

Six killed, 42 injured in Damaturu rainstorm

• Houses, worship centres wrecked in Edo

By Duku Joel, Damaturu On May 11, 2022



By Duku Joel, Damaturu and Bisi Olaniyi, Benin City

Six persons died on Monday night in a rainstorm in Damaturu, Yobe State.

The rain started around 5pm accompanied with very strong winds, which wreaked havoc in the metropolis.

Director of Rescue, State Emergency Management Agency, Dr. Baba Jalo, confirmed that six people died and 42 injured.

Jalo said the deaths and injuries resulted from collapsing buildings as the strong winds lashed at them.

“Yesterday we were able to evacuate a lot of injured people,” he said. “We evacuated a total of 42 people that were injured to the accident and emergency unit of the State Specialist Hospital. Some sustained minor injuries.

“We lost six people during the rainstorm. Their houses collapsed on them. It happened in three households at Abbari Mai Mala settlement.”

Jalo said the storm destroyed structures in parts of the metropolis including Maisadari, Nayinawa and Pompomari, adding that the Agency will assess the damage.

He attributed the strong wind to climate change.

“Instead of the wind to come from northwards, it’s rather coming from eastward. These are clear impacts of climate change that we have to cope with,” he said.

Governor Mai Mala Buni yesterday visited the injured at the Sani Abacha Specialist Hospital Damaturu, praying for their quick recovery, and the repose of the dead.

Two females and four males died in the incident.

“It is very sad to lose the victims in this very unfortunate natural disaster but that is the time decreed by the Almighty. We pray to Allah to forgive their shortcomings and grant their families the fortitude to bear the loss,” he prayed.

Rainstorm also wreaked havoc yesterday in Ubiaja in Esan Southeast council of Edo State.

Residents said many houses and other valuables worth millions of naira were destroyed.

A local source told The Nation on the phone that Ebhuru Quarters in Ubiaja was the worst hit, with roofs of private houses and worship centres blown away by the rainstorm.

Many residents of the community have been forced from their home.