

Provide life jackets for ferry passengers

Uganda National Roads Authority should heighten safety standards at the Kiyindi-Kirongo ferry service while the police should ensure that this happens in good time. While I salute government for providing a free ferry service, it is imperative that safety precautions are made a priority in order to guarantee the safe usage of this facility.

The maximum permission load, according to a UNRA sign post, is six cars, one truck or bus and 80 passengers. However, I have seen passengers sitting or sleeping on the floor and worse still under vehicles.

Secondly, the UNRA marked life jackets are too few compared to the passengers. We also need to be assured by UNRA that an evacuation team from Kampala or any other location can be secured at short notice in case of an accident. While this is the case for the UNRA ferries, there seems to be no regulation of wearing life jackets on passengers that use our boats on various lakes and other water bodies. Government should import and distribute free life jackets to boat operators.

**Samuel Mweru Byachi,
Kampala**