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22 Perish in Auto Crash

Laramie, a
 Democratic Party (PDP) gov-
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have had a head-on collission at
 high speed while it was raining,
 leading to the smashing of the
 bus to smithereens near St.
 Aquinas Secondary School,
 Elele.

The dead, which included six
 children, six women and 10
 men, as well as three unidenti-
 fied bodies that were smashed
 beyond recognition, have been
 deposited at the Mosco
 Memorial Mortuary.

Among survivors are three
 girls and one man who gave his
 name as Jones Ibe, a business
 man, while one of the girls gave
 her name as Chionna.

The girls were said to have
 head injuries and in critical con-
 ditions.

They were referred to
 Macdonald Teaching Hospital,
 Elele, and are being attended to
 by an Indian, Dr K. Jayarath.

Ibe was being attended to in
 Apata Memorial Hospital, Elele,
 where he was still too dazed to
 comment on the accident except
 to say that the two drivers over-
 speeded.

The bus, with registration
 number HB 998 WER, was

driven by Evans Anefi who died
 instantly with one of his legs cut
 off by the impact of the crash,
 while eyewitness account said
 immediately the accident hap-
 pened, driver of the Ford Jeep
 jumped out and disappeared into
 thin air.

Personal effects littered the
 scene, while natives were seen
 helping themselves to items not
 taken away by the police like
 umbrella, hair weave-on, shoes
 and bread among others.

Also at the Elele Police
 Station, personal effects of the
 victims were in a heap, but offi-
 cers on duty refused to speak to
 the press, insisting that the
 Divisional Police Officer was
 the only competent one to speak
 on the issue.

From *Akamefula Ogbu*
 in *Port Harcourt*