By Jejje Muhinde;

A week-long campaign to fight against drug abuse among the youth has been launched in Kayonza District, Eastern Province.

The campaign launched on Tuesday under the theme, ‘Drugs kill, prevent and condemn” attracted national and local leaders and students from both secondary and primary schools in the district.

In his remarks, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Health Dr. Mpunga Tharcisse said Rwanda has chosen today to protect the youth and Rwandans in general.

He pointed out that the use of ilegal drugs has increased and inebriation is on a rise among youth. He called on the ordinary residents-parents to monitor the youth.

“One of the things you can do is to keep up the pressure … there are going to be some difficult decisions to be made by the government. Everyone should report people who abuse drugs, “he said further urging all to work together in the fight against the use of such substances.

Kayonza District Mayor John Bosco Nyemazi said that drug use is a matter of concern to the whole world, and to Rwanda in general.

The mayor reminded the public of the dangers of drugs and encouraged everyone to stay away from them.

“The effects of drug use are in a variety of ways, including health, student education, security, economics and national development,” he said.

The day was also marked by the public crackdown on drugs such as Kanyanga seized by security forces.