

Residents feared dead, buildings destroyed as explosion rocks Ibadan

From Adenike Kaffi, Ibadan

their lives in various hospitals across the state.

Residents said a loud bang was heard, followed by vibrations across several locations in Ibadan at about 8.00 p.m.

The cause of the explosion could not be ascertained as of the time of filing this report.

However, unconfirmed reports said the explosion

emanated from a gas plant around the Bodija axis of the city.

The anti-bomb squad of the Nigeria police, firefighters and operatives of the Amotekun security outfit were said to have been deployed in the area.

A statement by the state Commissioner for Information, Dotun Oyelade, disclosed that

security agencies had also been deployed to maintain law and order.

The commissioner stated: "residents of Ibadan and immediate environs experienced an uncommon explosion about 8pm this evening.

"There are various interpretations of the incident but it is important for us to

state categorically that the state government has taken over and in full control of the unfortunate occurrence in order to mitigate the incident.

"All security service chiefs including paramilitary chiefs and Fire Operatives have been deployed by the governor to Reign in the spillover from the explosion.

Some residents of Ibadan, Oyo state Capital, were feared dead in an explosion that occurred yesterday evening at Adeyi Avenue in the Bodija area.

Houses in the area were also said to have been destroyed by the explosion, even as many were injured and battling for