

minister Abraham M. has been ordered to defend himself in connection with the Shs24.7 billion which

yesterday, prosecution had established

Students blocked from sitting UCE over fees

BY MONITOR TEAM

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COUNTRYWIDE. A number of Senior Four students were yesterday blocked from sitting their final national examinations because they had not cleared school dues.

The uncleared dues include money schools charge ranging from registration fees, lunch, utility and remedial school work. For instance, at Kololo SS, *Daily Monitor* interacted with more than 20 students who had camped at the head teacher's office, some waiting with their guardians, pleading to sit the examinations.

The Kololo head teacher, Mr Edward Kanonya, said some of the students spend money on other things other than school dues when they get the money from their parents without telling anyone.

Constrained

"We don't live in heaven. We know sometimes salaries delay or there is no money. But don't forget that there is a lot of mischief from some of these students. That is why when we ask them to bring the parents, they can't bring them. Most of them have had lunch which was agreed upon by parents and we pay for utilities," Mr Kanonya said.

At Midland Senior Secondary School, Mayuge

District, 35 students were denied access to the examination room after the school authorities did not register them with Uganda National Examinations Board (Uneb).

They accused the head teacher, Mr Richard Kibwika, of not paying their dues to Uneb.

"The parents and schools are supposed to negotiate. As Uneb, we don't want to get involved in school fees issues," DAN NOKRACH ODONGO, UNEB EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

It is said Mr Kibwika was already in police custody by yesterday.

In Bukomansimbi, the district education officer, Mr Patrick Zziwa, was battling a case at Bigasa Police Station involving St Peter's Kigumba Church of Uganda where one of the candidates was denied access to the examination room because she was pregnant.

Mr Dan Nokrach Odongo, the Uneb executive secretary, yesterday re-echoed his plea to parents with fees challenges to negotiate with the school authorities to

have their children do their exams.

Meanwhile, students at Alero SS in Nwoya District delayed to write their first paper for 10 minutes because of the impassable roads that made it difficult to deliver the examination papers on time.

The Wakiso chief invigilator, Ms Dillish Akwang, in Wakiso District said the exams started a bit late because they were overwhelmed by big numbers which took them time to arrange the equipment they were to use in the Physics practical exam.

"Trinity College Nabbingo registered 292 students for Uganda Certificate of Education (UCE). That's a big number. It took us 30 minutes to organise the equipment and started at around 9:30am which was not so bad," Ms Akwang said.

Other schools which started after the official starting time of 9am were Buddo SS, St Lawrence College, London College and Wakiso High School. A total of 326, 149 registered with Uneb to sit this year's papers.

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