

Pregnant woman, five others die scooping petrol

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○ ABOUT six persons were feared dead yesterday in Ogale Eleme where they reportedly went to scoop petroleum products from a burst pipeline. Details were sketchy at press time. But when *Sunday Vanguard* visited the scene, sources who spoke gave two

• *Four also in cult clash*

reasons for the death. Some of them blamed it on fumes from the spilled products while others said they may have been drowned while scooping the products.

The cause of the spill could not be ascertained but the sources linked it to vandalism. Efforts to speak with NNPC or the area

manager of PPMC, Mr Meteke, on the incident failed. Among those that died was a pregnant woman.

○ In a related development, about four persons were reportedly killed in cult clash in Bori. At the time of filing in this report, there were fears that the battle between two rival cult groups, Dewell and Debam, may have spilled to other areas of Ogoni. It could not be confirmed

this time if politicians were behind it. It would be recalled that a similar case involving the same groups in Bodo where several lives were consumed was allegedly funded by two top politicians from the area battling for the political soul of the community.

The Police PRO, Mrs Baresua Ireju could not be reached for comment as her lines were switched off.