



181 died in Jigawa tanker explosion, says governor

JIGAWA State Governor Umar Namadi yesterday said 181 people died, following the October 15 tanker explosion in his state.

According to him 80 people are still hospitalized. 210 families were affected.

Namadi gave these figures to State House reporters after meeting with President Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

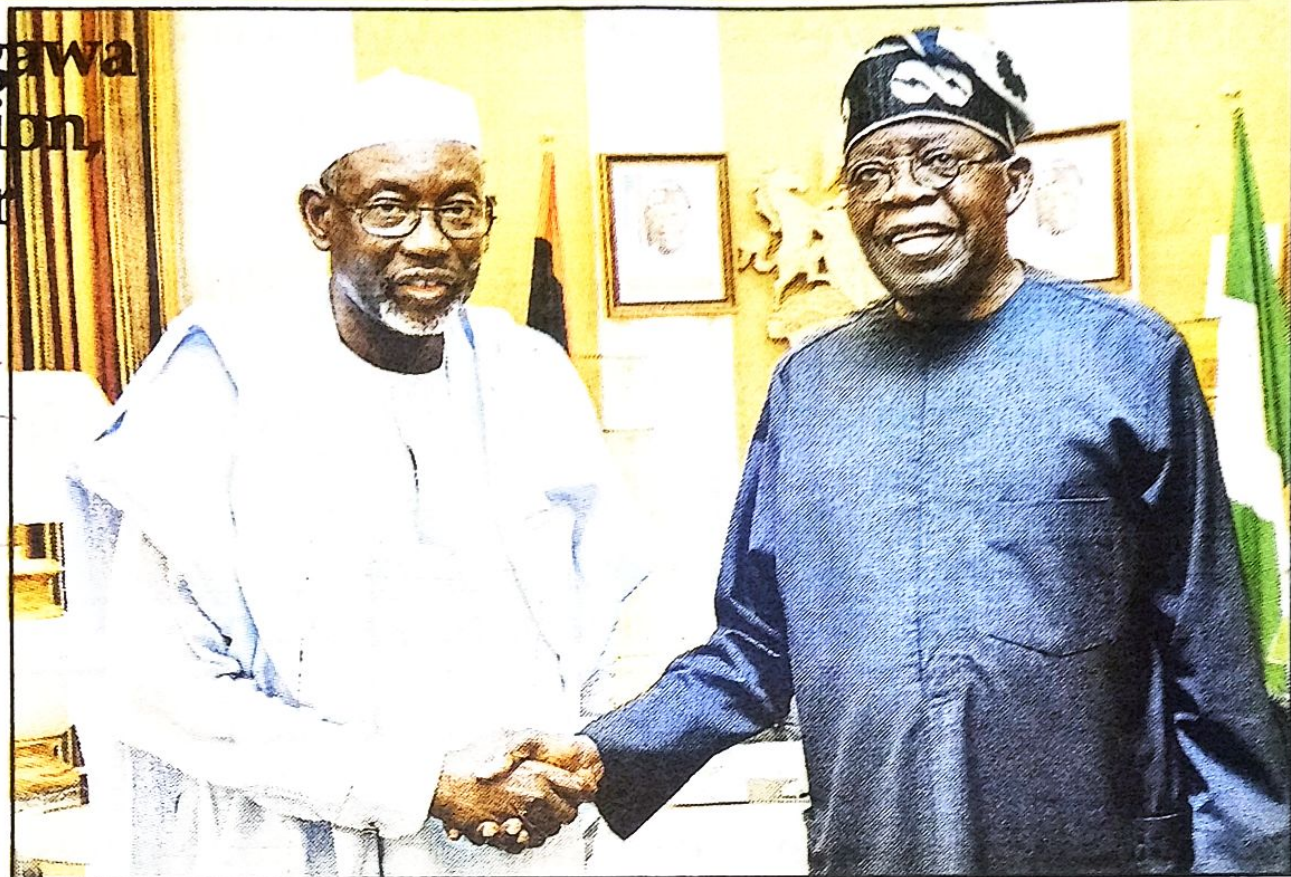
The governor said he was at the State House to welcome the president back from his annual leave and to brief him on the sad development.

"I felt it is important to come and brief the president on what we are doing as government and also thank him for sending a delegation immediately the incident happened.

"This action taken by Mr President has been appreciated by the people of Jigawa.

"So, I felt I should come to thank him for doing that, and also to brief him on the situation; where we are and what we are trying to do," said Namadi.

He said that the state government had paid the medical bills of all the people hospitalised and carried out a lot of interventions to bring succour to



• President Tinubu (right) with Governor Namadi ...yesterday.

PHOTO: AKIN OLADOKUN.

From Bolaji Ogundele, Abuja and From Fanen Ihyongo, Kano

the affected families.

"Mr President has promised to intervene and assist the victims.

"The state government has already established a high-powered committee, headed by a retired DIG, to find out the remote cause and advise the government.

"You should also remember that Mr President gave a direc-

tive immediately to the Corps Marshal of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) to investigate the matter and come up with a permanent solution to this problem (tanker explosions) in the country," he said.

Saudi condoles with Nigeria

The Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has conveyed its heartfelt con-

lences to the Federal Republic of Nigeria in the wake of a devastating tanker explosion that occurred in Jigawa State, claiming numerous lives and leaving many others injured.

An official statement, signed by Mohammed Alshahi Saudi press Attache and made available to newsmen in Kano, expressed sympathy for the victims of the tragic incident and extended its deepest condolences to the families of those who lost their lives.