

# Two Edo Speaker's aides, four others die in road accident

**S**IX persons, including two aides to the Speaker of Edo State House of Assembly, Hon Zakawanu Garuba, have been confirmed dead in two separate accidents that occurred on the Benin-Auchi-Abuja Highway.

The accident which killed the Speaker's aides, one of whom was a younger brother to the Speaker, Sumaina Garuba and Kamaru Imoru occurred on October 1 at Iruokpen Village near Ekpoma.

Chief Press Secretary to the Speaker, Dada Aiyokhai, said they were travelling to Auchi when an oncoming vehicle rammed into their vehicle causing it to somersault several times.

He said the car exploded and burnt the two aides to death.

Aiyokhai disclosed that they had been buried according to Islamic rites and that Speaker Garuba is currently attending a Conference of Parliamentarians

in Tanzania.

The second accident which involved three vehicles happened around 6:30am yesterday at Okpagha junction in Eyean village.

The vehicles involved were an Audi 80 with registration number DN 601 BEN, a Ford bus with registration number XA 385 BMA and another Ford bus with registration number XH 233 USL.

It was learnt that 13 persons were involved in the accident in which four died and nine others sustained serious injuries.

Edo State Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Henry Olatunji who confirmed both accidents said the dead victims were taken to Our Clinic Hospital at Ikpoba Hill while the injured were taken to the University of Benin Teaching Hospital, Enofe Clinic and Our Clinic.

Olatunji attributed the second accident to recklessness.