

3 killed, N900m property destroyed in Enugu tanker fire

By Chinedu Adonu

THREE people were confirmed dead while property estimated at N900 million was destroyed in a tanker fire at the Ugwu Onyeama axis of the Enugu-Onitsha Expressway.

The Deputy Superintendent of Fire, Federal Fire Service, Maxwell Ucheagwu, confirmed the incident to journalists,

Tuesday, in Enugu.

According to Ucheagwu, the fire occurred in the early hours of Monday, June 22, following a collision involving a big truck loaded with bags of cement and a tanker transporting Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG).

He said the Federal Fire Service Command in Enugu received a distress call at about 3:28 a.m. and immediately deployed personnel and

firefighting equipment to the scene.

"Preliminary investigation revealed that the accident was caused by brake failure on the truck, which rammed into the LNG tanker, damaging the tanker and causing a leakage of its contents," he said.

Ucheagwu stated that three persons lost their lives in the incident, while several others sustained injuries and were rushed to a nearby hospital for treatment.

He commended Nigerian soldiers stationed at a nearby roadblock for their prompt intervention in rescuing victims and evacuating the injured to the hospital.

"The fire affected an estimated area measuring about 200 by 100 square metres," Ucheagwu said.

He explained that firefighters successfully contained the situation by cooling the leaking LNG tanker with two medium jets of water and foam solution deployed from Fire Service appliance FFS 126, with support from Enugu State Fire Service appliance ENSFS 010.

He noted that subsequent inspection and damping-down operations confirmed that there was no further leakage or outbreak of fire.

According to him, property worth approximately N900 million was lost in the incident, while assets valued at about N800 million were salvaged through the swift response of firefighters.

sensitise Imo students against

of activities to mark the United Nations International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, was themed: "Say Yes to Life. Say No to Drugs — It Kills."

President of the Nsokpo Dynamic Association, Mr. Mark Onyejiaka, said the initiative was part of the association's commitment to protecting youths and promoting community development.

According to him, drug abuse goes beyond health concerns, as it destroys families, limits opportunities, and threatens the future of young people.

"This is not an ordinary gathering. Drugs do not merely destroy health; they shatter dreams, tear apart families, and steal futures that were meant to

shine," Onyejiaka said.

During the programme, NDLEA officials educated the students on the dangers of drug abuse and illicit trafficking, while medical personnel from the Nigerian Navy explained the health implications of substance misuse on young people.

A career development session was also delivered by Dr. Chika Umunnakwe, who spoke on the theme: "Dreaming Big for the Future: Why the Choices You Make Today Matter."

The Principal of Presentation Secondary School, Rev. Fr. Joachim Onyeagam, commended the association and its partners for selecting the school for the programme, describing the initiative as timely and beneficial to the students.