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Six killed in Zamfara FC auto crash

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At least six persons have been confirmed dead following a head-on collusion between a bus carrying Premier League side, Zamfara United Football Club of Gusua and a Toyota car along Jos-Bauchi road.

Early last month, players of Jimeta United Football Club died in a similar manner when the bus they traveling in to honour an away tie against Voice of Nigeria FC crashed along Jos-Bukuru road, killing all 15 occupants.

The Zamfara accident occurred Friday night as the team was traveling to Bauchi to keep a Premier League date with Wikki Tourists.

Those who died are striker Abdullahi Dio, Ado Umar and the club's curator. Six other persons, including Technical Adviser Rafiu Yusuf and Team Doctor Abdullahi Maru have sustained various degrees of injuries made up of simple and compound fracture.

A press release signed by the club's media officer Malam Imam Imam said the four occupants of the Toyota car all lost their lives in the accident.

The injured players are receiving treatment at a General Hospital in Gombe.

Already, Governor Mahmud Aliyu Shinkafi of Zamfara state has directed that adequate medical attention be given to the players, while adequate arrangement is made to convey the bodies of the two persons who died.

The late Abdullahi Dio joined Zamfara United during the last mid-season break from an amateur side in Kaduna.

In just a short time at the club, he has made his mark known with his overall player and vision. He was one of the goal scorers in Zamfara United's 2-2 home draw against visiting Niger Tornadoes of Minna last Wednesday.

In a telephone chat with Trustsports yesterday, Nigeria Premier League Board Chairman, Chief Oyuki Obaseki described the accident as sad development in the Nigeria football league.

He said all teams playing in the nation's Premier League have been enjoined to wear black arm band as a mark of honour to the deceased players and officials.

He said all matches involving Zamfara United will be put on hold, following the accident that affected almost the entire team.

"My friend, how can you be talking of when the match will be played when not less than ten players are in the hospital? That can not be possible; the league will soon come out with a position on that", Obaseki stated.

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