

18 killed in Ebonyi, C/River auto crashes, 14 escape death in Osun

THE Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) in Ebonyi State has confirmed the death of 12 passengers in a road traffic accident on Tuesday, the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) has reported.

The sector commander, Uche Chukwurah, told newsmen in Abakaliki that that accident occurred at the Ezillo end of Enugu-Abakaliki-Ogoja highway.

Chukwurah said that the accident involved a white-colour Ford shuttle-bus and a pink-colour articulated vehicle.

"Fourteen persons were involved in the accident with 12 dead and two seriously injured.

"The dead persons consist of 10 males and two females, and the accident occurred at about 10.am," she said.

The sector commander

added that the injured passengers were evacuated to Alex-Ekwueme Federal Teaching Hospital in Abakaliki for treatment.

In Cross River State, six persons were killed in an accident involving a truck and Sienna vehicle along Calabar-Ogoja highway in Cross River on Tuesday.

The sector commander of the FRSC in the state, Mr Abdullahi Hassan, told NAN in Calabar that one person was also injured in the accident.

"We have eight male adults and one female adult in the vehicles. One male adult sustained injury, while those who died were six, consisting of five males and one female.

"The probable cause of the crash is wrongful overtaking and speeding.

"Both the injured and those who died have been taken to the General Hospital in Ogoja by officers of the FRSC," he said.

Hassan advised motorists to desist from wrongful overtaking and speeding on highways.

In another development, the Osun sector command of the FRSC has said that 14 passengers escaped death in an accident that occurred on the Gbongan-Ibadan expressway.

The sector commander, Mr Henry Benamesia, said this in a statement issued by the command's spokesperson, Mrs Agnes Ogungbemi, in Osogbo.

Benamesia said the accident occurred at the Orile-Owu junction AP filling station, two kilometres to Sasa Bridge, at about 9:31p.m on Monday

evening.

He said a private Hyundai SUV had a head-on collision with another vehicle, an ash-coloured Toyota Sequoia.

"The accident occurred due to speeding, leading to loss of control by one of the vehicles.

"Also, 14 persons were involved without any casualty.

"We have 11 males and three females and the injured victims among them were taken to Lowo Clinic, Gbongan for further medical treatment," Benamesia said.

According to him, the corps has been able to clear all gridlock within the scene of the accident to avoid any form of inconvenience.

"I want to enjoin motorists to avoid excessive speeding and obey traffic regulations."