

Truck loses control on Edo highway, crushes two policemen, bus driver

Adeyinka Adedipe, Benin

TRAGEDY struck in the university town of Ekpoma, Edo State, on Tuesday, as two policemen and a bus driver were crushed to death by a truck on the Benin-Auchi Expressway.

Seven other policemen were reported to have sustained injuries.

PUNCH Metro gathered that policemen and the driver were by the roadside when the truck driver lost control as the trailer fell on them.

Men of the Federal Road Safety Corps and some policemen, who arrived at the scene shortly after the accident, cordoned off the area and took the injured cops to a hospital, while the remains of the deceased were taken to an undisclosed morgue.

The Edo State Police Public Relations Officer, Mr Kontongs Bello, who confirmed the incident, explained that the articulated truck fell on the victims after the driver lost control of the truck.

He noted that the police had yet to ascertain the number plate of the truck.

Kontongs, a Superintendent of Police, denied reports that the policemen were either on an illegal stop-and-search duty or

going after Internet fraudsters in the locality when the accident occurred.

"Nine policemen and a civilian driver were involved in the accident last Friday. The policemen had stopped to greet somebody when a trailer that was passing fell on them," he said.

The deceased family members were said to have been contacted by the police.

A'Ibom you

Patrick Odey, Uyo

RESIDENTS of Ikpa Road in the Itu Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State have decried the threat posed to their lives by a gully in the community, saying they keep vigil to avoid visitors and vehicles falling into it.

Our correspondent learnt that erosion had divided the community road, making it impossible for passengers and visitors to cross over to the other side.

Three buildings containing shops had already collapsed, while others were being threatened.

Speaking with journalists on Tuesday, the Councillor representing Ward 14, Oku 3, Mr