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Muslims challenged. The Ibanda deputy Resident District Commissioner, Ms Mary Kabasongoka Kamaduka, last Friday challenged Muslims in the district over putting little effort in educating their children as they entirely depend on government support. Ms Kamaduka, while addressing councillors of Ibanda District, urged parents to work together with government in order to improve the education system in the country. [Fednand Tuhame, Monitor]



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Residents to protest over poor roads

Reason. The residents say the district is one of the tourist destinations in the country but has poor road infrastructure.

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RUBIRIZI. Residents of Rubirizi District have asked government to start reconstructing Ishaka-Katunguru road before they block motorists from using it.

The road has narrowed and is covered with countless potholes.

The district LC5 chairperson, Mr Sylvester Agubanshongerera, last week during the 31st NRM anniversary celebrations at Ndekye Primary School, said he will mobilise residents to block the road if government fails to honour its promise of starting work on the road by March.

"If the President can give Shs6 billion handshake to government of-



Officiating. Bunyaruguru MP John Twesigye Ntamuhira addresses residents of Rubirizi District during NRM 31st anniversary celebrations at Ndekye Primary School last week. PHOTO BY FELIX AINEBYOONA

officials, why can't he construct our road?" Mr Agubanshongerera asked.

The residents claim to have been supporting NRM since its inception

but have threatened to switch goal posts if their cries are not heard.

"Last election we gave 75 per cent of the votes to NRM but we have not gained from our massive support to the party. Government is promoting tourism and Rubirizi is among the tourist destinations in Uganda but the Ishaka-Kasese road that brings tourists to the area is in a sorry state, yet road reconstruction has been appearing in the budget for the last four financial years," Mr John Magezi, the mayor Rubirizi Town Council, said.

He added: "Because of poor service delivery in the district, Opposition has started to gain popularity. Government has failed to consider our issues like Ishaka-Katunguru road, poor health and education services and poverty."

However, the Bunyaruguru MP, Mr John Twesigye Ntamuhira, who was the chief guest at the celebrations asked residents to stay calm saying that Uganda National Roads Author-

ity (Unra) has already committed itself to reconstruct the road in March.

"We do not support the idea of closing the road but rather if Unra delays the reconstruction, we shall all stand up and storm their offices and demand for an explanation because the road is in bad shape as we speak," Mr Ntamuhira said.

Mr Ntamuhira also asked all public servants to support implementation of government programmes, warning that those who sabotage them will face the law.

During the presidential election campaigns last year, President Museveni acknowledged the road was in poor state and pledged that it would be reconstructed.

The issue of Ishaka-Katunguru road came up at a Unra stakeholders meeting held at Lake View Resort Mbarara on December 9, 2016 attended by South Western top political and technical leaders.

The south-western region Unra manager, Mr Bennice Kiganda, told the meeting that they are doing maintenance to keep it in shape as they wait for procurement of the contractor to reconstruct it.