

INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN UPS: SPOTLIGHT ON UG. PRISON FARM MAHIA, MID-WESTERN REGION - MASINDI.



The Commissioner General of Prisons, Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashaija, has concluded a two-day strategic and policy working tour of prison facilities in the Mid-Western Region. This aimed at assessing the ongoing infrastructural growth as part of a broader strategy to decongest prisons and enhance service delivery. The tour covered Kiryandongo, Kigumba, Masindi Main and Women's Prisons, and Isimba, all of which are undergoing various development projects to improve prisoner and staff welfare, making Uganda's prisons safer, more humane, and professionally run. The tour concluded at Maiha Prison Farm in Masindi District, a unit that has undergone tremendous transformation in recent years.

Maiha Prison Farm, established in 1968 as a medium-security unit, is primarily known for maize grain production. Located on 138 acres, it has recently seen major improvements, including the construction of new prisoners' wards, establishment of security systems and staff quarters, as well as enhancement in agroforestry, orchard farming, and staff shambas. The CGP commended the Officer-in-Charge of Maiha for spearheading these efforts, describing him as a "lion" for his consistent record in

infrastructure development. Dr. Byabashaija also advocated for environmentally friendly construction practices and called for strict adherence to administrative instructions and robust record keeping across all stations.



During the visit, the Commissioner General addressed staff of Maiha Prison Farm and Officers-in-Charge of prisons in the Mid-Western Region, urging them to promote good working relationships and uphold staff welfare as a pillar of professional service. He emphasized the importance of transparency, accountability, and effective prison management, coupled with proper sanitation and hygiene standards across all units

Dr. Byabashaija advised officers to live within their means, manage finances wisely, and invest in their children's education within affordable limits. He encouraged them to pursue future academic and professional growth, particularly in science and technology fields, citing the growing relevance of such skills in modern corrections management

The CGP said Uganda Prisons Service is committed to training its staff through various courses for junior and senior officers at all levels. He also highlighted the policy for transferring staff and also mentioned that many officers will be promoted in 2026, with evaluations starting in October 2025.

Accompanying the Commissioner General of Prisons to Masindi District were;

- Mr. Wilson Magomu, Senior Commissioner of Prisons (Deputy Director, Production and Engineering)
- Mr. Frank Baine, Senior Commissioner of Prisons (Deputy Director, CCA/Service Spokesperson)
- Mr. Ben Alex Wansadha, Commissioner of Prisons (Safety, Security, and Operations)
- Mr. Stephen Lugonda, Commissioner of Prisons (Staff Administration and Counseling)
- Mr. Jacob Kivumbi, Commissioner of Prisons (Custodial Services)
- Mr. Aggrey Aturwanirire, Commissioner of Prisons (Planning)
- Mr. Ronald Godie, Assistant Commissioner of Prisons (RPC, Mid-Western)
- Ms. Generous Betunga, Superintendent of Prisons (Livestock and Entomology)
- Mr. Moses Atine, Superintendent of Prisons (Estates Manager)
- Mr. Akimfa Odongo, Assistant Superintendent of Prisons (Water Engineer, Prisons Engineering Gang)