

**Directive.** President Museveni ordered that the *balaalo* return to their home land by March 15.

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**WEST NILE.** The Obongi County Member of Parliament, Mr Kaps Hassan Fungaroo, has cited double standards in the impending eviction of the nomadic pastoralists commonly known as *balaalo*.

Last month, President Museveni issued a directive to all the Resident District Commissioners in the sub-region to oversee the eviction of *balaalo* in the area.

Speaking to *Daily Monitor* yesterday, Mr Fungaroo said the Arua Resident District Commissioner, Mr Peter Debele, together with other leaders, have allegedly been finding of ways letting the cattle keepers stay despite the president's directive to evict them by mid next month.

"Some of our leaders are trying to protect the cattle keepers at the expense of our own people. The presidential directive should be implemented without any double standards," Mr Fungaroo said.

**Background**

He made the remarks following reports that some cattle keepers were conniving with locals in Arua, Yumbe and Moyo districts by offering to work as casual labourers in order to prolong their stay.

It is reported that in some parts of Yumbe and Moyo, the *balaalo* bribing residents with milk.

But Mr Dedebele refuted the allegations as baseless saying all leaders and security organs in the area

# MP cites double standards in eviction of cattle keepers



**Evicted.** Some of the *balaalo* who face eviction graze their cattle in Obongi County in Moyo District. PHOTO BY FELIX WAROM OKELLO

enforcing it. "We are soon going to the field to check on the compliance to this directive. *Balaalo* who have opted to stay are doing so at their own risk," Mr Debele said.

He added: "We have asked police and Gombolola Internal Security Officers to inspect the affected areas and give us a report. Reports indicate some *balaalo* in Rhino Camp have been

deadline."

Last week, the Member of Parliament for Lower Madi, Mr Ismail Ogama, decried the menace and

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destruction of crops caused by the cattle belonging to the nomads.

Mr Ogama noted that their efforts to evict the *balaalo* were being frustrated by some locals who rent their land to the cattle keepers.

The President while on a country tour to rally people to support the Land Amendment Bill in West Nile pledged to direct the army to peacefully evict the *balaalo*.

## 200 jobs as comp shuts dr

Editorial

**TORORO.** More than 200 jobs of Agro Trust Company in Tororo have been rendered redundant by the Ministry of Agriculture's closure.

Mr Moses Ericson, Agricultural Inspector in Tororo, said they were laid off over non compliance.

"We issued a notice when it came to our company was to plant seeds for planting. The ministry has not certified their project yet Tuesday.

**Issue**

He said the company was a subsidiary of Parliament. He said he was supervising its structure and its functioning.

Mr Ericson aimed that he had said