

## Indian workers flee Nigeria after crimes

by UPI

LAGOS, Nigeria - An Eleme Petrochemical Company spokesman said Monday that 120 of the company's employees have returned to their native India after a pair of recent kidnappings.

Company spokesman Jossy Nkwocha said that with a total of 12 company employees and their relatives being abducted during two recent kidnappings, a large portion of the company's Indian employees recently fled Nigeria, the Press Trust of India reported.

"The majority of expatriate Indians -- mostly engineers and technicians -- have relocated, mostly as a result of the attacks. The majority have gone back to India," Nkwocha told PTI.

The first kidnapping was May 19 on a company site outside the Nigerian city of Port Harcourt, with two Indian nationals being abducted. Nkwocha said that incident was followed up with the kidnapping of six company employees and four of their family members on June 1.

The spokesman said that the company has received little information what became of the kidnap victims and admitted the company is struggling after the recent loss of 120 employees, PTI reported.

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