

BY SUSAN ACHOLA

AGAGO. Classes have been suspended at Kotomor Seed Secondary School in Agago District following a protest by teachers that broke out last Thursday over a failure by the government to pay their salaries since September 2025.

Sources told *Daily Monitor* that last Wednesday, 25 teachers stormed the office of the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) over the matter.

They were, however, calmed by Mr Patrick Olila, the CAO, and Ms Susan Akot Moro, the deputy Resident District Commissioner, who held meetings with them to address the matter.

One of the teachers, who spoke to this publication on condition of anonymity, said they would only return to class af-

ter the salary arrears are cleared.

"Our plight as staff who were recruited to serve at Kotomor Seed SS and assumed duty since September 12, 2025 and have now gone seven months without receiving salaries... we cannot continue teaching while no one wants to listen to us," he said.

The teacher noted that the district has only processed the documents of two teachers to be enrolled on government payroll.

"Despite diligently carrying out our professional duties, the prolonged delay in payment has placed us under severe financial strain, making it ex-

tremely difficult for us to meet basic needs such as accommodation, food, transport, and supporting our families."

In a March 11 letter, the disgruntled teachers issued a 10-day ultimatum for the district to address the matter.

"We call upon your office to urgently intervene and ensure immediate action is taken to process and pay all outstanding salaries owed to the affected staff and a clear explanation is provided regarding the cause of the seven months delay in salary payment," the letter reads.

It adds: "...this step is not intended to disrupt the education of learners but

rather to seek justice and fairness for staff who have faithfully continued to serve despite months of unpaid work."

In an interview, Mr Olila said he has forwarded the matter to the Ministry of Public Service.

"As of this month [April] the affected teachers will start receiving their salaries because their names are already on the payroll... we have already rectified the situation. The delay was caused because there was no money; the ministry has now secured it," Mr Olila explained.

Kotomor Seed SS has 28 teachers, with only three of them, including the head teacher, able to access the government

pay roll.

"We are going to inform them that we are not going to call off the industrial action until they make payment," one of the disgruntled teachers said.

He explained that the affected teachers submitted documents, among other requirements, as stipulated by the public service standing orders.

"But now we have taken seven months without successfully accessing our pay. We cannot afford life outside now; we cannot afford to transport ourselves to the school, because there is no accommodation for staff there," the teacher said.

Agago teachers give govt 10 days to clear salary arrears