

speaking at a meeting by the Peoples Democratic Party persons want to attack me, they

Boat Mishap Kills 10 In Rivers

BY ANAYO ONUKWUGHA, Port Harcourt

No fewer than seven persons, including three children lost their lives during a mishap involving a passenger boat along the Bonny River in Bonny local government area of Rivers State.

The incident occurred around 4:00pm after the boat, which was travelling from Port Harcourt, the state capital, to Bonny, faced a strong wind in the middle of the sea. Similarly at least three people died when

two passenger boats coming in opposite direction collided along the Soku-Abonnema waterways in Akuku-Toru local government area of the state.

Following this incidents the caretaker committee chairman of Akuku-Toru local government area, banned the operation of boats at night in the area.

Alalibo also threatened to sanction boat drivers flouting the law as well as those who operated without adherence to laid down rules of marine transportation in the state.

He said, "The accident occurred between two boats which claimed the lives of some passengers: one ferrying passengers from Soku to Abonnema, and the other carrying passengers from Abonnema to Soku in the night.

"Henceforth, all boat drivers operating in Akuku-Toru local government area are directed as follows: all passengers must be provided with life-vest; all drivers must ensure that all passengers on-board must put on their life-vest before embarking on the journey; no opera-

tor must convey passengers to any destination at night except in cases of emergency and the journey must be cleared with security agencies."

In a bid to forestall further lose of lives through boat mishaps in the state, especially in Bonny local government area, the state commissioner for Transportation, Deacon Akie Dagogo Fubara, recently held a meeting with officials of the local government council, traditional rulers, marine transport operators and security agents in Bonny.

Detained PDP Members To Court – Makarfi

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