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HEALTH

FEATURES

12 die in Niger road accident

Print

POLITICS

By Francis Falola, Minna

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Friday, 16 Jul 2010

NEWS

No fewer than 12 people, including two children have lost their lives during an auto accident involving a Toyota Hiace bus belonging to the Niger State Government. The accident, which occurred at Beji Village, along the Minna-Kontagora Road in the early hours of the day, reportedly led to the death on the spot of 10 occupants of the bus while two died later at the Minna General Hospital.

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The development came after they were rescued by a member of the Federal Road Safety Commission Special Marshal (unit 1), Mr. Gambo Lawal.

An eyewitness told our correspondent that the tyre of the 18-seater bus marked NG 11 SC burst while on motion and somersaulted severally before pulling to a halt.

The bus, with about 30 occupants, mostly women and children, belong to the Niger State Sharia Commission and had the inscription of 'Hisba' on its both sides.

Our correspondent gathered that the passengers were on their way to Kontagora when the accident occurred.

The Sector Commander, Federal Road Safety Commission, Niger State Command, Mr. Sylvanus Dalok, confirmed the accident in an interview with our correspondent in Minna on Thursday.

Dalok attributed the accident to over-loading and over-speeding, saying that the driver, who was also among the 10 people that died on the spot, was using fairly used tyres.

Dalok decried the incessant cases of accidents in recent time in parts of the state, regretting that almost 20 people had lost their lives in three auto accidents that occurred in the past one week.

Advising motorists and other road users on the need to be road safety conscious, the FRSC sector commander also advised Nigerians who still indulge in the usage of fairly used tyres to desist from the practice, claiming that it exposed motorists and other road users to danger.

Comments:

... it's so unfortunate. Use of old tyres, overloading and overspeeding caused the accident, not bad road. How can a vehicle of 18 seats contain 30 passengers? This is the most common cause of accidents on our roads. The FRSC, motor park authorities and road unions are suppose to advance to the stage of screening vehicles before using the roads, and strict penalties attached to it. The greed of a vehicle owner that has made him not to buy good tyres etc has put many families in grief.....

Posted by: David Mamuno , on Friday, July 16, 2010

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