

Uganda Insurers Association, who

potential clients. Furthermore, no

Getting oil pipeline off ground is great leap to what?

I react to the editorial 'Getting crude oil pipeline off ground is great leap' (Daily Monitor, August 9). This is most definitely a great leap. However, the big question is, a great leap into what? In the 1980s, Nigerian oil exports pushed the rate of the Naira up to an equivalent of 10 British Pounds.

This made imports extremely cheap and killed off much of the local economy. The copious amounts of cash from

the oil bonanza gave way to unimaginable corruption. Patients in hospitals were forced to pay bribes before a nurse would give them bed pans to relieve themselves.

I personally experienced this during a stop over in Lagos. All passengers had to be driven in a police convoy from the airport to their hotels. Looking at Nigeria today, one wonders what all the oil cash has brought to the country. The country

is no better than neighbouring countries, who never "enjoyed" oil cash. In fact, Nigeria is now the flashpoint of Kony-style terrorist groups.

There is a reason why experts speak of "The oil curse". Venezuela is another case in point. Yet this reality seems to be lost to our government and our people.

Ojep,
Online reader