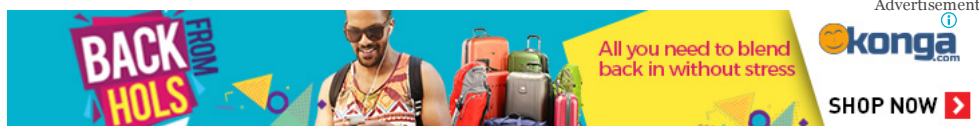


offence," he said.



Hamzat promised that the command would this year strive to improve awareness, stakeholders' partnerships and lead the crusade for the establishment of a traffic agency by the state government.

In Kaduna State, 413 people were lost to 596 accidents involving 821 vehicles and 4,616 people during the period. The FRSC Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety in the state, Francis Udoma, told reporters in Kaduna that 2,448 people sustained various degrees of injury during the period.

He also recalled that there was an increase in the number of accidents from 485 in 2015 to 596 in 2016. "However, there was a decrease in the number of deaths from 443 accidents recorded in 2015 to 413 in 2016 and an increase in the number of the injured from 2,038 in 2015 to 2,448 in 2016," Udoma noted.

He said speeding remained the major cause of accidents on Nigerian highways, saying "speed thrills, but kills" and urged motorists to install speed limit device to guard against untimely death.

Also yesterday, 10 persons were feared dead in auto-crash which occurred around Evbobanosa community in Edo State. While two vehicles were burnt beyond recognition, an eyewitness, Paul Emeh, said four persons in a Honda salon car, marked AA 123 XX and heading for Benin City, Edo State, reportedly died after crashing into a pothole before the vehicle somersaulted onto the highway.

Although, FRSC officials were seen at the scene of the accident evacuating wreckage, they, however, kept mum on details but noted that the driver over-spiced and was reckless.

In Delta, six passengers traveling to Onitsha, Onitsha in a commercial bus were feared dead around Umunede community after the bus driver with registration number, AA 236SC, allegedly lost one of its tyres to over-speeding and crashed. Only six of the 18 passengers were feared dead while others sustained various degrees of injury.

One of the survivors, Dennis Akporeh, who our reporter that "we warned the driver that the speed was too much and in a twinkling of an eye, we heard the sound of a tyre burst and the next thing we could observe was our bus crashing into the bush. We thank God for His mercies". But the FRSC boss in the state, Mr. Random Kulven, when contacted, said he was yet to receive the report, adding: "I will get back to you after my findings."

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