

Several die, others injured in Lagos-Ibadan Expressway, Ondo accidents

TWO persons died while 15 others sustained injuries on Saturday when a speeding DAF truck overturned at a diversion point on the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway.

The vehicle travelling towards Lagos was loaded with bags of onions and passengers when the incident occurred.

The accident which occurred around 6.30 a.m. led to a gridlock as the truck emptied the onions and passengers on the road.

Public Relations Officer, Ogun State Traffic Compliance and Enforcement Corps, Mr Babatunde Akinbiyi, who confirmed the incident, gave the number plate of the truck as RBH 214 XA.

"According to eyewitness account the vehicle was approaching the diversion when the driver lost control, probably as a result of over speeding.

"It overturned in the process, spilling the onions it was carrying on the road, together with the 17 passengers atop the truck.

"Two of the passengers died on the spot while 15

others were injured," he said.

In another development, about 10 people were on Friday feared dead while five others sustained varying degrees of injuries in a ghastly auto accident on the Ore-Okitipupa axis of Ondo State.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reported that the accident which resulted in an inferno occurred due to a head-on collision involving a white Toyota Coaster bus and a white Ford J5 bus.

An eye witness told NAN that the Coaster bus passengers were believed to be coming from a function and were returning to Akure.

He said no fewer than 10 people died in the accident, adding that the J5 bus which was loaded with tanks of local gin and the Coaster bus had a head-on collusion while they were trying to maneuver a bad portion of the road.

The local gin in the J5 bus was said to have aided the fire which later smoldered after the head-on collusion with the accident causing a traffic gridlock for more than one hour at the axis.