



Asari Dokubo Insults Sanusi The New Emir Of Kano

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Three workers feared killed at Delta project site

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By **Felix Igbekoyi** / *Correspondent,*
Asaba

Three employees of Constructed Contractors Company (CCC) were Wednesday feared dead after a pile pit at a flyover bridge collapsed and buried them alive.

The accident occurred less than one week after the British High Commissioner to Nigeria, Mr. Peter Carter lauded the Delta State government for embarking on what he called massive people-oriented projects, especially the Asaba flyover project by the Interbau Roundabout,

Delta State Government had embarked on the construction of two flyover projects in Effurun, Uvwie and Asaba, Oshimili South Local Government Areas at a total cost of over N8 billion.

Two other persons were injured in the incident which occurred at about 11.00am. The pile pit which reaches a depth of over 20 feet is designed to hold the beams on which the flyover rests.

The incident sparked off protest among the workers of the company after management insisted that they return to work after the incident.

The Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) assisted in evacuating the casualties to the Federal Medical Centre, FMC, Asaba.

When contacted, Funkekeme Solomon, Commissioner for Works, confirmed the development, but assured that the injured workers were undergoing treatment.

The workers have accused management of CCC of insensitivity to their plight, because two workers have died in the last few weeks due to a lack of adherence to safety regulations.

But one of the workers who does not want his name mentioned blamed the company for not providing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including overalls, hand gloves, hard hats and safety boots and other welfare incentives, lamenting that overtime was not being paid and the workers were in the dark as to the criterion used to calculate overtime.

He said two deaths have been recorded recently in the course of construction of the flyover project without the company making any effort to support family of the workers.

His words, “A lot of things are happening at the site. Despite all odds we have pressed forward. We know our rights. If anything happens to us let the company show concern. Someone had accident last week we all went back to work. Today three persons were buried alive and are in a state of coma. All we are asking for is to have a day’s rest so that we can pray for them. We are not taken care of very well. We should honour the people who are on the sick bed. We are not unionized so the company treats us shabbily. We want the company to show some concern for our welfare”.

Project Supervisor of the contracting firm, Engineer Heithem Zeidan was not available for comments but the Administrative Manager simply identified as Diran became aggressive as reporters sought his views on the incident.

“I am only here to address my workers and not journalists. I do not have time for you people,” he said.

As at press time, work has yet to resume at the site.

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