Diphtheria claims 7 in Dekina

Ø From ADAMA JOHN, Lokoja

SEVEN people have been feared dead in Dekina Local Government Area of Kogi State following an outbreak of Diphtheria.

While six die in Omewe Opada, one died in Abocho in Biraidu district of the local government.

In a quick reaction to the development, state Commissioner for Health, Dr. Sule Odoma said that government has taken adequate measures to combat the spread of the disease and to treat victims.

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According to him, government has purchased enough drugs to combat the disease while a team of vaccinators have been deployed to the area to ensure that children in the area were vaccinated.

Dr. Odoma said that he has personally visited Omewe Opada where the child-killer disease killed six children, adding that others who were infected by the disease had been treated.

The commissioner said that the representative of World

Health Organization in the state has visited the Diphtheria troubled areas.

Governor Ibrahim Idris, he said, has directed that the Omewe Opada cottage hospital should be functional to meet the rising challenges of health care delivery in the area.

Consequently, the state Hospital Management Board (HMB) has been instructed to deploy medical staff to the hospital and advised the people in Biraidu district to report promptly any strange ailment to the hospital for medical attention.