Fishing port project in top gear

By DAILY NEWS Reporter

THE government has signed an agreement with China Habour Engineering Company (CHEC) for the construction of the long-awaited fishing port in Kilwa District, Lindi Region, as part of efforts to promote fisheries in the country.

Speaking during the signing ceremony in Dodoma, yesterday, the Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Mr Mashimba Ndaki, indicated that the project will spur growth of the blue economy, make a valuable contribution to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

"I commend President Samia Suluhu Hassan for approving the construction of the port through the country's own revenue sources...the port's completion will bring massive economic benefits to the fishing sector, people and the nation.

"The issue which was formerly a dream has become a reality because the President has agreed to dish out a total of 266.79bn/- for the construction of the port and other infrastructure, including a fish market," said Mr Ndaki.

He pointed out that upon completion, the port will have the capacity of storing 60,000 tons of fish on an annual basis, citing that the port will be the largest among all others located in the East African Coast.

The minister explained further that the port will boost fishery activities in the Indian ocean as compared to the current state, whereby much of the products are being generated from Lake Victoria and Lake Tanganyika areas.

Besides, the port will help to attract more investors in the value production chain, including fish processing industries, which would significantly boost job creation and economic growth for the country.

He, however, urged the management of CHEC, to ensure the port's construction is completed within the set time-frame taking into account that the funds for executing the project is available.

"We won't tolerate any issues which would impede the execution of the project and delay its completion," he stressed.

For her part, the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Water, Dr Christine Ishengoma, stressed the need for the ministry to effectively supervise the contractor, adding that they closely follow up the project to ensure it's completed on time and reflects the value for money.

The General Manager of CHEC, Cheng Yongjian, pledged to ensure the project is completed in time as they are aware of its importance to the country.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Dr Rashid Tamatamah, said lack of a fishing port in the country has been denying the government huge revenue from the fishing sector.

According to the PS, large vessels carrying out fishing activities along the country's special sea belt have been offloading their fish cargo in neighboring countries making them to benefit more than Tanzania.

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Doria kuongezwa kukabili uvuvi haramu baharini

WIZARA ya Uvuvi na Uchumi wa Buluu imesema imejipanga kuongeza idadi ya doria katika maeneo ya hifadhi yaliyotengwa ili kupambana na wavuvi wanaoendesha uvuvi haramu na kutishia rasilimali za baharini ikiwamo matumbawe.

Hayo yalisemwa na Waziri wa Uvuvi na Uchumi wa Buluu, Suleiman Masoud Makame wakati akitoa ufafanuzi kuhusu mikakati ya wizara ya kufanya doria katika maeneo ya hifadhi ambayo yametengwa maalumu kwa ajili ya kupambana na uvuvi haramu.

Alisema yapo maeneo zaidi ya 10 yaliyotengwa kwa ajili ya hifadhi ya uvuvi ikiwa ni mikakati ya wizara kulinda hifadhi ya mazingira kwa ajili ya kuongeza idadi ya samaki na matumbawe.

Kwa mujibu wa waziri, uchunguzi umebaini kwamba baadhi ya wavuvi wasiokuwa waaminifu wamekuwa wakiingia katika maeneo ya hifadhi yaliyotengwa na kuendesha uvuvi haramu unaotishia uhai wa viumbe vya baharini ikiwemo matumbawe.

Alisema serikali itaendelea kusimamia sheria ya uvuvi namba saba ya mwaka 2010 inayopiga marufuku aina ya uvuvi ambao ni tishio kwa mazingira.

"Sheria ya uvuvi imepiga marufuku uvuvi wa kutumia mishale na bunduki ambao unatishia uhai wa matumbawe pamoja na viumbe vya baharini," alisema.

Makame alisema kuwapo kwa maeneo ya hifadhi ya uvuvi yaliyotengwa na serikali kwa kiasi kikubwa kumewezesha wavuvi kupata kipato kikubwa cha samaki kutokana na maeneo hayo kulindwa na kamati za uvuvi.

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Ujenzi bandari ya uvuvi Kilwa waiva

Na Mwandishi Maalumu, Dodoma

SERIKALI imeingia makubaliano ya kuanza ujenzi wa bandari ya uvuvi ya Kilwa na Kampuni ya ujenzi ya China Habour Engineering Company.

Utiaji saini ulifanyika katika hafla iliyofanyika jijini Dodoma jana.

Akizungumza na uongozi wa kampuni ya ujenzi ya CHEC, Waziri wa Mifugo na Uvuvi, Mashimba Ndaki alisema mradi huo utakaoanza hivi karibuni wilayani Kilwa katika Mkoa wa Lindi, utachochea ukuaji wa uchumi wa buluu na kufanya sekta ya uvuvi kuwa na mchango mkubwa katika pato la taifa.

Alimshukuru Rais Samia Suluhu Hassan kwa kukubali kujenga bandari hiyo kwa fedha za ndani. Alisema kukamilika kwa bandari hiyo kutakuwa na faida nyingi za kiuchumi kwa wavuvi, wananchi na taifa kwa ujumla.

"Namshukuru Rais kwa kukubali kufanya jambo hili ambalo lilikuwa ndoto … amekubali kutoa jumla ya shilingi bilioni 266.79 kwa ajili ya ujenzi wa bandari hii pamoja na miundombinu mingine ikiwamo soko la kisasa la samaki," alisema.

Alisema bandari hiyo ikikamilika itakuwa na uwezo wa kuhifadhi tani 60,000 za mazao ya uvuvi kwa mwaka kutoka katika ukanda wa Bahari ya Hindi huku akisisitiza kuwa bandari hiyo itakuwa kubwa kuliko zote katika Pwani ya Afrika Mashariki.

Waziri Ndaki alisema bandari itasaidia kuinua uzalishaji wa mazao ya uvuvi kwa wingi kutoka katika ukanda huo wa bahari tofauti na ilivyo sasa ambapo mazao mengi yanayotumika yanatoka katika ukanda wa Ziwa Victoria na Tanganyika.

Wakati huo huo Ndaki aliutaka uongozi wa Kampuni ya CHEC ambayo ni mkandarasi katika ujenzi wa bandari hiyo kuhakikisha unakamilika ndani ya muda uliopangwa. Alisema serikali haitavumilia udhuru wowote utakaosababisha kuchelewesha mradi huo.

Mwenyekiti wa Kamati ya Kudumu ya Bunge ya Kilimo, Mifugo na Maji, Dk Christina Ishengoma aliihimiza wizara kuhakikisha inamsimamia vema mkandarasi aliyekabidhiwa kujenga bandari hiyo.

Alisema kamati itakuwa ikifuatilia kwa karibu kuhakikisha mradi huo unakamilika kwa wakati ili Watanzania waone matunda ya fedha zao.

Meneja Mkuu, Kampuni ya ujenzi ya CHEC, Cheng Yongjian alisema kuwa mradi huo ni muhimu kwa Tanzania hivyo kwa kutumia uzoefu walio nao wana imani kwamba watakamilisha ujenzi wa bandari hiyo ndani ya muda uliopangwa.

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