Inmates excel in PLE

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KAMPALA. Inmates who sat Primary Leaving Examinations (PLE) have qualified for secondary education.

According to the results released yesterday, out of 89 candidates; three candidates scored first grades, 36 passed in second grade, 18 passed in third division, 20 in division four and one failed while eleven were absent.

Prison officials said those marked as absent did not sit for the examinations due to early release while others had gone for the Court of Appeal session in Gulu.

Mr Gilbert Nuwamanya, the head of Luzira Prisons Inmates Education Services, described the performance as 'good' although he had hope for better results.

"The results were good despite the hardships in the learning conditions of inmates. You realise that the situation under which inmates study is affected by lock up time, no revision at night and they are facing other conditions. Here, the prison is the owner of the school and the parent amid the meager resources," he said.

Those who scored first grades, Mr Nuwamanya identified them as convicts including Sowed Nsubuga and Bosco Asianzu, who scored Aggregates 12 while Junior Tumuhimbise emerged the best candidate with Aggregate 11.



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FRANK BAINE, PRISONS SPOKEPERSON

Prisons speaks

Mr Frank Baine, the spokesperson of the Uganda Prisons Service, said education in prisons is one of the most effective tools in managing re-offending.

He said 99 per cent of the people who get formal education do not re-offend hence it is an important step in their lives.

"As many inmates go to school, we tap into them to teach fellow inmates. Overtime the systems keep improving and those who pass encourage others to participate and do better," Mr Baine said.

Free to continue

He said the prisoners, upon excelling, are at liberty to continue with their education up to university.

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A total of 646,190 candidates sat PLE at 12,751 centres compared to 622,299 who sat for exams in 2016.

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