

13 killed, several injured in Katsina, Ogun accidents

THIRTEEN people were killed in separate accidents in Ogun and Katsina states on Friday.

1 In a pre-dawn multiple vehicle accident in Ogun, three passengers died, one injured on the Lagos - Ibadan expressway.

The accident which occurred at 5.22a.m. on the highway - about 200 metres away from DANCO filling station, involved four vehicles - Iveco truck SS 517XA, Man diesel T-8493LA and two unmarked Howo trucks.

Confirming the multiple crash, the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Ogun State sector Command, said the remains of the dead were taken to Idera Hospital morgue, Sagamu, Ogun State.

Superintendent Route Commander (SRC) Florence Okpe who is the FRSC Public Education Officer for Sector Commander, Ogun Sector Command, Umar Ahmed, attributed the likely cause to speed on the part of one of the vehicles.

She said Operatives of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) were still working as of the time of filing the report to clear the obstructions and redirect traffic.

2 10 passengers die, several injured in Katsina trailer accident

■ Ernest Nwokolo, Abeokuta ■

At least 10 passengers died, several injured in the Katsina trailer accident.

The FRSC Command in Katsina confirmed this to newsmen on Friday.

According to the FRSC, the trailer loaded with 18 passengers and an unspecified number of cattle was said to have lost control and crashed on Thursday night at Gora village in Malumfashi Local Government Area of the state.

The FRSC spokesperson in the state, Abubakar Usman, said an investigation conducted by the FRSC rescue team revealed that the driver was sleeping while the long vehicle was on motion,

leading to the accident.

"We are yet to confirm the number of cattle that died but according to eyewitnesses and our men on a rescue mission, they saw 10 people dead and eight injured," he said.

"The accident was a lone crash that happened after 12 midnight on Thursday at Gora village of Malumfashi Local Government Area, involving a trailer with Registration Number KTN 495 XA, overloaded with animals and passengers, en route to southern Nigeria when it lost control at a sharp bend and crashed.

"Our accident investigation teams were there on a rescue mission already. They have even facilitated the police re-

port."

The FRSC official appealed to drivers to desist from embarking on night journeys which he said often lead to fatal accidents.

Eyewitnesses also said the trailer was headed to Warri in Delta State from Dankama town in Katsina Local Government Area before it crashed.

One of the survivors, Abdulmalik Sani, told Channels Television that all the victims were from the same village - Dankama in Kaita Local Government Area.

According to him, the wounded victims have been taken to the General Hospital in Malumfashi and their relatives have since been contacted.

Ogun gov visits Ethiopia, Egypt, woos investors

A OIISED to increase direct foreign investment into Ogun State, Governor Dapo Abiodun, has embarked on visits to Egypt and Ethiopia.

The governor during investment tour met with the Ethiopian Minister of Industry, Ato Melaku Alebal, in Addis Ababa, and sought for area of investment and collaboration between Ethiopia and Ogun, particularly in the area industry and trade

Abiodun, in company of Dr. Mohammad Mahmood

Abubakar, Nigeria's Minister of Agriculture, also evaluated the benefits of and possible collaboration opportunities in the Special Agro-Processing Zones (SAPZs) which are a product of the African Development Bank.

While meeting with the Elsewedy Group, one of the largest conglomerates in Egypt, the governor, accompanied by the State Commissioner for Finance and Chief Economic Adviser, Dapo Okubadejo and his Agriculture counterpart, Samson

Odedina and Afreximbank president, Dr Benedict Okey Oramah, said the meeting with the group with significant investment opportunities across Africa and Europe, was to seek partnerships with it.

He explained that the meeting was also to facilitate Elsewedy's investments into Ogun State in healthcare, industrial park development, real estate, intelligent transport systems network and management, tolling systems, and in the power sector.