

12-year-old boy, eight others killed in separate incidents in Lagos

Two storey-building collapses

Olalekan Olabulo | Lagos

NINE persons, including a 12-year-old boy lost their lives in three separate incidents that occurred in Lagos over the weekend, while many others were injured.

Four persons lost their lives in a fire incident that ravaged a club and bar at Olodi Apapa area of the state.

Two other persons were also killed when a school fence collapsed and crashed on them at Ejigbo area of the state.

Also, three yet-to-be identified occupants of a commercial bus also lost their lives and many others injured in multiple accidents that occurred around Mile 2 area.

The state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Benjamin Hundeyin, confirmed all the incidents to the Nigerian Tribune, just as he added that investigations had commenced into all of them.

The police spokesperson in Lagos said: "On October 13, at about 7:50a.m, a distress call was received that at about 7:45a.m of same day, fire gutted a lounge and bar located at Baale road, Olodi Apapa.

"Based on the report, teams of policemen and firefighters were swiftly mobilised to the scene and the fire, which affected the whole building, was successfully put out.

"However, four of the company's members of staff, who are yet to be identified, got burnt beyond recognition in the fire.

"The corpses had been evacuated to the Infectious Disease Hospital (IDH) morgue, Yaba for autopsy.

In another incident, also on October 13, at about 6:00p.m, a distress call was received at FESTAC Town division that an unregistered MAN truck laden with black oil, driver yet unknown, allegedly had a brake failure, lost control and rammed three

vehicles -- a Volkswagen commercial bus, a Honda saloon car and another vehicle at Second Rainbow busy stop onward Mile 2 along Oshodi-Apapa expressway.

"As a result, three passengers whose names and addresses are yet unknown in one of the commercial buses died on the spot.

Also on October 12, at about 10:30a.m, a distress call was received at Ejigbo division that the fence of a school located at Apapo Street, off Nurudeen One Street Ejigbo collapsed and fell on three persons.

"The deceased persons were identified as 30-year-old Amala, 28-year-old Etim and 12-year-old Emmanuel, all residents of the area; they were walking home during the rainfall when the fence collapsed on them.

"As a result, the victims sustained serious injuries and became unconscious.

"They were rushed to Isolo General Hospital for treat-

ment, where the said Etim and Emmanuel were confirmed dead by doctors on duty," Hundeyin added.

In another development, a two-storey building at Number 20, Amusu Street, Orile Iganmu, Lagos State, early on Monday morning, collapsed.

As of the time of filing in this report, no life has been reported lost as officials of the Lagos State Emergency Management Agency (LASEMA) embarked on rescue and evacuation exercise.

Occupants of the building had earlier been notified of its distressed state and they had moved out of the building before it came down on Monday.

A video of the collapsed building, which has gone viral on social media, showed how passersby scammed into different direction as the building caved in.

Permanent Secretary in charge of Lagos State Emergency Management

Agency (LASEMA), Dr Femi Oke-Osanyintolu, in a statement on Monday afternoon, confirmed that no life was lost in the incident.

The LASEMA boss said: "In response to distress calls received via the 767/112 Toll-Free Lines at 8:47a.m, LASEMA activated its Cobra Response Team from Onipanu.

"Upon arrival of the agency's Response Team at the incident scene by 9:33a.m, it was observed that a two-storey residential building had self-collapsed on Monday, October 14.

"The cause of the self-collapsed building was attributed to distress, as further information gathered from Lagos State Building Control Agency (LASBCA) at the incident scene revealed that occupants of the building had been served notice to quit as the building had become distressed, but some occupants remained recalcitrant."

According to Oke-Osanyintolu, "Fortunately, there was no loss of life and no injuries were sustained in the course of the building collapsing.

"All occupants of the building escaped unscathed when the building gave signs of imminent collapse."

The LASEMA boss also said that "an assessment has been conducted at the scene of the adjoining two storey-building which reveals that the building was distressed and uninhabitable for occupants.

"All occupants in the said building have been evacuated from for safety reasons."

At the site of the collapsed building were officials of LASEMA, Lagos Response Unit (LRU), Pre-Hospital Care Unit, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Lagos State Fire and Rescue Service, LASBCA, Lagos State Neighborhood Safety Corps (LNSC) and the police.