

KANO State Governor Malam Ibrahim Shekarau has revealed how his predecessor, Engineer Rabi'u Musa Kwankwaso, refused to pay his pension after his retirement from service, saying his governorship ambition made the then governor withhold the entitlements.

Governor Shekarau retired from the state civil service during the administration of former governor Kwankwaso in order to contest the

on the platform of the then APP. Speaking at a merit award dinner organised in honour of retired AIG Mukhtar Abbas and former state Commissioner for Local Governments Alhaji Salihu Sagir Takai, Governor Shekarau said the pension was not paid until the time he assumed office as governor.

Making allusion to his predecessor, Shekarau said, "The governor at that time refused to pay my pension because he learnt I also nurse a governorship ambition. The

to be here [Governor's House] let him come and pay himself."

Shekarau revealed that he paid himself the pension when he assumed office in 2003. "You see this is how God wills. He dared me to come, and I came and settled myself the entitlements," said the governor.

While congratulating the two awardees, the governor said both of them performed creditably in their various assignments before they retired.

her Kingsley Omon who at the time of writing debunked the assertion that there were casualties, added that the situation had been brought under control.

4 die in Warri collapsed building

From Monday Osayande, Asaba

FOUR persons were confirmed dead and 32 others seriously injured yesterday in a collapsed building in Warri, Delta State. Bodies of the dead were deposited at the Warri Central Hospital morgue. Six persons, according to hospital sources, out of the thirty seriously injured were rushed to the University of Benin Hospital because of the seriousness of their injuries while 26 are receiving treatment in Warri.

It was gathered the 8-storey building caved-in after the scaffold developed fault and fell on a portion.

Witnesses said the incident happened when construction workers were carrying mixed concrete to the upper floor and someone crashed to the down floor. Mostly affected were the concrete mixers, bricklayers and carriers which include men and women.

Attempts by newsmen to see some of the victims at the hospital were resisted by fierce-looking men said to be working with the owner of the building. Mr. Daniel Orji, a reporter with Delta Broadcasting Service, Warri was seized and the tape with which he recorded the visuals taken away.

Baker kills colleague over N1, 200

From Femi Akinola, Lagos

A baker, Kelly Charles, has been arrested by the Lagos State Police Command for allegedly killing his colleague over N1, 200.

The suspect, a 24-year-old indigene of Akwa-Ibom State, was accused of stabbing his colleague, Eniola Akinyemi, with a knife below the abdomen. Sympathizers rushed Akinyemi to the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital (LASUTH), Ikeja where doctors battled to save his life for hours before he died. Lagos State Police Command Public Relations Officer, Mr. Frank Mba who paraded the suspect in his office yesterday, explained that the incident took place Monday at around 4 pm in Kokumo Street, Aguda - Ogba, where both worked as labourers in a bakery. Responding to questions from journalists, the suspect attributed the incident to "satan," adding that the deceased infuriated him.

Woman held for killing own baby

From Sharafa Dauda, Maiduguri

TWENTY year old Maryamu Mohammed Bello of Tashan Alade village in Hawul Local Government Area of Borno State yesterday appeared before Justice Patum Haruna Ngadda of the Maiduguri High Court 10 for intentionally throwing her new-born baby girl into a pit toilet, an act which resulted in the death of the baby. She thereby committed an offence punishable under Section 224 of the Penal Code.

Maryamu, who is a farmer, allegedly delivered her baby girl alive on July 1, 2009 at about 3pm and threw

her into a pit toilet. But the baby was later removed and taken to the Hawul General Hospital by her father where she died, the court heard yesterday.

Malam Mohammed Bello, father to the accused, said on the day, he had gone to the farm and returned at about 5pm to learn that his daughter (Maryamu) had delivered a baby and thrown into a toilet. He quickly rushed and removed the baby.

In her confessional statement at the Tashan Alade police outpost, the accused said she was married to one Idi Buba of Kirimi village of Hawul LGA about three years ago and had a baby girl for him.

"Nine months ago, I had a misunderstanding with him and he divorced me, then I came back to my parents' house. But by then, I was one-month pregnant for him. My husband normally came to visit me there and any time he came, we had sex in my room. My father was aware of my pregnancy. Some days before I delivered, my husband stopped coming". Maryamu's former husband, Idi Buba said after the divorce, his former wife informed him that she was pregnant but that he was not responsible for her pregnancy and pleaded with him not to be annoyed with her.

14-year-old girl electrocuted

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

A 14-year-old girl was yesterday electrocuted at Mount Pati in Lokoja when officials of the PHCN were allegedly disconnecting some wires. The deceased, Hannatu Saraki, was said to have just arrived from school when the incident occurred.

Witnesses said, "The whole neighbourhood was vibrating because they did not properly disconnect the wires. All of us were running helter-skelter when we saw the unusual thing. The girl had just come back home from school. She was just found electrocuted".

The guardian of the girl, Mr.

Abdullahi Musa, described the incident as unfortunate, saying, "I had promised to give the girl some gifts if she did well in her examinations. But this is what some people's recklessness has caused". Officers of the Lokoja PHCN Business Unit, who said their manager was not in the office, declined comment on the incident.