

Monday, December 1, 2023

9 killed in Benue auto crash

From Hope Abah, Makurdi

At least nine people have been confirmed dead and several others injured in a multiple road crash along the Katsina-Ala highway in Benue State.

Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) for Benue command, DSP Udeme Edet, in a statement on

Sunday, said the accident occurred on Friday at about 8.15pm following a suspected unlawful blockade of the road by members of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW).

Edet noted the accident happened when a MAN diesel truck with registration number TARABA ARD 967XA collided

with several vehicles following a traffic obstruction allegedly mounted by the NURTW Katsina-Ala Branch.

She stated that the victims were evacuated to Toro Hospital, Katsina-Ala, while the remains of the dead were deposited at the General Hospital.

The PPRO further stated that the

Chairman of the NURTW Katsina-Ala Branch, Aja Vanger, and two members, Stephen Kahungur and Saater Vihiga, have been arrested in connection with the blockade and are currently in custody.

"They will be charged in court upon conclusion of investigations," she added.

Edet warned that obstructing

public highways remains a criminal act that threatens public safety, stressing that those who engage in such conduct will face strict legal consequences.

She therefore urged transport operators and motorists to adhere to traffic rules and avoid actions capable of causing avoidable loss of lives.

Military rescues 12 girls kidnapped in Borno

'Sylva's children under siege'