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IN THE CITY |

CITY BRIEFS

Nigerians urged to embrace tree planting

By Gbenga Akanmu

AS the effects of global warming become more glaring, Nigerians have been enjoined to embrace tree planting to reduce the consequence of greenhouse gases.

This advice was given in Lagos by the Managing Director of Ifineon Nigeria Limited, Mr. Ugo Onyeama. He pointed out that trees are very useful in reducing carbon-dioxide and carbon-monoxide, two contributors to greenhouse gases and replenishing the air with oxygen.

Onyeama noted that trees also improve the aesthetic value of the environment, provide shade and prevent erosion, help minimize flooding and act as wind breakers, thereby protecting human beings from the adverse effect of violent wind storm.

"Trees", he explained, "have also been scientifically proven to be very useful as the first line of defence in the fight against global warming as they absorb the carbon-dioxide in the atmosphere and replenish the air with oxygen."

The Ifineon boss warned all Nigerians that the danger of global warming now stare everybody in the face with the attendant rise in water bodies resulting in massive flooding and the unbearable heat being experienced across the country.

Onyeama explained that the warming of the earth and myriad of consequences are the result of the depletion of the ozone layer in the upper atmosphere, by the increased production of green gases from burning of fossil fuels, vehicles and other petroleum products powered tools, and domestic appliances.

Carbon-monoxide poisoning, he said, "is the result of the inhalation of carbon-monoxide, which is colourless, odourless and tasteless. Detection in a home environment is impossible without a warning device".

Accident claims one, others injured

By Ifeanyin Okolie

TEARS flowed freely when a yet-to-be identified middle aged woman returning from church met her untimely death at the front of Fagbems Fillings Station close to Cele Bus-Stop along the Oshodi-Apapa Expressway.

The woman was a victim of an auto accident that involving a blue coloured Man Diesel trailer truck marked XJ 94 KTU carrying heavy duty metal goods and a DAF tanker truck that was parked at the front of the filling station.

An eye witness account said the accident occurred at about 4pm when the trailer truck which was being driven at high speed by a yet-to-be identified male driver lost control, after one of its tires burst and it veered off its lane and headed for the DAF tanker truck parked at the other side of the road.

The eyewitness who simply identified himself as Kolawole, an auto mechanic, said the woman who was walking along the pedestrian lane, ran for her dear life when she saw the rickety trailer approaching, but she was not fast enough as the truck smashed her against the tanker truck.

Kolawole informed that sympathisers rushed to the scene when they saw the accident and the victim was pulled out of the out from where she was trapped under the truck.

However, when *Vanguard Metro* got to the scene sympathiser were seen weeping, while the driver of the truck was lying helplessly on the ground.

Some sympathisers also lamented over the fact that the victim could have been saved if she had received medical attention immediately. According to them, the woman was still breathing when she was rescued.