

By Nelson Mandela
Muhoozi

President Yoweri Museveni has pledged to investigate the misuse of Parish Development Model (PDM) funds in Rubaga division in Kampala and Entebbe municipality, warning that those found to have stolen public money will be held accountable.

The pledge came as National Resistance Movement's (NRM) Museveni took its 2026 election campaign to the opposition-leaning areas of Entebbe Municipality and Rubaga division.

Museveni addressed rallies at Works Playground in Entebbe and later at Kitebi Primary School in Rubaga Division, accompanied by the First Lady, Janet Museveni.

Speaking directly about the PDM, Museveni said funds sent to communities were being stolen by local actors and promised that investigations were already underway.

"Where did these people who use PDM funds for themselves come from? Are you not the ones who voted for your SACCOS [savings and credit co-operative society] committees? However, for me, I am happy because I played my part. I sent the money, but it disappeared from your side. We are going to investigate where the money went," Museveni said.

He added that his auditors had already been deployed to investigate the misuse of funds.

"Here in Entebbe, they have been stealing the money. I sent my auditors and they got the culprits... They will refund the money," the President said.

Museveni stressed that accountability must start at the local level and linked the misuse of funds to weak political representation.

"Money came to your area and it was misused and the people who should demand and investigate your funds should be your MPs and LC5 chairpersons, but you do not have NRM representatives in this area. You are like orphans," he said, urging voters to support NRM leaders.

NRM TO RECLAIM CENTRAL

NRM leaders said the party is determined to reclaim support in the central region and emphasised developments done in the area.

NRM secretary general Richard Todwong told supporters at Works grounds in Entebbe that the party was confident of victory on January 15. "We have moved with the President all over Uganda, and the people of Uganda are going to vote for Museveni overwhelmingly. The people of Entebbe are the owners of

MUSEVENI TO PROBE PDM FUND MISUSE IN ENTEBBE, RUBAGA

PHOTO BY EDDIE SSEJJOBA



Museveni talking to NRM women leaders from Katabi town council after addressing a rally in Entebbe, yesterday

Discipline

The first vice-chairperson of the NRM, Moses Kigongo, urged voters to maintain discipline during the campaign period and elections. "We need to stay away from those who are chaotic," Kigongo appealed.

Museveni gave the First Lady an opportunity to address the people during the rally. In her address, she thanked residents for attending in large numbers and reflected on the country's journey over the past four decades. "These gatherings remind us where God has brought us and what God has done in the last 40 years and the peace and the stability Uganda has been blessed with as a country," Janet Museveni said.

She urged voters not to take peace for granted just like God told the people of Israel and noted: "Remember it is him who gave us this blessing of peace and prosperity... That is why so many refugees in the region live in Uganda due to the peace and Uganda is their hope."

Mrs Museveni urged the people to vote for the NRM to safeguard what she described as national gains. "Therefore, don't forget to vote for NRM to ensure that we get the strategic leap forward as we protect the gains," she said.

She also linked local challenges to the lack of NRM representation in Parliament, referencing the Kiteezi landfill tragedy.

Wakiso NRM chairperson and Busiro North MP flag-bearer Moses Mayanja, also thanked Museveni for development projects in the area.

Mayanja appealed for additional social services, including education and

transport infrastructure.

WEALTH CREATION, JOBS

Outlining parts of the NRM manifesto for 2026-2031, Museveni focused on wealth creation and job creation. He cited the removal of past roadblocks and insecurity as a foundation for economic growth.

"We saved you, Entebbe people, from the roadblocks that used to be staged by bad people. Now there is peace

and many people are now wealthy due to the peace, and these areas are filled with real estate which was not the case in the previous days," he said.

The President highlighted opportunities for urban and peri-urban residents to escape poverty, including agriculture, artisanal skills and small-scale manufacturing.

He encouraged peri-urban farming in areas such as Kasenyi and Kasanje, listing piggery, poultry, vegetable farming and floriculture as viable options.

On fisheries and tourism, Museveni said proper management of lakes could support fish factories, while tourism assets, such as botanical gardens and lake shores, could generate income through leisure and hospitality.

As Uganda prepares for the 2026 general election on January 15, Wakiso district will be one of the areas to watch.

In the 2021 presidential election, Wakiso had 1,154,857 registered voters. Of these, Robert Kyagulanyi of the National Unity Platform garnered 425,002 votes, representing 75.69%, while Museveni secured 122,505 votes (21.82%). Patrick Oboi Amuriat of the Forum for Democratic Change received 3,730 votes (0.66%), with the remainder shared among the other candidates.

WHAT VOTERS SAY



Rose Kempango, Sseguku

We ask the President to give more money to women groups. Women in Sseguku formed groups, hoping to get support, but nothing has come to us yet.



Rev. James Oburu, Gayaza Kayebe

We appeal to Museveni to continue with the prevailing peace in the country. We don't want it to be interrupted.



Zainabu Napeteti Wanjiri, Katabi

We, the wives of soldiers, have not been included on the government development programmes.



Aisha Nakato, Nakiwogo

As widows of soldiers, we appeal to Museveni to help us get our husbands' gratuity.