



PRESS REVIEW

John Paul II Justice and Peace Centre

"Faith Doing Justice"

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THEMATIC AREAS

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EDUCATION

90% primary teachers are computer illiterate, says, new study. At least 90 per cent of primary school teachers in Jinja district are computer illiterate, according to a report conducted by the officials in charge of education in the district.

Teachers union trashed UNEB report on standards. Teachers under their umbrella body, the Uganda National Teachers Union (UNATU), have dismissed a recent Uganda National Examinations Board (UNEB) report that showed that many of them were not qualified.

MTN, curriculum centre to digitise education. The MTN Foundation together with the National Curriculum Development Centre (NCDC), have launched a project code-named skilling for the future (S4F). MTN foundation handed over a dummy cheque of 312m to the NCDC as a financial contribution towards the setting up of the skilling for the future project.

Govt seeks sh49b for vocational training. The government is seeking parliament's approval to get \$14.3 (about sh49b) from the Organisation of Petroleum Exploration Countries (OPEC) to support vocational education in Uganda.

Makerere student's demand accountability for tuition fee fines. The new Makerere University tuition fees policy that was enforced mid-this year, has come under fresh scrutiny following students demand for accountability of the fines embedded in the tuition fee. However, Prof Edward Kirumira, the Makerere university principal college of humanities and social sciences, said the policy is 'fair' enough.

Makerere ranked fourth in Africa. Makerere University is Africa's fourth best university, and top-most outside of South Africa, according to the latest world university ranking.

[Museveni to meet student maker of tear gas.](#) President Museveni has offered to meet a third year Makerere University student of Chemistry and Botany who claims to have made tear gas from local materials.

[Explore jobs beyond Uganda-Musyoka tells UTAMU graduates.](#) Graduates of Uganda Technology and Management University (UTAMU) have been urged to look for employment opportunities beyond Uganda's borders. Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka, the chancellor at Utamu said the East African Community had opened up opportunities in neighbouring countries that they should look at.

[UCE exams start without major hitches.](#) The 2016 Uganda Certificate of Education (UCE) examinations kicked off at the 3,454 Uneb centres countrywide without any major incidents recorded.

ENVIRONMENT

Inequality increasing climate impact on poor people-report. Climate change is taking its largest toll on the world's poor, aggravating existing inequalities, a new report launched by the United Nations has found.

Hundreds stranded after storm ravages their homes. Heavy rains, characterised by hailstorm have destroyed people's homes and crops in Mbarara district. Capt. Tumusiime Bamuturaki, the Mbarara district chairman, urged residents to stop farming on the slopes of the hills and at water sources.

Museveni visits earthquake victims in Rakai. President Yoweri Museveni has come to the rescue of families whose property was destroyed by the recent earthquake in Rakai district.

Degradation threatens water scheme. Residents of Manafwa district have been cautioned to desist from the degradation of the Mt Elgon slopes and water catchment areas for it is likely to lead to disaster.

Govt asked to promote innovations in farming to fight climate change. Government has been asked to increase the promotion of innovations and technologies in agriculture to address the challenge of food security as effects of climate change continue to manifest in agriculture.

Kayunga authorities halt Ssezibwa wetland giveaway. Authorities in Kayunga district are up in arms, protesting the proposed give away of Ssezibwa wetland by Uganda Land Commission (ULC) to an investor to grow sugarcane. The ULC chairperson, Mr Baguma Isoke, had written to authorities in Kayunga district to lease the wetland that covers four districts of Mukono, Kayunga and water-stressed Nakasongola and Luweero to M/s Fakhri Enterprises Limited.

Lwera sand miners operating illegally-Nema. More than 10 companies extracting sand in Lwera are acting illegally according to the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA)

HEALTH

Govt to phase out health centre IIs. The Ministry of health plans to close health centre II across the country due to persistent understaffing. According to the permanent secretary ministry of health, Dr Asuman Lukwago, this kicks off next financial year and sub-counties that have never had any health centre II will instead be given a health centre III.

Release sh6b for Hepatitis B vaccination-parliament. Parliament has directed the ministries of health and finance to sit and iron out their differences and ensure that at least shs 6b is released within one week, towards the Hepatitis B prevention and treatment efforts.

Health ministry drafts health insurance bill. The Ministry of health has finalised drafting the health insurance bill which seeks mandatory financial contributions from the citizens for health services

NDA withdraws dangerous drugs, vaccines. The National Drugs Authority (NDA) has recalled six types of drugs and vaccines from the market after investigations indicated that they were not safe for public use.

Karamoja adolescents get sh74b for ARVs. The people of Ireland through their department of foreign affairs and trade have given Uganda 19.8m Euros (shs74b) to increase number of adolescents on life-saving ARVs in the Karamoja region.

Cancer in children curable-experts. Dr Joseph Lubega, a child cancer specialist at the UCI, said cancer in children is not a death sentence as 80% of the sufferers can be cured with therapy that lasts as little as four months and a maximum of one year.

Jinja hospital stuck with expired drugs. Members of the Parliamentary Public Accounts committee (PAC) were shocked at the huge volumes of expired drugs worth shs16m found at Jinja hospital during an abrupt visit.

Thousands risk blindness in Karamoja. Thousands of people are likely to suffer from visual impairment if the ministry of health and other development partners do not take urgent steps to fight trachoma outbreak in Karamoja sub-region, experts have warned.

Pregnant women warned on taking alcohol. Health experts have warned pregnant women against alcohol consumption. Dr David Basangwa, the Executive director of Butabika Mental Hospital, told a workshop organised by the Uganda Alcohol Policy Alliance on Thursday that alcohol is dangerous to both the expectant mothers and the foetus.

We want a new hospital Masindi residents tell govt. Residents of Masindi district have asked government to build a new hospital for them which will cater for the Mushrooming population. The Hoima Woman MP, Ms Jalia Bintu, said the hospital had a bed capacity for 100 patients yet it currently receives more than 500 patents.

Uganda recognised for immunisation coverage. For the significant strides made to kick out vaccine preventable diseases, Uganda has been recognised by the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation (GAVI) and United Nations International Children's Fund (UNICEF) for improving immunisation coverage countrywide.

ECONOMY

Ugandans asked to exploit S. Africa trade opportunities. The former finance minister has urged Ugandans to maximise trade opportunities with their South African counterparts to benefit from their trade associations. Ms Jennifer Mwijukye, the Chief Executive Director and founder of Unifreight group, said Ugandans need to take advantages of the opportunities in the region and global market.

Govt to construct cement factory in Karamoja. Government will construct cement plant in Karamoja sub-region through a public-private partnership with Moroto Ateker cement co limited. Mr Anuarg, the director-Saboo technologies, said the plant will be done in two phases.

Germany gives Uganda shs356b for energy, agriculture. Germany has given Uganda shs356b in grants to finance new projects in energy, water and agriculture for the next two years. According to the embassy, the projects aimed at supporting Uganda to achieve its development targets will be implemented by GIZ and KfW the Germany development bank.

Ugandan traders return to Juba as calm prevails. Ugandan traders who had fled fighting in South Sudan are going back to Juba after peace returned to Africa's youngest nations' capital. The Ugandan ambassador in South Sudan, Maj Gen Robert Rusoke told a team of Uganda and Kenyan journalist on friday that Juba is now calm and the security situation is improving.

Stop Chinese companies from mining sand-MPs. The parliamentary committee on natural resources has directed the Uganda Investment Authority (UIA), to revoke licences of three Chinese companies dealing in sand extraction and mining.

Farmers doubt capacity to supply Soroti fruit factory. Farmers in Teso sub-region have said the current drought might affect their ability to supply inputs to the new Soroti fruit factory that is expected to start operations early next year.

NSSF targets shs900b contribution in 2017. The National Social Security Fund (NSSF) has set a target of growing member's contribution from the current shs780b to shs900b for the financial year ending June 30, 2017.

President Museveni directs on locally produced goods. Government ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs) should begin procuring locally made products, president Museveni has directed.

CBR cut to 13% to support economy. Bank of Uganda (BOU) has cut its benchmark Central Bank rate (CBR) from 14% to 13%, signalling the commercial banks to follow suit and lower their loan interest rates.

Govt launches sh1b loan for farmers. The micro finance support centre has launched sh1b agro-input loan products to support farmers in Western Uganda. According to Saleh, the product is the best way to improve household's income for the local farmers.

RELIGION AND SOCIETY

Bishop Katoneene retires. Hundreds of Christians in West Ankole Diocese thronged St Peters Cathedral Bweranyangi in Bushenyi district to do farewell to outgoing Bishop Yona Katonteene.

Cleric forces Masaka leaders to upgrade road. Masaka authorities have embarked on repairing Kitovu road, a week after the Masaka diocese Bishop John Baptist Kagwa threatened to stage a demonstration against the sorry state of the road and filth, particularly in Nyendo suburb.

Busoga gets female archdeacon. Rev Canon Robinah Bamulesewa has been enthroned as the archdeacon of Busoga archdeaconry, becoming one of the first most senior female cleric to ever serve the church in that position in the Busoga sub-region.

Bishop Cipriano students to pay respects to Fr Scalabrini. Today students of Bishop Cipriano Kihangiire secondary school will pay their last respects to the school founder the late Fr John Scalabrini. Fr Scalabrini, an Italian missionary and Philanthropist, died on Tuesday morning at Nsambya hospital where he had been admitted last Thursday after his conditions deteriorated.

Ntagali names team to help him run West Ankole Diocese. The Archbishop of the Church of Uganda Stanley Ntagali has named an eight-man team to help him in the running of West Ankole Diocese pending the selection of the dioceses fourth bishop.

Papal envoy defends the appointment of Arua bishop. The office of the Vatican ambassador Michael August Blume, the apostolic nunciature in Uganda, has issued a statement on the situation in Arua diocese, defending the appointment of Bishop Sabino Ocan Odoki and dismissing allegations that he had failed as Auxiliary Bishop of Gulu prior to his installation in Arua.

POLITICS

Besigye's welcome party foiled. What was supposed to be a big welcome back home fete for Dr Kizza Besigye at Entebbe international airport flopped when he was intercepted on the tarmac and whisked away to his home immediately he disembarked from a Kenya airways plane.

MPs move to save Zoka forest. Parliament has approved seven recommendations to curtail the on-going plunder and depletion of the Zoka central forest reserve in Adjumani district.

Opposition defiant on rival independence fete. Senior opposition leaders spent a better part of yesterday finalising plans for subsequent Independence day rallies and activities despite government's firm stand that there will be only one national celebration of Uganda's 54th independence anniversary.

Private members bill to limit election spending. A new survey has found that close to shs25b was spent by just 113 members of parliament during the February parliamentary elections. Muguzi said the highest declared spending by a single candidate was shs 1b while the lowest was shs 10m. The report does not, however, name the MP who spent shs 1b.

CSOs want total ban on MPs bribing voters. As some MPs continue to anticipate their final judgement in the Court of Appeal regarding their elections, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) want a total ban on MPs found to have bribed voters.

UPC faction wants Amongi to resign Parliament seat. A faction of the Uganda people's congress (UPC) has asked lands minister Betty Amongi to resign her parliamentary seat, saying she no longer serves the party's interests in parliament.

Police block Besigye from attending court. Police blocked former presidential candidate Kizza Besigye from leaving his Kasangati residence in Wakiso district to attend court in Kampala in connection with the treason case he is currently facing.

Why Lukwago, FDC said no to Museveni meeting. Kampala Lord Mayor Erias Lukwago has skipped a meeting at state house Entebbe that would have brought him face-to-face with President Museveni, the man he loves to hate. Muhammad Ssegirinya, the FDC councillor for Kawempe North, said they fear to be compromised by president Museveni.

YOUTH

Mpigi district fails to recover youth livelihood fund. Mpigi district has failed to recover funds advanced to various youth groups under the Youth Livelihood Programs (YLP) in the 2014/15 financial year.

Youth will steer Uganda to development-envoy. The youth have been urged to come out of their comfort zone and engage in hard work if Uganda is to attain middle income status by 2040. According to Park Jong-Dae, the South Korean Ambassador to Uganda, the problems of Uganda are manageable.

Museveni calls for Pan Africanism among youth. President Yoweri Museveni has said the youth need political movements that promote Pan-Africanism. The president, therefore, encouraged the youth to pick interest in commercial agriculture and to take advantage of the Operation Wealth Creation programme

Upcoming coffee festival out to woo youth into farming. A coffee festival that seeks to motivate the youth to pay more attention to agribusiness will be held at Namboole on November 4. Joseph Nkandu, the executive director of Nucafe, one of the institutions organizing, said the festival could also reduce the high percentage of youth unemployment.

Agriculture is the solution to youth unemployment- King Oyo. Commercial agriculture can solve the youth unemployment question, Oyo Nyimba, the King of Toro, has said.

Bank equips 200 youth with business skills. At least 200 youth across the country have received financial literacy training from Centenary bank in partnership with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) under the Youth Entrepreneurship facility (YEF).

Centenary bank, NHCC give shs60m for youth centre. Centenary bank and the National Housing and Construction Company have donated a combined shs60m to the rotary club of Kampala North towards the construction of the Vijana Poa youth centre.