

# Auto Crash Claims Two Corps Members In Ebonyi

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The passing out ceremony of Ebonyi State youth corps members (NYSC), batch "B" turned tragic at the weekend as the state director announced the death of two members in a motor accident.

The corps members, said to have concluded arrangements for their journey back home, reportedly got involved in an

auto crash along Abakaliki-Afikpo road and gave up the ghost shortly after.

Their names were given as Temple Okene (Rivers State) and Catherine Iheremelum (Ebonyi).

The NYSC Director, Dr Isaac Oboh Alude, at the ceremony called for a one minute silence for souls of the departed, after which the corps members who heard of the accident for the first time broke down in tears.

About 1038 corps members passed were being sent off, while 11 are to repeat the exercise and 14 others had their service period extended to various months on half salaries for varied offences.

Alude explained that offences of the members included absconding from service, truancy, indiscipline, and unauthorised journeys.

The state governor, Dr Sam Egwu who was represented by

his deputy, Prof. Chigozie Ogbu, commended the organisation for what he called invaluable contributions to the development of the state in fields of formal and non-formal education, primary healthcare delivery among others.

He however did not announce the donation of any money to the out-going NYSC members as the governor usually does for each batch, a development which worsened the mood of the corps members.