

# Two feared dead as building collapses in Port Harcourt

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**T**WO construction workers were feared dead in Port Harcourt on Tuesday when a building said to be the property of a new generation bank collapsed.

Another two were seriously injured while about 30 workers escaped death as part of the building, located on Benjamin Okpara Street, Off Olu Obasanjo Area, collapsed at about 3pm.

Nobody could ascertain if any of the workers were trapped in the building as at 5pm because there was fear that the

other part of the building might collapse at any moment.

An eyewitness who is a Health Safety Coordinator of Philips Project Centre, Mr. Okezie Wogu, told journalists that the building collapsed at about 3pm.

Wogu said, "The noise was heavy, we came out and saw a pandemonium. Two of the workers who were brought out can not survive it. They were seriously wounded, bleeding all over. In short four of them were in critical condition."

He added that when he saw the severity of the injuries, he contacted the Fire and Rescue unit of the Shell Petroleum

Development Company, which arrived the scene shortly after the injured workers, had been taken to a hospital.

Another eyewitness, a commercial telephone operator near the site, Miss. Thelma Mozi, said that she saw one of the victims battered and bleeding from the mouth and nose.

She added that construction work at the site started less than three months ago.

The Rivers State Commissioner for Housing and Urban Development, Mr. Marshal Uwom, and some of the officials of the ministry were among the first callers at the site.