

women between the age of 17 to 24 in various courses including: tailoring, weaving, shoe making, hairdressing, embroidery, knitting, baking and confectionery. Seninde noted that money

is being given to people through the Operation Wealth Creation (OWC), but they are still languishing in poverty. She also pointed out that Opposition leaders have barred

some people from engaging in vocational studies, deceiving them that they will instead be wooed to join NRM. This, she said, hinders development. "No matter your political

party, "day people will still see the President for the vision," Seninde said. The deputy mayor of Kira municipality, Godfrey

Prime Minister Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda, who was the guest

that the products they are making have a big market.

Railway line blocks sh11.6b World Bank project in Jinja

JINJA

By Jackie Nambogga and Doreen Musingo

The construction of a sh11.6b World Bank-funded road in Jinja town has been hampered by a railway crossing.

The 1.9km road works, which was awarded to a Lebanese firm of Stars Group Engineering Limited was scheduled to be completed in June.

It is funded by the World Bank under the Uganda Support Municipal Infrastructure Development programme and supervised by the Ministry Of Lands, Housing And Urban Development.

The road stretches from the Police roundabout on Engineer Zikusooka Way up to the Jinja Main Street at Tropical Bank.

Much as the contractor has completed 80% of the works on the drainage system, the remaining part has hit a snag due to the railway crossing.

According to Star Group's managing director, Eng. Ali Al Atrash, the said spot was a hindrance to their schedule.

Atrash briefed the inspection team on the project from both the Jinja municipal council and that of the



The railway line which has hampered the construction of a drainage system on Engineer Zikusooka Way in Jinja town

Ministry Lands, Housing and Urban Development about the hiccups.

Joseph Acai, a physical planner from the lands ministry, said the

railway crossing issue was beyond the contractor's scope.

Acai explained that his ministry was engaging the Uganda Railways Corporation to see how best the drainage system would be built at the spot without destroying the railway line.

Acai was impressed with the work so far carried out by the contractor, which included levelling of the ground.

BETWEEN THE LINES:

Joseph Acai said the lands ministry was engaging Uganda Railways Corporation to see how best the drainage system can be built without destroying the railway line.

"Our next stage is building the drainage system, which is 80% complete, but we are aware that they have failed to complete at the spot where the railway line crosses," Acai said.

He said they had not yet received feedback from the Uganda railway authorities on how to handle the spot.

Acai also lamented about the heavy traffic flow on the road, saying this would delay the works.

However, Acai instructed the contractor to block the entire road so that the drivers can use the Kyabazinga Way, which links to Amber Court into Jinja town.

Regarding the corporate social M/S Stars Group with conducting HIV/AIDS testing and counselling campaigns since some of the experts into such projects tend to fall in love within members of the local communities.

"Many expatriates are hired to offer services while they also engage in relationships with the local communities. This is our responsibility to remind you to conduct HIV/AIDS counselling and testing," he said.

Meanwhile, the project manager, Engineer Fred Kagoda, said they had increased on manpower and machinery on top of working day and night to beat the deadline.

Once completed, Kagoda said the road will have a lifespan of 30 years.

This will be the second project Jinja that will be benefiting from World Bank funds, after the construction of a 2.5km road on the Nalufenya Clive Road, which cost sh8.5b.