



**THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SPORTS**

SPEECH BY

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SPORTS
FIST LADY & HON. JANET KATAHA MUSEVENI**

**DELIVERED ON THE OCCASION OF THE SIXTEENTH GRADUATION
CEREMONY OF BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY**

HELD ON FRIDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2025

HE the President of the Republic of Uganda

Hon Ministers present

The Chancellor of the University

Your Excellencies, Ambassadors and High Commissioners and Members of the Diplomatic Corp

Hon Members of Parliament present;

Chairperson and Members of Council;

The Vice Chancellor and Members of Management;

Members of the Senate;

Spiritual Leaders/Cultural Leaders;

District Leaders;

Distinguished guests;

Community of Busitema University;

Parents and Guardians;

Graduands;

Students;

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Excellency, allow me to begin by acknowledging your gracious presence at this **16th Graduation** Ceremony of Busitema University. It is an honour for all of us, and a strong affirmation of your unwavering commitment to the advancement of higher education, especially in science, technology, and innovation. Your continued guidance has been instrumental in ensuring that institutions like Busitema University contribute meaningfully to the transformation agenda envisioned in Vision 2040 and now the National Development Plan IV.

Today marks another remarkable milestone in the journey of this University. From its modest beginnings as a multi-campus, science-based public institution, Busitema University has steadily grown into a respected centre of excellence producing scientists, innovators, engineers,

agriculturalists, educators, health professionals, and entrepreneurs. **I wish to congratulate the University Council, Senate, Management, and staff** for their dedicated leadership in nurturing this institution into a pillar of Uganda's socio-economic transformation.

Your Excellency, in the same vein, the Ministry of Education and Sports congratulates the newly installed Chancellor **Eng. Prof. Badru M. Kiggundu** upon assuming this important office and sincerely appreciate the outgoing Chancellor **Prof. Vinand Mutakabala Nantulya** for his dedicated service, guidance, and immeasurable contribution to the growth of Busitema University.

We have gathered here to celebrate the achievements of yet another cohort of graduates, I am particularly delighted to note the graduation of the first two PhD students of Busitema University. This is a historic moment that reflects the University's growing research capacity and its readiness to contribute new knowledge, innovation, and advanced human resource to the nation. I congratulate the doctoral graduates, their supervisors, and the entire academic community for this remarkable achievement.

Your Excellency, this graduation is taking place amidst major transformations in Uganda's higher education sector. Government through the Ministry of Education and sports has prioritized the transition to Competence-Based Education and Training (CBET) and alignment with the TVET Act 2025. This will ensure that universities produce graduates who possess demonstrable skills, practical competencies, and the ability to innovate. In 2027, all universities are expected to have fully transitioned to CBE. These reforms are essential for building a workforce capable of driving Uganda's industrialisation, economic diversification, and knowledge-based Economy.

Your Excellency, equally important is the embracing Artificial Intelligence in teaching, learning, research, and university management systems. The world is changing rapidly, and universities must be at the forefront of adopting AI-enabled systems that improve curriculum delivery, academic administration, decision-making, and innovation. The MoES encourages universities to integrate AI responsibly in classrooms, digital learning platforms, assessment processes, and data-driven management tools. These efforts align with the Ministry's broader vision

of transforming higher education into a resilient, technology-driven, globally competitive sector.

To our dear graduands, today marks the beginning of a new chapter. You leave this University at a time when Uganda and indeed the whole world faces both challenges and unprecedented opportunities. Your education equips you not just with knowledge but with the capacity to create solutions, to innovate, and to lead. I urge you to carry forward the values of hard work, integrity, patriotism, and service to humanity. Let your degrees become instruments of change, not merely certificates of achievement. Uganda needs you, now more than ever, to drive the transition from a largely subsistence economy to a modern, industrial, and knowledge-driven nation.

To the parents and guardians who have stood beside these young men and women, your sacrifices have not been in vain. The nation celebrates with you. Your support and sacrifices; financial, moral, and emotional has brought us to this joyful day.

Your Excellency, allow me to reaffirm that the Ministry of Education and Sports remains deeply committed to supporting Busitema University as it continues to expand its infrastructural capacity, strengthen academic excellence, improve staffing, and broaden its research and innovation mandate. The achievements of Busitema University are proof that with the right support, our public universities can become engines of transformation for the communities and the nation at large.

As I conclude, let me once again congratulate all the graduands. Walk proudly into the world, knowing that you carry with you the hopes of your families, your communities, and your country. May this graduation be not an end, but the beginning of a lifelong journey of excellence, innovation, and service. To Busitema University leadership and staff, thank you for your commitment to shaping a brighter future for Uganda.

May God bless you all.

For God and My Country