

Briefly

Democracy hailed

SENATE President, David Mark, has said the African continent currently does not have an alternative to democracy, as it remains the only platform for sustainable development.

Mark said this at the *Daily Trust* 9th annual dialogue at the Transcorp Hilton, in Abuja, on Tuesday.

The Senate President who was represented at the event by the Senate Leader, Sen. Victor Ndoma-Egba (SAN) expressed the opinion that the continent would be better off under democracy.

According to him, the Nigerian Senate on its part has shown its commitment to the democratic process with the passage of laws that encourage transparency in governance and the promotion of the rule of law.

He said "Democracy is a must for Africa; the senate have shown its commitment to both democracy and the media by enacting the Freedom of Information (FoI) bill."

Protester dies

ONE person was feared dead in Edegbene community, Burutu Local Council Area of Delta State on Thursday when some protesting youths laid siege on the construction company handling the building of the road in the area.

A truck belonging to the construction company (name withheld) at the Ogriagbene/Torugbene road construction site allegedly crushed a teenager, leading to the burning of four vehicles belonging to the company.

The youths were reportedly demonstrating against their alleged marginalisation in the payment of compensation that was due the community.

The irate youths, in their hundreds, had stormed the construction site and as a result of the ensuing pandemonium a young boy was crushed by the driver of the truck while trying to escape from the rampaging youths.

One killed

BARELY one week after police killed two notorious armed robbers in Port Harcourt, bandits stormed the printing office of *THE NATION* Newspapers and killed a young woman.

The woman was said have visited the office located near Njemanze Waterfront in Mile One, Diobu at about 7.30pm on Wednesday, unaware that armed robbers were already operating in the building.

The deceased, a graduate of the University of Port Harcourt, was said to have been shot on the head while attempting to enter the printing office of the newspaper organisation.