

On his part, the Director of Fire Service, Muhammad Babakudu, said

As at the time of filing this report, no life was lost.

Man stabbed to death while visiting girlfriend

Uchenna Inya
ABAKALIKI

Police yesterday discovered the body of a man in a ditch near the military cantonment at Nkwoagu community in Abakaliki Local Government Area of Ebonyi State.

The deceased, whose identity could not be immediately ascertained, hailed from Ishieke community in Ohaukwu Local Government Area.

Sources said the man had come from Port Harcourt in

Rivers State to visit a girl who he intended to marry

The visit was said to be his first since they began to talk on the phone.

Sources added that the deceased stayed with his lover, who runs a small shop near the military cantonment, on Saturday and that they both were going home in the night before they were waylaid by some masked men.

Confirming the incident, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), ASP Loveth Odah, said the body was found close to the military cantonment yesterday

morning.

She said: "So, she has a private shop somewhere there. They left the shop and headed to their house. They wanted to sleep in the shop but the boy complained of mosquitoes. So they then headed to the (girl's) house.

"That day was the first time the boy was visiting that girl. The boy himself is from Ishieke community. May be somebody recommended the girl for marriage. The girl said that as they were going, three boys on masks accosted them and pursued them into a ditch.

"She was able to escape but those boys focused on the boy. They stabbed him to death while she ran for her dear life. So, this morning (yesterday), she then went and narrated the story to an elder in the community.

"The elder came and searched through that ditch. That's where they found the dead body of this guy."

Odah said there was suspicion that the girl's former lover might have a hand in the death as the girl is currently pregnant.

She reasoned that there was no way a new lover who came for the first time could have put the girl in the family way.

The PPRO, however, said investigation had commenced into the matter.

or vandalising EEDC facilities

ation of Nigeria, 2004 390(9) of the Criminal of the Federation 2004. conviction came a few he duo of Amaechi Joe igozie were sentenced urs imprisonment by strate, Onunkwo Es- e Chief Magistrate's mbra East Magiste- at Otuocha, Anambra dalising the Ring Main handle of an Injection belonging to EEDC in mbra State.

d, Communications, meka Ezech, said in a at "we appreciate the judiciary in ensuring of these vandals, and

hope that this will serve as deterrent to others who indulge in same act of sabotage which impacts negatively on the quality of service we render to our customers.

"As a business, we have committed millions of naira to restoring vandalised transformers and this is not a sustainable practice. We therefore continue to appeal to our customers to join hands in protecting these installations serving them."

Ezech also commended the support of vigilance groups and security agencies such as the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), the Army and the police towards ensuring that this ugly menace was addressed and perpetrators brought to book.