

Finance director drowns in Abuja flood

Adelani Adepegba, Abuja

A heavy flood on Friday swept away the Director of Finance, Federal Capital Territory High Court, Mr Tony Okechere.

Okechere was on his way to the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport in his official 2017 Toyota Camry when his vehicle stalled in the flood water at Galadimawa Roundabout, Abuja.

Our correspondent gathered that Okechere's car was following a Toyota Highlander SUV which successfully navigated the flooded road.

His vehicle reportedly lost power and his attempts to restart the engine failed. He and his driver were said to have climbed on the car roof as the level of the water increased.

They reportedly spent a long time shouting for help but no one came to their assistance until Okechere was swept away by the raging flood while his driver, whose name had yet to be ascertained, was rescued by some boys in the area.

Two young girls who claimed to be Okechere's children were seen weeping uncontrollably at the scene of the incident.

The car which was filled with mud water was, however, pulled out by some people, who were angry over the alleged failure of the FCT Emergency Management Agency officials to rescue the victims in time.

Our correspondent observed the safety officers leaving the scene with an inflatable boat.

An eyewitness, Oyewole Adedigba, alleged that FEMA officials did not do enough to rescue the victims, adding that they were so nonchalant about the situation.

He said, "I was driving by when I saw the man and his

driver standing on the roof of their car in the middle of the flood, so I parked. I looked around to see if there was anyone that could help in rescuing them but no one was willing to go into the water. After about five minutes, the water rose to the chest level of the men.

"Then huge waves came and swept one of the men (the

director) away while some boys managed to rescue the driver. The FEMA agents were on the ground, but they were just standing around doing nothing."

One of those, who participated in the rescue effort, Abdul Rauf, said he was at home when someone told him that two men were trapped in the flood, adding that he visited the scene

and together with other boys, went into the flood, but were only able to save the driver.

"When I got to the scene, I saw the men shouting for help, so we went into the water but we could only save the driver as the flood swept away the other man. The officials were around but they didn't participate in the rescue effort."

University workers give FG 14-day ultimatum over allowances

Friday Olorok, Abuja

The Non-Academic Staff Union on Friday handed the Federal Government a 14-day ultimatum to accede to some of its demands or face a nationwide strike.

The demands include the payment of earned allowances and the issue of sacked workers

of staff schools.

Already, the non-teaching staff under the aegis of Joint Action Committee comprising the Non-Academic Staff Union of universities and educational institutions and the Senior Staff Association of Nigerian Universities, have directed all their branches to resume nationwide protests from

Tuesday August 6, 2019.

The two unions, in a circular to all the branches after the JAC meeting held in Abuja, said that at the expiration of the 14-day ultimatum, they would be left with no other option but to withdraw their services and shut down the universities if the Federal Government failed to address all their grievances.

the achievement of sustainable outcomes across the country.

The organisation, in a statement, revealed that the event scheduled to take place in Abuja on August 6, with the theme, 'Empower Parents, Enable breastfeeding,' would be

The directive was contained in a circular to all their branches, titled "Notice of Industrial Action" and signed by the Chairman of JAC and President of SSANU, Samson Ugwoke, and the General Secretary of NASU, Peters Adeyemi, and obtained by journalists in Abuja on Friday.

The unions lamented the nonchalant attitude of the Federal Government towards addressing their grievances and obeying court judgment.

The circular read in part, "After extensive deliberations, JAC further observed that no date has been rescheduled by the President of the Senate, His Excellency, Senator Ahmed Lawan, for the meeting with the leadership of JAC national. The meeting earlier scheduled by the Federal Ministry of Education with the leadership of JAC national has been rescheduled for Wednesday, August 7, 2019 with no reason(s) stated.

FG, UNICEF, others partner on breast feeding week

A non-governmental organisation, Alive and Thrive, has said that it will collaborate with the Federal Government, the United Nations Children's Fund and other NGOs to mark this year's World Breast

Feeding Week in Nigeria.

It said that a series of activities had been planned to promote optimal breastfeeding practices and policies essential for improving the survival of the child as well as facilitating

PUBLIC NOTICE

BAYELSA INDIGENES WELFARE ASSOCIATION

The above named organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for Registration under Part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act no. 1 of 1990.