

50 Feared Dead as Gusau Dam Collapses

At least 50 people were feared dead yesterday when the Gusau Barrage Dam collapsed, in the process flooding more than 150 homes.

The incident, which occurred after a heavy down pour in the Zamfara State capital, also cut off over 500 villages from the state capital.

The Gusau Barrage Dam is also the main source of water to Gusau town and its environs.

When THISDAY correspondent visited the scene of the incident Saturday, victims of the disaster were seen searching through rubbles caused by the flood for their belongings while thousands of rescue operators were seen

From Imam Imam

in Gusau

assisting affected persons.

As at the time of filing this report, there was no official statement on the matter but unconfirmed reports suggest that the barrage was filled to capacity when officials were not on hand to release the excess water, that eventually led to its collapse.

However, investigations

dence and our growing economy"; he stressed.

The President who took a swipe at critics of the ongoing reforms and politicians who are bent on swaying the support of

showed that Birnin Ruwa as the worst hit zone given the number of citizens who were confirmed dead in the area. Residents and relations were also seen scavenging for their loved ones.

A bereaved mother of two, who simply identified herself as Saratu, told THISDAY that she gave birth to a new baby just five days ago but she could not find her baby. "I just went to a neighbourhood

when the baby was asleep and before I could return the house was flooded and I could not find my baby," she said amidst wailing.

Other residents spoke of their harrowing experience with some calling on the state government to quickly come to their aid.

Zamfara State Governor Alhaji Ahmad Sani, was among the first visitors to the scene yesterday.

CORRUPTION Cont'd from P.

Nigerians by highlighting only the adverse aspects of the reforms, called on the people not to allow such people to return the nation to the previous status.

"We never said it was going to be easy. But as we

in the misfortune of other Nigerians.

"Clearly, these are people that want to see us back to the days of rent seeking, corruption, waste and violence which they obviously regard as progress because