completed, ease congestion of traffic. When we came in, we called the contractor who had abandoned the project before we came in and opened up discussions with him"

government, last week, opened up the flyover to motorists to alleviate the suffering of people and to reduce traffic gridlock in the area.

NEMA recorded 314 deaths in North West in 2015—Coordinator

MUHAMMAD SABIU - GUSAU

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THE National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), North West Zone, comprising Kaduna, Kano, Jigawa and Katsina states, has said 314 people died while 431 sustained injuries as a result of different kinds of disasters in 2015.

This was disclosed by the Zonal Co-ordinator in charge of the zone, Alhaji Musa Abdullahi IIelIah in an interview.

According to him, within the year under review, the agency recorded five major cases of bomb blasts and gun attacks in the zone.

He said the five major cases were the Sabon Gari bomb blast in Kano, Dangi Pharmacy bomb blast in Kano, GSM market bomb blast in Kano, the Shiite attack in Kano as well as the Army/Shiite attack in Zaria.

IlelIah disclosed that also within the year under review, Jigawa State recorded the least cases of natural disasters while Kano had the highest cases of disasters.

The NEMA boss declared that Jigawa had 9 cases, Katsina 10, Kaduna 19 and Kano 24.

The Co-ordinator maintained that from the record obtained by his agency, 314 people died while 431 people were injured during the year.

He also disclosed that his agency had intervened in so many requests from Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs), Internally Displaced Peoples (IDPs) and orphanage homes.

"We gave them items like blankets, mattresses, detergents, turkey oil, Zinc, cement as well as grains", he stressed.

While assuring his agency's determination to continue to provide humanitarian services in times of disasters, he implored residents in the zone to avoid building structures on waterways and riversides.

He also counselled residents to avoid dumping items like nylon bags, pure water sachets, etc on culverts and drainages. According to Bunu, the state did not experience any incident of pipeline vandalism because of certain proactive measures that were taken.

He explained that earlier in the outgoing year, the Command embarked on the sensitisation of various communities on the dangers of vandalism in Igabi, Kaduna-North, Kaduna-South, Chikun and Kachia Local government areas, noting that the affected communities were chosen in view of prevalent incidence.

Pertaining to other forms of crimes and criminalities, the state NSCDC boss said: "Through intelligence report, we arrested notorious hard drug dealers in the course of combing suspected black spots, apprehended car snatching syndicates and uncovered illegal sites for the production of fake liquor in the state."

Senator Sani adopts 60 orphans

MUHAMMAD SABIU-KADUNA

THE Senator representing Kaduna Central Senatorial District and Chairman Senate Committee on Foreign and Local debts, Comrade Shehu Sani, has adopted all the 60 orphans in the Adonai Orphanage Home in Kaduna.

The Senator also granted scholarships to two of the orphans that just finished their secondary schools to proceed further in their higher education in China.

Speaking during a courtesy visit to the Adonai Orphanage, Barnawa, Senator Sani, who donated cash and food items for new year celebration, said there was the need for leaders and privileged Nigerians to always remember the orphans, especially during festive periods.

He pointed out that though the children at

the Orphanage Home were orphans, they deserved a future like every other child in the society.

While emphasising that leaders across the country owed it a duty to support the orphans and make their lives useful and beneficial to the society, he maintained that deliberated efforts must be made to give them hope and to make it possible for them to realise their dreams.

"I urge Nigerians who have the means to help the orphans and contribute in helping them live a good life to do so . As orphans, their basic needs are food, clothing, shelter and education and we all owe them that."

Earlier, Evangelist Elizabeth Afuwape, matron of the orphanage, who was represented by Pastor Samuel Oyelowo commended the Senator for his kind gesture to the home.

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