

# ALLOCATE PLOT TO CITIZENS TO AVOID CONFLICT, CALL

By Friday Gift

*Over the past few months, controversy surrounding the delay in demarcation and allotment of residential plots has led to the rise of tensions between residents and local authorities in Yambio County.*

Past efforts by the authorities to demarcate plots in the County have remained fruitless. The delay in plot demarcation coupled by fear amongst residents has been blamed for the confusion surrounding plans to undertake the exercise.

In the wake of all this confusion, residents, most of who have been temporarily operating on the undemarcated plots have expressed fears of possible demolition of their structures without prior notice.

Mr. James Renzi, Chairman of Naduru Youth group operating in a residential area in Yambio County, said, "locals have the capability of constructing concrete buildings on their plots, but restrictions from the County authorities have made it impossible."

Previous attempts by the County authorities to demarcate roads have been characterized by demolitions of illegally constructed buildings. Affected residents have had to contend with counting of huge losses as they helplessly watch their buildings come down tumbling.

Earth movers, bulldozers and graders, all roaring on Yambio roads, define some of the heavy machinery deployed by the county authorities to explain the magnitude and seriousness attached to the exercise.

The sudden rise in the number of corrugated iron and tiled-roofed buildings marks a clear departure from the traditional grass thatched houses referred to as tukuls.

Atoroba James, one of those recently affected by the ongoing road reconstruction work said, "My five rooms fell along the road and I was instructed to demolish all of them."

Like many affected residents, Atoroba cannot tell whether they would be compensated for the damages incurred or even define his next move.

Earlier, the County Engineer Baira Christo Bakosoro issued a directive, banning any further construction of permanent buildings without approval by the concerned authorities.

"The reason of issuing local orders was to allow the residential areas to be demarcated according to the town planning committee," he explained.

The Engineer said no construction would be allowed in the town without the approval by the town planning committee.

This process includes acquisition of land lease and legal papers. He attributed the delay in the survey and demarcations of plots to acute shortage of qualified technical staff in the Survey department.



The demolition of house built in undemarcated plot

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you a Merry Christmas and  
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