Saturday **news**Farmer rapes minor to death in Ondo,

lured her with N100

*I didn't mean to kill her, only covered her mouth with cloth, she suffocated *I developed amorous feeling for her cos I didn't have any girlfriend

By Dayo Johnson Akure

secondary school leaver turned farmer, Ikumuyi Isreal has reportedly raped a tenyear old primary school girl, Esther Friday to death in labotako. Okitipupa council area of Ondo

But fortimely intervention, Isreal who was beaten black and blue would have been lynched by neighbours of the deceased parents

The suspect, aged 27 who was handed over to the police said in his statement that he decided to become a farmer after his secondary school education and was following his mother to the

According to him, it was the deceased that approached him in his house asking him to give her

"She came to meet me in my kitchen asking me for money, but I told her the money I had was to cook soup.

After sometime, she came backtomeet mebut this time she followed me from the kitchen to the bedroom, still begging me for money.llatergaveher N100 and slept with her in the room.

He stated that as she laid besidehimonthebed, hedeveloped amorous feeling for her since he

had no girlfriend.

Isreal said that none of the girls he approached for relationship agreed to date him.

"I didn't mean to rape her, but when she slept with me on bed. I feltamused and decided to quickly have sexual intercourse with her.

I did not force her to have sex. We were together on the bed. Trou-



Governor Hope Uzodimma of Imo State receiving his Covid-19 jab yesterday at the headquarters of the Imo State Primary Health Care Development Agency (ISPH-CDA) from the Executive Secretary of ISPHCDA, Rev. Sis.(Dr.) Maria-Joannes Uzoma while wife of the governor, Barr. Chioma Uzodimma watches.

ble started when I was trying to put my penis inside her vagina, it did not entervery well.

"Mypenisdid not penetrate despite all my efforts to make sure I inserted it. It did not fully enter.

"I covered her mouth with my cover cloth so that she could not raise alarm, she was crying, but nobody could hear or come for herhelp, it was then that she suffocated to death.

"She died when I was having sex with her. She was in my room from 4:30pm till 6:pm.

"Ibecame afraid aftershe died. Loould not come out of the room when her parents began to look for her

He told the police that he was in his room with the deceased when he heard one Mummy Peju passing by the door and said they were looking for deceased.

According to him 'one Baba Awucalled me and when I opened the door to answer him some of our neighbours came into his room and started beating him.

"It was in the process that they came into my room and found the dead body of the girl on my bed.

"They beat me before they handed me over to policemen.

Meanwhile, the suspect has been

asked to be remanded in Owo prison by an Akure Magistrates' Court sitting at Oke-Eda.

According to the charge sheet, the accused person alleged lycommitted the offence at about 4:30cm. at Akinfosile village via ligbotako, in Ondo State on February 2, 2021.

The prosecutor, Inspector Uloh Goodluck while presenting the facts of the case before the court said that the accused person killed Esther, by rapping her to death.

Goodback said that the offence committed by the accused person contraversed sections 316, 319(1) of the Criminal Code Cap 37, Vol. 1 Laws of the Ondo State of Nigena 2006.