

Lourenco Marques, Sunday.

OVER 3,000 men and women were rounded up in five of Mozambique's major towns on Thursday and Friday during an operation aimed at the rehabilitation of thieves, prostitutes, drug pushers and vagrants.

A statement issued by the Ministry of the Interior said that the 3,000 were rounded up in Lourenco Marques, Beira, Nampula, and Chimoi. Many of them confessed involvement in the above vices and the rest were being gross-examined to find out the degree of their involvement.

The operation, which is being carried out by the Police Force in co-operation with the Mozambique People's Liberation Forces and the Party started

on Thursday and will continue indefinitely.

Another statement issued by the Ministry said that the presence of such people in the country was a danger as they would corrupt the society into crime and immorality.

Thieves, drug pushers, prostitutes and vagrants will either be sent to specially prepared centres in the provinces for re-education or judged according to the laws of the land if found to have been engaged in grave criminal activities.