

Collapsing billboard kills eatery operator, one other in Aba

By Ugochukwu Alaribe

Tragedy struck in Aba, Abia State, yesterday, when a billboard fell and crushed the owner of an eatery and a young man at Osisioma Ngwa junction, on the Enugu-Port Harcourt expressway. Eyewitnesses told Sunday Vanguard that two other persons were injured in the incident.

Sunday Vanguard gathered that the billboard fell during a rainstorm which lasted three hours and destroyed similar structures across the city.

The eyewitnesses explained that more people could have died from the incident, but for the lockdown in the state by Gov Okezie Ikpeazu over the Covid-19 pandemic, as the area was always busy with vehicular and human traffic. It was further gathered that the two survivors sustained life-threatening injuries due

to the impact of the huge metal pole of the billboard that hit them.

One of the eyewitnesses said, "The billboard fell due to the heavy wind that came with the rain. The two persons that died in the incident were trapped under the heavy billboard pole and were brought out with the help of a heavy duty equipment of a construction company working in the area. It could have killed more people but for the lockdown over the Covid 19 pandemic because the area was filled with heavy traffic."

A source said about ten customers of the eatery narrowly escaped death.

A tricycle operator, Emmanuel Nwangbo from Ebonyi State, whose commercial tricycle was damaged in the incident, said he parked at the junction because of the heavy rain and

Covid-19: Philantropist urges