



Ofwono launching the sanitary pad distribution programme in Tororo recently. Photo by Faustin Odeke

Tororo girls get pads

TORORO

By Faustine Odeke

Tororo Municipality MP Apollo Yeri Ofwono on Friday launched the distribution of over 3,000 reusable sanitary towels to vulnerable schoolgirls.

Ofwono said he distributed the items after recent survey findings that indicated that the high rate of absenteeism and dropouts of among girls was because they lack sanitary towels for use during menstruation.

Tororo was rated the third-worst performing district in last year's Primary Leaving Examinations.

Locally made

"These towels were made in the districts of Mbarara and Kaberamaido and for that reason, I have invited the people who make them to train both teachers and their pupils/students for purposes of sustainability. My objective is to ensure that girls complete their studies," Ofwono said.

BETWEEN THE LINES:

■ Ofwono said the high rate of absenteeism is linked to the lack of sanitary towels.

Ofwono launched the distribution programme during the belated

Women's Day celebrations for Tororo district at Aturukuku Primary School. During the same function, the MP also distributed an assortment of Mama kits to expectant mothers.

Teddy Makola, the Tororo Municipality education officer, said lack of sanitary towels was the main factor fuelling the high rates of school absenteeism and early marriages.

She said most parents had abandoned their responsibility, leaving girls at the mercy of people who take advantage of them.

Makola appealed to other development partners to support the district ordinance on education promotion and ending child marriage.