THE LAW MANDATES RDCS TO CHAIR DISTRICT SECURITY COMMITTEES

RDCS TOLD TO REFOCUS ON SERVICE DELIVERY

By Hudson Apunyo and Eddie Ssejjoba

The Minister for the Presidency, Milly Babalanda has implored Resident District Commissioners (RDCs) to shift their focus back to the core mission of government, which is service delivery and socio-economic transformation of Ugandans, given the fact that the election period is over.

"President Yoweri Museveni has consistently emphasised that the success of government programmes depend largely on your effective monitoring and supervision at the district level," she said.

Babalanda made the remarks in a speech delivered by the Minister of State for Economic Monitoring, Beatrice Akello Akori, while opening a three-day capacity building workshop for RDCs and internal security officers in Lango, held at Margarita Palace Hotel, Lira city yesterday.

"You must remain vigilant and proactive in identifying bottlenecks that affect service delivery. Where there is misuse of public funds, poor implementation of projects, or delays in service delivery, you must take appropriate action and report to the relevant authorities," Babalanda said.

"If it requires you to physically visit project sites, interact with beneficiaries, verify progress and ensure that what is reported on paper reflects what is happening on the ground."

Babalanda reminded the commissioners of the achievements that have been realised in Lango sub region, explaining that over the years, the region has experienced significant improvements in infrastructure, including road networks, and improved access to electricity and other social services.

"The health sector has also expanded with construction and upgrading of health facilities across the region. These achievements demonstrate the commitment of the NRM government to ensuring inclusive development across all regions of the country, including those that historically faced development challenges," she noted.

She also urged the team to remain alert to emerging security threats and work closely with other security agencies to ensure that the stability that Uganda enjoys today is preserved.

"I also wish to highlight the remarkable political shift that has taken place in the Lango sub-region. Historically, Lango was regarded as a stronghold of the opposition politics, particularly of the Uganda People's Congress. However, in the just concluded elections, the NRM registered a very strong performance across the region."

The head of the RDC Secretariat, Maj. Martha Asiimwe congratulated the commissioners and DISOs for fighting to ensure that the NRM government gains are protected by mobilising residents to vote President Museveni in the just concluded general elections.

BETWEEN THE LINES

Meanwhile, Yunus Kakande, the secretary in the Office of the President has cautioned RDCs and resident city commissioners against acting outside the law, which could lead to suspension and eventual dismissal.



Akello i (right) interacting with RDCs and internal security officers during the opening of a three-day capacity building workshop for in Lango, held at Margarita Palace Hotel, Lira city yesterday

'OBSERVE THE LAW'

Meanwhile, Yunus Kakande, the secretary in the Office of the President has cautioned RDCs and resident city commissioners against acting outside the law, which could lead to suspension and eventual dismissal.

Kakande made the warning following concerns recently raised by MPs on the Public Accounts Committee when he appeared to interface with the legislators on the Auditor General (AG) Edward Akol's report for the 2024/25 financial year.

The legislators accused some RDCs of having misused their powers to influence who would be declared winner during the January elections.

Accordingly, Kakande explained that Article 203 of the 1995 Constitution, which establishes the office of the RDC mandates them to chair the district security committee and, were, therefore in charge of security during elections, mandated to supervise and monitor all activities relating to the elections.