

Government to build more factories in Teso – Museveni

KATAKWI

By Godfrey Ojore

After ridding Teso sub-region of the insecurity that plagued the region for many years, the Government shall increase the number of factories in the region to absorb the educated youth.

Teso region is currently grappling with the challenge of unemployment. But the challenge will soon be history as the Government is focusing on creating more jobs by opening factories that can answer the cry of the educated class.

Speaking in Katakwi district on Saturday during the thanksgiving prayers for Katakwi Woman MP, Violet Akurut at Toroma Boys Primary School playground in Omodoi sub-county, President Yoweri Museveni said Government is focusing on job creation.

"The challenge of jobs is being addressed by building factories such as Soroti fruit factory. We are going to build other factories either the Government or by the private sector," Museveni said.

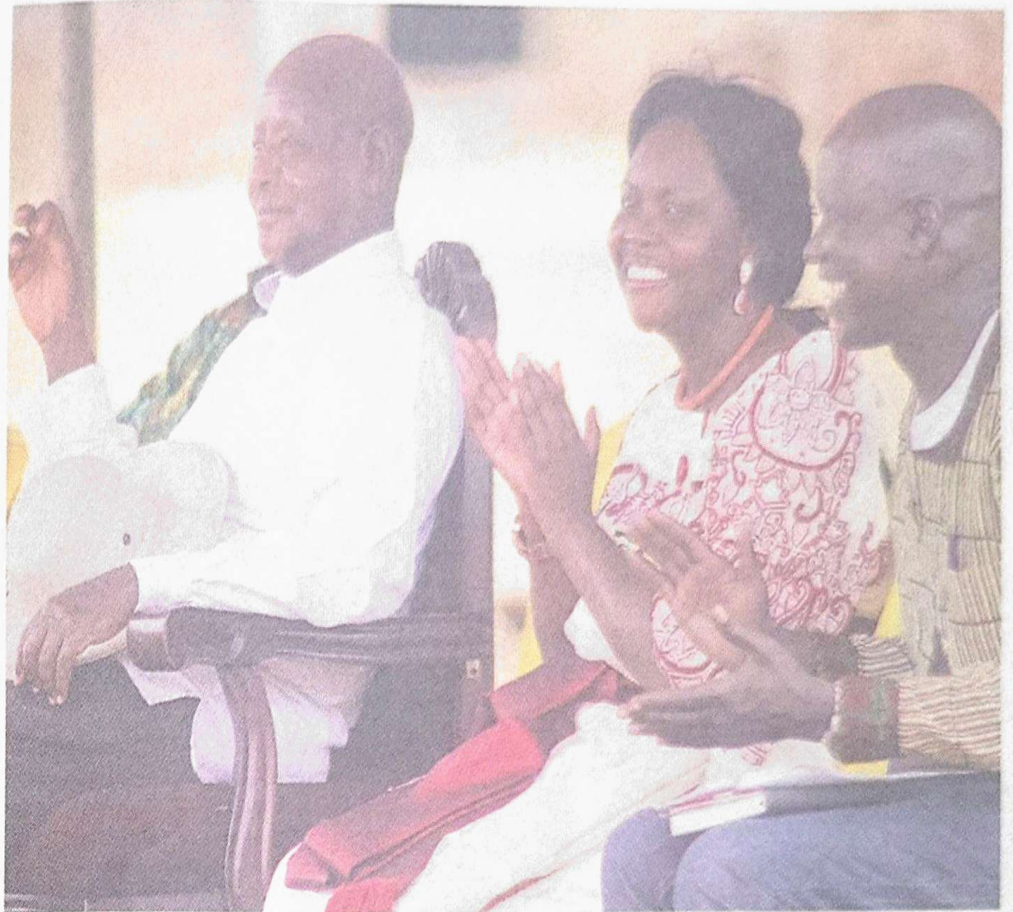
Soroti fruit factory located in Soroti district will be commissioned this year following the completion of installing the machines last year.

The insecurity in Teso was caused by the neighbouring Karimojong cattle rustlers who the Government disarmed and as a result people who lived in camps for many years have all returned to their homes.

Museveni said the Government has addressed the health sector by eliminating diseases such as polio that crippled many children in the early 1980s and vaccinating people against Hepatitis B.

"Avoid alcohol because it destroys your health. I am 73 years old but I am a strong simply because I don't drink alcohol," Museveni advised those present.

He promised to return to Teso to ascertain the level of farming that people have ventured into in



President Museveni in a jovial mood with Katakwi Woman MP Akurut and Toroma County MP Joseph Koluo at Toroma Boys Primary School playground on Saturday. Photo by Godfrey Ojore

BETWEEN THE LINES:

■ Katakwi Woman MP Violet Akurut asked President Museveni to appoint more Iteso into ministerial and other political positions.

order to get rid of poverty.

"Today, I came for the celebrations of honourable Akurut, but I am going to return to visit your homes to see what you are doing to chase away poverty," Museveni said.

Akurut trounced the former education minister, Jessica Alupo, who held the seat for two terms. Akurut appealed to the President to support the women SACCOS in the district. The President

accepted and he donated sh20m to the SACCOS.

The women expressed gratitude to the President for the money that they said will boost their businesses.

"I intend to add goods in my stall so that I can help my husband raise school fees for our children. That is why we shall continue voting for President Museveni," a happy Betty Akiror, a vendor in Katakwi main market said.

President Museveni in his opening remarks hailed the people of Katakwi for their continued support by voting him and voting NRM leaders at all levels. Katakwi is the only district that opposition has failed to infiltrate.

"Katakwi is your stronghold in Teso and in the last election you won with 63.5%. We request

your government to consider our people in political appointments," Akurut said.

The President promised to bring to an end the ongoing wrangle between Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) and the local community of Angisa who are accused of settling on a game reserve.

Last year, UWA demolished people's structures forcing them to take refuge in trading centres.

"I will involve the UWA officials and other people to get a lasting solution to this matter very soon," Museveni said.

The President who commissioned 200 bicycles and a tractor to the youth of Usuk and NRM leaders at the village level respectively. The bicycles were bought by Usuk County MP Peter Ogwang.