

Teachers in talks over pay

SOROTI

By Emmanuel Alomu

The Uganda National Teachers Union (UNATU) is in new negotiations with Government to streamline the salary structure for teachers.

James Tweheyo, the UNATU general secretary, said they have presented their grievances to the public service ministry to ensure that graduates get a uniform salary.

This was during the induction of over 230 UNATU branch executive committee leaders from Teso and Karamoja at Jasmine Hotel and Desert Island Resort in Soroti town on Saturday.

He noted that the Government has made an error because of the salary disparities, which should be corrected.

Tweheyo encouraged teachers to engage in income-generating activities in order to meet their daily needs.

He disclosed that the induction would have taken place immediately after general structures elections during the national delegates' conference in December 2016, but there was not enough money to organise it.

Tweheyo warned the union leaders against being compromised.

He cautioned the leaders against excitement over their new positions to the extent



Tweheyo (in white shirt) discussing with Tumuhimbise, while UNATU's National women affairs secretary, Mary Jacinta Ikima, looks on. Photo by Emmanuel Alomu

Tweheyo urged teachers to use the loans borrowed to start income-generating ventures

of forgetting to respect their supervisors. Tweheyo urged teachers to use the money borrowed to start income-generating ventures.

Teachers' demand

Responding to teachers' demand to know how far the union has gone with the negotiations with the

Government regarding promotions or teachers schemes of service, he said they are fighting hard to ensure that Government promotes long-serving and performing teachers to senior and principle teachers so that they can earn additional pay.

Following the teachers complaints that UNATU was

not doing anything despite their contributions, Tweheyo said the limited funds they get from subscription are used to facilitate meetings, adding that some were recently used to buy a teachers' house in Soroti.

The UNATU national executive council chairperson, Zadok Tumuhimbise, believes that the induction will reduce cases of branch leaders conflicting because of inadequate knowledge regarding their roles.

While closing the meeting, the municipality inspector, Peter Emokori, urged leaders to account for all public funds.