

Tragedy as mad woman pushes helper to death

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A 32-year-old woman, Remi Bolaji, suspected to be mentally challenged

rls hit N'Assembly

the complex.

Shuaibu Inalegu, a journalist told *PUNCH METRO* that he had to park his car outside the complex because the snarl was unbearable.

A lady, who is a regular visitor to the complex and craved anonymity, complained that she had to return home on Monday when she realised that the checks would not end soon.

On Wednesday morning, the bomb scanning device was reduced to one, worsening the traffic situation.

Other people, who spoke to our correspondent on condition of anonymity,

caused a stir at Ijeshatedo area of Lagos State on Thursday after she pushed down a man trying to rescue her from the top of

recommend the deployment of more bomb scanners and bomb personnel to deal with the problem.

When contacted, the Sergeant-At-Arms of the National Assembly, Col. Emeke Okere (retd.), said the situation was inevitable following the need to secure the complex and those in it.

He said, "You know the situation in the country right now. We want to ensure that the complex is safe for visitors and staff alike.

"We want people to understand as we cannot compromise the security of the lives of our citizens."

being lost.

Ijeshatedo Central Mosque's minaret.

It was gathered that the man, Ikechukwu, 20, had climbed the scaffolding being used in renovating the three storey mosque and was trying to cajole the woman to follow her down, when she suddenly kicked the scaffolding. Ikechukwu died on the spot.

It was not clear, how Bolaji got to the top of the minaret and what her mission was. But some of the residents of the area told our correspondent that she had a long history of mental illness, adding that Thursday's incident was not her first attempt to commit suicide.

PUNCH METRO gathered that the woman got to the top of the minaret at 5am and attracted attention to herself by shouting in excitement.

It was further learnt that the residents called the attention of policemen from Ijeshatedo Police Division. The police in turn sent for Lagos State Fire Service and the state's ambulance service.

It was while the policemen were waiting for the fire service men that Ikechukwu attempted to rescue the woman and died in the process.

However, there was a mild drama as the fire fighters could

not reach the woman. They attempted to flush her down by directing water from their tanker to her. The water did not reach the woman.

Our correspondent gathered that the community's elders later used a pole to push the woman to the roof of the main building before she was rescued.

Spokesman of the state police command, Mr. Frank Mba, said that the crowd in the area attempted to lynch Bolaji but the police managed to rescue her before she was taken to Accident and Emergency Centre at old toll plaza on Lagos-Ibadan Expressway.

Mba said, "Our preliminary findings showed that Bolaji has a history of mental illness. There are documents and medical records to show that she had been a patient at a psychiatrist hospital. Also there are scars on her body from previous attempt to commit suicide.

"She is currently in the intensive care unit of the ambulance service and once she is fit, we are taking her to psychiatrist hospital for tests.

"I cannot tell you now if she will be prosecuted until the result of the psychiatrist tests are out. From our findings, she is not in full possession of her faculties and she might not be responsible for her actions."

mbly complex.

