

# East-West road claims 15 lives

From Isaac Ombe

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**T**HE need to rehabilitate the busy East-West road that runs through three oil producing states in Nigeria came to the fore again as about 15 persons lost their lives in a ghastly motor accident on Tuesday afternoon.

The accident which occurred along the Kaiama axis of the East-West Road, Bayelsa involved a loaded truck and a vehicle along the East-West Road at the Kaiama axis of the East-West Road, Bayelsa State

Eye witness at the scene of the accident informed that the trailer with registration number DELTA XA 941 JIT, which was overtaking at a very sharp bend near a bridge collided with an 18-seater commercial bus with registration number RIVERS XB 410 BNY stationed by the road side.

It was learnt that a ten-year old boy who was thrown off the bus by the impact of the accident however survived, while other

occupants, including the driver of the bus died in the crash. The mangled vehicle inhibited rescue operations. Axes were however used to break some mangled parts of the vehicle to drag out the lifeless bodies.

The corpses were evacuated to the Kaiama and Patani general hospitals.

Eyewitnesses further noted that the accident was one of the worst along the Warri, Kaiama, Port-Harcourt axis of the East-West Road in recent times.

The Bayelsa State Police Public Relations Officer, Ibokette Inionbong, who confirmed the incident also described it as ghastly. He said all the occupants of the bus, including the driver, lost their lives.

John Meheux, the Bayelsa Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC), confirmed the accident.