

5 die in Kogi auto crash

From Usman A. Bello, Lokoja

FIVE persons died while two others sustained serious injuries in a multiple accident that occurred at Uhana along the Lokoja-Abuja highway on Saturday.

According to Baba Shuaibu of the Kotokarfe Unit Command of the Kogi State command of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSS) the accident

which occurred around 10.am, involved four vehicles, a truck with registration number XG 684 APP, Volkswagen with registration number AG 532 GAR, a Golf car with registration AG 531 LKJ and a Darf truck with registration number XY 508 AKD.

He said the Golf car, which was on its way to Abuja rammed into the truck, which was coming from the opposite

direction while three other vehicles rammed into each other from behind. He added that the victims were trapped under the truck.

According to him, 14 persons were involved in the accident, out of which five died, two were injured while seven were unhurt. He added that those who were injured were taken to Ideal Hospital at Kotokarfe while the corpses were depos-

ited at the Kogi Specialist Hospital.

The Kogi State Sector Commander of the FRSC, Sunday Maku said the accident was due to route violation and dangerous overtaking, adding that the accident would have been averted if the motorists had maintained their lane.

He warned motorists to be patient and always maintain a single lane because the road is busy, especially during this period.

Students petition IGP over harassment

From Hameed Oyegbade, Osogbo

STUDENTS of Ladoke Akintola University of Technology (LAUTECH), Ogbomosho, Osun State have petitioned the Inspector General of Police (IGP) Mr. Hafiz Ringim to stop one Tunji Razak from harassing them. In a petition to the IGP, the spokesperson of the students, Fadairo Olawale alleged that Tunji Razak, who is popularly called Alhaji has been terrorizing them.

"We are calling on the Inspector General of Police to investigate Mr Tunji Razak also known as Alhaji. He is not a policeman, but he has been conspiring with the Owoke Police Division in Ogbomosho and that of Alagbon in Lagos to perpetrate his unlawful acts. Whenever he arrests any student, he will take away his/her property, including wristwatches, phones, laptops and chains. This man has also been caught on several occasions engaging students in sexual intercourse. We also call on individuals and human right groups as well as civil society groups to support us in the struggle to curtail this unwarranted abuse", part of the petition read.

When contacted, Mr. Tunji Razak said it is true that he is not a policeman, but that he is assisting the police to sanitize LAUTECH campus.

"See, the fact that I'm not a policeman does not mean that I cannot arrest a criminal. If you have information on a criminal, will you not arrest him?" he said.

Police killings: Fayemi wants perpetrators prosecuted

From Doyin Adebusi, Ado-Ekiti

EKITI State Governor Kayode Fayemi has condemned the alleged killing of 27 year old Tayo Abe by the police at Orin Ekiti last Thursday, calling for the immediate prosecution of those behind the incident. It was gathered that Miss Abe was harvesting corn on her father's farm alongside her four siblings when policemen allegedly opened fire on them.

Two of her siblings are still in critical condition at the Federal Medical Centre (FMC) Ido. It was further gathered that four others were shot at Ido Ekiti when an angry mob stormed the police station to protest the attack.

Governor Fayemi, who visited the deceased's family at Orin and the casualties at the FMC at Ido where they are receiving treatment, condemned the act, saying it was unfortunate and horrible. Governor Fayemi said it was shocking that law enforcement agents, who are being paid to protect the lives and property of the citizenry could do such a thing.

"We don't need this in our environment, we need peace and stability. If citizens are not killing each other, why should the police that should be protecting us be the ones to be doing it? I know that the leadership of the police is embarrassed by this, but the only way to prove that, is to ensure that they face the law", he said.

Fayemi, who said that investigation is still on-going, stressed the need for re-training of policemen in the use of fire-arms, add-



KANO State Deputy Governor Dr. Abdullahi Umar Ganduje (right) displaying a new national vehicle number plate. With him (left) is Chairman, Federal Inland Revenue Service, (FIRS) Ifueko Omogui-Okauru during the launching of national number plates at the Kano State Board of Internal Revenue on Friday.

Kaduna Assembly wants revenue generating machineries overhauled

From Christiana T. Alabi, Kaduna

FOLLOWING poor revenue generation by Kaduna State and its local government councils, the state's House of Assembly has said that it wants the revenue generating machineries in the state overhauled in order to meet the yearnings and aspirations of people of the state.

In his motion, Philemon Usman representing Makera Constituency in Kaduna-South Local Government Area, said earnings by both the state

and local governments is not enough to meet the needs of the people, hence the need to overhaul the machineries so that the dividends of democracy can be felt. In his contributions, Bala Yunusa Mohammed representing Tudun-Wada constituency said the motion was timely considering the nature of development in the state. He said it was necessary for the revenue generating machineries to be adequately empowered.

After deliberations, the motion which was co-sponsored by six other

members of the House was referred to the House Committee on Finance and its Committee on Economic Planning, Commerce and Industry, Culture and Tourism, Lands and Market Development for in-depth study. They are expected to submit their report within six weeks.

In an interview after the sitting, Philemon Usman called for change in the way revenue is being generated in the state, urging the state government to diversify its source of revenue generation.

Flood kills woman, sweeps car into drainage

From Eyo Charles, Calabar

A heavy downpour in Calabar yesterday killed a 24 year old woman. Witnesses said that she must have been one of the traders at Mar-ian market, who were caught up in the heavy rain. Many houses in

Ediba area of the state were equally affected. The downpour also pulled down fences, especially those made of blocks.

Our correspondent reports that the flood also swept a car into the drainage. Last month, many houses and streets in Calabar South were

destroyed by heavy rainfall that lasted for many days.

The state's governor, Senator Liyel Imoke said on Friday evening that the government was embarking on massive reconstruction and expansion of roads, including evacuation of drainages within the metropolis.

PIC: SANI MAIKATANGA