

# Govt orders district councils to list sources of water

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ALL district councils in the country have been ordered to list all sources of water in their areas and submit the list to the central government to come up with better ways to preserve them.

*Minister of State in the Vice President's Office for Union Affairs and Environment, January Makamba*

Minister of State in the Vice President's Office for Union Affairs and Environment, January Makamba made the call yesterday, saying the government will use all measures to preserve sources of water in the country.

"There is no blanket permission to save water sources in the country and all the local government authorities should provide the government with the list as soon as possible" he said, adding that the government can not relent in the war to save environment.

The minister made the call in response to the supplementary questions by several MPs who argued that the government is not doing enough to save the natural water sources from human activities.

Earlier in the main question, the Kasulu Urban MP, Daniel Nsanzugwanko (CCM) argued that effects of environment degradation were a main threat to the water sources, especially on river Makere.

In response, the deputy minister of State in the Vice President's Office for Union Affairs and Environment, Kangi Lugola said the government in 2006 came up with strategies to save water sources.

He added that through the envisioned land use master plan, the government will clearly state how to help save the existing water sources from destructions and whoever violates the law will face serious legal measures.

He added that some of the short term strategies identified in 2006 included removal of pastoralists who invaded various valleys and other sources of water in the country.

Other steps, he said was to remove farmers who had also invaded different areas as well as removing people who had settled in the most polluted areas.

"The government also took steps to control burning of reserve areas, planting of unwanted trees on the water sources and continued with the campaign to plant trees to help conserve the environment," he added.