

7 killed in Edo gov's convoy

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At least seven people died yesterday in an autocrash involving the convoy of Edo state governor, Professor Oserhemen Osunbor on the Abaji-Abuja highway. The accident involved a Prado jeep in the governor's convoy of vehicles and a Toyota passenger bus which reportedly rammed into the former.

Although the governor was not part of the convoy as at noon when the tragedy occurred, the driver of the Prado jeep who could not be identified at press time sustained

serious injuries and hospitalized at Abaji.

According to eye witness who pleaded anonymity, the driver of the commercial bus suddenly lost control when the jeep was overtaking it resulting in the fatal accident. *Daily Champion* learnt that some policemen who were inside the jeep were unhurt while Governor Osunbor had earlier flown into Abuja for official duties.

Reacting, Chief Press Secretary to the governor, Mr. Dan Aigbavboa, said: "Following speculations in some quarters that the Governor of Edo State,

Senator Oserhemen Osunbor was involved in an accident, it has become necessary to state the facts of the matter.

"A Toyota bus ran into one of the vehicles on the convoy of the Governor around Abaji while on their way to Abuja on Wednesday, 12th September, 2007.

"Information reaching us indicates that some of the passengers in the bus died in the accident while the driver of the state government vehicle sustained some injuries. Let it be known that the Governor was not on the convoy at the time of the accident. Government sympathises with the families of those who lost their lives", Aigbavboa stated.

Contacted on the issue last night, Corps commander of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) in charge of the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Mr. Jonas Agwu confirmed that there were accidents on the Abuja-Abaji highway but could not confirm the casualty and the identities of those involved.

Daily Champion recalls that Deputy Governor of Edo State, Mr. Lucky Imasuen had July 4, 2007 narrowly escaped death in a motor accident that claimed the life of the senior driver in his office.

ant due process scrapped

Speaking at the formal inauguration of the Senate Committee on Banking and Finance, Senator Mark however explained that the naira redenomination policy failed to receive the blessing of President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua and other Nigerians due to poor communication.

According to him, the proposed policy jolted most Nigerians because they were not carried along".

Most of us, even the elite were at a loss," he said.

Senate president said that the suspicion and negative reaction that trailed the proposed naira policy were due to poor marketing of the policy itself by the apex bank.

According to him, CBN should have embarked on extensive public enlightenment to sell the policy before making it public.