

## 6 Feared Dead As Bridge Collapses

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Death trap is currently dotting the East-West/Warri -Port Harcourt expressway, following the collapse of Patani Bridge, linking Delta and Rivers states. The bridge which was cut into two is currently creating palpable tension and unprecedented traffic gridlock in the area.

LEADERSHIP investigation revealed that six persons have allegedly lost their lives as an aftermath of the failed portions of the road, a situation which the federal government has failed to wade into.

Expectedly, the present situation of the bridge seemingly threatens lives, especially of motorists who are subjected to pay huge sums of money to enable them cross on a make shift bridge provided by residents of the area.

Some of the residents who spoke to our correspondent on condition of anonymity, decried the current state of the bridge, disclosing that the contractors (named withheld) who claimed to have rehabilitated it initially poorly executed the job.

While saying that the menace had constituted a nightmare, the aggrieved residents said over 300 vehicles are sometimes trapped in the web of the traffic gridlock, thus making it difficult for a free flow of vehicular movement.

They said, "The situation has assumed a worrisome dimension and motorists at times sleep on the highway waiting for their turn to pass." They called on the federal and state government to take urgent steps with a view to offering a last solution to the menace.