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THISDAY Saturday
THISDAY Sunday
ARCHIVE

Heavy Downpour Kills 5

From Yinka Kolawole in Osogbo, 07.08.2010

Osun

About five people including a new born baby to be christened today were killed yesterday following a heavy downpour in Osogbo, the Osun State capital which resulted in flooding in most parts of the metropolis. Also, properties worth millions of naira were lost in the incident. Houses, markets, vehicles and motorcycles, electricity poles, wire cables and other home appliances were destroyed.

The rain was said to have started around 3:30am and lasted till 6:30am.

When THISDAY visited most parts of the metropolis, especially areas such as Alekuwodo area, Obate, Rasco Cinema, Ilobu road, Sabo, Oke-Baale, the flood had wreaked havoc as buildings were destroyed and food items in Akindeko market were washed away.

Also, the flood rendered most of the roads in the metropolis impassable for vehicles.

Meanwhile, the state Deputy Governor, Erelu Olusola Obada, has commiserated with the victims of the flood.

Inspecting the flooded areas in company with top government officials, the deputy governor attributed the disaster to the blockage of water ways with buildings and dumping of refuse in drainages by recalcitrant inhabitants of Osogbo.

Obada mandated the state Ministry of Environment, Emergency Management Agency as well as Osogbo and Olorunda Local Government authorities to clear the waterways promptly.

She promised that government would not shy away from taking decisive actions to prevent a recurrence of the flood.

She disclosed that she had informed the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the Federal Ministry of Environment about the incident.

The deputy governor commended the Nigerian Civil Defence Corps and men of the Fire Services for their rescue effort.

She appealed to the people particularly the victims of the flood to be calm, saying the government would address the situation shortly.

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