

Govt keen on widening e-government services

By BERNARD LUGONGO



THE Minister of State in the President's Office (Public Service Management & Good Governance), Ms Jennista Mhagama (pictured), has tasked the new board of the e-Government Agency (e-GA) to advise the government on how it could make all Tanzanians access its services through e-government system.

"Give advice on improving systems of e-Government. How could we simplify the systems so that people at the grassroots could access government's services through the e-Government.

She added: "Come up with strategies for addressing challenges facing citizens in getting government's services. We wish to see even a Tanzanian who does not use smart phones access government services."

Ms Mhagama made the statement over the weekend when she officially launched the new board chaired by Dr Mussa Kisaka.

The minister further noted that when e-Government sys-

tems are not working properly there is a huge chance of losing government's revenues, hence directing the board to effectively oversee the e-GA so that it responds to system faults in real-time.

"It's not possible that the systems of paying water bills and all electricity don't work the whole week while the e-GA is here, and the board is here too," she stressed.

The minister called on the new board to plug loopholes that lead to the loss of government's revenues due to improper use of systems of e-government, particularly in the local governments.

"It's your duty to inspect and see if those systems work or otherwise," she added.

However, Ms Mhagama acknowledged that there was an increased use of ICT in government services to citizens, noting that effective use of the e-government system will further reduce corruption because it discourages face-to-face services.

The minister said the government has been investing heavily in setting up infrastruc-

tures for e-government, as the country gears up towards embracing digital economy and industrial economy.

On her part, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry, Mr Xavier Daudi, pointed out that e-governance was a catalyst in driving the country to reach digital economy and industrial economy.

"Hence, this new board is supposed to oversee the e-GA to implement laws and policies about e-government. I believe this board is going to accelerate implementation of e-GA activities," Mr Daudi said.

He also reminded the board to put emphasis on encouraging government's institutions to use interconnected systems for information sharing.

Earlier, Director General of the e-GA, Eng Benedict Ndomba, assured the minister that the authority will honour its responsibility as per the law.

Eng Ndomba mentioned some of the authority's achievements as making water bill e-payment systems, e-parliament, M-mama programme and other systems totaling about 40.

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Board (RRB) meeting here in Mpanda municipality under the Chairmanship of Regional Commissioner (RC) Ms Mwanamvua Mrindoko.

Breaking down the 17.25bn/- Eng Mwaka-bete said the fund included 12.7bn/- from the Road Fund and 4.50bn/- from Road development fund.

He further explained 12.7bn/- has been allocated for the rehabilitation of trunk regional road spanning to 1,291.81 kilometers and 201 bridges.

He further said that the rehabilitation of the road projects upon completion will ease the movement of people, services and goods.

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Speaking during the launch of the campaign over the weekend, the Minister for Community Development, Gender, Women

Govt allocates 1.5bn/- to develop ADEM campuses

From HARRIET KIAMA in Bagamoyo

THE government has allocated 1.5bn/- for the financial year 2022/2023 to be used for the development of various projects, under the Agency for the Devel-

leges," he noted.

Out of the allocated money, a sum of 500m/- will be spent for the construction of a building with four lecture halls. It will have the capacity to accommodate 564 students. The amount will also be spent for the construction of ten offices at Mber

Executive Dr Siston Masanja said in a bid to improve services and reach its goals, ADEM had received permission to employ 57 staff.

"At the moment the Public Service Recruitment Secretariat is proceeding with the exercise of interviewing the applicants