

the **BOOK PRESENTATION...** (R-I) Governor Ekiti State, Dr. Kayode Fayemi, with his Osun, State counterpart Rauf Aregbesola and the Book Author, Professor Jacob Olupona, during the public presentation of his books, at Nigeria Institute of International Affairs, Lagos State on Thursday.

TEARS flowed freely Friday when two persons were electrocuted while trying to erect a

DENNIS NAKU, PH

2 electrocuted in Port Harcourt

d to support FG programmes

Television pole near a high tension cable along the Ikwerre Road axis of Mile 1, Dioubu in Port Harcourt,

subsidy removal on a monthly basis, and that the Federal Government is ploughing back its own portion into the various state and the local Government through SURE-P", he emphasised.

He however expressed his reservation on the attitude of the Osun State Government on the programme, claiming that many weeks after a letter had been written to the Governor Rauf Aregbesola for his nominees into the state Implementation Committee, no response has been received so far.

According to him, "the main task of the State Implementation committee, of SURE-P is to ensure that the programme is effectively discharged in Osun State."

While, enjoining, the osun State Government to allow the State to be partner in progress in the implementation of Federal government programmes, for the welfare of the people in the state, particularly the less privileged, Faforiji also denied the rumour that SURE-P forms are being given only to PDP members in, the State adding that all laid down procedures for the recruitment of beneficiaries are being followed.

Rivers State capital.

It was learnt that three boys believed to be in their early 20's moved an iron pole from its original point in a bid to get better signals on a TV set in a restaurant where one of them was working, near the busy Road when the unexpected happened about 12:30pm Thursday.

As the trio moved to mount the pole, it was learnt that the iron pole which the boys were holding touched the high tension cable just few meters away, resulting in a loud spark, electrocuting three of them in the process.

An eye witness who gave his name as Junior said the current threw the three young men to one side, while the TV pole fell to the opposite direction, leaving the three boys unconscious, adding that two of the eventually gave up the ghost, while being rushed to the hospital.

According to Junior, "after the electric shock, the three of them were lying helplessly on the ground. People came to the scene, but nobody had the courage to help them because it was electric. We were all afraid."

"But when I looked closely, I saw that one of them (Abraham) who is my friend was still moving his body, so I immediately rushed, held him and asked people to bring milk. I gave him the milk to drink and there was still life in him when we rushed to him to

hospital," he explained. *Weekend Champion* however gathered that two of the boys were confirmed dead at an undisclosed hospital in Port Harcourt, but that the third victim was lucky to have been revived in the hospital.

Our correspondent who visited the scene of the electrocution about 2:45pm reports that sympathizers were in groups discussing the unfortunate incident, even as some who knew the victims personally were spotted in tear-filled eyes.

Also, a middle-aged lady and relative of one of the deceased broke down in tears on the discovery that her cousin was among the victims, even as the owner of the restaurant, who they were trying to assist to get clearer TV pictures had closed shop for the day.

It was also gathered that one of the deceased started work at the restaurant barely two weeks ago, while the second dead victim was said to be doing menial job in a transport company located along the busy Ikwerre Road.

Contacted, Rivers State Police Public Relations Officer, PPRO, Ben Ugwuegbulam confirmed that there was a case of electrocution, but that he was yet to receive official briefing from the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) in charge of Mile 1 area.

Ugwuegbulam said, "That is what I am trying to find out. I am trying to reach the DPO of Mile 1 to get the detail of the incident."