

However, she was later arrested by Police and transferred back to Kampala, where she had allegedly

her milk and put her to sleep. However, when she reportedly returned to check on the baby again, she said she found her not breathing,

of suffocation. The findings further indicate that the baby had no injuries. Meanwhile, prior, State attorney Harriet Adong told

viral on social platforms, battering the toddler, who was under her care. However, she has since completed her jail term.

for in the local estimates considering strategic objectives by the President and the five-year

the manifesto, due to mass mosquito distribution by the Government.

Inmates say Court of Appeal handles cases selectively

By Petride Mudoola

Inmates at Kigo Prison have accused the Court of Appeal of discriminatory trials, which they said has affected underprivileged convicts.

The prisoners were presenting a memorandum to a Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC) team that visited the incarceration facility to commemorate 20 years of the commission's existence recently.

In their message, the inmates expressed concern over the delayed hearing of their appeals.

They cited the case of Henry Bampalana Magara, a deathrow convict at Luzira Prison, who was sentenced to death 17 years ago, but is still waiting for the Court of Appeal to hear his case.

The inmates pointed out that some

prisoners have completed their sentences without appeals being heard, yet the law provides that if one is not satisfied with the verdict, one can appeal within 14 days.

They also cited a case, where court issued a production warrant for one convict to appear at the Court of Appeal for his appeal to be heard, yet he had already served his 15-year jail sentence over robbery.

The Kigo inmates believe that the Court of Appeal only hears and determines cases of high profile individuals, leaving out the underprivileged.

They highlighted the case of former Arua Municipality MP Godi Akbar, whose appeal was heard and disposed of in one year.

Frank Baine, the Prisons' publicist, could not readily compile statistics

The prisoners of Kigo Prison are angry that their cases are not being accorded the attention they deserve by the appeals court. They want a rollout of such a court across the country, to ease case backlog

regarding convicts waiting for their appeals to be heard. However, he said: "Uganda's prisons have a big number of inmates, whose cases are pending in the Court of Appeal."

The appeals court, located in the city suburb of Nakasero, Kampala, is comprised of 10 justices, headed

by the Deputy Chief Justice, Alfonse Owiny-Dollo.

The inmates appealed to the Government to roll out courts of appeal in each district, such that case backlog is reduced.

According to the 2017 Case Backlog Reduction Committee (CBRC) report,

over 155,400 cases were pending at all levels of courts as of January 31, 2017.

The report indicated that criminal cases constitute 44% of unresolved cases, civil cases (33%), land cases (14%), family cases (3%) while commercial cases constitute 2%.

Asked how many cases the Judiciary has managed to hear and dispose of this year, Solomon Muyita, the Judiciary's senior communications officer, could not readily avail the statistics, but noted that they are understaffed.

"The Judiciary is overwhelmed by shortage of judicial officers and the judicial workload, of which the Supreme Court is short by five judges, the Court of Appeal by eight judges while the High Court needs 45 judges," Muyita said.