

25 bodies recovered in Lagos collapsed building

From RAYMOND
TEDUNJAYE, Lagos

At least, 25 corpses including that of a four-year-old boy have been recovered under the collapsed four-storey building in Ebute Metta area of Lagos which occurred

Tuesday night, even as the rescue workers intensified efforts to recover more bodies.

This is happening, just as the state government vowed to prosecute the owner of the collapsed building and confiscate three others owned by him

which are situated within the vicinity.

As at press time, some of the residents trapped under the collapsed building situated on No. 56 Bola Street, off Ibadan Street, Ebute-Metta East are still alive, as they still commu-

nicated with the relatives on mobile phones.

The combined rescue team, which includes the Police, Red Cross, Civil Defence Corps, officials of the state Ministry of Health and sympathizers, as

See Page 2 Col 1

Collapsed building

From Front Page Col 4

witnessed by our correspondent, were seen battling to excavate the rubble with the assistance of tractors owned by Julius Berger Plc.

All the recovered bodies were immediately conveyed to the state owned hospital located within the area in an ambulance marked LA 125 A08, where they were deposited for autopsy.

Governor Bola Tinubu, who arrived the scene at about noon yesterday, expressed shock over the incidence, just as he vowed that the owner of the building would be dealt with accordingly.

He however expressed concern over the slow pace of the rescue operation as the workers were being disrupted

INEC

From Front Page Col 6

He said INEC will put in place all that is necessary to ensure transparent, free and fair elections next year.

The Electoral Act 2006 Section 10(5) provides that the registration of voters, updating and revision of the register voters shall stop not later than 120 days before any election implying that the voter register must be ready by December for the 2007 elections.

greatly by countless number of people who thronged the scene to see the incidence.

The governor pleaded with sympathizers particularly those who stood on the rubbles wailing and crying as the rescue work continued to come down from the top of the rubbles to allow the rescue team do the job quickly to enable them to save more lives.

Speaking on the owner of the building, Governor Tinubu said the person would be prosecuted. He said the developer is a criminal who cannot escape from justice having "had so many lives lost due to his stupidity."

"We know other places where this developer has this type of building. We would investigate him and the approved plan of those buildings he has built anywhere in Lagos," the governor promised the people.

Also speaking at the scene, the state command Police Public Relations officer, Mr. Olubode Ojajuni said the police rescue team responded swiftly to the distress call with all its personnel to assist in the operation.

He added that the large presence of anti-riot policemen at the scene was to forestall the break down of law and order by miscreants who could utilize the opportunity.