

# Three feared killed, govt house fence, others destroyed as downpour wreaks havoc in Osun

## Gov tours affected areas

Adeolu Adeyemo | Osogbo

**A**BOUT three persons reportedly died on Tuesday night in Osogbo, Osun State after being swept away by flood following a downpour that lasted for hours in the state capital, while several properties were destroyed.

The fence of the state's Government House was pulled down by strong winds that accompanied the downpour.

It was gathered that the deceased lost their lives in Oke-Onitea and Oke-Ijetu areas while trying to manoeuvre their ways out of the flood.

An eyewitness account said one of the victims, an okada rider, was swept away when he got trapped in the flood at Oke-Onitea area, while the remaining

two were said to be passing the area to their homes when they were swept away by the flood.

Speaking on the development, spokesperson for the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), Osun State command, Daniel Adigun, confirmed that a man drowned at Oke-Onitea, just as he added that a woman also died at Okejetu area.

He, however, added that the bodies of the deceased were recovered on the spot.

Meanwhile, vehicular and human movements towards the state's Government House were restricted by security operatives following the collapse of the Government House fence.

Vehicles were diverted to other routes to get to their different destinations.

However, the state gov-

ernor, Gboyega Oyetola, on Wednesday evening, conducted an on-the-spot assessment to areas affected by the flood, just as he promised to provide succour for affected citizens.

Oyetola said government was already working hard to forestall future occurrence, adding that efforts had been put in place to ensure safety against natural disasters.

Addressing residents of Alie community in Olorunda Local Government Area, Governor Oyetola called for attitudinal change to environment management by residents of the state.

He said: "I sincerely sympathise with our people who have lost property to the flood. It was unfortunate, especially as it didn't spare any quarter.

"From our observation, some of the waterways

had blockages due to indiscriminate waste disposal by residents. In some cases, some people have mounted structures, either residential or business, on water passages.

"What we must realise is that water will always find a path for itself. Water can never be hindered, hence the need to always accord it its right of passage.

"What we are concerned about is the safety of our citizens. At this stage, we are not so much bothered about the location of the incident, whether it is a state road or federal road. What matters to us is the safety of the lives and property of our citizens."

Some of the areas visited by the governor include Oke-Ijetu, Alie community, Gbodofon community, Alekunwodo area, GRA and Lameco area.