

# Oyo recorded 246 fire incidents in 2025 — Official

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The Chairman of the Oyo State Fire Service, Maroof Akinwande. Credit: Oyo State Fire Services Agency

By Ademola Adegbite

The Chairman of the Oyo State Fire Services Agency, Maroof Akinwande, on Friday announced that the state recorded about 246 cases of fire incidents in the just concluded year 2025.

Akinwande, who is also the Special Adviser to Governor Seyi Makinde on Fire Reform, disclosed while speaking with journalists in Ibadan, the state capital.

Giving a breakdown of the rescue operations carried out during the year, the chairman said 42 people were rescued alive, while a total of 30 bodies were recovered from different locations across the state.

He explained that 29 cases of fire incidents were recorded in January, 27 in February, 22 in March, 24 in April, 24 in May and 17 cases in June. According to him, 15 cases were recorded in July, 14 in August, 24 in September, 13 in October, 13 in November and 21 cases in December.

Providing further details on the impact of the incidents across different sectors, Akinwande said residential buildings, shops and vehicles were among the most affected.

“In total, 116 residential buildings were affected by fire and 38 shops in 2025. 14 vehicles were ravaged by fire, while a total of 21 petroleum tankers were also affected by fire during the year,” the chairman said.

Breaking down the agency’s overall operations for the year, he gave a summary of emergency responses, false calls and special services attended to.

“The total breakdown. We attended to 246 fire incidents in 2025. We received 10 false calls, I mean people that called us and we found out that it did not happen. We attended to 95 special services. We rescued alive 42 people. Victims recovered suspected dead was 30. Overall total is 353,” Akinwande said.

Speaking on the role of public awareness in fire prevention, the fire service boss commended the media for its support in public sensitisation.

“We want to thank you the media for reporting our activities. It is to show people that these things are happening and people must be aware. It will help to motivate people to be safety conscious,” he said.

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He also highlighted steps taken by the state government to strengthen the agency’s operational capacity through equipment procurement and personnel support.

“Let me tell you that in order to ensure that we perform better, the State Governor, Seyi Makinde has ordered for the procurement of some equipment.

“What the State Government has done is that the government has awarded the purchase of seven brand new fire fighting equipment to a contractor which we are expecting its delivery in the next 3 to six months,” the chairman said.

Expanding on other forms of support approved by the governor, Akinwande listed interventions aimed at improving logistics and manpower.

“Fire fighting auxiliary have been paid for. Government has ordered for the purchase of tyres and battery for our vehicles.

“The governor has increased our operational cost. Not that one alone, the governor has approved the recruitment of 100 fire fighters,” he said.

He added that the welfare of personnel remains a priority for the current administration.

“The governor is also trying to improve the standard of living of our men to encourage us to do more. These are the things the government is doing to ensure effective and efficient service delivery of the

agency,” Akinwande said.

Akinwande, therefore, advised members of the public to always be conscious of their environment, urging them to take all necessary precautions to avoid fire incidents.