

Two burnt to death in Ondo auto crash

May 13, 2016

Peter Dada, Akure

Two persons were burnt to death while another person was seriously injured in a fuel tanker accident that occurred on the Benin-Ore Expressway at Ofosu town in Idanre Local Government Area of Ondo State on Thursday afternoon.

According to an eyewitness, the accident occurred after the driver of the tanker, whose identity was unknown as of press time, lost control of the vehicle.

The tanker said to have contained 33,000 litres of Premium Motor Spirit also known as petrol, swerved off the road and fell into a ditch.

The eyewitness said the tanker caught fire immediately and burnt the driver and his assistant beyond recognition while the third occupant of the vehicle was rescued by men of the Ondo State Police Command.

As a result of the accident, the expressway was blocked for several hours as vehicular movement was halted while motorists heading to Benin and Lagos took alternative routes.

The eyewitness added that the fire lasted for several hours and all efforts to inform the men of the Ondo State Fire Service by the residents of the town to come and put out the fire were not successful.

The Public Relations Officer of the Ondo State Police Command, Mr. Femi Joseph, who confirmed the incident, said operatives from the Ore Police Division promptly responded to the accident.

He explained that the accident happened after the fuel tanker ran into a ditch and spilled its content before bursting into flames.

He said, "Our officers battled for several hours to put the situation under control but efforts to put out the fire did not work and this caused traffic delay on the road for more than two hours.

“Our men are on ground to clear the wreckage from the road to allow for a free flow of traffic on the road”

The injured victim was said to have been rushed to a hospital for treatment.

Copyright PUNCH.

All rights reserved. This material, and other digital content on this website, may not be reproduced, published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed in whole or in part without prior express written permission from PUNCH.

Contact: editor@punchng.com