

# 12 die in Ebonyi, Yobe crashes

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**At** least 12 people were killed and 22 others injured in two separate road accidents that occurred in Yobe and Ebonyi states on Friday and Saturday.

In Yobe, six people lost their lives in a crash along the Potiskum to Fika Road near Maiduwa Junction, according to the state police command.

The Police Public Relations Officer, Dungus Abdulkarim, confirmed the incident in a statement on Saturday.

He said the accident occurred around 3:00pm on Friday when the driver of a Sharon bus, identified as Adamu Hassan, lost control of the vehicle while heading to Bajoga in Funakaye Local Government Area of Gombe State.

Eight other passengers sustained varying degrees of injuries in the crash.

“Upon receiving the report, officers from the Motor Traffic Department of Fika Division rushed to the scene and evacuated both the injured and deceased to the General Hospital in Fika. A medical doctor at the hospital confirmed the deaths of six victims,” the statement read.

Abdulkarim added that efforts were ongoing to identify the deceased and notify their families.

The police attributed the crash to over speeding, reckless driving, dangerous overtaking, and possible drug abuse by the driver.

In a separate incident in Ebonyi, six people were also confirmed dead in an accident in the Nkalagu community, located in the Ishielu Local Government Area.

The accident reportedly occurred near the Nkalagu Flyover along the Nkalagu to Enugu Expressway when a commercial bus collided with a tipper truck.

Sunday PUNCH gathered that 14 others people were injured in the accident.

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The Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Corps in Ebonyi State, Anthony Ogbodo, confirmed the incident.

He said a report from the FRSC unit in Nkalagu attributed the accident to dangerous overtaking.

“The patrol team received a distress call at 9:45 a.m. and arrived at the scene within five minutes, which helped prevent further casualties,” Ogbodo stated.

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He explained that the crash involved a white Toyota Hiace bus and a Mercedes-Benz 911 tipper. A total of 22 people were involved in the accident, comprising 12 males and 10 females.

“Six people — three men and three women — died on the spot, while 14 others sustained serious injuries. Two male occupants escaped without injuries,” he said.

Ogbodo stated that the victims were rescued in collaboration with Red Cross officials, adding that those with critical injuries were taken to Annunciation Hospital and the National Orthopaedic Hospital in Enugu, while others received treatment at Ezzamgbo General Hospital in Ebonyi State.

He also noted that the wreckage was quickly cleared to restore the flow of traffic.

“Items recovered from the scene included two small Itel phones, a key belonging to the tipper, and N2,000 in cash,” he said.

Ogbodo warned motorists against dangerous overtaking and urged strict compliance with speed limits, particularly along the busy Nkalagu to Enugu corridor.

“This tragic incident is a stark reminder that reckless overtaking and impatience on the road remain deadly behaviours. Drivers must prioritise human life over speed or time,” he added.