

Also in Niger State, about 100 communities have been submerged while thousands people were displaced. Governor Abubakar Sani-Bello said the 100 communities sacked and submerged by the flood from the tributaries of Rivers Niger and Kaduna, were in Mokwa, Lavun, Edati, Katcha, Agaie and Lapai local government areas. The governor made this disclosure at Muye in Lapai Local Government Area shortly after conducting an aerial view of affected communities. He said: "What I saw today is very devastating. On a rough estimate more than a 100 communities have been submerged in water and it doesn't appear that the water is receding.

"That we have not seen the end of it is very disturbing. The situation is definitely getting out of hands and it is beyond what the state can do." Also, the State Emergency Management Agency (NSEMA) said it had so far recorded 36 deaths with several farmlands and produces destroyed. The NEMA Public Relations Officer, Mallami Useni, who spoke on behalf of the Director General of the agency, Alhaji Ibrahim Inga, told our correspondent that the deaths, caused by the flood, occurred in five local government areas. Furthermore, the governor has called on the Federal Government for intervention.

He said: "This flood starts all the way from Kede, towards Muregi and to down to Muye along the river bank. So definitely at this point we will have to seek the support of the Federal Government and that is exactly what we are going to do. "The first step taken by the state government was to send some relief materials to the affected communities because I strongly believe they will lack food at this time and the final step and probably the lasting solution is to relocate them at some point but now we have to take care of their immediate needs with regards to food and drugs." The governor had earlier directed the release of N60 million for the provision of relief materials.