Flood claims one in Ilorin

Biola Azeez | Ilorin

THE heavy rain on Wednesday in Ilorin, Kwara State, claimed the life of a lady, Adeyemi La-

Lateefah, a student of the Kwara State Polytechnic, Ilorin was reportedly going to the Maraba motor park, few metres from her Mubo residence, when she slipped and fill into the flooded drain.

It was gathered that the Wednesday downpour caused instant flooding of the area owing to what residents called the poor construction of the Asa drainage.

Speaking during an on-thespot assessment of the Asa river channelisation project at Mubo community of Ilorin on Thursday, Governor Abdulrahman Abdulrazaq commiserated with the family of the deceased, assuring them that a search team had been dispatched to look for her remains; and that the admin-

istration would ensure that proper steps are taken to prevent such an incident in the

The governor also called on the Federal Government to order contractors handling the channelisation of the Asa River in the state back to site, saying that the drainage channel was poorly done, and was too narrow to prevent flooding in the area.

AbdulRazaq said he had written to the Federal Government about the threats the poor job pose to the people of the state, especially residents of Ilorin, the state capital.

"This (channelisation) was long awarded. They didn't execute it properly. We have written them a letter that they should come and finish it. What they did is too narrow," he said.

AbdulRazag said that he had directed the Kwara State Ministries of Works and Transport, Environment and

Forestry to immediately drain the flooded area, including a mega church where dozens of people were trapped following the downpour.

He also reiterated government's appeal for people in flood-prone areas to evacuate such vicinities following national forecasts about heavy flooding across the country, including Kwara State.

The governor's appeal came on the heels of a statewide sensitization campaign by the administration on the need for people to leave the flashpoint already identified by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry.

Apart from the various sensitisation campaigns that began with a news briefing in August, officials from the ministry and the Government House had since Monday kickstarted a new sensitisation tour of various areas of the state where flooding is expected.