

Family of 4 die in auto crash

A family of four died last Saturday in a ghastly motor accident on Irrua/Benin road in Esan North East Local Government Area of Edo State.

The accident occurred when a lorry, with registration number XJ 731 RSH, travelling

from Auchi to Benin crushed the Gulf 4 model car in which the family were travelling.

The family was said to be traveling to Benin for the opening of a house, built by one of the sons, who also died in the accident.

A witness told the *News*

Agency of Nigeria (NAN) that the driver of the lorry lost control when the articulated vehicle loaded with gravel developed a break failure.

The accident which occurred near the sharp bend at Urue in Uromi saw the lorry crushing the car and slammed it against a building near the

road.

"It is a pathetic situation. I just saw the Gulf come out of a filling station where it had gone for fuel.

"The lorry driver just lost control and crushed the car against the building after destroying the well tank in front of the building.

"The guy, whose house is being opened today (Saturday) just came back from abroad," an eye witness said.

NAN reports that all the occupants of the car were brought out dead after sympathizers battled for two hours to remove them from the vehicle.

Meanwhile, the driver of the articulated vehicle and his motor boy, both of whom sustained serious injuries, have been rushed to an undisclosed hospital for treatment.

Obi rekindles hope in abandoned water project

ALPHONSUS NWEZE, *Onitsha*

GOVERNOR. Peter Obi of Anambra State has assured the people of the state of his government's commitment to resuscitate all collapsed and abandoned water projects during his second term in office.

He gave the assurance in Onitsha recently while inspecting the Greater Onitsha Water Scheme with two American engineers at Omagba Phase I in order to rehabilitate the abandoned project which was built by the administration of Chief. Jim Nwobodo to provide water for Onitsha municipality and adjoining towns.

"This administration has placed priority on the provision of potable water in this second term and we will leave no stone unturned in doing this. That is why we brought these foreign experts here today.

"We believe that resuscitating this water scheme being the biggest

in the state would help to reduce the water needs of one-third of people living in the state especially those living in Onitsha which is a densely populated area.

"We have also find out that you cannot manage Onitsha without water for proper hygiene as well as the health of the residents," he said.

Obi said after the scheme is fixed and functional other water schemes in the state will be revived, adding: "By the time we finish this four years, any tap that suppose to run in the state will certainly bring out water".

He said frequent inspections of most water schemes in the state recently is an indication of government's commitment to see that its wish for people's access to water in each home in the state is realised.

Mr. Richard Copeland, chairman, Thor Development and Services Ltd based in United States (U.S), said the inspection was to assess

"what is on ground, what is needed to be replaced and new equipment to be installed."

He said: "This inspection is not enough for us to get a clear assessment of this abandoned scheme, but we, as experts, will still take a detailed study of the things needed to be replaced; new technology to be provided as well as ways to see to the overhauling of this scheme."

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