

Mzuzu Academy impresses Gilbo, Gondwe

by Taweni Kalua

Impressed. Is the word that came from World Bank country manager Timothy Gilbo and Finance Minister Goodal Gondwe after touring the construction of Mzuzu Academy in the City of Mzuzu on Saturday evening.

Gilbo and Gondwe, who were part of several dignitaries who attended a fundraising dinner dance aimed at sourcing money to finalise the construction, said the project, being a critical

component in economic growth, needs support from everyone.

"I hope that I will come back here next year and see it full of students. I am impressed because it is an initiative by people and not government. This is the spirit and commitment that we need. In Australia education has been turned into a major export and Malawi can do the same," said Gilbo.

On his part, Gondwe said the Mzuzu Academy project is impressive particularly with the pace at which construction of

classrooms and laboratories have gone.

"The facility has been put up in a record time of less than a year when in normal circumstances it takes five years to construct that kind of building in Malawi," said Gondwe.

He said this is the time to emphasise on quality education which has plunged from 1994.

He called upon all stakeholders to rally behind the project so that it produces students who can effectively compete on the global scene.

President of the Mzuzu Academy trust Annie Msowoya Keys said the school will also enrol students from neighbouring countries who will have to pay premium fees to sustain the project.

She appealed to the general public to assist with ideas and knowledge in addition to monetary pledges.

According to the project's architect Judith Luhanga, US\$1.5 million (about K210 million) is needed to complete construction of the whole structures.



Gilbo: I will be back