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Students protest killing of colleagues by truck driver

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Students of Community Secondary School, Nkalagu, Ebonyi, on Friday, protested the killing of two of their colleagues by a truck driver on the Enugu-Abakaliki expressway.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that the protest disrupted vehicular movement on the busy road for over three hours.

The students barricaded the road with logs of wood, empty drums, bags of sand and set bonfires which made motorists to park their vehicles for fear of being destroyed.

The students, who chanted songs, called on the authorities to prosecute the driver of the truck and check the incessant loss of lives on the road.

A source, who spoke to NAN on condition of anonymity, alleged that the truck driver, who was on his way to Abakaliki from Enugu, was on high speed when he hit the both female students.

“The school is situated close to the road.

“The truck also injured two other students who are receiving treatment at an undisclosed hospital in the state,” the source said.

Mr Ikechukwu Ogbu, (PDP Ishiellu North) and Chairman, Committee on Information in the state House of Assembly, expressed regret at the death of the two students.

He, however, said that normalcy had returned to the area.

“The students were going home after dismissal when the incident occurred; most of the students use the pedestrian walkway on the road.

Mr Chris Anyanwu, Ebonyi Police Command Public Relations Officer, confirmed the incident and death of the two students.

He said that officers were mobilised to the scene to control the situation.

He said: “the quick intervention of the police is to forestall the hijack of the protest by hoodlums who may use it for ulterior motives.

“Our officers would be stationed at the scene on a 24-hour basis because the road links Ebonyi with Cross River and Cameroun; so movement on it should not be disrupted,” Anyanwu said.

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