



FEATURE STORY | PG.04

## PRESIDENT MUSEVENI WRAPS UP TOORO–RWENZORI CAMPAIGN TRAIL WITH MASSIVE RALLY IN KYENJOJO

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# **Rwenzori Times**

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## TUSIIME CHRISTOPHER

CHIEF EDITOR

*Dear Reader,*

**W**elcome to the 19th edition of the Rwenzori Times Weekly, your trusted source for stories that shape our communities and celebrate the spirit of the Rwenzori region.

This week has been one of great energy, dialogue, and reflection as our districts continue to navigate opportunities for growth, accountability, and unity.

The Rwenzori community extends its sincere appreciation to His Excellency President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni for his recent visit to our region.

Your presence offered an invaluable opportunity for the people of Kabarole, Fort Portal City, Bunyangabu, Ntoroko, Bundibugyo, Kasese, Kyenjojo, Kyegegwa, and Kamwenge to share their priorities, challenges, and hopes for the future.

We are grateful for the time you dedicated to engaging with

local leaders, farmers, youth, and residents across these districts.

Mr President, your reaffirmed commitment to peace, development, and improved service delivery strengthens our collective resolve to continue working together for the progress of the Rwenzori region.

As always, our mission is to inform, inspire, and amplify local voices. We thank you for your continued support and encourage you to share your feedback, stories, and perspectives.

Wishing you a great period of Christmas festivities.

Warm regards,

Rwenzori Times.

**KABUGHO  
SHARON**

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# PRESIDENT MUSEVENI WRAPS UP TOORO–RWENZORI CAMPAIGN TRAIL WITH MASSIVE RALLY IN KYENJOJO



*President Museveni poses for a group photo with NRM Flagbearers.*

*Atuhaire Johnson, Communication Officer-Kyenjojo DLG*

**T**he incumbent President of Uganda and candidate of the ruling National Resistance Movement (NRM), Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, on Tuesday 9th December 2025, concluded his campaign tour through the Rwenzori and Tooro sub-regions with a high-profile rally in Kyenjojo District. The final stop, held at Katoosa Primary School playground, drew thousands of party supporters determined to show their support ahead of the 2026 general elections.

In his address, Museveni thanked the crowd for the “massive turnout” and reiterated NRM’s central campaign themes — peace, wealth creation, and accountable leadership.

During the rally, Museveni made several pledges aimed at addressing long-standing concerns in Kyenjojo: He promised to oversee the tarmacking of badly degraded roads in the district, including the Fort Portal–Kijura and Kyenjojo–Kahunge routes, moves meant to facilitate mobility, trade, and regional economic integration.





*The overjoyed crowd at the rally.*

He emphasised that wealth creation must start at household level: government programmes under NRM including the Parish Development Model (PDM) — are designed to lift households out of poverty and integrate them into Uganda's money economy.

Notably, he directed the Minister in charge of Local Government to immediately investigate reports of mismanagement and discriminatory allocation of PDM funds in Kyenjojo signalling a renewed focus on transparency and accountability.

Such pledges come as many communities in the region continue to grapple with poor infrastructure and unfulfilled development promises issues that have shaped

public sentiment ahead of the vote.

A key note of Museveni's message to the electorate was the assertion that peace, achieved under NRM rule, remains the foundation for Uganda's progress. He reminded residents of past insecurity and instability particularly in western Uganda and described the relative calm under NRM as a necessary precondition for development. He invoked history to argue that Uganda was always a land of abundance long before modern infrastructure, contending that real wealth comes from household entrepreneurship rather than mere public works.

By doing so, Museveni appealed to voters' sense of continuity, urging them not to risk the gains of the



past decades, but to build on them for future prosperity.

While welcoming the President, the Speaker of Parliament who also doubles as National Resistance Movement Second National Vice Chairperson (Female), Rt Hon Anita Among praised President Museveni for championing critical infrastructure development and supporting improved service delivery in the district.

Rt Hon Among thanked the people of Kyenjojo for the warm reception and acknowledged the presence of religious leaders, local authorities and party structures.

“I thank you all for coming and for the warm welcome. I also recognize our religious leaders who are here with us today. Your presence reflects

the unity and faith of the people of Kyenjojo,” she said.

Among also thanked the President for prioritizing road infrastructure in the region, noting that several key routes linking Kyenjojo to neighboring districts are currently under construction or rehabilitation. She also acknowledged the government's commitment to upgrading the Kyenjojo–Kyakatwire–Kamwenge road, noting that while the pledge has been long-standing, its inclusion in the Fourth National Development Plan (NDP IV) is a significant step towards its eventual construction.

“We thank you for ensuring that this road has been captured under NDP IV. It gives us confidence that the people of Kyenjojo have been heard,” she said.



*The President in a group photo with some of the students of Kijwiiga skilling hub.*



*The mammoth crowd at the NRM rally.*

On health services, Rt Hon Among expressed concern about congestion at Kyenjojo General Hospital, noting that the facility continues to receive a high number of patients from within and beyond the district. She appealed for support to secure additional land to allow expansion and modernization of the hospital.

The Speaker also asked to consider increasing funding for road maintenance in the district, with district leaders noting that Kyenjojo's size and road network are comparable to major regional districts such as Fort Portal and Kasese. "Given the size of Kyenjojo,

we may need to double the district road maintenance fund to keep our roads in good condition," she said.

Local leaders and party faithful in Kyenjojo welcomed the rally and pledges, praising the peace and steady socio-economic transformation attributed to NRM leadership. Some noted that decades of stability had allowed communities to invest, farm, trade, and plan for the future.

The NRM Chairperson for Kyenjojo, Mr Edward Nkonge Rwamwaro credited President Museveni's leadership for sustaining peace, unity and steady socio-economic transformation in the district and across the country. Mr Nkonge

said Uganda's 40 years of peace have created a firm foundation for development, allowing communities in Kyenjojo to focus on wealth creation and service delivery.

*"We thank President Museveni for the peace that has prevailed in Uganda for all these years. For four decades, our country has remained stable, and this has enabled our people to work, invest and plan for the future," he said.*

He commended the President for consistently championing national unity since 1986, noting that the message of working together has helped Ugandans overcome divisions and concentrate on shared progress.

"Since 1986 up to today, the President has continuously preached unity. He united Ugandans and reminded us that development can only come when we work together as one people," he added.

He said the government's wealth creation agenda is now bearing visible results in Kyenjojo, citing interventions under the Parish Development Model and Emyooga programmes.

He also thanked the President for the construction of Kyenjojo Presidential zonal Skilling hub that

has benefitted many unprivileged youths that had lost hope after dropping out of school.

"Your Excellency, we thank you for this hub because so far about 175 youth have benefited. This has saved and changed lives forever because they get skills at a free cost," he said.

Mr Nkonge reported that Kyenjojo District, which has 31 sub-counties and town councils, 167 parishes and 892 villages, has so far received over Shs51.6bn under PDM, benefiting 51,799 households, representing 39.5% of the district's total households. "The wealth creation gospel that President Museveni introduced is working. Thousands of households in Kyenjojo are already benefiting, and more will continue to be reached," he said.

Under the Emyooga programme, he noted that the district has 54 SACCOs with 25,336 members, which have collectively received Shs2.76 billion, boosting small businesses and household incomes.

Mr Nkonge also highlighted progress in infrastructure and agriculture, thanking the government for coffee value-addition machines and the construction of community access roads which have improved market access and rural connectivity.

In the education sector, he said



Kyenjojo now has 128 government primary schools enrolling nearly 79,000 pupils, and 11 government secondary schools offering Universal Secondary Education and post-O-Level training.

He welcomed the ongoing construction of three seed secondary schools of Kyarusozi Seed, Kigaraale Seed and Kihuura Seed, describing it as a major step toward expanding access to secondary education, especially in underserved sub-counties.

On water and sanitation, the NRM Chairperson said the government investments have significantly expanded access to safe water through boreholes and piped water systems, benefiting tens of thousands of residents in both rural and urban areas. He acknowledged ongoing projects and rehabilitations aimed at addressing remaining gaps, particularly in hard-to-reach villages.

Mr Nkonge further welcomed the extension of electricity to Kyenjojo District, saying it has boosted businesses and service delivery, and expressed optimism that the remaining sub-counties will be connected in the next government term.

“All these achievements show what peace, unity and focused leadership can deliver. As Kyenjojo, we remain grateful and committed to supporting programs that uplift our people and transform our district,” he said.

The event was attended by NRM Central Executive Committee (CEC) members, Members of Parliament, religious and cultural leaders, as well as thousands of supporters.

However, there remains concern about delivery especially regarding the PDM fund mismanagement, promised road upgrades, and overburdened health infrastructure.

Some supporters urged that the President’s pledges be matched with concrete follow-through, highlighting the need for expansion of the overcrowded district hospital and reliable maintenance of roads.

# UGANDA LAND COMMISSION LAUNCHES DIGITAL INVENTORY TO CURB PUBLIC LAND ENCROACHMENT IN KASESE



*A team from land commission meeting with Kasese District and Municipality leadership.*

**Sharon Kabugho, Communications  
Officer-Kasese**

**T**he Uganda Land Commission (ULC) has rolled out a digital inventory system for public land in Kasese Municipality, marking a major step in efforts to safeguard government property from encroachment and improve land administration in the district.

The new system, launched this week on 10th December 2025 ,

will operate under the Uganda National Land Information System (NLIS), a centralized platform designed to create an accurate and comprehensive database of government-owned land. Officials say the digital shift will help curb land grabbing, minimize disputes, and increase transparency around ownership of public land.

Denis Musinguzi, the ULC Principal Lands Officer, said the initiative is part





*Land Commission and District stakeholders.*

of a broader strategy to modernize land management across the country. He noted that integrating Kasese's public land records into the NLIS will boost accountability and eventually attract more investment into the municipality.

*"This digitization process is meant to ensure proper management of government assets and to prevent unauthorized occupation. It also gives districts a reliable reference for planning and development," Musinguzi explained.*

However, Kasese Municipal Council's Assistant Town Clerk, Zedekia Kambasu Kayiri, cautioned that the commission must take into account the unique land situation in

the area. He pointed out that much of Bulembia Division sits on government land, making it important for the inventory process to be handled with sensitivity and fairness.

Kasese Resident District Commissioner, Lt Joe Walusimbi, called on residents to support the exercise by cooperating with

survey teams and providing accurate information. He also urged technical staff in the District and Municipal lands departments to remain honest and committed as they gather and verify the land data.

*"This initiative can only succeed if we all play our part. We expect full integrity from our technical teams so that the final database reflects the true picture of government land in Kasese," Walusimbi said.*

The digital inventory program is expected to significantly enhance land governance in Kasese and help reduce long-standing tensions over land ownership in the region.

# MINISTER MAGYEZI WARNS OFFICIALS OVER MISUSE OF PDM FUNDS, ORDERS TOUGH ACTION TO CULPRITS



*Hon Raphael Magyezi, the Local Government Minister and Deputy Coordinator of PDM, Ms Bonny Kiconco preside over the meeting.*

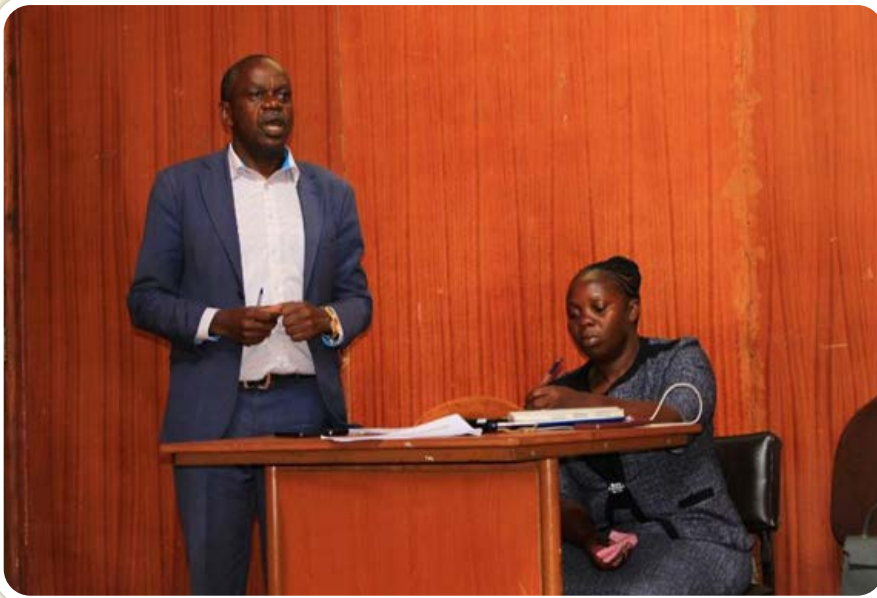
*Atuhaire Johnson, Communication Officer-Kyenjojo*

**T**he Minister of Local Government, Hon Raphael Magyezi, in accordance with a directive from President Yoweri Museveni to address concerns over alleged mismanagement of Parish Development Model (PDM) funds in Kyenjojo District held a high-level meeting with district officials and stakeholders this week.

This follows an incident at the presidential rally on Tuesday when a man identified as Dingiri Charles, a resident of Rwibale Ward in Butunduzi Town Council, took to the podium and alleged widespread malpractice in the implementation of the PDM.

The meeting, convened at the Kyenjojo District Local Government Headquarters brought together political leaders, technical officers,





*Hon Gilbert Rubaihayo the LC 5 chairperson together with the RDC, Julian Sarah Ayesiga at the meeting.*

and representatives from parish councils to discuss reported irregularities in the distribution and administration of PDM resources.

The discussions focused on ensuring transparency, fairness, and accountability in the implementation of the flagship wealth-creation program, which aims to empower households across Uganda.

*Hon Magyezi in his speech warned the officers that any perceived misallocation, discrimination, or illicit demand for kickbacks by PDM officials must be thoroughly investigated and swiftly rectified. "Our priority is to ensure that every shilling meant for the poor reaches the intended beneficiaries especially women, youth, and persons with disabilities," the minister said.*

Preliminary inquiries revealed that both Dingiri and his colleague, Ismail Musinguzi of Kafunda in Nyakisi Sub county, had never applied for PDM funds, contrary to their public statements.

District security findings, led by the District Internal Security Officers (DISO), indicated

that the duo had allegedly been planted to cause public anxiety, masquerading as beneficiaries to discredit the government program.

Although extortion and bribery reports have previously been registered since the launch of the PDM in 2023, the minister insisted that the false claims by the two individuals warranted immediate arrest to safeguard the integrity of the project, and for lying to the President.

He encouraged district leaders to lead the charge in restoring public confidence, pledging support from the Ministry to strengthen mechanisms that guard against fund misuse. Officials were reminded that PDM funds are public resources



*District technical wing at the meeting.*

and any attempt to siphon them undermines the government's plan to reduce rural poverty.

In a firm directive, Minister Magyezi ordered a comprehensive verification of all PDM beneficiaries and warned that any parish chiefs or PDM officials found conniving to sabotage the program would be arrested and dismissed from government service.

Kyenjojo District, which comprises 19 sub counties, and 12 town councils has so far received Shs 51.7 billion under the PDM, with an additional Shs 8 billion expected between February and March, according to District Production Officer Mr. Shem Ssekyanzi.

**Kyenjojo District leadership acknowledged the concerns raised and reiterated their commitment to addressing them.**

Representatives highlighted the progress made so far, noting that millions of shillings have been disbursed to eligible households under the program; a move that has transformed livelihoods for many.

However, officials admitted challenges with ensuring equitable access and urged collaborative action to tighten governance and community oversight. They also pledged to review complaints and hold further parish-level engagements with stakeholders.

District Chairperson Gilbert Rubaihayo, thanked the minister for the fast response to the presidential directive, to investigate the irregularities if any, and promised maximum cooperation from the technical and political wings of





*Some of the beneficiaries at the meeting.*

the district. He further reaffirmed the government's commitment to fighting corruption within the PDM, emphasizing that civil servants implicated in malpractice would face stern action. He also emphasized more emphasis on following guidelines to implementation of the program.

The Resident District commissioner, Mrs Julian Sarah Ayesiga, informed the meeting of the various irregularities that had been brought to her attention, which had been investigated, culprits arrested, reprimanded, and prosecuted in courts of law. All monies had been recovered and handed back to the intended beneficiaries.

Local council leaders and civil society representatives present at the meeting echoed calls for increased accountability. Several community advocates stressed the importance of regular audits, transparent beneficiary selection processes, and clear communication channels so that ordinary citizens can raise alerts without fear.

Magyezi announced that the Ministry will deploy a special task team to support the district with technical investigations, community consultations, and verification of reported irregularities. The team will also work with parish councils to strengthen management structures and compliance with PDM guidelines.

# PRESIDENT MUSEVENI: RWENZORI'S PEACE AND GROWTH SHOW THE VALUE OF NATIONAL STABILITY

*Ninsiima Patrick- Guest Writer*



*President Museveni addresses the people of Fort Portal and Kabarole*

President Yoweri Museveni has reaffirmed peace, stability and inclusive development as the pillars of the NRM's legacy, reminding residents of Fort Portal City and Kabarole District that the Rwenzori region's progress is rooted in the rejection of sectarian politics and the building of strong national institutions.

He made his remarks at his campaign rally held at St. Leo's Kyegobe Playground in Fort Portal City, addressing both Kabarole District and Fort Portal City residents on Saturday December 6th, 2025.

"Stability was achieved because the NRM

rejected politics of sectarianism, enabling the government to build strong national institutions such as the army, police and judiciary," President Museveni said.

On development, the President explained that it consists of economic infrastructure like roads, electricity, telecommunications and railway. He highlighted the road network in the region, noting that when the NRM came into government, tarmac roads stopped in Mityana. The NRM extended the Mityana-Mubende-Fort Portal road and constructed several others, boosting socio-economic transformation. He assured the public that road works





*The first daughter Natasha Museveni speaks to the people from a podium as the President looks on.*

both tarmac and marrum would continue.

President Museveni, however, expressed concern about the poor maintenance of marrum roads, despite the government sending funds, saying some sub-counties either lack adequate resources or mismanage what is allocated. He assured residents that the government will investigate and resolve the issue.

President Museveni further revisited the teachers' recent demands for salary increments, saying the government had prioritised critical investments such as roads and defence. He

explained that soldiers still live in grass-thatched houses because the government prioritised security over accommodation, which enabled Uganda's stability.

Speaking on the third NRM



*An excited crowd clad in yellow welcomes the President upon arrival at St. Leo's Kyegobe Playground in Fort Portal City.*



*President Museveni poses for a photo with NRM Flagbearers from Fort Portal*

contribution; wealth creation, the President gave the example of Tumusime Deziranta of Rubirizi, who lived near a tarmac road for 64 years but remained poor, illustrating that development alone does not create individual wealth.

He emphasised the need to separate wealth creation (personal) from development (public). He reminded residents of the 1996 four-acre model for small landholders, encouraging mixed enterprises such as coffee, fruits, pasture, food crops, poultry, piggery and fish farming for those near wetlands.

He highlighted the Minister of State for Transport, Hon Fred Byamukama as a successful example of the four-acre model and announced that the government will create a revolving fund to help farmers acquire

fertilisers for better yields.

The President reported that Uganda's coffee production has grown to 9 million bags annually, showing that both individuals and the nation are becoming richer.

**He also underscored NRM's fourth contribution—job creation—saying that jobs come from commercial agriculture, factories, services and ICT.**

President Museveni welcomed requests for an industrial park in Fort Portal and revealed that the government has already secured 10 square miles in Kyaka for the park.

He encouraged urban dwellers and those not interested in agriculture to embrace skilling programmes to fight poverty and create employment.

The Speaker of Parliament and



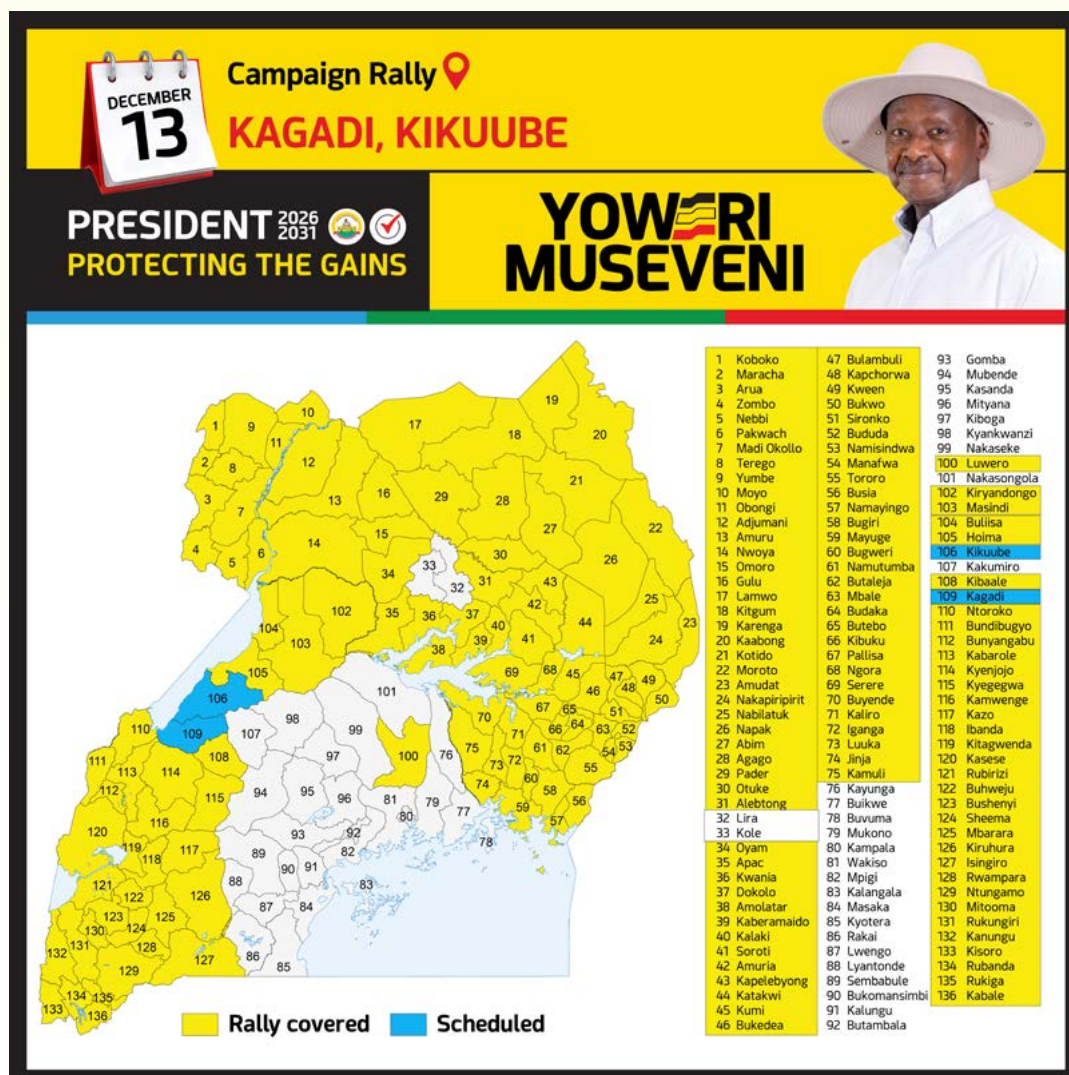
Second National Vice Chairperson of the NRM, Rt. Hon. Anita Annet Among thanked the President for giving Fort Portal a city status.

She also appealed to the people of Fort Portal and Kabarole to vote for President Museveni and other NRM flagbearers.

Kabarole District NRM Chairperson, Hon. Victoria Businge Rusoke, thanked the President for the peace ushered in by the NRM, which has enabled development across the region.

She also appreciated the granting of city status to Fort Portal and the establishment of Mountains of the Moon University serving nine districts. She pledged 99% support for the President in the forthcoming elections.

Fort Portal City NRM Chairperson, Mrs Claire Kasande, hailed the President for the development registered in the area, across sectors such as education, health, water, electricity and others.



# PRESIDENT MUSEVENI PLEDGES SWIFT ACTION FOR 9,000 NTOROKO FLOOD VICTIMS



*The President waves to district officials and aspirants during his Ntoroko rally.*

*Ninsiima Patrick-Guest Writer*

**P**resident Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, the National Resistance Movement (NRM) Presidential flag bearer, has announced firm government action to resolve the plight of over 9,000 people displaced by floods in Ntoroko District.

Addressing thousands of supporters on Saturday December 6th, 2025 at Karugutu Secondary School, Ntoroko during a campaign rally, the President said he had already instructed his Principal Private Secretary (PPS) to coordinate an

immediate response from top government officials.

“I have directed the PPS to invite the Prime Minister and the Head of Public Service to come and deal with the issue of the 9,000 flood victims who are stuck here,” the President said.

The displaced residents have been living in temporary shelters and IDP camps since 2019, after rising water levels of Lake Albert and the overflowing River Semliki submerged homes, schools and health facilities in Kanara Town Council and Kanara





*The massive turnout of NRM supporters*

Sub-county.

The President assured the community that the situation would be handled urgently.

He added that the government would also review the budget for the Semliki Bridge, which remains a concern for residents.

On the challenges surrounding access to Parish Development Model (PDM) funds, the President directed the Minister for Local Government, Hon. Raphael Magyezi, together with the PDM Secretariat, to meet affected persons and resolve the issue of expensive processing.

Turning to national matters, the President reminded Ugandans that peace remains the foundation of the country's development.

"We have maintained peace under the NRM government. We border Congo, and today we host about 700,000 refugees from there. We are surrounded by wars in Congo, South Sudan and Somalia, but Uganda remains stable," he said.

He highlighted the government's efforts in expanding economic infrastructure like roads, electricity and security and noted that delays in some areas were caused by competing priorities.

"We the soldiers have survived all these years on the principle of Kamu Kamu, gwe muganda," he said.

The President further applauded the education strides in Ntoroko District, noting that it now boasts 38 government primary schools, 44 private primary schools, five

government secondary schools and nine private secondary schools.

“Those who know where we have come from as a nation can testify,” he said.

He further announced a series of major health sector upgrades to improve service deliver; upgrade Karugutu HCIV to a General Hospital, upgrade Musandama HCII in Nombe Sub-county to HCIII and construct new HCIIIs in Kibuku Town Council, Karugutu and Rwebisengo Sub-counties.

staffed with six doctors and supported by an ambulance at Karugutu HCIV.

President Museveni also reaffirmed government commitments to; continue nationwide immunisation programmes, work towards total malaria eradication, use ICT to track medicines and reduce health worker absenteeism and construct staff houses for health workers.

The President further thanked the people of Ntoroko for their resilience and support to NRM.



*An excited crowd of cheers during the President's visit.*

The President noted that out of the 10 sub-counties in Ntoroko, four; Karugutu, Rwebisengo, Nombe and Kibuku still lack a HCIII, HCIV or hospital but said the government is moving to close this gap.

Ntoroko District currently has two HCIVs in Ntoroko Constituency,

He also handed over the NRM flags to aspiring Members of Parliament, LC V chairperson, councillors, and other party candidates in Ntoroko District, formally endorsing their participation in the upcoming elections.

The First Daughter, Mrs. Natasha Karugire Museveni representing the First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports, Maama Janet Kataaha Museveni, thanked supporters for turning up in large numbers.

“Thank you for coming, I want to thank Mzee. Many young people and I are grateful for your tireless work over the years day after day ensuring the peace of Uganda and



our continued advancement and development,” she said.

Mrs. Karugire reminded the gathering that the peace the country enjoys today was hard-earned and must be protected.

*“It is our responsibility to preserve it, and we do that by voting,” she noted.*

On behalf of the First Lady, Mrs. Karugire noted: “Maama Janet’s message for 15th January is that each one of us should go out and vote, vote for Mzee, the old man with the hat, and for the NRM. Thank you, and God bless you all.”

The Speaker of Parliament, Rt. Hon. Anita Among, also the NRM

Second National Vice Chairperson praised the President for restoring peace and security in Ntoroko District, saying the area had long suffered insecurity but now enjoys stability under his leadership.

“Your Excellency, thank you for the work you have done in this district. This place has faced situations of insecurity, but you have ensured that our people now sleep in their homes and their property is protected,” she said.

Rt. Hon. Among reaffirmed the government’s commitment to upgrading the Karugutu road, noting that the funds had been allocated for it, alongside Shs 22 billion that was provided in the supplementary budget for affected persons of the



floods.

She added that the most urgent priority now is the resettlement of the 9,634 people displaced by the floods, urging that the matter be fast-tracked.

*“Now that you know the problem, we believe you are going to resolve it,” she said.*

She also commended the Doctor Dee Project that has been rolled out in Ntoroko—an initiative she said is strengthening services in roads, health, schools, and border-related areas because of the district’s proximity to the DRC.

Rt. Hon. Among further noted that the President’s leadership has been consistent and inclusive.

*“Before I came to western Uganda, I thought you were doing this only in the east and north. Now I know you love the whole of Uganda. You are the leader we are looking for not one who just comes to try,” she said.*

“You are our only hope. You brought this country from instability to stability, from no hope to hope. Today, people even have PDM money.”

The Ntoroko District NRM

Chairperson and State Minister for Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities, Hon. Martin Mugarra Bahinduka, highlighted the district’s development profile, noting that Ntoroko has 10 sub-counties and town councils, 46 parishes and 178 villages, with a population of 114,858, according to the 2024 census.

He reported strong progress under the Parish Development Model programme. Ntoroko’s PDM SACCOs have so far received Shs 16.7 billion, of which Shs 14.5 billion (86.47%) has been disbursed to 14,509 households—representing 71.89% of the district’s 20,180 households.

The district also benefits from 18 Emyooga SACCOs comprising 9,777 members, which have collectively received Shs 760 million.

Hon. Mugarra noted that Ntoroko now has a solid education footprint, with 38 government primary schools and 44 private primary schools, spread across 46 parishes. Thirty parishes have at least one government primary school, while 16 still lack one, although some parishes host more than one institution.

At the secondary level, the district has 5 government and 9 private secondary schools, with all five government schools offering



Universal Secondary Education (USE) and Universal Post-O-Level Education and Training (UPOLET), serving a combined enrollment of 3,251 students.

To address gaps, the district is benefiting from the construction of four Seed Secondary Schools, which will reduce the number of sub-counties without government secondary schools from five to just one.

He also highlighted the Ntoroko Presidential Industrial Zonal Skilling Hub, where 937 youth have already been trained, and an additional 240 trainees are currently enrolled.

Out of Ntoroko's 178 villages, 111 now have access to safe water, representing 62.35% coverage. The remaining 67 villages, or 38%, are yet to be served.

Completed water interventions include; expansion of piped water systems in Itojo, Rwebisengo-Kanara and Nyakatok, construction of 3 rainwater harvesting facilities, rehabilitation of 12 boreholes across several communities and construction of public sanitation facilities in Rwangara and Itojo.

Operational piped water systems now serve tens of thousands.

District sanitation interventions also included construction of

public latrines, drilling of deep boreholes, spring well rehabilitation, and extension of piped water to underserved villages.

Planned projects include expansion of piped water to Kanara and Karugutu sub-counties, solar-powered mini water schemes in flood-prone areas, and strengthening community engagement for sustainability.

Under water for production, the district completed the Kiranga Small-Scale Irrigation Scheme, covering 12 acres and benefiting 24 households. The scheme produces 9.2 tonnes of watermelons, tomatoes and onions annually, earning farmers Shs 21.6 million per year.

Ntoroko is connected to the national electricity grid. Out of the district's 10 sub-counties, 7 already have power access.

**In the next term, the government plans to extend electricity to the remaining three areas; Kanara Sub-county, Kanara Town Council and Bweramule to achieve full district-wide electrification.**

The event was attended by NRM Central Executive Committee (CEC) members, Members of Parliament, religious and cultural leaders, as well as thousands of supporters.

# PRESIDENT MUSEVENI PLEDGES PERMANENT BARRACKS, INDUSTRIAL PARK AND MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE BOOST FOR KAMWENGU DISTRICT



*President Museveni addressing thousands of NRM supporters at Kyabenda Primary School.*

*Kiiza Joy, Senior IT Officer- Kamwenge DLG*

**P**resident Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, also the NRM Presidential Candidate, has pledged a permanent UPDF barracks, an industrial park, and continued infrastructure development for Kamwenge

District. The commitments were made on November 8th, 2025, while addressing a highly attended rally at Kyabenda Primary School.

The pledges followed a request by Hon Frank Tumwebaze, Minister and NRM District Chairperson for Kamwenge, who asked the President for strengthened security





*Honourable Frank Tumwebaze MP Kibale East & Minister for Agriculture animal industries & Fisheries waving to the NRM supporters.*

arrangements as he campaigned for re-election.

In response to concerns over possible ADF infiltration from the neighboring Democratic Republic of Congo, President Museveni announced that government will establish a permanent UPDF barracks near Kibaale Forest.

"Tumwebaze brought a good idea to set up a barracks in the forest. I will get a piece of land without water and we will put a barracks in Kibaale Forest," the President said.

Hon Tumwebaze emphasized the need for persistent military presence to guard Kamwenge's forest border line against potential rebel

incursions. "We ask the President for a permanent military presence so that no rebels can come to attack us again," he noted.

President Museveni reassured residents that Uganda's stability is built on the NRM's longstanding pursuit of peace, recounting how rebel groups such as the ADF were neutralized in earlier years.

*"Uganda had failed, but when NRM came, it united people and created a strong army which brought peace. Some years back, ADF attacked from Congo, but we hit them badly and they returned," he remarked.*



*Museveni posing for a group photo with NRM flag bearers*

He attributed the presence of many refugees in Kamwenge to ongoing instability across the border, which Uganda has consistently helped to manage through humanitarian support and regional peace efforts.

President Museveni highlighted the steady development trajectory of Kamwenge District under NRM leadership. Key achievements he cited included:

**Expansion of tarmac roads from Lyantonde–Ibanda–Kamwenge to Fort Portal, with works progressing towards Kyenjojo and Rwimi.**

Extension of electricity, which previously stopped in Ibanda before NRM extended it further to Kamwenge.

Improved access to schools, clean water, and other essential services.

The President noted that the

NRM had scored “at least 80%” in delivering development indicators within the district.

In a boost to youth empowerment and local economic growth, President Museveni also pledged to establish an industrial park in Kamwenge. The facility will provide skilling opportunities, enhance value addition, and stimulate job creation for young people across the district.

During the rally, the President officially handed over NRM flags to area Members of Parliament and the District Chairperson, signaling the party’s readiness for the 2026 elections and reaffirming unity within local leadership structures.



# UWA CALLS FOR PUBLIC SUPPORT IN CONSERVATION AMIDST KILLING OF LIONS IN QUENP



*A lion in Queen Elizabeth National Park. Lions are among the top animals that attract tourists to Queen Elizabeth National Park.*

**Christopher Tusiime, Communications Officer, Bunyangabu DLG**

**T**he Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) has called on the public to intensify support for conservation efforts following the killing of three lions in Queen Elizabeth National Park (QUENP)

According to UWA, the lions; two males and one female, all sub-adults were discovered on Thursday morning after park surveillance

technology detected abnormal movement patterns.

Using EarthRanger, a satellite-based wildlife monitoring system, UWA teams tracked signals from a collared lion and traced them to the Akabale area in Nyamugasani. Upon arrival, rangers found the three animals dead.

In a statement, UWA revealed that a follow-up search in the same area uncovered a cow carcass, part of which had been placed in a bag

containing unidentified substances. Other items, including a panga and slippers, were found nearby raising suspicion of deliberate poisoning.

*“These findings form a central part of an ongoing investigation to establish the cause of death and identify those responsible, with the aim of prosecuting them in accordance with the law,” the statement read.*

UWA has since notified the police in Kasese, and the case is now under joint investigation. Both agencies are analysing evidence from the scene and pursuing all possible leads.

The Authority appealed to the public to remain vigilant and report any activities that threaten wildlife, noting that community collaboration is vital to safeguarding Uganda’s natural heritage.

The incident comes at a time when UWA has been working closely with local governments to address challenges such as human–wildlife conflict and poaching—issues that continue to affect conservation areas across the country.

Recently, during a familiarisation tour for communication officers from districts neighbouring national parks, UWA highlighted interventions being implemented to mitigate these challenges. These include the construction of several kilometres of electric fencing around Queen Elizabeth National Park and other conservation areas to protect farmlands and reduce conflict with wildlife.

UWA is also finalising the disbursement of over Shs 1 billion to districts bordering the park to help communities establish alternative livelihoods that reduce dependence on park resources.

Wildlife conservation remains central to Uganda’s tourism sector, which continues to be one of the country’s leading foreign exchange earners. In 2024, tourism revenue rose to approximately USD 1.28 billion (UGX 4.8 trillion)—a 26% increase from the previous year—driven by higher visitor arrivals and increased spending. These earnings contribute directly to national development priorities, including infrastructure, health, and education.





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