

Govt must cut electricity price for benefit of citizens

I recently attended the 19th Summit of East African Community presidents' retreat on infrastructure and health financing and development. The retreat aimed at harnessing resources by different member states in regards to infrastructure and health development. The community has attained international recognition as the fastest growing region in Africa. This recognition was as a result of major accomplishments the region has attained. Despite this, a number of issues have continued to

slow down developments in the region.

One of such issues is electricity. At the retreat, President Museveni identified electricity as one of the major factors of production. He called upon his counterparts to let their governments handle the means of production, mainly electricity, infrastructure and ICT. In Uganda, the government has tried to ensure that every household in Uganda has electricity through programmes like rural electrification yet many people still do not have it. Why?

It is because the cost of the electricity is still high for some ordinary Ugandans to afford. It is partly because of the involvement of private players in the management of Uganda's electricity.

There is need to regulate private players as regards electricity. In most cases when private players negotiate the cost of the factors of production, they are more concerned about profit accumulation and not citizens. This is where government should come in.

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can be fought by collecting citizens' DNA?

