delving into details, also complained about the 'bureaucracy' in the Office of the Prime Minister.

Elegu floods stall trade with S. Sudan

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AMURU: The floods that ravaged Elegu Trading Centre in Atiak Sub-county, Amuru District, has subsided but its toll has left businesses at the Uganda-South Sudan border point paralysed.

On Tuesday, a devastating flood hit the area, leaving two people dead and more than 3,000 others, mostly traders and peasant farmers, stranded with their homes, business premises, and gardens washed away.

The floods followed torrential rain currently drenching northern Uganda and has also forced River Unyama to burst its banks and flood the area.

Several institutions, among them the immigration offices, the Uganda Revenue Authority, dfcu Bank and BLD gas fueling station, have ceased operations following the floods.

An official at the Immigration offices, who spoke on condition of anonymity since he is not authorised to speak to the press, said all electronics at their offices have been destroyed by water.

He said some clearing agents are now using smart phones to conduct business.

"All our computers, printers and stationery have been destroyed by the water that flooded the offices on Tuesday. We are using our phones to take photos of drivers intending to cross into South Sudan," he told this newspaper in an interview on Friday.

"We are trying to clear the vehicles but with a lot of challenges. The telecom network is very poor at the moment, which is also greatly affecting our work," he added.

Mr Robert Onencan, a business man at Elegu Trading Centre, said the aftermath of the floods has forced upwards the prices of food, water and fuel at the border point.

Mr Onencan said the disaster has also affected supply of electricity, adding that electronic, secretarial and Internet services have been grounded for three days.

Mr Wilfred Odiya Baguma, the Atiak Sub-county chairperson, said they have lost millions of shillings in terms of revenue due to the floods.

On Thursday, Mr Martin Owor, the commissioner for Relief, Disaster Preparedness and Management in the Office of the Prime Minister, said government had already sent relief food to the affected people at Elegu.

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