

South West

BEST OF THE WEST

Flood kills three, submerges seven vehicles in Ibadan

By Oladele Ogunsola

Correspondent, Ibadan

LATE SUNDAY afternoon's heavy downpour in Ibadan that resulted in flood is reported to have claimed three lives and seven vehicles submerged in Old Ife Road area of the ancient city.

Two female children and a middle-aged woman's lifeless bodies were seen floating on Monday morning on a stream near the Lagos-Ibadan expressway along the Old Ife road.

The torrential rainfall that

started late afternoon on Sunday lasted several hours and continued till the wee hours of Monday, causing traffic logjam around the ancient city.

Eyewitnesses account disclosed that the corpses had been taken to an unidentified morgue in the state capital, maintaining that it was difficult to ascertain the identity of the victims having been caught by the flood in another location in the capital and dragged to the Old Ife Road, where they were seen on Monday morning.

On seeing the corpses, the whole area was thrown into

confusion as sympathisers started to weep, while several people made telephone calls to family members who ran down to the site to see the corpses.

One of the technicians, whose workshop was located by the bridge where the corpses were seen, Sulaiman Babatunde, told journalists that some of the vehicles that included mini buses and cars, got trapped in the flood and were being drawn out by his people.

Confirming the extent of damage done by the flood, he said, "we have pulled out over

six vehicles from these river today due to the heavy rainfall that occurred (Sunday). Also three bodies have since been recovered; we have two female children and an average grown up woman, all floating up on the stream."

On what to do to prevent future occurrence, he appealed to the state government to see to the newly built filling station, allegedly hindering the easy passage of water, saying, "the government should also expand the river and stop people from throwing refuse inside it".