

Power surge kills 11 in Zaria

From Abubakar S. Mohd,
Zaria

No fewer than 11 were feared killed following high electric power supply in some areas of Zazzau in Zaria, Kaduna State.

Areas affected include Gwargwaje and Kauran Juri situated along Zaria-Kaduna Expressway.

Electric power supply was restored in high voltage

in the area around 1am. It caused indiscriminate spark of electricity gadgets. That resulted in the burning of a house of one Engineer Zubair Abubakar while other houses continued to release smoke," said a resident of the area, Aliyu Samaila.

Daily Trust gathered that those feared dead include a pregnant woman, health personnel, a police officer and many others all in the Gwargwaje area.

Mrs Christy Lombo, wife of

the police officer that lost his life in the incident at Gwargwaje police barracks, said they were all asleep when electricity power was restored.

"My daughter woke up to realise that some of the fuses in the house were in smoke. So she woke me up but before then my husband had already woken up and went to switch off the light from the main change over plug.

"He was instantly shocked and thrown away by the high current.

We later took him to the hospital where he gave up," she said.

The Head of Corporate Communication, Kaduna Electricity Company (KEDCO), Abdulazeez Abdullahi, in a press release said preliminary investigation revealed "The accident was as a result of high tension line snap on to the low tension line, which resulted in voltage supply outside limits.

"The source feeder was immediately opened in an

emergency to avoid further damage.

"We continue to monitor the situation closely and communicate the facts of this regrettable incident. We express our deepest sympathies to families who have encountered losses as a result of this accident."

KEDCO, however, commended the Emir of Zazzau, Malam Ahmed Nuhu Bamalli, for his support in managing the effect of the incident.

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