

20 dead, 36 injured in auto crashes in Kogi, says FRSC

TWENTY persons died and 36 were injured in separate auto crashes involving Toyota Hiace buses in two weeks in Kogi State, an official has said.

Corps Commander Samuel Oyedeji, Kogi Sector Commander, FRSC, told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Lokoja yesterday that the fatalities were from three accidents.

Oyedeji described the fatalities within just two weeks as very worrisome and unfortunate, considering the efforts of the corps to reduce road crashes on highways.

The sector commander ex-

plained that the most worrisome was the accident of September 3 that left 12 killed and six injured, when an 18 seater Toyota Hiace bus collided with a Howo Sone Truck along Obajana – Lokoja road.

"The dead victims were given mass burial at the Central Mosque Obajana, while the injured were taken to First Nation Orthopedic Hospital Zariagi for medical attention.

"The property of the victims and the vehicle are in custody of Police (MTD) at Obajana Police Division.

"On September 10, we had a lone accident involving a

Toyota Hiace bus, which left five persons dead and 15 injured at Zango, close to Chukwumereje Roundabout within Lokoja metropolis.

"Just on September 13, three persons lost their lives again while 15 were injured at Omoko village along Abujai-Lokoja road where another Toyota Hiace bus lost control and crashed at around 10:30 a.m.," he said.

The FRSC Commander said that joint rescue patrol teams of Abaji, Zebra 16 Abaji and Zebra 13 Gegu, were at Wednesday's accident scene and rescued the 15 injured victims.