



IN THE PARLIAMENT OF UGANDA

Official Report of the Proceedings of Parliament

FIFTH SESSION - 4TH SITTING - FIRST MEETING

Wednesday, 30 July 2025

Parliament met at 1.59 p.m. in Parliament House, Kampala.

PRAYERS

(The Speaker, Ms Anita Among, in the Chair.)

The House was called to order.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, I welcome you to this afternoon's sitting. I get surprised when the seats are empty. We have not yet reached September; when we reach there, what will happen?

Honourable members, this morning we convened a Business Committee meeting, which went on very successfully. We prioritised the business of the Fifth Session. Remember this is our last session of the 11th Parliament. The meeting emphasised greater efficiency and effectiveness in committees; that efficiency is what is going to make this Session or Parliament productive.

We request you to support the Business Committee and Parliament in running the business. I request that we finish whatever we are supposed to finish in time, or early enough for us to be able to allow you to go for elections, since this is an elective time.

Honourable members, yesterday we had a report on the state of roads in the country; we shall give sufficient time for that discussion – and I hope the minister is about to come.

On a rather sad note, our two colleagues lost their beloved ones. Hon. Joyce Acan Okeny, the MP for Persons with Disabilities, lost her beloved husband on Sunday, 27 July 2025.

Last night, Hon. Jackson Atima Lee Buti, MP for Arua Central Division, also lost his mother. We want to commiserate with the bereaved families, all their loved ones, and pray for the eternal repose of their souls.

Members will be informed about the burial arrangements for those who can travel and be with the families. May we rise to observe a moment of silence.

(The House rose and observed a moment of silence.)

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, once again, yesterday we asked for a report from the honourable minister on how ready we are to host the African Nations Championship (CHAN). He even promised to put up a billboard near my home, so that when I pass by, I see it. *(Laughter)*

I can see a report. Can we upload this report? Honourable minister, you have written too much for us. We are asking for too little from you. All that Hon. Kayemba-Ssolo wants – because he is the one who raised that issue; he brought it to my office – is the visibility that we are hosting the Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON).

We know we have given you money, you have infrastructure. SWe thank you for the

good infrastructure – anyway, let us allow you to present your report. Please, honourable minister. (*Hon. Ogwang rose*)

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

I) THE STATE OF PREPAREDNESS FOR HOSTING CHAN 2024

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, you will recall that yesterday various issues were raised in regard to the hosting of CHAN. The person who raised this issue, the Shadow Minister for Sports, clearly said that we are lighting our candle and keeping it under the bed.

The issue that he raised was on the visibility of hosting, and pursuant to Rule 54(1) of the Rules of Procedure, I will allow the minister responsible – that is Hon. Peter Ogwang – to present a report on how ready we are, as a country, to host the CHAN.

How do we know that our teams are playing on a particular date? Are we playing as Uganda, and if we are, when is the game? How will people in Katakwi, Bukedea and Buyende know that there is CHAN in Uganda? Basically, we are using CHAN as a precursor to AFCON 2027 and to promote our country. Over to the honourable minister.

2.07

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EDUCATION AND SPORTS (SPORTS)

(Mr Peter Ogwang): Thank you, Madam Speaker. First, I begin by thanking Parliament for always supporting the sports sub-sector and education. It is true my colleague, the shadow minister, asked for the visibility of the game but I found it prudent that I inform Parliament and the entire country on what we have done as Government, in line with our preparation for CHAN 2024.

You may recall that on the 27th day of September 2023, the Executive Committee of the Confederation of African Football granted the hosting rights for African Cup of Nations 2027, to the East Africa *Pamoja* bid,

which was jointly presented by the three East African countries – that is Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania.

Consequently, on 16 September 2024, the East African *Pamoja* bid was also granted the rights to co-host the African Nations Championship 2024, commonly known as CHAN. The CHAN 2024 is a football tournament that specifically features players who compete in the domestic national leagues.

For this edition of 2024, it is scheduled to take place from 2 to 30 August 2025. 19 national football teams will participate in CHAN 2024. Five of these shall be hosted in Uganda under Group C. The teams in Group C are Algeria, Guinea, Niger, South Africa and Uganda.

Uganda shall proudly host 12 matches played over the space of eight days. The Group C matches shall include nine group matches, one quarter-final match, one semi-final match and then the third play-off match.

All the CHAN 2024 matches in Uganda shall be played at the 38,000-seater Mandela National Stadium, Namboole.

Madam Speaker, as the three host-countries are using the CHAN as a dry run to assess our level of preparedness to host the African Cup of Nations 2027, I must add that the processes of organising CHAN 2024 have been a learning curve as we look forward to hosting AFCON 2027.

The Government of Uganda, alongside the Federation of Uganda Football Federations, is working together with the Confederation of African Football not only to guarantee conformity to the standards but also to ensure the tournament is organised successfully.

Uganda has executed the host agreement with the CAF and the Government declaration for the CHAN 2024 tournament. Uganda was required to sign a government declaration and guarantee to conform to its commitment to host CHAN.

Honourable members, I would like to thank Madam Speaker for helping us in the due process. Madam Speaker, we are grateful. *(Applause)*

In line with the host agreement, the local organising committee (LOC) has been recognised as a legal entity. This followed the ratification of the agreement by the Cabinet in accordance with Section 2(a) of the Ratification of Treaties Act, Cap 190.

The LOC, established under gazette notice No.686 of 2025, is constituted of 20 members under the leadership of the honourable First Lady and the Minister of Education and Sports. It also has a fully functional secretariat as its implementing arm.

Honourable colleagues, as guided by CAF and LOC, the LOC has 13 functions being performed by their respective sub-committees as follows:

- (i) The guest management and hospitality;
- (ii) Events operation;
- (iii) Communication and signage;
- (iv) Medical and anti-doping;
- (v) Security and safety;
- (vi) ICT and accreditation;
- (vii) Infrastructure;
- (viii) Legal and brand protection;
- (ix) Workforce and volunteers;
- (x) Team services;
- (xi) Commercial and marketing;
- (xii) Spectator services and funds experience; and
- (xiii) Finance.

Madam Speaker, allow me to highlight the status of readiness for key specific deliverables under the sub-committees I am going to state below:

- (i) Infrastructure management. The core sports infrastructure to host the tournaments is the main stadium and training pitches. Mandela National Stadium, which has been under renovation, passed the final inspection by CAF held in July 2025. It is ready to host the matches.

The key installations for match-hosting, including appropriate safety and security infrastructure, ICT, accreditation, broadcast, and media, are ready.

In addition, training facilities have undergone improvements at Kyambogo University, FUFA Kadiba Stadium, Muteesa II Wankulukuku Stadium, and Kampala International School Uganda (KISU).

The Mandela National Stadium, Namboole Annex, has been upgraded to meet CAF standards for CHAN and AFCON.

At Kyambogo University, the works done include the construction of a standard pitch with floodlights, irrigation system, changing rooms to meet the CAF standards for CHAN and AFCON.

For FUFA Kadiba Stadium, the Government has supported the federation to complete its works on the facility to cover floodlights and other remedial works. In addition, two access roads have been upgraded and the facility is ready to be used for the CHAN tournament.

Muteesa II Wankulukuku has been upgraded with new changing rooms, an irrigation system, and floodlights installed, and meets the CAF standards for hosting CHAN and AFCON. I also want to inform the House that we have bought a generator to be installed at Muteesa II Stadium, which will cover that for the purpose of CHAN and AFCON.

The works at Kampala International School, Uganda, provided for the upgrade of the changing rooms and improvement of the pitch. All these facilities have been evaluated by CAF and are prepared to host a training session.

- (ii) Workforce and volunteers. Uganda selected young, energetic, and sports-loving youth to participate in the CHAN 2024 volunteer programme.

So far, at least 500 volunteers have been invited for evaluation and trained to support the 19 areas below:

Access control, accreditation, administration, branding, events, first-aiders, general duties, ICT support, information points, language support, logistics, main venue support, media, medical, protocol, safety and security, spectator services, ticketing, and transport.

(iii) Guest management and hospitality

In addition to the workforce already engaged, as highlighted above, His Excellency the President offered the use of the Uganda protocol fleet of vehicles to support the transportation needs of VVIPs, VIPs, and CAF delegates for the duration of the tournament. Up to 90 SUVs were, therefore, declared as available for use in accordance with the regulation governing vehicles and assets used.

These facilities have been declared as available to CAF, and the local organising committee awaits requests to be submitted by CAF from time to time.

(iv) Marketing and commercials

In accordance with its responsibilities, on Friday, 25 July 2025, CAF released the CHAN 2024 tournament's pricing schedule and announced the commencement of sale to the public, including in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda, the tickets for TotalEnergies CAF CHAN Pamoja 2024.

The tickets are in three price range categories:

- (a) Ordinary tickets for Shs 10,000 per day.
- (b) Silver tickets for Shs 30,000 per day.
- (c) Premium tickets for Shs 50,000 per day.

The tickets can be purchased on the internet – online only – and CAF has established a dedicated sale link for all market tickets for the co-host venues in Uganda and the sister countries. Payments for tickets are made to accredited MTN, Airtel, and Visa card suppliers who are linked to the ticket sales link stock page.

In a bid to ensure publicity of the tournament, the local organising committee has put in place measures to increase public awareness

about the tournament beyond billboards. This includes allocating the Federation of Uganda Football Associations (FUFA) Shs 1 billion only to run promotions on TV, radios, digital platforms, social media influencers, and other channels. Madam Speaker, there is a word there which is called “*mizindalo*”, which I want to – maybe my shadow minister will help me translate it.

Furthermore, His Excellency the President officially launched CHAN 2024 in Uganda in a very colourful public ceremony held on 25 July 2025 at Kololo Ceremonial Grounds. The official launch enhanced the publicity of CHAN 2024 and the ongoing games and events at the main event locations at Namboole.

(v) Communication and signage

In accordance with its responsibilities, CAF procured a service firm to provide the official branding tools as well as place signage in selected areas.

The LOC found it necessary to increase the visibility of the tournament and improve public engagement. LOC operations have, therefore, necessitated extending the official signage to selected locations in Kampala and the metropolitan areas.

The Government agencies and ministry buildings and commercial centres/points.

We have engaged the service provider to put up billboards and street-pole banners along 21 selected roads in the city.

In addition, LOC conducts a media briefing once a week. The frequency will be increased to twice a week and daily once the tournament commences on 2 August 2025.

(vi) Team services

Uganda has received confirmation of the participation of Group C teams. As of 29 July 2025, the national team of the Republic of Niger arrived in Uganda and has set camp. Our own national team, the Uganda Cranes, is in camp as well and training for the tournament.

In line with the CAF responsibility, CAF is handling team logistics, including, but not limited to, the travel arrangement, in-country transportation, and accommodation. The host country, through the LOC is providing security, protocol, and guest handling, medical services, among others.

(vii) Medical and anti-doping

Madam Speaker, emergency care and doping control services have been provided at the stadium. In addition, medical services are in place to cover teams and officials at the stadium, training facilities, hotels, and residences.

The LOC has secured two standby air rescue ambulances provided by the Uganda Police Force and the Uganda People's Defence Forces. These will be supported by the chartered jet stationed at Entebbe International Airport.

Three hospitals are prepared to provide emergency care services, and these are: Mulago National Referral Hospital, Mulago Women's Specialised Hospital, and Entebbe General Hospital will cover the airport and road transit emergencies. Intensive Care Unit(ICU) beds and admission rooms are prepared in these hospitals. A total of 280 medical workers are on standby at the above-mentioned hospitals, comprising paramedics and specialists.

Twenty-five (25) road ambulances have been deployed and medical supplies provided by the National Medical Stores (NMS). Medical equipment has also been provided at the Mandela National Stadium.

Inspections have been conducted for the operated hospitals and health workers in the said facilities have been accredited to provide support for the duration of the tournament.

(viii) Events operations

The main host venue, Namboole Stadium, has been prepared to be a centre of events in the tournament. Associated events include the matches themselves. However, the complementary events include media events,

accreditations, entertainment, performances, meals, and catering, among others.

The LOC commenced the procurement of service providers suitable to provide services for the high-end tournament. The Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Authority (PPDA) granted a waiver from the procurement processes and accredited the use of the alternative CAF-based procurement policies. This was in a bid to ensure services are not unduly delayed due to the rigorous process of public procurement.

The LOC has, accordingly, commenced the engagement of suppliers through a special-purpose tender committee, which is supported by the procurement terms of the Government teams.

(ix) Finance

The CHAN 2024 hosting obligations are outlined in the seven guarantees issued by the host Governments. A key obligation was for the co-host countries to jointly remit \$39 million to CAF for the expense of the tournament. Uganda complied with this requirement in April 2025 when the sum of\$ 13 million was disbursed to CAF.

In addition to the above settlement, LOC evaluated the local requirements to ensure a successful event. The local operations are defined under the 13 sub-committee areas in the preceding sections and were estimated at Shs 28 billion. Whereas it was expected by LOC that this expenditure would be accommodated under the \$13 million disbursed to CAF, it is now evident that CAF has not agreed to accommodate the local operations. The Government has taken a position in view of this to identify alternative resources to ensure the local operations are funded.

(x) Security and safety

Madam Speaker, the inter-agency joint forces are prepared to secure the tournament. The inter-agency security planning has been concluded and is being implemented. The

security teams were also trained by CAF on standards and expectations for the CHAN 2024 tournament. Routes to and from different venues and hotels have been secured, and the traffic management plan is in place.

Madam Speaker, given the sensitive nature of security services, I am constrained to provide a detailed operational plan.

Madam Speaker, it is my prayer, on behalf of the Ministry of Education and Sports, that Parliament recognises and appreciates the state of readiness and accepts assurances to deliver a successful CHAN 2024 tournament. I beg to submit.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you so much, honourable minister of Sports. First of all, I thank the sports ministry and the Government of Uganda for ensuring that we have the infrastructure that you have mentioned. It is a big achievement for us. Now that we have infrastructure, we can host AFCON.

Honourable members, I said that this is a precursor to hosting AFCON. How we host CHAN will determine how ready we will be to host AFCON. Yes, Hon. Susan? Let us first hear from the shadow minister, the one who raised the issue.

2.25

MR GEOFFREY KAYEMBA-SSOLO (NUP, Bukomansimbi South County, Bukomansimbi): Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I thank you for taking this issue very seriously. Like you said yesterday, when we hosted some events like the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), and the Group of 77 (G77), the way the events were marketed is not the same way CHAN is being marketed.

Madam Speaker, when you say you have given the Federation of Uganda Football Associations (FUFA) Shs 1 billion, I would like to know in which period. I believe it would have taken three months to do experiential marketing so that the public can feel the event. This CHAN

is a Ugandan thing because it is the Uganda Government that has put in money; so, the public needs to own it and feel that it is part of theirs.

Madam Speaker, I think -

THE SPEAKER: When was FUFA given that Shs 1 billion?

MR KAYEMBA-SSOLO: That is what I want to know. It is not even one week ago. Moreover, the main event is starting on Saturday, and our first match is on Monday. What kind of awareness are you going to create in this short period?

My request is that, as you prepare for AFCON 2027, use this CHAN as a benchmarking project. Next time, especially during AFCON 2027, we must provide a big budget for marketing because if we do not market – it is like having a beautiful thing but covered under the bed.

Honourable minister, you should think of using professionals in these fields. If you had professionals in marketing, they would have advised you before, and we would not be in such a situation. Thank you very much.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Take notes and then respond. Hon. Susan?

2.27

MS SUSAN AMERO (Independent, Woman Representative, Amuria): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to thank the minister for the report he has tabled here. It is very clear that this Parliament has played a big role in boosting sports. I also thank the President for the choice of the ministers who are managing this sub-sector.

From the beginning, when the current Government Chief Whip was appointed in the Ministry of Sports, we started to see a shift from stagnation, and sports started moving forward. I am very glad that Uganda now has an opportunity to host an international event like this one.

We want to thank you, Madam Speaker, for always pushing for the budget for sports in this country. How I wish other sports were also treated the same way football is, so that we can have those who have a love for netball, basketball, and other sports enjoy. Otherwise, as it stands, we are treating football as if it is the only sport; it is given more attention than others. I pray that in the subsequent budget, we consider giving enough money to other sports because they have lifted us.

Madam Speaker, Uganda is now known in athletics, and we are doing quite well. I want to believe that because of the small budget we have been putting there – if we increase this, we shall market this country and attract more tourists to this country.

Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: In the last budget, all the federations got sufficient funds. Chairperson of the Parliamentary Sports Club?

2.29

MR ASUMAN BASALIRWA (JEEMA, Bugiri Municipality, Bugiri): Madam Speaker, I would like to thank you for the opportunity and also thank the minister. Yesterday, we raised these issues because we appreciate the roles Parliament and the ministry have played, especially the Minister for Sports, Hon. Peter Ogwang. We thank you for a very comprehensive report. *(Applause)*

We have visited the facilities. In fact, we have even played in some of them; the ex-internationals played against the Parliament of Uganda in Kadiba. So, the facilities are top class, and we thank you for the supervision and effort. You are the right person in the right job.

Madam Speaker, the concern we raised yesterday – and which we shall continue to maintain – is in regard to publicity of this event. I am glad to hear that Shs 1 billion has been given to FUFA to do the publicity. Even if the time between now and the opening of the games is very short, we only hope and pray that the Shs 1 billion will be utilised sufficiently, for purposes of creating publicity.

Minister, if we do not publicise these games, the stadiums will be empty and that will not be very good for the country. Can we marshal all our efforts and resources to ensure that we have a robust publicity mechanism, for the purpose of having full stadiums? Otherwise, it will be a very big embarrassment.

The minister did report –

THE SPEAKER: Just a minute: In this schedule here of the sub-committees, which committee was publicity supposed to fall under: commercial and marketing, or communication and signage?

MR OGWANG: Madam Speaker, publicity has two components. The way CAF guided us as the local organising committee was that there are those sub-committees where we have to have Government representatives to chair, and there are those where they requested the federation, which is directly aligned to them, to chair.

For purposes of the record here, guest management and hospitality were given to the federation. Events operation – because this is the main event – was also given to the federation. Communication and signage, for the purpose of informing the country of what is happening, were given to the Government.

Medical and anti-doping were given to the Government. Security and safety were given to the Government. ICT and accreditation were given to the Government. Infrastructure was given to the Government. Legal and brand protection were given to the Government.

Workforce and volunteers were given to the federation. Team services were given to the federation. Commercial and marketing were given to the federation. Spectator services and fans' experience were given to the federation. Finance was given to the Government.

Now, where does the issue of funds come in, for purposes of publicity? It is in two lines:

1. There is one in charge of communication and signage; and
2. There is one in charge of commercial and marketing.

Remember, friends, how did CAF guide us? This is a CAF event. As far as commercial and marketing is concerned, they have a right; they reserved it for purposes of their competition. In terms of who gets out to give out what, it is them. This is their tournament; they are no longer sponsors. While working with them, we have been very careful to ensure that we do not cross the line which they are directly involved in and we also do not over-push our authority on the competition.

Above all, Madam Speaker, in all that is coming out, if I can refer you to the paragraph on finance – because that is where we have one critical issue – my statement is here. It says – and I would like to go to the paragraph – “*In addition to the above settlement, the LOC evaluated the local requirements to ensure the success...*”

No, let me read this; “*Whereas it was expected by LOC that these expenditures would be accommodated under the \$13 million disbursed to CAF, it is now evident that LOC, in their operation...*” – which I also want to say, for the record, is a Pamoja tournament.

Uganda has one group; Tanzania is holding two; Kenya is holding two. So, regarding this money which we all paid, we expected the \$13 million to cater for the operations of this tournament both as one tournament. The challenge which has arisen is the expenses for CAF in Uganda are not the same as expenses for CAF in Tanzania and CAF in Kenya.

No wonder, we have come up with deficits, for which the Government has internally taken a position to raise money locally to support us in our quest to have this tournament managed. That is what has affected areas of publicity. How do we handle it? Should we leave it as a CAF event alone, Madam Speaker?

THE SPEAKER: So, you have given the \$1 billion to see how to support this?

MR OGWANG: Yes, to support the publicity of the event, which is meant to be done by CAF, according to what we had agreed upon. Initially, all this work was meant to be undertaken by the Confederation of African Football.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to put this on record because I do not want people to come out here and say, “We have given FUFA Shs 1 billion.” Why FUFA? This is the football –

THE SPEAKER: I was going to ask you why you did not give to the committee but gave it to FUFA. Why are you giving FUFA?

MR OGWANG: Madam Speaker, I would like to first put this on record: This is a football event. Two, they have the experience and expertise on how they manage to rally fans to come to their games during other competitions. As a local organising committee, we found it prudent that we use them to help us as a Government, based on the time we now have, to go and carry out this civic exercise and popularise the event across the country.

As of this morning –

THE SPEAKER: When did you give them the money?

MR OGWANG: Madam Speaker, it is an undertaking we have which we are going to do formally through the federation.

THE SPEAKER: You going to give them the money?

MR OGWANG: Exactly, but –

THE SPEAKER: You have not yet given them? (*Laughter*)

MR OGWANG: Listen to me –

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, it should be on record that they are going to give

the money; they have not yet given it. We do not want anything that happens to be associated with FUFA. Let it be an issue that it has been from CAF, but now FUFA is going to come in to support them.

MR OGWANG: Madam Speaker, for purposes of us moving forward, I am making this undertaking, having had and chaired a meeting as co-chair of LOC, to ensure that the event is properly publicised across the country.

I would like to confirm that this morning, I got information from various parts of the country that the federation has swung into action. There are radios moving all over most of the major towns in the country. There are also radio advertisements taking place in major parts of the country.

As the Government, this commitment will be fulfilled between us and the footballers who are the Federation of Uganda Football Associations. As far as this is concerned, I call upon all of us, honourable colleagues, that it is our responsibility to ensure that the country joins us to support the most historic football event in the country. *(Applause)*

For some of you who have been following football, I was a young boy who used to watch this competition on TV but today, I can confidently say history has been made, that we are hosting the event in Uganda and I would like us to appreciate this. *(Applause)*

Despite the few challenges which we might have, please let us support the Government, the federation and CAF in hosting this event. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Yes?

MR BASALIRWA: Madam Speaker, there was an interruption as I was making my case.

THE SPEAKER: The interruption was because I wanted a clarification. One; whether the money has been given and why it was given to FUFA. Now, we have got a clarification, that the money is not yet given, but because FUFA has the expertise, it is going to be given money to support it.

MR BASALIRWA: Yes, thank you. Madam Speaker, relatedly, on the issue of publicity, I would like to find out from the minister, how you are utilising the ex-internationals, who have played in CHAN, and who are no longer active but are prepared to play roles. We have also received – and one time I had an opportunity of bringing a good number of them to you, and you met them, and they are out there, because they think they have a role to play.

The minister did say that we paid \$13 million to CAF, and as far as I am concerned, Uganda was the first country to make that financial commitment. Kenya and Tanzania, I am not so sure whether they have fulfilled their obligation.

THE SPEAKER: Hon. Asuman, those are not issues for discussion here. Our issue of discussion – because you are making a breach on the agreement that has been signed. Our issue has been answered by the honourable minister, and that let us all join, one, we are going to make sure the advertisement is going to be massive. Let us all join in ensuring that we popularise the event.

I am saying, as Parliament of Uganda – we have got a report from the minister for sports – can we own this tournament as it is a country tournament? It is only sports that does not differentiate whether you are the Opposition, or whether you are Government; it is one that brings all of us together. Therefore, can we now get out and ensure that this tournament is well attended and owned by all of us and that it is our tournament? Honourable minister, where you need our support as Parliament, we are available.

MR OGWANG: Madam Speaker, first of all, I would like to continue thanking you, and your Deputy, and the entire Parliament. Secondly, I would like to say this; on the question of the use of ex-internationals, CAF guided that we put a portal for those to apply to become volunteers. And to be honest, this was an open portal. I am very sure that some of the members of the ex-international, are among the 500 volunteers I have talked about.

The reason I came late is that I was actually in Namboole stadium chairing a meeting on looking at a few areas where we needed to improve. The question which you brought up – about the role of the other partner states; all of us have paid the money.

No wonder we are ready to host, and I would like to confirm, Madam Speaker, that I will lead a delegation for the official opening ceremony on the 2nd of August in Dar es Salaam, on behalf of the Government of Uganda.

On the 4th of August – Madam Speaker, allow me to say this; because CAF is the one in charge of this event, honourable members, we will be giving a few complimentary tickets. I would like to say this, not all our cars will be permitted to have access to the venue. It is only those vehicles with CAF stickers, which will have access to the main stadium. I would like to request – all of us are big people, but bear with us and security, for purposes of this event. Two, I would like to encourage us right now, if you want to have access to the games, feel free to log into the portal, and get the tickets.

CAF has insisted that all the tickets are sold online. Therefore, I do not want anyone to begin saying, “The Government...” or what; no, it is a CAF competition. They are the ones who are collecting the money, they are the ones who will be able to sell, to spend this money, and they are the ones who will be able to divide this money, according to the three partner states, and leave projects here.

As I conclude, how much – I did mention –

THE SPEAKER: Honourable minister, our interest is the fan base, especially when our team is playing.

MR OGWANG: I want to say this, that how much; it is Shs 10,000 ordinary, Shs 30,000, and Shs 50,000. Be aware that, they are most likely to have two games in a day. Therefore, when you pay your Shs 50,000, it implies that you are going to watch two games. I encourage you to come to the stadium early enough. We have given a traffic plan. I would like to

repeat here; for cars heading to Jinja, there will be a cut-off from Naalya roundabout, to Namugongo, to Seeta. Cars coming from Jinja, for the purpose of the day of the game, and also, from the time of beginning at 11:00 am – because we expect the stadium to be open at midday. I would like to appeal to you to work with security for purposes of ensuring we do not cause confusion during the time of the competition.

Last but not least, the rights of CHOGM, NAM, were in 99 percent Government of Uganda. CAF - Government of Uganda, their rights and obligations. That is why I thank you for understanding me – that where the rights and obligations were for CAF, we have only come in to put up a backup measure – to ensure we inform and for mobilising the event.

The other one was – the one my sister talked about; the federations. I want to thank Parliament for providing a Shs 31 billion, for subvention to National Council of Sports, to support the federations. I am also happy to report, in line with the new law, all of them have undergone a check-up and registration.

There were 51 in total. I am reliably informed, about five federations and associations did not meet the criteria. That now, brings us to a small number. With that Madam Speaker, I want to conclude by thanking H.E. the President, my senior minister, and all of us, for continuing to support the sports development and sports infrastructure in our country.

I would like to say that the NRM Government is committed in ensuring that the sports fraternity and the promotion and identification of our children's sports talents is achieved.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you, honourable minister. I also want to thank the minister for sports for the stadium in Hoima. I so happened to see the stadium and I was very impressed. I now know where our money went. The stadium is really good and the works are ongoing. We thank you for the sports infrastructure and how we wish in the next budgeting season, we shall have training grounds in different cities around the whole country.

And that now takes me to the money that –

MR OGWANG: There is already money in this budget cycle –

THE SPEAKER: There is the money that the President talked about; money which was meant for Mbarara, Kakyeka Stadium. We want an explanation on what happened to that money of Kakyeka. I also know that we gave money to Masaka. We also want an explanation on what happened.

Can we go to the next item? Thank you, honourable minister.

II) THE STATUS OF PREPAREDNESS FOR ELECTRONIC VOTING IN THE 2026 GENERAL ELECTIONS

THE SPEAKER: It should be, “Electronic identification of voters,” not voting.

2.39

THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF WHIP (Mr Denis Hamson Obua): Madam Speaker, and colleagues, I wish to formally inform the House that I am in possession of a copy of a letter addressed to the Speaker, dated 30 July 2025, signed by Nobert Mao, Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, requesting more time for this report to be presented on the Floor.

In the circumstances, Madam Speaker –

THE SPEAKER: Honourable minister, you are reading a letter that was addressed to me, but I have not seen it.

MR OBUA: I have stated, Madam Speaker, that I am in possession of a letter addressed to you and copied to me as the Government Chief Whip, signed by Hon. Norbert Mao, Minister, where in the last paragraph he says, “*We are, therefore, unable to present a comprehensive report today as directed. I request that you allow us more time to report. Two weeks will be enough for us to finish consultations.*”

THE SPEAKER: There is a point of order.

MR OBUA: At least I have my copy – (*Laughter*)- because it was copied to me and I can lay it on the Table.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Government Chief Whip, it is bad manners for you to get a copy of a letter addressed to me. I have not received it, and it is used as a reference. (*Hon. Akol rose*)

MR OBUA: Madam Speaker, I may put it on record that you may not blame me. The letter is copied to me. I received my copy. Maybe we blame the messenger who was meant to deliver this letter to the respective offices. At least I have received mine, and the copy is here.

THE SPEAKER: I think next time we need to be smarter. Let us get to know what is happening before we come to the House to avoid embarrassment.

Honourable members, in the public gallery, we have NRM party registrars and village chairpersons from Gweeri County, Soroti District. They are represented by Hon. Adeke Anne. You are most welcome. Please stand up. Thank you. The flag bearer of that area is Hon. Ariko Herbert Edmond. You are most welcome. Thank you so much for coming.

In the public gallery this afternoon, we have pupils and teachers from Bishop West Boarding School, Mukono. They are represented by Hon. Bakireke, Betty Nambooze, and Hon. Nabukeera. You are most welcome, children. Thank you for coming. Join me in welcoming them.

Still in the public gallery, we have pupils and teachers from Giving Tree Primary School, Buikwe South. They are represented by Hon. Dr Lulume and Hon. Diana Mutasingwa. You are most welcome. Thank you so much for coming.

Again, in the public gallery is a delegation of the Nubian community from Katikamu, Luwero. They are represented by Hon. Kirumira Hassan and Hon. Brenda Nabukenya. They are here to observe the proceedings on their petition. They

have a petition to be presented. You are most welcome. Thank you.

III) MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON THE STATE OF ROADS AND STATUS OF ROAD PROJECTS IN THE COUNTRY

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, yesterday we were supposed to have a discussion and a presentation of this report, and Hon. Fred, the State Minister for Works, was then ready. However, the Members raised various related issues regarding the state of the roads, and in their view, requested that we have the report - General, you can have a seat. We could have a presentation done today and have a comprehensive discussion; therefore, the General is here to present.

Pursuant to Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure, the Minister of Works and Transport will present the report. Hon. Gen. Katumba, I hope it was uploaded.

2.54

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT (Gen. Edward Katumba Wamala): Thank you, Madam Speaker. This report, I am sure, was uploaded because we sent it for that purpose, but I am also laying on the Table, a copy of the report, and copies of the accountability.

Madam Speaker, a lot has been said about the money, which has been given to the ministry, and no work is being done. Nothing seems to be done.

Madam Speaker, when we came here last time, before Parliament adjourned, we raised a concern about how much we owe the contractors, and at that time, it was about Shs 1.3 trillion. Parliament directed that we be given the money to meet the backlog in terms of payment to the contractors.

We were given, out of the Shs 1.3 trillion, Shs 462 billion, and that is the money we have accounted for in one of those documents. Before going to the main report, which gives a brief on why many of the contracts are not

running, we owe the contractors a lot of money. Allow me to go through my report.

Madam Speaker, this statement is a follow-up to the one I presented to this august House on 14 May 2025 regarding the state of road infrastructure in this country.

Madam Speaker, I think I will go on record to be one of the ministers who are always here lamenting and crying about money because the truth is, I am not getting what I am supposed to get to be able to deliver the services –

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Government Chief Whip, is it possible for the finance minister to be here? If the ministers' problem is money, can we have the finance minister here so that we understand why these things are not being done?

GEN. KATUMBA WAMALA: Madam Speaker, this report is intended to update Parliament on the status of implementation of the National Roads Project, outline the effects of funding shortfalls in the current financial year, and reaffirm my ministry's strategy and readiness to provide the service when required -

THE SPEAKER: There is a procedural matter.

MR AKOL: Madam Speaker, you sent the Government Chief Whip to call the Minister of Finance, Planning, and Economic Development. Would it not be procedurally right for the honourable minister to wait until the Minister is around, so that they can answer issues which are going to be raised in the report, rather than going ahead in their absence?

THE SPEAKER: The report is uploaded. The presumption is that these ministers or all the Members of Parliament have the report, and they should have gone through it. Let the minister go ahead to read, and then on the specifics, we shall find out from the finance minister.

GEN. KATUMBA WAMALA: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Uganda's national road

network currently consists of approximately 21,292 kilometres, of which 6,312 kilometres are paved. Paved means that it is tarmacked. The remaining 14,980 kilometres are unpaved.

The Ministry of Works and Transport, through the Department of National Roads, is now responsible for the national roads in place of Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA). What we have done is that, unlike what used to happen before, like where they dismissed everybody when UNRA was getting in place, we have absorbed nearly 75 per cent of all the personnel of UNRA into the ministry, as of now. The people in this Department of National Roads are the same people who have been running the national roads in this country.

Following the repeal of the National Roads Authority Act, the Department of National Roads, under the ministry, now manages all ongoing roadworks, previously under UNRA. As of July 2025, the active portfolio under implementation comprises the following:

- a) We have 28 road upgrading projects. These are roads that are going to be upgraded from gravel to tarmac;
- b) 10 roads are under rehabilitation. These are roads that have been highly degraded and have to be rehabilitated; and
- c) 11 bridges, are being constructed.

These projects are financed through a combination of Government of Uganda funding and development partners' support. In addition, the ministry continues to manage the National Road Maintenance Programme, covering both the paved and unpaved network.

For this Financial Year 2025/2026, the total Government of Uganda requirement for the National Roads Programme is Shs 3.153 trillion, broken down as follows:

- a) Shs 2.082 trillion is for the ongoing works (lists are in the annexes, which are attached to this document), land acquisition, which is a very big consuming aspect of the road construction, and counterpart funding obligations. When we get funds

from foreign funders, we are required to provide counterpart funding for some of the projects to meet the requirements.

- b) In addition, Shs 1.071 trillion is for arrears carried forward from the Financial Year 2024/2025. This means we have the IPCs. The certificates have already been given out, but we cannot pay because we do not have the money.

THE SPEAKER: General, on that, next time you should also include the interest that has accrued.

GEN. KATUMBA WAMALA: It is within this statement.

THE SPEAKER: Okay.

GEN. KATUMBA WAMALA: Against this requirement, only this financial year, 2025/2026, out of the Shs 3.15 trillion, which we require, what has been provided in the budget is Shs 682 billion. This is what is in the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF). This leaves a gap in financing of Shs 2,472,000,000. This represents only 22 per cent of the required funding.

Madam Speaker, this trend follows a continued decline in Government of Uganda allocations over the Third National Development Plan (NDPIII) period. Government contributions have continued to reduce from Shs 1.86 trillion, in the Financial Year 2020/2021, to Shs 682 billion, in this Financial Year 2024/2025; with the latter representing only 20 per cent of the NDP target for that year.

This sustained underinvestment has led to the accumulation of certified debt, stalling of ongoing projects and deterioration in the condition of the road network.

This is a matter we have talked about day in, day out. We seem to be doing the same things and expecting different results. It cannot happen. We have to change the way we do business if we are going to expect different results. With this kind of funding, I do not think we are going to make any bigger difference.

The implementation of the ongoing road and bridge projects under the ministry has been significantly disrupted due to prevailing funding shortfalls. Although partial payments were effected in the fourth quarter of the Financial Year 2024/2025 on some of the projects, the amounts released were insufficient to restore full momentum. Most contractors have not resumed full operations and most project sites remain partially mobilised or idle.

As of July 2025, 27 projects have been affected by either full suspension or a significant reduction in progress. These projects include the following:

1. 18 projects are fully funded by the Government of Uganda, where contractors have suspended or slowed down works due to delayed payment.
2. Nine externally financed projects where delays are primarily attributed to the Government's inability to provide timely counterpart funding for land acquisition, taxes or enabling works.

The following projects are currently fully suspended due to non-payment:

1. Masindi-Biiso and Kabale-Kizilanzumbi. This is a critical oil road. The amount of money demanded by the contractor –

THE SPEAKER: He has a procedural matter.

MR EDDIE KWIZERA: Thank you, Madam Speaker. This is Parliament that approves the Government policies and budgets. The senior Minister of Works and Transport is here, saying he wants to lament. This is a statement that will be presented to where resources are allocated in the Cabinet.

Is it procedurally right for the senior Minister of Works and Transport to come here to lament and show that there is a failure of Government, especially at the Cabinet level, even while knowing that the ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development together with the President sit there? You are presenting here. What do we expect when the Minister for Finance, Planning and Economic Development is not here? We are not the Cabinet.

THE SPEAKER: Hon. Eddie Kwizera, we did ask for this report. In one of our roles of oversight representation, as representatives of the people of Uganda found out that although we appropriated money for the works that are supposed to be done, the works are not ongoing. That is why we are asking the minister what happened.

The minister is giving us the reality of what is happening. That, yes, much as you approved to give me money for the works of, say, Mityana-Mubende Road, I have not been given the money. There is a difference between an appropriation and a release. Therefore, for the minister to give a statement, he is giving accountability for what is happening in his docket.

Therefore, he is procedurally right. Let him give us a report. As a House, the mandate is on us to decide on what to do, but information is very important for us. We must be able to account to the population out there that, yes, we are here as your representatives. We allocated money for you, but this money has not been available, maybe because of other priorities. Let the minister finish the presentation of his report, then we can bring up all those procedural issues.

GEN. KATUMBA WAMALA: Thank you, Madam Speaker, for the protection. As I was saying, the following projects are currently fully suspended due to non-payment:

- a) Masindi-Biiso and Kabale-Kiziiranzumbi, one of the critical roads. The contractor demands Shs 111 billion, so we cannot expect that contractor to continue working;
- b) Works on the Najjanankumbi-Busabala are suspended because we owe the contractor Shs 44 billion, and we also need money for land acquisition;
- c) Moroto-Lokitanyala. This one is at about 80 per cent progress, but we need to find the money so that the project can be completed;
- d) Mityana-Mubende. We gave the contractor, out of the money which was appropriated, the Shs 462 billion, Shs 39 billion out of the IPCs, which he had, but he told us

- that he used all that money to pay debts, suppliers, and right now needs another Shs 30 billion, which is not in the budget; and
- e) Kampala-Jinja Highway. We had to use the internal mechanism of the Internal Capacity unit of the Ministry of Works and Transport to intervene, and that is why you see works going on in an attempt to put some sanity on the road.

The following projects are progressing, but at a reduced rate due to delayed payments or incomplete land acquisition, which is another nightmare.

- a) Kira-Kasangati-Matugga. There are a number of properties, which we have not yet paid for.
- b) Kisubi-Nakawuka-Nateete, Nakawuka-Mawagulu-Nanziga, Nakawuka-Kasanje-Mpigi, Kasanje-Buwaya and Entebbe-Nakiwogo.

This is one project within that area but the challenge is mainly land acquisition because the contractor agreed to do a pre-financing arrangement, which was agreed upon with the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development for two years, but he needs land for him to work.

THE SPEAKER: How much is supposed to be paid to the Project Affected Persons (PAPs)?

GEN. KATUMBA WAMALA: The PAPs need Shs 380 billion.

- a) Alwii-Nebbi Road is about to be completed, but again, the progress is slow; we need to –
- b) Matugga-Semuto-Kapeeka. Abubaker, who is a local contractor and demands about Shs 44 billion.
- c) Karuma-Pakwach Road is progressing. The contractor, China Railway 7, together with NEC, demands about Shs 20 billion.
- d) Busunju-Kiboga-Hoima Road is under reconstruction again by Abubaker, who is demanding another Shs 30 billion on this particular road.
- e) Karuma-Olwiyo and Olwiyo-Pakwach sections are being addressed, and very soon, they will be finished.

Additionally, key bridge projects remain under construction but are constrained because of funding, and it would be better if we had a reliable fund release.

- a) Katonga Bridge, including Lweera and Kalandazi swamp crossings along Masaka; and
- b) Then the upper Katonga Bridge, that's Kabulasoke-Villa Maria Road and Ssezibwa Bridge on Kayunga-Mukono Road.

The cumulative effects of these suspensions and delays have led to slow absorption of project resources, exposure to financial claims, risk of asset deterioration, and reputational concerns. If not urgently addressed, these disruptions will compromise Uganda's ability to deliver critical national infrastructure and maintenance of the existing network.

Impact of inadequate funding

The funding shortfall of Shs 2.472 trillion in this financial year has had far-reaching consequences on the implementation of the National Roads Programme. These impacts manifest across land acquisition, ongoing project performance, the paved road network, and maintenance of gravel roads.

Impact on land acquisition and project commencement

Land acquisition remains a prerequisite, and this is in the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, Article 26, for access to the site and commencement of physical works. The delay or absence of funds for land composition has constrained progress on both the Government of Uganda projects and externally funded projects. The lack of access to the site has:

- a. Prevented contractors from mobilising, leading to suspension of activities; and
- b. Triggered claims for idle equipment - because it is in the law that if you cannot give the contractor access to land, then we charge you for idle equipment.

The ministry currently requires Shs 843 billion in total to complete land acquisition obligations in the Financial Year 2025/26 on all ongoing projects, including those funded by donors, and the list is in the annexes, which I have provided.

Impact on ongoing projects, arrears, and claims

Madam Speaker, the under-allocation in the Financial Year 2025/26 has further compounded certified arrears carried forward from the previous year, which, as I stated earlier, is Shs 1.71 trillion. These arrears relate to completed or ongoing works for which certificates were issued and approved.

Failure to clear these obligations has resulted in the following:

1. Suspension or reduced performance on 27 ongoing projects. The lists are in the annex;
2. Accrual of commercial interest on delayed payments estimated at over Shs 48 billion in Financial Year 2025/26 alone; and
3. Delays in the execution of co-financed projects potentially affecting Uganda's credibility with development partners.

Additionally, the continued accumulation of unpaid certificates discourages private sector confidence, increases future unit costs, and may result in the Government being classified as a high-risk client in the infrastructure contracting market.

The impact on paved roads

Uganda's paved road network, now standing at 6,312 kilometres, is experiencing increasing structural distress due to insufficient maintenance, deferred interventions, increased traffic and climate change, and according to the latest technical assessment, 2,460 kilometres, which is 39 per cent of the network, require urgent intervention as follows:

1. 1,993 kilometres require periodical maintenance - like what we did on the Northern Bypass;

2. 260 kilometres require rehabilitation; and
3. 270 kilometres have deteriorated to the level of reconstruction. These include roads like Gulu-Atyak-Nimule, which need total reconstruction.

Madam Speaker, periodic maintenance intervention costs about Shs 888 million per kilometre if you do it within time. If not implemented -

THE SPEAKER: Shs 888 million.

GEN. KATUMBA WAMALA: Yes, Shs 888 million per kilometre. If not implemented, these roads degrade and instead require rehabilitation, which costs up to Shs 2.59 billion per kilometre. Again, if this is not done, the deterioration of the 1,993 kilometres due for periodical maintenance further into rehabilitation would result in A preventable fiscal loss of up to Shs 850 billion.

This, however, does not even include the direct costs for road users, such as vehicle maintenance and accidents, which happen as a result. If roads already earmarked for rehabilitation are neglected further, they transition into the reconstruction category, just like what we are doing on Masaka-Mutukula Road, which costs Shs3.70 billion per kilometre from Shs 888 for not being attended to in time.

Consequently, failure to address 100 kilometres of rehabilitation-ready roads could impose an additional burden of Shs 111 billion to the Government.

Further, the national asset value of Uganda's paved network has dropped from Shs 37.4 trillion to Shs 26.9 trillion, a depreciation of about Shs 10.5 trillion largely due to underfunding and deferred maintenance. This, therefore, calls for an urgent need to provide funding to attend to the maintenance backlog.

Madam Speaker, this may not be in the statement; we have had discussions on this matter of maintenance, not once, not twice - even within my committee, the Committee of Parliament on Physical Infrastructure, and

we have been urging that for every \$10 we invest in construction, we should invest \$3 in maintenance. It has not worked, but we have made this very clear to the finance ministry.

Impact on unpaved roads and routine maintenance

The national gravel road network, spanning over 14,000 kilometres, is also facing significant pressure due to poor funding and recurring climate shocks.

The current condition assessment indicates that 48 per cent of these roads is in good condition, 35 per cent in fair condition, and 17 per cent in poor condition. Maintenance efforts are hampered by:

- a) Unreliable and inadequate risk for grading and spot improvements;
- b) Depletion of gravel materials in highly demanded districts; and
- c) Infrastructure degradation due to flooding, landslides, and prolonged wet seasons.

The Ministry's capacity to respond to routine maintenance demands has been overstretched. Without predictable funding and mechanisation support, rural access and road connectivity are likely to deteriorate further.

Strategic recommendations and priority actions

Madam Speaker, in light of the impacts outlined above, the ministry proposes the following measures to safeguard the value of the ongoing investment, restore the project's momentum, and prevent further deterioration of the road network.

1. Prioritise and ring-fence funding for periodical maintenance

The most economically prudent intervention is to protect roads still in maintainable condition. Periodic maintenance should be prioritised and ring-fenced in this financial year to prevent 1,933 kilometres from degrading into high-cost rehabilitation or reconstruction categories. This alone could avert a fiscal loss of Shs 850 billion.

2. Clear certified arrears to enable resumption of works

The ministry recommends that a substantial portion of the Shs 1.071 trillion in arrears be cleared early enough in the financial year to:

- a) Prevent further contractor demobilisation;
- b) Avert accumulation of commercial interest;
- c) Avoid prolongation costs arising from claims by contractors;
- d) Restore momentum on suspended or slowed-down sites. Priority should be placed on fully suspended Government of Uganda-funded projects such as Mityana-Mubende, Kampala-Jinja, Busega-Mpigi Expressway, among others.

3. Allocate a dedicated fund for land acquisition

On this matter, Madam Speaker, we have resolved that we are not going to accept any project to be directed to commence a project if the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development has not provided money for land acquisition going forward, because land acquisition is a recurring constraint affecting both donor and Government-funded projects. Therefore, we need an immediate allocation of about Shs 843 billion in this financial year.

This would enable us to access the sites and avoid breach of contract obligations. Projects under disbursement pressure from development partners must be prioritised to protect Uganda's credibility.

Assurance and conclusion

Madam Speaker, our road network remains a critical national asset that underpins economic growth, regional integration - fortunately or unfortunately, we are in the centre of the region and our network not only serves Uganda, it also serves our neighbours - and the delivery of services. Its total replacement value is estimated at Shs 37.4 trillion.

However, due to underfunding and deferred maintenance, this value has greatly depreciated by about Shs 10.5 trillion, and the risks of further deterioration are growing if the funding levels remain unchanged.

The funding shortfall of Shs 2.472 trillion in this financial year has triggered project suspension, delayed land acquisition, accumulated arrears and increased fiscal exposure through interest and claim liabilities. The national paved network is now experiencing a backlog of 2,460 kilometres requiring urgent intervention. Without decisive action, an additional 300-500 kilometres may deteriorate and become costlier within this single year.

Madam Speaker, I would like to assure you and all the honourable members that my ministry is committed to developing and maintaining the road network. However, we need to be assisted, of course, in getting the right resources, which we shall frugally utilise in the most effective manner possible for reliable and safe works, and also to ensure that our transportation infrastructure and services remain available to the public.

Thank you, Madam Speaker. I beg to submit.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you, honourable minister.

GEN. KATUMBA WAMALA: Madam Speaker, on the document are annexes, which show the allocation versus the requirement of the key projects under the Government of Uganda. Projects initially meant to be completed in the Financial Year 2024/2025, which are not yet completed because of funding. I will have a breakdown of roads in need of urgent intervention, that is, roads which require periodic maintenance, and they are lined out there in annex three, and that ends my report and submission. Thank you.

THE SPEAKER: We have heard the report from the minister; I sent the Government Chief Whip to call one of the ministers of finance. Let him first give us a report on the ministers of finance.

3.26

THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF WHIP (Mr Denis Hamson Obua): Madam Speaker, as I notified you, I called the senior Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development. He is travelling to Kigali to represent Government. Hon. Musasizi is believed to be in the constituency – (*Laughter*) – Hon. Anite is representing the ministry at State Lodge Nakasero for a meeting that Hon. Peter Ogwang has just moved out for. Hon. Lugoloobi's phone is on, but he is not picking up (*Laughter*). So, in the circumstances, that is the report I can give.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. There is a procedural matter.

MR ENOS ASIIMWE: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Originally, I wanted to ask the same, but now that the honourable Government Chief Whip has told us the status of the ministers, is it procedurally right to put this report on hold until the ministers and the Prime Minister are here?

Honestly, the issue is about money - this is a very beautiful report, and well thought out, but the moment we discuss it or debate it without these ministers and the Prime Minister, we will not get an answer. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, all that we are going to talk about is on lamentations, without the people who provide the money. However, honourable minister, I also want you to address the issue of the money for the maintenance of the rural roads, the village roads, the Shs 1 billion because we have that money.

In the same districts, we also have formerly Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA) roads. What is the way forward? Can you guide these people to maintain them where possible? You cannot just abandon a road and say, this is a UNRA road yet you can maintain it. If it requires us to add money to the districts to maintain the roads, let them do so. You will not wait for the Ministry of Works and Transport to go and maintain them.

There was an issue with the Project Affected Persons (PAPs). You find that most of these figures are inflated. Is it possible for us to standardise the valuations so that we have - and I think there is a Valuation Bill in the committee - when that Bill comes from the committee, we should be able to do something to avoid having inflated figures for PAPs. We will - yes -

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3.30

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (Mr Joel Ssenyonyi): Madam Speaker, I acknowledge the fact that our finance ministers are not present. In fact, on the Front Bench, we have just two ministers and maybe one person who is interested in becoming a minister sometime. *(Laughter)*

Madam Speaker, there is a generic issue, which, for me, is beyond finance. It is good that the Government Chief Whip is here. The Government has been propagating “Buy Uganda Build Uganda (BUBU)” policy. Some of the contractors the minister is talking about are local contractors. These people’s companies are closing down.

Madam Speaker, they go to banks after you have given them a contract and secure a loan; a credit facility on account of that, but because they are not getting payment from the Government, their businesses are closing down, the young people they are employing - joblessness and so on. Government, you cannot say one thing and do another.

I get perplexed because whenever these so-called foreign investors come here, we give them free land. We give them tax waivers. Of late, we are guaranteeing them money. I do not know what kind of investors these are that we give land, tax waivers, and then we guarantee you money, and you call yourself an investor.

Madam Speaker, we have our local investors who are going to make sure this money here gets recycled within our economic platform. Why? Maybe the Government needs to help us understand that this BUBU thing was only for us, the citizens, that when you go to the market,

buy Ugandan products. Yet, the Government wants to preach water and then drink wine. You cannot tell us to buy Ugandan products when you are stifling Ugandan businesses. You should be prioritising that.

Madam Speaker, that is not a question for the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development; it is a question for the Government generally.

THE SPEAKER: It is connected to finance because the arrears to be paid are supposed to come from finance. We need the arrears paid to the people who have worked.

Honourable minister, when you talk about roads that were suspended, I want you to include the Busunju-Kiboga-Hoima Road. This is because it is the road that is going to be checked by CAF for us to be able to host AFCON. *(Applause)* You need to prioritise that road. If you are talking about Shs 30 billion, that is little money. You should be able to get that money. That is a local contractor whom we even gave money to, that is, Abubaker Technical Services. We gave that local contractor our own money, as the Government.

Honourable minister, also look at the issue of - did we budget for equipment for districts and cities that do not have them? Did we budget for it?

GEN. KATUMBA WAMALA: Madam Speaker, there are districts which were identified as excessively big, so one unit was not enough for them. Also, remember, when we bought the equipment, we did not address the cities, municipalities and town councils. We have already provided the requirements to the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, and last I heard is that it has been put in the system, possibly to use the same arrangement we used in buying the 1,151, which we distributed, so that we can they can get the equipment. That is about the equipment.

About the Busunju-Kiboga Road and the contractor, Madam Speaker, when you look at

some of the documents, which I have given, where we spent Shs 420 billion, priority was given to local contractors. We gave them priority in paying for their Interim Payment Certificates (IPCs).

Therefore, we recognise their challenges because these are people with whom we interface nearly every day through their body, the Uganda National Association of Building and Civil Engineering Contractors (UNABSEC). We did give them a sizeable amount according to the certificates they presented. We do not pay up front; we pay when the certificates are there.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable minister, yesterday, I talked about the road from Mbarara to Bushenyi. It is basically potholes. As we wait for money to work on the whole road, why don't you work on those small potholes so that the road is usable, the way you are working on Kampala-Jinja Road?

GEN. KATUMBA WAMALA: Madam Speaker, we are now in that process. We started with Gayaza-Kalagi Road, which had also deteriorated. Now, we are doing Jinja; we are left with only one or two sections at Bulyantente and somewhere near Kigombya. Mabira was done. I think there is a section in Mabira where the Kenyans had an accident when they were doing the pilgrimage. So, we are in that process.

We want to reduce on contracting for every simple work. I remember we had potholes between Mijera and Kafu and those were done by ourselves. The unit went and treated those potholes.

When we move from Jinja Road, we intend to move to Kyegegwa, between Kyegegwa and Kyenjojo, because that section has also greatly deteriorated – (*Interjection*) - no, the Kabale-Mbarara Road has a contractor who is working on it.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, we had agreed to discuss this report when the finance people are here.

3.36

MR ELIJAH OKUPA (Independent, Kasilo County, Serere): Thank you, Madam Speaker. First of all, I want to thank the minister for being honest in the report. However, yesterday, when we halted the minister from presenting the report, Madam Speaker, you asked Members to give additional information for the minister to clarify. I found that missing in the minister's presentation. Maybe the minister's colleague did not give him those issues. Now that we are going to have a discussion -

THE SPEAKER: Can all of you write those additional issues so we capture and give them to the minister?

MR OKUPA: Sure, but even his colleague should have given him the information. Madam Speaker, we shall write.

THE SPEAKER: Government Chief Whip, capture all the concerns of Members. Let them write to you and then forward all the issues to the minister. Whips, these people, by the way, should not lie to you because they are together; they talk.

MR TINKASIIMIRE: Madam Speaker, I want to thank you so much for allowing me to raise this point of procedure. I believe this is a House of record. If issues were raised on the Floor of the House, they are captured on the *Hansard*. Therefore, Members who did their part yesterday, the minister should be –

THE SPEAKER: We are going to extract them from the *Hansard* and give them to the minister. Even the ones who still have other issues, like you who was not in the House - you were not in the House yesterday - you will state your issue and we will capture it so that we now give it to the minister and so that when we are going for debate, we have an exhaustive one and get a way forward, as an institution.

MR TINKASIIMIRE: Madam Speaker, as I exhaust my point of procedure, there are issues which the minister may not need to wait on. For instance, you raised the issue of UNRA roads; the roads which UNRA was working on, like trunk roads.

I have two roads in my constituency. One is from Mabale, Burora, Rugashari to Kyenzige. Another one is from Muhooro, Kyeterekera and Ndaiga. UNRA had been maintaining them before it was rationalised.

Recently, we gave the entire budget of UNRA to the Ministry of Works and Transport. Ministry of Works has escaped and they are saying that they have no money. Where is the money that we gave you when you were taking over UNRA?

THE SPEAKER: Honourable member, I have the accountability of the monies that were transferred.

MR TINKASIIMIRE: He is talking about suspended tarmac roads, not trunk roads which our people are using.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, I believe all of you are chairpersons of the road committees in your villages. Do the monitoring. Can you people do the monitoring? You are all chairpersons of road committees. If you are not a chairperson of a road committee then you are a weak Member. How can you allow this? Yes?

3.41

MR JOHN BAPTIST NAMBESHE (NUP, Manjiya County, Bududa): Thank you, Madam Speaker. You know I have already shared with you the serious concern of my sub-region of Bubulo-Bududa Circular Road, 28 kilometres, and the minister is aware.

THE SPEAKER: Yes, I forwarded it to the minister.

MR NAMBESHE: But there is a clarification I seek from the minister because it could be the reason that imposed the added financial burden on the budget. Is the ongoing progressive construction of roads in DRC Congo courtesy of the budget here and with your superintendence? Could it be the major reason that is causing the – because this works and transport sector was one of the four lion's shares of the budget. What could have happened?

GEN. KATUMBA WAMALA: Madam Speaker, if I may answer the honourable directly. One, Bubulo-Bududa Circular Road, the 28 kilometres. That road is under NDP IV now for tarmacking. However, Mbale station has now put a contractor to maintain the road before we go into the tarmacking. So it will be maintained.

On the issue of the money. If I may, we had a discussion with the Minister of Finance. Actually, we had it yesterday but one under the chairmanship of the President and this is what they said – but they will be here to defend – that we understand your challenges but as of now, because of elections, most of the money is in elections. *(Interruptions)* So bear - And you are the people who are in elections, I am not.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you, honourable minister. Of course, one thing is that you need the people who are going to elect you alive. Those roads that we are talking about are causing a lot of accidents. Maybe next time when you have a meeting with them, you should involve some of us. Let us have a meeting with them and we will see how best we can handle that.

We are going to discuss this report when we have the finance minister in the House. Can we have this on Tuesday, honourable Government Chief Whip? Go to the microphone. Give all the issues that were raised to the minister, then we will have a discussion on Tuesday.

3.44

THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF WHIP (Mr Denis Hamson Obua): Madam Speaker, I can guarantee that I will notify the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development but I may not guarantee their attendance.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable Government Chief Whip, can we have the Minister of Finance in the House? Senior minister, we want you. Since you have started this process, you should be able to finish it.

MR OBUA: Madam Speaker, in informing the minister, I will formally write before the close of business today, and also call. But to say I undertake to drag him here – *(Laughter)* – Honourable members, you and I know you cannot do that. *(Laughter)* So, kindly, allow me to do my part.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable minister, I have not said you should drag him, but it is your responsibility under Rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure.

Honourable members, in the public gallery, we have pupils and teachers from New Hope Junior School, Makindye-Ssabagabo Municipality. They are represented by Hon. Naluyima and Hon. David Sserukenya. Where are they? You are welcome. Please stand up and we see you. Welcome. Join me in welcoming them. *(Applause)*

Still in the public gallery this afternoon, we have students from Islamic University in Uganda, Kampala Campus, Makindye Division. They are represented by Hon. Derrick Nyeko and Hon. Shamim Malende. Where are you? Welcome. Thank you for coming.

In the public gallery, we also have pupils and teachers from Goshen Nursery and Primary School from Soroto West Division. They are represented by Hon. Jonathan Ebwalu and Hon. Adeke Ebaju. Where are you? Soroto West. You are welcome. Thank you for coming all the way. They are here to observe the proceedings. Thank you very much.

Yes? What is burning?

3.47

MS LUCY AKELLO (FDC, Woman Representative, Amuru): Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I have an emergency in my district. One of my main roads is completely cut off. *(Interjections)* Yes. I cannot access the district headquarters at actually two points. There is a lot of pressure on the district road yet the district roads are not built to handle heavy trucks.

This particular road I am talking about is not even in your report. It is Rhino Camp Road, which has been completely neglected for a very long time. It ferries very heavy agricultural products from Lakang, bringing them to serve the whole of Uganda. As we speak, people cannot use that road – *(Interjection)* – I am telling you the truth. People are using the district road which is completely damaged because of heavy trucks. This is the emergency I have. If I do not say it, I will not be voted. Thank you. *(Laughter)*

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable minister, you have heard it. Then there is the issue of road safety. I do not know if it was activated, since the time it came to the ministry. Remember, we had a complaint here that you could not know whether there were works, or if there was a truck that had failed. There are no signs to show all those kinds of things.

Honourable minister, you may need to give us a response to that effect. Can we go to the next item?

PRESENTATION OF A PETITION BY THE NUBIAN COMMUNITY

THE SPEAKER: We will have this debate on the issue of the roads on Tuesday.

Honourable minister, you are only biased towards road transport. For the people who stay on the islands like Hon. Moses – exactly – give us a response to that.

MS KABASHARIRA: Thank you so much, Madam Speaker.

I have been in Parliament for some time. Parliament is supposed to legislate, but also appropriate. I find it somehow awkward for us to say that a minister for finance, whom we give money to, should come and be in Parliament. The Government Chief Whip did not even fear to say that he is not able to pull him. I find it awkward for Parliament to call a minister and the minister says he cannot come.

THE SPEAKER: First call the Government Chief Whip.

MS KABASHARIRA: Madam Speaker, we should take it on a serious note that the Cabinet should take Parliament as a serious body. When we say that we want him to come for a purpose which is needed by the whole country, he should be able to appear. They should not say that someone is in another country, and another one is somewhere. From history, they are taking us for granted, which should not be the case.

Therefore, is it procedurally right for the Government Chief Whip to tell us that he will not be able to drag the minister to come to Parliament?

It is really unfortunate that the minister cannot take you seriously, because you represent both Parliament and the Government. There is no way Parliament can say that the minister should come to tell us what we want - after all we give him the money just to tell us what has happened - and then he says he cannot come. You call him, and he is not there. They are not taking Parliament seriously.

From what I have known since I came to Parliament, there is no Parliament that can call a minister at any given time and he fails to come. I am wondering what has happened. I need to be educated.

THE SPEAKER: Honourable member, rule 16(2)(a), the role and functions of a Whip is to ensure Members attend, participate in the proceedings, and vote in Parliament. When you look at rule 52, it says ministers should attend the House to answer questions. The rules are very clear.

Hon. Obua, one of your roles is to ensure that people are in the House. There is also a rule that mandates the ministers to ensure that they are in the House. Therefore, as the Government Chief Whip, you should be able to whip the Members to be in the House, much as the rules also mandate them to be in the House. It is a simple thing.

MR OBUA: Madam Speaker, in principle, every Member of Parliament elected to

represent a constituency is expected to be in Parliament when it is sitting. In principle, every minister appointed by the President, approved by Parliament through the committee, is expected to be in Parliament.

What I have stated is the real thing. I have undertaken to write to the minister communicating the decision of Parliament, and that letter is being worked on. I have stated that I do not have that power to literally drag that minister to the Floor, but I will do my responsibility of whipping them through those formal ways.

I think I am right. Unless you are telling me that one day, a Government Chief Whip who served before literally dragged the minister here.

THE SPEAKER: The process of writing, honourable minister, is more or less dragging them. That is your role as a Government Chief Whip. You are the one who is supposed to ensure Members are in the House. This is not anything for debate.

MR OBUA: Madam Speaker, I have made my commitment. I do not want to come here on Tuesday, and then the question is posed to me. That question now must be posed to the minister, because the letter I am going to write is going to be copied to the Speaker. I would have done my part of whipping.

The minister should be here to answer. If he does not come, do not pose the question back to the Whip. I would have done my part as a Whip.

THE SPEAKER: We shall do it. We shall hold you accountable.

Hon. Rose Obigah -

3.56

MS ROSE OBIGAH (NRM, Woman Representative, Terego): Thank you so much, Madam Speaker. I join the rest of my colleagues in asking our Government Chief Whip to get more serious about this. Yesterday, we lost the former ambassador to Egypt, H.E.

Richard Laus Angualia. He perished with another person in a road accident. I mentioned here, yesterday, that our roads have gone from bad to worse. His head burst open in the middle of the road.

We have pleaded here about our roads in West Nile. We do not even have culverts but we would like to do it ourselves. This is more than the word, "Serious." Just imagine, within seconds, we lost three people in West Nile yesterday at 4 p.m., while we were here in the House.

We are asking you, our Government Chief Whip - it is not a bed of roses but rather from the frying pan into the fire. Can we get these people to do their work? If they are not capable, any Member here can be a minister. This information should go to the President, instead of letting people occupy spaces that they cannot work in. Thank you so much, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you, Hon. Obigah.

Honourable members, I have visitors here who want to go. Can we look at the petition?

Honourable members, petitions are avenues through which the public may seek parliamentary intervention on matters that relate to the public.

The Nubian community in Uganda petitioned my office, and they were brought by Hon. Hassan Kirumira, the Member of Parliament for Katikamu County South, where the Nubian community live or stay or come from.

Pursuant to Rule 31(3) of the Rules of Procedure, I will now request Hon. Kirumira Hassan to present the petition.

3.58

MR HASSAN KIRUMIRA (NUP, Katikamu County South, Luwero): Thank you, Madam Speaker.

I rise to move and present a petition under Rule 31 of our Rules of Procedure regarding the

Uganda Nubian community and this petition was presented to your office. The delegation from the Nubian community are here to witness the presentation of this petition:

Madam Speaker, despite being bona fide citizens of Uganda, the Nubian community has continuously faced discrimination and marginalisation.

The Nubi feature in the 1995 Constitution of the Republic of Uganda as one of the indigenous tribes of Uganda. The Nubi became an indigenous tribe in Uganda as far as 1844, following their migration to Uganda through the northern route from the Republic of Sudan and their subsequent settlement in urban areas, including Bombo.

Madam Speaker, the Nubians were integrated fully in the Ugandan communities through business transactions, intermarriages, their military activities, and have greatly participated in nation-building and national development.

The Nubian community are marginalised and are facing several challenges which greatly impact their overall well-being and advancement.

The Nubian community has been marginalised by the Government in respect of appointment to public offices, including ministries, boards, and foreign services, and barely has representation in local government structures, which has excluded them from political participation.

The decision by the President of the Republic of Uganda to grant Bombo Municipality has not been implemented, yet Bombo Town, commonly known as the cradle of the Nubian community, originally enjoyed municipality status from the 1970s to 1996.

However, it was consequently relegated to a town council, thus negatively affecting their political and economic privileges associated with the municipality.

Madam Speaker, with the fall of President Idi Amin's regime in 1979, and later the five-year NRA rebellion in Luwero Triangle in which Bombo is situated, many Nubians were killed, their homes were destroyed, and property looted yet since then, there has never been any recognisable government intervention aimed at assisting the community recover their land, property, and losses that were incurred.

Madam Speaker, the Nubian community, as mentioned above, were business people; bank accounts belonging to some of the members of the Nubian community were frozen by the Government after the overthrow of Idi Amin Dada, and efforts to get them reinstated have remained unsuccessful. Consequently, most of them have remained in dire poverty.

Madam Speaker, the existing health facilities accessed by the Nubian community in Bombo lack the essential medical equipment for carrying out diagnostic tests and treatment, and they do not have an ambulance, which has definitely affected the health standards of the people in Bombo.

Madam Speaker, the Nubian community suffered great unemployment, which has left many young graduates idle, with many abandoning their studies. The rate of young Nubians who drop out of schools is so high due to the inability of parents to afford school fees and teenage pregnancies, among other issues that are affecting the Nubian community.

Madam Speaker, therefore, by the petition, your petitioners pray that Parliament urge the Government:

- a. Implement the Presidential Directive to reinstate the municipality status of Bombo due to various benefits that will be realised from such reinstatement.*
- b. Adequately equip the health facility at Bombo with necessary medical supplies and equipment.*
- c. Undertake measures to improve the economic status of the Nubian community*

through strengthening existing savings and credit cooperative organisations within the Nubian communities and providing relevant training.

Madam Speaker, they also pray for the implementation of a presidential directive to refurbish schools in Bombo, particularly Bombo SS. Many months ago, the President gave a directive for Bombo SS to be refurbished but up to now, nothing has materialised.

They also pray or appeal to the Government to provide support and resources to strengthen existing savings and credit cooperatives.

We are aware of the Parish Development Model (PDM) money that was disbursed, but again, most of the Nubian communities are Muslims and because this PDM money attracts interest, most of them have decided to stay away from it because of the interest as it is regarded as "Haram". Consequently, we call upon the Government to come and provide products to the Nubian community that are interest-free so that they are included in the economics and the economy of this country.

Madam Speaker, establish vocational training that will help to upskill the youth of Bombo. Many of them, as we speak, are on the streets. They are in the position of getting trained, getting some skills, and being positioned to do something but right now, as we speak, most of the youth within Bombo are jobless, have no future, and therefore, we call upon the Government to provide vocational training for them to be upskilled.

Madam Speaker, we also pray that the Government consider appointing duly qualified Nubians in public office positions, and enhancing their participation in politics.

Madam Speaker, finally, with all those grievances and the need for affirmative action, we pray that the relevant Committee of Parliament investigate the issues of the Bombo community and report to this Parliament.

Thank you, Madam Speaker, and the humble petitioners, as duty bound, will forever pray. And hereto, your humble petitioners have appended their signatures.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you so much, for presenting the report on behalf of the Nubian community. Yes?

4.07

MR ELIJAH OKUPA (Independent, Kasilo County, Serere): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would have loved my honourable colleague here - because the Nubian community is not only concentrated in Bombo. There is a Nubian community in Soroti City in Kijijjanji, in Fort Portal in a place called Kitumba, and in Arua. I think this petition should cover the whole country where the Nubian community is based. I support the petition. Thank you.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Honourable members will amend and say all the Nubian communities in Uganda. Yes, Hon. Enos?

4.08

MR ENOS ASIIMWE (NRM, Kabula County, Lyantonde): Thank you, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: You see, once you are aggrieved, you come and seek redress. These are aggrieved and came, while the ones in Soroti have not come. Maybe, they are okay with no problem, but let us first look at what petition came to the House. Let us not deprive the ones who came here and brought everybody on board, because these ones are aggrieved. Yes, Enos?

MR ENOS ASIIMWE: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I appreciate the fact that our brother brought the petition on the Floor of Parliament. However, I think some of the issues cut across.

When you talk about Government health facilities, they are for everyone in the community. I do not think that we are going to have health facilities for every community, tribe or cultural institution.

THE SPEAKER: What do you want?

MR ENOS ASIIMWE: My argument is that we should –

THE SPEAKER: Hon. Enos, why are you acting mean? You are being mean.

MR ENOS ASIIMWE: I am not being mean, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: You are mean. Remember, these people are watching you.

MR ENOS ASIIMWE: Exactly. I was coming to the amendment I wanted, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: It is their right to be looked after by the Government. It is the Government's role to ensure that the health of these people is well catered for. Even your community can come and complain and say, it does not have health facilities. If your community is not doing that, it is not our business. Let us be fair to some people.

Honourable members, considering that some of the prayers of the petitioners require inter-ministerial action, I invoke Rule 317 of the Rules of Procedure and refer the petition to the Prime Minister and Leader of Government Business, for expeditious action.

I remember when we had a report on the Banyarwanda something - I do not recall the name - I am happy that the President of Republic of Uganda resolved that issue. I am sure, once this goes to the Prime Minister, it is going to be resolved.

We expect this response within 45 days as stipulated in Rule 31(11) of the Rules of Procedure. Hon. Hassan and Hon. Brenda, we thank you for bringing the petition. *(Applause)* We would also like to thank the Nubian community for raising their concerns. Thank you so much. Yes, Hon. Hassan?

MR KIRUMIRA: Madam Speaker, I would like to categorically thank you for allowing this petition first and foremost. The clarification

I want to make is that our petition was very inclusive. It is regarding the Nubian community.

This community is also very thankful to your office because last year during Ramadan, when a donation was made by Parliament for a cemetery in Kakiri, they also benefited in terms of expanding a cemetery in Bombo with a donation of money that was used to buy acres of land and forever, that community will be indebted to the Parliament of Uganda. Thank you.

THE SPEAKER: At least, you are one person I hear appreciating our contribution as Parliament. Next. [*Hon. Enos Asiimwe rose*]

MR ENOS ASIIMWE: You did not allow me to finish. Honestly, I was not against the petition. I just wanted to clarify on one issue; they mentioned the issue of bank accounts that have been frozen. I was trying to be very specific. If you could mention these banks and all those things, it would be very good.

THE SPEAKER: Were you born at that time? (*Laughter*) Let the Prime Minister handle.

LAYING OF PAPERS

- I) REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND INNOVATION ON THE OVERSIGHT FIELD VISITS IN REGARD TO RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN ZONAL AGRICULTURAL STATION (ZARDIS) UNDER THE STEWARDSHIP OF NARO

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, pursuant to Rule 35(1) of the Rules of Procedure, I invite the Chairperson of the Committee on Science and Technology to table the report.

4.13

THE CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (Mr Alex Niyonsaba): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table the report of the Committee on Science, Technology

and Innovation on the oversight field visits in regard to research and development in Zonal Agricultural Station (ZADIS) under the stewardship of NARO.

THE SPEAKER: Please lay. Honourable members, the report will be deposited in the Parliamentary Library, for ease of reference. If you want it, please get it from there for you to be able to look at it.

- II) REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION ON FIELD VISITS TO SELECTED INDUSTRIAL VALUE CHAINS IN THE CENTRAL, WESTERN AND EASTERN REGIONS

THE SPEAKER: Pursuant to Rule 35(1) of the Rules of Procedure, the Chairperson of the Committee on Science, Technology and Innovation will still lay the report.

4.14

THE CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION (Mr Alex Niyonsaba): Madam Speaker, I beg to lay on the Table the report of the Committee on Science, Technology and Innovation on field visits to selected industrial value chains in the central, western and eastern regions of Uganda.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you. Please lay the report and it will be deposited in the Parliamentary Library for ease of reference. Thank you, committee chairperson.

BILLS
SECOND READING

THE ENGINEERING PROFESSIONALS
BILL, 2024

THE SPEAKER: Honourable minister?
Government?

4.16

THE GOVERNMENT CHIEF WHIP (Mr Denis Obua): Madam Speaker, I beg to pray that this matter be deferred as the Minister of Works and Transport is not here. The phone of the chairperson of the committee is off. I called the deputy chairperson of the committee, and he told me that he is attending to a patient at Kiruddu Hospital. I did indicate that to you. *(Interjection)* I can give you his number and you call him. *(Laughter)*

THE SPEAKER: Honourable members, the House is adjourned to 2.00 p.m. tomorrow.

(The House rose at 4.17 p.m. and adjourned until Thursday, 31 July 2025, at 2.00 p.m.)