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Govt must put more funds in agriculture

The government allocated only 3.1 per cent of the total national Budget to agriculture yet more than 75 per cent of the population depends on agriculture. Besides, the World Bank report 2008 titled, 'Agriculture for development' observed that the GDP growth originating from the agriculture sector is about four times more effective in raising incomes of extremely poor people than GDP growth originating outside the sector.

Unfortunately, such a very important sector has been continuously ignored by the ruling NRM government for the last 31 years. That notwithstanding, even the Maputo Declaration on agriculture, to which Uganda is signatory, recommends a 10 per cent budget allocation for agriculture. Sadly, all this has been ignored by the government hence one has to ask the pertinent question: Where is the ruling NRM's priority?

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