

Mpanga vendors petition IGG over mismanagement

KABAROLE

By Wilson Asimwe

Vendors operating in and around Mpanga main market in Fort Portal, Kabarole district have petitioned the Inspectorate of Government (IG) in protest over poor sanitation and mismanagement of the market.

While meeting with an inspection team recently, the vendors said they operate under unhygienic conditions and accused the municipal authorities for failing to collect garbage regularly.

The inspection team included officials from the Office of the Auditor General, Inspectorate of Government, Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Authority and the Police.

The officials found that the water and sewerage system had broken down.

"Half of the stalls in the market have not been occupied because traders have disagreed with the municipal council authorities over the management of the market," James Sabiiti, the chairperson of the vendors, said.

The officials were also told that some politicians were inciting the traders not to pay the market dues.

Alice Kwizira, who sells vegetables, claimed the law enforcement team harasses traders and charges them a lot of money.

The vendors, who claim that their customers have reduced due to the poor hygiene, want the municipal council to move the garbage-collecting centre from their area of operation to another place. Gladys Katusiime said she used to get an average of 60 customers but now gets about 10.