

Death toll from Benue road crash rises

From Hir Joseph, Makurdi

THE death toll from Tuesday's auto crash along the Makurdi-Otukpo-Enugu road in Benue State has risen to 27, the Federal Road Safety Commission said yesterday.

Benue State Deputy Governor Chief Steven Lawani while addressing labour leaders yesterday said the state was mourning the deceased who according to him were all indigenes of Benue.

The FRSC spokesman Mr. Samson Audu said 21 persons died on the spot while three died in hospital. He added that policemen later recovered three bodies, putting the casualty figure at 27.

The FRSC said the accident was caused by reckless driving by a driver who attempted to overtake another vehicle without proper calculation.