

Youth told to engage in agriculture. Youth in Namutumba District have been advised to be self-reliant and engage in activities like agricultural production instead of roaming around. Speaking to *Daily Monitor* in an interview, Prince Isiko Yekonia Kawangunzi of Busiki chiefdom, said many youth engage in criminal activities and alcoholism. He, however, advised them to start up small agricultural projects to boost their incomes and improve their livelihoods. [Ronald Seebe, Monitor]



IGP orders police on disputed land

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MBALE. The Inspector General of police, Gen Kale Kayihura, has reportedly ordered police in Mbale District to handle a dispute on 100-acre piece of land in Malera village in Bungokho Sub-county without bias following reports that police were taking sides in the matter.

The IGP's order follows a request by the former Manafwa District Woman MP, Ms Sarah Netalisile, seeking his intervention after a group belonging to Bunamwani clan injured 10 people and fenced off the land, which she claims ownership of.

It's alleged that Bunamwani group last week attacked Ms Netalisile's workers, destroyed their crops, fenced off the land as they applauded police for sanctioning their 'rightful take over of their land' and they later fled.

The directive

The district police commander, Mr Godwin Ochak, however, refuted the allegation but confirmed to have received orders from the IGP over the matter during an interview with journalists in his office at the weekend.

"He gave us a call and instructed that we handle the matter," Mr Ochak, said without revealing details of the phone call.

But, Ms Netalisile said IGP directed the district police commander and regional police commander to handle the issues professionally and also hand over the land back to her.

"He ordered them to give me back my land which was fenced off by land grabbers and also do their work professionally," she said, adding people claiming ownership of her land should follow right procedures, not use force.

Ms Netalisile claims to have bought 12 acres of land from Bunamwani clan in 2012.

Children forced into prostitution - study

Report. According to ILO, there are 7,000 to 12,000 child prostitutes in Uganda.

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BUIKWE. Hundreds of girls some as young as ten years at Kiyindi Landing Site in Buikwe District are forced into prostitution to fill the family neglect gap, a study has shown.

The research titled 'A study of community-based child protection mechanisms in a fishing community in central Uganda' conducted by Africhild, an African research centre on children affairs at Makerere University in 2015, reveals that child prostitution is the second highest risk business after child labour in Kiyindi. "Many of

these child victims are aged between 11 and 17 years and are out of school. Although there are older prostitutes, many clients prefer young girls because they charge less. Whereas an adult may charge Shs8,000, a child's 'service' is as low as Shs1,000," the report reads in part.

At night fall, the report adds in part, that "girls wearing short skirts go to disco halls, bars, lodges and film halls and are bought by older men. The younger boys also engage in commercial sex as the buyers, with older sex workers."

The report also adds that adult men tend to like young girls due to their developing breasts and buttocks as these allegedly boost their libido.

Ms Joyce Wanican, the executive

director of Africenter, attributed the growing numbers of children engaged in child prostitution to parental negligence. "Many parents leave their children unattended for long periods of time which exposes them to exploitation..." Ms Wanican noted.

About the study

The study, which was conducted to inform programmes and policies that aim at improving child well-being, involved 152 participants, including adults and children.

One of the community elder quoted in the report said there is a popular place (called Strong Pub) where children freely watch films and attend karaoke shows that are full of vulgarity and nakedness.

"We even have a 10-year-old who entertains the crowd and no one is concerned..." he adds.

The International Labor Organisation (ILO) defines child prostitution as the use of girls and boys in sexual activities, remunerated in cash or in kind. It [child acts of commercial sexual exploitation of children].

According to ILO there are 7000 to 12,000 children involved in prostitution in Uganda.

Although government through the Ministry of Gender developed the National Action Plan on elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Uganda, which forbids involvement of children in commercial sex exploitation, the vice has continued.

Welfare. Teachers threaten to withhold exams over salaries



Demonstration. Teachers in Njeru Municipality, Buikwe District, display placards with writings showing their disappointment over government's delay in paying their salaries. The teachers say they will not conduct any examination to more than 50 government-aided schools unless their three months salaries are paid. PHOTO BY DENIS EDEMA

briefly

Residents demand

NAMUTUMBA. Residents of Bulange Sub-county in Namutumba District are demanding for more midwives. According to the residents, shortage of midwives at Nsinze Health Centre IV has resulted into poor service delivery. Last week at the public dialogue organised by Straight Talk Foundation, residents tasked the health centre in charge, Mr James Mukambwe, to explain why the facility has only one midwife instead of three. Led by Kanaku Michael, the residents said the shortage has resulted into many deaths. [Ronald Seebe, Monitor]

Suspects denied bail

SOROTI. Soroti High Court resident judge has denied bail to four suspects held in connection with the murder of a 15-year-old boy, David Akeru, James Peter Ajotu, Emmanuel Enyutu and Julius Okia, who have been on remand since 2014, had applied for bail before Justice David Batema on health grounds. Through their lawyer, Engwau co. advocates, Okia stated that he has severe sickle cell complication and allergies while Akeru complained of acute kidney and liver infections.