

MINISTER of State in the Vice-President's Office, Eng Hamad Yussuf Masauni opens the 'Union Conference for Higher Education Students' in Zanzibar yesterday. (Photo by VPO)

Civil servants warned against using informal emails for government communications

From **BERNARD LUGONGO in Arusha**

THE government has issued a stern warning to civil servants, urging them to refrain from using informal email platforms for official communication.

The government highlighted that such practices jeopardise the confidentiality of sensitive government documents and personal data.

Minister of State in the President's Office for Public Service Management and Good Governance, Mr Ridhiwani Kilowete, issued the caution yesterday when he officially closed the 6th e-Government Annual Meeting held in Arusha.

Mr Ridhiwani expressed concern over the continued use of personal email systems by government employees to send official documents, stating that this increases the risk of sensitive information being exposed online.

"We still have public servants who continue to use personal, non-governmental email systems to send government documents, including sensitive personal data of citizens.

This practice is extremely dangerous as it makes confidential documents vulnerable to leakage," Mr Ridhiwani said. "From today onwards, this must stop as it is creating loopholes for government documents and personal data to be exposed."

The minister also emphasised the importance of using official government e-mail

systems generated developed by e-Government Authority (e-GA).

He pointed out that many public servants have been facing difficulties in accessing loans due to their reluctance to embrace digital systems.

"I did not expect that, after we rolled out these systems, some employees would still face challenges with accessing loans and even basic services. Public servants are abandoning our digital systems, which provide easier and more secure ways to access financial services. They should be educated on the benefits and security of using government-approved digital platforms," Mr Ridhiwani added.

He also acknowledged that a significant challenge lies in the continued resistance by some civil servants to move away from traditional methods of communication in favour of digital systems. "Many people still want to continue using outdated systems instead of embracing digital solutions," he said. "It is crucial for e-GA and other stakeholders to educate these individuals about how digital solutions can resolve many challenges."

Mr Ridhiwani further stressed the importance of cybersecurity, particularly in light of frequent cyberattacks. He urged heads of institutions to ensure that employees are well-trained in information technology to keep up with ever-evolving technological advancements. "If we do not provide our professionals

with continuous training, they risk falling behind," he said.

Despite the recurrent cyberattacks, Mr Ridhiwani commended the resilience of the e-GA systems, noting that they have remained robust in the face of these challenges. "I would like to congratulate the e-GA professionals for maintaining secure systems despite these attacks. Government institutions and leaders must continue to trust and rely on the e-GA systems."

Earlier, Chairperson of the Governance, Constitution, and Legal Affairs Parliamentary Committee, Dr Damas Ndumbaro, praised the e-Government initiative, emphasising that Parliament is one of the major beneficiaries of the shift to digital government services.

Dr Ndumbaro highlighted that the use of paper in preparing documents for Members of Parliament has now been significantly reduced, thanks to the implementation of e-government systems.

Dr Ndumbaro assured that the Parliament will continue to provide full support to the government's digital initiatives, recognising that without a robust digital infrastructure, modern development would not be achievable.

He further said that the adoption of digital platforms has not only streamlined parliamentary processes but also improved overall efficiency in government operations.

Director General of e-Government Agency (eGA), Eng Benedict Ndomba, also

addressed the gathering, reiterating that the agency will continue to work closely with all stakeholders to ensure the successful delivery of e-government services that benefit the public.

"We will continue collaborating with all stakeholders to ensure that e-government services are effective and bring tangible benefits to the society," Eng Ndomba said.

Eng Ndomba expressed optimism that the ongoing efforts to digitalise government services will foster greater transparency, efficiency, and accessibility for citizens across the country.

PM orders end to land grabbing

Continued from Page 1 ment and development, while insisting that such initiatives must not violate citizens' rights.

"My colleagues, do not use force or authority over land that is not yours. Regional Commissioner, ensure your team does not misuse its powers when dealing with people's property. What was done was not correct in any case. If it is his land, engage him in dialogue instead of simply issuing a letter," Dr Nchemba said.

He further directed the Prime Minister's Office – Regional Administration and Local Government (PMO-RALG) to issue a circular to regional and council authorities, instructing leaders to avoid coercive measures when acquiring land and to strictly observe legal and consultative procedures.

tor Godwin Chacha said the letter had been issued in error.

They explained that the land had originally been designated for official residential use by district leaders. After allocation, the resident reportedly intended to construct a petrol station between the residences of the DED and the DC.

Mr Mwangwala said the resident has since been formally notified to allow for an assessment to determine whether he qualifies for compensation.

Earlier, while addressing residents of Marangu-Kitowo Ward, Dr Nchemba issued a two-week ultimatum to the Ministry of Water to finalise procurement of a contractor for the Lake Chala Water Project after receiving a progress report on the initiative.

He said that construction

District.

Minister for Water, Julian Aweso assured residents that a contractor would be secured within 14 days to enable works to commence.

The Lake Chala Water Project is estimated to cost 8.66bn/- and is expected to benefit 34,104 residents in 14 villages in Rombo District.

Dr Nchemba also directed the Minister for Finance to mobilise funds for advance payment to the contractor for the 52.8-kilometre Holili (Rotima)-Tanaken (Nayemi) road project, so that construction can start promptly.

The road, estimated at 28bn/-, runs along the Tanzania-Kenya border and is expected to boost social and economic activities as well as tourism in the area.

He later laid the foundation stone for the Stephen Mushi Technical Secondary

The Bank of Tanzania on behalf of Depository Participant (CDF)

1. Issuer
2. Purpose
3. Maturities/Amount
4. Auction date
5. Procedure for bidding
6. Price per TZS 100
7. Minimum bid size
8. Auction results
9. Settlement date
10. Form of issuance
11. Redemption dates
12. Tax
13. Currency
14. Defaulters
15. Payment Date Adjust
16. Eligibility