

His Excellency the Vice President,

Rt. Hon. Speaker of Parliament,

His Lordship the Chief Justice,

Rt. Hon. Speaker of EALA,

Rt. Hon. Prime Minister,

Rt. Hon. Deputy Prime Ministers,

Rt. Hon. Leader of the Opposition,

Their Highnesses the Traditional Leaders,

Hon. Ministers,

Hon. Members of Parliament,

Hon. Members of EALA,

Members of the Diplomatic Corps,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Greetings,

Madam Speaker, in fulfillment of the Constitutional requirement under article 101 (1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Uganda, I am here to deliver the State of the Nation Address, 2017.

Madam Speaker and Hon. Members of Parliament, on the Eighth of June 2017, the Minister of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, will present to this August House and the entire Nation, the Budget for FY 2017/2018. He will detail what has been achieved and what we intend to achieve in the coming Financial Year.

Since the last State of the Nation address, a number of Ugandans, including former Ministers and Members of Parliament, have departed from this earth.

I extend my condolences to their families and to the entire country. Let us stand up for a minute of silence in their memory.

On this occasion of the State of the Nation address, I will just summarize what the NRM was telling the population during the elections of last year. The NRM was telling the country that in order to guarantee prosperity of our country, we need to remember five issues. These five are: peace; development of the infrastructure and the human resource; wealth creation; jobs creation; and market access. Sometimes, we package them differently as the ten strategic bottlenecks.

Peace means absence of war but it must also include absence of lawlessness. The NRA/UPDF has ensured peace in the country by defeating Kony, ADF and disarming the cattle rustlers in Karamoja. The UPDF has the capacity to ensure that nobody disturbs the peace of Uganda. However, as you saw recently, there has been a spike of lawlessness in the country involving the murder of AIGP Kaweesi, Sheikhs, Major Kiggundu, Joan Kagezi, Chairman Okware in Namayingo, Rwamutwe in Bushenyi, the town clerk of Gulu, the Eritrean businessman, etc. There were also numerous break-ins in homes and some people were throwing leaflets threatening violence. In Mukono, there was the increased stealing of vanilla from the gardens. Some people started panicking. When I went to the home of the late Kawesi, I told you of the gaps that were still in our law and order architecture. These gaps were unattended to until recently, not because they were not known, but because of lack of funding on account of competing demands.

Here, I am talking of the technical means for the Police Force and the counter-terrorism capacity of the country. Without going into details, I can, as an example, point out to the Hon. Members the absence of cameras in the towns and the highways. These gaps put a lot of burden on the CID to discover the one that committed the crime depending on eye-witnesses and other clues. The cameras would hasten the identification of anybody who commits a crime in the towns or the highways. This is a gap I have given instructions to close. Meanwhile, the rich businessmen and residents that can afford should install cameras around their businesses and residences. They greatly assist. The Police will also acquire greater forensic technical capacity, the details of which I would not like to go into here. Using the limited means available to the Police, in the form of Police dogs to detect explosives, scanners, metal detectors, etc., the Police backed by the UPDF, when there is good planning, can guarantee security against any lawless or terrorist actions. The recent peaceful holding of the Martyrs Day, where an estimated 3 million people turned up, shows that Police and the UPDF already have good capacity, the gaps already mentioned notwithstanding. To successfully guard such a large, pre-announced event, or the visit of the Pope a few years ago, shows that the Police and the sister agencies have acquired some capacity.

Nevertheless, the Police and the intelligence services have been rightly criticized by the public for being lax in handling information given to them by the public, sometimes leaking this information, corruption in the form of extorting money from the public, high-handedness in dealing with the public and protecting criminals or allowing criminals to infiltrate the Police. The Police leadership must, therefore, carefully listen to the public and clean up the few rotten elements.

Otherwise, I can inform the public that, ever since 1980, when we started recruiting educated people into that force, the Police has got a very large number of capable cadres. Those who taint their hand with hobnobbing with criminals will only let themselves down. The Police Force will continue to grow stronger as it was planned to do by the UNLF in 1980 of which we were a part and, subsequently, by the NRM ever since 1986. The Police do not have to wait for the crime to be committed. Through good intelligence, most crimes can be prevented. Most of the suspects arrested after the murder of Kawesi and others, even if they were not involved in the killing of Kawesi, had committed other capital offences, many of which carry death sentences or life imprisonment. Why, then, were they still in circulation? That means somebody was not doing his or her work.

The attempt by the criminals to cause rural scare by throwing leaflets, stealing vanilla from the gardens, occasional murders and rape, is easier to deal with because the villages are not as congested as the towns. Indeed, 78 suspects have been arrested for being involved in crime in the Masaka and Mpigi areas. Our

massive security apparatus comprised of the Police, the crime preventers and the UPDF, with very little mobilization, can easily handle that village thuggery.

The other day, I was in Kalerwe and the youth there were complaining of the Police arresting them for being “idle and disorderly”. This must stop completely. Some of the youth are idle because they do not have jobs. Why arrest them for that? The revolutionary should be like “fish in water”. A revolutionary should never be “fish in no water”. You should never talk harshly to the people.

Always maintain a harmonious relationship with the people. I started relating with the youth in Kampala in 1968, in Katwe. The NRM cadres in Kampala have not properly followed the earlier work of Fronasa in Kampala. Our first NRA Commander, Ahmed Seguya, was from Katwe. I had trained him in Mozambique in 1971-72.

The issue of alleged torture by the Police, was addressed by myself in the usual NRM/NRA way. We always combine educational methods (sensitization) and administrative methods (punishments, demotions, etc.). When these reports came up, I carried out analysis of torture and how it, actually, impedes successful investigations. In a letter dated 15th of May, 2017, I sent that analysis to all the leaders of security agencies. That is a very powerful message because it addresses the whys and the why-nots of an issue. It addresses the “Policeman of the mind” rather than just the “Policeman of the body”. I saw some NGOs and allied persons pouring scorn on my methods and recommending only fascist methods of arrests and imprisonment without education. Could these “experts in-everything” tell us why the UPDF is able to operate in Somalia, Central African Republic, Congo, South Sudan, etc. without complaining? Is it because of high pay or fear of imprisonment? Do these “know-it-alls” remember that our Army is a volunteer Army? Do they know that one can make much more money in the private sector than in the army? Let the “know-it-alls” be informed that the UPDF does what it does because of conviction. *Okunyonyora* (to explain, to sensitize) has been the life and blood of Fronasa, of the NRA, of the UPDF. To end this point, be informed that Uganda is free of war and it will remain so and the spike in lawlessness is being defeated even before we fill all the gaps and will be totally defeated when the gaps are filled.

Uganda will be like in one old song of the Banyankore which went as follows: “*Muyogo na Muyuumbu ei abaana bariisa ente*”—Muyogo and Muyuumba (parts of present-day Ntungamo) were so peaceful that children were brave enough to look after cattle because there was no threat.

When it comes to the second issue, the development of the infrastructure and the human resource, I want to inform the Ugandans that here we are talking about the physical infrastructure (roads, electricity, water-works, the railway, the telephones, etc) and developing our human resource through education and improved health. The development of the infrastructure is so crucial because, as I have told you numerous times, it lowers the costs of doing business in the economy and, therefore, maximizes the profits of companies. Lower costs of electricity, transport, etc., means higher profits for the entrepreneurs. I want to salute the Parliament of 2006 and the subsequent Parliaments. They saw and supported the logic of boosting expenditure on roads from Shs. 398 billion in 2005/2006 to the present level of Shs. 3,442 billion. In the coming budget, the roads will take Shs. 4,800 billion. On account of this and in spite of the corruption, just using government of Uganda money, we have tarmacked the following roads: Kampala-Mityana; Kampala-Masaka; Kampala-Kafu-Karuma-Gulu; Jinja-Kamuli; Iganga-Kaliro; Tororo-Mbale-Soroti; Ishaka-Kagaamba; Mbarara-Kikagata; Matugga-Semuto; etc.,. These are roads that are already finished. In addition, solely using Uganda government funds, we are in the process of tarmacking the following roads: Mpigi-Kanoni-Sembabule-Villa Maria; Musita-Mayuge-Namayingo-Majanji-Busia; Soroti-Katakwi-Moroto; Olwiyo-Anaka-Gulu-Kitgum-Musingo; Nakapiripirit-Namalu-Muyembe; Mubende-Kakumiro-Kibaale-Kagadi-Ndaiga; Nyakahita-Ibanda-Kamwengye-Fort Portal, etc., etc.

All these and the others not mentioned are being done solely with the Uganda government money. There are other roads being done with the support from the international institutions but most of the time with co-funding from GOU. These are: Gulu-Atiak-Bibia; Kiguumba-Masindi-Hoima-Kagadi-Kyenjojo; Ntungamo-Mirama hill; Rukungiri-Kihiihi-Ishasha-Kanungu-Rugyeyo-Nyakisheenyi; Rwenkunyū-Masindi Port-Apac-Lira-Puranga-Acholibur; Kapchorwa-Suam; Mbale-Magale-Lwakhaha; Tirinyi-Pallisa-Kumi; etc., etc. Some of the roads that were internationally funded are already finished and they include: Fort Portal-Bundibugyo; Mbarara-Kabaale-

Katuna; Kabale-Kisoro-Bunagana-Kyanika; etc. The World Bank wants to help us re-tarmack, strengthen and widen Tororo-Mbale-Soroti-Lira-Kamudini road.

I am most grateful to the international partners for this solidarity. However, the Ugandans financing their own projects, gives me a lot of satisfaction. It is a good harbinger of the good things to come. What is happening in the sector of roads is replicated in the sector of electricity. Using the Uganda Government money from the Energy Fund, we have supported the expansion of generation of power e.g. in Nyagak where the licensed developer could not complete the project but, especially, in the area of building transmission lines. Using Uganda Government money, we have extended transmission lines to the following areas: Kakumiro, Kibaale, Kagadi, Muhorro – Muziizi tea factory to Kyenjojo; Kanungu-Rugyeyo tea factory; Rukungiri-Kanungu; Mpanga small hydro-Kamwenge-Kahungye and Kahungye sub-station; Buseruka small hydro-Hoima; Kyabugimbi-Buhweju tea factory; Kakumiro-Birembo-Nalweyo; Sironko-Nakapiripirit-Amudat; Soroti-Amuria; Napak-Moroto; Katine-Lwala-Kaberamaido; Amolatar-Dokolo; Katakwi-Napak-Moroto; Mbale-Bufumbo-Bukonde-Manafa-Lwakhaha border post; Bugiri-Wakawaka landing site; Kamuli-Bukungu landing site; Kitgum-Padibe-Kitgum-Parabek; Lira-Aloi-Apala; Ibanda-Kabujogyera-Kamwenge; Bukwiri-Kyenkwanzi; Kayunga-Busana; Muhanga-Kamwezi; etc., etc.

The proportion of the population that now have electricity is 20.4% compared to 4% in 1986.

Transport, as already pointed out in respect of the roads, is another cost pusher when it comes to business. A 40ft container costs US\$ 3500 from Mombasa to Kampala by road compared to USD 1,500 by rail when the standard gauge railway is ready and will only take one day. A similar container on the Peking (Beijing) - Shanghai line would cost US\$1,500 for transport. That is why we are working for the standard gauge railway. It is in order to lower the costs of doing business in our economy so that we attract more businesses.

The ICT issue is now addressed since we completed the ICT backbone. The cost of telephones and internet use should go down compared to what it was when we were using the satellites. I am here, therefore, to inform the Ugandans that the NRM has been working systematically to make Uganda a low cost economy in terms of electricity, transport and ICT connections. The labour is cheap. The only expensive element we need to deal with, is the cost of money – in terms of interest rates. This will be solved by capitalizing the Uganda Development Bank (UDB). This coming year, the Treasury put Uganda Shs. 50 billion in the Uganda Development Bank.

Having dealt with the cost pushers on the infrastructure and financial side, we need to report on what we have done on the human resource side. The population of Uganda was 14 million in 1986. It is now 40 million. Why has it grown so much and so quickly? Answer: peace and immunization. I hope the new leadership in the Ministry of Health will, at last, implement the NRM strategy on health. Our strategy has always been based on prevention rather than cure. The measures of prevention, other than immunization, include: nutrition, hygiene, clean water, behavior change, anti-malaria measures and a responsible lifestyle (no obesity, no alcoholism, etc).

The literacy rate is already 75%. What we are going to work on is more and more skills. The high literacy rate is from the expanded education system – a total of 3,858 Secondary schools (government and private), a total of 19,718 Primary schools (government and private), a total number of 142 Technical and other Tertiary Institutions (government and private) and a total of 45 Universities (government and private).

It is issue three that is still a problem. We still have a big proportion of people who are not engaged in wealth creation and those who are so engaged, are doing so sub-optimally – not fully utilizing the potential of their assets. Two examples can show the magnitude of the under-utilization.

Dr. Muranga at Nyaruziinga is now harvesting 53 metric tonnes of bananas per hectare per year. Her neighbours, the Banyankore, are only harvesting 5 tonnes. There are 1 million fresian cattle and cross-breeds in Uganda today. If each one was producing 20 litres of milk per day, our dairy production would stand at 6.5 billion litres per year, assuming 30% of the fresian herd would be milking at any given time.

Yet our total milk yield is still at 2 billion litres per annum. We are, of course, congratulating ourselves because it rose from 200 million litres in 1986. However, if we encouraged all the farmers with the fresian cattle and the cross-breeds to weed out all those cattle that do not yield a minimum of 20 litres per day but consume pasture, we would easily hit the 10 billion litres per annum like Holland.

There are four sectors of wealth clusters: agriculture, industry, services and ICT. Uganda today has got a huge number of young people. How pleasing it is to see them!! The only problem is that so many of them do not have either wealth or jobs (*obugaga oba emirimu*). Yet Uganda is enriching other countries by excessively importing products and services that your own children can produce if assisted by the State. I have already done my small experimentation. How much furniture does Uganda import from China and Dubai? How many pairs of shoes does Uganda import from outside? How many metres of textile does Uganda import? How much pharmaceutical units does Uganda import? How much vaccines for humans and livestock does Uganda import? How much glass, how much fertilizers, how much steel? How many auto-mobiles, how many motorcycles? How many, even, bicycles? How much processed coffee and processed fruits? How many TVs, how many radios, how many computers? Is it a wonder that many of our young people neither have jobs nor wealth?

The answer is that we have donated both the wealth and the jobs to the outsiders. By importing so much from outside, even items that we can cheaply make ourselves, we are massively supporting the prosperity of others and undermining our own.

When I talk of imports, do not think that I am confining myself to import-substitution only. I have never been in that category. Apart from the internal market, we must also target the regional and the international markets. What I am saying is that Uganda is uniquely endowed to enjoy comparative advantages in many of these production lines.

We have always had the raw-materials (leather, cotton, coffee, tea, bananas, cassava, maize, milk, minerals, forest products, fresh water products, etc., etc). Our population, especially the young ones, is now educated. We now have enough electricity and it will soon be cheap after refinancing Bujagaali. We are tackling the problem of high transport costs (repairing the old railway, building the standard gauge railway, reviving water transport, reviving our national airline, etc). We are going to lower the cost of money by capitalizing the UDB. It is high time to massively end the modern slavery of undermining our prosperity while we support the prosperity of others through excessive imports of items that we can make ourselves.

As I speak today, we already have good investors for steel, fertilizers, glass, coffee, cotton, maize, milk, cooking oil etc. Amosi Dairies is exporting milk products to the USA; Mukwano is exporting cooking oil to the European Union; many factories were exporting fish before it was undermined by bad fishermen in the Lake.

However, for shoes, furniture, automobiles, motor-cycles, electronic appliances, electrical appliances, etc., we are still depending on endless imports which cause so much haemorrhage and yet we have the capacity to compete in these fields if everybody wakes up.

Using only Shs. 271 million through my State House Comptroller, I have bought common user machines for the furniture makers of Nsambya. This is one group with 2,000 members. I have given support to 105 groups in the Katwe area with a membership of 1,570 and to 17 groups in the Najeera area with a membership of 510. The Katwe – Najeera area groups are, mainly, in metal cutting, bending, etc. In Katwe, I used Shs. 375 million and in Najeera, I used Shs. 337 million.

Apart from supporting groups that are already engaged in artisanal efforts, through my State House Comptroller, I am now supporting 711 young girls to do: baking, embroidery, textile weaving, shoes making, knitting, etc.,. Every intake of 6 months costs us Uganda Shs. 486 million, including giving them lunch and daily transport of Shs. 2,000 per person. This is Kampala based. We want to decentralize to the Kampala divisions. Once we

decentralize to the regions, the cost of transport will be eliminated. The youth can, then, walk to and from the training centres.

This will mean that these youth are transformed from being idle and unemployed into wealth creators and job creators. Remember that one's wealth in agriculture, industry, services or ICT, creates jobs for many. When I am a farmer, the farm is my wealth. It also creates jobs for others. When I am a factory owner, the factory is my wealth; but it also creates jobs for others. When I own a hotel, the hotel creates jobs for others although the hotel is my wealth. When I run a Business Processes Outsourcing (BPO) business, that business creates jobs for others. The huge reservoir of the unemployed and propertyless youth is a huge opportunity.

We should transform them into wealth creators and job creators. They are the ones to save us from imports and also generate exports using our huge natural resources and our comparative advantages. Their parents or siblings are already in agriculture. Let them commercialize that agriculture and move away from subsistence agriculture (*pur me cam keken*). Instead of those children going back to crowd on the small family farms, let them create new wealth by owning small factories (maize-mills, juice-processing, milk coolers, weaving units, knitting units, baking units, furniture factories, computer assembling, radio assembling, motor-cycle assembling, ceramics, making floor tiles from our abundant granite (*amabaare*), making combs and buttons from our cattle horns, wood-carving, traditional milk pots, traditional plates made out of wood-*entakika*, etc., etc). All these are in the sector of industry-factories. How about services in the form of transport, tourism, hotels, music, financial services, professional services, etc.? Some of the youth are already in transport — boda-bodas and taxis. Some are lawyers, doctors, etc. The musicians need to be supported to be more organized. Then there are the BPOs — i.e. outsourcing services of customer care, utilities monitoring, book keeping, etc., by North American companies. Those who only talk of agriculture do not know what they are talking about. How many people do you need to farm two acres of land in a year? With a tractor, one young man and his wife are enough. How about the other siblings. What do they rationally do other than just crowding in the village and encouraging endless land fragmentation? That is why the African society of Uganda needs to metamorphose away from agriculture into industry, services and ICT. Some of the families have already moved into trading (shops, produce buying, etc); others have moved into transport (boda-bodas, taxis, buses, etc); others have moved into medical care (private clinics, drug shops); others into private schools, etc. Others have become preachers (providing spiritual services). The services sector, however, uses what others make. In order to securely anchor our society, our children must not only use what others make. We must make what we use if it makes economic sense.

While the wealth sectors are four (agriculture, industry, services and ICT), the sectors that make what others use are two: agriculture and industry. The two sectors produce food and other raw-materials (agriculture) and industry makes goods. The two are really the base of a modern economy. Africa was colonized and is still marginalized, not because we could not dance and sing and preach and prophesy, etc., but because we lagged behind in manufacturing (making guns, cars, planes, computers, cups, plates, shoes, clothes, etc., etc). Manufacturing is for wealth, jobs, security and social-economic transformation (social metamorphosis). All modern economies have got more people in industry and services than in agriculture. In the USA, the people in agriculture are only 2%; in the UK, it is, again, only 2%. Having too many people in agriculture is a characteristic of economic and social backwardness. Let us diversify our wealth and rationalize it. Our grandchildren who are redundant at home, because the family farms rationally need just a few of them to run them, are actually a gold mine for the country by invading, especially, the manufacturing sector but also more and more in the services sector.

The property less and jobless youth, once empowered with training, machinery and working capital, will undergo a three dimensional metamorphosis: they will become wealth creators, job creators but also consumers.

With income from their businesses, they will re-inforce the purchasing power of the country. It is an endless chain of cause and effect. Some of the young people belong to families that have properties. However, the inefficient traditional system does not permit the easy use of that property for rational income-generation. By the judicious use of our capacity — our raw materials, our purchasing power and our human resource (especially the youth) — we shall greatly enhance our prosperity.

Hitherto, much of our capacity has been, mostly, being used to enhance the prosperity of others. Our raw-materials support the prosperity of others. Our purchasing power supports the prosperity of others. This is in spite of the NRM stand from the beginning — to build an integrated, self-sustaining, independent economy (point no. 5 of the NRM Programme of 10 points). This was on account of the low starting point of 60mgws of electricity. Our base has now been dramatically raised. We have a more educated society. We have peace. We have surplus electricity. We have a better road network. We are working on the railway and water transport. We are working on the cost of money for agriculture and manufacturing. This is the time for takeoff.

Yet, the money required is not so much as already pointed out above. In Najeera, I spent Shs. 337 million; Shs. 375 million in Katwe; and Shs. 271 million in Nsambya. These figures included cash for their SACCOs, common user machines and, in some cases, work site sheds.

In job creation and wealth expansion, we shall not only depend on converting our youth to wealth and job creation. We shall aggressively also attract FDIs (Foreign Direct Investments). These can move things faster. They have the money, the technology and the contacts for the markets. Now that we have the electricity, once we have solved the issue of the high price of electricity, we shall be competitive. We shall also review the landing fees for aircrafts at Entebbe and the ground handling fees. That airport must be competitive.

It is not wise to overprice yourself out of business. However, for the FDIs to flow in, we must purge out all the corrupt officials in the UIA, in the Ministry of Finance, in NEMA, etc. They are the ones that have been delaying and frustrating investments. How shall we know them? We shall know them by their fruits. Their actions will tell us who they are. You delay an investment for two days, we know who you are.

If I can use such small amounts of money to do what I am doing, the huge amounts of money in those Funds (youth, women, innovation, etc.), can do much more. Let us study it

You have seen how I have been using little money to convert the youth from propertylessness and joblessness to wealth creation and job creation. The girls who are being trained will be equipped with the necessary gadgets once they qualify, similar to what we had done to other groups but, this time, in their own respective trades. Why can't we use the huge monies for women groups, for the youth, for the SACCOs, etc?

In addition to converting our youth from idleness to wealth and jobs creation as well as attracting FDIs, we shall also encourage our present members of UMA, who are 700 in number, to expand, diversify and deepen their operations. Those engaged in exporting wet-blue leather, should make final leather so that our massive move on making shoes by our youth utilizes our leather. Kilembe mines must produce the 99.9% pure cathode copper rather than the 94% pure blister copper because the former can directly be used in our cables industry at Lugazi rather than having the irrationality of copper producers having to import copper ingots for use in our cables industry. Yet we are a copper producing country. That was the case in the 1960s when we were producing and smelting copper but not to the final degree. The Gold Refinery recently commissioned at Entebbe is a good example because the gold produced there is pure enough to be used in coins, jewellery, etc., directly. The steel from Sukulu (Tororo) will straight away go into the dams, the high-rise buildings, the railway, etc. Our sugar producers should further refine sugar to produce purer sugar for use in beverages or for pharmaceutical industries. Our beverages industries and our pharmaceuticals industries are rendered expensive on account of importing pharmaceutical grade sugar and starch from outside.

Our sugar producers cannot, however, do this if they are still being disturbed by pirate sugar companies that were licensed by our system to operate in the traditional sugar producers' zone of cane. We are going to rationalize this dangerous chaos in the sugar industry. With pharmaceutical grade sugar, medical drugs that need syrups will cost-effectively be made here. The soda industries will benefit from the industrial grade sugar. Some of our industrialists (old or new) should go into making industrial and pharmaceutical grade starch for industrial and pharmaceutical use. Human drugs — companies are inconvenienced by having to import starch from outside.

Yet, we have our cassava and maize waiting to be turned into starch. Could Dr. Muranga's banana starch help us in this? Local starch would make the drugs cheaper by 30% and, therefore, more competitive.

The Ministries concerned have pledged to, finally, work on some of the industrial parks such as Namanve, Luzira, Mbale, etc.,. We are also expecting our Kiira electric car, Kayoola mini-bus and pick-up in 2018. The Automobile Industrial Park is being developed in Jinja.

On this occasion, I will not speak alot on agriculture because OWC is already on the move to tackle the 69% of our population who are subsistence farmers whose *muziro* (totem) has been money. May be, on another occasion, I will give details of what OWC has done.

As far as agriculture is concerned, I will only mention three areas. One, we should remember that there are richer farmers who do not benefit from OWC. These need separate support through low interest money in UDB. They need this money to do bush-clearing, pasture development, water excavation, acquire solar water pumps for irrigation, acquiring agricultural machinery, accessing chemicals for crop parasites, etc., etc. Part of the capitalization of UDB by government will do this. I have also discussed with PTA and SADC Banks on this issue.

The other issue is irrigation. We cannot depend forever on rain-fed agriculture. In the second season of last year (Ituumba) when there was stampede about the "drought", there were at the same time the second highest recorded water-levels since 1900. The water level last year, in the first season (Katuumba), at Entebbe reached the level of 12.70 metres.

That water level was only exceeded by the record water level of 1964 when it reached 13.65 metres at Entebbe. In fact, since I follow those issues, I was very worried that the landing sites and piers would be swallowed up by the water as happened in 1964. Indeed, part of the shoreline was flooded. Even today, the water level at Entebbe is at 12.13 metres. Ever since 1964, the water level in Lake Victoria has never gone back to its 1959 level of 10.76 meters or that of 10.28 meters in 1923. Therefore, to talk of "drought" in Uganda is an irrationality. The answer is irrigation. I am glad the government is working on this. The plans for the irrigation schemes of: Katabok (Abim district), Ongom (Aleptong district), Biiso (Buliisa district), Labori (Serere district), Namalu (Nakapiripirit district), Musamya (Kayunga district), Kibiimba (Gomba district) and Matanda (Kanungu district) are at the feasibility and design stages. Designs for the following irrigation schemes are already finished: Mobuku II, Doho II, Wadelai, Tochi, Rwengaju and Ngenge. There are also 130 micro irrigation schemes in various districts. Other designs to be done are: Rwebincuuncu, Mabira, Atari, Acomai, Geregere, Ojama, Kyenshama, Kyahi, etc. These do not include the mega irrigation schemes around the Rwenzori, the Elgon, the Agoro and the Kigyezi Highlands as well as bulk water transfers for Kagyera, Nakasongola and Kakyera areas. More importantly, working with industrialists, we are developing solar powered water pumps that can be used by individual farmers. I am looking forward to throwing away my diesel water pumps when the cheaper solar pumps are available. I could then irrigate my pasture and crops. Hitherto, I have confined myself to only filling the cattle dip tanks for fear of the cost of fuel.

The third issue is to remember that, in order to supply the industries, our agriculture must wake up and behave industrially. We, for instance, are now required to supply cattle for the abattoirs that are springing up and also supply the Chinese market where our people have got orders for beef where a Kg is now US\$11.5. With 14 million cattle, this should not be a problem because you can easily sell off 20% per annum and it will not affect the national herd. 20% of the national herd is 2.8 million. Therefore, supplying a factory that needs 146,000 per year is not a problem. However, somebody must concentrate those cattle so that the factory gets its 400 cattle per day that it needs. We have directed NEC to do this. Everybody should support them. Even private fatteners of bullocks can be licensed to feed these factories and also the export market.

In all this, I have not yet commented on the oil and our other minerals. Having agreed on the pipeline, we are set to move. This oil will make it easy for the Uganda State to fund infrastructure and innovation in Science.

The fifth crucial issue is market access. Under our 10 strategic bottlenecks that we identified long ago, limited market access is one of them. Recently, in Dar-es-Salaam, I pointed out that in order to guarantee our prosperity, we must ensure that our products access the internal market, the regional one and the international one. Trade is about mutual support if it is fair trade. The EAC market of 170 million people gives us a good base to negotiate with others – the Americans, the EU, the Chinese, the Indians, the Japanese, the Russian, etc. Once somebody buys what you produce as already pointed out, he is supporting your prosperity. The reverse is the case if you buy what he is producing.

You are supporting his prosperity – you are creating jobs for him and giving him that that should be yours in terms of money.

Let us wake up and wake up everybody.

As far as the legislative programme of the government is concerned, here below are the Bills:

PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM /FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2017/2018

S/NO

MINISTRY

A MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

1. Management of Uganda Government properties abroad “Overseas properties and Immunities Bill.
2. The Uganda Institute for Diplomacy and International Affairs (UIDIA), Bill.
3. Foreign Service Bill

B. MINISTRY OF GENDER, LABOUR & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

4. Social Impact Assessment and Accountability Bill.
5. The National Council for Disability Amendment Bill
6. Community Mobilization and Empowerment Bill
7. The Traditional and Cultural Leaders (Amendment) Bill.

8. The Occupational Safety and Health (Amendment) Bill
9. The Labor Disputes (Arbitration and Settlement) (Amendment) Bill.
10. The Employment (Amendment) Bill.
11. The Workers Compensation (Amendment) Bill.
12. National Youth Service Scheme Bill
13. National Youth Council (Amendment) Bill.
14. Uganda National Cultural Center (Amendment) Bill, 1959 CAP 50

C. MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SERVICE

15. Public Service Pension Fund Bill,
16. Salaries and Allowances (Specified officer) Bill cap 291 of 1999
17. The National Records and Archives (Amendment) Bill.

T. MINISTRY OF FINANCE, PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

18. Bank of Uganda (Amendment) Bill.
19. National Payments Systems Bill.
20. Investment Code (Amendment) Bill,
21. Micro Finance Deposit Taking Institutions (Amendment) Bill.
22. Financial Leasing Bill
23. Motor Third Party Insurance Bill.
24. Income Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2018
25. VAT (Amendment) Bill, 2018
26. Excise Tariff (Amendment) Bill, 2018
27. Stamps Duty (Amendment) Bill, 2018

28. Finance Bill, 2018
29. Tax Procedures Code (Amendment) Bill, 2018
30. Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2018
31. Appropriation Bill, 2018
32. Institute of Procurement Professionals of Uganda (IPPU) Bill
33. Annual Budget Estimates for FY2018/19 - Motion
34. Corrigenda for FY2018/19 - Motion
35. Budget Speech FY2018/19 - Motion
36. National Budget Framework Paper FY2018/19 – Motion
37. Semi Annual Budget Performance Report FY2017/18 – Motion

E Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries

38. Agriculture Extension Bill
39. The NAADS Amendment Bill.
40. The Universities and Tertiary Institutions (Amendment)Bill.
41. Fisheries Bill
42. National Coffee Bill

F Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs

43. Constitution (Amendment) Bill.
44. Administration of the Judiciary Bill.
45. Geneva Conventions Act (Amendment) Bill.
46. The National Legal Aid Bill,2015

G Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities

47. Uganda Wildlife (Amendment) Bill.

H Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development

48. Uganda Land Commission Bill

49. Land Lord –Tenant Bill

I Ministry of Water and Environment

50. NEMA Act (Amendment) Bill.

51. The Climate Change Bill.

52. Water Act (Amendment) Bill.

J Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives

53. New Sugar Bill.

54. Consumer Protection Bill.

K Ministry of Works and Transport

55. Uganda Construction Industry Commission (UCICO) Bill.

56. The Engineers Registration Act (Amendment) Bill.

57. The Draft Roads (Amendment) Bill

58. Building Control Bill

59. The Civil Aviation Authority (Amendment) Bill

60. Traffic and Road Safety (Amendment) Bill

L Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Sports

61. National Curriculum Development Centre (NCDC) (Amendment) Bill.

62. Physical Activity and Sports (PAS) Bill.

63. Uganda National Examination Board Act (UNEB) Amendment Bill.

64. The Nakivubo War Memorial Stadium (Amendment) Bill.

M Ministry of Internal Affairs

65. Government Chemist Agency Bill.

66. Uganda Citizenship and Immigration Control Act (Amendment) Bill.

67. Small Arms and Light Weapons Control Bill.

68. A policy framework on poison information management in Uganda (to guide the government Analytical Laboratory in establishing the National Poison Information Centre)

N The Office of The President (Directorate for Ethics and Integrity)

69. The Inspectorate of Government (Amendment) Bill.

70. The Asset Recovery Bill.

O Ministry of Health

71. National Specialized Hospital Bill

72. National Health Insurance Bill

73. Indigenous and Complementary Medicine Bill

74. Mental Health Bill

75. National Food and Drug Authority Bill

76. Public Health Act

77. Health Tertiary Institutions Bill

78. Organ and Tissue Transplant Bill

79. Uganda Health Services Management Institute Bill

80. Pharmacy Bill

81. National Health Laboratories Services Bill

I thank you.