

Two Chinese road workers held over sexual harassment

HOIMA

By Robert Atuhairwe
and Ismael Kasooha

The Police are holding two Chinese road workers over allegations of sexual harassment of an employee. The duo, whose identities have been concealed for fear of jeopardising investigations, were arrested on Saturday.

They are managers at China Railway No.5 Group Company Ltd, which was contracted by the Government to tarmack the 66km Bulima-Hoima-Kabwoya road.

The Albertine regional Police spokesperson, Julius Allan Hakiza, confirmed the arrests.

The victim is said to have been working as a housemaid for the

suspects at their camp in Buhimba sub-county, Hoima district.

Mark Ssali, the head of public and corporate affairs at Uganda National Roads Authority (UNRA), said investigations are being handled by UNRA's compliance investigations team, until they get all the necessary information regarding the matter.

The arrests were prompted by a tip-off from another concerned employee.

Ssali said the suspects were whisked to Kampala on Sunday night. However, he was tight-lipped on where they were being detained in Kampala.

He said UNRA is carrying out investigations on every project they are supervising to ensure there is adherence to contractual obligations and that the rights of the vulnerable,

ON THE GROUND

A health worker at the hospital who preferred anonymity told *New Vision* that the victim is being treated for severe depression and post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of what she has undergone.

such as children, women and the elderly, are protected.

Unconfirmed reports indicate that a medical officer at one of the health centres in Hoima town has been arrested by the Police to help in investigations.

It is alleged that the detained medical officer referred the victim to a health facility, where she had an abortion at a cost of sh650,000, with the help of the Chinese.

The victim is reported to have suffered psychologically and is now admitted to Hoima Hospital's mental unit.

A health worker at the hospital, who preferred anonymity, told *New Vision* that the victim is being treated for severe depression and post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of what she has undergone.

Efforts to get a comment from the road contractor were futile by press time.

But there are reports that the woman was raped in April, the abortion was done in May this year, but the issue came to light in August.

Man found dead in Kabale lodge

The Police in Kabale are investigating circumstances under which an unidentified man was on Tuesday morning found dead in a lodge. The deceased, who is suspected to have been in his late 60s, was found dead in a room at Highlife Pub, Kazooba Road, Kabale municipality. Dick Ahimbisibwe, the pub's owner, said the deceased was in the bar on Monday night after taking beer, he asked for a room in which to rest. In the morning, workers raised an alarm and he failed to get out of the bar. Despite efforts to wake him, Ahimbisibwe explained.