

on October 7, 2015.

The government had notified the nation that preliminary tests carried out on the blood samples of the patient confirmed that the deceased was negative to both the Ebola virus and the Lassa fever virus.

About three weeks ago, government had also stated that additional tests, using next generation sequencing methods, were going to be carried out at the Redeemers University African Centre of Excellence for Genomics of Infectious Diseases at Ede, Osun State, to confirm which virus must have caused the infection and the subsequent death of the UNICAL student.

But Awute insisted that the UNICAL student died of "metallic poisoning" and not Ebola Virus Disease.

He said, "There is a test confirmation that it is not Ebola. It has also been confirmed that issues like that used to come up. We are sensitive to issues like that, because of the Ebola experience. It is also clear and obvious to us that there was nobody who touched him or who was around him that got infected. And so, it can't be an infectious disease.

"It is traceable to a kind of poison which is classified as metallic poisoning. The UNICAL student was a victim of metallic poisoning; but nobody can actually say how it happened. The most important thing for us is that we have exempted the danger of infecting another person, which means it is not any known infectious disease.

"It is not Ebola and cannot be associated with any infectious disease because all the public health protocols required