

# Flood fury in Jigawa

[Our Reporter](#) September 17, 2012 [No Comments »](#)  
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- Homes, farmlands destroyed

From DESMOND MGBOH, Dutse

No fewer than 17 villages in Ringim and Jahun local government areas of Jigawa State have been submerged by flood following torrential rainfall in the affected communities in the last two days.

Daily Sun investigations revealed that about a half of Ringim town was affected by the flood, which had sacked thousands of villagers from their homes and had damaged several hectares of farmlands belonging to the local farmers. It was also critical in five villages in Jahun Local Government Area.

Arising from the flood in Ringim alone, which stretched across the communities on the riverbank and stretched to Taura town, thousands of the villagers had been relocated to

temporary sites such as primary and secondary schools by the officials of the state governments.

Describing the situation as pathetic and challenging, the Commissioner for Rural Infrastructure and Community Development, Ahaji Jingiri Dutse, told Daily Sun that so far, “we have here over 3, 000 people whose situation as you can see are pathetic and who are being resettled in the primary schools.”

He noted that the flooding, in this particular instance, stretched across a total of about 38kilometeres starting from Dabi, a border town between Kano and Jigawa states to Harbour town, while adding that the mud houses in both old and new Harbour towns had collapsed.

The total loss, he declared, would be in the region of over N6 billion taking into consideration that their houses, property and their farmlands were all affected. Speaking, Alhaji Jinjiri Dutse told Daily Sun that the state had been suffering from an unprecedented wave of flooding with all its attendant consequences, recalling that a total of 15 out of the 27 local government areas had been flooded at different times in the recent past.

Dutse listed the 15 worst hit local government areas, where excessive rainfall had led to floods that devastated the farmlands and sacked the villages to also include Taura, Miga, Kirikasama, Gumel Guri, Magatari and Sule Tankaraka, among others. He told Daily Sun that the flood in Gumel town, which occurred a few days back, led to the death of seven persons when the building where they were sleeping collapsed on them in the middle of the night.

The National Emergency Relief and Management Agency,

he confirmed, had sent in a couple of relief items to the state, adding that they included a trailer load of rice, some bags of millets, guinea corns and some roofing sheets. But he was sad the relief materials were a far cry from the weight of the challenges that befell the people of the state.

To him, NEMA ought to have met with the state governor, adding that they needed to be properly brief on the magnitude of the crisis and would best serve their goals if they worked in concert with the state government instead of going straight to distribute their relief items. Daily Sun gathered the state Governor, Alhaji Sule Lamido, had set up a committee of nine commissioners to come up with suggestions on how to tackle incidents of flood and on how to quickly bring relief to the affected persons.

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