



MAIN STORIES

Tshisekedi Has Secured His Power Base: Now It's Time to Deliver

Is Katumbi Preparing to Break His Alliance with President Tshisekedi?

DRC-China: Infrastructure Component of 'Contract of the Century' Pinned Down

DRC to Crackdown on Illegal Forestry, After Taking a Tough Stance on Mining

HIGHLIGHTS

- President Felix Tshisekedi's government has some hard-won political capital which it needs to utilise to affect change to improve the lives of its citizens.
- Moïse Katumbi's political party is reportedly considering breaking ranks with Tshisekedi's Union Sacrée.
- The "Sino-Congolese" programme reveals several shortcomings, especially the lack of infrastructure development.
- The government is to act on deforestation following financial pledges at the United Nations (UN) 26th Conference of Parties (COP26) on climate change.
- President Tshisekedi confirmed the appointment Denis Kadima as head of the National Independent Electoral Commission (CENI), despite protest action.
- A ban on songs deemed to be critical of the DRC government has highlighted the lack of freedom of expression in DRC.
- Prime Minister Sama Lukonde Kyenge proposed government spending of US\$9.94 billion in 2022, a 41.8% increase over the 2021 budget.
- Lawmakers probing illegal mining recommended fines and reparations to local communities to compensate for the losses.
- The DRC is ranked 1st out of 193 countries (1 being worst) with a score of 7.75 out of 10 (10 being worst) in the 2021 Global Organised Crime Index.
- The extension of the state of siege in eastern DRC failed to get unanimous support in the National Assembly, highlighting the growing opposition to its ineffectiveness in stemming militant violence.
- The DRC plans to prevent the export of its raw materials such as cobalt, in favour of local processing of such materials.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)



- As of 18 November 2021, the DRC had recorded 57 803 coronavirus cases, 5 774 active cases, 1 099 deaths and 50 930 recoveries, while 306 299 tests were done.
- Some 27 million people will soon face acute food insecurity conditions due to poor harvests, violence-driven displacement, disease and collapsing infrastructure.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) foresees improved economic growth of 5.4% for 2021, due largely to higher-than-expected mining production.
- The United Nations Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO) will remain in country for the foreseeable future due to the poor security environment.
- Following his state visit to Israel, President Tshisekedi wants closer cooperation on security, agriculture, infrastructure, and digital technology.
- While regional security discussions are ongoing, the UN plans to create an operational cell in Goma to investigate the non-military aspects such as economic development in the region.
- The DRC's bid to join the East African Community (EAC) has passed the technical committee stage with the regional Council of Ministers expected to deliver the final verdict before the end of November 2021.

