

Seven people died, 20 houses destroyed during rainstorm in Yola —NEMA

TOM Garba with Agency Report

THE National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) has confirmed that seven people died in the Thursday rainstorm in Yola, Adamawa State.

Mr Abani Garki, the agency's head of operation in charge of Adamawa and Taraba states, disclosed this to *News Agency of Nigeria*

(NAN) in Yola on Saturday. "Seven people were recorded dead and 20 houses affected in the Thursday rainstorm."

"The areas affected are many. Our rescue and data collection teams are on the

mission and when the accurate data reach our state office, we will inform you," Garki said.

He listed some of the areas affected as Runde-Baru, Wuro-Jabbe, Damilu, Yolde-Pate, Bachure, Kofare, Jam-

butu among others, all in Yola South and Yola North local government areas.

Garki attributed the frequent flooding in most of the affected areas to the community's negligence, saying residents demarcate

and sell their lands without proper town planning

He advised the Adamawa State government to look into the land issues and urged people to avoid building in flood prone areas.

Security of life, property my priority —Ortom

Johnson Babajide Makurdi

GOVERNOR Samuel Ortom of Benue State has reaffirmed his administration's commitment to security of lives and properties of Benue residents.

Ortom gave the assurance on Saturday in Maryland, United States, while addressing Mutua Union of Tiv.

In a statement issued by his Chief Press Secretary, Terver Akase, the governor said that the security of lives and property was one of the priorities of his government.

He solicited the support of Benue people in the diaspora to contribute to the development of the state.

The governor, who commended President Muhammad Buhari for appointing Senator George Akume as a minister, said he was looking forward to a working rela-

PDM withdraws petition against Bauchi gov

Factional members of Bauchi Assembly reconcile

Ishola Michael | Bauchi

THE Bauchi State chapter of the Peoples Democratic Movement (PDM) has withdrawn its petitions filed against the election of Bauchi State governor, Bala Mohammed Abdulkadir, at the State Governorship Election Tribunal. This was just as the crisis rocking the Bauchi State House, following the emergence of two Speakers, is now over as the leader of the aggrieved faction, former Speaker of the House, Kawuwa Shehu Damina, led 16 other members-elect to take oath of office and allegiance at a special session held on Friday night.

day night.

Chairman of the tribunal, Justice Salihu Shuaibu, granted the withdrawal of the party's petitions on Saturday at the tribunal sitting in Bauchi.

Counsel to the PDM, Aliyu Lemu, said that the withdrawal followed the achievements so recorded by the Governor Mohammed led PDP administration so far. Lemu said that after consultations with relevant stakeholders, members of the PDM in the state decided to join hands with the administration in the state for positive development.

He assured that the party would support and coop-

erate with the present administration for the speedy development of the state and for the success of the administration.

Meanwhile, the Kawuwa Damina-led camp bowed to pressure from different quarters within and outside the state.

Former Speaker Kawuwa Shehu Damina, believed to be loyal to the former Governor, Mohammed Abdullahi Abubakar, led the remaining 16 members to take their oath of office and oath of allegiance, and were inaugurated at a special session presided over by the Deputy Speaker of the House, Danlami Ahmed

Kawule.

Mohammed, who witnessed the inauguration, told newsmen that it was victory for democracy and the people of the state. He expressed his gratitude to the members for accepting to be inaugurated.

Governor Mohammed said the state government the crisis was resolved following the intervention of traditional rulers.

The Deputy Speaker, Ahmed Kawule, who presided over the special session, tasked the members to discharge their responsibilities in accordance with the constitution of Nigeria and the rules of the Assembly.

Bauchi gets \$3m to tackle out-of-school children menace

Ishola Michael | Bauchi

IN effort to reduce the rate of out-of-school children in the North-East, the Better Education Service Delivery for All (BESDA) project is to give Bauchi State \$3 million grant for the development of the state's educational structure.

The announcement of the grant was made by the team leader of the BESDA project, Professor Gidado Tahir, when he led members of the project on a courtesy call to the Bauchi State governor, Bala Abdulkadir Mohammed, at the Government House on Friday.

Professor Tahir explained

Tribunal upholds election of two House of Representatives