

The Vice President has reassured arts teachers that the government remains committed in addressing the concerns they raised.

BY SHABIBAH NAKIRIGYA

Government will begin implementing a phased salary increment of up to 25 percent for arts teachers in the next financial year, Vice President Jessica Alupo announced the development, signalling a gradual move to close the long-standing pay gap with their science counterparts.

Speaking at the 120-year celebrations of King's College Budo, at the weekend, Ms Alupo reassured arts teachers that the government remains committed in addressing the concerns they raised through ongoing dialogue with education stakeholders.

"We are committed to improving the welfare of arts teachers. Starting next financial year, we shall enhance their salaries in a phased manner by 25 percent," she said.

She added that the government will continue engaging the teachers until they eventually catch up with the science teachers.

"I urge arts teachers to remain patient as we work together to resolve this matter."

The pay disparity between arts and science teachers has in recent years sparked debate within the education

Arts teachers' pay rise effective in July – Alupo



Vice President Jessica Alupo (centre), members of the clergy and other officials cut cake during celebrations to mark 120 years of King's College Budo on March 29. PHOTO/SHABIBAH NAKIRIGYA

sector, with the former demanding equitable treatment.

This forced arts teachers to put down their tools at the beginning of several terms, which made the government call for dialogue to resolve the issue.

Ms Alupo applauded King's College Budo for its contribution to Uganda's

education system, describing the institution as a pillar in shaping disciplined and responsible citizens.

"This school has played a critical role in transforming lives and nurturing leaders. Its legacy in Uganda's education sector is remarkable," she said.

She paid tribute to the former head

teacher, Canon John Fred Kazibwe, for his service to the institution.

"We sincerely thank Canon Kazibwe for the tremendous work he has done in transforming this school and impacting many lives," she noted.

Ms Alupo also welcomed the incoming head teacher, Mr Godfrey

BACKGROUND

In July 2022, science teachers started receiving 300 percent salary increase, with graduate science teachers earning roughly Shs4 million and Grade V teachers Shs2.5 million per month.

The government prioritised these increases, causing pay disparities with arts teachers and leading to plans for salary hikes for science head teachers.

Kasamba, urging him to uphold the school's strong traditions.

Earlier, the Bishop of Namirembe Diocese, Rt Rev Moses Banja, who led a thanksgiving service, hailed the school's resilience over its 120-year history.

"Reaching this milestone is a testament to God's grace, the vision of the founders, and the continued support of stakeholders," he said.

Buganda Kingdom's minister for lands and properties Daudi Mpanga, who represented the kingdom, described the school as a centre of excellence in grooming leaders.

"King's College Budo remains a cornerstone in shaping responsible citizens and leaders for both Buganda and Uganda," he said.

Mr Kasamba applauded both Buganda and the central government for supporting Kings College Budo.

"I pledge to work together with all the stakeholders of the school to make sure that we promote and protect the legacy of Budonians," he said.