

Nine die after Jigawa PDP rally

Nine members of the People's Democratic Party (PDP) died on Friday while eight others are in critical condition at the Dutse General Hospital after their vehicles collided along the Dutse-Shuwarin road.

The accident occurred after the PDP rally for the

From Hassan A. Karofi, Dutse

Jigawa state governor, Alhaji Ibrahim Saminu Turaki, who decamped to the party from the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP).

Eyewitness said both vehicles collided head-on when one of them travelling from

Kano tried to overtake another vehicle on a sharp bend near Dundubus village in Dutse local government area of Jigawa state.

The two drivers along with the seven passengers died on the spot.

Malam Auwal Dundubus told our reporter that the

impact the crash attracted the attention of v

were on the highway the heavy trafficians from Dut

He said res were immediate before the police

the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) arrived the scene.

When *Daily Trust* visited the Dutse General Hospital, many of the critically injured were being attended to by health officials while the dead were being identified by grieving relatives.

While confirming the accident, the police public relations officer, Mr. Sunday Nwakafor, an assistant superintendent of police (ASP) described the accident as unfortunate, adding that an eight of the deceased have been released to their relatives after identification.

ASP Nwakafor added that many of the injured also being treated. He claimed that nine people were injured in the accident and others were injured.

PDP Rally

Police quiz governorship aspirant

The police in Plateau state have questioned a People's Democratic Party (PDP) gubernatorial aspirant (names withheld) and two others over the murder of a governorship aspirant in the state, Chief Jesse Aruku, *Daily Trust* has learnt.

Investigations by our correspondent revealed yesterday that the gubernatorial aspirant who hails from the same local government with the late Aruku, was at the police headquarters in Jos where he was being interrogated by the police in connection with the murder.

From Andrew Agbese, Jos

The police public relations officer in Jos, Mr. Dominic Iornumbe, when contacted said he was not in a position to comment on the matter, explaining that the state's Police Commissioner, Mr. Richard Chime, will address the press on the progress of investigations today.

But our correspondent learnt that one of the men detained by the police has made useful statements, including claims that he can identify the killers of the late Aruku.

The suspect was said to

have told the police that he had seen the alleged killers trailing Aruku while he was leaving the hotel the night he was murdered.

Efforts to reach the gubernatorial aspirant and seek his reaction failed as he refused to pick his phone calls when our correspondent tried to reach him.

The late Chief Aruku's corpse was discovered last Sunday after a sudden disappearance. He was said to have spent sometime at an undisclosed hotel from where his assailants are believed to have trailed and later abducted him.