

Seven perish in Ogun, Ondo, Rivers crashes

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Scene of the Port Harcourt accident

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The driver of a commercial bus, on Tuesday, lost his life when he crashed the vehicle into a stationary truck around the Foursquare Camp in the Fidiwo area of on the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway.

The bus, with number plate AKD 417 XJ, had only the driver on board when the accident occurred in Fidiwo, Remo-North Local Government Area of Ogun State.

The state Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Corps, Clement Oladele, and the Public Relations Officer, Traffic Compliance and Enforcement Corps, Babatunde Akinbiyi, confirmed the accident.

Oladele and Akinbiyi stated that the driver lost control of the vehicle and rammed into the stationary truck with number plate LSR 198 XY, which was parked by the roadside.

According to the agencies, the driver was the only one in the bus when the accident happened and he was on top speed when he rammed into the stationary truck due to poor visibility.

“The corpse of the victim has been deposited in a private hospital morgue in Ipara, Remo-North Local Government Area of Ogun State,” Oladele added.

In a related development, five persons lost their lives, while several others sustained varying degrees of injury in a road crash, which occurred in Ore on the Benin-Ore-Sagamu Expressway in the Odigbo Local Government Area of Ondo State on Tuesday.

The identities of the victims were unknown as of the time of filing this report, but an eyewitness said three adults and two children died in the accident.

The eyewitness explained that the crash involved an 18-passenger Toyota Hiace bus with number plate, AKL 930 YY, and a MAN Diesel truck with number plate, FGB 747 XA.

According to the eyewitness, the accident caused gridlock on the road until the men of the Ondo Sector Command of the FRSC came to clear the wreckage and took the casualties to hospital.

The Head of Operations of the FRSC in the command, Mr Olusegun Ogungbemide, confirmed the accident and said, “Thirteen travellers were involved in the accident; while five died instantly, seven sustained varying degrees of injury.”

The FRSC official explained that excessive speed and wrongful overtaking were the causes of the accident.

In a related development, a Toyota Camry saloon car, on Monday, plunged into a river close to a bridge in Port Harcourt, Rivers State, after the driver tried to overtake a truck.

Sources said the driver of the car was conveying a female passenger when the incident happened around 9pm in the Amadi Ama area of Port Harcourt.

It was learnt that while the driver swam to safety, the passenger died before rescuers could come to her aid.

An eyewitness said the driver confessed that he tried to overtake a truck before the accident occurred, adding that the truck was emitting thick smoke, which blurred the car driver's vision.

When contacted, the Rivers State Public Education Officer, FRSC, John Michael, said personnel of the agency had been deployed in the scene and that the vehicle had been pulled out of the water with the passenger's corpse.

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