Hailstorm paralyses varsity, school activities

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SHEEMA. Property worth millions of shillings was on Wednesday evening destroyed after a hailstorm hit Ankole Western University and Nganwa High School in Sheema Municipality.

The university vice chancellor, Mr Mesharch Katusiimeh, said the rain blew off the rooftops of four lecture room blocks, leaving the structures in shambles.

The storm also killed animals and destroyed crops at the university farm.

"We lost a lot of property. For example we had just bought stationery worth Shs10 million but it was all destroyed when wind took off the roof," he said.

He added: "We have no electricity. Therefore, we cannot use computers. It will take some time to restore the system because we are not sure when Umeme people are coming to on the lines. The wires and poles were all destroyed."

Nganwa High School, which is about 100 metres away, was also affected by hailstorm that left two classroom blocks, two staff houses, school farm, television shed and the general school compound destroyed, according to the head teacher, Mr Abel Rushegyera.

They are appealing to district authorities and good samaritans to run to their rescue.

"We reported to the local leaders immediately after the downpour and they visited us. We expect the Office of the Prime Minister to intervene because we reported the matter," Mr Katusiimeh said.

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