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Greetings and a joyous festive season to all our readers! As the year draws to a close and we gather with loved ones, the team at The Bunyoro Post is delighted to bring you our 6th edition, brimming with stories of progress, community, and the spirit of Bunyoro.

This edition is particularly special, marking a year of significant strides in our region. We're thrilled to highlight the numerous development projects taking shape, culminating in the grand opening of the Hoima City Stadium – a testament to our collective vision and hard work. Get ready to delve into the details of this landmark achievement and explore the positive impact it will have on our community. Beyond the stadium, we bring

you in-depth coverage of other key initiatives driving growth and opportunity across Bunyoro. From infrastructure improvements to community development programs, we aim to showcase the progress being made and the individuals contributing to a brighter future. As we celebrate this festive season, let's also reflect on the year gone by and look forward to the new year with renewed hope and determination. We extend our sincere gratitude to our readers, contributors, and partners for their continued support.

May your holidays be filled with joy, peace, and prosperity. We look forward to bringing you more insightful and informative stories in the new year!

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Thank you for your unwavering support. Together, let's continue to chronicle the rise of Bunyoro

Hoima City Stadium Grand Opening Ahead of AFCON 2027

By Alex Tumuhimbise, Communication Officer – Hoima



President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni and the First Lady, also Minister of Education and Sports, Maama Janet Museveni, have officially opened the Hoima City Stadium, a state-of-the-art 20,000-seater facility, marking a major milestone in Uganda's sports infrastructure development.

The stadium, located in Mparo Division, Hoima City, about three kilometres from the city centre, was completed in just over 12 months and is one of Uganda's key venues earmarked for hosting matches during the 2027 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON), which the country will co-host with Kenya and Tanzania.

Construction works began in September 2024 and were concluded in December 2025, five months ahead of schedule. The project was undertaken by Turkish firm Summa International Construction Company Inc. at an estimated cost of between \$129 million and \$131 million

(about Shs484 billion), fully financed through Uganda's Petroleum Fund.

Speaking at the commissioning ceremony, President Museveni hailed the project as a strategic investment in youth development, sports tourism, and national pride, noting that modern infrastructure is critical to nurturing talent and positioning Uganda as a continental sports destination.

The Hoima City Stadium boasts a FIFA-standard hybrid grass pitch that scored a perfect five-star rating in



an independent assessment. The complex also includes a 2,000-seater indoor arena for basketball, boxing and volleyball, a semi-Olympic swimming pool, an eight-lane IAAF-certified athletics track, a training pitch, and outdoor tennis and netball courts.

Additional amenities include VVIP and VIP lounges, a fully equipped media centre with free Wi-Fi, a gym, a medical bay, a VAR room, four changing rooms, and parking space for up to 1,500 vehicles. The stadium is fitted with a 1,200-lux LED floodlight system to support night matches.

Several government officials, sports administrators and dignitaries attended the commissioning, with State Minister for Sports Hon. Peter Ogwang serving as Director of Programmes.

The opening of Hoima City Stadium adds to Uganda's growing portfolio of modern sports facilities and strengthens the country's readiness to successfully host major continental football events, including AFCON 2027.



Kiryandongo District Unveils Ambitious UGX 477.5M Water Project to Ensure Safe Water Access for All Residents

By Emmanuel Murungi, Communication Officer – Kiryandongo District



District Chairperson Edith Aliguma addressing the residents of Nyakatiiti II village prior to the commissioning of the deep borehole

Kiryandongo District has launched a 477.5 million-shilling water project, signaling its boldest push yet toward achieving 100 percent safe water coverage and ending years of dependence on unsafe water sources. At a ceremony in Nyakatiiti II village, district leaders unveiled a series of new production wells and deep boreholes spread across 14 villages, including Kirwala, Isunga, Diima, Palee, Lamogi, Kawiti East, Kisaranda, Kitaleba, Kiruli-Kibura, Wakisanyi-Kabungo, Nyamalebe, Kamusenene and Bedmot

A. The facilities form part of the district's 2024/2025 safe water infrastructure rollout.

District Chairperson Edith Aliguma Adyeri said the new investments are designed to close the remaining gaps in clean water access and help curb water-borne diseases that have long plagued rural households. She urged communities to safeguard the new installations so they can serve generations to come.

Local leaders say the intervention could be a turning point. Nyakatiiti II LC1

Chairperson Salim Jacan welcomed the new borehole but appealed for further expansion of piped water under the Integrated Water Management and Development Project, noting that his village's safe water coverage still lags behind.

For many residents, the arrival of new water sources is a long-awaited relief. Village elder Venencio Zunga described years of relying on unprotected springs shared with livestock, which led to recurring diarrhea cases and high medical costs. Women and children often endured long, early-morning treks in search of water.

Nyakatiiti resident Piracel Scovia said the second borehole has already eased pressure on the community. Long queues at the single existing borehole

had forced residents to fetch water late at night or before dawn. She said the new facility has saved time, reduced stress and improved household routines.

Mboira Sub County Chairperson Jean Watumbe praised the district for rolling out both water and education initiatives, citing new and ongoing classroom construction.

Kiryandongo's safe water coverage currently stands at 77 percent, with Nyamahasa Sub County leading at 95 percent. District officials say the new projects will significantly raise coverage as Kiryandongo accelerates toward universal safe water access.



Anselm Kyaligonza joined by the community during the launch of the deep borehole at Kiruli-Kibura in Kigumba sub county

Masindi District Council Approves UGX 1.16 Billion Supplementary Budget to Accelerate Development

By Emmanuel Murungi, Communication Officer- Kiryandongo

Masindi District Council has approved a supplementary budget of UGX 1.16 billion for the 2025/2026 financial year, aiming to close funding gaps and accelerate key development projects across the district.

The budget was endorsed unanimously during a council sitting on Tuesday. Presenting the motion, Secretary for Finance Pamela Nyakato said the additional funds will strengthen priority sectors that require urgent support.

The Production sector will receive UGX 394.8 million, with UGX 340.3 million allocated for development initiatives. Another UGX 54.5 million from local revenue has been set aside to procure supplies for micro-scale irrigation, a move expected to boost agricultural productivity.

Health services also saw dedicated support, with councillors approving UGX 33.5 million for rehabilitation works at Kisalizi Health Centre II. The funding will

specifically target improvements to the Outpatient Department.

Education emerged as the biggest beneficiary, taking UGX 707.3 million of the supplementary allocation. Of this, UGX 189 million has been designated for capitation grants for seed secondary schools, including Kijunjubwa, Kinumi, St. Paul's, and St. Andrea Kaahwa. An additional UGX 518.3 million was approved to cover Value Added Tax obligations for the ongoing construction of Kijunjubwa Seed Secondary School.

The Water Services sector will receive UGX 26.5 million to support continued construction of the Bulima piped water supply system, a project aimed at expanding access to clean and reliable water.

District officials say the supplementary budget will reinforce service delivery and help ensure timely completion of essential infrastructure and development projects.



The Secretary for Finance Pamela Nyakato reading a motion at a recent District Council meeting

Hoima Diocese Calls for Stronger Lay Participation, Says Church Growth Depends on Active Faithful

By Alex Tumuhimbise, Communication Officer – Hoima



Rt. Rev. Vincent Kirabo Amooti Bishop of Hoima Catholic Diocese preaching during Christmas Day Mass

The Bishop of Hoima Catholic Diocese, Rt. Rev. Vincent Kirabo Amooti, has urged Christians to take a more active role in the life and mission of the Church, emphasizing that the future of evangelization depends significantly on committed lay participation.

Delivering his Christmas Day homily at Our Lady of Lourdes Cathedral in Hoima City, Bishop Kirabo said many of the gains made in the Church this year were a result of collective effort, and called on believers to deepen their involvement in worship, service, and the spread of the Gospel.

Drawing on the biblical account of the shepherds who first received news

of Christ's birth, the Bishop reminded Christians that they too are entrusted with the responsibility of sharing God's message with joy and conviction.

"Spread the message just as the shepherds did after visiting Bethlehem following the birth of the Saviour," he said. "They returned glorifying and praising God for all they had seen and heard."

Bishop Kirabo urged the faithful to remain "spiritually awake and on duty," comparing the vigilance of the shepherds to the attentiveness required of Christians in their daily lives. He warned that complacency weakens the Church, while active engagement strengthens community and deepens faith.

"You should always be found busy in the service of God, just as the angel found the shepherds on duty," he added.

He assured believers that Christ's presence continues to guide and empower them, noting that "through His authority to heal and save, Christ will support you in your daily lives."

The Bishop also highlighted the role of unity within Christian communities, saying cooperation among believers is vital for sustaining spiritual growth and advancing the Church's mission.

In a special message to parents and guardians, Bishop Kirabo stressed the importance of nurturing children in

Christian values, arguing that the faith of the next generation begins at home. “Educate your children and nurture them in the faith so that they grow firmly rooted in Christ,” he said.

The Bishop’s Christmas message comes at a time when the Church is encouraging renewed lay involvement

to address rising social and moral challenges, especially among youth. His call aligns with broader efforts within the Catholic Church to empower Christians to take ownership of their roles in evangelization and community building.

Masindi District Launches UGX 400 M Development Projects to Boost Wealth Creation

By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer- Masindi

Masindi District has commissioned a series of capital development projects worth UGX 477.8 million, with leaders urging residents to embrace government wealth creation initiatives as a sustainable path out of poverty.

The projects were unveiled during a two day multi-sectoral monitoring exercise that ran from Monday to Tuesday. The activity focused on inspecting, launching, and commissioning infrastructure implemented in the 2024/2025 financial year, as well as ongoing works for 2025/2026.

A key highlight was the commissioning of a renovated four classroom block at Mihembero Primary School, completed

at a cost of UGX 62.8 million. Several road projects were also opened, including mechanized maintenance of the Ntooma-Kaikuku Road (6.4 km) at UGX 140 million, spot improvements on the Bubanda-Biseke Road (1.5 km) at UGX 25 million, mechanized maintenance of the Bwinamira-Bulyango Road at UGX 150 million, and works on the Kitanyanta-Mboira Road (6.4 km) at UGX 60 million. In Kijunjubwa Town Council, street opening works valued at UGX 40 million were also commissioned.

In addition, projects totaling UGX 215 million were officially launched and will commence soon. These include mechanized maintenance of the Kinyara-Sonso Road (17.3 km) at UGX 110



The MP for Buruli, Hon. Aled Ronald Akugizibwe (wearing a yellow shirt), joined district leaders and residents to launch the Kyatir

million and maintenance of the Kyatiri-Kibibira Road (8.7 km) at UGX 105 million. Buruli County MP, Aled Ronald Akugizibwe, praised the government for the timely release of road maintenance funds, noting that the improved cash flow has significantly boosted the district's road conditions. He also pledged to push for the upgrade and takeover of 12 district roads by the Ministry of Works and Transport, citing limited district resources.

District Chairperson Cosmas Byaruhanga explained that road

rehabilitation is done in phases, with priority given to the most dilapidated routes. Chief Administrative Officer Samuel Ruhweza Kaija added that Masindi oversees more than 400 km of roads, yet only about 60 km are maintained each year, meaning a full maintenance cycle can take up to eight years.

Kaija encouraged residents to use the improved road network to increase production and access markets, thereby enhancing household incomes.

Turkish Ambassador Hails Hoima City Stadium as Landmark of Bilateral Ties

By Alex Tumuhimbise, Communication Officer – Hoima



At the newly opened Hoima City Stadium, Museveni meets with Turkish Ambassador to Uganda, H.E Mehmet Fatih and Summa Construction Chairman, Mr Selim Bora along with other officials

Turkish Ambassador to Uganda, H.E Mehmet Fatih, has described the stadium as a symbol of ambition, partnership, and shared belief in the future.

He was speaking recently during the commissioning of Hoima City Stadium, which was constructed by a Turkish firm, SUMMA International Construction Company Inc.



“This stadium is more than steel and concrete. It reflects the strength of Turkish-Ugandan relations and the professionalism of Turkish construction companies,” he said.

He revealed that thousands of Ugandans were employed during construction, working alongside Turkish engineers in a process that ensured skills and technology transfer.

Summa Construction Chairman, Mr Selim Bora, said the stadium’s completion in 12 months was achieved through disciplined planning and extraordinary commitment, despite over 150 days of heavy rainfall during construction.

“More than 2,500 people worked on this project, 80 percent of them Ugandans. This is not just infrastructure — it is capacity building and human capital development,” Mr Bora said.

State Minister for Sports, Hon. Peter Ogwan,g described Hoima City Stadium as one of the best-executed government projects in recent years.



He traced the project’s origins to early 2023, when President Museveni introduced Summa to the Ministry of Education and Sports to plan phased sports infrastructure development, initially focusing on Lugogo Sports Complex.

“However, when CAF announced in September 2023 that Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania had won the AFCON hosting rights, priorities shifted, and Hoima City Stadium became the starting point,” Hon. Ogwang said.

He noted that public feedback on the project had been overwhelmingly positive, attributing this to transparency and regular public access to the construction site.

Among the dignitaries present were the Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Rt. Hon. Thomas Tayebwa, Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Robinah Nabbanja, Cabinet ministers, Members of Parliament, cultural leaders, and thousands of football enthusiasts from across the country.

Masindi Leaders Call for System-wide Reforms as Health Workers Celebrate Year-End

By Brian Atuhura, Communication Officer- Masindi

Masindi District leaders have called for coordinated, system-wide interventions to strengthen healthcare delivery, warning that frontline workers cannot shoulder blame for challenges rooted in broader structural gaps.

The message came recently as staff of Masindi General Hospital gathered at Kolping Hotel for their annual end-of-year celebration, an event that doubled as a reflection on progress and persistent obstacles within the district's health sector.

District Chairperson Cosmas Byaruhanga praised the commitment of health workers, saying their day-to-day efforts remain the backbone of the local health system. However, he stressed that issues such as maternal deaths should be understood within a larger context.

According to Byaruhanga, poor road networks, limited emergency transport and periodic shortages of medical supplies continue to delay critical care, making systemic reform just as important as individual professionalism. He welcomed the government's recent salary enhancements for health workers and urged staff to use the opportunity to upgrade their skills, arguing that advanced training would support stronger leadership and better patient outcomes.

Chief Administrative Officer Samuel Ruhweza Kaija outlined major investments underway to improve working conditions at the hospital.

The UPDF Engineering Brigade is constructing 16 staff housing units, with occupation expected by early next year. Kaija also confirmed that a new UGX 10 billion Outpatient Department will break ground between January and February once final designs are completed.

These projects form part of a broader master plan to renovate Masindi General Hospital in phases, he added, signalling a long-term commitment to infrastructure improvement.

Acting District Health Officer Dr. Felix Twinomugisha Rwehuru attributed recent gains in service delivery to internal reforms, urging health workers to maintain teamwork as the district intensifies efforts to eliminate maternal



The District Chairperson, Cosmas Byaruhanga giving his speech to the staff of Masindi General Hospital at Kolping Hotel

deaths. Hospital Board Chairperson John Bagada Winter said the board has restored accountability and order, while Acting Executive Consultant Dr. Rogers Musinguzi credited targeted medical camps and continuous training for improved patient care.

The event closed with a unified call for sustained collaboration among political leaders, administrators and health workers to close system gaps and deliver better health outcomes for the people of Masindi.

Wave of NUP Defections Continues as 30 Youths Join NRM in Kakumiro



Prime Minister, Robinah Nabbanja, has welcomed 30 youths from Kakumiro District who have defected from the National Unity Platform (NUP) to join the ruling National Resistance Movement (NRM).

The group was formally received on 26th December, 2025 at Classic Hotel in Kakumiro, where the Prime Minister commended their decision and pledged government support toward youth empowerment.

Nabbanja told the group that the NRM government has established deliberate interventions targeting youth development, citing the Parish Development Model (PDM) and the Youth Livelihood Programme. She said these initiatives have helped steer many young people toward productive work and economic independence.

The defectors claimed they had been misled by NUP mobilisers into participating in activities aimed at

discrediting the government. Ezra Safari, the NUP chairman for Mpasaana Town Council before his defection, said they chose to return to the NRM because they believe it offers a clearer vision for Uganda's transformation.

According to Nabbanja, government has consistently expanded public services—including access to clean water, electricity, improved road networks, and healthcare—to ensure citizens experience tangible development outcomes. She added that the PDM, in particular, is designed to lift Ugandans out of poverty by supporting households with start-up capital for income-generating projects. The development comes amid a wave of defections from NUP across the country.

In recent weeks, more than 250 NUP supporters from Kyenjojo, Bunyangabu, and Ntoroko districts have crossed to the NRM. Earlier incidents saw 105 supporters from Kisoro and Rubanda, and over 300 others in separate events, abandon the opposition party. Some cited unmet expectations, including financial support during campaigns, while others expressed disillusionment with what they described as broken promises.

Despite the trend, Deputy Speaker of Parliament Thomas Tayebwa has dismissed allegations that the ruling party is bribing opposition members to defect. He insisted that those joining the NRM are doing so voluntarily and not due to financial inducements.





*Happy New Year
2026.*

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