PHOTOS BY IGNATIOUS KAMYA

President Museveni grants tax exemption to hotels

By Ignatius Kamya

There was lots of excitement and anticipation on the faces of many around Bativa Road in Makerere on Saturday morning during the official launch of Bamus Sarovar Portico Hotel.

Thanks to Nyange Cultural Performers' loud showcase of different cultural dances right outside the entrance, passers-by stopped to marvel at the spectacle. It was the arrival of the chief guest, the State Minister of Investment and Privatisation, Hon. Evelyn Anite, that put a break on the performance.

She was welcomed by the group chairman Hajji Badru Muwanga, along with the Hotel managing director, Ajay Bakaya, before making the tour around the hotel.

Anite commended Hajji Muwanga for diverting his investment portfolio and partnering with Bamus Sarovar Portico Hotel to also have it here. Anite said she had been to some of their other hotels in Kenya, Zambia and France. "Their care was top-notch and seeing the franchise here in Uganda gives her great joy knowing another great hotel has been set up for Ugandans," she said.

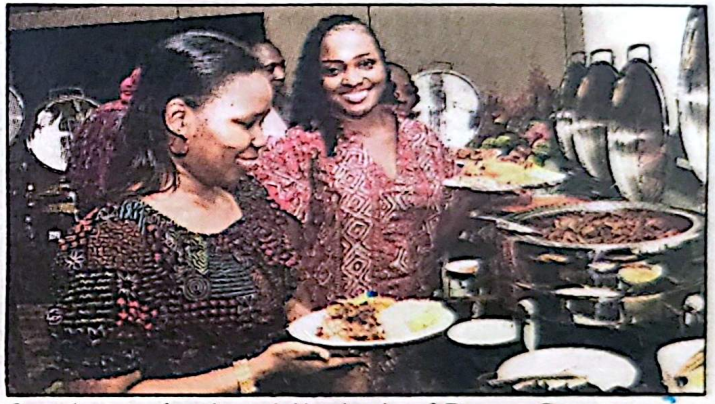
She added that during her tour of the hotel, all that she saw were great amenities and she couldn't believe they were charging so little considering what they offer.

Anite said she informed the hotel owners that President Yoweri Museveni directed her to give a 10-year co-operation taxi exemption to hotels beginning the next financial year. "Even importing things to use in those hotels will be taxi-free," she explained further. She said that because of this, they hope to see more hotels coming up in the different parts of the country.

Muwanga thanked Sarovar Group for accepting to partner with him. He also thanked the government for the incentives extended to this hotel. The hotel, in the heart of Kampala, provides a great view of the city.



Nyange Cultural performers entertaining guests



Guests queuing to get the taste of Bamus Sarovar Portico Hotel's first meal



Anite and Hajji Badru Muwanga holdi dummy key as they officially opened Sarovar Portico Hotel last Saturday

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