

Lagos: 5 Dead As Building Collapses In Maryland



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...Owner of collapsed building at large – LASEMA

No fewer than five persons have been confirmed dead in a collapsed building at the Maryland area of Lagos State. The early morning incident happened at Arowojobe Estate of the community yesterday.

It was learnt that a set of three story buildings under construction collapsed and trapped some of the workers on the site.

Confirming the incident, the Permanent Secretary of the Lagos State Emergency Management Agency (LASEMA), Olufemi Oke Osanyintolu, said the incident happened at No 13, Wilson Mba St., Arowojobe Estate, Maryland, Lagos.

He stated that the five male who were recovered dead at the building were site workers. “The agency received a distress call regarding a collapsed building at the above address at about 3.49 a.m.

This prompted the immediate activation of the agency’s response team to the scene of the incident at 3.58 a.m. “One of the rescued was receiving treatment on-site. Search and rescue operations began immediately, and five adult male were recovered dead, two male adults were rescued alive, and one adult male trapped under the rubble was rescued,” he said.

He added that those rescued were carried out through the efforts of LASEMA and the Lagos State Fire Service. Meanwhile, LASEMA said that the owner of the collapsed building in the Maryland Estate that claimed five lives was still at large.

The agency's Director, Operations, Engr Olatunde Akinsanya, said this while speaking with journalists at the incident venue. He, however, appealed to the owner of the collapsed building to make an appearance.

"No one has come forward to say he or she owns the property. We are appealing to the owner to come forward because he or she can't at this point be at large," Akinsanya said.

He said part of the unit of the building would be taken for material testing to determine the cause of the incident. A neighbour who lives besides the building, Mrs Yusuf Jumoke, a businesswoman, said she heard the building collapsed in the early hours of the morning.

"I heard the noise and I came out and saw that the building has collapsed. "I can't talk about the history of the building, because I am not involved about the operation.