

3 dead as rainstorm wreaks havoc in Cross River

No fewer than three persons have died when their houses collapsed during a torrential downpour in Yala Local Government Area of Northern Cross River.

The downpour, which was reportedly the first rain of the year, was said to be driven by fierce wind and

thunderstorms that uprooted trees, cut electricity cables and pulled down houses in the area.

It was learnt that at least 20 houses in the villages of Ezekwe, Okpodon and Wankom were destroyed by the storm and three persons, two females and one male, died when their houses fell on them.

The Chairman of Yala

Local Government Area, Fred Okem, confirmed that the disaster was traumatising, considering that the local government was trying to rehabilitate roads and assist the people with farm inputs for the farming season, only for the disaster to occur.

"In the past month, we have been rehabilitating roads, fixing water boreholes, and distributing farm inputs to the people in expectation that when the rain falls, the farming period will kick off for them to plant their farms only for houses to be destroyed by a rainstorm and some persons killed, which is a big setback," he said.

According to him, the costs of roofing sheets have gone through the roof, and people cannot afford them. Many of those affected by the storm are currently sleeping in the open.

"Since the incident happened two days ago, those whose homes were destroyed are sleeping in the open with their children, and the effect of such is well known," he added.

The Chairman appealed for help from the federal, state government and non-governmental organisations to enable the people to rebuild their homes before diseases set in the camps and lead to more deaths.

Corps member dies of Lassa fever in Ogun

A serving member of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC), has died of Lassa fever in Ogun State.

The 25-year-old female corps member, whose name could not be ascertained, died while receiving treatment at a hospital in Ijebu North Local Government Area of the state.

The Ogun State Commissioner for Health, Dr Tomi Coker, who confirmed the incident in a statement yesterday, said the deceased fell ill while in Ondo State and was brought to a health facility in Ogun State on Tuesday, March 18.

However, she died on the same day she was admitted.

The commissioner disclosed that the corps member was the index case of

"Unfortunately, she died on the same day," Coker stated.

She urged residents to report any suspected case of Lassa fever to the nearest hospital, assuring them that health workers in the state are actively managing the situation.

"We implore all health facilities in Ogun State, both public and private to strengthen infection prevention and control measures and ensure compliance among all healthcare personnel."

"The Ogun State government remains committed to safeguarding public health through continuous surveillance and prompt responses to infectious diseases," Coker added.

Kwara: EFCC arrests 37 suspected