

# 16 perish in Niger boat accident



Sixteen persons have died with 134 still missing in a boat mishap in Mokwa Local Government Area of Niger State.

This is coming barely a week after the National Hydroelectric Power Producing Areas Development Commission (N-HYPPADEC) distributed 33 fibreglass boats to nine states to prevent boat accidents. The accident, it was learnt, occurred at about 8.30 pm on Independence Day on River Niger upstream Jebba dam, at Gbajibo Community in Mokwa Local Government Area.

---

**Read Also:** [Is Soludo on the ropes?](#)

---

The state Emergency Management Agency (NSEMA) said the boat was sailing from Mundi Community with 300 passengers, mostly women and children on board, for the Maulid celebration at Gbajibo.

## **Related News**

The NSEMA Director-General, Abdullahi Baba Arah, said the prompt response from community volunteers led to the rescue of over 150 persons, adding that search and rescue is ongoing to locate more survivors.

He stated that NSEMA is working with the state Ministry of Transport, Mokwa Local Government Emergency Committee, local divers, and other community volunteers to rescue any survivors and recover bodies of those who are deceased. The state government had last week said 182 lives had been lost to boat mishaps in the past three years.