



Two feared killed, many trapped in Anambra building collapse

A FOUR-STOREY building under construction collapsed yesterday at Dennis Memorial Grammar School (DMGS), Onitsha, Anambra State.

Some persons were said to have been trapped in the debris of the building being constructed in the school by a billionaire, which had reached the finishing stages, when it caved in about 7.15am.

Although no life was lost in the incident, a source in the school said there were fears that some of the trapped persons might not make it.

From Nwanosike Onu, ~~Awka~~

The source added that the school had committed a huge amount in erecting the structure.

"The building started caving in from the last floor until it came down to the rubbles.

"The failed structure did not pose any danger as the students' hostel was far from the building site which saved the situation," the source added.

Director of Operations, DMGS Centenary, Chijioke Oji, described it as an irretrievable situation, citing possibility of casualties.

He, however, said efforts were ongoing to protect life and account for everyone around the collapsed building.

Anambra State Chairman, Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria (COREN), Victor Meju, said it could be a human error. He said COREN would conduct forensic analysis to actually determine the exact cause of the collapse.

Meju, told *The Nation* that he had seen the materials of the building and certified some proper, adding that proper investigation had to be carried

out.

Already, according to the COREN boss, evacuation had started taking place as members of the Police Command, Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), the state Deputy Governor, Dr Onyekachukwi Ibezim, and some commissioners had stormed the scene.

However, he was not sure of the casualties, but he said the site engineer told him that three persons were working at the building three two days ago, adding that the phone numbers of two were not traceable as at the time of filing this report.