

## **JPM: Tenders for water projects must demand use of locally made pipes**



President John Magufuli has ordered that all government-funded water projects must use locally manufactured pipes in order to support local industries, TPJ has learnt.

Speaking recently in Dar es Salaam when inaugurating a water pipe manufacturing plant, the President directed procuring entities to include in their bid documents pipes manufactured in the country as a specification.

“We must use our own pipes for all water projects in the country,” President Magufuli said, adding, “You must set a condition to bidders that the water pipes must be manufactured in the country and disqualify those who will not comply.”

President Magufuli said the government was committed to supporting local industries and ensuring their growth as this was inline with policy on industrialisation towards middle income status. He insisted that Tanzania must protect its industries, just like what the developed countries have done to protect theirs.

However, the President also implored local manufacturers to reciprocate the Government’s gesture by ensuring that both quality and prices of their products are competitive enough to beat imports and aid attainment of value for money objective.

The inaugurated factory has capacity for producing 25,000 tonnes of polyvinyl chloride (or PVC) pipes, per year and 40,000 tonnes of high-density polyethylene (or HDPE) pipes, as well as 500 glass-fiber reinforced plastic (or GRP) pipes.

Speaking earlier, deputy water minister, Jumaa Aweso, said the Government was implementing a USD 500 million (approximately TZS 1.2 trillion) water project to supply water and sanitation services to 28 towns in the current financial year and that plans were afoot to use water from lakes Victoria, Nyasa and Tanganyika to supply water and sanitation services to 300 villages in Financial Year 2020/21.

In a ceremony to mark success in a similarly significant procurement event in the country, President Magufuli launched a Dar es Salaam – based civil radar system, one of four that are strategically sited and configured to ensure safety and security of the country’s entire airspace.