

NITEL AGM, five others held for rape, murder

An Assistant General Manager with the Nigeria Telecommunications Limited, Mr. Alex Achi and five others have been arrested for the murder of a 16-year-old Sarah Ikape.

The Commissioner of Police, Abuja Police Command, Mr. Lawrence Alobi, told newsmen in Abuja on Friday that others arrested with Achi included Kabiru Yahaya, Ibrahim Muhammed, Aminu Sanni, John Egberere and John Novis.

He said the suspects allegedly raped the victim, who was living at Any Arome Street, NEPA Road, Kubwa, Abuja,

Olusola Fabiyi, Abuja

before brutally killing her.

Alobi said the police were informed by one of her brothers that Ikape disappeared after she left home for her shop earlier in the day.

He said the police quickly organised a search which led to the recovery of her body at Hamza Abdulalahi Farms, also in Kubwa, a satellite town in Abuja.

The police boss said the suspects had all confessed to the crime. He added that Ibrahim confessed that he was promised N200, 000 for the killing, out of which

he was given N50, 000 as advance payment.

The suspect said he then invited the others to participate in the operation. No reason was, however, given for the killing.

But Achi denied being part of the operation, saying, "I am a level 15 officer in my parastatal and I am about to retire. What would I gain from getting involved in this?"

Achi told newsmen that he believed his dismissed former guard was responsible for his travails. He added that the guard was not happy about the dis-

missal, adding that that must have made the former securityman to collude with others to rope him in.

He also said that the other suspects had told him that they did not know him

but were asked to implicate him.

Alobi, however, said all the suspects would soon be charged to court for criminal conspiracy, rape and culpable homicide.

Obasanjo canvasses Nigeria's technological advancement

President Olusegun Obasanjo has said that no country can survive without making science and technology one of the priorities in national development.

The President made this remark while performing the

Chukwudi Akasike, Uyo development and this is why we have made it a priority to treat this area with all the seriousness it deserves."

Describing the science park as an important innovation for the advancement of science and technology