

COMMENTS FROM PREMIER'S REPORT CLUSTERED IN FIVE THEMATIC AREAS

CHARTED PATH

The ruling party has its work cut out as a new political term starts. With the presentation of the 2021-26 manifesto report, premier Nabbanja has asked leaders to implement the ongoing 33% of the pledges by May 12; writes **Umaru Kashaka**.

Out of the 809 pledges that the National Resistance Movement (NRM) made under the 2021 election manifesto, 434 (54%) were fulfilled, 264 (33%) are being fulfilled, while 110 (13%) had not been honoured, Prime Minister Robinah Nabbanja has said.

She said the manifesto performance will be over 87% by the end of the political term on May 12, going by this trend.

Nabbanja, also the Kakumiro Woman MP, made the remarks during the handover of the NRM's 2021-2026 end-of-term manifesto report at the Office of the President in Kampala.

She also said there had been a progressive improvement in performance because the mid-term evaluation done in June 2024 indicated that out of 809 commitments made, 281 (35%) had been fulfilled, 395 (49%) were being fulfilled and 133 (16) had not yet been honoured.

The manifesto comments were clustered in five thematic areas: creating jobs and wealth for all Ugandans; delivering education, health and water; ensuring justice and equity; protecting lives and property; and achieving economic and political integration.

The Prime Minister said Uganda had surpassed the \$1,136 gross national income (GNI) per capita required for a country to be classified in the lower-income category.

"Uganda's GNI [gross national



Nabbanja (left) hands over the 2021-26 NRM manifesto report to Todwong (third-right) as former justice and constitutional affairs minister Ephraim Kamuntu (second-left), Kakande (second-right) and Bashaasha (right) witness. This was at the Office of the President in Kampala yesterday

NRM TO ACHIEVE OVER 87% OF 2021-26 MANIFESTO GOALS

income] per capita was \$1,278 as at the end of June 2025. As such, Uganda met the criteria for graduation from the category of least developed countries. Poverty declined from 21.4% in 2016 to 16.1% in 2025," she said. The premier also said the number of households in the subsistence economy reduced from 68% in 2014 to 30% last year, with the latest poverty alleviation programme of the Parish Development Model (PDM) as the key contributor. Under PDM, sh3.3 trillion has so far been disbursed to parishes, reaching 2.1 million beneficiaries.

CONNECTIVITY, ACCESS

Nabbanja also said electricity generation capacity rose to 2,051 megawatts (MW) in 2024 from 1,839.4MW in 2019, following the completion of flagship projects such



The premier said the number of households in the subsistence economy reduced to 30%.

as Karuma, Isimba and other power-generating plants.

"As a result, access to electricity increased to 60% of the population in 2024, up from 51% in 2019/20,

driven by grid extension, solar solutions and last-mile connectivity," she said.

Nabbanja said NRM promised and has completed construction of 1,855km of roads.

"Our road network has tremendously expanded and improved from around 1,000km of tarmac roads in 1986 to 6,306km as of June 2024. This does not include city roads and over 1,135km of roads under construction."

With water, Nabbanja said the number of villages with safe, clean and affordable water supply systems has increased from 38,809 villages in 2021 (excluding Kampala city) to 57,313 villages out of 71,210, representing an 81% coverage.

In health, she said life expectancy at birth has improved to 68 years from 43 in 1986, meaning Ugandans are

living longer and happier lives than ever before.

"Malaria incidence declined by 24%, from 302 to 230 cases per 1,000 population over the past five years, while malaria-related deaths fell by 42%, from 5,050 in the financial year 2020/21 to 2,917 in the financial year 2023/24," she said.

In education, the national literacy rate rose to 74% in 2024, up from 72% in 2021, while numeracy has increased from 50% in 2021 to 60%.

"Meanwhile, enrolment in government-aided primary schools increased to 9.1 million learners by 2025, up from 2.5 million in 1996, due to the universal primary education programme. Remuneration for scientists in the civil service was increased," she said.

PROGRESS-DRIVEN TERM

Above all, Nabbanja said, Uganda has remained stable and peaceful over the last five years.

"Now that we have built consensus on the goal of growing the economy tenfold to a gross domestic product of \$500b, and attain upper middle-income status in the shortest possible time, these achievements will be even faster," she said.

The premier encouraged the NRM Manifesto Implementation Unit, under its director Willis Bashaasha, to develop and disseminate an implementation strategy for the 2026 election manifesto, with clear indicators and targets to enable timely reporting on implementation progress.

WHAT OTHERS SAID

NRM secretary-general Richard Todwong, who received the report on behalf of the party, said it was the first time in their record to receive a report on how their manifesto has been implemented.

The permanent secretary in the President's office, Haji Yunus Kakande, said they will ensure all the 2021 election manifesto pledges are fulfilled at the strategic supervisory level.