

Ministry was the handing over of the symbolic Government House key to Governor Wike by Apostle Chinyere.

2 persons feared dead after 'poisoned' rice meal in Cross River

From **Judex Okoro**, Calabar

TWO persons were feared dead after eating some rice allegedly treated with preservatives in Yala and Ogoja communities, Cross River State.

Daily Sun gathered that the bags of rice were treated with green chemicals as they were meant to be stored for planting till 2018. However, some farmers in the Northern senatorial district of the state were said to have cooked the rice for meals even after the earlier warnings.

Shortly after eating the rice, some of the farmers and their family members were said to have complained of stomach ache even as they vomited and were rushed to Ogoja General Hospital. Sources close to the hospital said four persons from Ogoja and Yala communities were admitted. The source said two of the patients died a few days later while the remaining two were treated and discharged.

One of the health workers at the hospital, who simply gave his name as Agbor, said: "Early last week, we admitted four patients who were vomiting profusely. We called the doctor on duty who rushed in and started medication.

"A few days after, two died, but we treated the other two and discharged them. But what baffled us was that the test conducted showed that they died of some poisonous chemical suspected to have been found in the food they ate."

Drama as assaulted woman begs