

Katumba rallies public to help needy children

About the day. Good Deeds Day is a global day that unites people from 93 countries to do good deeds for the benefit of others and the planet.

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KAMPALA. The State minister for Works, Gen Edward Katumba Wamala, has asked Ugandans to support vulnerable children as part of government efforts to promote sustainable development in the country.

"We should not leave the work and role of helping the needy children to foreign companies, organisations and individuals because if

“In doing our work, we encounter challenges because it is expensive to take care of these children. But with sponsors and donors, we are able to play our part. We appeal to everyone to join us fight conditions that affect the children.”

SR SARAH CHRISTINE NALWOGA,
DIRECTOR OF CHILD WELFARE AND
ADOPTION SOCIETY

these children become responsible citizens, they are for the benefit of our country," he said.

Gen Wamala said it is high time Ugandans started donating to the needy, saying it is one way of creating a change in their lives.

He was speaking during the annual Good Deeds Day celebrations organised by construction firm SBI International Holdings Limited at Nsambya Babies Home in Makindye Division last Saturday.

The company handed over a rehabilitated poultry facility to Nsambya Babies Home to facilitate income generation for the babies' home. The construction firm also extended wheelchairs to children with disabilities at Support Disabled Children Ggaba, and other assorted items to Naguru Reception Home.

Describing the day as a good gesture, Gen Wamala said the day marked during the lent period is an indication of selflessness and compassion on the part of the company.

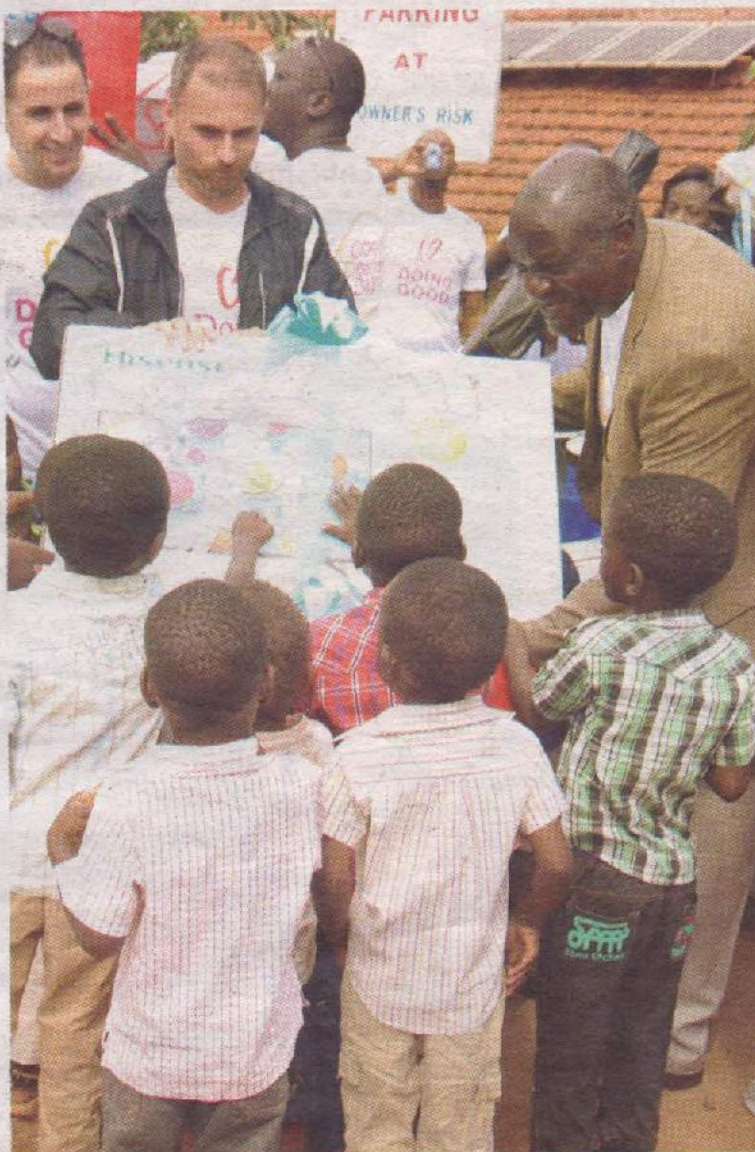
"You (SBI) have lit a candle in darkness of these young children's hearts and relieved their caretakers. It is not about how much you give but the love exhibited in the giving creates a lot of impact. Doing good does not hurt but it is psychologically rewarding to satisfaction," said Gen Wamala.

Causes

He attributed children vulnerability to failure of the parents to value life and poor upbringing of families, among other challenges.

Mr Dotan Hameiri, the SBI administration manager, said the donations are targeting building the future generation because most of the works that SBI is contracted to do is meant for generations.

"Giving is to put a positive change



Support. Officials of SBI International Holdings (left) and Gen Edward Katumba Wamala donate to some of the vulnerable children last Saturday.

PHOTO BY EPHRAIM KASOZI

to livelihoods and our target is to those in need as we sensitise the public that it is everyone's duty to do good and improve livelihood," Mr Hameiri said.

Sr Sarah Christine Nalwoga, the director of Child Welfare and Adoption Society, a local NGO, commended the initiative, saying it seeks to support child caregivers to meet needs of ensuring proper upbringing of the children.

"In doing our work, we encounter

challenges because it is expensive to take care of these children but with sponsors and donors, we are able to do our part. We appeal to everyone to join us in this effort and everyone in their respective capacity, let us fight conditions that affect the children," she said.

She also asked government to educate the public about the dangers of child neglect to discourage parents from abandoning their children.