

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
DIRECTORATE OF PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS, STATE HOUSE



Pwani
22nd August, 2026

Email: press@ikulu.go.tz

PUBLIC STATEMENT

PRESIDENT SAMIA INAUGURATES JULIUS NYERERE HYDROPOWER PLANT, ORDERS GRID EXPANSION

President Samia Suluhu Hassan has ordered the accelerated rollout of transmission and distribution infrastructure to evacuate power from the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Plant to industrial, commercial and investment load centres nationwide.

She issued the directive today on August 22, 2026, while inaugurating the plant in Rufiji, Coast Region.

The President said the new generation capacity must deliver measurable gains across manufacturing, trade, mining, modern agriculture, public services, investment and employment.

The **2,115-megawatt** facility now accounts for nearly half of the electricity dispatched to Tanzania's national grid, significantly improving system reliability and security of supply.

President Samia said the additional capacity had eased supply constraints that previously disrupted productive sectors, wider economic activity and essential services.

"This project has demonstrated Tanzania's capabilities. We must now harness that capacity to advance other strategic projects and build a strong, self-reliant nation," she said.

She further traced the project development to the vision of Tanzania's founding President, the late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, which successive administrations carried it forward.

President Samia particularly recognised the country's Fifth President, the late Dr. John Pombe Magufuli, whose administration took decisive steps to move the project into construction in **2019**.

She also called for stringent protection of the generation infrastructure, surrounding environment and water catchments to safeguard long-term plant performance and operational efficiency.



[Ikulu Mawasiliano / ikulu_mawasiliano /](#)
[ikulu_Tanzania / ikulu_Tanzania /](#)
[ikulumawasilano / Ikulu Tanzania / Ikulu Tanzania](#)



President Samia urged Tanzanians to preserve the country's peace and stability, describing both as indispensable to protecting strategic investments and sustaining national development.

Speaking at the event, Egyptian Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly said the plant demonstrated Africa's capacity to deliver large-scale infrastructure through continental expertise and cooperation.

"The completion of this plant demonstrates the ability of Egyptian companies to execute major projects to international standards, particularly across Africa," Madbouly said.

He said the project's success will deepen Tanzania-Egypt cooperation in trade, investment, construction, roads, ports, agriculture and energy.

On his part, Tanzania's Energy Minister Deo Ndejembu said the country is expanding its high-voltage transmission backbone to link generation assets with domestic load centres and regional power markets.

The **400-kilovolt** Iringa-Mbeya-Songwe-Rukwa line is **98 per cent** complete, alongside the Songea-Tunduru-Masasi-Maumbika corridor and Tanzania-Uganda interconnector.

Mr. Ndejembu said Tanzania is negotiating electricity exports to Zambia, and a power-exchange agreement with Kenya, while also pursuing similar arrangements with other neighbours.

"Tanzania must now trade electricity, and we are implementing that directive using our surplus capacity," Minister Ndejembu said.

Meanwhile, Former African Development Bank Group President, Dr. Akinwumi Adesina said the plant positioned Tanzania as an energy and economic hub for East and Central Africa.

"You have built the power. Now use it to build the future," said Adesina, citing reliable electricity as critical drive to mineral beneficiation, agro-processing, industrial growth and employment.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Construction of the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Plant began in **2019** at a cost of **TZS 7.452 trillion**. The facility comprises nine generating units with a combined installed capacity of **2,115 megawatts**, a powerhouse, **27 transformers** and a **400-kilovolt switchyard**.



Bakari S. Machumu

Director of Presidential Communications, State House