

11 killed in Bauchi riot, doctor tells panel

bodies were brought to the hospital by the police, while one of the victims died on admission in the hospital.

He said some 87 victims of the civil disturbances were treated for injuries, including gunshots and machete cuts.

Istifanus told the commission that 59 of the victims were treated for minor injuries at the emergency unit of the hospital.

"Twenty others who sustained various degrees of gunshot injuries and machete cuts were admitted, while one victim was referred to the Jos University Teaching Hospital (JUTH) for further treatment," he said.

Istifanus said seven bodies were later released to their relations on the directive of the state government.

He said two remaining bodies were released to

Bauchi Local Government Area for burial.

"All the victims died of either gunshots, machete cuts or burns," he said.

According to him, the state government defrayed the cost of the medical treatment of the victims, put at N321,590.

He, however, said that most of the victims on

admission in the hospital left their hospital beds with out being formally discharged.

"Only three out of the over 20 patients were formally discharged by the hospital," he said.

The commission's chairman, Ibrahim Sabo, directed the hospital to

release all relevant information on the victims.

Sabo said such information should contain the names and addresses of the deceased as well as victims treated and discharged by the hospital.

The commission continues sitting.

Kano allocates N3b for rice production

KANO State Government has set aside N3 billion to boost rice production in the next four year.

Alhaji Musa Shanono, the Commissioner for Agriculture and Natural Resources, announced this yesterday in Kano at the opening of a workshop on "Project Bee-Inception" for stakeholders in the development of commercial agriculture.

Our correspondent reports that the one-day

workshop, was organised by the State Agricultural and Rural Development Authority with the assistance of the World Bank.

Shanono, who was represented by Alhaji Abba Datti, Director, Agricultural Services, said that a total of 14 dams would be rehabilitated in preparation for the take-off of the rice project.

He said that 10,000 hectares would be cultivated for the project.

He said the project,

which, he described, as "gigantic" would be implemented with technical support from MARITECH Consultants of Malaysia.

The commissioner said that about 800,000 people would be employed "if the project fully comes on stream".

He pledged that government would subsidise fertiliser at N1,000 per bag

since government intended to give agriculture the serious attention it deserved.