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Countryman

EFCC: I WILL STEP ON TOES
— MRS WAZIRI



THAT MEANS YOU MAY
PROCEED TO SCHOOL
VERY SOON

Bank manager, 6 others perish in auto crash

VINCENT ADEKOYE, *Benin*

The harvest of auto crashes that characterised *Sallah* celebration in Edo and Delta States, continued yesterday with the death of another seven persons including 30-year- old branch manager of the First Inland Bank, University of Port Harcourt branch Mr. Okoye Ikechukwu Stanley, yesterday in a motor accident.

Daily Champion gathered that several other persons suffered multiple injuries.

It would be recalled that 15 persons were involved in a fatal auto crash on Benin-Auchi road last Sunday. The figure was the outcome of two major accidents that occurred on the ever busy but narrow federal road that leads to Abuja and various eastern states.

Speaking with newsmen in Benin, Edo State capital, the zonal commander, of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), Mr. Zakari Ndah, said some of the accidents that have claimed lives and property within Edo and Delta states could have been avoided if the drivers concentrated and obeyed road signs.

He said the First Inland Bank manager died on the Warri Ughelli road when his vehicle, Honda Civic VT 2008 Model with registration number AQ 25 YEN plunged into Ekakpamre River killing all the occupants of the vehicle. Ndah said the accident may have occurred due to loss of concentration since it occurred about 10.30am, when traffic was still very light on the road.

According to him, just as rescue team which comprises of local divers and men of the Setraco Construction Company were battling to salvage the mangled and drowned bodies of the occupants of the vehicle, another fatal accident which involved about four commercial vehicles occurred along the Asaba Isseluku area of Delta state.

Report said four persons died on the spot while several others were injured.

Ndah expressed sadness over the attitude of drivers who often disregard safety regulation especially along major highways. He urged drivers to always concentrate whenever they are on steering adding that it was a risk to answer or make phone call while driving.

While the corpse of the late bank manager has been deposited at an unnamed hospital in Ughelli, those who lost their lives along the Saba road were said to have been taken to the mortuary of Federal medical centre, Asaba, Delta state.

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