

Vote:148

Judicial Service Commission

VI: Vote Overview

(i) Snapshot of Medium Term Budget Allocations

Table V1.1: Overview of Vote Expenditures

Billion Uganda Shillings	FY2018/19 Outturn	FY2019/20		FY2020/21 Proposed Budget	MTEF Budget Projections			
		Approved Budget	Spent by End Sep		2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Recurrent Wage	1.978	1.979	0.358	1.979	1.979	1.979	1.979	1.979
Non Wage	7.280	7.485	1.688	7.485	8.981	10.778	12.933	15.520
Devt. GoU	0.895	0.243	0.000	0.243	0.243	0.243	0.243	0.243
Ext. Fin.	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
GoU Total	10.152	9.706	2.046	9.706	11.203	13.000	15.155	17.742
Total GoU+Ext Fin (MTEF)	10.152	9.706	2.046	9.706	11.203	13.000	15.155	17.742
<i>A.I.A Total</i>	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Grand Total	10.152	9.706	2.046	9.706	11.203	13.000	15.155	17.742

(ii) Vote Strategic Objective

Identify suitable persons for appointment as judicial and non-judicial officers for all levels of the Courts of Judicature

Review and make recommendations on the terms and conditions of service of judicial and non-judicial officers.

Prepare and implement judicial and public legal education programmes

Exercise disciplinary control over judicial and non-judicial officers in accordance with the set ethical standards and codes of conduct.

Process people's recommendations and complaints concerning the judiciary and the administration of justice.

Strengthen the institutional capacity of JSC to deliver on its mandate.

V2: Past Vote Performance and Medium Term Plans

Performance for Previous Year FY 2018/19

Recruitment of Judicial Officers

1. The Commission recommended to the Appointing authority candidates to fill three vacant positions at the Court of Appeal and twelve in High court.
2. 18 Chief Magistrates and 17 Grade One Magistrates were appointed.
3. The recruitment process to fill positions of the Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, 3 Members and one Registrar for the Leadership Code Tribunal commenced.
4. 7 judicial officers were granted study leave.
5. One officer was confirmed

Discipline

The Commission concluded 227 complaints cases. The Disciplinary Committee handled and recommended for closure 190 complaints cases in FY 2018/2019. 1 Judicial Officer was dismissed, 1 Judicial Officer reprimanded, 3 Officers were cautioned/warned, 2 Judicial officer were recommended for interdiction, 13 Judicial officers were to be charged and 1 recommended to lift interdiction.

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Public legal awareness for administration of justice

1. The Commission conducted 46 radio talk shows in the districts of Mpigi, Kaberamaido, Soroti, Kumi, Kitigum, Arua, Nebbi, Nakasongola, Kotido, Moroto, Kibale, Nakapiripirit, Kyenjojo, Soroti, Bukedea, Napak, Ajumani, Masaka, Mbarara, Fort Portal, Kabale, Iganga, Jinja, Kamuli, Amudat, Nakasongola, Gulu, Kampala, Kotido, on the mandate of JSC, LC courts, court bail, pleas bargain, small claim procedure.
2. 18 TV jingles were shown on NTV and Bukedde TV and 100 radio jingles were produced.
3. 24 district market sensitization workshops were conducted in Lwengo, Mpigi, Rubirizi, Bunyangabu, Rukungiri, Isingiro, Kibale, Masindi, Namayingo, Busia, Yumbe, Katakwi, Amuria, Napak, Abim, Butaleja, Moyo, Ajumani, Amuru, Nakapiripirit, Nabilatuk, Bukedea districts. The public were sensitized about Domestic violence, succession law, administration of justice in courts of law and alternative Dispute resolution (ADR) particularly mediation.
4. 14 Prison inmates' workshops were held in the prisons of Kabasanda in Butambala, Kyazanga in Lwengo, Mubuku in Kasese, Rubirizi in Bunyangabu, Rukungiri, Isingiro, Kibale, Masindi, Abim prison, Amuru, Ajumani, Amuria, Busia, Butaleja, Katakwi, Namayingo, Yumbe and Bukedea. The inmates were sensitized on the mandate of JSC, trial procedure, bail application, plea bargain, and small claim procedures.

Judicial Education for administration of justice

The Commission conducted four performance management workshops for judicial officers in Lira, Fortportal, Kampala, Luwero and Arua High Court circuits where 84 judicial officers were educated about mindset change, mental preparedness amidst deployment, public complaints system and the role of JSC in the administration of justice

Complaints Management System

The Commission received 193 Complaints in the FY 2018/2019. 115 complaints were registered into the system; this increased the complaints from the system from 227 to 342.

However, 190 complaints were recommended for closure by the disciplinary Committee. 139 complaints were investigated in the FY 2018/2019. 31 complaints had merit, 92 complaints had no merit, 7 needed further investigations, 3 required the respondents to respond, 3 needed the Chief Registrar to forward the files, 3 of them, interface was required. These complaints were investigated in various areas.

Over 1800 people in the areas reached were sensitized about Mandate of JSC, the public complaints system and people's inquiries and recommendations regarding the administration of justice were received through open discussions.

Research and planning for administration of justice

The Commission conducted Court inspections in Masaka, Masaka Chief Magistrate's Court, Ssembabule, Mateete, Lukaya Court, Arua High Court, Chief Magistrate's Court Arua, Chief Magistrate's court Nebbi, Chief Magistrates Court of Moyo, High Court Executions Division, Lira High Court, Chief Magistrate's Court Lira, Anyeke/Oyam Chief Magistrate's Court, Aboke Magistrate's court, Gulu High Court, Chief Magistrate's and Magistrate's Courts, Tororo Chief Magistrate's Court, Butaleja. The Inspection findings were shared with key actors within the Judiciary to address the gaps.

The PRI Directorate conducted field research on "The Efficacy of the Judicial Service Commission complaints handling system". The results of the research will influence further improvements in the system.

Finance and administration

1. Provided overall management support
2. Staff welfare was catered for.
3. Supported Commission meetings
4. Managed the Commission's physical assets, provided the necessary logistics and a conducive working environment.
5. Responded to all issues raised in the internal Audit and External Audit reports

Internal Audit

Produced quarterly audit reports for Quarter four FY 2017/2018 to quarter three FY 2018/2019.

Human resource management services

1. Salaries, monthly allowances, gratuity and pension for July 2018 to June 2019 paid.
2. Retainer allowances for Members of the Commission paid.
3. Conducted leadership training for Members of the Commission
4. Coordinated the recruitment of Justices of Court of Appeal, Judges of High court Chief Magistrates and Magistrates Grade 1.
5. Conducted an in house training for staff.
6. Filled vacant positions of four Senior Legal Officers, four office attendants and five drivers.
7. Submissions for all staff due for confirmation to the Public service Commission was done.

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8. All new staff were immunized against Hepatitis B
9. Coordinated staff training.

Planning and Policy function

1. Prepared quarterly performance reports
2. Prepared the budget framework paper.
3. Prepared the Ministerial Policy Statement.
4. Prepared the annual report.
5. Prepared the budget estimates for FY 2019/2020.
6. Conducted Monitoring and evaluation

Performance as of BFP FY 2019/20 (Performance as of BFP)

Physical Performance

Recruitment of Judicial Officers

1. The Commission shortlisted applicants for the positions of Principal Judge and 3 Justices of Supreme Court.
2. 16 Magistrates Grade One and one Assistant Registrar were confirmed in Service.

Discipline

The disciplinary committee recommended 28 cases for closure, deferred 6 cases for further investigations, recommended 12 cases for charging, plea taking and 8 cases were recommended for interface. The Committee recommended 2 cases for a disciplinary penalty, 2 for delivering ruling, and 2 for mention.

Public legal awareness for administration of justice

1. The Commission had 37 hours of radio talk shows on Metro FM Kampala, Radio- Wa- Lira, Radio Buddu - Masaka, Kamwenge FM and Fortportal.
2. Held 4 Community sensitizations in Bundibugyo, Kasese, Masaka and Sembabule.
3. Held 6 prison engagements at Fortportal(2), Kamwenge, Masaka, Semabule and Moroto prisons.
4. The Commission had 2 regional engagements with the media fraternity at Fortportal and Masaka.
5. The Commission trained 7 officers in Communication and public relations

Judicial Education for administration of justice

1. The Commission held 4 judicial education court engagements in Bundibugyo, Kasese, Masaka and Sembabule.
2. One Member of the Commission and staff had judicial education training by the International Organization for Judicial Training.

Complaints management system

The Commission received 36 complaints in quarter one. 24 complaints were registered and files opened. These complaints were registered by 22 male complainants and 2 female complainants. The complaints were against 3 Judges, 2 Registrars, 15 Magistrates grade one and one Magistrate Grade two. The Commission investigated 47 complaints in the first quarter. 16 of the complaints investigated had merit and were forwarded to DC for prosecution, 22 had no merit and were forwarded to DC to be considered for closure, for 2 of them letters were written to the Chief Registrar to avail the court files, a demand letter was served on one file, 4 were rescheduled for further investigations, one is pending an investigation report and one is pending further investigation were reached.

Research and planning for administration of justice

The Commission conducted inspections in the courts of Mpigi High Court, Nsangi Magistrate's Court, Buwama Magistrate's Court, Wakiso Magistrate's Court, Kakiri Magistrate's Court, and High Court Land Division, Tororo Chief Magistrate's Court, Malaba Grade 1 Court, Mukuju Grade 1 court, Pallisa Magistrate's Court and High Court Kampala Civil Division.

Finance and administration

1. Office utilities were paid
2. Vehicles were serviced and repaired.
3. Office equipment was maintained

Internal Audit

Prepared the quarter four audit report.

Human resource management services

1. Staff salaries, pension and gratuity were paid.
2. Retainer allowances for the Members of the Commission were paid.

Planning and Policy function

1. Prepared the quarter four FY 2018/19 one quarter one FY 2019/20 performance reports.
2. Conducted monitoring and evaluation in the districts of Soroti, Amuru and Kaberamaido.

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FY 2020/21 Planned Outputs

Recruitment.

1. Conduct recruitment to fill vacant positions of judicial officers at all levels as submitted by the Judiciary

Discipline of Judicial Officers

1. Hold 18 disciplinary committee meetings to handle complaints from the public.
2. Conduct a retreat to clear the complaints from the public.
3. Investigate 120 complaints against judicial officers

Public legal Awareness

1. Conduct 20 live radio talk show barazzas
2. Conduct 20 court hall sensitizations
3. Conduct prison inmates' decongestion sensitizations in 16 prisons across the country.
4. Print 8000 IEC materials
5. Conduct 4 regional media engagements.
6. Build capacity of two officers in communication and public relations.

Judicial Education

1. Conduct 4 dialogue meetings with judicial officers on performance.
2. Conduct 12 regional training on judicial ethics and wellbeing.
3. Capacity building for staff in managing the training and development function

Complaints management system

1. Register Complaints from the public
2. Conduct anti- corruption meetings in 12 districts.

Research and planning for administration of justice

1. Inspect courts in 22magisterial areas/ courts
2. Conduct one research study on terms and condition of service of judicial officers.

Finance and administration

- i. Ensure Staff welfare, maintain office facilities and equipment
- ii. Payment of utilities
- iii. Retooling the Commission with computers, furniture and other office equipment

Internal Audit

Conduct value for money internal audit checks

Human resource management services

1. Pay Staff salaries, pension and gratuity.
2. Coordinating Commission Human resource matters
3. Conduct staff capacity building.

Planning and Policy function

1. Prepare quarterly performance reports
2. Monitoring and evaluating Commission activities

Medium Term Plans

- The Mandate of the JSC was expanded during the 2015 Constitutional Amendment. This will require reviewing the current JSC structure so as to appropriately handle the requirement of the expanded Judiciary Staff.
- Decentralize the services of the JSC to regional level for effective service delivery, in line with the JLOS Strategic Development Plan (SDP IV 2017/18-2020/2021). So far One regional office was opened up in Moroto district
- To advocate for the amendment of the Constitution and the Judicial Service Act and Regulations to provide for full-time Membership of the Commission, and streamline disciplinary procedures.
- To amend the Judicial Service Act to enable the Commission recruit and discipline non-judicial staff in the Judiciary.
- Expansion of the fleet to enable Commission members and staff traverse the Country to implement the mandate of the Commission.
- Acquisition of a permanent home to save funds for rent that would otherwise be used to implement JSC activities.

Efficiency of Vote Budget Allocations

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1. Allocation of the resources is according to the Commission strategic interventions and the overall sector outcomes and the NDP objectives
2. Adherence to approved Work Plans (Recruitment, Procurement Work Plans, Judicial and Public Education).
3. Ensuring adherence to the Public Finance Management Act, the PPDA Act, the Judicial Service Act, and the Leadership Code Act.

Vote Investment Plans

The Commission plans to invest in procurement of a transport equipment for field activities, furniture, machinery and office equipment.

Major Expenditure Allocations in the Vote for FY 2020/21

The Major expenditure allocations include;

1. Payment of Commission Members retainer and sitting allowances
2. Payment of staff salaries and wages
3. Office rent
4. Gratuity expenses
5. Pension expenses
6. Maintenance for vehicles

V3: PROGRAMME OUTCOMES, OUTCOME INDICATORS AND PROPOSED BUDGET ALLOCATION

Table V3.1: Programme Outcome and Outcome Indicators

Programme :	10 Recruitment and Discipline of Judicial Officers				
Programme Objective :	To resource the judiciary with quality human resource/ judicial officers for effective judicial service delivery and ensure internal individual accountability through compliance to standards and code of conduct (Professionalism).				
Responsible Officer:	Secretary JSC				
Programme Outcome:	Improved public access to justice				
<i>Sector Outcomes contributed to by the Programme Outcome</i>					
1. Infrastructure and access to JLOS services enhanced					
	Performance Targets				
Programme Performance Indicators (Output)	2019/20 Plan	2019/20 Q1 Actual	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target	2022/23 Target
• Disciplinary Case disposal rate	85%	20%	87%	88%	89%
• Proportion of declared vacancies filled	100%	22%	100%	100%	100%
Programme :	18 Public legal awareness and Judicial education				
Programme Objective :	Empower the public to access and participate in law and administration of justice; and Develop judicial education programmes to enhance performance of judicial officers				
Responsible Officer:	Registrar, Public legal awareness and Judicial Education				
Programme Outcome:	Enhanced public participation in law and administration of justice				
<i>Sector Outcomes contributed to by the Programme Outcome</i>					
1. Commercial justice and the environment for competitiveness strengthened					
	Performance Targets				

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Programme Performance Indicators (Output)	2019/20 Plan	2019/20 Q1 Actual	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target	2022/23 Target
• Level of public confidence in law and justice administration systems	69%	65%	70%	71%	72%
Programme :	19 Complaints management and advisory services				
Programme Objective :	Provide advice to the Commission and government on administration of justice and inform improvement of the the terms and conditions of service of Judicial Officers.				
Responsible Officer:	Registrar, Planning research and Inspectorate				
Programme Outcome:	Improved administration of justice				
<i>Sector Outcomes contributed to by the Programme Outcome</i>					
1. Commercial justice and the environment for competitiveness strengthened					
Programme Performance Indicators (Output)	Performance Targets				
	2019/20 Plan	2019/20 Q1 Actual	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target	2022/23 Target
• Proportion of Courts with minimum operational standards	40%	40%	41%	42%	43%
Programme :	25 General administration, planning, policy and support services				
Programme Objective :	To provide support systems such as financial, logistics, human resources management and resource mobilization, coordination of SIP implementation, monitoring and evaluation.				
Responsible Officer:	Under Secretary, Finance and Administration				
Programme Outcome:	Enhanced Capacity of the JSC to coordinate, implement, monitor and evaluate its mandate/ plan				
<i>Sector Outcomes contributed to by the Programme Outcome</i>					
1. Commercial justice and the environment for competitiveness strengthened					
Programme Performance Indicators (Output)	Performance Targets				
	2019/20 Plan	2019/20 Q1 Actual	2020/21 Target	2021/22 Target	2022/23 Target
• Percentage of JSC-SIP implemented	70%	58%	65%	68%	70%

Table V3.2: Past Expenditure Outturns and Medium Term Projections by Programme

Billion Uganda shillings	2018/19	2019/20		2020/21	MTEF Budget Projections			
	Outturn	Approved Budget	Spent By End Q1	Proposed Budget	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
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10 Recruitment and Discipline of Judicial Officers	1.560	0.956	0.200	0.945	1.079	1.725	2.660	2.351
18 Public legal awareness and Judicial education	1.231	1.164	0.259	1.164	1.234	2.366	3.266	4.666
19 Complaints management and advisory services	1.052	1.055	0.212	1.065	1.498	2.390	3.001	3.501
25 General administration, planning, policy and support services	6.275	6.532	1.514	6.532	7.391	6.518	6.228	7.223
Total for the Vote	10.117	9.706	2.185	9.706	11.203	13.000	15.155	17.742

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V4: SUBPROGRAMME PAST EXPENDITURE OUTTURNS AND PROPOSED BUDGET ALLOCATIONS

Table V4.1: Past Expenditure Outturns and Medium Term Projections by SubProgramme

Billion Uganda shillings	2018/19	2019/20		2020/21	Medium Term Projections			
	Outturn	Approved Budget	Spent By End Sep	Proposed Budget	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
<i>Programme: 10 Recruitment and Discipline of Judicial Officers</i>								
07 Recruitment, search and selection function	1.058	0.636	0.138	0.636	0.683	1.082	1.638	1.416
08 Discipline, rewards and sanction function	0.502	0.320	0.062	0.309	0.397	0.643	1.022	0.935
Total For the Programme : 10	1.560	0.956	0.200	0.945	1.079	1.725	2.660	2.351
<i>Programme: 18 Public legal awareness and Judicial education</i>								
09 Public legal awareness for administration of justice	0.944	0.831	0.179	0.784	0.849	1.400	1.965	2.404
10 Judicial Education for administration of justice	0.287	0.332	0.080	0.379	0.386	0.966	1.301	2.262
Total For the Programme : 18	1.231	1.164	0.259	1.164	1.234	2.366	3.266	4.666
<i>Programme: 19 Complaints management and advisory services</i>								
11 Public complaints management system	0.697	0.698	0.136	0.684	0.899	1.448	2.281	1.952
13 Research and planning for administration of justice	0.355	0.356	0.076	0.381	0.600	0.942	0.720	1.549
Total For the Programme : 19	1.052	1.055	0.212	1.065	1.498	2.390	3.001	3.501
<i>Programme: 25 General administration, planning, policy and support services</i>								
01 Finance and Administration	3.565	3.090	0.731	3.090	3.563	3.090	3.090	3.396
0390 Judicial Service Commission	0.895	0.243	0.000	0.243	0.243	0.243	0.243	0.243
04 Internal Audit	0.100	0.101	0.019	0.101	0.146	0.101	0.101	0.146
05 Human Resource Function	1.632	2.970	0.748	2.970	3.141	2.955	2.665	3.141
12 Planning and Policy Function	0.118	0.129	0.015	0.129	0.299	0.129	0.129	0.299
Total For the Programme : 25	6.310	6.532	1.514	6.532	7.391	6.518	6.228	7.223
Total for the Vote :148	10.152	9.706	2.185	9.706	11.203	13.000	15.155	17.742

N / A

Table V4.3: Major Capital Investment (Capital Purchases outputs over 0.5Billion)

N/A

V5: VOTE CHALLENGES FOR 2020/21 AND ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUESTS

Vote Challenges for FY 2020/21

- Inadequate resources (budget) for non-wage recurrent and development for efficient implementation of Commission's activities.
- Poor staff remuneration especially for the non-legal professionals
- Inadequate transport facilities which hinders the JSC from reaching out to the population as the "people's bridge to justice".
- Part-time nature of Members of the Commission apart from the Chairperson which has led to slow implementation of activities especially disposal of complaints.

Table V5.1: Additional Funding Requests

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Additional requirements for funding and outputs in 2020/21	Justification of requirement for additional outputs and funding
Vote : 148 Judicial Service Commission	
Programme : 10 Recruitment and Discipline of Judicial Officers	
<i>OutPut : 01 Recruitment of Judicial Officers</i>	
Funding requirement US\$ Bn : 0.331	The increased number of recruitment sessions and the background checks undertaken on the potential candidates to be recruited will lead to recruitment of officers of high integrity and hardworking which will improve on the performance of the judiciary
<i>OutPut : 07 Discipline and rewards</i>	
Funding requirement US\$ Bn : 3.216	The activities will enable the Commission to clear the complaints in the system
Programme : 18 Public legal awareness and Judicial education	
<i>OutPut : 03 Public awareness and participation in justice administration</i>	
Funding requirement US\$ Bn : 0.140	The sensitization will enhance the public participation in law and administration of justice
<i>OutPut : 08 Judicial education programmes</i>	
Funding requirement US\$ Bn : 0.234	The judicial education programs will enhance performance of the judicial officers
Programme : 19 Complaints management and advisory services	
<i>OutPut : 02 Public Complaints System</i>	
Funding requirement US\$ Bn : 2.030	The country wide public hearings, establishment of the court watch groups and profiling of the errant judicial officers will enable the commission investigate the causes of corruption in the justice systems and also establish the solutions to the causes
<i>OutPut : 06 Research and planning for administration of justice</i>	
Funding requirement US\$ Bn : 0.100	The survey will facilitate the improvement in the terms and conditions of service of judicial officers. This will lead to improvement in the administration of justice.
Programme : 25 General administration, planning, policy and support services	
<i>OutPut : 05 Administrative and human resource support</i>	
Funding requirement US\$ Bn : 0.559	The enhancement of staff capacity through capacity building, provision of stationery and internet services will enable staff to effectively and efficiently deliver on the Commissions' mandate
<i>OutPut : 76 Purchase of Office and ICT Equipment, including Software</i>	
Funding requirement US\$ Bn : 0.500	The call center will reduce the time taken to handle complaints from the public