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Last update 11:00:00 PM GMT

24 feared dead in Edo, Jigawa road accident, flood

THURSDAY, 30 AUGUST 2012 00:00 FROM ALEMMA-OZIORUVA ALIU, (BENIN CITY) AND JOHN AKUBO (DUTSE) NEWS - NATIONAL



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IT was a tragic day yesterday in Edo and Jigawa states as 24 persons were feared killed in an auto crash and a devastating flood in the two states.

The accident, which claimed 13 lives, occurred along the Okene/Auchi/Benin highway at Ewu slope in Esan Central Council of Edo State.



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The incident involved an 18 passenger capacity Toyata Hiace bus with registration no JJ 655 AS and a vehicle loaded with iron rods.

The Auchi Unit commander of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), Mrs Affiong Nsebot, who confirmed the accident attributed it to brake failure from the vehicle.

The Abuja bound truck was said to have lost control after the brake failed and rammed into the bus, which was heading to Benin from Abuja.

While 12 persons reportedly died in the bus, six others survived

In the same vein, 11 people died following a flood that ravaged seven local councils in Jigawa State.

The Chairman of Flood Disaster Committee Alhaji Jinjiri Abdulkadir, disclosed that also affected were hectares of farmlands as well as cattle.

Abdulkadir who is also the Commissioner for Rural and Infrastructure said seven people were killed in Gumel after a building collapsed on its occupants while four were killed in Kiyawa after a torrential rain.

Jinjiri said that farm produce and valuables that could not be immediately quantified were lost in the flood disaster across the local council areas.

He said the affected local councils include Gumel, Hadejia, Kiyawa, Auyo, Taura, Ringim and Kaugama where several houses had collapsed in the process.

He said while the committee was still assessing the extent of damage and quantifying what was lost, the state government had provided relief materials as a short term measure in ameliorating the pains of the affected people.

He said the committee had also embarked on sensitization campaigns on the need to ensure adequate cleaning of water ways against blockages while new drainages were being opened up at places that required them.







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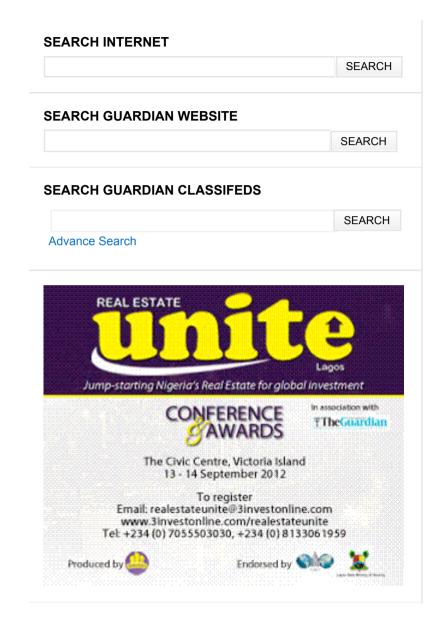
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