

② Collapsed 7-storey building: NEMA confirms 15 dead, 31 rescued

SOUTH-SOUTH Coordinator, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Mr Ejike Martins, has said 15 people were brought out dead from the rubble at the site of the collapsed in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, while 31 others were rescued alive.

Martins told newsmen on Monday that every floor of the seven-floor building fell on one another in the process of the collapse, which made rescue operations difficult.

According to him, "the peculiarity of this collapse is such that every floor fell directly on the other; the implication is that the debris will be removed bit by

bit.

"This is what has made the operation to be seen as relatively slow; this is also the reason it is taking some time," he said.

Martins said the organisations involved in the rescue operations had been proactive but added that they were constrained by the peculiarity of the collapse.

It will be recalled that the seven-storey building under construction at the Government Reserved Area, Port Harcourt, collapsed on November 19.

The rescue operations at the site of the building collapse were criticised by some members of the public as "slow and poor."

Court watches intimacy ta