

Youth advised on protection of environment

MUKONO

By Faustine Odeke

The youth have been warned to desist from harmful practices that are likely to impact negatively on the environment, affect their existence and endanger the future generation.

The state minister for health — general duties — Sarah Opendi, said since the youth contribute to the huge population, they should desist from acts of environmental destruction, prostitution and criminality.

She said Uganda has the youngest population in the world, with an average age of 16 years, and 77% of the citizens are below 30 years.

Speaking during the closure of a five-day conference attended by over 1,200 participants at Achilel Catholic parish on Sunday, Opendi appealed to the youth to plan well for their future.

Opendi thanked Nagongera deanery for organising the conference that focused on “nurturing youth spiritually and morally”.

“Do not contribute to the destruction of the environment. You should also ensure that you plant trees. The youth should also not be deceived to conceive without any plan,” the minister advised.

Avoid sex

She said because construction of the Standard Gauge Railway would soon start, the young girls should not be tempted to engage in prostitution and be lured into sex, where they can either be impregnated or contract sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS.

The dean, Fr Dominic Mubi, said the church today relies on the trust and faith of the youth and if they are neglected then the church “would die in their hands”.

Mubi advised the youth to adhere to the messages and programmes of the church, which make them grow into responsible citizens.



Opendi