

11 Yobe workers, soldier feared killed in auto crash

NO less than 11 employees of the Yobe State government and an army personnel have died in an auto crash on the Damaturu-Gashua road, about 50 kilometres north of Damaturu, the state capital.

A witness told *The Guardian* that the accident happened as a result of a head on collision between a mass transit bus belonging to Gujba Local Council and a truck with Plateau State registration number XA 646 BUU.

Several other people also sustained injuries with five who are in critical conditions currently receiving treatment at the Sani Abacha Specialist Hospital, Damaturu.

All the dead victims were occupants of the bus, which was conveying them back to Damaturu after the weekend.

One Muhammed Bura from Babban Gida, who was among the rescue crew, attributed the accident to poor visibility, potholes and over-speeding.

He added: "This is the worst accident I have ever seen in my life. The bus broke into pieces while the truck tumbled and skid into the bush, because of the intensity of the collision."

Those who died in the

*From Njadvara Musa,
Damaturu*

accident included Lawal Mohammed, an army personnel attached to the 241 RECCE Battalion Nguru; Mohammed Kyari, an engineer with Yobe State Ministry of Housing; Adamu Grema of the State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB); Datti Abubakar, a nurse with the state specialist hospital; Usman Beni

(Ministry of Information) and Alhaji Bura Tagalli (Ministry of Integrated Rural Development).

The Commandant of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) in Yobe State, Mr. Emmanuel Ekekwe, confirmed the accident, stressing that his unit was incapacitated in terms of rescue operations because of lack of working equipment.

He said: "Accidents are on the increase on Yobe

roads because of so many factors, including overloading and bad roads. We are in desperate need of patrol vehicles and communication equipment. It is just impossible for us to patrol Yobe State with just two vehicles...Even though FRSC belongs to the Federal Government, I want to appeal to the state government and wealthy individuals to come to our aid."

Borno charges corps members on mod

*From Njadvara Musa,
Maiduguri*

resented by his deputy, Adamu Dibal, said modest dressing would endear the corps members to their hosts, thereby reducing friction.

He linked the communities' acceptance of the corps members to the latter's ability to identify with the people's hopes and aspirations.

Sheriff added that the hosts expected the corps members to fully apply themselves in the service year so that the communities would be transformed for the better.

The governor pledged to increase the current N1,000 monthly allowance of the

corps members to reflect current realities, especially the rising costs of food.

His words: "We are making frantic efforts towards the upward review of the welfare package for serving corps in Borno."

Sheriff also assured on his support for the NYSC scheme, promising to redeem his pledge to build hostel facilities at the orientation camp, including

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ABOUT eight civil society organisations have declared support for the Lagos State Governor, Babatunde Raji Fashola, as he continues to receive stiff