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Family of five feared dead in road mishap

From Charles Akpeji, Jalingo

IT was tragedy in Jalingo, the Taraba State capital yesterday as a family of five died in a motor accident, which occurred at Sibri village along the Wukari-Jalingo Road.

According to the state commander of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC) Mary Wakawa, the accident was caused by overspeeding.

She said: "The accident occurred as a result of over speeding, which we have being preaching against."

The driver of the Toyota Camry car whom The Guardian learnt was a military personnel attached to the 45 Battalion, Takum, was conveying his family to Jalingo for the Sallah celebration when the tragedy struck.

The vehicle, according to an eyewitness, was conveying seven members of the family when the accident occurred

While five, including the military personnel, the wife and three of the children died on the spot, two of the survivors were said to have sustained various degrees of injuries and are now receiving treatment at the emergency unit of the Jalingo Specialist Hospital.

Wakawa explained that due to overspeeding, the driver lost control and the car collided with the "protector of the Sibri Bridge."

In a bid to check road accidents in the state, the command recently joined forces with the traditional institutions to sensitise motorists on the adverse effects of over speeding and overloading throughout the nooks and crannies of the state.

A military personnel who also spoke with The Guardian on phone, said the Takum military barrack "is presently in a sad mood because of the untimely death of our colleague whom we so much respected."

Wakawa stressed the need for motorists to adhere strictly to traffic rules by minimising their speed to prescribed speedometer, adding that the agency "is doing every thing possible to ensure safety on the roads."

The high number of pot-holes on the roads has also been blamed for the incessant road accidents in the state by some eyewitnesses who spoke to The Guardian.

While the FRSC said the accident was caused by over speeding, an eyewitness blamed it on the pot holes, saying "on entering into one of the pot-holes, the soldier man missed his direction and hit the iron of



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