

Kyambogo wants govt to manage its colleges

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Kyambogo University wants the Government to relieve it of the responsibility of overseeing affiliated colleges to enable it concentrate on providing quality education.

The vice-chancellor, Prof. Elly Katunguka, wants a separate body to oversee the six national teachers colleges (NTCs), primary teachers colleges (PTCs) and Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDCs).

There are 116 Kyambogo affiliated colleges, of which 41 are ECDCs and 46 PTCs.

Kaliro, Kabale, Mubende, Unyama, Gulu and Muni NTCs are also under Kyambogo.

The university was established in 2003 with the main aim of promoting and advancing knowledge and development of skills in science, technology and education.

"For us to do a good job as a university, there should be a separate body to take up this responsibility. We cannot run the university and oversee the curriculum, exams and award diplomas to the institutions," Katunguka told a news conference yesterday at the main campus in Kampala.

He said they were holding talks with the education ministry to have their request effected in the new National Teacher Policy.

Early this year, Cabinet approved the National Teacher Policy, which was drafted two years ago. The policy was designed to professionalise teachers, develop standards and

improve the development, management and utilisation of teachers in Uganda.

Katunguka said managing the institutions was overwhelming.

"Some teachers spend nights at the university over documents, which date back to the 1970s. It is a tedious job and we do not have adequate manpower to handle it," he said.

Regional centres

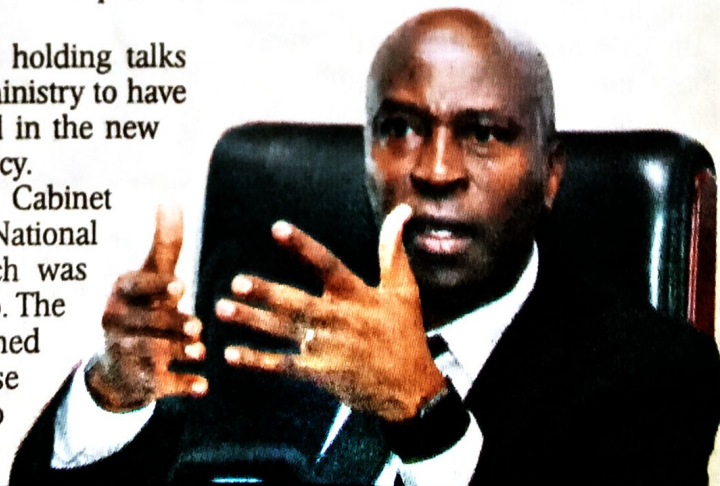
Katunguka said in order to continue offering quality education, the university has opened three regional centres in Soroti, Bushenyi and Gulu to decongest the main campus.

He said the university's enrolment has increased in the last two, with the 2019/2020 intake registering 29,000 applications.

Vandalism of chairs

Katunguka said the university was grappling with the lack of furniture in lecture rooms, despite the institution procuring 2,000 chairs last year.

"We are overwhelmed by high level of vandalism of chairs. Some students break the chairs and sell the metallic parts to scrap dealers, while the wood is sold as firewood," he said.



Prof. Elly Katunguka addressing journalists during a press conference at Kyambogo University yesterday. Photo by Juliet Kasirye