

12 die in accident on Oyo/Ogbomoso road

NO fewer than 12 people were feared dead in a commercial bus that plunged into Odo-Oba River on Oyo/Ogbomoso road yesterday.

Sources said the bus plunged into the river while attempting to dodge a trailer which strayed into its path.

It was learnt that the bus was traveling to Ilorin when the accident occurred near Ogbomoso.

From Bisi Oladele, Ibadan

A source who spoke in confidence said: "From the report I had, the bus was travelling to Ilorin and as it approached the slope leading to the small bridge over the river, an articulated truck took over the path of the road and in an effort to avoid collision with it, the bus driver veered off the road and plunged into the river."

"It was difficult pulling the passengers out of the river despite volunteer rescuers that arrived at the scene early. Twelve people died immediately."

Confirming the accident, the Public Relations Officer of the Oyo State Police Command, Adekunle Ajisebutu, said 12 people died, adding that their corpses were deposited at the Ladoke Akintola University of Technology Teaching Hospital, Ogbomoso.

"The driver of the Mazda bus lost control of the vehicle and plunged into the Odo-Oba River. Nine adults and three kids died on the spot and their bodies have been deposited at the LATECH Teaching Hospital in Ogbomoso. There were three survivors. The police with assistance from local drivers helped pull the bodies and passengers out of the river. The vehicle is still in the river," Ajisebutu said.

The Oyo State Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Corps, Mr. Yusuf Salami, also confirmed the accident but said he was yet to be given the actual casualty and the survivors.

The Oyo-Ogbomoso section of the Ibadan-Ilorin Road has received the attention of the Federal Government. Contractors have been mobilized and working on site. It is expected to be delivered by next year.

Big Brother Naija debuts On GOtv

GOtv subscribers will, for the first time, have the opportunity to watch Big Brother Naija, the runaway hit reality show returning after a decade. The show, which kicks off on 22 January, will air on GOtv Channel 29, a 24/7 channel dedicated to it.

Big Brother Naija offers a platform for people from all walks of life to showcase their talents and get propelled to stardom.

"It is our firm belief that Big Brother Naija will give rise to a fresh wave of talented Nigerians. Going by the keenness and energy on display during the audition, we can safely say the show will offer our subscribers an amazing time," said Efe Obiomah, Public Relations

Manager, GOtv.

She expressed confidence that Big Brother Naija will draw audiences across the African continent the same way Big Brother Africa did.

Auditions for the show held in Lagos, Abuja and Port Harcourt, with each city drawing large numbers of prospective Big Brother Nigeria housemates from varied backgrounds, skill sets and personalities.

Sponsored by PayPorte, Big Brother Naija is offering a cash prize of N25 million and a new KIA Sorento car to the eventual winner.

Big Brother Naija is an offshoot of the world famous Big Brother reality show, which was launched in 1999, with franchises in over 54 countries.