

# UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE

# MONTHLY

NEWSLETTER

No.2 Vol.02, June 2021

HEADLINES



## NEW LEADERSHIP AT MINISTRY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS



## UPS ASSIGNED MANDATE



## UPS SUCCESS CAMPAIGN AGAINST COVID-19



As we continue with the fight against the Covid-19 second wave in the Country, I urge all service men and women to continue their steadfast commitment in adherence to the Standard Operating Procedures (S.O.Ps) during this lockdown period.

## Aluta Continua



**DR. JOHNSON O.R. BYABASHAIJA**  
Commissioner General of Prisons



**FRANK MAYANJA BAINE**  
COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS  
COOPERATE AFFAIRS / PUBLIC  
RELATIONS OFFICER

Welcome to this June edition of the Uganda Prisons Service Newsletter.

This month edition highlights on the Ministry of Internal Affairs Handover and Takeover, response to allegations of torture through search and entry, COVID-19 second lock down (Guidelines and S.O.Ps), Cotton production, BUBU and sports while staying committed to the UPS mandate and core values.

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## New leadership at the Ministry of Internal Affairs.



The Uganda Prisons Service joined other state agencies in welcoming the new ministers of internal affairs on the 23rd June 2021 during a scientific handover/takeover ceremony held at the Ministry headquarters. Gen. Jeje Odongo handed over office to his successor Gen. Kahinda Ottafire following his appointment and swearing in as the new cabinet Minister of Internal Affairs.

Gen. Kahinda Ottafire, a veteran Ugandan minister recognized the tremendous development achieved by his predecessor in terms of infrastructural growth and institutional corporations vowing to add more values on what they did in the past with a new working ideology, "if you have any problem in your line of duties, come to me and we solve it together, i am a renown problem solver and it is my responsibility to cater for the best welfare of everyone working under me", stated the incoming minister.

In the same event, Hon. Obiga Kania handed over to Gen. David Muhoozi as the new Minister of State of Internal Affairs, Gen. Muhoozi pledged to work harder so as to push the Ministry far taking up from where his predecessor had stopped calling upon all stakeholders to expedite on the specific assignment of digital monitoring for the vehicles and improved service delivery on the whole.

The permanent Secretary Ministry of Internal Affairs, Dr. Benon Mutambi presided over the ceremony, he pledged cooperation to the new leadership team.



*The out going were witnessed handing over instruments of power to the incoming ministers among which were; The constitution of the Republic of Uganda, Uganda National and East African Flags, Ministerial Policy Statements and development plans, National laws/acts of Uganda Police Force, Uganda Prisons Service, NGO bureau, National Identification and registration Authority and Directorate of Citizenship and Immigration Control.*

The Commissioner General of Prisons Can. Dr Johnson Byabashaija attended the function Virtually while the Deputy Commissioner General of Prisons Mr. James Mwanje was physically in attendance, Uganda Prisons Service wishes Gen. Kahinda Otafirre and Gen. David Muhoozi success in carrying out their new legal responsibilities for realisation of the mission of "Security, Peace and Progress" while serving the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the people of Uganda



## PRESS RELEASE

### **ALLEGATIONS ON INHUMANE TREATMENT OF PRISONERS AT KITALYA MAX PRISON VIZ: STRIP DOWN SEARCHES, CONFISCATION OF PROHIBITED ARTICLES BY "NUP SUPPORTERS".**

Last week the just released prisoners from Kitalya Mini Max Prison affiliated to "NUP" went to the media with baseless allegations of inhumane treatment of Prisoners at Kitalya Mini Max Prison in relation to strip down searches and confiscation of prohibited articles. The Uganda Prisons Service would like to make it categorically clear that according to;

#### **(A). Prisons Act 2006, section 62: Admissions and searches of Prisoners. States:**

1. Every prisoner shall on admission to a prison and subsequently at such times as the Officer in Charge may determine, be searched and all prohibited articles removed from his or her possession; and the search shall be conducted by a Prisons Officer of the same sex as the person being searched and shall not be conducted in the presence of the opposite sex.
2. On admission to a prison, all money, clothes and personal effects belonging to such a prisoner which he or she is not permitted under this Act to retain shall be placed into custody of the Officer in Charge after the items have been properly entered in prescribed registers.
3. The articles referred to in subsection (2) shall be returned to the prisoner on his or her release or discharge from prison.

#### **(B). Prisons Regulations 2012 part II, Admission of Prisoners, 4 and 5.**

##### **4. Search on admission**

1. Every prisoner shall be searched when taken into custody by prisons staff on the admission into prison.
3. The officer in charge shall direct all unauthorized articles to be taken from him or her.

##### **5. Manner of the search**

1. A prisoner shall be searched in a manner as is consistent with the necessity of discovering a concealed article.
2. A prisoner shall not be stripped and searched in sight of another prisoner.
3. A prisoner shall be present when his or her personal property is being searched unless investigating techniques or potential threat to the Prisons officer prohibit this.
6. A prisoner shall be present when his or her personal property is being searched unless investigating techniques or potential threat to the Prisons officer prohibit this.
7. A prisoner officer shall be trained to carry out a search in a way as to detect and prevent an attempt to escape or hide contraband, while at the same time respecting the dignity of the prisoner being searched and his or her personal possessions.

Therefore, we urge the public to disregard the falsification and political gimmick of the said group.

**(C) Other references to this matter are well detailed in the Prisons Standing Orders Part II, Chapter 35**

**FRANK MAYANJA BAINE**  
**COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS (Corporate Affairs)**  
**PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER**

**UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE COVID – 19 SITUATION UPDATES***As compiled by UPS Covid-19 Task force dated:18th June, 2021***High Lights**

The cumulative total number of cases of COVID-19 reported at UPS to date is 1,312 (1,175 prisoners, 106 staff and 30 relatives) with 1,201 recoveries, 111 active cases and 1 death.

A High Dependence Unit (HDU) has successfully been established at Luzira prison complex to admit severe cases for COVID-19. Plans are under way to support the 3 AICs around the country with oxygen cylinders to increase their capacity of treatment.

The escalating new cases in Kampala and Wakiso districts calls for conversion of Kampala remand prison into a possible Auxiliary Treatment Centre (AIC) with High Dependence Unit capacity for prisoners.

The Mbarara day care centre is the process of being converted into an AIC for the increasing numbers of female prisoners diagnosed in the western region.

**Back Ground**

Since the declaration of the 1st case of COVID – 19 in China on 31st December, 2019, Uganda started preparations for early detection and prevention of the pandemic. On 21st March, 2020 Uganda reported the 1st case of COVID – 19 in the country and the CGP instituted a National Task Force to spear head preparations for early detection and response in Uganda Prisons Service.

**IN UGANDA**

The Country receives additional doses (175,000) of AstraZeneca vaccine, on 16th June 2021.

Intensity of the COVID-19 outbreak continues to escalate and therefore Ministry of Health urges the public to follow the SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) and the recent Presidential directives on COVID-19.

On (15th June 2021), One thousand five hundred eighty-four (1,584) cases were reported; One thousand ninety-six (1,096) cases reported on (14th June 2021); One thousand four hundred twenty-two (1,422) cases on (13th June 2021); One thousand one hundred twenty-seven (1,127) cases on (12th June 2021);

One thousand seven hundred twenty-two (1,722) cases on (11th June 2021); One thousand five hundred sixty-seven (1,567) cases on (9th June 2021); and One-thousand four hundred forty-one (1,441) cases on (8th June 2021). See table 1.

Kampala and Wakiso have consistently reported the highest number of cases in the past eight (8) days, averaging at 1,100 and 110 respectively. The other districts reporting high cases include Jinja, Mbarara, Luwero and Gulu, oscillating between 50 and 80 cases for the past eight (8) days

Average positivity rate stands at 17.3% in the last 7 days.

Cumulative number of COVID-19 cases stands at 67,216 from 136/136 districts.

Thirty-four (34) deaths recorded on (15th June 2021); Forty-nine (49) deaths on (14th June 2021); Twenty-five (25) deaths on (13th June 2021); Six (6) deaths on (12th June 2021); Five (05) deaths on (11th June 2021); and Thirty-five (35) deaths on (10th June 2021). Cumulative deaths stand 542. Case fatality rate remains 0.8%

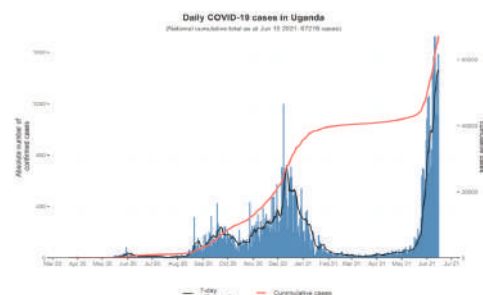
A total of 950 cases on active admission today. Of these, 76(8%) are in Intensive care Unit (ICU) while 448(47%) are in High Dependency Unit (HDU).

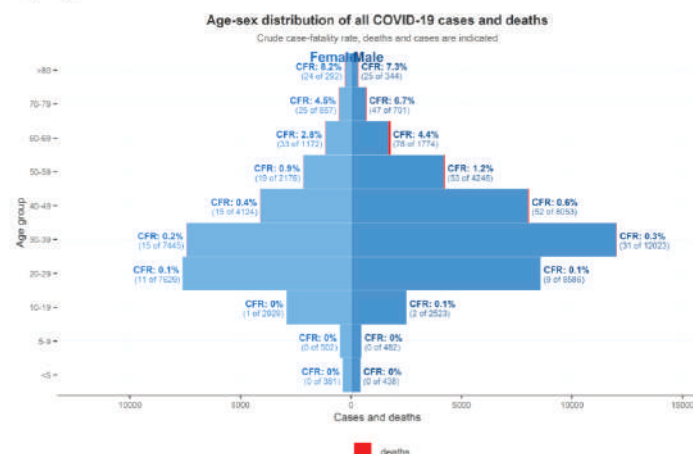
Recoveries also continue to be registered with Seventy-six (76) facility discharges reported today.

2.3 Summary of progression of the pandemic, past 3 weeks

	24-30 May 2021	31 May- 6 June 2021	7th-13th June 2021
Increasing number of daily COVID-19 cases (n)	3,685	6,882	9,852
Districts affected	57	72	100
Positivity rate (%)	12.6	16.6	18.0
Admission rate (%)	12	10	8
Proportion of severe and critical cases on admission (%)	49	47	57
Doubling time (days)	68	36	32

2.4 Uganda COVID-19 Epi Curve, March 2020 to date (N=67,216)



**UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE COVID – 19 SITUATION UPDATES***As compiled by UPS Covid-19 Task force dated:18th June, 2021***2.5 Age and Sex Distribution****UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE****Coordination**

The National Prisons Task Force continues to coordinate response activities around the country. During the course of the week a coordination meeting with all 16 regions was held on Tuesday June 15th, 2021.

**The high lights of the meeting include;**

- Staff require customised PPEs in terms of masks while the prisoners also need face masks with the proposal to have them locally made within prison.
- Provision for taking photographs of prisoners on admission at the 83 gazetted reception centres needs to be supported.
- The use of RDTs has reduced the turnaround time for COVID-19 results and has eased collapsing of the full admission centres.
- Fuel to facilitate health service delivery and collapsing of admission centres is still a challenge.
- Essential medicines and health supplies are running low.

**Epidemiology and Surveillance**

The institute is still experiencing sporadic cases at various prison facilities especially in the central, mid central and western regions. The possibility of staff introducing infections inside of prisons is being investigated at various facilities.

**ICT and Innovations**

The team has continued to ensure functionality of internet at all 30 regions and 55 high volume prison facilities in addition to the distribution of the situation report to all concerned for further action.

**Case Management**

There is need to provide oxygen as cases continue to escalate with a high possibility of severe cases. So far severe cases have been registered twice at the prisons AICs. The whole institution has only 10 cylinders of oxygen.

It is suggested that preparations to covert Kampala remand prison into a treatment centre be authorised in consideration of the current upsurge in cases around Kampala and Wakiso districts.

**Risk Communication and Social Mobilisation**

Efforts to sensitise staff and prisoners are inadequately facilitated. However, training of staff on Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) has been completed for all 16 regions as supported by CDC.

**Logistics and Supplies Management**

There is no capacity to provide masks for all prisoners and yet under the current circumstances wearing a mask is the most implementable intervention.

Personal protective equipment, medicines and oxygen production is extremely inadequate at the prisons treatment centres.

**Major Challenges**

The congestion levels are still very high in the prison creating a high transmission environment. Inadequate supplies as the incidence increases within the community. Staff at treatment centres are not adequately catered for

## PRESIDENTIAL GUIDELINES ON COVID 19 EFFECTIVE 18TH JUNE 2021



### Vehicles allowed

- Only registered **tourists' vehicles, Emergency vehicles, police and army vehicles, and essential workers vehicles.**



### Closed for 42 days

- Schools & institutions of learning, places of worship and sports events.



- Bars, Discos, Sports Betting, & Cinema Halls.**



### Air Transport

- Entebbe International Airport** will remain open, but we shall ensure the no virus, or new variants enter Uganda.



### 5 Curfew Hours

7:00pm (closure)  
5:30am (opening)



**Stay Home  
Stay Safe**

### 8 Fully Functional Sectors

- Agriculture
- industry
- manufacturing and tourism
- health and medical services,
- security (police and army),
- utilities (water, electricity, mass media, telecoms, banking institutions, garbage/waste management, retail shops and markets)
- cargo & goods distribution.

- Burials** restricted to the core family as applied in the military.



### Housed at work places for 42 days

- Food Market Vendors, Factories and construction sites workers**



- Kikuubo & other Business Centres**



- Cargo truck drivers** at land-border crossings will be tested, allowed to move and be followed up at the designated Seclusion Areas and holding places.



## MEASURES BY THE JUDICIARY TO PREVENT AND MITIGATE THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

### Hearing of cases

1

#### Court hearings

All Court hearings and appearances have been suspended, with the exception of only urgent matters.

2

#### Executions

All execution proceedings and processes remain suspended, including any matter(s) where execution process had commenced.

3

#### Judgments

Judicial Officers will continue to write and deliver judgments virtually.

### Matters of Bail

- Bail applications in critical cases may be entertained using online systems where possible.
- All accused persons on bail have to stay home and only return to Courts for mention of their respective cases after 42 days.



### Stakeholders

To ensure that urgent matters are attended to, coordination between stakeholders in the respective Courts will be through the **Regional Coordination Committees (RCC); District Coordination Committees (DCC) and Court User Committees.**



### Court Email Addresses

Email addresses for all Courts will be shared with the Uganda Law Society by **June 24, 2021** to facilitate online filing of pleadings, notices, submissions and other correspondences to the respective Courts.



**Stay Home  
Stay Safe**

**GOVERNMENT CITIZEN  
INTERACTION CENTRE**

An Open  
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Initiative

+256 414 670 288  
GCICUganda



## UPS AND COVID-19, A BATTLE NOT YET WON BUT SO FAR SUCCESSFUL

Since the declaration of the 1st case of COVID – 19 in China on 31st December, 2019, Uganda started preparations for early detection and prevention of the pandemic.

On the 21st March, 2020 Uganda reported the 1st case of COVID-19 in the country and the CGP

instituted an institutional Task Force to spear head preparations for early detection and response in Uganda Prisons Service.

The cumulative total number of cases of COVID-19 reported at UPS to date (as at 18 June 2021) is 1,312 (1,175 prisoners, 106 staff and 30 relatives) with 1,201 recoveries, 111 active cases and 1 death.



In order to intensify the fight, a High Dependence Unit (HDU) has successfully been established at Luzira prison complex to admit severe cases for COVID-19 while four other Auxiliary Treatment Centres (AIC) for prisoners have been setup in the prisons of Mbarara, Moroto, Jinja and Gulu.

What have we done so far;

- Establishment of isolation centers
- Setting up more treatment centers
- Enhanced diet of staff and prisoners
- Observation of Standard Operating Procedures (S.O.P's)
- Vigilance of Health Staff
- Commitment of custodial staff
- Focused leadership, good governance and linkage to stakeholders.
- Exercise of discipline and professionalism
- Successful vaccination of staff
- Instituting a national, regional and station COVID-19 task force



### Key challenges

- Congestion of Prisons
- Delayed Justice
- Escape
- Complacency
- Budgetary constraints

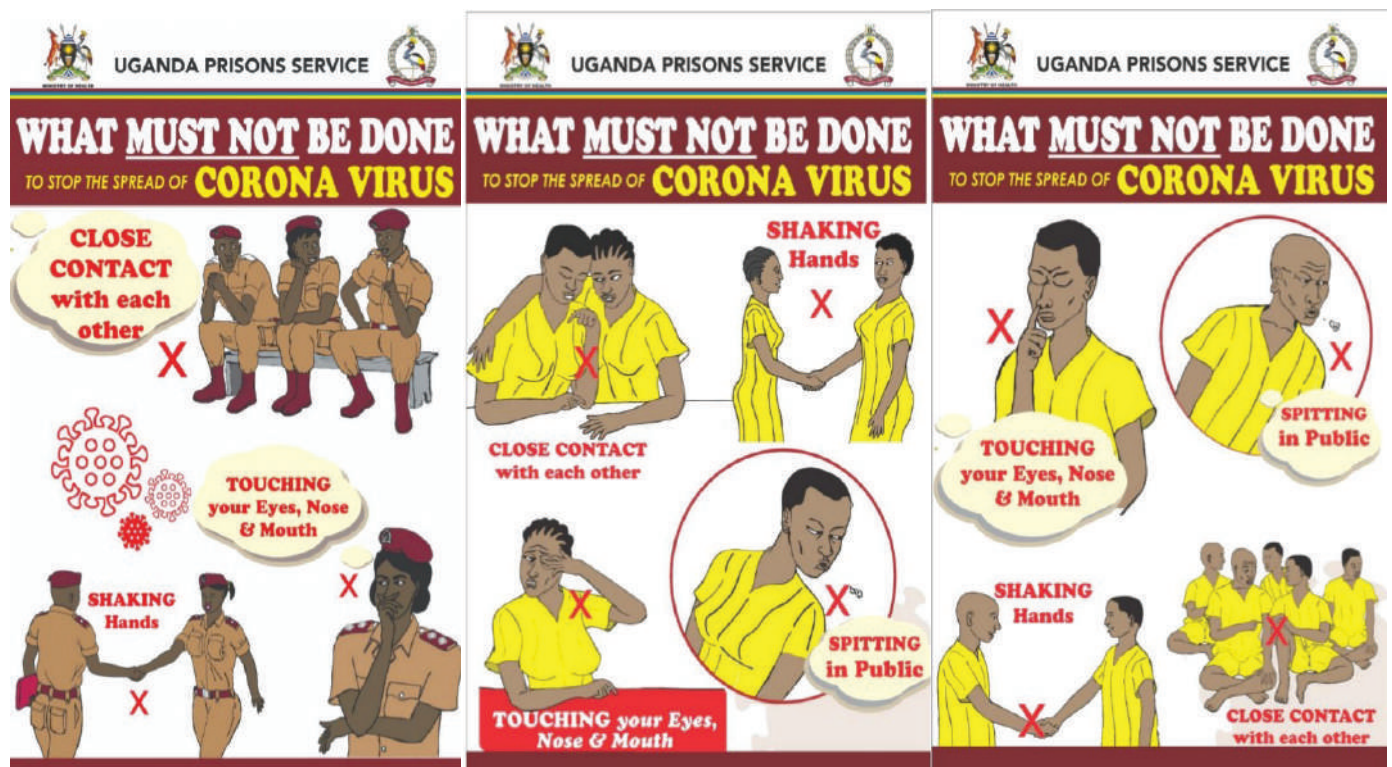
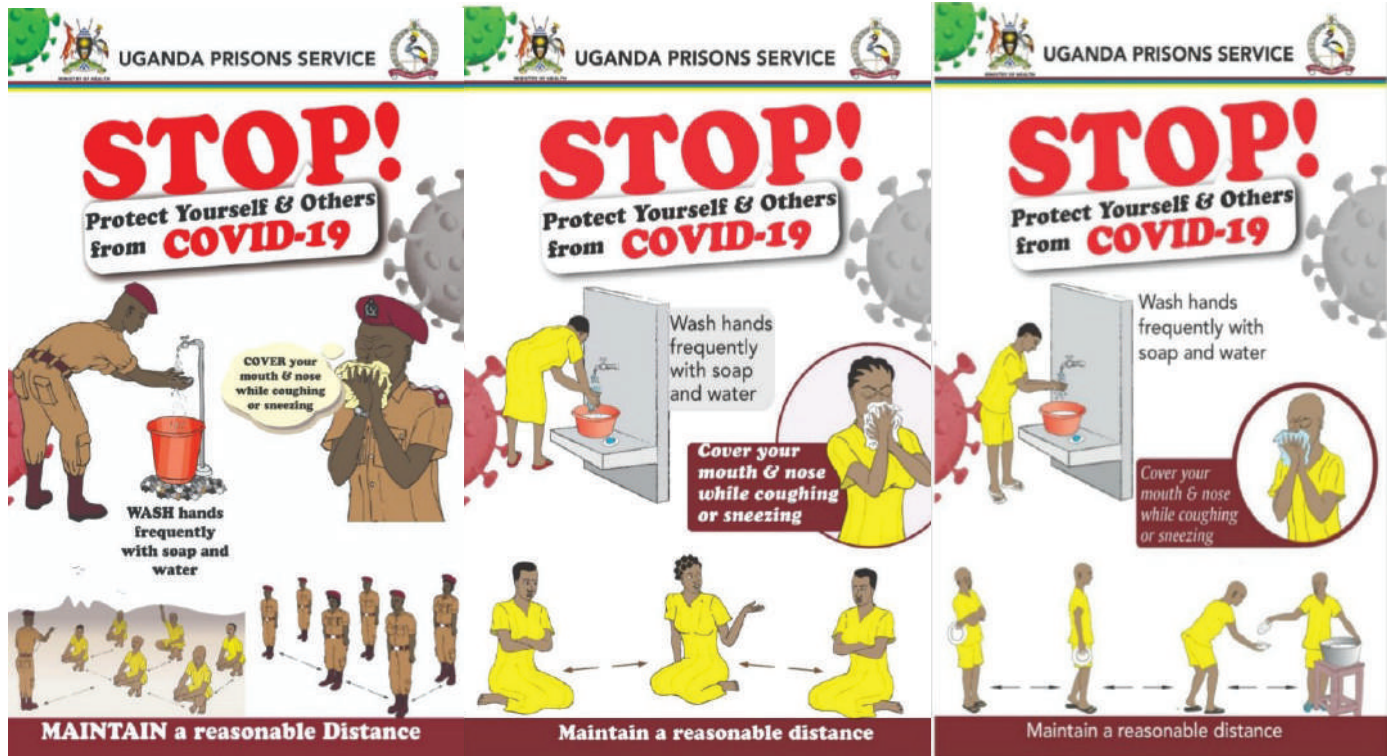


*Gulu Prison Auxillary Treatment Center*



*Covid -19 measures of sanitizing before entry into Luzira prisons complex*

## UPS SENSITIZATION MEASURES AGAINST COVID-19



## PARTNERSHIP AND SOLIDARITY YIELDS PROFESSIONALISM AS MILITARY POLICE OFFICERS PASS OUT.



147 Military Police officers were passed out from the Prisons Academy and Training School (PATS) after undergoing a one-month basic course on Handling Sophisticated / High profile inmates.

ACP Sana Brenda, the Commandant Prisons Academy and Training School (PATS) commended on the knowledge exchange within the forces which has greatly enhanced cooperation and comradery among the institutions.

She was impressed that participants showed alot of morale and interests towards the course and were generally parcipative while playing a significant role in the administration of fellow militants, she urged them to exhibit professionalism and obedience in their respective line of duty, "if this is achieved, believe me you will be very resourceful officers to this nation", she added. Among the passed out officers were 1 captain, 2 lieutenants, 10 corporals, 23 lance corporals and 111 privates.

Colonel Gai Mpandwa, the Deputy Commandant Military Police, appreciated the Prisons for the continued support and pledged corporation between the two agencies, he also thanked the officers for have completed the course and stressed the UPDF doctrine of discipline, hard work and dedication towards serving the nation.



*ACP Sana Brenda awarding the best performing participants*



*Military police officers during the passout ceremony at PATS, Luzira*



*Cadet ASPs currently on attachment in Maximum Security Prison Upper*

## PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

The 97 Cadet Assistant Superintendents of Prisons (CASP) undergoing training at the Prisons Academy and Training School (PATS) have been embarked on field attachments at the Luzira prison complex stations of Upper Maximum Prison, Luzira Women Prison, Murchison Bay Prison and Kampala Remand

ACP Sana Brenda, the commandant PATS, described the Cadets as unique, reliable and sufficient since it is the highest number of officers to be recruited into the service.

She confirmed that the training has so far hit a 90 percent mark having completed field trainings and literacy programs among others

The second field attachment will enable the officers on training put in practice the theory they have been trained with. The 82 male and 15 female trainees are expected to undergo a minimum one-year Cadet Course before being commissioned.

During an interaction with CASP Teremwa Ben and CASP Mpirirwe Judith Mary doing their placements at UG. Upper Prisons and UG. Luzira Women Prisons respectively, they expressed amazements about the knowledge acquired in areas of conducting searches, apprehension of escapes, rehabilitation, human rights observation and dynamic security systems among others. Teremwa expects much contributions from his colleagues who come into the service with diversity of skills a new efficient labour force while Mpirirwe expressed discipline, hardwork and dedication for better results within the service.



*CASP Mpirirwe and CASP Teremwa*

## **National, social and economic transformation through Cotton growing (Assigned mandate of UPS)**

Over the years, Cotton has gained much significance because it served the dual purpose of providing raw materials to the growing textile industry as well as introducing cash to the economy becoming one of the highest foreign exchange earner for Uganda.

Uganda Prisons Service has continued to partner with the Cotton Development Organization (CDO) National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO) and Uganda Ginners and Cotton Exporters Associations (UGCEA) that has greatly facilitated the growth of the sector, UPS is currently planting an estimate of 6,000 acres of cotton which is expected to yield an average production of 3,000,000 Kgs annually worth over 4 billion shillings which is a great source of government revenue.



*Uganda Prison Service Mandated to be the main producer of cotton in Uganda*

According to the Prisons farms department, it was noted that the quality of cotton production has greatly improved as a result of intensive sensitization and extension trainings on cotton post harvest handling.

Cotton within the service is basically rain fed in nature with production mainly concentrated in Prisons farms like; Regem, Amita, Adjumani, Loro, Orom Tikau, Mubuku and Tororo among others. For long, Prisons has been growing common varieties of Cotton like QM .03, FZ.362, QM. 301 and 2015B with fairly long growing periods of 6-8 months which is processed into lint upon harvests for the domestic and international market.

In order to increase more production in future, UPS and CDO are emphasizing on provision of extension services to farmers, procurement and distribution of inputs, Facilitating value addition and undertaking research on agronomy, pathology and breeding practices of crop improvements.

## UPS ASSIGNED MANDATE: A FULLFILMENT OF BUBU

Buy Uganda, Build Uganda (BUBU) is a government policy that was approved by Cabinet in 2014 and launched in 2017 to promote the consumption and procurement of goods and services produced locally.

This serves to encourage foreign and local investors to produce locally; improve capacity of local producers to supply government, enhance the quality and competitiveness on the local and International market, create jobs and drive the country to achieve middle Income status.

In this docket, Uganda Prisons Service has taken lead in manufacturing quality furniture, craft work, staff uniforms and seeds among others in fulfillment of BUBU.



### UPS locally manufactured products during the agricultural show in Jinja

UPS has started utilizing the services of local technologies as a means of developing national technological capabilities by procurement of a METU Zhongtong Bus which is a locally manufactured vehicle. The bus is executive in nature with special security features which is needed to perform escort duties and transportation of highly sophisticated offenders to and courts.

METU Zhongtong Bus Company Ltd is an automotive venture producing and delivering executive buses with its assembling plant in Namanve, Kampala. UPS is looking forward to acquire five (5) more METU busses in the future.



*A strong, powerful and executive METU bus with sensitive security features acquired by Uganda Prisons Service in fulfillment of BUBU packed at Luzira*

## UPS CONTINUES TO FULFIL IT'S MANDATE DESPITE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

UPS has over the last three implemented measures to enhance the safety and security of Prisoners, Staff and the public. The process has involved an upgrade of the holding capacity to secure 19,826 Prisons from 16,612.

Some Prisons like Mutukula, Nebbi Adjumani, Orom-Tikau and Mbale have been refurbished and expanded where as the construction of new Prisons at Sheema, Kyenjojo, Nyoya and Kitalya Mini Max have all been completed.

**Infrastructural development in the UPS**



**Kitalya Mini-Max Prison**



**Nebbi Prison**



**Adjumani Prison**

The Prisons recidivism rate has greatly reduced from 17.2 percent to 15.1 percent due to enhanced rehabilitation programs through formal education and vocational trainings, follow ups, after care services and provision of reintegration packages to the convicts.



**Inmate Enrolment in Educational Programs (2018-2020)**

Category	2018		2019		2020	
	EC	Enroll	EC	Enroll	EC	Enroll
Functional Adult Literacy	68	2,311	81	2,716	82	2,973
Primary Education	14	2,143	15	2,539	18	2,623
Secondary Education	7	576	7	649	7	657
Vocational training - industrial	71	4,219	83	5,647	83	9,256
Vocational training - Agricultural	45	3,511	45	4,217	45	6,834
University Education - Certificate (1year)	1	50	1	48	1	00
University Education Diploma (2years)	1	95	1	97	1	73
University Degree (LLB/University of London)	2	14	2	13	2	21
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>12,919</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>15,921</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>22,437</b>



**Education at Kigo Main Prison**



## A LEGACY KEPT ALIVE

During the mid-season meeting with the players, Maroons Football Club Chairman Director of Prisons - Moses Kakungulu encouraged players and coaches to stay focused and dedicated so as to bring victory and restore hopes of sporting success within the Uganda Prisons Service. Under his directive, the club embraced sports science and initiated psychology sessions to boost the esteem, attitude and mindset of footballers including other developments to motivate the performances. The boys exhibited maturity and character and didn't disappoint.

At the genesis of the season, Maroons commenced the FUFA Big League campaign on higher gears in February 2021 beating Paidha Black Angels 3-1 in Luzira and Gadafi 2-0 in Jinja, followed by a 0-0 stalemate to Arua Hill at home and another 7-1 aggregate dissemination of Terazzo and Tiles FC in the Stanbic Uganda Cup advancing into the round of 16. Out of the blue, the club surprisingly suffered five consecutive back to back defeats to Calvary, Mbale Heroes, Kataka, Blacks Power and Paidha Black Angels followed an eviction by KCCA FC in the Stanbic Uganda Cup which almost led the club into a pandora-box.

## Maroons Football Club success story

In April 2021, a rejuvenated Maroons under the stewardship of tactician Senfuma Mohammed and his men were still punching above their weight towards the end of second round, they finally bounced back with three wins against Calvary 2-0, Kataka 1-0 and Blacks Power 2-1 all in Luzira and a 2-2 draw at Mbale Heroes to sum up the StarTimes FUFA Big League holding onto the fourth position.

## Big Season Ahead

The Club Chairman is so optimistic of a positive run in the subsequent season, he also appreciated all the supporters and stakeholders for standing with the club at all times, a decent run in the FUFA Big League and a push for a top-spot finish may be the greatest as Maroons head for another UPL qualifications quest.

Head Coach Senfuma Mohammed said "I for one understand that everyone around the club is disappointed by the club not being able to secure qualifications into the Premier League but am confident that we will work harder to fix the loose ends & bounce back more better and stronger next season.