

Five feared dead in Taraba, Edo road accidents

THREE persons are being feared dead in an accident that occurred along Jalingo-Wukari in Sibiri Village, Taraba State.

According to sources, the accident occurred when the driver of a Toyota Hilux with registration number EE 63 KRM was trying to overtake a Volkswagen car marked AX 628 GMB.

The two vehicles collided, leading to the death of three passengers, while two others were seriously injured.

While the two passengers who sustained various degrees of injuries are now receiving treatment at the Jalingo Federal Medical Centre, the other three persons, which includes two men and a woman died at the scene of the accident.

The Public Relation Officer (PRO) of the Taraba State Command of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), Saleh Isa, who spoke to *The*

*From Charles Akpeji,
(Jalingo) and Alemma-
Ozioruva Aliu (Benin)*

Guardian, blamed the driver of the Toyota Hilux for the ghastly accident.

He said: "The accident occurred as a result of dangerous overtaking by the Toyota Hilux driver, who was impatient to reduce his speed when other vehicles were coming."

Isa wondered why some drivers have refused to abide by the incessant

warning of the commission on the adverse effect of over-speeding and careless over-taking.

The commission, he said, has continued to warn motorists to eschew unnecessary over-taking, over-speeding and over-loading. These, he said, are the major causes of road accidents in the country.

He also identified potholes and sharp corners as major possible cause of road accidents, saying "you know on our roads,

there are lots of pothole, sharp corners and other things. So, let's be very cautious in driving. Let's limit our speed."

Similarly, in Benin, Edo State, two people are being feared dead in a road accident, which occurred along the Warri-Ughelli road yesterday morning.

The vehicles in which they were travelling, a Mazda car marked MC 26 AAA was said to have plunged into the Ekakpamre River near Beta Glass Industries Limited, Ughelli.

Ebonyi won't scrap councils, development centres, says official

*From Leo Sobechi,
Abakaliki*

WHETHER now or in the future, the Ebonyi State Government says it would not abolish both the original local councils and development centres it created to bring development to the grass-

roots.

The state government's clarification may have been prompted by growing calls for the abolition of local councils as the

dinators must spend 40 per cent of their income on salary and emoluments while 60 per cent goes to capital projects. Any chairman or coordinator that misuses the 60 per cent meant for development projects would be