

Nine killed in Lagos, Imo road crashes



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Tragedy struck in the early hours of yesterday when a diesel-laden tanker exploded on the Badagry Expressway, killing two persons and causing temporary disruption of traffic at the Oto-Ijanikin axis of **Lagos**.

The Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) confirmed the incident, which occurred near the Lagos State University of Education (LASUED), inward Agbara, involving a Mack truck conveying diesel.

According to the agency, preliminary security investigations showed that the crash was caused by excessive speeding.

The tanker driver lost control of the vehicle while attempting to overtake another road user, leading to a crash that resulted in a fire. The inferno claimed the lives of the driver and an adult female occupant.

The General Manager of LASTMA, Mr. Olalekan Bakare-Oki, who expressed sorrow over the loss of lives and extended condolences to the families of the victims, described the development as particularly painful during the festive season.



Also, two persons were confirmed dead after a bicycle carrying two youths rammed into a Formatic Jeep on Okigwe Road, Owerri in Imo State on the eve of Christmas and accident at Akabo market in Ikeduru Local Government Area of Imo State, claimed at least five people on Christmas Eve.

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Eyewitness said the victims were driving a small bike after a football training in Orji Owerri North Local Government Area when they had a head-on collision with the jeep and died instantly.

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The accident triggered a traffic jam. Desperate travellers were left in tears.

Angry youths swarmed the accident site, sparking a stampede that added to the pandemonium.

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An eyewitness, who pleaded anonymity, said the two victims are from Amatta in Ikeduru Local Government Area and were returning from a football training at Orji when the accident occurred.

The bodies of the deceased, according to him, had been evacuated by an ambulance to the mortuary.

On the third accident, it was learnt that a truck lost control and rammed into the Akabo market, crushing several people. An eyewitness described the scene as “gory”.

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The police spokesperson in the state, Henry Okoye, said he had not been briefed on the Akabo accident.