



UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE

# NEWSLETTER

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*H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, inspects parade after arriving for the Womens' day celebrations at Bukwiri, Church of Uganda Primary School, Kyankwanzi district.*

## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATED IN KYANKWANZI DISTRICT

### INSIDE



44TH TAREHE SITA ANNIVERSARY



17TH UPS SACCO AGM

# WISDOM CORNER

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Can. Dr. Johnson OR Byabashaija  
Commissioner General of Prisons

"A winner is a dreamer who never gives up."

**Nelson Mandela**

"He who feeds you, controls you."

**Thomas Sankara**

"Thought without practice is empty; and action without thought is blind."

**Kwame Nkrumah**

"Culture is the sum total of all the values through which a people expresses itself and with which it confronts the problems of life and history."

**Leopold Sédar Senghor**

"The only way to build the future is to rely on youth."

**Patrice Lumumba**

"Tell no lies, claim no easy victories."

**Amílcar Cabral**

"Throughout history, it has been the inaction of those who could have acted that has made it possible for evil to triumph."

**Haile Selassie**

"In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing. The worst thing you can do is nothing."

**Theodore Roosevelt**

"Yesterday is not ours to recover, but tomorrow is ours to win or lose."

**Lyndon B. Johnson**

"The future rewards those who press on. I don't have time to feel sorry for myself. I don't have time to complain."

**Barack Obama**

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."

**John Quincy Adams**

"It is the responsibility of the citizens to support their government. It is equally the responsibility of the government to respect the citizens."

**Grover Cleveland**



## Chief Editor



**FRANK BAINE MAYANJA**

**SENIOR COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS  
(DEPUTY DIRECTOR - CORPORATE AFFAIRS  
AND PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER)**

Welcome to the March 2025 Edition of Uganda Prisons Service Newsletter. In this edition we highlight on the; International Women's Day celebrations, Diamond Jubilee medalists, Tarehe Sita celebrations, 17th UPS SACCO AGM, Preventive Monitoring workshop, 2024 UACE celebrations, Benchmark visit to Kitalya, memory lane, and obituary, among others. Enjoy!

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# Happy INTERNATIONAL *Women's* Day

On this International Women's Day, March 8, 2025, under "Accelerated Action for Gender Equality," we celebrate women's unstoppable spirit.

Your courage and leadership break barriers, hastening equality and empowering all, from innovators to advocates, to thrive and advance the Uganda Prisons Service vision of excellence in correctional services.

**Can. Dr. J.O.R Byabashaija**  
Commissioner General of Prisons







# عيد MUBARAK

On this joyous occasion of Eid, I extend my heartfelt wishes to all Muslims in the Prisons Service and across the nation. May this day bring peace, happiness, and prosperity to you and your loved ones. Let us continue to uphold the values of compassion, unity, and service to humanity.

**CAN. DR. J.O.R BYABASHAIJA**  
Commissioner General of Prisons





**PRISONS ACADEMY AND  
TRAINING SCHOOL – LUZIRA**

**17TH UPS SACCO**

# Annual General Meeting

## THEME

**UNLOCKING THE POWER OF  
SACCO THROUGH MEMBER  
TRAININGS**

**THURSDAY | 8AM**



**27 MARCH 2025**



## Chief Guest

**Can. Dr. Johnson OR Byabashaija  
Commissioner General of Prisons**



**@ugandaPrisons | [www.ugandaprisonsgo.ug](http://www.ugandaprisonsgo.ug)**





Friday, 7th March, 2025

# PRESS RELEASE

## RECRUITMENT OF 402 PRISON WARDERS AND WARDRESSES

The Commissioner General of Prisons invites applications from suitably qualified Ugandans to fill four hundred and two (402) vacancies for the post of Recruit Warder/Wardress on a replacement basis.

### Qualifications

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Be Ugandan citizens aged 18-30 years (age must be verified with a National Identity Card).
2. Possess an O-Level Certificate with at least four credits (B or C), including one in English, and a pass (D) in Mathematics.

**Note:** Grades B, C, and D apply only to candidates under the New Lower Secondary Curriculum. University graduates and diploma holders are not eligible to apply.

3. Be physically fit.
4. Demonstrate good conduct with no criminal record.

### Application Requirements

Interested candidates should submit handwritten applications addressed to the Secretary, Prisons Council. Applications must be delivered to the nearest Prison Unit or one of the 19 Regional Prisons Headquarters: South Eastern (Jinja), Iganga (Iganga), East Central (Mukono), Mid-Eastern (Soroti), Eastern (Mbale), North Eastern (Moroto), Kampala Extra (Luzira) or Central Region (Security House near Prisons Headquarters), North Central (Luwero), Mid-Western (Masindi), Southern (Masaka), Kooki (Lyantonde), North Western (Arua), Mid Northern (Lira), Northern (Gulu), South Western (Mbarara), Western (Fort Portal), Mid Central (Mubende), or Kigezi (Kabale), within the area not later than **14th March, 2025**.

Each application must include:

1. Three (03) photocopies of certificates/result slips.
2. Three (03) photocopies of the National Identity Card.
3. Three (03) recent passport-size photographs.
4. A letter of recommendation from the LC I Chairperson of the applicant's village, endorsed by the LC II and LC III Chairpersons of the district of origin.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews, with dates to be announced. Successful applicants will complete a nine-month Basic Prisons Officer's Training Course, with appointment confirmed upon completion.

All stages of the recruitment process are free of charge. Applicants must not pay any money to anyone for any service during the exercise.

To note, Uganda Prisons Service warns that presenting forged documents or impersonation is a criminal offense and shall be prosecuted in courts of law.

**FRANK BAINE**  
**SENIOR COMMISSIONER OF PRISONS**  
**DEPUTY DIRECTOR CCA / SERVICE SPOKESPERSON**



## UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE MONTHLY STATISTICS SUMMARY March, 2025

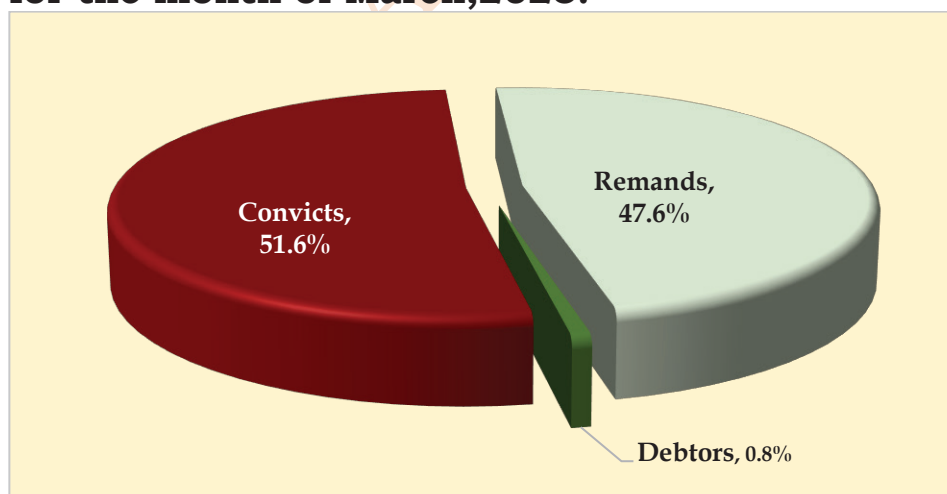
### 1. PRISONERS

#### 1.1. Population Change

**Table 1: Average Population of Prisoners for February and March, 2025.**

Categories	Feb-25			Mar-25			% change
	M	F	T	M	F	T	
Convicts:	39,198	1,857	<b>41,055</b>	39,057	1,899	<b>40,956</b>	-0.2
Remands:	36,043	1,909	<b>37,952</b>	35,847	1,907	<b>37,754</b>	-0.5
Debtors:	398	169	<b>567</b>	439	184	<b>623</b>	9.9
<b>Total:</b>	<b>75,639</b>	<b>3,935</b>	<b>79,574</b>	<b>75,343</b>	<b>3,990</b>	<b>79,333</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
Percentage (%)	95.1	4.9	100.0	95.0	5.0	100.0	
Approved Capacity			21,257			22,019	3.6
Occupancy Rate (%)			374.3			360.3	-14.1

#### 1.2. Percentage composition of remands, convicts and debtors for the month of March, 2025.

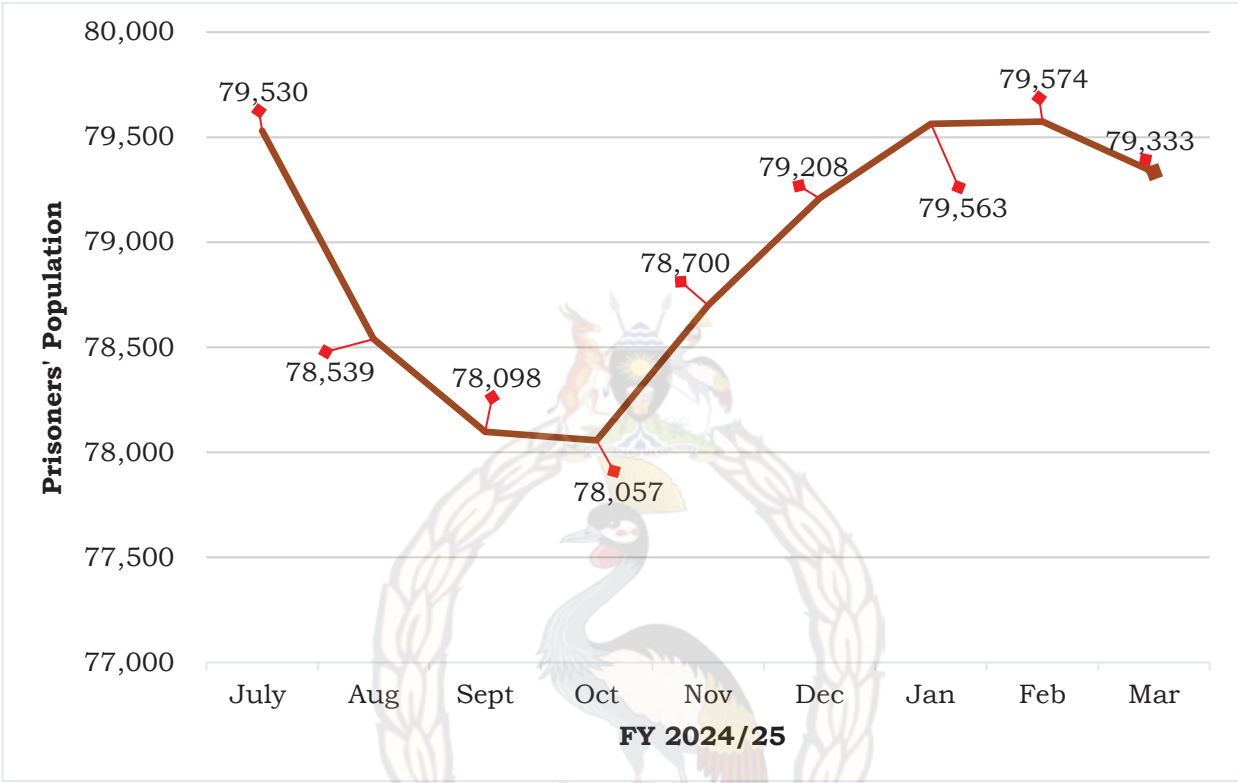


**Figure 1: Composition of Prisoners' population**





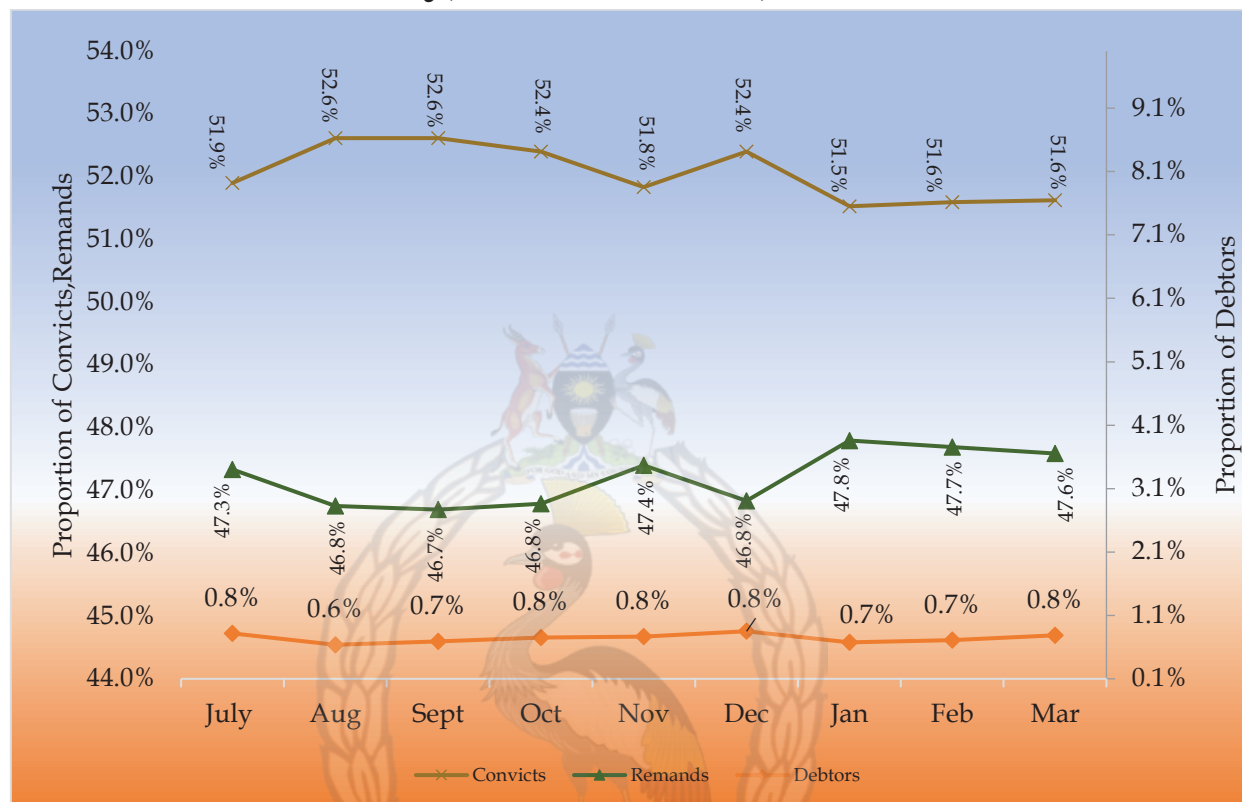
**1.3. Monthly Prisoners’ Population Trend from July, 2024 to March, 2025**



**Figure 2:** Trend of prisoners’ population growth for the period (July 2024 to March 2025)



#### 1.4. Population Composition Trends for Convicts, Remands, and Debtors from July, 2024 to March, 2025.



**Figure 3:** Monthly composition trends of convicts, remands, and debtors.





## STAFFING POSITION

### 2.1 Staff Strength

Table 2: March, 2025 Staff Strength.

STAFF CATEGORY	GENDER		TOTAL
	Males	Females	
<b>Uniformed</b>	<b>9,443</b>	<b>4,006</b>	<b>13,449</b>
Senior officers	505	115	620
Principal officers	671	171	842
Non-Commissioned Officers	8,267	3,720	11,987
<b>Non-Uniformed</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>492</b>
Senior officers	103	82	185
Junior officers	154	153	307
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>9,700</b>	<b>4,241</b>	<b>13,941</b>
Percentage	69.6	30.4	100.0

### 2.2 Uniformed staff by Rank

Table 3: Uniformed staff by Rank

Rank	Gender		Grand Total
	M	F	
Commissioner General of Prisons	1		1
Deputy Commissioner General of Prisons	1		1
Assistant Commissioner General of Prisons	6		6
Senior Commissioner of Prisons	3		3
Commissioner of Prisons	14	5	19
Assistant Commissioner of Prisons	14	6	20
Senior Superintendent of Prisons	39	7	46
Superintendent of Prisons	94	29	123
Senior Assistant Superintendent of Prisons	32	8	40
Assistant Superintendent of Prisons	300	60	360
Cadet Assistant Superintendent of Prisons	1		1
Principal Officer I	229	60	289
Principal Officer II	439	111	550
Cadet Principal Officer	3		3
Chief Warder/Wardress I	191	52	243
Chief Warder/Wardress II	262	91	353
Chief Warder/Wardress III	507	208	715
Sergeant Warder/Wardress	1,197	575	1,772
Corporal Warder/Wardress	2,008	1,019	3,027
Lance Corporal	659	316	975
Warder/Wardress	3,443	1,459	4,902
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,443</b>	<b>4,006</b>	<b>13,449</b>

# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATED IN KYANKWANZI



*H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, inspects parade after arriving for the Womens' Day celebrations at Bukwiri Church of Uganda Primary School, Kyankwanzi district.*

**HE. President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni reaffirmed Uganda's deliberate focus on women's empowerment during the International Women's Day celebrations at Bukwiri village, Kyankwanzi district. Joined by First Lady and Minister for Education and Sports, Maama Janet Museveni, the President highlighted the National Resistance Movement's (NRM) commitment to gender equality since 1986. The event, themed "Accelerate Action for Gender Equality," called for bold steps toward a gender-equal future.**

**M**useveni reflected on Uganda's strides, recalling his recruitment of women into FRONASA post-1979, despite initial resistance during integration. By 1986, women were reinstated in the army under his leadership. He commended Swedish Ambassador H.E. Maria Håkansson for recognizing Uganda's democratic progress, particularly in women's representation, surpassing some European nations. "Empowering women was deliberate," he said, citing Universal Primary Education (UPE) and Universal Secondary Education (USE) launched in 1997 for societal emancipation.

Håkansson praised Uganda's advancements in the Beijing Declaration, noting strengthened legal frameworks and women's leadership. "Uganda is a subregional model," she said, admitting Sweden trails in political representation.

He urged citizens to adopt the Parish Development Model (PDM) and Four-Acre Model for commercial farming, warning against environmental degradation. "Deforestation and wetland encroachment risk catastrophe," he cautioned, linking recent dry spells to human activities.

Vice President H.E. Jessica Alupo hailed the president as a gender equality champion, noting his historic appointment of Africa's first female vice president. She highlighted girls' increased enrollment in UPE and USE, enabling women to excel as pilots, engineers, and soldiers.

Hon. Peace Mutuuzo, Minister of State for Gender and Culture, thanked Museveni for pre-Beijing gender policies, celebrating education sector parity under Janet Museveni. Hon. Betty Amongi, Minister of Gender, emphasized affirmative action, while Hajjat Faridah Kibowa, National Women Council





*His Excellency President Yoweri Museveni is welcomed at Bukwiri, Church of Uganda Primary School, Kyankwanzi district by service chiefs and women leaders.*

Chairperson, lauded programs like the Uganda Women Entrepreneurship Programme (UWEP) and skilling hubs, but flagged challenges like gender-based violence and teenage pregnancy. UN Resident Coordinator Mr. Leonard Zulu urged accelerated efforts for Sustainable Development Goal 5, citing successes like Karamoja's Women's Farmers Association.

The Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) played a pivotal role, contributing protocol arrangements, a ceremonial parade, and vibrant performances by the UPS Band, showcasing discipline and patriotism. The UPS delegation, led by Deputy Commissioner General of Prisons Mr. Samuel Akena and Ms. Prossy Geraldine Najjuma, Acting Senior Commissioner of Prisons in Charge of Industries, highlighted the

service's commitment to gender equality. Their presence strengthened UPS's role in rehabilitation and empowerment, exemplified by initiatives like certifying 73 female inmates in entrepreneurship skills during Women's Month.

H.E Museveni presented dummy cheques to UWEP beneficiaries, and Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga, First Deputy Prime Minister, received a medal for her women's rights advocacy. An all-women parade, led by Col. Suzan Mwanga, symbolized women's leadership. International Women's Day, celebrated in Uganda since 1984, continues to honor women's contributions, with UPS's involvement amplifying the event's impact and Uganda's regional leadership in gender equality.



# PICTORIAL



*H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, inspects parade, led by the band after arriving at Bukwiri, Church of Uganda Primary School, Kyankwanzi district in celebration of the International Womens' Day.*



*Women in command: The UPS Women's parade takes centre stage at the function*





*The UPS band doing what it does best*



*A March of Commitment: Celebrating Women in Uniform and the Legacy They Build.*



# WOMEN LEADERSHIP: A SUCCESSFUL STORY FOR UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE



*Honoring the Trailblazers: ACP Mary Centinary, Ag. commandant of the Prisons Academy and Training School, in a group photo with UPS parade participants at the International Women's day celebrations in Kyankwanzi district.*

As the world celebrates International Women's Day under the theme "Accelerated Action for Gender Equality," the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) stands out as a powerful example of women driving transformative change. Female officers have been pivotal in evolving the UPS into a modern, professional institution that excels in combating crime and reducing recidivism through safe, humane custody and impactful rehabilitation programs. From leadership positions to frontline security roles, educational initiatives, and sporting excellence, women in the UPS are breaking barriers and contributing to a legacy of progress and empowerment.

**T**he UPS is tasked with ensuring public safety by securely detaining offenders while fostering their rehabilitation to prevent reoffending. With a female staff establishment of 4,225 officers—30.3% of the total workforce, including 194 senior officers, 171 principal officers, and 3,860 junior officers—women are integral to this mission. Their influence extends far beyond their numbers, as they lead with innovation, resilience, and a deep commitment to justice.

Female officers lead key divisions at UPS headquarters with distinction. Ms. Geraldine Najjuma, Acting Senior Commissioner of Prisons (Industries), advances vocational training for inmates, while Ms. Juliet Nantale, Commissioner of

Prisons (Rehabilitation and Reintegration), spearheads programs that reduce recidivism. Ms. Stella Nabunya, Commissioner of Prisons (Health Services), prioritizes well-being, and Ms. Aliyo Natukunda, Commissioner of Prisons (Legal and Human Rights), upholds justice and dignity. Ms. Peace Babirye, Assistant Commissioner of Prisons (ICT), modernizes operations through technology.

Ms. Brenda Sana, Commissioner of Prisons and Commandant of the Prisons Academy and Training School, alongside her deputy, Ms. Mary Centinary, Assistant Commissioner of Prisons, has transformed officer training, enhancing professionalism across the service. Regionally, Ms. Margeret Orik Obonyo and Ms. Mary Tamale, Assistant Commissioners of Prisons and the longest-serving Regional Prisons





*UPS Women parade participants raise their berets in a powerful tribute to the spirit of service above self. With berets held high, they honor a tradition of courage, unity, and dedication.*

Commanders in the Northern and East Central Regions, respectively, exemplify steadfast leadership in overseeing complex operations.

Of the 246 prison units, 42 are led by female Officers in Charge, including Ms. Maureen Ninsiima, Senior Superintendent of Prisons (OC-Mbale Main), Ms. Anita Karungi, Senior Superintendent of Prisons (Ntungamo), and Ms. Brenda Abasa, Superintendent of Prisons. These women oversee daily operations and perform guard and escort duties with the same diligence as their male counterparts. Whether standing watch, conducting patrols, or ensuring secure inmate transfers, female officers prove their mettle in maintaining prison security, creating a stable foundation for rehabilitation efforts.

The UPS manages 3,935 female inmates—5% of the total prison population—across 20 units, comprising 1,833 convicts, 1,941 remands, and 161 debtors. Female officers address their unique needs, ensuring humane custody and effective rehabilitation. Through its formal education initiative, launched in 1997, the UPS has empowered female inmates to achieve extraordinary academic success. Susan Kigula, Hellen Naigaga, and Evelyn Atimango, who graduated with Bachelor of Law degrees from the University of London, have become legal practitioners and influential societal figures, showcasing the transformative impact of education in incarceration.

Since its introduction, formal education in Uganda's prisons has reshaped the narrative of imprisonment. It has equipped inmates with knowledge and skills, boosted their self-worth, and prepared them to contribute meaningfully to their communities upon release. This aligns with global calls for correctional systems to prioritize rehabilitation over punishment, turning prisons into places of transformation rather than despair. Under leaders like Ms. Nantale, these initiatives reduce recidivism by offering female inmates pathways to sustainable livelihoods.

At headquarters, women lead most divisions—Quartermaster General, accounts, salary management, livestock management, community corrections, and human rights—infusing them with dedication and innovation. Their stewardship ensures efficient resource management, supporting the UPS's dual goals of security and rehabilitation.

Female officers have also made their mark in sports, representing the UPS and Uganda with distinction at local and international levels. In athletics, stars like Chemutai Belinda, Chebet Zena, and Docus Ajok have stood out, competing in prestigious events such as the World Championships and the Olympics. Their achievements highlight the discipline and resilience they bring to both their correctional duties and the global stage, inspiring inmates and elevating the service's profile.





*Their smiles say it all; dedication, teamwork, and a shared mission at the heart of service.*

In team sports, clubs like Prisons Netball Club, She Maroons, and Prisons Handball Club have been regular powerhouses in their respective domestic leagues over the years. These teams, often led and powered by female officers, have dominated competitions, showcasing teamwork, strategy, and tenacity. Their consistent success reflects the strength and versatility of women in the UPS, making them ambassadors of excellence and national pride.

The story of women in the Uganda Prisons Service is one of empowerment, versatility, and triumph. They secure prisons with the same tenacity as men, lead transformative rehabilitation efforts—evidenced by graduates like Susan Kigula—and excel in sports, from Olympic tracks to domestic leagues. As International Women's Day calls for accelerated gender equality, the UPS exemplifies what women can achieve when given the opportunity to lead and serve. Their contributions have professionalized the service, enhanced its role in combating crime, and reduced recidivism, creating a safer, more just Uganda.



*With instruments in hand and purpose in stride, the band brings the heart of the march to life.*



# FEMALE PRISON OFFICERS HONORED WITH DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDALS AT INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY – 2025



*H.E. President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni poses with five outstanding officers of the Uganda Prisons Service after presenting them with the prestigious Diamond Jubilee Medal during the International Women's Day celebrations in Kyankwanzi*

During the International Women's Day celebrations in Kyankwanzi, H.E. President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni awarded the prestigious Diamond Jubilee Medal to five exemplary officers of the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) for their outstanding contributions to correctional services and national development. The recipients—Ms. Proscovia Kengonzi, Ms. Ritah Matuka, Ms. Dramadrio Alice Pido, Ms. Christine Oyella, and Ms. Flavia Angwech—were recognized for their dedication, leadership, and impact in administration, healthcare, childcare, and sports.

**Ms. Proscovia Kengonzi**, 49, a Principal Officer I with 23 years of service, has optimized operations at U.G. Prison Bukomero as Second-in-Command. Holding a Bachelor's Degree in Office Management and Secretarial Studies from Nkumba University, her administrative skills have enhanced decision-making through efficient records management. Her career spans postings at Kiburara, Luzira Women, and Kitala, with promotions reflecting her commitment since enlisting in 2001.



**Ms. Ritah Matuka**, 47, also a Principal Officer I, has served 22 years and currently leads as Officer-in-Charge at U.G. Prison Mbarara Women. With a Bachelor's Degree in Administrative and Secretarial Science from Kyambogo University, she has streamlined operations and reduced recidivism through innovative programs. Her mentorship has boosted staff morale across postings, including Oyam Women and Prisons Headquarters, earning her promotions since 2003.



**Ms. Dramadrio Alice Pido**, 58, a Principal Officer II with 35 years of service, is a registered nurse whose healthcare contributions at U.G. Prison Kiryandongo have improved staff and inmate well-being. Enlisting in 1989, her roles as a custodial health worker and In-Charge Barracks have fostered community health awareness. Her career includes Adjumani and Arua Main, with steady promotions reflecting her dedication.



**Ms. Christine Oyella**, 55, a Chief Wardress III with 30 years of service, oversees childcare at U.G. Prison Gulu Women's Day Care. Enlisting in 1995, her leadership in managing workshops and ensuring safety protocols has supported inmate rehabilitation. With postings at Kitgum and Gulu, her promotions since 2011 highlight her role in fostering a supportive prison environment.



**Ms. Flavia Angwech**, 49, a Chief Wardress III with 21 years of service, has elevated Uganda's sports landscape through handball coaching at the Prisons Academy and Training School. Enlisting in 2003, her achievements include coaching Uganda's National Handball Team at the 2015 All-African Games and mentoring youth for international tournaments. Her sports leadership, recognized since 1994, continues to inspire.





# UGANDA MARKS 44TH TAREHE SITA ANNIVERSARY: A CELEBRATION OF LIBERATION AND PROGRESS



*Marking the 44th Tarehe Sita Anniversary, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni is welcomed by top service chiefs as he arrives for the vibrant celebration held at Kasasa Township Grounds, Kyotera District.*

Every year on February 6, Uganda commemorates Tarehe Sita, a day that honors the birth of its people's army and the sacrifices made during the liberation struggle that began in 1981. This year, the event, themed "Celebrating Pan African Solidarity and People's Sacrifice in the Struggle for Freedom and Democracy for Socio-Economic Transformation," brought together military, civilian, and government leaders to celebrate Uganda's resilience and growth.

President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, Commander-in-Chief of the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF), led the festivities, joined by First Lady and Education Minister Janet Museveni, Vice President Jessica Alupo, Chief of Defence Forces Gen. Muhoozi Kainerugaba, and other dignitaries. The Uganda Prisons Service also played a prominent role, contributing through its participation in corporate social responsibilities, parade, band and protocol, with top and senior managers led by Deputy Commissioner General of Prisons Samuel Akena in attendance.

In his address, HE. President Museveni painted an optimistic picture of Uganda's economic trajectory, attributing progress to five phases of

development since 1986: economic recovery, expansion, diversification, value addition, and the shift to a knowledge-based economy. "After June this year, our economy will grow by 7.3 percent without oil. With oil production, our rate of growth will go into double digits—more than 10 percent," he assured the crowd. He noted that Uganda's economy, which stood at USD 4 billion in 1986, is projected to reach USD 59.3 billion by June 2025 (Foreign Exchange Method) or USD 168.5 billion (Purchasing Power Parity Method).

HE. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni highlighted advancements in agriculture, manufacturing, and innovation, praising local scientists for breakthroughs in diagnostics and vaccines. He urged Ugandans to embrace value addition, particularly in coffee and





*As tradition commands, President Museveni conducts a formal inspection of the parade, reinforcing the values of service, order, and national pride.*

other commodities, to drive the economy toward a USD 500 billion target in the coming years. “The Greater Masaka area is moving forward with coffee, palm oil, and milk. Add irrigation, and the sky will be the limit,” he said.

The President traced Uganda’s stability to the philosophical and strategic principles of the National Resistance Army (NRA), which launched its fight against tyranny with the 1981 Kabamba attack—an event Tarehe Sita commemorates. “These principles have enabled us to build a strong army, expand education and health services, modernize infrastructure, and ensure freedom of speech and worship,” he said, thanking the people of Greater Masaka for their historical support during liberation battles in 1972, 1979, and 1985–86.

Gen. Muhoozi Kainerugaba, Chief of Defence Forces, echoed this sentiment, calling Tarehe Sita a testament to Uganda’s journey and a tribute to those who sacrificed for its freedom. “We honor all who gave their lives in the struggle. With the guidance of

our seniors, we’ll continue the agenda of fundamental change,” he said, reaffirming the UPDF’s commitment to peace and Pan-African solidarity.

Museveni also addressed infrastructure challenges, apologizing for delays in repairing older roads like the Mutukula-Masaka route. He directed the Ministries of Works and Finance to prioritize consolidating existing roads before building new ones, signaling a shift in planning priorities. During the event, 41 individuals received medals for their exceptional contributions to Uganda’s liberation, a nod to the nation’s gratitude for its heroes.

The 44th Tarehe Sita Anniversary was a vibrant display of unity and pride, with performances by the Uganda Prisons Service band and a parade showcasing discipline and coordination. Attendees included NRM leaders like First National Deputy Chairman Alhaji Moses Kigongo and Secretary General Rt. Hon. Richard Todwong, alongside ministers, MPs, and senior security officers.



# PICTORIAL



*H.E The President Museveni and service chiefs stand in solemn respect at the saluting base in honour of the anthems*



*Service chiefs march in unison towards the celebration venue*



*Members of UPS top management in attendance*



*With steady posture, the UPS parade remains at ease, a symbol of order and unity.*



*The parade stands at attention, ready and set for the next command*



*The parade moves in slow march, each step deliberate and synchronized.*



*UPS parade advances with precision and pride.*





*A moment of respect and discipline: The parade raises their berets with honor, embodying pride and commitment.*

4



*The joint UPS and UPF band fills the air with melody, elevating the celebration with their powerful performance.*



*With smiles and energy, the band members deliver a lively and spirited performance.*



*Energized and disciplined, the parade moves forward with purpose, each step marking a powerful statement of pride, unity, and dedication to the values they uphold.*



*With perfect coordination, the men's parade march in rhythm,*



*The women parade march forward, with synchronized steps showcasing unity and dedication.*



# FIVE UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE OFFICERS HONORED WITH DIAMOND JUBILEE MEDAL AT 44TH TAREHE SITA CELEBRATIONS



*H.E. President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni stands proudly with distinguished officers of the Uganda Prisons Service, who were conferred the prestigious Diamond Jubilee Medal in recognition of their exceptional service and contributions to national development.*

During the 44th Tarehe Sita Anniversary Celebrations held at Kasasa Township Grounds in Kyotera District, H.E. President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni conferred the prestigious Diamond Jubilee Medal upon five officers of the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) in recognition of their exceptional service, dedication, and contributions to national development. The event, marking the founding of Uganda's people's army, saw the UPS actively participate through parades, band performances, and protocol, showcasing its integral role in national progress.

The honorees—Mr. Vincent Oluka, Mr. Charles Moses Iyereget, Mr. Stephen Oluka Onanyang, Mr. Fred Bumbirya, and Chief Warder Grade II Ocamali Isaac—were celebrated for their exemplary careers and impact within the UPS.

## **Mr. Vincent Oluka, Senior Assistant Superintendent of Prisons**

Born in Soroti District in 1967, Mr. Oluka has served UPS for 35 years since joining as a Recruit Warder in 1988. Rising to Senior Assistant Superintendent, he has commanded facilities like Agule and Pallisa Prisons, enhancing supervision and operational efficiency. Known for mentoring junior officers and maintaining professionalism, his leadership has bolstered security and discipline across multiple stations.



### Mr. Charles Moses Iyereget, Principal Officer I

With 30 years of service since enlisting in 1989, Mr. Iyereget has been a cornerstone of UPS's infrastructure development. A skilled carpenter, he has contributed to the Low-Cost Housing Project by roofing staff units and trained inmates in carpentry, aiding their rehabilitation. His work in the Engineering and Estates Department has ensured functional prison facilities, supporting both staff and inmates.



### Mr. Stephen Oluka Onanyang, Principal Officer I

A 23-year veteran, Mr. Onanyang brings academic expertise with degrees in social work, human rights, and public administration. Having served in Kitalya, Kasangati, and Upper Prisons, he now leads UG. Prison Ngoma. His adept management of high-risk inmates, including those charged with terrorism, reflects his vigilance and leadership, strengthening prison administration and staff development.



### Mr. Fred Bumbirya, Principal Officer II

With 21 years in UPS, Mr. Bumbirya has excelled in maximum-security prison administration at Isimba, Upper Prison, and Kitalya Mini Max. A graduate of the Junior Command and Staff Course, his organizational skills and trustworthiness have made him a key figure in operations and staff mentorship, ensuring security and efficiency in Uganda's toughest facilities.



### Chief Warder Grade II Ocamali Isaac

A 30-year veteran, Mr. Ocamali has distinguished himself as a bandmaster in the UPS Band. His expertise in music training and parade performances has elevated national celebrations, embodying discipline and precision. As a mentor, he has nurtured junior officers, preserved the UPS's rich musical tradition and enhancing its public image.





# COMMEMORATION OF ARCHBISHOP JANANI LUWUM DAY, 2025 IN KITGUM DISTRICT



*A solemn service is in progress at Mucwini Ceremonial Grounds, Kitgum, marking the commemoration of Archbishop Janani Luwum Day, following a procession led by the Mother's Union, lay readers, bishops, and the Archbishop of the Church of Uganda.*

**The commemoration of Archbishop Janani Luwum Day began with a solemn procession led by the Mother's Union, lay readers, bishops, and the Archbishop of Church of Uganda at Mucwini Ceremonial Grounds, Kitgum.**

The commemoration of St. Janani Luwum Day honors the life and legacy of Archbishop Janani Luwum, a prominent Ugandan religious leader who advocated for human rights and social justice. This event is a reminder of the importance of promoting peace, unity, and human rights in Uganda. The Deputy Commissioner General of Prisons, Mr. Samuel Akena, led a team of Uganda Prisons Officers at the 48th commemoration of St. Janani Luwum Day in Mucwini sub-county, Kitgum District.

Janan Luwum Day is a public holiday in Uganda, observed annually on February 16 to honor the life and legacy of Archbishop Janan Luwum, a courageous leader who stood against tyranny and injustice. Luwum, the third Archbishop of the Church of Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, and Boga-Zaire, was martyred in 1977 during the oppressive regime of Idi Amin. His outspoken criticism of the government's human rights abuses, including arbitrary killings and disappearances, ultimately led to his arrest and death. Today, this day serves as a powerful reminder of his sacrifice and the ongoing struggle for human rights in Uganda.

Born in 1922 in Mucwini, Chua, Janan Luwum converted to Christianity in 1948 and became a priest in 1954. He rose through the ranks of the church, becoming Archbishop in 1974, just three



*DCGP Samuel Akena and SCP Frank Baine share a light moment during the celebrations.*



years after Idi Amin seized power in a military coup. Amin's regime was marked by widespread human rights violations, political repression, and corruption, with estimates suggesting over 100,000 people were killed during his rule. Luwum emerged as a leading voice against these atrocities, fearlessly criticizing the government despite the risks. In 1977, he delivered a protest note to Amin, condemning the unjust killings and unexplained disappearances—an act of defiance that would cost him his life.

On February 16, 1977, Luwum was arrested along with two cabinet ministers, Erinayo Wilson Oryema and Charles Oboth Ofumbi, on charges of treason. The regime accused them of plotting a coup, a claim Luwum denied. The following day, Radio Uganda announced that all three had died in a car accident, but when Luwum's body was returned to his family, it was riddled with bullet wounds, revealing the true nature of his death. His murder shocked the nation and the world, marking a turning point in Uganda's history by inspiring greater resistance against Amin's dictatorship.

Janan Luwum Day was officially declared a public holiday in Uganda in 2015 by President Yoweri Museveni, with the first observance taking place on February 16, 2016. The day is marked by ceremonies at Luwum's gravesite in Mucwini, Kitgum District,

where pilgrims and dignitaries gather to honor his memory. Schools, businesses, and government offices close, allowing Ugandans to reflect on Luwum's sacrifice and the values he stood for. In 2016, the government also announced plans to erect a statue in Kampala and establish a museum in Mucwini to further commemorate his legacy.

Luwum's influence extends beyond Uganda. He is recognized as a martyr by the Church of England, and his statue stands among the Twentieth Century Martyrs on the front facade of Westminster Abbey in London. His courage and commitment to justice have made him a global symbol of resistance against oppression.

Janan Luwum's life and death continue to resonate in Uganda, where issues of human rights and governance remain pressing concerns. His example serves as a reminder of the power of moral leadership and the importance of speaking out against injustice, even in the face of danger. As Uganda commemorates this day, it is not only a time to honor a national hero but also to reflect on the ongoing struggle for a just and equitable society. Luwum's legacy challenges both leaders and citizens to uphold the values of truth, courage, and compassion, ensuring that his sacrifice was not in vain.



*His Lordship Chief Justice Hon. Alfonse Owiny-Dollo and the Prime Minister Rt. Hon. Robinah Nabbanja graced the occasion on behalf of government.*



*Members of the clergy, accompanied by representatives from various faiths, lead a solemn and dignified procession to commence the service*



# SECURITY FORCES PRAISED FOR OUTSTANDING PARADE PERFORMANCES AT NATIONAL CELEBRATIONS



*The CDF, senior army officers, and parade commanders from the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces, Uganda Police Force, and Uganda Prisons Service in a group photo*

General Muhoozi Kainerugaba, Chief of Defence Forces (CDF) and Senior Presidential Advisor for Special Operations, commended the commanders and participants from the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF), Uganda Police Force, and Uganda Prisons Service for their exemplary performances during recent national celebrations. The events in question—the Liberation Day commemoration in Mubende and the 44th Tarehe Sita Anniversary in Kyotera—showcased the security forces' discipline, precision, and professionalism, earning widespread public admiration.

Gen. Kainerugaba highlighted the groups' outstanding execution, noting that their efforts reflect the high standards expected of Uganda's security institutions. "Your discipline and professionalism have not gone unnoticed. You've set a benchmark that inspires us all," he said during a recognition event. This marks the second time the CDF has hosted parade participants, having previously honored those involved in last year's Independence Day celebrations.

The CDF's praise serves as a powerful motivator for the forces to maintain their commitment to excellence in service delivery, reinforcing their role in national unity and pride.

Among the standout performers, Ms. Innocent Amito, Assistant Superintendent of Prisons, was

singled out for her exceptional leadership as one of the best guard commander from the Uganda Prisons Service. Her consistency and skill in directing the parade earned her a special award from Gen. Kainerugaba, spotlighting her as a model of dedication.



*CDF, General Muhoozi Kainerugaba, awards ASP Innocent Amito*



# INMATES EXCEL IN UCE EXAMS, PAVING THE WAY FOR FURTHER EDUCATION AND REHABILITATION



*UNEB Executive Director Dan Odongo officially hands over the 2024 UCE results to Hon. Janet Kataaha Kainembabazi Museveni, Minister of Education and Sports and First Lady of Uganda, to mark a historic moment as the first cohort under the nation's new competency-based curriculum.*

Uganda Prisons Service is basking in the glow of an extraordinary achievement as inmates from Upper Prison Inmates School in Luzira and Mbarara Main Prison Inmates School have excelled in the 2024 Uganda Certificate of Education (UCE) examinations. The results, announced on the 11th February, 2025 by Hon. Janet Kataaha Kainembabazi Museveni, Minister of Education and Sports and First Lady of Uganda, mark a historic moment as the first cohort under the nation's new competency-based curriculum.

The Uganda National Examinations Board (UNEB) Executive Director, Dan Odongo, praised the inmates' performance, noting that all candidates from both schools qualified for the UCE certificate. He commended the Uganda Prisons Service leadership for embracing formal education as a pillar of rehabilitation. "This success is a sign of dedication of the inmates and the support provided by the prison authorities," Odongo said during the announcement.

At Upper Prison Inmates School in Luzira, 27 out of 28 registered candidates sat for the exams, with all earning their UCE certificates. Three inmates stood out with exceptional results: Isaac Imakuru, Emmanuel Matovu, and Joweria Kaweesi each secured a 'B' pass, placing them among the top performers. Meanwhile, at Mbarara Main Prison

Inmates School, all 11 registered candidates qualified for the certificate, with Nibert Bainomughisha and Goodman Akamwera leading the pack, also achieving 'B' passes.

The success of these inmates reflects their commitment to education despite the challenges of incarceration. Gilbert Niwamanya, Headmaster of Upper Prison Inmates School, noted that Fine Art and History were the best-performing subjects, though he acknowledged that sciences posed difficulties nationwide. "We are proud of our candidates' dedication. They have lifted us high, and we will support them as they advance to the next level," Niwamanya said.





*Upon receiving their UCE results, inmates gather to study their performance, reflecting determination and the pursuit of education behind prison walls.*

This year's UCE exams marked the debut of Uganda's new lower secondary curriculum, introduced in 2020. Unlike the previous knowledge-based system, the revised curriculum emphasizes practical skills, critical thinking, and competencies tailored to real-world demands. Subjects are streamlined, with a focus on learner-centered approaches, continuous assessment, and the integration of vocational skills. For the inmates, this shift has provided a unique opportunity to acquire knowledge and skills that could shape their futures beyond prison walls.

For many of these inmate students, education represents a pathway to redemption and reintegration into society. Jamal Kafeero, a 60-year-old inmate at Upper Prison, expressed his gratitude for the opportunity and shared his ambition to become a lawyer after his release. "I want to help others through the legal system. This chance has given me hope," he said.

Similarly, Joweria Kaweesi, one of the top female performers from Luzira Women's Prison, aspires to become a journalist. "I want to tell the stories of those disadvantaged by the justice system," she said. "Education has shown me that my past doesn't define my future."

The inmates' achievements have been hailed as a triumph of the Uganda Prisons Service's rehabilitation efforts. By providing access to formal education, the prison system is equipping inmates with the tools to rebuild their lives and contribute meaningfully to society upon release. The opportunity to pursue A-level education within prison facilities further demonstrates a commitment to long-term empowerment.

Mr. Gilbert Niwamanya, the school head teacher said that, "This is not just about passing exams; it's about transforming lives. These inmates have shown that with the right support, they can overcome their circumstances and prepare for a brighter future."

# UPS AND UMI STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIP WITH LEADERSHIP COURSE FOR SENIOR OFFICERS



*Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashaija, Commissioner General of Prisons, and Dr. James Nkata, UMI Director General, exchange documents after signing a five-year MoU to implement the Institutional Leadership and Management Course for Senior Prison Officers.*

The Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) and the Uganda Management Institute (UMI) have strengthened their decades-long collaboration by signing a five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to deliver the Institutional Leadership and Management Course for Senior Prison Officers. The agreement, finalized in recent weeks, reflects a mutual dedication to professionalizing Uganda's prison service through advanced training and capacity building. This comes on the heels of another significant partnership, as UPS recently signed an MoU with Makerere University to offer an Administrative Law course targeting middle-line managers.

**A**t the signing ceremony with UMI, Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashaija, Commissioner General of Prisons, shared how his postgraduate diploma in management from UMI transformed his professional outlook during his time as Deputy Commissioner General of Prisons (DCGP). When he took the helm as CGP in 2005, he prioritized UMI training for senior managers. "I am proud to report we've achieved 95% in management excellence," he said, crediting the institute's rigorous programs for this milestone.

Dr. Byabashaija lauded UMI Director General Dr. James Nkata for maintaining exceptional standards, noting that numerous Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs) view UMI as a hub of knowledge for boosting government

efficiency. He tied the partnership to UPS's mission of professionalizing its workforce through initiatives like the Senior and Intermediate Command and Staff Course, vowing sustained cooperation to enhance human resource capacity.

Launched in 2022, the Institutional Leadership and Management Course targets middle-line managers selected for the Intermediate Command and Staff Course. Now in its third intake, the 22-day program addresses key topics such as institutional leadership, human resource management, entrepreneurship, resource management, and monitoring and evaluation. Participants earn a certificate of competence upon completion, evaluated through an academic grading system.





*Dr. Rose Kwatampora, Head of UMI's Projects and Consultancy Department, addresses the meeting with insights on institutional leadership and capacity building.*

Dr. Nkata expressed pride in UMI's contribution to making UPS one of Uganda's best-managed public agencies. He highlighted the institute's broader work with entities like the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF), Uganda Police, and Internal Security Organisation. "Every UMI graduation features a prison officer, and they emerge as skilled leaders and top performers," he said, committing to uphold the institute's legacy of excellence.

Mr. Hillary Bisanga, Assistant Commissioner General of Prisons and Director of Human Resource Management at UPS, explained that the course equips officers with vital skills to excel in their duties. "Those who've completed it have shown noticeable improvements in field performance," he noted, attributing their progress to the program's comprehensive curriculum.

Dr. Rose Kwatampora, Head of UMI's Projects and Consultancy Department, described the course as a customized effort designed to yield practical outcomes for prison officers. She celebrated its

success since its debut and voiced confidence in the current cohort under evaluation. Dr. Kwatampora also thanked the Prisons Academy and Training School for fostering a supportive academic setting, expressing hope for expanded collaboration.

The UPS-UMI partnership, spanning three decades, has long provided administrative training to senior prison officers. The new leadership course builds on this foundation, aiming to sharpen skills for managing correctional facilities. Meanwhile, the recent MoU with Makerere University signals UPS's broader strategy to strengthen its middle-line managers through specialized legal training. Together, these initiatives highlight UPS's focus on robust recruitment and human resource development as pillars of its growth and sustainability.

With participants consistently excelling, the Institutional Leadership and Management Course is set to remain a critical asset in shaping the future of Uganda Prison Service.

# UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE SACCO CELEBRATES GROWTH AND MEMBER EMPOWERMENT AT 17TH AGM



*At the SACCO celebrations, the 17th AGM is commemorated with a group photo featuring CGP Canon Dr. Johnson Byabashaija, UPS top management, and the SACCO leadership.*

The Uganda Prisons Service Savings and Credit Cooperative Organization (UPS SACCO) celebrated a major milestone at its 17th Annual General Meeting (AGM), led by the Commissioner General of Prisons, Canon Dr. Johnson Byabashaija. Held under the theme “Unlocking the Power of SACCO through Member Trainings,” the event put a spotlight on how education and empowerment are driving financial growth for prison officers. With exciting reports, awards, and bold plans for the future, the AGM showcased the SACCO’s strong performance, including a 20% jump in surplus, growth in membership, assets, and digital services.

**A** Canon Dr. Johnson Byabashaija was full of praise for the SACCO’s efforts to support its members and make financial services accessible to all prison staff. “The SACCO is doing great work,” he said, highlighting a 2% increase in members, a 10% rise in total assets, an 11.4% growth in loans given out, and an impressive 40% surge in savings. These figures show the SACCO’s focus on offering affordable loans and encouraging members to save for their future.

Dr. Byabashaija called on the SACCO to keep pushing for new ideas and technology to better serve its members. He also urged prison officers to take advantage of the SACCO’s low-cost loans instead of borrowing from expensive money lenders.

Thanking the SACCO’s leaders for inviting him to the AGM, he wished them continued success in the years ahead.

The SACCO’s mission has always been about helping members save, access affordable loans, and improve their lives financially. It has played a key role in government programs like “Prosperity for All” and duty-free shops, while keeping members’ money safe through strong risk management and insurance plans. Teaching members how to manage their finances remains a big part of its work, helping them make smart choices for growth and progress.

Mr. Robert Munanura, Assistant Commissioner General of Prisons, presented the Supervisory Committee’s report, showing the SACCO’s commitment to following rules and managing money well.





*SACCO members in attendance follow the proceedings with interest to the cooperative's objectives.*

Audits confirmed that financial records were accurate, controls were strong, and risks were handled properly. While there were a few areas to improve, Munanura made it clear that the SACCO was operating within its rules and regulations.

The committee suggested ways to make controls and risk management even better, ensuring the SACCO stays strong. Munanura's report gave members confidence that their savings are in safe hands. Mr. Amos Turyashaba, Commissioner of Prisons and SACCO Chairperson, shared a detailed report on the SACCO's successes over the past year.

Membership grew by 2%, with 252 new members joining, bringing the total to 13,132. The SACCO's assets increased by 10%, from UGX 10.41 billion to UGX 11.45 billion, and loans given out rose by 11.4%. A major highlight was the launch of the MSACCO digital platform, now used by 49% of active members.

Turyashaba also stressed the SACCO's focus on teaching members about money management, with training programs held in eight regions. The SACCO's efforts were recognized with a donation of two motorbikes from Eagle General Traders Uganda Ltd, showing its impact on improving lives.

On the financial side, the SACCO saw a 20% increase in surplus, reaching UGX 1,050,157,291, up from UGX 874,168,073 last year. This extra money will be shared with members as dividends and interest, putting more cash in their pockets. Turyashaba credited the SACCO's success to its values of fairness, openness, and working together.

One of the most exciting moments of the AGM was the awards ceremony, where top-performing members were honored in three categories: Best Loan Performers, Best Savers, and Best Share Buyers for 2024. Both senior and junior officers received prizes, showing that everyone's efforts count. Dr. Byabashainja handed out the awards, praising members for helping the SACCO grow.

### Plans for 2025/26

The SACCO shared big plans for the coming year, focusing on better services, digital tools, and a stronger financial base. Key goals include:

1. Spreading Awareness: Rolling out money management training to all regions using meetings, flyers, and brochures.
2. Getting More Members Online: Encouraging more people to use the MSACCO platform for easy access to savings, loans, and bill payments.
3. New Services: Launching agent and mobile banking so members can pay school fees, water, and electricity bills from one place.
4. Faster Loans: Cutting loan processing time to 1-5 days while keeping risks in check.
5. Building Savings: Urging members to buy more shares and save through accounts with good interest rates of 9-11% per year.

The SACCO also plans to offer new loan and savings products to meet members' needs, making it easier for them to achieve their dreams.





*The UPS SACCO leadership presiding over business at the AGM*

With a steady growth rate of 20.2% over the past five years, the Uganda Prisons SACCO has shown it's built to last. It's aiming even higher for 2025, expecting a 22% growth rate thanks to smart investments in technology and member training.

The AGM brought members together to share ideas, raise concerns, and plan for the future, creating a strong sense of teamwork. Delegates from different regions joined in, ensuring the SACCO's plans reflect what members want and need.

As it moves forward, the Uganda Prisons SACCO remains focused on changing lives. By

teaching financial skills, offering affordable loans, and adopting new technology, it's opening doors to better opportunities for prison officers. For them, the SACCO is more than just a place to save—it's a partner in building a brighter future.

The 17th AGM ended with hope and excitement, as members and leaders united for a shared goal. As Dr. Byabashaija put it, "The SACCO's success shows what we can do when we join hands." With big dreams and a clear plan, the Uganda Prisons SACCO is ready to keep empowering its members for years to come.



*A group photo of the UPS top management alongside the SACCO members, celebrating teamwork and the success of the cooperative movement.*



## PICTORIAL



*The Commissioner General of Prisons, Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashajja, arrives at the celebrations and is warmly welcomed by DCGP Samuel Akena.*





*SACCO members showcase their awards, honoring their hard work and commitment to the cooperative's success.*



*SACCO members receive well-deserved recognition for their efforts*





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# UPS AND STANBIC BANK PARTNER TO BOOST FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT FOR IMPROVED STAFF WELFARE



*A group photo of the Uganda Prisons Service, led by Commissioner General Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashaija, with the Stanbic Bank Uganda delegation, headed by Kevin Wingfield, following a productive meeting focused on collaboration and financial empowerment.*

The Uganda Prisons Service, led by Commissioner General of Prisons Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashaija, held a productive meeting with a delegation from Stanbic Bank Uganda, a member of the Standard Bank African Group, headed by Kevin Wingfield, Head of Personal and Private Banking (PPB) for East and West African regions. The meeting, hosted at the Prisons Headquarters, focused on deepening partnerships, delivering financial solutions, and launching initiatives to enhance the financial well-being of prison officers across all ranks.

**D**r. Byabashaija extended a warm welcome to the Stanbic Bank team, praising the bank's contributions to staff welfare through financial literacy programs. Emphasizing professional growth, he instructed the Prisons Academy and Training School to develop a financial literacy training curriculum as an integral part of staff development. "A financially empowered workforce is key to improving welfare and focus," he stated, calling on Stanbic Bank to support station-based Savings and Credit Cooperative Organizations (SACCOs) and Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs) to promote income security, transparency, and efficiency.

Over the past 10 years, Stanbic Bank Uganda has made significant strides in supporting the Uganda Prisons Service, training 7,000 prison officers and their spouses in financial literacy across 19 regions, donating medical equipment to the Luzira Staff Clinic, sponsoring sports activities, and planting over 3,000 hardwood trees at regional stations.

Kevin Wingfield, Head of PPB for East and West African regions at Standard Bank Group, highlighted the bank's vision and commitment to the partnership. Samuel F. Mwogeza, Executive Director and Head of PPB at Stanbic Bank Uganda, reinforced this pledge, citing the success of prior financial literacy efforts. He unveiled a robust long-term financial partnership framework, complete with tailored product offerings for prison officers.



Short-term proposals from the bank include introducing medical and life insurance through the Afya Plan, launching a pilot loan consolidation program for officers in financial distress, and embedding financial literacy into the induction process for new recruits. In the long term, Stanbic Bank plans to roll out a structured housing and mortgage scheme, expand financial support for staff families and businesses, and establish a scholarship program for the children of prison officers. This collaboration signals a transformative approach to improving staff welfare within the Uganda Prisons Service, with both parties optimistic about creating a financially secure and motivated workforce through this innovative partnership.



*CGP Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashajja delivers his remarks during the meeting, highlighting the goals of the Uganda Prisons Service and the value of collaboration with key stakeholders.*



*Commissioner General of Prisons Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashajja receives a souvenir from Stanbic Bank, symbolizing goodwill and strengthened partnership.*



# A HEALTHIER TOMORROW: UPS LAUNCHES NATIONWIDE HEALTH CAMP INITIATIVE



*Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashaija officially launches the Uganda Prisons Service Health Camp at Prisons Headquarters in Kampala by taking part in a blood draw, marking the start of the two-day nationwide health initiative.*

The Commissioner General of Prisons, Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashaija, officiated the launch of the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) Health Camp at the Prisons Headquarters in Kampala. The two-day initiative, designed to deliver accessible, equitable, and quality healthcare services, is set to empower the UPS workforce, fostering a healthier and more productive team to drive socio-economic growth and national development.

**T**he UPS Health Camp comes at a pivotal moment as Uganda's health system navigates the dual challenge of communicable and non-communicable diseases (NCDs). While infectious diseases like HIV, malaria, tuberculosis, and meningitis have long been a focus, new threats such as hepatitis B, yellow fever, and haemorrhagic fevers have emerged. Simultaneously, NCDs—including diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, and mental disorders—are on the rise. Despite a 1.2% increase in staff mortality in 2024/2025 compared to the previous year, with 65% of these deaths linked to preventable NCDs among staff aged 45 and older, the UPS is taking proactive steps to turn the tide.

The Health Camp focused on addressing the most common ailments among older UPS staff, such as hypertensive and cardiac disorders, cancers,

diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), respiratory issues like pneumonia and TB, dietary deficiencies, bone and joint problems like osteoarthritis, and mental health disorders. Dr. Aida Ajax, a UPS medical official, expressed optimism about the initiative, stating, "With an increase in lifespan and the epidemiologic transition Uganda is undergoing, our staff are living longer. This program ensures they can live healthier, more fulfilling lives by catching and managing age-related conditions early."

Held at the Prisons Headquarters, the camp was a hub of hope and action, offering a range of services including blood draws, mental health support, phlebotomy, cervical and breast cancer screenings, family planning, dental care, triage, and counseling. Advanced tests, such as Prostate Specific Antigen, liver, and renal function tests, were



conducted off-site, while clients with severe conditions, including those with suspicious cervical cancer lesions, were seamlessly referred to the Luzira staff clinic for further care and investigations. A total of 412 prison officers, from heads of directorates to junior officers, participated in the screenings, marking a strong start to the initiative. The program's success in Kampala has paved the way for a nationwide rollout across all 19 regions, following a directive from Can. Dr. Byabashaija during a recent prison council meeting. By emphasizing routine medical screenings, UPS aims to detect diseases early, reduce preventable deaths, lower healthcare costs, and promote healthier lifestyles among its staff.



*The Health Camp focused on addressing the most common ailments among UPS staff, such as hypertensive and cardiac disorders*



*The Health Camp was also a hub of hope and action, offering a range of services including oral and dental care*



# UPS LAUNCHES REFRESHER TRAINING FOR 126 STORE PERSONNEL TO BOOST PROFESSIONALISM



*ACGP John Bosco Tumwebaze and other senior prisons officers in a group photo with participants of the intensive refresher training for store personnel at PATS, reaffirming UPS's commitment to capacity building and operational excellence.*

The Uganda Prisons Service launched an intensive refresher training program for 126 store personnel at the Prison Academy and Training School (PATS), aimed at enhancing professionalism and strengthening store management capacity nationwide. The initiative is set to improve accountability, minimize waste, and address inefficiencies in prison store operations.

**M**r. John Bosco Tumwebaze, Assistant Commissioner General of Prisons (Director of Administration), officiated the opening ceremony, emphasizing the program's alignment with the service's strategic plan. He urged participants to approach the training with seriousness, stating, "This is not a tour," and highlighted the importance of adhering to authorization protocols and protecting assets. He also extended gratitude to the Department of Logistics for their support in organizing the program.

Mr. Elly Tumuramye, Commissioner of Prisons (Logistics Management), noted that the training targets field challenges, building on the success of previous intakes. He affirmed that the program would be ongoing to ensure continuous improvement in store management practices.

The training curriculum covers critical areas, including inventory management, authorization

protocols, asset protection, logistics basics, record-keeping, professional ethics, field problem-solving, and the use of technology. These skills are designed to equip store personnel with the tools to enhance operational efficiency and accountability.

The ceremony was attended by key figures, including Ms. Juliet Semwogerere, Assistant Commissioner (Quarter Master General), Ms. Mary Centenary, Assistant Commissioner (Acting Commandant of PATS), and Mr. Isaac Ogwang, Senior Superintendent of Prisons (OC-Quarter Master Stores - Flour Mill), underscoring the program's significance.

This training strengthens service's logistics framework, ensuring robust store operations that support the broader mission of effective correctional management.



# SENIOR COMMAND AND STAFF COURSE PARTICIPANTS LECTURED ON UGANDA'S SECURITY CHALLENGES



*AIGP Tom Magambo, Director of CID, joins participants of the Senior Command and Staff Course (SCSC) for a group photo after delivering an engaging and thought-provoking lecture at CID Headquarters, Kibuli.*

Assistant Inspector General of Police Tom Magambo, Director of the Criminal Investigations Directorate (CID) at Uganda Police Force, delivered a compelling lecture to 42 participants of the Senior Command and Staff Course (SCSC) at CID headquarters in Kibuli. The cohort, consisting of senior police and prison officers, delved into Uganda's historical evolution, its pressing challenges, and the complexities of ensuring strategic security and prosperity for the nation.

**A** IGP Magambo's lecture provided a thought-provoking exploration of the dilemmas facing law enforcement and correctional leaders in safeguarding Uganda's future. His insights emphasized the need for strategic thinking to address evolving security threats while fostering national development.

Following the session, Senior Commissioner of Police Chelimo Beata, Deputy Director of CID, led the group on a walkthrough tour of the directorate's facilities. The tour offered participants a firsthand look at CID's operations, mandate, and its critical role in criminal investigations, further enriching their understanding of intelligence-led policing.

This engagement highlights the Uganda Police Force and Uganda Prisons Service's commitment to

equipping senior officers with the knowledge and perspective needed to tackle complex security challenges effectively.



*SCP Chelimo Beata, Deputy Director of CID, leads Senior Command and Staff Course participants on a guided tour of CID facilities*



# SKILLING THE NATION: LUZIRA PRISONS HOSTS PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVE SHOWCASE FOR DISADVANTAGED YOUTH



*ACGP Hillary Bisanga, accompanied by Dr. Faith Katana of the Presidential Initiative, tour the Luzira facility and view products on display after officiating the Presidential Initiative showcase*

**The Presidential Initiative on Skilling the Girl/Boy Child (PISGBC) continues to transform the lives of disadvantaged youth in Uganda, with the Luzira Prisons Complex emerging as a beacon of hope and empowerment.**

**T**he training center at Luzira—established through the generosity of Commissioner General of Prisons, Can. Dr. Johnson Byabashaija—hosted a high-profile skills exhibition for participants completing their vocational training.

Representing the Commissioner General, Mr. Hillary Bisanga, Assistant Commissioner General of Prisons (Director, Human Resource Management), officiated the showcase and toured the facility alongside Dr. Faith Katana, Director of the Presidential Initiative.

## A Glimpse into Transformation

Dr. Katana led Mr. Bisanga through the facility's various skilling departments, where young trainees demonstrated their mastery in tailoring, hairdressing, knitting, bakery, and weaving. The vibrant display underscored the initiative's success in delivering practical, life-changing skills to Uganda's most vulnerable youth.

"This initiative is saving lives," said Dr. Katana. "By offering food, shelter, training, and mentorship, we have seen crime levels drop significantly—especially in Kampala. Young people now have an alternative to the streets."

With nine centers in Kampala and 19 hubs nationwide, the initiative targets school dropouts, especially girls and boys from marginalized communities. Luzira, situated near youth-heavy areas such as Namuwongo, Kitintale, and Kasokoso, has become a flagship location for this life-changing work.

## Empowerment and National Prosperity

ACGP Hillary Bisanga praised the initiative's role in addressing the root causes of crime, poverty, and social marginalization. "Over 62 percent of inmates under our custody are youth," he noted. "Many fell into gambling, drug abuse, and crime. This program offers a dignified alternative. You're not just learning to sew or bake—you're learning to survive, succeed, and uplift others."





*ACGP Hillary Bisanga and Dr. Faith Katana inspect and tour a display of leather products crafted by trainees*

Encouraging the trainees to embrace wider government programs like the Parish Development Model (PDM) and Emyooga, Mr. Bisanga said: “These are tools for economic transformation. Combined with your new skills, they are pathways to prosperity. Be actors of change and reflect a renewed character after passing out.”

He also issued a heartfelt warning about peer influence and manipulation, sharing a personal lesson from his university days at Makerere University. “Avoid manipulation. Stay focused. Work hard to earn a better life.”

ACP Francis Xavier Elubu, Regional Prison Commander for Kampala Extra Region, also attended the showcase and commended the Commissioner General of Prisons for facilitating a safe, skill-cantered environment for youth.

“What I witnessed today is remarkable,” ACP Elubu said. “You now have skills that are not just marn ketable but transformative. Share them, innovate, and stay committed.”

He also thanked the Office of the President and @StateHouseUg for investing in Uganda’s young generation. “This is the kind of effort that drives community safety, reduces crime, and fuels sustainable development.”

Youth unemployment remains a pressing challenge in Kampala’s urban areas. Many young people—particularly school dropouts—remain susceptible to early pregnancies,

drug abuse, and crime. The Presidential Initiative at Luzira Prisons is working to change that narrative.

The program not only equips trainees with vocational skills but also links them to mentorship, start-up support, and government empowerment programs. Its graduates have gone on to start businesses, secure employment, and contribute meaningfully to their communities.

With strengthened public-private partnerships and growing national recognition, Luzira’s skilling center is being touted as a model for national replication.

“I was mesmerized by the incredible work these young people are doing,” said ACGP Bisanga. “The future of our country depends on a skilled, ethical, and focused youth.”



*Crafts and leather products on display*



# PICTORIAL



*A trainee passionately explains to the visiting team the process behind crafting the showcased items, offering insight into the creativity, skill, and dedication involved in producing the impressive handmade works.*



*The visiting team tours a vibrant display of cakes, admiring the culinary skills demonstrated by the trainees.*





*Trainees demonstrate wig preparation and salon hair braiding techniques to the visiting team.*



*Trainees demonstrates beauty and makeup application techniques to the visiting team*



# PRISONS OFFICERS URGED TO CHAMPION ETHICAL LEADERSHIP IN UGANDA



*Dr. Patricia Achan Okiria, Deputy Inspector General of Government (IGG), with the third intake of the Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course at Prisons Academy and Training School, after delivering a lecture on promoting ethical leadership, accountability, and transparency.*

Dr. Patricia Achan Okiria, Deputy Inspector General of Government (IGG), recently lectured prison officers on the IGG's role in promoting ethical leadership, accountability and transparency. Addressing the third intake of the Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course at Prisons Academy and Training School, Dr. Okiria focused on the Leadership Act, 2002, highlighting its key provisions and their importance in preventing corruption.

**S**he emphasized the IGG's mandate to enforce the Leadership Code and investigate misconduct, explaining the mechanisms available, including investigations and asset declarations. Dr. Okiria stressed the crucial role prison officers play in upholding integrity and urged them to be exemplary leaders, adhering to the highest ethical standards.

The officers engaged in a productive Q&A session, expressing their commitment to promoting ethical conduct within the prison service. The training reflects the IGG's ongoing collaboration with government agencies to strengthen good governance in Uganda.

Senior Prison officers wield meaningful power over their subordinate staff and inmates, making accountability and transparency paramount.



*Dr. Patricia Achan Okiria  
derives her lecture*

This conduct is essential for humane treatment, builds public trust in the criminal justice system, and promotes a rehabilitative environment. It also strengthens security, promotes professionalism among staff, ensures legal and human rights compliance. Ultimately, ethical leadership is fundamental to a just and effective service delivery in Uganda.



# PRISON OFFICERS URGED TO UPHOLD PROFESSIONALISM IN SHAPING UPS BRAND



*SCP Frank Mayanja Baine delivers a lecture to participants, sharing his expertise on key topics within the Uganda Prisons Service.*

**Mr. Frank Mayanja Baine, Senior Commissioner of Prisons and Deputy Director of Corporation and Corporate Affairs, delivered a lecture titled “The Role of Leaders/Commanders in Maintaining the Prisons Brand/Image” to the third intake of the Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course at the Prisons Academy and Training School in Luzira.**

**A**ddressing senior officers, Mr. Baine underscored their pivotal role in shaping the image of the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) through professionalism, discipline, and unwavering commitment. He highlighted that the UPS brand is distinguished by its iconic maroon uniform, strong discipline, professionalism, and deep-rooted patriotism. Distinctive elements such as the UPS Band, unique UU vehicle registration numbers, sports programs, and the historic Luzira Hill further reinforce the service’s identity.

Mr. Baine emphasized that maintaining a positive public image begins with a shift in mindset. He urged officers to adopt a positive attitude in all their endeavors, noting that such an approach enhances work efficiency, fosters teamwork, and builds public trust in the UPS. “A good attitude is the foundation of our service’s reputation,” he stated.

He called on leaders to fully understand and implement the UPS vision and mission, ensuring that professionalism and discipline guide their actions. Mr. Baine stressed that all operations must align with the Prisons Act 2006, and leaders must exemplify patriotism and integrity in their conduct.

Additionally, Mr. Baine highlighted the critical role of public relations and customer care in shaping public perception. He encouraged officers to engage communities with respect and professionalism, reinforcing the UPS’s commitment to serving the public with dignity.

The lecture served as a reminder of the responsibility senior officers carry in upholding the esteemed reputation of the Uganda Prisons Service, both within the institution and in the eyes of the public.



# HIGH-LEVEL WORKSHOP ON PREVENTIVE MONITORING OF PRISONS LAUNCHED IN UGANDA



*A group photo of stakeholders at the high-level workshop on preventive monitoring of prisons, inaugurated by UHRC Chairperson Hon. Mariam Wagandya.*

A high-level workshop on preventive monitoring of prisons, co-organized by the African Centre for Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture Victims (ACTV Uganda) and the Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC), was inaugurated on the 21st February 2025 by UHRC Chairperson Hon. Mariam Wagandya. Bringing together stakeholders such as the Uganda Prisons Service, Judiciary, Justice Centres Uganda, Uganda Law Society, Penal Reform International, Ministry of Health, TUNMAPS, Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, and ACTV Uganda, the event aims to bolster oversight of detention facilities.

In her opening remarks, Hon. Wagandya stressed that preventive monitoring is not merely about visiting prisons but about establishing a system grounded in human dignity, the rule of law, and international human rights standards. She noted that such workshops are vital for enhancing institutional capacity, sharing expertise, and addressing systemic issues like overcrowding, poor conditions, and potential rights violations in Uganda's prisons.

The workshop seeks to tackle these challenges by strengthening accountability, transparency, and collaboration among stakeholders to ensure detention facilities align with human rights principles. At noon, Ms. Ruth Ssekindi, UHRC Director of Monitoring and Inspection, led a session on preventive monitoring, urging participants to

eliminate biases during visits. She covered the purpose, execution, and importance of monitoring, as well as team composition and methods. Highlighting prison congestion as a major issue, Ms. Ssekindi advocated for a diversified judicial system to reserve prison spaces for appropriate cases.

Mr. Moses Ssentalo, Commissioner of Prisons (Inspectorate and Quality Assurance), later emphasized the role of partnerships in monitoring efforts. He praised external mechanisms like the open-door policy for promoting transparency and dispelling misinformation, especially amid human rights concerns. Mr. Ssentalo also lauded ACTV Uganda's consistent support in delivering treatment and rehabilitation services to inmates.



# UGANDA PRISONS SERVICE BOOSTS BUBU INITIATIVE WITH DELIVERY OF 10,000 APRONS TO NIRA



*10,000 locally manufactured aprons delivered to the National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA), by the Uganda Prisons Service supporting the Buy Uganda, Build Uganda (BUBU) initiative.*

The Uganda Prisons Service, through its Prisons Industries Department, has delivered 10,000 locally manufactured aprons to the National Identification and Registration Authority (NIRA) in support of the Buy Uganda, Build Uganda (BUBU) initiative. This significant contribution underscores the government's commitment to promoting local production and fostering socio-economic transformation.

**T**he aprons will be utilized by NIRA staff during the ongoing nationwide National ID renewal exercise, ensuring operational efficiency while showcasing Uganda's capacity for high-quality local manufacturing. The delivery highlights the Prisons Industries Department's role in supporting government operations and generating revenue through productive ventures.

The Uganda Prisons Service is mandated to ensure the safe custody and rehabilitation of offenders, uphold human rights, and support the administration of justice. Through its Prisons Industries Department, the service engages in manufacturing and service delivery initiatives that provide vocational training to inmates, equipping them with skills for reintegration into society while contributing to national development goals.

"This partnership with NIRA exemplifies the spirit of the BUBU initiative," said a spokesperson for the Uganda Prisons Service. "By producing these aprons locally, we are not only supporting government operations but also empowering inmates with valuable skills and promoting Uganda's industrial capacity."

The delivery of the aprons is a clear demonstration of the Prisons Industries Department's growing role in driving economic growth and self reliance. By prioritizing local production, the initiative aligns with the government's vision of building a sustainable and inclusive economy.





*The delivered aprons being off loaded*



*The handover in progress*



## TWENTY INMATES GRADUATE FROM VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM AT LUTUTURU PRISON FARM



*A group of graduates at Lututuru Prison Farm in Lamwo District proudly displays their certificates after successfully completing a six-month vocational training program in Horticulture, Building, and Concrete practices in company of the prison's leadership.*

Twenty inmates at Lututuru Prison Farm in Lamwo District have successfully completed a six-month vocational training program in Horticulture, Building, and Concrete practices. This program, a collaborative effort between the Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) and Agoro International Vocational Institute, focuses on rehabilitation and reintegration into society.

**O**n behalf of the Commissioner General of Prisons, Mrs. Margaret Orik Obonyo, Assistant Commissioner of Prisons (RPC - Northern Region), presided over the graduation ceremony, emphasizing the importance of such programs in rehabilitating inmates and preparing them for successful reintegration. She commended the inmates for their dedication and hard work and expressed gratitude to the institute for their partnership.

The prison's Officer in Charge, Mr. Ben Gilbert Openyitho, Principal Officer I highlighted their commitment to vocational skilling in agriculture and construction, noting the positive impact on inmates' potential for employment upon release.

Mr. Benedicto Owali, Director of Training and Partnerships at Agoro International Vocational Institute, pledged continued support and capacity building for prisoners and staff. Through this

program, inmates acquired skills in: - Land Identification: learning to identify suitable land for farming - Nursery Bed Preparation: understanding how to prepare nursery beds for planting - Pest Management: learning techniques for managing pests and diseases - Post-Harvest Handling: understanding how to handle crops after harvesting and its value chain. - Construction Techniques: acquiring essential skills in building and construction. These skills will contribute to the Prisons Farms and Engineering Gangs' vision of self-sufficiency. UPS aims to reduce recidivism, currently at 13.4%, through initiatives like this vocational skilling programs of Inmates.



# UPS SHOWCASES HOLISTIC APPROACH TO WOMEN'S REHABILITATION AND REINTEGRATION AT GLOBAL CONFERENCE



*The Uganda Prisons Service delegation, led by SSP Doreen Asiimwe Kazoora, with fellow members Ms. Lydia Ssesanga, SP Stella Salume Atoo, and SP Brenda Abaasa at the inaugural International Women in Corrections Conference (WICC) in Bangkok, Thailand.*

The Uganda Prisons Service (UPS) proudly represented Uganda at the inaugural International Women in Corrections Conference (WICC), held from February 19–21, 2025, in Bangkok, Thailand. The conference, organized by the International Corrections and Prisons Association (ICPA) and the Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ), marked the 15th anniversary of the Bangkok Rules—the United Nations’ landmark standards for the treatment of women prisoners and offenders. The UPS delegation seized the opportunity to highlight Uganda’s innovative efforts in gender-responsive corrections, presenting a paper titled “Factors Supporting Women’s Successful Reintegration: A Holistic Approach in Uganda.”

**L**ed by Ms. Doreen Asiimwe Kazoora, Senior Superintendent of Prisons and Head of the delegation, the Ugandan team included Ms. Lydia Ssesanga, Principal Rehabilitation and Reintegration Officer; Ms. Stella Salume Atoo, Superintendent of Prisons and Officer in Charge of Luzira Women Prison; and Ms. Brenda Abaasa, Superintendent of Prisons and Officer in Charge of Lira Main Prison. Their presentation showcased Uganda’s commitment to transforming the lives of incarcerated women through a holistic approach to rehabilitation and reintegration, aligning with global best practices and the Bangkok Rules.

The UPS delegation emphasized programs that address the unique needs of women prisoners,

such as vocational training, psychological support, and family reconnection initiatives. Drawing from Uganda’s experience, the paper highlighted how equipping women with practical skills—like those recently demonstrated by the graduation of twenty inmates at Lututuru Prison Farm in horticulture and construction—combined with emotional and social support, fosters successful reentry into society. “Our goal is to see these women not just survive but thrive after their release,” Ms. Kazoora stated during the presentation. “This is about restoring dignity and offering a second chance—a mission that resonates deeply with our values.”



# WORLD CONFERENCE IN CORRECTIONS CONFERENCE 2025

CELEBRATING THE 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE BANGKOK RULES



*The WICC brought together global corrections experts, policymakers, and practitioners to share insights and address challenges in women's rehabilitation, promoting international collaboration in the field.*

The WICC brought together corrections experts, policymakers, and practitioners from around the world to share insights and address challenges in women's rehabilitation. For Uganda, where the prison service has been working to reduce a recidivism rate of 13.4%, the conference provided a platform to exchange ideas and learn from international models. The UPS approach reflects a shift from punitive measures to rehabilitation, a principle echoed in Catholic teachings on mercy and the inherent worth of every individual.

Ms. Ssesanga noted the importance of tailoring programs to women's specific circumstances, such as their roles as caregivers and the trauma many have endured. "A holistic approach means looking at the whole person—her past, her potential, and her place in the community," she said. Meanwhile, Ms. Atoo and Ms. Abaasa shared practical examples from Luzira and Lira prisons, where gender-responsive initiatives have empowered women to rebuild their lives and contribute to their families and society.

The conference, hosted at the TIJ headquarters, celebrated progress made since the adoption of the Bangkok Rules in 2010 while identifying areas for further improvement. For the UPS delegation, it was a chance to affirm Uganda's strides in gender responsive corrections and gain inspiration from global peers. "We're not just here to present; we're here to listen and grow," Ms. Kazoora remarked, underscoring the value of international collaboration.

As Uganda continues to refine its correctional system, the UPS's participation in the WICC signals a strong commitment to advancing women's rehabilitation and reintegration. By blending practical skills, emotional healing, and community support, Uganda's holistic approach offers a model that not only reduces recidivism but also upholds the dignity of those it serves—a vision that echoes both the Bangkok Rules and timeless calls for justice and redemption.



# UPS STAFF UNDERGO HUMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT TRAINING TO BOOST EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS



*Prison officers actively participate in the Human Capital Management training at the Luzira Prisons Complex in Kampala, aimed at enhancing skills across various levels of the Uganda Prisons Service.*

The Ministry of Public Service conducted a Human Capital Management System (HCM) training program for staff of the Uganda Prisons Service aimed at enhancing human resource management capabilities across government agencies. The training took place simultaneously at the Luzira Prisons Complex and Uganda Prisons Headquarters in Kampala, targeting officers of all ranks nationwide, including Senior Officers, Principal Officers (POs), Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs) and civilian staff at the U5 level/scale.

**L**At the Luzira Prisons Complex, the sessions equipped staff with the skills to effectively utilize the HCM system's various modules, which streamline processes like payroll, leave management, and performance tracking. Meanwhile, at Prisons Headquarters, POs and civilian staff are engaging in parallel training focused on the same system, ensuring a uniform rollout across the service. The initiative reflects the Ministry's broader effort to modernize human resource management within government bodies, including all agencies like the UPS, to improve overall performance and service delivery.

The training is part of a nationwide push to upskill prison staff at all levels. By investing in its human capital, the UPS aims to boost operational efficiency,

enhance accountability, and elevate the quality of services provided to inmates and the public.

The HCM system represents a step toward digitizing administrative functions, reducing manual errors, and promoting transparency—values that resonate with principles of good stewardship. For a service tasked with rehabilitation and security, such tools are vital to ensuring staff are well-equipped to handle their responsibilities effectively.

Participants have expressed enthusiasm for the program, recognizing its potential to transform daily operations. "Understanding the HCM system means we can focus more on our core duties and less on paperwork," said one Non-Commissioned Officer at Luzira. At Headquarters, a Principal Officer added, "This is an investment in us, and it will reflect in how we deliver for the service and the community."



# INMATES CELEBRATE 2024 UACE RESULTS



*Inmates at Luzira Upper Prison Inmates School jubilate after all candidates who sat for the 2024 Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education (UACE) exams successfully qualified for the UACE certificate.*

**Inmates at Luzira Upper Prison Inmates School are celebrating a remarkable achievement following the release of the 2024 Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education (UACE) results by the Uganda National Examinations Board. All 48 inmates who sat for the exams qualified for the UACE certificate, joining over 92,000 candidates nationwide now eligible to apply for tertiary institution admissions.**

**O**ut of 49 registered candidates (46 males and 3 females), 48 participated in the exams, with every candidate securing at least one principal pass. This outstanding performance underscores the Uganda Prisons Service's commitment to rehabilitation through education, equipping inmates with skills for a productive future and reducing recidivism.

According to UNEB Chairperson, Prof. Celestino Obua, Luzira Upper Prison is not merely a place of incarceration but a true correctional centre focussed on transformative change. The results breakdown is as follows:

- 25 candidates (all males) scored three principal passes.
- 13 candidates (11 males and 2 females) earned two principal passes.

- 10 candidates (9 males and 1 female) secured one principal pass.

The school celebrated exceptional individual performances, with top performers Okello Godfrey Comboni (ABC) and Omongi Hendry (BCA) each earning 17 points, followed by Okumu Patrick (BBC) with 16 points, and Agotre Norman (BDC) with 14 points.

By providing inmates with opportunities to pursue academic excellence, the Uganda Prisons Service is paving the way for their successful reintegration into society.



# FEMALE INMATES CERTIFIED WITH ENTREPRENEURSHIP SKILLS



*Inmates proudly pose with their awards after successfully completing entrepreneurship skills training*

In honor of the Special Women's Month of March, Uganda Prisons Service, in collaboration with Penal Reform International (PRI), certified 73 female inmates in entrepreneurship skills across three different regional women prisons. The just concluded programs took place on March 25th at Jinja Women's Prison, March 26th at Mbale Women's Prison, and March 27th at Soroti Women's Prison. The celebration featured awarding of certificates to female inmates who have completed various educational programs, including vocational skills training and business courses. This initiative aims to equip the women with practical skills to support their successful reintegration into society and reduce recidivism rates.



*An inmate receives her certificate of completion*



*Joyous inmates in jubilation*



# PRISONS INTER MEDIATE COMMAND AND STAFF COURSE

## Flined Trips and Study Tours



*Participants of the Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course (ICSC) tour the cattle feeding facility at the National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO) in Namulonge during their enriching study tour.*

### (A). National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO) at Namulonge AND National Referral Hospital, Mulago

Participants of the Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course (ICSC) embarked on an enriching study tour to key government installations, expanding their expertise in healthcare and agriculture to enhance prison management and rehabilitation programs.

The tour commenced at the National Referral Hospital, Mulago, where officers explored the intricacies of healthcare service delivery. They gained valuable insights into specialized departments, emergency response systems, and patient care management. This exposure is critical for senior prison officers who oversee healthcare services for both staff and inmates, ensuring better coordination and improved welfare within correctional facilities.

The group then visited the National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO) at Namulonge, home to the National Livestock Resources Research Institute

(NaCRRI). At NARO, participants learned about cutting-edge agricultural research, livestock management, and crop development. They were introduced to innovative farming techniques, disease control measures, and food security strategies. These lessons are poised to empower officers to implement sustainable agricultural programs in prisons, fostering food self-sufficiency and supporting inmate rehabilitation through vocational skilling.



*Course Participants tour the electric milking pen at the NARO*





*Participants of the Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course are taken through the process of iron reformation to make products at Roofings Group Uganda industries in Namanve Industrial Park.*

#### **(B). Roofings Group Uganda industries at Namanve Industrial Park**

The cohort then conducted another study visit to Roofings Group Uganda industries at Namanve Industrial Park as part of their leadership training program. The visit aimed to expose participants to industrial operations and management practices, enhancing their understanding of practical applications relevant to their roles in the Uganda Prisons Service.

During the walk-around tour, officers explored the production of steel and plastic products, including galvanized iron bars, wires, and sheets, manufactured using advanced techniques. They studied supply chain operations, from raw material sourcing to distribution, and observed workforce management practices, including employee training and safety protocols.

The visit also provided insights into quality control systems that ensure product standards, offering a model for operational excellence. Roofings Group, a leading industrial player since 1994 with over 2,000 employees, served as an ideal case study for the officers to draw parallels with prison system management.



*Course participants visit the scrap yard at Roofings Group Uganda Industries in Namanve Industrial Park*



### (C). Kawumu Presidential Demonstration Farm in Luweero District and Kapeka Industrial Park in Nakaseke District

The participants embarked on a study tour to the Kawumu Presidential Demonstration Farm in Luweero District as part of their leadership training program. The visit aimed to deepen the officers' understanding of modern agricultural practices, equipping them to enhance food security and rehabilitation programs within correctional facilities.

The tour showcased the farm's innovative four-acre model, which integrates diverse enterprises such as fish farming, poultry, coffee cultivation, and dairy production. Officers gained practical exposure to sustainable farming techniques, learning how small-scale land use can yield significant economic benefits. The Kawumu farm, established as a presidential initiative to promote commercial agriculture, served as an inspiring example of agricultural innovation and efficiency.

They continued their enriching study tour with a visit to the Kapeka Industrial Park in Nakaseke District, following their exploration of the Kawumu Presidential Demonstration Farm. The delegation toured the sprawling industrial hub, which hosts over 19 operational factories producing a diverse range of goods, including ceramics, garments, and food products. Employees, served as an ideal case study for the officers to draw parallels with prison system management.



*Participants of the Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course visit the coffee plantation at Kawumu Presidential Demonstration Farm in Luweero District, gaining valuable insights into contemporary agricultural practices.*



*At Kapeka Industrial Park in Nakaseke District, participants of the Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course engage with experts at a modern fish breeding facility, learning about innovative approaches to aquaculture and sustainable food production.*





*Course participants inspect a case and package making facility during their industrial visit*

The visit aimed to expose officers to modern industrial practices and economic development initiatives, providing valuable insights into vocational skilling programs and employment opportunities for inmates. The Kapeka Industrial Park, a flagship project, has transformed the region into a bustling economic center, employing thousands of Ugandans and significantly boosting local livelihoods.

Officers observed advanced manufacturing processes, supply chain management, and workforce training programs, which offer practical models for enhancing prison farms and industries. The officers expressed enthusiasm about applying these lessons to strengthen prison agricultural projects, which are critical for improving inmate welfare, fostering vocational skills, and contributing to national development goals.



*Officers are taken through advanced manufacturing processes, and supply chain systems, drawing practical lessons for strengthening operations within prison farms and industries.*



## d) Kitalya Mini Max, Uganda's Model Correctional Facility



*A group photo of Prison officers from the third intake of the Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course afront Kitalya Mini Max Prison in Wakiso District after their benchmark visit to the facility.*

**Prison officers from the third intake of the prisons intermediate command and staff course recently conducted a benchmark visit to Kitalya Mini Max Prison in Wakiso District, in a bid to deepen their understanding of modern correctional management practices.**

**T**hey were led by Mr. Hassan Walangira, Superintendent of Prison, the Officer in Charge of Kitalya Mini Max, who took the visiting officers on a tour of the high security facility. The visit forms part of the Uganda Prisons Service's efforts to groom middle-level command staff with practical knowledge and firsthand experience in managing contemporary correctional institutions.

During the walk-through, participants explored several key areas, including:

- Prison Wards and Cells – where they assessed inmate accommodation, noting the improved living standards and modern sanitary installations;
- Medical Wing – which includes inpatient units and isolation rooms designed to manage contagious diseases, reflecting the facility's commitment to inmate health;

- Security Infrastructure – featuring state-of-the-art surveillance systems, watchtowers, and secure perimeter fencing;
- Kitchen Facilities – showcasing energy-efficient technologies used in preparing meals for inmates and staff;
- Rehabilitation and Vocational Centers – including classrooms and workshop blocks supporting correctional industries and educational programs;
- Recreational Spaces – equipped with sports courts and fitness facilities to support inmate wellness.

Established in 2019, Kitalya Mini Max Prison has become a benchmark for correctional excellence, not just in Uganda but across East and Central Africa. The facility is widely recognized for its innovation in rehabilitation, particularly through its expansive uniform production workshop, which plays a dual role in equipping inmates with vocational skills while supporting the self-sufficiency of the Uganda Prisons Service.





*Participants of the Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course tour the modern electric kitchen stove system at Kitalya Mini Max Prison, exploring advancements in energy-efficient cooking technology within correctional facilities.*



*Course participants explore the garments factory at Kitalya Mini Max Prison, observing textile production and vocational training efforts within the facility.*





*An inmate skillfully demonstrates the operation of an embroidery machine at Kitalya Mini Max Prison*

Inmates working in the workshop are trained in tailoring processes such as designing, cutting, sewing, and finishing uniforms using modern machinery. The initiative has significantly reduced procurement costs while enhancing inmates' employability post-incarceration.

Kitalya Mini Max's success in balancing security, rehabilitation, and sustainability has earned it a reputation as the leading correctional facility in the region. The benchmark visit by the officer trainees is expected to inspire similar standards of professionalism and innovation as they return to their respective duty stations.

As Uganda Prisons Service continues to reform and modernize its correctional system, experiences like the Kitalya Mini Max visit are shaping a new generation of prison leaders committed to excellence and transformation.



*Inmates partake in garments production*



## e) Uganda Government Prison Farm Amita



*Participants of the Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course in a group photo during a benchmarking visit to Uganda Prisons Farm Amita in Abim District, North Eastern Region.*

Participants of the Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course visited UG Prison Farm Amita in Abim District, North Eastern Region, as part of a benchmarking exercise. The tour highlighted infrastructural developments, including 64 newly constructed staff quarters across eight blocks and ongoing construction of prisoner wards. The officers examined advanced security systems implemented at the facility, enhancing operational efficiency. They also explored the farm's agricultural initiatives, such as cotton production, agroforestry, and maize seed multiplication projects, which support food security.



*A view of the newly constructed staff quarters comprising eight housing blocks, that has enhanced accommodation for Uganda Prisons Service personnel.*





*Course participants closely observe the ongoing construction of prisoner wards, gaining insights into the efforts being made to enhance the living conditions and capacity of correctional facilities*



*Participants tour the ongoing construction of staff quarters, gaining a firsthand look at the development of new housing facilities aimed at enhancing living conditions for Uganda Prisons Service personnel*





*Participants of the Intermediate Command Course are taken on a guided tour of UPS farm Amita*



*Participants of the Command Course tour the modern cotton, seed, and produce storage room, observing advanced storage techniques designed to improve efficiency and preserve quality at UPS Farm Amita.*



## f) Buganda Parliament – Mengo



*The Historical Parliament of Buganda (Bulange - Mengo)*

The third intake of the Prisons Intermediate Command and Staff Course (ICSC) conducted a study visit to the Historical Parliament of @BugandaOfficial (Bulange – Mengo), the Kabaka's Palace (Lubiri), Buganda Museum, Kabaka's Lake and Idi Amin's Armoury, originally built by Israeli engineers. The visit immersed the officers in the Buganda Kingdom's rich history, from traditional governance and cultural heritage to the stark reminders of past conflicts and oppression.

The tour provided a unique opportunity for the course participants to connect Uganda's historical and cultural narratives with their training objectives. By exploring the governance traditions of the Buganda Kingdom, the legacy of its palace, and the dark chapter of Idi Amin's rule, the officers gained a broader perspective on leadership, conflict resolution and peace building.



*The course participants tour around various photographs on the walls of the Buganda Parliament, a depiction of the rich history and heritage of Buganda.*





*Course participants in a group photo with their tour guide during their visit to the Buganda Parliament and the Kabaka's Palace*



*Course Participants embark after a reflective journey from the the popular under ground chambers, a fond site depicting Uganda's dark tourism*



# UGANDA PRISONS FARM RAGEM'S LIVESTOCK PROGRAM THRIVES WITH INNOVATIVE ZENGA COW BREEDING



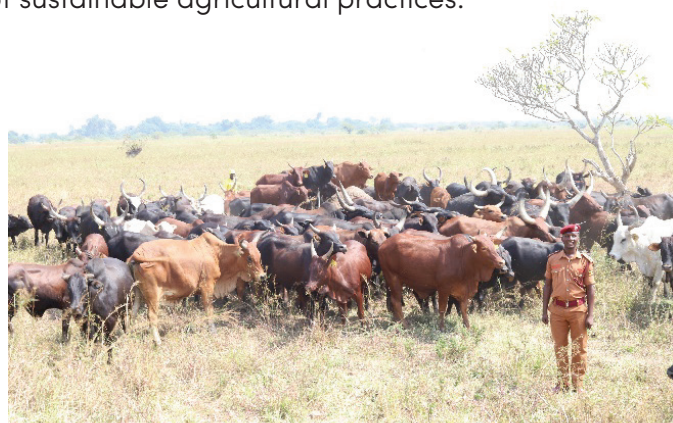
*A prisons officer happily interacts with a Zenga cow at UPS Farm Ragem in Wadelai Sub-County, Pakwach District, where the innovative livestock program is being implemented as a form of advanced agricultural practice.*

The Uganda Prisons Service's Farm Ragem in Wadelai Sub-County, Pakwach District, is earning praise for its innovative livestock program, showcasing agricultural excellence through the development of the Zenga cow. This unique breed, a cross between the hardy Ankole and adaptable local Zebu cattle, has transformed the farm's operations, delivering faster growth rates and superior beef quality despite regional challenges.

Initially, Farm Ragem's herd comprised a diverse mix of Ankole, Zebu, and Boran crosses, carefully curated to optimize desirable traits. However, the persistent tsetse fly infestation in the area posed a significant threat to livestock health and productivity. In response, the Uganda Prisons Service launched a strategic breeding program to address these environmental challenges while enhancing the farm's output.

By crossbreeding Ankole cattle, known for their resilience, with the adaptable local Zebu, the farm developed the Zenga cow—a breed tailored to thrive in the region. The Zenga cow has proven to be a game-changer, combining high growth rates with exceptional beef quality and remarkable resilience to local conditions, including tsetse fly prevalence.

This innovation has not only strengthened the farm's livestock program but also positioned it as a model of sustainable agricultural practices.



*Zenga cows at UPS Farm Ragem in Wadelai Sub-County, Pakwach District*



# DOWN THE MEMORY LANE



In 2005, Mr. Joseph A.A. Etima handed over the instruments of authority to Dr. Johnson Byabashaija following his appointment as Commissioner General of Prisons. Since then, the Uganda Prisons Service has witnessed tremendous growth and development.

## ORBITUARY

The Commissioner General of Prisons announces the deaths of fallen Comrades



**6546** Corporal Warder  
**Bosco Odongo**  
U.G Prison Kaberamaido  
**B:** 12th December 1966  
**D:** 6th March 2025



**10884** Corporal Warder  
**Fred Kiwanuka**  
U.G Prison Nagojje  
**B:** 4th February 1974  
**D:** 13th March 2025



**5715** Sergeant Warder  
**Richard Pony Tom**  
U.G Prison Kwanja  
**B:** 27th April 1968  
**D:** 20th March 2025



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