Press freedom violations in Mtwara

Probe Report

Presented by a special team appointed by the
Media Council of Tanzania (MCT)
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1.0 Mtwara – an overview

Mtwara is one of Tanzania’s 30 administrative regions. The regional capital is the municipality of Mtwara. According to the 2012 national census, the region had a population of 1,270,854, which was lower than the pre-census projection of 1,374,767.

For 2002-2012, the region’s 1.2 per cent average annual population growth rate was the 26th highest in the country. It was also the fourteenth most densely populated region with 76 people per square kilometre. The boundary with Mozambique to the south is formed by the Ruvuma River. To the west, Mtwara is bordered by the Ruvuma Region, to the north by Lindi Region, and to the east is the Indian Ocean.

Development of the Mtwara Region has been constrained by the lack of highway and energy infrastructures. The Dar es Salaam-Kibiti-Lindi-Mtwara road has been improved by the completion of the Mkapa Bridge over the Rufiji River. Mnazi Bay gas promises to provide reliable and adequate electricity for powering industrial and commercial activities in the region.

With the discovery of abundant gas deposits, the prospects for fast progress and development are high for the people of Mtwara. These findings will definitely expedite the pace of the region’s development as more industries are either planned or being constructed.

Africa’s richest man, Nigerian billionaire Alhaj Aliko Dangote is putting up a large cement factory. Other factories on the line-up include a fertilizer and gas processing plant. Despite the initial discoveries of gas, further explorations are being conducted in deep seas off the coast of Mtwara.

Prospects for other minerals in the region are also great. Thirty five different minerals have been identified and exploited on a small scale. Since 1995, sapphire christalbella, alexandrite, tourmaline and rhodolite have been mined in the Masasi district.

Present day Mtwara region came into being in 1971 as a result of the division of Mtwara and Lindi as a single region into two separate regions. Like the rest of Tanzania, it is predominately agricultural. About 92 percent of the population is engaged in agriculture, apart from other rural activities like fishing, beekeeping and small scale industries. Approximately 85 percent of the region’s total area is arable land but less than 20 percent of this is under cultivation.
1.1 Executive Summary

The May 22 and 23, 2013 riots in Mtwara, where crowds of disgruntled elements clashed with the police culminating to massive damage to property, is a stark reminder that all is not well in the region and that things should not be taken for granted.

It took the mighty power of the armed soldiers of the Tanzania People’s Defence Force (TPDF) to quell the rumpus.

Journalists were not spared in the attacks. One had his house set ablaze by angry mobs and two others had to flee their homes and seek refuge outside the district.

Following the chaotic fall-out and the danger of insecurity for journalists in Mtwara, the Media Council of Tanzania (MCT) picked a four member team in late August 2013 to investigate the matter. The team’s investigation in Mtwara started September 3 until September 7, 2013 and established that journalists were practicing under stealthy fear.

The issue of gas sparked the riots, as sections of population were opposing the construction of the pipe to transport it to Dar es Salaam from Mtwara. This suddenly made gas a taboo issue for discussion. Before the riots, gas was discussed in radio talk shows and also in public places.

Currently, both the media and public are completely subdued and avoid discussing the gas issue, reflecting a clear infringement of both freedom of expression and of press.

Radio hosts of live phone-in programmes totally avoid the subject as one announcer succinctly put it that if a caller starts to talk about gas, he would dissuade him or hang up on him.

In Mtwara, people as well as journalists are extremely guarded and journalists are wary even to responsibly write or speak openly on the now “sensitive” gas issue for fear of repercussion from police and other security forces. Even reporters, who in the early days of the unrest were allegedly picked by members of the armed forces and tortured, denied to have had any contact with the army in the first place. The Mtwara fall-out was also rare for journalists security wise, as they were also targeted by mobs.

1.2 Salient factors and compelling issues

Mtwara and its people have long history of being marginalised and enduring sufferings. Immediately after Tanzania then Tanganyika gained independence in 1961 Mtwara which is bordering Mozambique on the south became a regular target for Portuguese colonialists who who regarded their northern
neighbours - independent Tanganyika and later Tanzania as hostile to their domination of Mozambique. Tanganyika had been hosting the Liberation Committee of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) entrusted the task of liberating all countries which were under colonial yoke. Even the country’s liberation movement FRELIMO was based in Tanzania. Airstrikes were common place causing lots of sufferings - killings and maiming many people in the region. In fact they bore the brunt of the liberation struggle of that country until it gained independence in 1975.

Decisions such as the uprooting of a rail linking Mtwara town and Nachingwea reached after independence were not plausible and did not go down well with the people. As indicated in the statements by various groups - the network of non-governmental organization, opposition political parties and religious groups in Mtwara region reflected the gross disappointments and displeasure of the people of Mtwara to the extent of feeling like rejected in their own country.

A network of NGOs in the region cites a number of development projects and ventures that have not been developed. The list is long but it includes the Dar es Salaam - Mtwara road which has not been built in the country’s 50 years of independence!

Others include the prospects of building factories under the envisaged Mtwara Corridor which has not taken off and the closure of cashew nut factories in a number of areas. Cashew nut is the mainstay of the region’s economy but with the closure of the processing factories it is not processed and most of it is sold raw with the prices declining each season.

A plan to build a referral hospital fizzled and instead, the government renovated and improved the existing regional hospital.

So when gas was discovered in the region and surrounding areas, it ignited high hopes for better prospects for the people of the region.

### 1.3 Rationale for the probe

The riots erupted in Mtwara town on May 22nd and 23rd, and spread to other parts in the Mtwara Region whereby people took to the streets to protest the construction of the gas pipeline from the village of Msimbati in Mtwara Rural to Dar es Salaam. Journalists practising in the region were caught in the crossfire while covering the riots but there were also incidences in which they were particularly targeted.

Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation (TBC) correspondent Kasimu Mikongolo had his house reduced to ruble after angry mobs set it ablaze. It was also reported that two other journalists working for state owned newspaper Habari Leo, Hassan Simba and Rashid Mussa of the ruling party owned Uhuru
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newspaper, went into hiding in fear for their safety.

Reports alleged that journalists in the region were in danger of being attacked by both citizens and government security forces as it was difficult to identify them from the rest of the crowds. They were in danger of being attacked by the citizens because they could be confused for police officers and other government forces in plain clothes while government forces couldn’t differentiate them from the citizens. This made the work of journalists very difficult.

Under such conditions they felt that they would need some identification such as reflectors emblazoned with the word PRESS on their back for easy identification. MCT provided 30 such jackets in late June, 2013 during its annual professional symposium which preceded its National General Convention (NGC).

It was also alleged that some journalists from local Radio Stations were abducted and tortured by soldiers from the Tanzania Peoples Defence Forces (TPDF) which was called in to quell the situation after it went out of control.

MCT decided to send in a team of four from different organizations including the MCT itself, Tanzania Editors Forum (TEF), Media Institute of Southern Africa-Tanzania Chapter (MISA-Tan), and the Lindi Press Club (LPC) to investigate the matter and compile a report.

Members of the team were: Hamis Mzee – Team leader from MCT, Gasirigwa Sengiyumva – Secretary from MISA Tanzania, Ms Scholastica Mazula – from the Tanzania Editors Forum and Abdulaziz Ahmed – Chairperson of Lindi Press Club.

The team among other things was tasked:

1. To probe on general working conditions of the journalists in the region
2. To probe on working relationship between the government and the media
3. To probe on working relationship between the media and politicians
4. To establish whether there were indeed press violations as reported
5. To suggest possible solutions for the problems
6. To give recommendation on the way forward

Among the people that the team identified as respondents were journalists and media managers, the police, Mtwara regional and district officials, political parties, non-governmental organizations and the public at large.
1.4 Methodology

The methodology used was face to face interviews with identified respondents, literature review of the documents presented by different groups and observations of whatever was happening on the ground during the field survey.

1.5 Genesis of the problem

The fundamental root causes of the Mtwara riots are historical. Economic and political matters were central to its eruption.

Those who believed that the problems were economical argued that the region has been forgotten. For a long time, they had been promised many things by the government that has hardly met its promises. They thought they are ‘marginalized’.

There are two major things that those who thought the reasons are economical associated them with: Cashew nut and gas. Cashew nut is the major cash crop for Mtwara and its farmers complain of low prices and lack of markets.

The government has introduced the cash receipt programme (stakabadhi ghalani), which according to critics, was a good system, but was sabotaged by unscrupulous businessmen who buy cashew nut from farmers at cheaper prices and then sell them at exorbitant prices.

For example, the price of processed cashew nuts at local market price, stands at TZS 15,000 a kilo, while prices for raw cashew nuts stands between TZS 900 and 1200 kilo. The “racketeers” buy it from the farmers for less than that amount. The farmers feel short changed.

With gas, the people of Mtwara were impressed by the authorities that the region will see more progress and possibly turn into an ‘el dorado’. The impression was that Mtwara would be like Dubai. Since they have never benefited from cashew nut, they believed that salvation had come to their door steps through the discovery of gas.

With the exploitation of gas, Mtwara residents expected more industries would be built in the region and provide abundant employment opportunities. They were possibly disappointed on learning later that the gas would be piped to Dar es Salaam.

A report by a network of NGOs in the region annexed in this report refers to a statement given by a former Regional Commissioner for Mtwara Henry Shekifu who served in the region between 2006 and 2008, telling the people in the region that it was welcoming investors and had prepared attractive environment for investments. Initially, the region had earmarked an area sur-
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rounding the Mtwara Port covering 2,646 hectares as a special economic zone. The envisaged projects for the area included large, medium and small scale industries and warehouses for exports and imports.

All these the former RC said was dependent on availability of electricity which an investor (without elaborating) had already come forward adding that the implementation of investments of such scale and magnitude would generate employment opportunities and increase the circulation of money in region. This he said, would definitely check the exodus of youth from the region who seek fortunes elsewhere especially Dar es Salaam where they are dubbed as Machingas.

He was confident that untapped resources would be fully utilised generating revenue and taxes from different sources in the region. Those were the words uttered by the former RC and the networks of NGOs were asking what was the outcome of a development strategy for the region and why the statement by the RC had not been implemented and the plan for the region was not even mentioned again?

Those who spoke to the probe team in Mtwara town felt they were cheated on the development of the region. For example, one elderly man who complained: “It has taken these people (referring to the government) over two decades to construct a road from Dar to Mtwara, and it is now not even completed whereas now they say the gas pipe will be ready in only 18 months?”

From the look of it, it seems that people had a lot of expectations from the discovery of gas and that with the turn of events, they were now dampened.

Politicians, both from within the ruling party, CCM and the opposition saw this as an opportunity to gain support from the public. They used various strategies to garner public support from organising public rallies to taking part in radio talk shows and giving press interviews.

This culminated into serious riots that brought Mtwara region to a standstill in the fourth week of May. During the riots houses were burnt, shops looted, many were injured and there are speculations that some lost their lives but none could prove it.

The riots were too much for local police to handle. It was at this point when the government brought in the military to help quell the situation. As was expected of them, it didn’t take them long to bring back things to order. Reportedly, three large explosions on the night of May 24, 2013 - shook the whole of Mtwara town, forcing some people to scamper in fear. This calmed the situation, albeit for a while.

Long after the riots, the army makes drills once in a while with armoured personnel carriers through some streets in Mtwara ostensibly to affirm its presence and power.
“Politicians were the architects of the anti-gas export protests,” says Bryson Mshana, former Editor at SAFARI FM Radio Station. He says few political parties started the anti-gas campaign and later on almost all political parties joined. According to him, the government took several Members of Parliament for a study tour abroad thinking that information gained might trickle down to citizens, but it didn’t. Some of the interviewees were also of the view that cracks and divisions within the ranks of the ruling party - CCM itself also had compounded the matter.

1.6 Why chaos erupted and role of the media

“When the gas issue emerged last year, there were public forums all over the region, some speaking positively about it and others against. Generally, it was clear that awareness education on the matter was missing, both to the general public and the media,” says Peter Makorongo, Station Manager, Pride FM.

He says the media was fully involved in the coverage. “For example at Pride FM, we have a morning programme called Amka na Pride (Wake up with Pride). This covered the matter from January to March. Presenters would come up with topics and listeners would call in and share their views. In short, we gave the platform to the people and this wasn’t to the government’s liking”.

The police thought that the programmes were inciting violence and were a catalyst for disrupting public order. According to Makorongo, the police went to his station to inquire on all the recordings and wished to interrogate hosts of respective programmes. “We could not give them the recordings but allowed the presenters to be interrogated” he said.

Four of them were interrogated in March 2013 which was almost two months before the public went berserk in the May 22-23, 2013 violence.

The presenters were banned from travelling outside the region without informing the authorities. The ban has been lifted and no one was charged, implying that there was nothing wrong with the programmes, according to him.

“Politicians took centre stage in this whole mess,” says Sospeter Magumba, host, Amka na Pride and one of the presenters who were interrogated by the police. He says politicians would encourage citizens at public rallies to stand for their resources.

“We would report these rallies live and host discussions on the matter. I was summoned by the police. They wanted to know what I was reporting because they thought I incited violence through the talk show programme on the radio,” he said.

Although they were never charged with anything, the pressure changed the
way they worked. They said they are now worried, as one of the Pride FM presenters told the MCT fact finding team, that he dissuades callers from discussing any issue on gas.

Goza Msale Chuma, Programme Manager and Chief Editor at SAFARI FM says there was misconception among the general public to the extent that the station was taken as CCM mouthpiece. “People believed that we didn’t report objectively on the gas issues,” he says, an observation that is shared by Sospeter Magumba a presenter from their rival station, Pride FM. He says, “Citizens don’t know we have boundaries, they think we select what to air”.

Chuma says they interviewed the Minister responsible, Members of Parliament and even opposition leaders in order to balance their stories. However, their efforts were not taken seriously by detractors who harboured the intention to torch the station. In their views, they regarded the station to be supporting those who want the gas to be transported out of Mtwara, as opposed to the wish that gas should be confined to Mtwara.

According to him, they were so much worried that they couldn’t go to work in fear of reprisals. However the station was not closed as the workers courageously reported for work.

He believes that the media contributed to the problem. “Some of media houses focused on interviewing pro-‘gesi isitoke’ campaigners” but when callers in the radio talk shows spoke positively on gas that it should be piped out of Mtwara, they were either disconnected or discouraged to continue with their contribution.

Kasimu Mikongolo the Tanzania Broadcasting (TBC1) correspondent for Mtwara since 2006, bore the brunt of the riots having his house, car and tricycle ravaged by fire set by angry mobs on May 23, 2013. The mobs returned to his premises the next morning to finish off the rear part of the residence.

In fact, he says that he was lucky as the youths who came on the following day before blowing up the rear part of the building, asked him if he was living there and when he answered, ‘no’ they told him to get away before they torched the remaining part (they didn’t know it was him).

Mikongolo said, before setting the house on fire, they looted his property.

The Baragumu la Msimbati programme which is aired by TBC TV worsened the case for the state broadcaster as it was deemed to propagate the transporting of gas from Mtwara against the wishes of the ‘people’.

The mob’s wrath fell on Mikongolo for not covering their sentiments against transportation of gas which were aired during meetings organized by the coalition of opposition political parties. The parties had joined hands to oppose the government’s plan to have the gas transported by pipe from Mtwara
Presented by a special team, September, 2013

to Dar es Salaam. The parties – NCCR, Chadema, UDP, TLP, DP, ADC, PPT Maendeleo and Sauti ya Umma– with their slogan ‘gas first, party ideology later’ (gesi kwanza, vyama baadaye) had developed a rabid dislike of the state broadcaster – TBC which Mikongolo worked for.

The May 22 and 23 riots started to simmer on May 15 when leaflets were distributed urging people not to render any service, so as to paralyse the town. The leaflets urged dalalala and bodaboda operators not to work and shops and markets to close on May 17 when the Minister for Energy and Minerals, Prof Sospeter Muhongo was expected to deliver in Parliament his ministry’s budget estimates for the financial year 2013/14. However the minister did not deliver the speech on his ministry’s budget estimates on that day.

The police countered the message of the leaflets by telling the media in Mtwarara to assure the people to continue with their normal businesses as they had everything under control.

On May 20, 2013, other leaflets were distributed. This time as in the previous case, they were aimed at the days that the ministry’s budget estimates would be debated.

On May 21, 2013, the day the minister delivered his speech on the ministry’s estimates, TBC broadcasts were relatively not good in the southern regions of Lindi and Mtwarara which Mikongolo explained was due to some technical hitches originating from the broadcasters’ main systems. This did not augur well with the Mtwarara residents as they deemed it an attempt by the national broadcaster to deny them the chance to hear the energy minister’s speech.

Youths brandishing machetes and sticks went on rampage. The police dispersed the rioting crowds with full force. In retaliation the mobs descended on houses in the suburbs where policemen were residing and torched them.

In reaction to this, there are unconfirmed reports that police also torched some residential houses in the suburbs.

However, this raises question as to why the police should act so as it is not clear if they were targeting the homes of the people who had set their residences on fire in the first place.

As for Mikongolo, there is another argument that his house was not razed down because he was a journalist, but because of his wife, who works for the police. His spouse is alleged to have led the police in torching people’s houses during the chaos.

Mikongolo discounts this, point out that during those days his wife was guarding the police armoury. She did not participate in the riots but was mistaken for another police woman from Mikindani whose name is Fatuma, the same as his wife.
About 11 houses that belonged to the police officers who were living in civilian residential areas were destroyed including the one that belonged to Fatuma and her husband Mikongolo. Mikongolo and his wife have since both been transferred to Dar es Salaam.

During the period of the riots, a Channel 10 correspondent John Kasembe, was hit with a stone on the back of his head when he was mistaken for a plain clothes cop. He has seven stitches as a result of the attack. He was covering a witchcraft associated story that happened to coincide with the ongoing riots at the time.

According to Mikongolo, people were looking for any pretext to carry on the attacks even if it was not related to the gas issue.

Assad Mdimu, who hosts Joto la Wiki programme at Pride FM, was also interrogated by the police under allegations that his programme had incited violence.

In his opinion, the government failed in its handling of the gas issue and created a vacuum of leadership which politicians capitalized on and registered mileage. He claimed that journalists now work in fear because of the false assumption that they are either agents of the government or supporters of those who want the gas to be processed in Mtwara. They find themselves in a catch 22 situation.

Hassan Simba, Chairperson Mtwara Press Club (MTPC) concurs with that view as he pointed out that, “The anti gas transportation supporters had divided journalists into two groups; those they brand as pro–government, because they support the transportation of gas from Mtwara and those they perceive as their supporters who oppose it.”

Offices of some media outlets like Mwananchi newspaper were not embroiled in the saga as some ‘vigilantes’ volunteered to protect them at all costs because the newspaper was perceived to advance popular views. Even MTPC had their equipments sent there for safe custody.

While the media was caught in the middle in the gas fracas, some government officials applauded its role. “There was fair reporting despite some exaggerations and distortions,” says Wilman Ndile, Mtwara District Commissioner. He says he would have been in deep trouble curbing the chaos had it not been for the media.

He says he did a lot of interviews, to explain to the public during the riots and he thanks the media for giving him the platform.

Bakari Shamkupa, Deputy Regional Administrative Secretary despite indicating that things are now calm in Mtwara, disclosed that the situation is somehow still fluid. He told the team that regional authorities had postponed
an impending visit by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy and Minerals three times for fear their coming could ignite fresh riots.

Komba Baltazary, the Executive Secretary of a local NGO called FAWOPA (Faidika Wote Pamoja) exonerates the media for the gas riots. He says residents of Mtwara had issues and the government had answers but it wasn’t giving them. He believes journalists are worried not only in Mtwara but all over the country over the gas issue. He claimed that no one even in national media outlets with wide reach, writes critically about gas now.

2.0 Working Relations

2.1 Government and journalists

“We have no problem with the government at the regional level; we are very okay with each other,” says Hassan Simba of MTPC. He says they have never been threatened, instructed to report or not to report on any matter by the government.

“The industry is still in its infancy in the region, presenters are not professionals,” says Bakari Shamkupa – Deputy Regional Administrative Secretary.

According to him, there were incidences of airing unbalanced stories but they were “warned and sensitized” and are now moving in the right direction.

“We work closely with the media. We deal with them through the Press Club whenever we organize an event,” says Shamkupa.

An exception came in an incidence with the ministry of Energy & Minerals where during the launching of the site for the plant of the cement project, where the government flew in journalists from Dodoma. Local journalists who are familiar with the project on the ground were sidelined.

According to Simba, one of the local journalists got a tip that some local journalists were involved, and that every journalist received Tshs.180,000/- as an allowance. This journalist thought the money was sent to the press club and leaders duped them. He went as far as the ministry in Dar es Salaam to prove that the press club leaders cheated them, only to find out that even his own signature was on the list of local journalists alleged to have been paid the money that no one received. This incidence further weakened the relationship between the ministry and local journalists.

To improve and promote coverage of the extractive industry, MTPC sent a write up – to the Ministry’s Permanent Secretary Eliakim Maswi for training on gas reporting but nothing has happened then, with the exception of a three-hour meeting that was organized by the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC).
2.2 Relationship between Journalists and Police

Relationship between the media and the police force has been good all the time, according to those interviewed. Both the press club and the police believe so.

“I came here when the problem was at its peak. My first strategy was to use the media to calm down the wananchi,” says former Regional Police Commander (RPC) Linus Sinzumwa.

According to him, the problem was complex as people burned houses indiscriminately. He says at one point he had to rush policemen to rescue a group of journalists that had sought refuge at a nearby Parish after they asked for help. He also said he doesn’t believe that violations towards journalists were deliberate. “For the time that I was there, media helped me a lot. On the 22nd and 23rd riots were at their worst. But on May 24th I went to all these radio stations and informed the people that Mtwarawas safe.”

2.3 Journalists and politicians

Uledi Abdala, Chairperson, NCCR Mtwara and Deputy Chair Coalition of Political Parties which is a union of nine parties says relationship wasn’t so good with some media houses especially with some radio stations.

He says media did not report on the problems of the people. He claims for example people were tortured and killed but the coverage wasn’t adequate. He believes that journalists are being threatened and intimidated. According to him, some journalists have political affiliations; therefore it is very difficult to avoid being biased.

“Between us and the media, we are very okay,” says Issa Mkalinga, Secretary, CCM Mtwara. However he believes that public engagement was lacking and that the whole problem was politically motivated.

3.0 Analysis of the findings

The region has about 68 journalists in total, most of them are correspondents who are paid per story and active few who are employed by local media in the area. Very few are degree holders (about six, according to MTPC Chair, others are still furthering their studies, few diploma holders and many with certificates in journalism.

There are those who are products of crash courses in journalism that are offered by professional organizations like MCT, MISA-Tan, and UTPC.

They correspond for national TV’ and Radio stations and newspapers. Mt-
war has three local publications; Mikindani Leo, SAWA based in Masasi, Sauti ya Kusini owned by cabinet Minister Mathias Chikawe.

It has five radio stations namely PRIDE FM, SAFARI FM, Info Radio FM, Mtu Kwao Radio and Mtwara FM.

There are two colleges of journalism: Masasi School of Journalism and King Alexander College both offering certificates. None of them uses the officially accredited national curriculum developed by MCT.

“Most radio managers are not qualified journalists,” says Simba, Chair of MTPC. Lack of professionalism has been a common complaint from many of the people interviewed.

Media owners have much influence over what goes on air. There are incidences where media owners would question why presenters interviewed particular persons.

The fact that morning and afternoon talk shows and live phone-in programmes are not properly moderated gives room for bias and unfounded allegations to be aired. Some hosts were accused of clearly taking sides and sympathising with their callers.

Our survey found out two of the radio stations were strongly linked in one way or another to the problems in Mtwara. Pride FM employees had leaned on the “gesi isitoke crusade’ for reasons that could not be easily established. This led those in the region who did not support government plans to transport gas to Dar es Salaam to believe that this is their station, unlike Safari FM.

Taking sides in the media is a problem that even Pride FM’s Assad agrees. He says, “They also air their own views instead of news.”

One of the most key issues that emerged in the findings was the knowledge on gas matters. Journalists had a lot of opinions about gas but had limited or no knowledge of the industry. This led them to discussing gas matters blindly. Apart from having hosts who knew nothing about gas, no media house management took initiative to get experts from the government or TPDC to explain about gas and benefits that will accrue from it.

The government also shares a big chunk of the blame. From the beginning, it was supposed to engage the media in explaining gas and related complications. It is surprising to note that even when journalists realized their problem and asked for assistance in terms of training, the government initially did not yield.

It also came to our knowledge that the ministry of energy and minerals at the urging of the Tanzania Editors Forum (TEF) offered some opportunities for some journalists to go on a study tour to one of the countries where gas
exploration and extraction is established. However it was the journalists from mainstream media in Dar es Salaam who were picked for the tour. The first team of three journalists from the Daily News, Star TV and New Habari accompanied experts from the ministry of minerals and energy visited Thailand from July 13 to 25. While in the country they visited an international gems exhibition and later visited deep sea gas rigs. The team was led by the Deputy Minister of Minreals and Energy, Stepheph Masele.

The initiative by the government is good, but it is important that journalists on the ground, who live and work within the locale where the projects are established, should be involved in such study tours.

### 3.1 Who was behind the Mtwara mayhem?

This question still begs an answer as it has not been explained to the public despite some people including the Mtwara Urban Member of Parliament, Asmein Murji who was arrested and later had charges against him dropped. Despite being a member of the ruling party, it is said that his position on the gas issue was contrary to that of the government and the party.

Initially when the riots erupted, there was confusion as who was behind it as the government accused the opposition for stoking them. The assumption appeared to be not far-fetched as nine opposition parties in Mtwara had networked in opposing earlier initiatives by the government on transporting gas from the region.

On the other hand, the riots could be seen as overreaction resulting from lack of information on the region’s residents. It is true there is plenty of gas that Mtwara has no capacity for its use. But as the NGOs statements an and the radio talk shows (attached as appendices) picked by the probe team reflect, people were not adequately enlightened on the government plans.

It is clear that they were not against the transporting of gas by pipe to Dar es Salaam. They had genuine demands which Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda clarified during an emergency visit in the region which most leaders on the ground failed to explain matters to the people.

### 3.2 Intimidation and fear

For the media and the people in general to avoid any talk on gas as the team had found out during its investigation in Mtwara from September 3 to 7, 2013 is an indication of a subdued public.

Also, the fact that some journalists who were reported to have been picked by the army and tortured at their camp deny that they have ever been questioned or taken in by the soldiers, is a manifestation of submission to intimidation, if indeed they were taken in.
An empirical example is that of an announcer with Info Radio, Albert Laizer, who, even the MCT was informed by the leadership of Mtwara Press Club to have been picked by soldiers and harassed. He categorically denied that ever happened to him when questioned by the probe team. Even the head of Programmes at the Info Radio station where he works, denied any knowledge of the incident or any of harassment of journalists in Mtwara. On their part the MTPC leadership attribute intimidation as the main reason for the denial of the incident.

Likewise members of the public do not discuss the gas issues openly these days as they used to previously.

4.0 Conclusions

From the above findings and analysis, our conclusion is that the working relations between journalists and government, journalists and politicians, journalists and the citizens, journalists and the police are seen as not as hostile as it was initially perceived.

The extent of press freedom violation is discreet as it is not so obvious on the surface.

Working conditions for the journalists in the region are still a big challenge as many are not employed, therefore their tenure is not guaranteed. Their physical safety is not guaranteed as well.

Lack of professionalism is a major problem in the region and as a result journalists fail to report objectively and produce programmes that are positive for development.

Influence from owners affect their editorial independence and thus fail to report or write rationally.

5.0 Recommendations

From the above analysis and conclusions, we recommend the following;

• Promotion of dialogue between public and media to strengthen the relationship of the two parties
• Government and media to determine strength and weaknesses in order to build strong partnerships
• Capacity building for local journalists in development issues; especially reporting on natural resources
Press freedom violations in Mtwara – Probe report

- The local journalists should be given priority in reporting on the region’s potential on the extractive industry
- They should also be included on overseas study tours on the extractive industry
- The Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) and the Ministry for Energy and Minerals should not sideline local journalists in the gas activities.
- To avert covert or overt harassment of journalists in future, “men in uniform” should be enlightened that journalists are crucial players in national development and let them perform their duties without interference and hindrance.
- Media outlets should avoid partisanship and adhere to professional ethics.

Photos of people and properties related to the investigation in Mtwara

Assad Mdimu - Radio presenter with Pride FM; I don’t discuss gas in my program. Mdimu was interrogated by the Police

Sospeter Magumba - Radio Presenter with Pride FM - he was also grilled by the police

John Kasembe - Channel Ten correspondent - he was hit by stone on his head and had seven stitches in a rumpus not directly linked to gas riots

Albert Laizer - journalist with Info FM who denied to have been abducted and tortured by army.
A ruined shopping centre in Magomeni area that residents claim was burnt by police as retaliation to what hooligans did to police houses.

Kasimu Mikongolo, state broadcaster (TBC) Mtwara correspondent at MCT offices in Dar es Salaam recently.
Press freedom violations in Mtwara – Probe report

Remains of Kasimu Mikongolo’s house after it was demolished by angry mobs during the May 23 riots in Mtwara town

A primary court set on fire and a banner that says gas won’t be taken out of Mtwara.
Presented by a special team, September, 2013

Outgoing Mtwara Regional Police Commander Linus Sinzumwa: I had a good co-operation with media.

Mtwara District Commissioner Wilman Ndile - Claims to have cordial relations with the media which he says had greatly assisted him.

Komba Baltazary - Executive Secretary of Mtwara based NGO - FAWOPA.

Appendices

Taarifa ya Umoja wa Assasi Zisizo za Kiserikali (Ilitolea wakati wa kipindi cha Vuguvugu za Vurugu)

Mkuu wa Mkoa wa wakati huo Henry Shekifu aliwaambia wana-Mtwara na wadau wa maendeleo kuwa serikali inakaribisha wawekezaji na kuendelea kukazi na kuandaa mazingira mazuri ya uwekezaji na kwa hatua ya mwanzo eneo maalum limetengwa yaani special economic zone. Eneo limetengwa kuzunguka bandari ya Mtwara jumla ya hekta 2,646 kwa ajili hiyo. Miradi inayotegemewa ni viwanda ni vya kati na vikubwa na maghala ya bidhaa mbalimbali zina-zoingia na zinazotoka.

Vyote hivyo vinategemee uumeme wa uhakika ambao tayari wawekezaji wake yupo na matooke ya utekelezaji wa miradi hii ni wananchi kuweza kupata ajira na kuongeza mzunguka wa fedha na kupunguza idadi ya vijana wanaokimbilia Dar es Salaam na mikoa mingine na kuitwa “wamachinga”.

Media Council of Tanzania (MCT)
Raslimali zilizokuwa hazijaanza kutumika zitatumika na taifa litaanza kupata kodi kutoka vyanzo mbalimbali vy a Mtwara. Hayo yali kuwa maneno ya mheshimiwa Shekifu. Swali letu hapa je, mtotoe ya utafiti ule na hotuba vya mkuoa mbona haya za kuhakikisha kimatendo leo hii na nyaraka ya Mtwara haizungumzwi tena na utekelizaji wake ukoje?.

Masuala muhimu ya kiuchumi kukumbuka ni kuondoshwa kwa viwanda vya korosho vya vya Newala, mtama Lindi, mafuta Ilulu Nachingwea; kung’olewa kwa reli ya Nachingwea- Mtwara, kususua kwa mda na mda wa mae deleo wa ukanda wa Mtwara yaani – Mtwara Corridor- MKUKUTA ya Mtwara, kususua kwa kwa ujenzi wa barabara ya Dar es Salaam Mtwara na kususua kwa kwa hospitali ya mkoa ya Mtwara na badala yake kukarabatiwa ile ile ya mkoa. Haya ni mambo muhimu ya kukumbukwa.

Ndugu zetu waandishi wa habari na Watanzania kwa jumla nini kifanyike? Serikali ikubali kukaa na wananchi katika makundi mbalimbali: wasomi, asasi za kiraia, waanasiasa na viongozi wa dini, wanahabari na makundi mengine na iweke bayana maamuzi yake yake juu ya madai haya ya wananchi sava na ahadi za viongozi na ilani ya Chama Cha Mapinduzi. Wananchi lazima waelewe kuwa wananchodai ni mustakabali wao.

Wawakilishi wa wananchi, wakaworde na mazuri, waache kutoa maelezo ya uongo, ama kejeli vijitisho na upotoshaji yenye kuongeza jazba kwa wananchi na wakumbuke kwa hizi zinazotaka za ujima za ujuzi wa ndani yake. Wananchi lahitaji kutolea uongozi na daraja la matumizi yake ya wakumbuke na hospitali ya mkoa ya Mtwara na badala yake wakarabatiwa kwa mae deleo unayotaka. Haya ni mambo muhimu ya kukumbukwa.

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wanakataza gesi kutumika katika sehemu nyingine ya nchi na kuwaata watu wa Mtwara wachoyo wasiozingatia utaifa na kuzihusisha harakati hizi na ushabeli wa kisiasa usio na mashiko mbele ya Watanzania na kuzidhia harakati hizi kuwa ni za watu wachache na wanasisa wachache wanaopenda umaarufu.

Hapa tunapenda ileweke mabango yaliyoandikwa kuwa gesi haitoki Mtwarani anaamanisha gesi ghafi ichakachuliwe Mtwara na umeme uzalishwe Mtwarani.

Tunapenda kuwashukuru watu wa usalama hususani polisi kwa kuendelea kutimiza majukumu yao ya kwa umakini lakini pia tuwaaze kutumia nguvu nyingi pindi linapotokea tukio linalohitaji kutuliza wananchi na pia tuwaombe kutumia hatua stahiki za kutekeleza majukumu yao kwa vile kutumia silaha kama ilivyo mabomu ya machozi kwa kufuata taratibu na kwanuni za jeshi hilo kwa kuzingaria dhana ya polisi jamii.

Tuchukue nafasi hii kuwashukuru (wanahabari) kwa kipindi chote hichi cha uendelezaji wa harakati hizi kuziripoti kama zinavyoijiwa hapa Mtwarani lazima tuwapongeze na kutumia maneno ambayo Mwalimu Nyerere aliyo kuwa akutumia mara kwa mara akimnukiwa Rais mmoja wa Marekani kwa kusaidia Watanzania itakufanyia nini jiulize wewe unaifanyia nini Tanzaania. Nakulo wengine wadawo wote waliotumiza majukumu wao ambacho kwa usalama kama vile kutumia silaha kama ilivyo mabomu ya machozi kwa kufuata taratibu na kwanuni za jeshi hilo kwa kuzingaria dhana ya polisi jamii.

Kipindi cha radio cha Live Talk (VOA)

Uledi

Waziri Mkuu alipofika Mtwarani aliahidi kuwa atajibu maswali baada ya kuzungumza lakini baada ya kumaliza alisema anawahi Dodoma kwa sababu ndege anayotumia na uwanja wa Dodoma kwa kuwa taa za uweka baada ya ndege si nzuri na kwamba majukumu yao watawa mtu ana hoja atapata na kama laka. Kipindi cha radio cha Live Talk (VOA)

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Ujumbe wa wasisikilizaji:

Richard Rwetchungura: asema serikali hii ya Tanzania haiamini na haikosi visingizio pale inaposhindwa kutekeleza ahadi zake.

Ujumbe wa Facebook kutokakwa Kibo Chepsati... yeye anasema serikali ya Tanzania lazima iwasaji watu wao si maslahi ya wachache

Vile vile Malolo anasema huwezi kukidhi wananchi wa Tanzania kama utawapa uongo wakati wote. Wamechoka na viongozi walio madarakani hivi sasa

Maoni ya njia ya ujumbe wa simu

Sericali yetu ya Tanzania Hivi sasa izingatie ahadi zake kwa wananchi wa Mtwara na wa kusini isiwe tu mazungumzo kila siku na isiwe mpaka wananchi wanafanya vurugu ndio waanze utekelezaji.

Kwa kumalizia hivi sasa mkoani Mtwara hali ni shwari. Na leo hii Mkuu wa mkoa wa Mtwara Joseph Simbakalia ametembelea watu waliopata maafa Masasi na pia ameongea na jeshi la polisi wilaya ya Masasi na kesho kuna mkutano mkubwa wa madereva wa pikipiki na wa yeboyobo utakaofanyika katika ukumbi wa mkutano na halmsahauri hapa mjini Masasi.

Sehemu ya Mahojiano ya Safari Redio

Mtangazaji: Kwa kipindi cha siku tatu Waziri Mkuu Mheshimiwa Pinda amekuwepe hapa Mtwara. Kwa maoni yako kama mwanaharakati unase-maje?

Komba: Nimeskiliza hotuba zote. Nimeskiliza hotuba ya mhesimiwa Waziri Mkuu lakini pia alipokwenda kuchukua maoni katika makundi mbalimbali.

Kwa na fasi yangu mimi kama mwaharakati na mjumbe wa Baraza la Taifa la Mazingira katika serikali nimejaribu kuliangalia katika pande mbili. Nimeliangalia hili suala kiuchumi na katika utawala bora utawala bora.

Nimeliangalia kwamba alichokifanya mhesimiwa waziri kwa upande wa kiuchumi ndilo kile wananchi wa Mtwara walikuwa wake kwa kuonyeshwa hisia kwa maandamano na mambo mengine. Kutaka uchumi uwaguse katika maisha yao na si kitakwimu.

Wana-Mtwara sasa wameona kuwa linawagusa kiuchumi kama walivy-otarajia. Nimeliangalia pia katika utawala bora ambapo niwinea maelezo ya Waziri Mkuu yana mafunzo makubwa kwa viongozi ngazi za maamuzi hususani madiwani na wabunge wetu. Nafikiri mambo yote yaliyojiri katika kuona viongozi wao wa kisiasa wanajua nini lakini viongozi hao hawakuonyeshwa.

Ni muhimu kwa viongozi hao sasa kuona kwamba wakati wa kufanya maamuzi kama wao umepitwa na wakati na kwamba wakita katika kufanya maa-

Komba tena


KATANI- (mwanasiasa): AKIZUNGUMZA NA SAFARI RADIO FM

Kusiwe na propaganda ile akieleza kwamba ujenzi wa bomba wa nafuu kuli gharama ya transmission line hii inakuwa ni propaganda na ni jambo ambalo siye tunasema wasiendelee kupotosha ukweli kwa sababu kama umemsikiliza Naibu Waziri jana, Simbachawene anatoa tathimini kwamba hilo bomba kwa kilomita moja ni bilioni 1 na milioni 500 jambo ambalo si sahili kwa sababu hata safari kwenye mitandao pia. Anaposema kwamba huu ujenzi wa Transmission line ni gharama kubwa siyo kweli kwa sababu ujenzi wake ni kama milioni mia tisa 36.

Mtangazaji:

Kwa hiyo wewe kwa mtazamo wako nini watarijiji wanamtwara na wafuasi wako ikiwa wewe umekuwa miongoni mwa watu waliopata bahati ya kuonge na Waziri Mkuu?
Katani:

Mimi naamini kuwa Waziri Mkuu ni mtu msikivu sana naaamini kuwa atasikiliza maoni ya wana Mtwara kwa sababu ni ya msingi sana, na si kwamba amekurupuka na hili jambo niendelele kusisitiza kwamba hili jambo siyo po -political issue hili ni jambo la wana Mtwara kama mwenyewe anavyojitaji kuwa ni Mtoto wa Mkuulima inawezekana kabisa akathibitisha hili na anajua kilio cha wana Mtwara kwa ujumla.

WANADINI –PRIDE RADIO FM.

Mazungumzo yao yalikuwa kama ifuatavyo:

Mtangazaji:

Habari yako, Shekhe unazungumza na Pride Radio hapa, unazungumza moja kwa moja. Shekhe tunachotaka kukifahamu hapa kupitia kwako ama kupitia umoja wenu kuhusiana na sababu ambalo linakuwa linaendelea hapa Mtwara la kuwepo Waziri Mkuu lakini pia tumesikia Mawaziri wengine watakuwepo hapa katika ile hali ambayo ilionekana mpaka nyinyi pia kutoka tamko lenu kuhusiana na kutokana na jambo ambayo niendelea kusisitiza kwamba hili siyo po-political issue hili ni jambo la wana Mtwara kama mwenyewe anavyojitaji kuwa ni Mtoto wa Mkuulima inawezekana kabisa akathibitisha hili na anajua kilio cha wana Mtwara kwa ujumla.

Shekhe:

"anaanza kwa maneno ya sala akimshukuru Mungu" Kwanza kabisa nimshukuru Mwenyezi Mungu anayetuwezesha kuipata hii siku Jumanne hii mpya, jumanne yenye mawaziri wengine watakuwepo hapa katika ile hali ambayo ilionekana mpaka nyinyi pia kutoka tamko lenu kuhusiana na kutokana na jambo ambayo niendelea kusisitiza kwamba hili siyo po-political issue hili ni jambo la wana Mtwara kwa ujumla.

Kwa hiyo kwa kila Mwananchi na Mwana Mtwara ni wajibu wake yeye kukuza na kusubiri hasa ukizingatia kwa sisi waislam hata kwa wale wARIO
Waislam, subira kwake ni Ibada “sisi tunaambiwa ndani ya Korani kwamba mtakeni msaada wa mambo yenu mwenyezi Mungu kwa kusubiri na huku mkiomba” Sasa kutokea na kauli hii Mwenyezi Mungu anatuhimiza tuwe katika subira na kwakuwa viongozi wetu wameamua kuchukua hatua hii wanakuja Mtwara leo, ni jambo ambalo la kihistoria kabisa haijapata kutokea Mawaziri tisa wakakaa na wananchi wa sehemu flani wakazungumzia jambo flani, bahati hi inatujua sisi wana Mtwara na imetujua baada ya kilio chetu ambacho sisi tumekitoa katika takribani zaudi ya wiki nne zilizopita.

Mtangazaji wa Pride:

Aaah, Shekhe Idrisa wewe ni Katibu wa shura ya Maimam, tunakuka kujua sasa nini ambacho umejifunza kuhusiana na haya ambayo yameendelea kwanza lakini pia mpaka kufikia Serikali ikaona intumwe kiongozi wa jiu wa Serikali Waziri Mkuu lakin pamoja na ujio huu wanaonyesha kwa katoji kwa saba hivi na kelele ambazo zimepipiga na wananchi hadi serikali kufikia jambo ambacho sisi tumekitoa katika takribani zaidi ya wiki nne zilizopita.

Shekhe:

Kwanza nimejifunza kwamba serikali inaweza kutekeleza matakwa ya wananchi wake, kwasababu kilio chetu tumekitoa kwao na hivi leo wanaonlyesha kutekeleza ule wito tulikuwa tunaautoa kwao. Lakini pia nimejifunza kwamba jambo lolote lile mara nyingi linatolewa kwa sababu fulani yaani kuna patikana sababu ndo kunakuja jambo fulani kwa mifano haya yaliyojitokeza hapa kati naaminini kabisa kwamba, hili ambalo leo Serikali wameamua kulifanya la kuku tana na wananchi kama wanegefa yana kabla ya matamko yale ya kuwaita watu wapuu, wahaini na kuwaita watu hawakusoma kabla ya matamko hayo kutokea na kutokea la wito tunakwa kwao. Lakini pia nimejifunza kwamba jambo lolote lile mara nyingi linatokea kwa sababu fulani yaani kuna patikana sababu ndo kunakuja jambo fulani kwa mifano haya yaliyojitokeza hapa kati naaminini kabisa kwamba, hili ambalo leo Serikali wameamua kulifanya la kuku tana na wananchi kama wanegefa yana kabla ya matamko yale ya kuwaita watu wapuu, wahaini na kuwaita watu hawakusoma kabla ya matamko hayo kutokea na kutokea la wito tunakwa kwao.

Kwa hiyo mimi kitu nilichoifunza ni kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza. Lakini ninaimani kutokelea kwamba ukiwa ambao ulitawala, ukiwa wa Serikali wa muda, ukasababisha yale ambayo yaliyojitokeza.
Maoni ya wananchi wakizungumza na DW

Gesi hii ambayo inagombewa sasa hivi na wakazi wa Mtwara serikali imetoma tamko ambalo kidogo lina utata anasema hii gesi imepatikana kwende bahari ya kina kirefu kwende mifaka ya Tanzania sasa hawajaela mifaka ya Tanzania ya wapi na wapi labda pale Mtwara na Madagascar kama ni hivyo basi tuwaambie watu wa Madagascar kuna gesi yetu hapa kama ni mifaka ya Tanzania na Msumbiji basi tuwaambie sasa anasema imepatikana kwende kina kirefu mifaka ya wapi na wapi? 

Bwana Komba na mahojiani ya DW Radio:

Madai mahususi ya watu wa Mtwara ni kwamba pato litakalotokana na gesi lichangie kwende fuko kubwa na Taifa. Lakini kwanini sasa wananchi wamefikia hatua ya kuandama na makundi mbalimbali yanapaza sauti, kuna matumaini makubwa ambayo Serikali ilyokuwaa madarakanili iliyeza kwa wananchi wa Mtwara kupitia ilani ya chama cha Mapinduzi na kupitia ilani ya ahadi mbali mbali za viongozi wa Serikali.

Bwana Komba na mahojiani ya DW Radio: Bwana Komba na mahojiani ya DW Radio: 

Lakini pia msukumo Mkubwa wa kupaza sauti wananchi unatokana na sababu za kihistoria kwende Mkoa wa Mtwara kama mfumo wa Historia ya Tanzania na Afrika ni kwamba Tanzania na miongoni mwa nchi ambazo zimeshiriki kwa kwono kikubwa kabisa kwende ukomozi wakati za kusini mwa Afrika na Mkoa wa Mtwara ndiyo mkoa pekee ambazo likuwa kita kwa hiyo ni mko la ahadi mbali mbali ya kihistoria ya Kushiriki kwende vita karibu miaka 35 iliyoipea na katika likidhi hicho chote ulikuwa haushiriki katika shughuli za maendeleo kwakile kilichoitwa ni kwasoambabu za kiusalama katika mkoa wa Mtwara wake ulikuwa kitovu cha hivo kutisha maisha ya dhiki kwakuelewa kwende hivyo kwango kwa mkingo za Waafrika wenzao baada ya miaka 35 kupitia hali bado iko vile na wananchi wanaishi maisha ya shida sana.

Kwa hivyo basi walitegemea kwamba kutokana na hizi ahadi za viongozi katika ilani ya chama cha mapinduzi ya mwaka 2010-2015 basi angalau na wenyewe watawazia kuwingia katika maendeleo kwakutumia hii raslimali gesi ambayo wao wawanishia kwamba ndiyo raslimali pekee ambayo ingewa na kuwaweka kwende ramani ya watu ambao wanaishi katika shughuli za maendeleo na kufaidi raslimali za Taifa.