Lightning kills four, injures 18 in Kalangala rainstorm

http://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/Lightning-kills-four--injures-18-in-Kalangalarainstorm/688334-2136728-o70qly/index.html

By Henry Lubulwa

Posted Tuesday, January 7 2014 at 02:00

Kalangala

Four people were struck dead by lightning as 18 others suffered injuries during a rainstorm that hit most parts of Kalangala District last Friday.

Two of the victims were residents of Lwabaswa Landing Site in Bujumba Sub-county, while the other two lived at Dajje fishing village, also in Bujumba.

All the injured were taken to Kalangala Health Centre IV for treatment. Kalangala District chairman Willy Lugoloobi, who visited the patients, blamed the district's lack of enough lightning arresters that could help mitigate its effects. He said although they could not afford to fix the lightning arresters where they should be, it was an issue they would soon consider as top priority.

However, Mr Richard Sendaaza, an elder, attributed the lightning strikes to the refusal by residents to offer sacrifices to the gods of Lake Victoria. But district natural resources officer David Balironda dismissed the claims, saying the strikes were due absence of arresters.

Vulnerable

Kalangala has in the recent years been hit by lightning, often killing people and livestock. Last year 13 people and 27 cattle in Kyamuswa Sub-county were killed by lightning.

editorial@ug.nationmedia.com