



**THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA**

**SPEECH BY HON. JANET K. MUSEVENI**

**FIRST LADY AND MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SPORTS**

**PRESENTED BY**

**HON. NANSUBUGA ROSEMARY SENINDE**

**AT**

**THE RELEASE OF THE NOV/DEC 2017 EXAMINATIONS**

**RESULTS FOR UGANDA COMMUNITY POLYTECHNIC**

**CERTIFICATE**

**AT THE**

**UGANDA BUSINESS AND TECHNICAL EXAMINATIONS BOARD**

**(UBTEB) SECRETARIAT**

**TUESDAY, 30TH JANUARY, 2018**

The Hon. Ministers of State for Education and Sports,  
The Permanent Secretary, MoES,  
The Ministry Officials,  
The Chairperson and Members of the Board of UBTEB,  
The Executive Secretaries and Representatives of other Examinations Boards,  
The UBTEB Secretariat Staff,  
Members of the Press,  
Ladies and Gentlemen.

Happy new year to you all.

I am pleased to welcome you all to the release of the November/December 2017 Uganda Community Polytechnics Certificate (UCPC) end of programme Examination results. Let me begin by congratulating all the candidates and their families for this great achievement. I also congratulate the Board upon the successful release of the 11<sup>th</sup> UBTEB results.

I have learnt that the number of BTVET Institutions accredited as UBTEB Examination Centres has increased from **184 in 2011 to 557 in 2017**, within six years. I am also glad to note that the Examination Centres of Community Polytechnics have increased from **102 in 2016 to 113 in 2017**; and that the girl child enrolment has also increased with the girls performing even better in programmes including plumbing and Pipe Fitting; and block laying and concreting practice. The NRM Manifesto emphasizes equitable access to education and skills development for national development of all Ugandans.

Equally commendable is the fact that the overall completion rate of the candidates that have acquired full competences to advance in their career and

apprenticeship now stands at **80%**. I have however noted that, many candidates still find difficulties in passing Mathematics and English Language. I therefore, take this opportunity to direct the BTVET Department to address this challenge through retooling Instructors and Teachers in all BTVET Institutions across the country.

I have also noted that there were no reported cases of Examinations leakages and malpractices. I thank the Candidates', Heads of Training Institutions, the Board and other stakeholders for doing a commendable job. As I have said before, the Ministry will not tolerate any form of Examination malpractice and will continue to work with UBTEB and all the other Examination Boards to stamp out such vices.

Whereas, there is evident effort towards filling the manpower gap in the BTVET Institutions, which has resulted into the recruitment of 12 Principals, 57 Lecturers, 46 Instructors and 107 Support staff, the gap still exists. The Education Sector has prioritised the recruitment of teachers and Instructors in BTVET Institutions to reduce the human resource capacity gap in the FY 2018/19.

The current NRM Manifesto attaches special attention to BTVET as part of the solutions for filling the skills gaps in the economy. This is being achieved through the formal and non-formal skills development.

Therefore, Skills development being a key investment goal for Government, it informs Government's support towards Private Sector Investment through provision of an enabling environment. This is the principle foundation of the ***Skilling Uganda Strategy*** to which UBTEB continues to contribute through

her mandate to conduct credible examinations and award Certificates and Diplomas in the Business, Technical, Vocational and other specialized training.

The Ministry of Education and Sports in liaison with the Private Sector will institute a programme of placement of graduates for internship/apprenticeship in various Industries/ Institutions. I am glad to note that Private Sector Foundation Uganda and Uganda Manufacturers Association are already partnering with BTVET Institutions to place students for internship. It is such kind of Public Private Partnership that go a long way to exposing our graduates to hands-on and industry-based tasks that will produce ready products for the world-of-work. A lot of reforms are taking place in the Sector such as the formation of the ***Sector Skills Councils (SSC)*** to address *World of Work* challenges.

I appeal to community and school leaders to sensitise the population on opportunities of vocational education in terms of providing demand driven and more flexible and short-term modularised non-formal courses offered in the BTVET Training Institutions and Partners.

Skills Development Supply-side interventions to improve the skills and employability of school leavers and graduates have become increasingly prominent in recent years. Government has undertaken a number of reforms to increase accessibility, quality and relevance of Business, Technical and Vocational Education and Training. For example, the Universal Post-Primary Education and Training (UPPET) programme was introduced in 2007, leading to a significant increase in enrolment in Public Training Institutions. I therefore, call upon those interested in progressing with their studies after Primary Seven, to join these institutions now spread across the Country. Skills Development can

start from Primary Seven and avenues are available for career progression. I therefore urge our people to change the negative attitude towards vocational and technical education and embrace it as it is a precursor to development and job creation. Countries that have embraced technical education have developed drastically, example Germany, Singapore, China and Israel to mention but a few.

I once again, wish to congratulate all candidates and the parents/guardians for their tireless and commendable work which has resulted into this milestone in the Candidates' lives. Particularly I wish to commend and congratulate the girl child for better performance.

I equally commend the UBTEB Board and Staff and the entire team at the Ministry and/or other Agencies of Government who have been working closely with UBTEB to ensure smooth conduct of the examinations and timely release of results. In the same vein, I also wish to appreciate the media for the continued coverage of education sector programs, including this particular event.

It is now my pleasant duty and honor to **officially release the results for the November/December 2017 UBTEB End of Programme Examinations for Uganda Community Polytechnic Certificate Programmes.**

***For God and My Country***