

revolving loan scheme

for youths in his birthday of his political mentor, Dr. Bukola Saraki. Ahmad also disbursed unspecified amount of money as Christmas gifts to Christian clerics, 35 youths and 70 widows. The lawmaker said the high

unemployment rate in the country had made it imperative for all stakeholders to collaborate with the government's poverty alleviation strategies.

One of the beneficiaries, Alhaji Muideen Oseni, who spoke on behalf of others, commended Ahmad for the gesture.



phone on Wednesday, said, "All efforts to reach the DPO to brief me on the incident have proved abortive. So, I can't give you any update but as soon as I am briefed, I will let you know."

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we used to make before. It is unfortunate the incident occurred but life must go on," he said.

Because of the terrible terrain, firefighters who came with all their equipment and materials found it difficult to access the area.

Policeman kills youth over illegal land charge

Sodiq Oyeleke

A policeman, identified simply as Smart, from Ilaje Police Station, Bariga, Lagos, has allegedly killed a youth in the area following a disagreement between two rival groups over sharing of N250,000 suspected to have been collected from the owner of a newly-constructed building in the area.

The youth identified as Banji was hit by a bullet fired by the policeman.

A source said a member of one of the groups invited the policeman to mediate when tension rose on how to share the money.

It was learnt that after the tension had subsided, the policeman was offered N20,000 but he felt cheated.

The source said, "As usual, when a new house is about to be built or has been built in the area, the touts go there to collect a charge – *Owo Ile* – from the owner.

"So, what happened was that the house falls between the jurisdictions of two different gangs. One of the group is from Seriki Street and the other from Odunisi Street.

"A faction of the gangs having realised that they may lose out, called a policeman, popularly called Smart to support them. On his arrival, he scared the opposition group away. After they have collected the money, the policeman was given N20, 000.

"Unfortunately, one of the area boys informed him that N250,000 was collected and he ought to have been given more money.

On hearing this, he became angry and vowed to shoot if he was not given more money. Some of the area boys begged him, but he refused. Suddenly, he shot and a stray bullet killed Banji."

He added that after the killing, the area boys decided to attack the police station to register their grievances.

"Pained by the death of Banji, the area boys mobilised to attack the police station. They would have succeeded but they were repelled by the policemen who got wind of their plan on time.

"The policemen shot two of them and they were severely injured. I don't really know where the people injured were taken to."

When contacted, the spokesperson for the state police command, Ngozi Braide, said she had yet to be briefed on the incident and promised to call back as soon as she had details.

However, she did not call back before this paper went to bed.

Couple remanded over killing of co-tenant's baby

Sunday Aborisade, Akure

Chief Magistrate's Court in Akure, Ondo State, on Wednesday remanded in prison custody a couple who allegedly killed their co-tenant's three-month-old baby girl with a hard object during a fight.

The toddler was said to be playing in the passage when the couple picked up a quarrel with her mother resulting in a scuffle.

It was learnt that Mr. Oluwaseun Oluwatoba (27) and his wife, Omolara (19), allegedly hit the baby, Roseline Adebisi, on the head with "a hard blunt object" around 7:25pm at Ajebandele Street, Akure last week Wednesday.

When the case came up for hearing on

Wednesday, Police prosecutor argued that the alleged offence was contrary to and punishable under Section 324 of the Criminal Code Cap 37 Laws of Ondo State 2006.

The Prosecutor, Mr. Pelumi Adejuwon, an Assistant Superintendent of Police, prayed that the couple be remanded in prison custody to enable him to send the duplicate of the case file to the Ministry of Justice for legal advice.

Chief Magistrate Omotosho Akinyele therefore ordered that the couple be remanded in prison custody.

He also ordered that the duplicate of the case file be sent to the ministry for appropriate legal advice and subsequently adjourned the case till January 17 for mention.