

Teenager nabbed for raping minor severally

From Maryam Ahmadu-Suka, Kaduna

An 18-year-old man has been arrested by the Kaduna State Police Command for allegedly raping a 10-year-old girl severally.

The suspect, identified as Victor, who resides in

Nasarawa Kakuri, Kaduna South Local Government Area of the state, lured the girl to his parent's house close to her own parent's house, and had carnal knowledge of her on many occasions, with N50.

Speaking with our correspondent, the girl's sister

Jamila Aliyu said luck ran out on the suspect when he sent someone to call the victim from the family home.

Recounting the development, Jamila said, "The girl usually goes to Victor's parent's house to buy firewood. This is something

she has been doing for some time. At a point, the girl's mother saw her with some money and she thought the girl was stealing from her. She later told her mother that Victor sleeps with her and gives her N50.

"The boy's parents were

confronted, but they denied having knowledge of the issue although a lot of people in the community have testified that he is fond of doing that. So we called on a non-governmental Organisation (NGO) that took her to the hospital and got the boy arrested."

Police kill physically-challenged in Kaduna

By Musa Abdullahi Krishi

A policeman last night shot dead a physically-challenged man at the Mararraban Jos area of Kaduna State.

The man, simply identified as Abdullahi, was reportedly shot in the chest when a police patrol team stormed some streets in the area at about 8:30pm and had an altercation with some youth.

A witness, Abubakar Sani, told Daily Trust on telephone last night that the victim, who walked with crutches, was caught in the web after the policemen attempted to arrest some youth in the area, but while the targeted youth escaped, Abdullahi could not because of his condition.

At the time of filing this report, hundreds of Mararraban Jos area blocked the Kaduna-Zaria highway, while others besieged the police station in the area in protest for the killing.

The police PRO in Kaduna ASP Usman Aliyu did not pick calls to his mobile phone by the Daily Trust reporter.

Plateau marks 6 months without cattle rustling

From Lami Sadiq, Jos

The Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association of Nigeria (MACBAN) in Plateau State yesterday said the state had not experienced any form of cattle rustling for the past six months.

The group said the development was due to the collaboration of herders, indigenous communities, security agents and NGOs.

State chairman for MACBAN Nuru Abdullahi told journalists at an emergency meeting between State MACBAN leaders and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) in Jos that the apex Fulani pastoralist group now worked in synergy with other security agencies, stressing that burning issues such as

killings, attacks and counter-attacks which had now subsided would soon be a thing of the past.

He said, "I can tell you proudly that since May this year, we have not recorded any case of cattle rustling, we have little cases of farmland destructions but they are being managed properly."

Earlier, the Plateau State NSCDC Commandant, Solomon Adebayo Olasupo said the persistent clashes between farmers and herdsmen, especially around Plateau and other parts of the Middle Belt had led to collaboration between the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Interior in which the NSCDC was authorised to look into the matter and find possible peaceful solutions.

Alake faults sacking of varsity senior workers

From Kehinde Akinyemi, Abeokuta

The Alake of Egbaland, Oba Adedotun Gbadebo has faulted the procedure followed by the Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta (FUNAAB) to sack 23 members of the institution chapter of the Senior Staff Association of Nigerian Universities (SSANU) last week.

Also, fresh facts emerged yesterday on why the university management, under the embattled Vice chancellor, Prof. Olusola Oyewole terminated the appointments of the affected staff, contrary to letters given to some

of them last Thursday. Oba Gbadebo who played host to the SSANU Southwest leaders at his palace on Monday, said the university erred by not carrying out detailed investigations on the workers before sacking them.

The Egbaland monarch said: "We are not happy in the town about what is happening at our university, we are praying that you will get back on track soon, but do not shut down the university and don't resort to self-help."

"I can't blame the people who wrote petition to the EFCC, but the EFCC should have also verified

whether it is you or not that wrote, as you have the boldness to append your name on the petition. However, I will take up the issue with the management beginning with the Vice Chancellor."

Meanwhile, in a statement signed by the Registrar of the university, Mathew Ayoola, who also doubles as the Secretary of the Governing Council, the Council said the decision to sack staff was taken to reposition the university and restore peace. The statement added that the disengaged staff erred and were shown the way out following various offences they committed.

Akwa Ibom Poly students protest 100% fee hike

From Dickson S. Adama, Uyo

Students of the Akwa Ibom State Polytechnic in Ikot Osurua have disrupted academic activities by embarking on a protest over increment in their school fees.

The students blocked the main entrance into the school for hours, asking the management to reverse its decision.

The students carried placards

with different inscriptions while chanting different solidarity songs.

The situation was later brought under control by a team of armed policemen and other security operatives who arrived at the scene to prevent the demonstration from turning violent.

Speaking to newsmen, the leader of the protest and President of the Students Union

Government (SUG), Kingsley Eyo, said the management met and decided on the increase without consulting the students.

"The students are not entirely against increase in school fees, but if such is to be made the percentage increase should not be more than 15 percent. For instance, Pre-National Diploma students used to pay N45,000 but with the new fee

regime, such students are to pay N86,200; the same with Higher National Diploma students whose fees have been increased from N38,000 to N85,700," he said.

Efforts to get the reaction of the Rector, Mr. Israel Affia, were not successful. But he replied a text message saying, "Not today, please. I am in a meeting somewhere. Let us talk later. Thanks."