

Umar Sani, Bauchi

Four killed, buildings destroyed in Bauchi windstorm

THE Bauchi State Police Command has confirmed the death of four persons following a devastating rainstorm in the state capital on Saturday night.

A statement by the command's Public Relations Officer, SP Ahmed Mohammed Wakil, said the four individuals were found under the fallen structures and were promptly taken to the hospital.

The four persons who died included one Abdullahi Abubakar, 38; Sadik Ahmed Alfa of Fadaman Mada, 32; Malam Musa from

Maliya Furnitures Tudun Salmanu, and Abdulaziz Abdurrahman of Gombe Gombe State.

"Fatima Isah is currently receiving medical treatment and showing positive signs of recovery," the PPRO clarified.

The statement noted that following the incident, emergency response teams, led by the police and other security agencies, swiftly initiated search and rescue operations, and measures were taken to address the incident, including depositing the deceased

individuals at the mortuary.

The statement further added that "efforts are in top gear to assess the extent of property damage caused by the storm as police presence is being maintained at the square to prevent criminal activities and ensure public safety."

PUNCH Metro gathered that the incident which happened at the Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida Square, venue of the just-concluded North-East Joint Trade Fair, prompted the state Commissioner for Commerce, Industry, and

Investment, Mahamud Baba Ma'aji Abubakar, to comment on the matter.

He confirmed the incident to our correspondent via a phone call adding that "the incident which happened around 8 p.m. Saturday has shocked the state government."

He commiserated with those who lost their loved ones in the unfortunate development.

Baba Ma'aji explained that those who were injured were already hospitalised at the Abubakar Tafawa Balewa Teaching Hospital,

Bauchi, for medical attention adding that the death toll was expected to rise.

However, at the time of filing this report, our correspondent gathered from the Public Relationship Officer at the Abubakar Tafawa Balewa Teaching Hospital, Usman Abdullahi Koli, that five people had been confirmed dead, saying two died at the IBB Square and three passed on shortly after they were brought to the teaching hospital while three were currently receiving medical care.