

2 die in Edo deputy gov's convoy crash

VINCENT ADEKOYE, Benin

EDO State deputy governor, Mr Lucky Imasuen yesterday escaped death by the whiskers following a ghastly motor accident involving his convoy on the Benin-Abuja road.

But the accident claimed the lives of a senior driver simply identified as Mr Julius and a mobile policeman attached to the deputy governor.

The sad development came three days after the state governor, Prof Oserheimen Osunbor lost his mother thus throwing Government House, Benin into mourning.

Daily Champion gathered from one of those in the convoy that one of the most senior drivers in

the office of the deputy governor, Mr. Julius died in the auto crash while some others sustained serious injuries.

According to him, Imasuen had wanted to enter the ill-fated Toyota jeep that morning as they were setting out for the Abuja trip but changed his mind last minute and decided to enter another one leaving the jeep as the backup car for the journey.

Speaking with *Daily Champion* on the incident, Chief Press Secretary to the Deputy Governor, Mr. Greg Igbinomwanhia, said the accident occurred as a result of burst tyre. Thereafter, he said the driver of the jeep lost control and ran into an oncoming vehicle. He said the jeep lost one of its front tyres.

State Finance, Government will not only fulfil its promise to pay the minimum wage of N9,400 naira but will also pay the 15 per cent increment across board.

He asked the Managerial cadre Civil Servants to therefore resume work immediately and also encourage their subordinates to do so.

Otunba Alao-Akala also directed that all school Heads must report at their various schools and ensure teachers resumption and the commencement of academic activities, so that students, especially those preparing for exams can be assisted.

He said the State Government is fully prepared to start the implementation of principle of no work no pay.

Buhari's boycott of the meeting, coming on the heels

the GNU, stressing that Buhari was on his own.

Benue, C/River border clash turns bloody

TONY ITA ETIM, Port Harcourt and GODWIN AKOR, Markurdi

At least 50 persons were feared dead in a border clash between residents of Obanliku local government area of Cross River State and those of Vandeikya in Benue State.

Daily Champion gathered that the clash erupted a fortnight ago over ownership of a parcel of land. Sources from the two areas claimed that the death toll represented casualties from both sides of the boundary.

Daily Champion investigations

revealed that indigenes and residents of the border community have fled the area since the clash began for fear of reprisal attack.

Also, students of the Bebi campus of the Federal College of Education, Obudu, it was learnt, have been directed to vacate the school by the school authorities who hurriedly closed it down.

The students were told to return to the institution's main campus at Obudu.

Deputy governor, of Cross Rivers State, Barrister Cobham will visit the area today (Thursday).

Senators want Imo Airport upgraded