

Road tragedy claims lives, many injured, burns down structures in Kogi

Yekini Jimoh March 22, 2026



The Kogi State Government has expressed deep sorrow over the tragic road accident that occurred in Okunchi Ward of Adavi Local Government Area, which burnt down houses, claimed some lives, while others sustained serious injuries.

It was recalled that on Thursday, the incident involved a head-on collision between a tanker conveying diesel and a BUA Cement truck at about 8pm.

The impact triggered a massive fire outbreak that engulfed the vehicles and spread to nearby structures.

All occupants of the tanker were reportedly burnt beyond recognition, while the inferno also destroyed a residential building and a mosque.

The driver of the cement truck, who was initially in critical condition, later succumbed to his injuries, while the co-driver survived with injuries sustained during attempts to rescue him.

Although no lives were lost from the affected structures, the scale of destruction has left many residents in distress.

Also, a couple riding on a motorcycle was affected by diesel spillage from the accident scene. The husband died on the spot after losing control, while his wife sustained serious injuries and is currently receiving medical attention.

However, speaking on behalf of the state governor, a delegation led by the State Project Coordinator of the Kogi AGILE Project, Alhaji Ahmed Tijani Oricha, visited the community to assess the situation and convey the government's condolences, assuring affected families and residents of its support during this difficult time.

At the scene of the incident, the delegation was received by community leaders, including the Ward Councillor and representatives of the local government.

Residents commended the swift intervention of the State Government, particularly the timely deployment of heavy-duty equipment used to evacuate the wreckage and manage the aftermath of the accident.

They also acknowledged ongoing road construction efforts in the area, noting that such improvements helped prevent an even greater tragedy.

Delivering the governor's message, the SPC described the incident as a painful loss not only to the affected families but to the entire state. He conveyed the government's heartfelt condolences and emphasised its solidarity with the people of Okunchi.

He assured the community that the government remains committed to improving road infrastructure and enhancing safety measures to prevent future occurrences.

The delegation also visited victims at the hospital, where the realities of the tragedy were further evident.

The injured wife of the deceased motorcyclist was also seen receiving treatment.

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Addressing victims and medical personnel at the hospital, the Adavi LGA APC chairmanship candidate in the forthcoming council polls appreciated the Government's concern and compassion, offering prayers for the recovery of the injured and strength for grieving families.

He commended the medical team for their efforts and encouraged them to continue providing quality care to the victims.

The visit, according to the delegation, reflects the State Government's commitment to standing with its citizens in moments of crisis. It also served as a reminder of the need for increased caution on the roads, especially involving heavy-duty vehicles, as the government continues to prioritise the safety and wellbeing of all residents.

The people of Okunchi, while still grappling with the impact of the tragedy, expressed appreciation for the government's prompt response and show of empathy, describing it as a source of comfort in a time of profound loss.