparent that crude oil prices will remain volatile and necessary precaution and due diligence need to be exercised in reviewing fuel prices to avoid a negative impact to the economy and the purchasing power of the consumers during periods of heavy price shocks," Nghimtina said.

His bad news was preceded by the central bank's statement last Wednesday that the Bank of Namibia (BoN) repo rate will be left unchanged at seven per cent. This means that commercial banks will keep their prime interest rates at 11,25 per cent.

Announcing his decision, BoN Governor Tom Alweendo said that although the short-term outlook for the Namibian economy has improved somewhat, it might still take a while for the recovery to become sustainable. "As with the global economy, it will take a while for economic activity in Namibia to return to its pre-crisis level and for full confidence to be restored in the economy," Alweendo said.

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**ROBBERS
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Elias Shimweefeni, was held at gunpoint by three suspects, the Police reported. The robbers, who remained on the loose by yesterday, stole a cellphone valued at N\$500 and N\$600 in cash from Shimweefeni.

A fourth robbery took place between Visarend Street and Otjomuise Road in Khomasdal at about 21h00 on Saturday. In that incident, a 43-year-old man was attacked by four unknown suspects who, using stones as weapons against their victim, stole a Toyota Conquest, a gold wedding ring, a watch, a cellphone and N\$250 in cash from the man.

The car was later found in the Havana area of Katutura, but no arrests had been made yet by yesterday.

Also on Saturday evening a stabbing claimed the life of a 32-year-old man. The Police reported that the man whose name has not been announced was



Photo: Contributed

Misery at Rundu

The Rundu SPCA has been overwhelmed by an influx of mistreated and abused animals left behind by people going on holiday. In a recent case they were called to a house where a little dog (photo above) was locked in a small cage and left to starve. They had to break into the erf and break open the cage. They took the dog to a veterinarian but he was in such an advanced stage of malnutrition and dehydration that he had to be put down. There are currently a lot of stray dogs roaming the streets left to fend for themselves

while their owners are having a nice holiday. The SPCA calls on people going on holiday to contact them and leave their dogs in their care of the holidays. The SPCA is run by volunteers with help from Steel Construction & Maintenance Repairs Rundu, which donates food and help with the building and upkeep of the kennels. They are appealing to the public for donations so that they can look after more animals. Their account name is SPCA Rundu at FNB Rundu, number 621 109 491 30 and the branch number is 281 273.

Nippare tipped to be new Karas CRO

• LUQMAN CLOETE

THE former NamWater Regional Manager, Leopoldt Nippare, is the favourite to fill the vacant Chief Regional Officer (CRO) position in the Karas Regional Council.

The NamWater, the railway established that Nippare scored the highest points during an interview a week ago. The current acting CRO, Sarel Kabinika, who also applied for the position, scored the second highest. The council was



Maroon Hinda, one of the candidates.

Other candidates short-listed for the interview were Maroon

Hinda, Simon //Goroth and Hardap Regional Education Director Ben Boops.

Nippare has been running a butchery at Keermanshoop after quitting his NamWater job.

The position became vacant after the council decided not to renew former CRO Salmann Jacobs's five-year term when it expired.

The council cited absenteeism as the reason.

A pending corruption case in which Jacobs was accused of defrauding Council of N\$32 000 by claiming expenses for an all-expenses-paid trip towards the end of 2006 also counted against him. The case against Jacobs was temporarily withdrawn this year pending completion of a Police investigation.

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