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## Nine killed in Katsina auto crash

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### •Four die in Plateau pipeline fire

By Audu Onoja/Jos

An automobile accident has claimed the lives of nine persons in Batagarawa Local Government area of Katsina State.

Confirming the incident, Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Habu Dauda, on Tuesday told newsmen in Katsina, the state capital, that the accident occurred at about 11.00 a.m. on Monday at the entrance of the Umaru Musa Yar'Adua University, on Katsina-Dutsinma road.

He said the accident involved a bus with registration number AA 479 JH, whose driver lost control while trying to avoid colliding with another vehicle coming out of the university.

Dauda said eight persons, including the driver of the bus, died instantly, while one other died later at the hospital.

He said six of the passengers were still receiving treatment at the Katsina General Hospital.

The commander disclosed that N678,095, sent through the driver of the vehicle to one Nura Lawal, was recovered and handed over to the owner.

He appealed to motorists to always obey traffic rules and regulations, and called on the state government to block the U-turn opposite the university gate to prevent further accidents.

Also, at least four vandals who destroyed pipelines of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) in Bassa local Government area of Plateau State have been burnt to death in an inferno following their action.

*Daily Independent* investigation revealed that the deceased died while scooping oil from a well dug under the pipeline on Sunday night.

Vincent Bature, Commander of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), told newsmen in Jos on Monday that

two of the vandals died on the spot while the other two died at the Evangel Hospital.

According to him, fire broke out at the site when argument ensued among the vandals on how they would share their loot, adding that in annoyance, one of them lit his cigarette and threw the matches stick in the well.

Two of them in the well were completely burnt, while the other two who were partially affected were rescued and moved to the hospital where they later died.

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