

Ekpan tragedy: 4 dead, more sustain injuries

EBENEZER ADUROKIYA-WARRI

THE initial rumour that scores of persons sustained gunshot injuries after Mrs Alice Akparobi was felled by bullets fired by a soldier at Ekpan junction in Uvwie Local Government Area of Delta State, on Saturday morning, has been confirmed to be true by the Delta Police Command.

Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Celestina Kalu, who confirmed the incident, told the Nigerian Tribune through a text message that Isaac Saduwa of number 34, behind Eredo Primary School, Effurun was one of the victims hit by a stray bullet from irate soldiers.

Kalu said about 11:54a.m, father of the victim, Shedrack Saduwa had reported at the Ekpan Police Station, Effurun that his son was hit by a stray bullet and that he had been rushed to Bryant Hospital in Warri for treatment.

She said after a medical form was obtained, the victim was admitted in the theater for surgical operation, but added that he's responding to treatment.

Meanwhile, the soldier suspect, one L/Cpl Mustapha Bello, attached to 3 Battalion, Nigerian Army, Effurun, is said to have made a statement to that effect.

Kalu said the soldier, who is suspected to be the killer of Mrs Akparobi at Ekpan Junction, denied shooting the deceased.

He is said to have argued in his statement that the deceased might have been stabbed to death by an un-

known tricycle rider even though the injuries found in her body revealed those similar to those of gunshots.

The spokesperson, however, added that further investigations were ongoing, adding that "intelligence

report has it that more persons sustained gunshot injuries as soldiers attempted to disperse the mob."

The authorities of the 3 Battalion, Nigerian Army, Effurun, had said the soldiers, who killed Mrs

Kogi has received N20bn bailout fund—Bello

YINKA OLADOYINBO-LOKOJA

THE Kogi State workers at the 2016 Workers' Day celebration, on Sunday, went into jubilation as the state governor, Alhaji Yahaya Bello, said the bailout applied for by the state government was ready, adding that N20 billion first tranche has been released to pay part of the salaries arrears owed workers.

The governor said the release of the fund was delayed because of the manner the last administration in the state handled the application and documentations for the fund.

Addressing workers that gathered for the annual International Workers' Day celebration at the Confluence Stadium, Lokoja the state capital, the governor said the application was poorly handled that his administration had to start from the scratch.

The immediate past administration of Captain Idris Wada, had applied for a bailout fund of N57 billion to pay the outstanding salaries of the state and local government workers.

"The reality we met on ground at the CBN was

that the previous application made on behalf of the state by the last administration was fraught with irregularities and shoddily done. In a word, it was so badly done it could never be approved. We had to start from scratch.

"We are glad to announce that our efforts have paid off. This week we received approval to draw down on the first tranche of our bailout funds from the Federal Government. This will amount to about N20 billion. We will draw down on the balance of about N30 billion as we meet the milestones for implementation of the first tranche as set by the Central Bank of Nigeria.

"I also announce a commitment to use that money for salaries and emoluments of our workers. I am certain that by the time we fully disburse the bailout funds, disputes over outstanding emoluments will be over," the governor said.

Governor Bello, however, announced that there would be no sacred cow in the ongoing screening exercise being carried out by the state government to ascertain the actual number of workers on its payroll.

Akparobi, who was on her way to her daughter's wedding venue, and scores of persons with gun injuries, had just been recently deployed from other parts of the country to the barracks.

A top officer, who spoke with the Nigerian Tribune on condition of anonymity, said the newly deployed soldiers had shown some naïveté of the area, through their dastardly act, adding that efforts were ongoing to reorientate them on the rules of engagement.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly Mrs Adenike Adeola Akande now MISS ADENIKE ADEOLA ALADEGBAMI. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly Mone Eneregha Beatrice now KINGS ENEREGHA BEATRICE. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly Miss Mercy Tochukwu Okonkwo now MRS MERCY TOCHUKWU PROMISE. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

PROBATE PUBLIC NOTICE

We, Miss Bosede Feyisayo Ojo and Mr Michael Babatunde Ojo C/O their Solicitor F. Olatunde Ajani Esq of Alhaja Atopo Shopping Complex, Odo-Ori Market, Iwo, Osun State of Nigeria have applied to the Probate Registry of the Customary Court of Appeal Osogbo for Letters of Administration to administer the Estate of late Hezekiah Adelani Ojo of Ile Olodo, Ile-Ogbo, Osun State who died intestate on the 21st day of March, 2015.

Any objection to the application is to be forwarded to the Probate Registry of Customary Court of Appeal, Osogbo within 14 days of this notice.

... session in Ibadan, Oyo State, on Saturday.

CH

I, Toyin now KAFADOCU Gener

CH

I, for Adero MRS OLUV docum Gener

CH

I, form RAJI I former valid. note.

PRO

We, Mr Salami Ajani E Comple State of Probate of App Adminis of late Abangb who die October

Any be forwa Custom within 14