

Gov't revises Budget again by UGX.817.2 billion in new estimates



The Minister of State for Finance (General Duties), Hon. Henry Musasizi tabling the addendum to the corrigenda to the budget estimates for FY 2023/2024 before Parliament of Uganda. Photo ©Parliament Watch

The Government yesterday May 17, 2023 tabled before Parliament a second corrigenda amounting to UGX 817,216,4442 billion, to the draft budget estimates for the financial year 2023/2024, bringing the total budget to UGX.52.7 trillion.

The Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development, last week tabled before Parliament UGX .1 trillion corrigenda to the budget increasing the total budget from UGX.50.9 trillion, to UGX. 51.9 trillion.

To the surprise of Parliament on Wednesday May 17, 2023, state minister for finance Hon Henry Musasizi tabled another addendum of UGX.817.2 billion to the budget, bringing the total figure of the budget to sh52.736 trillion.

The corrigenda, provides for correction of errors and omissions unforeseen at the time of presenting the budget, as well as Government decisions that were not fully and appropriately captured at the time of finalizing the draft estimates.

Under the UGX 817 billion corrigenda, state House has been allocated an additional funds amounting to sh37b for classified expenditure, UGX 339.8 billion has been allocated to Ministry of Defense to cater for wage shortfalls, among other re-allocations.

Referring the corrigenda to the Parliament Committee on Budget for scrutiny, the speaker of Parliament Hon. Anita Among warned the Ministry of Finance against late submission of the budget documents to Parliament, which she said affects budget deadlines.

"It is a strong warning that lets us work in a systematic way. Let's have documents that you want this House to consider in time. This should be the last time you are bringing the corrigenda when we are two hours to supply," Among warned.

Under rule 149 sub rule 4 of the rules of procedures of Parliament, Parliament through the committee of supply (Whole House) is supposed to consider and approve the estimates and expenditures not later than the 20th day of May each financial year.

Parliament has until Saturday May 20th, 2023 to pass the National Budget, which will be presented to the nation next month, by the Minister of Finance.

The House is expected to reconvene today, Thursday May 18, to consider and pass the Budget, after failing to do the supply on Wednesday May 17, 2023.