

Five die in Taraba road mishap

*From Charles Akpeji,
Jalingo*

NO fewer than five persons were feared dead in a ghastly motor accident that occurred on Tuesday in Namne Village, Gassol Local Council of Taraba State.

The head-on collision, which involved a tipper truck and a Peugeot Station Wagon, reportedly occurred at about 8p.m. as a result of the bad condition of the road.

An eyewitness who identified himself simply as Sabo said: "I think the major cause of the accident were the potholes, because the two vehicles were both trying to avoid them."

The five victims were occupants of the cream-colour saloon car, which was badly damaged. The victims' remains were immediately evacuated from the spot by their families.

The accident spot on the Wukari-Gassol-Jalingo road has been notorious, as many people have lost their lives or limbs in mishaps there.

It was learnt that a contract for the road's rehabilitation was awarded under the administration of former President Olusegun Obasanjo but work on it has been slow due to non-release of funds.

A villager who claimed to have participated in the rescue operations said: "When we heard the sound of the accident, we rushed out from our houses, but before we reach here all of them have died."

But when contacted, the Taraba State Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), Mrs. Mary Wakawa, denied knowledge of the accident, saying that, "nobody has called to inform us of any accident."