

# 24 family members die of poisoning in Sokoto

**SOKOTO** State Commissioner for Health, Dr Ali Inname, yesterday, confirmed the deaths of 24 family members after eating some poisonous food.

The commissioner said in a statement that the incident occurred on Monday in Danzanke village of Bargaja ward, Isa Local Government Area of Sokoto State.

He explained that the incident was caused by use of a fertiliser type of chemical, popularly called "Gishirin Lalle in Hausa" as seasoning in domestic family cooking, which was considered as common salt.

He said: "Regrettably, the entire family who ate the meal lost their lives, except two female members, who merely tasted the food and are currently responding to treatment, with very good chances of survival.

"Attempts to save the lives of all the affected people by providing the needed medical care proved abortive."

The commissioner urged the public to learn from this incidence and keep away such poisonous

chemicals from easy reach.

Inname advised people to always separate storage sites for food items from other agricultural and cosmetic items, and to carefully check all ingredients

and food stuff before use.

He stressed that food stores should be secured to prevent access to flies, while cooked food and water sources should be secured.

## Cholera: Death toll hits 75 in Katsina

### ●As Adamawa records 13 cases

By Umar Yusuf & Bashir Bello

**KATSINA** State Commissioner for Health, Yakubu Danja, has confirmed that 75 persons have so far lost their lives due to cholera outbreak in the state.

It would be recalled that the earlier number of deaths recorded in the state was put at 60.

Speaking, yesterday, in Katsina, Danja said 25 local government areas out of 33 in the state were so far affected by the outbreak.

Giving a breakdown, the commissioner said Funtua Local Government Area has the highest number of deaths with 18, followed by Charanchi, 14; Jibia, 11; Kankara, five, while Sabuwa and Rimi recorded four deaths each.

According to him, "the state received the first report of suspected diarrhoea and vomiting from May

5, 2021 in Funtua. As of August 8, 2021, a total of 1,534 cases, including 75 deaths in 25 LGAs.

"Sixty-seven per cent of the reported cases are aged 15 years while three cases were reported for under one-year-old and of all the reported suspected cases, 53 per cent are male."

Also yesterday, Adamawa State Commissioner for Health and Human Services, Dr Abdullahi Isa, disclosed that no fewer than 13 suspected cholera cases have been recorded.

Speaking in Yola, the commissioner said three cases were confirmed to be positive, while 10 were found negative.

According to him, "on June 30, 2021, a confirmed case of cholera was reported in Gogora community of Girei Local Government Area of the state following PCR testing at the NCDC laboratory in Abuja".