

## BRIEFS

# Eight killed in auto crash

**A**T least, eight persons, including three females and five males,

lost their lives last Friday in an auto crash that occurred at Koton-Karfe on Lokoja-Abuja Road, while 14 others were seriously injured.

The accident involved two vehicles, a Toyota Hiace

Bus with registration number XC435NND, belonging to the Abuja Municipal Area Mass Transit, coming from

Abuja and a private Peugeot 504 Station Wagon, from the opposite direction with registration number AA237KAR.

The vehicles on speed collided while dodging a pot-hole.

Nine of the injured persons are currently being hospitalised at the Federal Medical Centre, Lokoja; two at the General

Hospital, Koton-Karfe, and four(4) at the Ideal

Hospital, Koton-Karfe.

The Nation gathered that seven corpses were deposited at the Ankuri Private Hospital Mortuary and one at the Federal Medical Center, both in Lokoja.

The Kogi State Police Command in a release yesterday appealed to those whose relations travelled on Abuja-Lokoja Road around 5pm on Friday 28th December, 2007 and are yet to reach their destinations to check the Federal Medical Center Lokoja, General Hospital Koton-Karfe, and Ankuri Private Hospital, Lokoja, for possible location.

The Command, though noted the quick response of the Federal Road Maintenance Agency (FERMA) to its calls for patching of some pot-holes, however enjoined the Agency not to relent but to actually step up its repair works on the major roads in the State.

The Kogi State Sector Command is also reiterating its earlier advice to motorists to drive defensively at all times.

"They should avoid speeding, dangerous and reckless driving, drunk or drug driving, overloading and other acts that could result in road traffic accident. They are also advised to reduce speed and be more careful and alert especially when driving on unfamiliar roads," the statement read.

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