

Fire claimed six in Sokoto

Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

SIX lives have been lost in 290 fire incidents recorded from January to date in Sokoto State. Director, Sokoto State Fire Services, Alhaji Harande Chede who disclosed this yesterday in Sokoto, said property worth millions of naira was also destroyed. He said the fire incidents were recorded within the state capital and neighbouring local government areas including Wamakko, Dange Shuni, Bodinga and Kware.

Chede noted that the fire incidents mostly resulted from electrical appliances, cooking devices, candles, over loading of extension cables and lighting of matches close to farm produce, among others. He stressed the need for people to take precautions against fire incidents at all times adding "fire does not just happen, people cause it"

With the haramattan season on, he called on people in the state to be extraordinarily careful in handling items that could lead to fire incidents. He however stated

that the state department of fire service was adequately prepared to face the challenges before it. "We are always anticipating fire incidents, so obviously we have to be ready at all times in order to curtail them. As usual, our men are always alert and working for 24 hours in case of eventuality."

According to him, the department has five operational outposts within the state capital and that each outpost has its own fire vehicles and personnel. Also, he said the 23 local government headquarters had been given one fire vehicle each.