

Two die, scores injured in Lagos, Ogun crashes

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• Scene of the Ikorodu accident Photo: Etim Ekpimah

Etim Ekpimah

Two persons were confirmed dead in separate accidents on the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway in Ogun State on Tuesday, while scores were injured in multiple road crashes in Lagos on Wednesday.

The Ogun State Sector Commander, Federal Road Safety Corps, Mr Clement Oladele, confirmed the death of the two persons in a statement on Wednesday.

Oladele said the first crash occurred around 4.52am at the AP filling station in the Sagamu area of the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway.

He said the accident, which involved an Iveco truck with number plate KTU 565 XW, was as a result of excessive speeding, which led to the loss of control of the vehicle by the driver.

According to him, three male adults were involved in the accident that claimed the life of one of them, while the other two sustained injuries.

The FRSC boss stated that the injured and the dead were taken to the Olabisi Onabanjo University Teaching Hospital, Sagamu.

Oladele stated that the second crash occurred around 3.54pm at Ogumankin area of the expressway and involved a Toyota Hiace bus with number plate LND 626 XR.

He said the accident was caused by reckless driving and wrongful overtaking, adding that the bus hit a road barrier and somersaulted.

Oladele explained that the vehicle was conveying 17 persons made up of six males, eight females and three children.

According to him, one female adult died in the accident, while six others were injured.

He said the injured victims were taken to the Idera Hospital, Sagamu, while the corpse of the dead victim was deposited in the FOS Morgue, Ipara.

Oladele advised motorists to drive cautiously, especially on the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway, which is currently undergoing reconstruction.

In Lagos, many people were injured in crashes that occurred in the Ogolonto area of Ikorodu and on the Third Mainland Bridge on Wednesday.

A sand-laden tipper lorry, with number plate AKD 750 XV, was said to have rammed into a Bus Rapid Transit vehicle with number plate FK 815 X0, shattering its glasses and injuring many passengers in the process.

Our correspondent, who visited the scene of the accident, observed that a liquid substance suspected to be diesel was flowing from the rear of the BRT vehicle due to the impact of the crash.

Officials of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority were seen at the scene of the accident controlling traffic, which had built up.

A passer-by, Babatunde Davies, said the accident was caused by the truck driver's failure to notice oncoming vehicles at a bend on the road.

Davies stated, "This type of driver, who trivialises human lives, should be banned from driving on the roads before he causes something more serious.

"If the roads were not wide enough, I would have suggested that articulated vehicles should be restricted to certain roads, but this was not so. I don't know if the society needs to construct other roads for them."

A motorcyclist, who gave his name simply as John, said if he was not smart enough, the tipper lorry would have crushed him.

He said he escaped being killed by providence, adding that he was surprised when the lorry suddenly emerged from the bend without consideration for other road users.

Many passengers were said to have been injured in the crash on the Third Mainland Bridge.

It was gathered that the crash involved a Mazda bus with number plate LSR 890 XF and a yellow Toyota bus with number plate LND 517 XP.

The Police Public Relations Officer in the state, DSP Bala Elkana, said the vehicles had been evacuated from the scenes of both accidents.

He added that investigations were ongoing to ascertain the causes of both crashes.

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