

UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE SUPPORTS COMMUNITY HEALTH THROUGH CSR PROGRAMME.

Uganda Prisons Service has renovated Nyakishenyi Health Centre III in Rubabo Sub-county, Rukungiri District, under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme, in support of activities marking the 45th anniversary of Tarehe Sita.

The work was done in partnership with the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF) and other sister security agencies. The handover and commissioning of the facility was attended by senior defence and security officials, local leaders and members of the community.

Speaking at the event, the Minister of State for Defence and Veteran Affairs, Hon. Huda Abason Oleru, thanked the Uganda Prisons Service for the strong support and cooperation.

"The Prisons Service has done more than we expected. This shows real teamwork in serving our people," Hon. Oleru said.

She added that Tarehe Sita celebrations have grown from being held only in barracks to focusing on communities, because the UPDF and other forces belong to the people.

On behalf of the Commissioner General of Prisons, Commissioner of Prisons Gervase Tumuhimbise, in charge of Estates and Engineering, said the scope of work was expanded after a technical assessment.

"We first planned to fence the health centre and renovate the Out Patients Department, but when our team reached the site, we saw that much more needed to be done," Tumuhimbise said.

He explained that the team carried out general repairs, improved drainage and paved access routes, after the Commissioner General of Prisons noted that the area had serious drainage problems.

Mr. Tumuhimbise also said the work was well executed by the Prisons Engineering Gang, whose skills and discipline ensured high quality results.

The Joint Staff for Health Services, Maj. Gen. Dr. Ambrose Musinguzi, said the renovated facility will greatly improve health services in the area.

"Good buildings are a key part of a strong health system. What has been done here today will help many people," he said, adding that more support will be needed as the centre moves towards Health Centre IV status.

Maj. Gen. Musinguzi urged health workers and leaders to protect and maintain the facility.

"Defending the gains also means taking good care of what we have built," he said.

The in-charge of Nyakishenyi Health Centre III, Dr Katusiime Hannibal, thanked the Uganda Prisons Service for the support.

"We truly appreciate the Prisons Service and the Commissioner General. The engineers worked very hard and with great respect for the community," he said.

He added that the officers' discipline and humility helped build trust with local people.

The renovation of Nyakishenyi Health Centre III is one of several community projects being carried out under the Uganda Prisons Service Corporate Social Responsibility programme, as security agencies join hands to serve the public during the 45th anniversary of Tarehe Sita.