

"The practice is common and, as such, we have impounded several tonnes of counterfeit products across the

employ... holiday and returned to school when the term opened on Monday.

TO aver... could occur in the area.

Assailants attack livestock

KALUNGU

By Davis Buyondo
and John Sseruwu

The Police in Kalungu district are looking into a new wave of crime in which assailants attack people's livestock.

Vianney Birungi, the officer in charge of Lukaya Police Station, said several head of cattle have been hacked and killed. Others have been badly wounded.

Affected communities are mainly those in Bukulula sub-county. The most recent incident happened on Sunday night in Bulingo village.

Baker Ssekasamba, one of the affected residents, said the assailants raided his kraal at night and slaughtered his four cows. He said they also showed up during day when he is not around.

Aidah Babirye and James Katwire lost two cows each in the recent raid. They said it is the second time their animals were being hacked.

Kassim Ssempala, the Bulingo LCI chairperson, said over nine cows had been mutilated in a one month.

"They mostly target cows. But we are wondering what their motive is," he said. He added that many people now spend the night outside in order to guard their cattle.

However, the Police have assured residents of protection,



One of the wounded cows. Photo by Davis Buyondo

saying they are investigating the crime. Birungi said they are compiling information to get the actual number of animals killed or wounded.

Attacks on people

In October last year, machete-wielding gangs hacked eight people in Lusango, Kisimbanyiriri, Kalungu and Buyikuuzi villages in Lukaya town council and Bukulula sub-county.

The victims were Yosamu Wasswa, the Kisimbanyiriri LC1 chairperson, Badru Ssenyonjo and his wife Mastula Nnalumansi. Others were Namukasa, John Kabaala, Matia Kirama and her children Amina Nnampijja and Jalia Nnakazibwe.

The badly wounded were

admitted to Kalungi Health Centre III in critical condition. Several shops were vandalised and others containing properties worth millions of shillings set ablaze.

Henry Tumukunde, the Minister for Security, visited the victims and pledged to mobilise the former Local Defence Unit officers to return to the villages since their services are badly needed.

"During their time of service, there were limited crimes. Therefore, we want their support in ending such attacks in our communities," he said.

Gerald Majera Ssenyondo, the Lukaya town council chairperson and residents reported that the Police and crime preventers had not done enough to protect them.