

TRENDING NOW

Court blocks eviction of Wakiso residents

The Land Division of the High Court yesterday issued an interim order temporarily stopping National Environmental Management Authority (NEMA) from evicting over 400 residents of Namataba and Kito villages in Wakiso. The interim orders of the court will stay in place until May 31 next year when the main suit now pending before the same court would be heard by Justice Andrew Bashaijja. While issuing the restraint orders against NEMA, Deputy Registrar of the court, Ms Susan Kanyange, observed that the 21-day eviction notice given to the affected residents was not sufficient for them to relocate with their families and the developments they have on the contested land. This matter arose last week when the affected residents petitioned court over the looming eviction. In their main suit, the affected residents state that NEMA issued a 21-day eviction to them through a local newspaper and that failure to leave the land they have been occupying since 1980, would see them forcefully evicted. The locals had stated that NEMA needs the land in question for government programmes like the construction of new Kampala-Jinja expressway and Standard Gauge Railway. Also in their main suit now, they state that the eviction by NEMA is in bad faith because they have developed the land with residential houses where they are living with their families, places of worship, schools and health facilities yet the government is not willing to compensate them.

By Juliet Kigongo