Meanhile, seven persons died in an auto crash which occurred around 5pm on Friday in Anambra.

The crash involved a tipper loaded with sand and a bus, with 19 persons on board.

It was gathered that the bus was conveying a family to a burial ceremony when it collided with the lorry.

An eyewitness, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the tipper had a tyre burst, which made it to lose control and ram into the bus.

He said, "No fewer than seven persons died on the spot while other passengers sustained injuries. Most of them were members of the same family going for a burial ceremony."

The Sector Public Education Officer of Federal Road Safety Corps, Pascal Anigbo, confirmed the incident to our correspondent.

He said the corpses had been deposited at the hospital morgue, while the injured victims were receiving treatment.

He said, "About 5.20pm on Friday 12 June, 2020, we received a distress call on a fatal auto crash, which occurred near Buckie Polytechnic, along Ogidi-Abatete Road.

"Casualties involved included 17 adult males, one female adult and one female child totalling 19. They were all rushed to Twinkle Hospital, Ogidi by members of the community. The Sector Commander FRSC, Andrew Kumapayi condoles with the family of the deceased and wishes the injured victims quick recovery."