

Three die in Rivers building collapse

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③ **T**HREE persons died at the weekend when a two-storey building under construction collapsed in Nbodo community, Aluu, Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State.

It was gathered that the Disaster Management Rescue Team of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) and other agencies tried to rescue victims.

A statement by the NSCDC spokesperson Olufemi Ayodele confirmed the incident, but said it would have been avoided if the contractor had not used substandard materials.

According to him, preliminary investigations showed that the rods, pillars and blocks used in the construction were far below the required specifications.

He said: "It is high time Nigerians began to take responsibility for their actions, most especially when life is involved. The collapse at Aluu, Ikwerre Local Government Area, could have been avoided if standard materials and right specifications were used.

"Owners of buildings and landlords are hereby advised to be wary of desperate and quack contractors who only care about their pockets."