12 die in Nasarawa boat accident, assembly mourns

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By Collins Sunday

Twelve passengers were said to have died in a boat accident that occurred at the Kogi Kungra Kamfani River in Arikiya, Lafia Local Government Area of the Nasarawa State.

Rt. Hon. Ibrahim Balarabe Abdullahi, Speaker of the Nasarawa State House of Assembly, ahi, disclosed this during an emergency sitting of the House in Lafia on Thursday.

Nineteen passengers were said to be on board the boat when the accident occurred.

Only seven persons were rescued.

While consoling the bereaved families over the death of their loved ones, Abdullahi said, "It is very sad that we lost 12 people, compromising of men and women in a boat mishap in Arikiya, Lafia Local Government Area.

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"Nineteen people were on board, 12 died and seven were rescued. Lafia Local Government Area and our dear state have been thrown into mourning over this sad incident.

"On behalf of myself, honourable members and members of staff of the assembly, we condole with the bereaved families, Lafia Local Government Area and the state government over their deaths in the boat accident.

"We pray for the repose of their souls and that God should forgive their shortcomings and grant them eternal rest."

Our correspondent reports that the lawmakers observed a minute silence in honour of the victims.