

KIBULI HEADTEACHER SUSPECTED VICTIMS RECORD STATEMENTS

Two girls below the consent age of 18 were allegedly forced to abort

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At least four victims that were allegedly molested by the Kibuli Secondary School headteacher, Hajji Ali Mugagga, have recorded statements at the Criminal Investigations Directorate (CID) in Kibuli, Kampala.

Early this year, the education ministry sent Mugagga on forced annual leave over the alleged uncouth behaviour, pending investigations. The ministry also put up a special committee to establish the facts on ground.

Without revealing their identities, the CID spokesperson, Vincent Ssekate, said the victims had also been subjected to medical check-ups.

According to Ssekate, the victims started recording statements on Monday at CID's department of Child Family Protection Unit.

Relatedly, the Police have also recorded statements from whistleblowers in the matter. During an interview with *New Vision* yesterday, Ssekate appealed to the public (victims) to turn up at the Police to record statements.

Last week, the state minister for primary education, Rosemary Seninde, told Parliament that although the ministry's special



Several female students are accusing Muggaga (inset) of sexually abusing them

“The accusations are baseless, malicious allegations aimed at tarnishing my name.” Muggaga

committee is yet to hand in its report, the matter had been forwarded to the Police (CID) for investigation.

When contacted, the ministry's commissioner in charge of secondary education, Samuel Kuloba, who chaired the investigating committee, said their report was ready and would be officially handed in soon.

Although Kuloba remained cagey on the content of the committee findings, he said:

“This committee is internal and aimed at advising the permanent secretary on the way forward.”

Following a spate of mainstream and social media reports in January accusing Mugagga of sexually abusing girls in a host of schools where he taught and headed, he education ministry permanent secretary, Alex Kakooza, wrote to him, noting that: “It is not the usual practice for public service to act on informal reports, but the gravity of the allegations necessitated investigations.”

Kakooza also warned Mugagga that if the allegations are found to be true, apart from breaching public service standing orders and teachers' code of conduct, they would also have a criminal bearing amounting to stern disciplinary action.

Mugagga dispels the accusations as “baseless, malicious allegations aimed at tarnishing my name”.

The latest of the sex scandals from Makerere University has been the suspension of Dr

Swizen Kyomuhendo, a senior social science lecturer and Edward Kisuze, an administrator who was exposed by a female student, Rachael Njoroge Njeri.

At the demise of educationist Prof. Lawrence Mukiibi last year, several girls from St Lawrence Schools went public that he had sired children with them.

The disturbing reports have prompted Parliament to adopt a proposal by the national female youth MP, Ann Adeke, to establish a select committee to investigate the allegations across the country.

Adeke last week claimed that, in the Kibuli case, two girls below the consent age of 18 had confided in her that they were forced to abort.

Police reports indicate that a total of 341 women and girls were either sexually or domestically abused between 2015 and 2016 with the highest number of cases recorded in the districts of Kampala, Wakiso, Mukono, Iganga, Rakai and