

# One Dead, 14 Passengers Rescued As Vehicle Plunges Into Sokoto River

By Our Correspondents On Sep 20, 2020 5:14 AM

NEWS



A dead body was recovered out of 14 passengers in a vehicle that plunged into River Rima Bridge, along Tashar Illela on Sokoto-Kware-Illela road in Sokoto State, due to flood.

According to reports, a commercial vehicle carrying 14 passengers plunged into the river on Thursday as the road leading to the bridge was submerged.

A rescue officer from National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Aminu Ambursa, told NAN on Saturday that only one body was recovered and taken to Specialist Hospital, Sokoto.

Ambursa said that rescue efforts were still in progress by combined efforts of police, Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), as well as Sokoto State and Federal Fire Services.

He said other officials were from Sokoto State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) and transport unions, even as he explained that the rescue had been tough due to the high volume of water that flooded the whole area.

According to him, officials had to seek assistance from construction firms for heavy duty cranes, local divers and canoe divers for the mission.

Ambursa said the accident vehicle had been spotted, but could not be removed as it was hooked to a deep hole, even as the water volume was still much.

Another rescue official from the Federal Fire Service, Muhammad Jibril, said efforts were still in progress to remove the vehicle along with the human bodies.