

One dies as Delta varsity's lecture hall collapses

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A middle-aged construction worker died on Monday as a concrete slab from a lecture hall under construction collapsed at the Anwai campus of the Delta State University, Asaba.

The incident left three other persons with varying degrees of injury.

One of the workers was said to have stepped on a concrete slab that had not dried properly, leading to the collapse of the section of the hall on the deceased, who was scooping sand beneath.

The man died immediately as a result of the impact of the concrete slab falling on him.

Students, lecturers and other workers of the university were said to have ran for safety, a development that temporary halted academic activities on the campus.

The students of the university were said to be mobilising for a protest when they discovered that it was a building collapse, but were dissuaded by anti-riot policemen drafted to the campus to maintain law and order.

The Commissioner for Higher Education, Prof. Patrick Muoboghare, who visited the scene of the incident, lamented the death of the worker and the injury to the others.

According to Muoboghare, the family of the deceased has been contacted, while the injured ones have been rushed to hospital.

The commissioner explained that the workers were setting up a concrete slab and it had not dried when one of them mistakenly stepped on it while bearing a load.