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BY FRED MUZAAL

**A**uthorities in Kayunga District are stuck with structures constructed at two health centres in alleged total disregard of the Ministry of Health guidelines.

The affected structures include a Shs500m maternity ward at Ntenjeru Health Centre III in Kayunga Town Council, and a Shs750m general ward at Buyobe Health Centre III in Kayunga Sub-county.

Although both buildings were completed nearly four years ago, they have never been commissioned because of alleged construction mistakes.

During the Kayunga District Council meeting last Friday, councillors demanded an explanation from the district executive and the district engineer on why the Health ministry's guidelines were ignored during construction.

"The maternity ward at Ntenjeru Health Centre III has no provision for where premature babies are placed, and it also lacks a room where medical workers can operate from, which are vital guidelines," Mr Sam Okwalinga, the councillor of Busaana Town Council, noted.

Mr Ismael Ntambi, the councillor for Kayunga Town Council, said the general ward was not only poorly built as it de-

# Health projects stall over failure to follow guidelines



The maternity ward at Ntenjeru Health Centre III in Kayunga Town Council on Monday. PHOTO/FRED MUZAAL

veloped cracks even before it was officially opened, but it was also put up in a road reserve. He said because of this, authorities were forced to divert the road leading to Buyobe to create space for the building.

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**Issue.** Despite the substandard construction works, the district executive has been pushing for the commissioning of the buildings, which we have rejected until the Ministry of Health construction guidelines are followed and some of the works are redone.

**- Mr Ismael Ntambi, the councillor for Kayunga Town Council**

works are redone," Ntambi said.

He said the councillors wrote a report to the Inspector General of Government (IGG) about the shoddy construction works in the district so that all those found culpable are punished.

"In the report, we have listed all the names of the contractors who need to be blacklisted so that no more contracts are awarded to them in the district," he added.

There are claims that some of the companies behind the shoddy works are linked to district officials, but the district chairperson, Mr Andrew Muwonge, dismissed the allegations.

Mr Joshua Kampi, the Kayunga Sub-county chairman, said: "The newly constructed general ward and the whole health facility have a lot of issues. The works need to be redone, which is why we have refused to allow the district authorities to commission it."

When this reporter visited the two health centres on Monday, he found the buildings overgrown with bush and now occupied by bats.

Dr Ahmed Matovu, the Kayunga District health officer, declined to comment on the issues and referred this reporter to the Chief Administrative Officer, Mr Malik Mahaba.

Mr Mahaba, however, said: "We are handling this issue and it will be sorted."