## 6 die, many injured as fire guts filling stations

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Daud Olatunji with agency reports

**No** fewER than six people were killed, six houses razed, and about 15 vehicles burnt in Kaduna and Ondo states, Saturday, as fire gutted filling stations, just as officers of Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, NSCDC, Ogun State Command, invaded a MRS Filling Station and reportedly attacked five workers at the station in Ogun State.

At Unguwar Ma'azu, Kaduna, no fewer than six people died, seven injured while 15 vehicles were burnt in a fire that gutted a filling station.

The Assistant Manager, Fasada Mega Filling Station, Alhaji Jibrin Musa, yesterday, in Kaduna, disclosed that the incident happened, Saturday, when one of the trucks was off-loading petrol.

"The adaptor was not properly fixed which splilled the fuel on ground and some fuel hawkers came to scoop the fuel on ground.

"One of the motorists, who was on queue waiting to buy the product, wanted to remove his car, he started his vehicle which ignited the fire.

"About 15 vehicles were burnt to ashes, which include 11 private and commercial cars, two Keke Napep, 1 tanker and a tipper.

"You can see that the filling station was all burnt; it even affected the nearby filling station. The Fire Service was there on time to fight the fire. They helped a lot and people also helped to stop the fire," Musa said.

The Manager of Shemaco Filling station, which is near the mega station, Malam Nafi'u Inusa, said that the station was also affected by the fire incident, with four of the dispenser pumps burnt.

When contacted, the Kaduna State Director of Fire, Mr Paul Abio, who

confirmed the incident, said that the fire fighters rescued those that were trapped.

In related incident at Igbokoda, headquarters of Ilaje Local Government Area of Ondo State, no fewer than six houses were razed in an inferno that gutted a Mobil petrol station on Saturday.

It was learnt that the fire which began at 7.30p.m. was as a result of a spark which emanated from a house beside the Mobil filling station.

It was equally learnt that no life was lost in the inferno, but the absence of a fire service station in the town worsened the situation.

An eye witness, Prince Ayoola Odidiomo, said that no life was lost in the fire outbreak, but that six houses were razed by the inferno.

Meanwhile, pandemonium broke out in Isale Igbein, Abeokuta, when some officers of Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, NSCDC, Ogun State Command invaded an MRS filling station filling station and attacked five workers including the manager of the station.