

Advised. Parents have been advised to check status of various schools before enrolling their children.

BY TAUSI NAKATO

editorial@ug.nationmedia.com

JINJA. The poor performance by Jinja District in the recently released Primary Leaving Examinations (PLE) has forced authorities to close more than 200 unregistered and unlicensed schools and also demote 10 head teachers.

The affected head teachers include those of Kagogwa and Kabembe primary schools, who had 19 and 15 failures out of 20 respectively.

Other are from Busegula Primary School, which registered 35 failures out of 62, St Paul Parents' School, Buyala, which posted 9 failures out of 32 and Mawoitto Primary School that had 40 failures out of 185 Pupils who sat for PLE.

During a stakeholders' meeting at Jinja District Council Hall on Tuesday, the municipal in-

10 head teachers fired over poor PLE results

spector of schools, Mr Paul Bariraine, said the closed schools did not meet the required minimum standards.

Quoting a directive from the Ministry of Education, Mr Bariraine said: "Due to the legal framework as per Section 31, 32, and 44, Clause 3 of the Education Pre-primary, Primary and Post-primary Act, 2008, the Ministry of Education and Sports guidelines for establishment, licensing, registration and classification of private institutions in Uganda, we have resolved that no private school will be allowed to operate this year without a valid licence."

"Proprietors, directors and head teachers of unlicensed

schools should not enroll pupils in their schools; they should also advise parents to take their children to government-aided schools or licensed private schools. Parents should also find out the registration status of private schools before they pay fees for their children," he added.

200

Schools. The number of schools that have been closed over lack of minimum required standards

Mr Eria Kisambira, the district inspector of schools, said only four schools in Busedde

Sub-county will be allowed to operate.

The chairperson of the District Education Committee, Mr Meddie Mbetyo, said 'bedroom educational institutions', which are unregistered and unlicensed, play a big role in churning out failures in the region.

The Resident District Commissioner, Mr Peterken Locap, advised parents to stop enrolling their children in schools which are not licensed, saying this year, they will not entertain absenteeism in schools by both pupils and teachers as a way of improving performance.

Jinja Municipality emerged fourth in the district ranking but was 90th countrywide.

Vendors decry scarcity of customers