

# Building Collapses, Kills Two Students

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Barley four weeks after an uncompleted building collapsed in Oshodi, another one has occurred in Lagos Island, taking along the lives of two students.

This one involving the balcony of building belonging to Ado Secondary on Quincy Street on the island caved in while the students were watching an inter-house sports competition.

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other six students, who were seriously injured in the process, are currently receiving treatment in a yet-to-be identified hospital.

According to witnesses, the balcony where the students had converged to watch the competition collapsed due to pressure.

Four buildings had collapsed in the state in 2006 alone, two occurring in Ebute-Metta, where not less than 25 people were killed, while property worth millions of naira were destroyed. That was when the first one involving a four-storey

building occurred on Bola Street, off Abeokuta Street. The second, a three-storey building, also collapsed in Ebute-Metta East, though the casualty rate could not be ascertained, only one person was rescued. Yet, another one occurred in Amukoko involving a four-storey building where a day-old baby, among others lost their lives.

Only four weeks ago, a building still under construction in Isolo Local Development Council collapsed, injuring 12 people, while several others who were still trapped in the building when the incident occurred are still lying under the rubbles.

In its bid to address the recurring decimal, the Lagos State government had set up a technical committee for the state-owned Materials Testing Laboratory, charged with the responsibility of providing uniform tests on buildings and civil engineering materials in line with the Standards Organisation of Nigeria (SON) policy, issue certificate for tests carried out as well as perform analyses on samples submitted.

It is also charged with the registration of all independent material testing laboratories, monitor their performance and formulate policies of enlightenment campaign to producers, manufacturers among others.