

# 2 Rivers crash claims 10 lives, truck crushes Osun man to death

Dennis Naku and Bola Bamigbola

**N**O fewer than 10 persons lost their lives in a fatal crash on Wednesday along the Rukpokwu-Igwuruta Road in the Ikwerre Local Government Area of Rivers State.

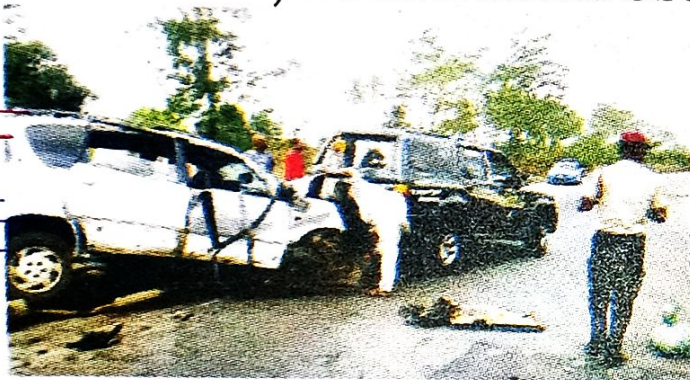
An eyewitness said an eight-month-old baby was one of the four occupants of a Toyota Highlander Sport Utility Vehicle, which went up in flames.

The driver of a commercial bus, who did not identify himself, said the driver of the SUV was trying to avoid hitting another vehicle when he lost control and hit a median, resulting in the crash.

He said the vehicle immediately caught fire and burnt occupants of the car.

The Corps Commander, Federal Road Safety Corps, Rivers State, Salisu Galadunchi, said 10 people died in the incident.

"It happened yesterday (Wednesday) evening. I can confirm that 10 people were



• Scene of an accident

involved — five male adults, children, females too. They all died and were taken to the mortuary. The accident happened around 7.15pm."

In a related development, a commuter, whose name could not be immediately ascertained, was on Thursday crushed to death in a road accident in Erin Oke, Osun State.

Apart from the deceased, six other commuters were also reportedly injured in the accident, which involved two trucks and two buses.

PUNCH Metro learnt that the mangled remains of the

under investigation.

two hundred and forty-

limit violation by the vehicles led to the crash.

A spokesperson for the FRSC, Osun State, Agnes Ogungbemi, said the crash occurred along the Ilesa-Akure Expressway around 2.15pm.

Ogungbemi noted that eight people were involved in the accident, adding that while six were injured, one died.

"The accident involved two trucks and two buses. The probable cause is speed limit violation and loss of control.

"The injured victims were taken to Wesley Hospital, Ilesa. The corpse was also taken to the same hospital," she added.

deceased and the injured victims were taken to the Wesley Guild Hospital, Ilesa.

It was gathered that speed

## Bodies of three youths missing after carnival recovered from Benue river

John Charles, Makurdi

**B**ODIES of three young men earlier declared missing on Boxing Day in the Buruku area of Benue State have been recovered in a river.

The Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps in Benue State stated this in a statement made available to journalists in

Makurdi on Thursday.

The statement, signed by a Deputy Commander of the corps, Ejelikwu Michael, identified the victims as Andonso Iorliam, 20; Chiater Achi, 18; and Aondongo Gbir, 30.

Michael said the command had on Christmas Eve got a report about the gathering of some youths in their hundreds at

The police spokesman disclosed that operatives rescued 215 kidnap victims and recovered 1,243 domestic animals, among which were 867 cows, 352 sheep, 24 goats and one donkey.

According to him, 246 suspects were arrested in connection with 195 reported cases of rape and unnatural offences.

Meanwhile, the three paraded suspects, Usama Tijjani, 31; Saifullahi Usman, 32; and Muhammed Ibrahim, 30, were accused of fraud and kidnapping.

Isah said, "The fight against crime and criminality is dynamic and not an easy one. I urge you to continue to project the hard and good work of the police and other security agencies to the general public."

the River Buruku for picnic and carnival, which had been banned by the state government and the Tiv traditional council.

"The command, on the strength of intelligence, deployed men to the location on December 25, 2021 in collaboration with sister agencies to maintain law and order and if possible stop the carnival from holding.

State, WINDI, ADAMAWA STATE, was intercepted on Tuesday, December 28, along the Jos-Bauchi Road. Upon a search, 7.8kg of 225mg tramadol was recovered.

Also on Tuesday, in the Yauri area of Bauchi State, operatives arrested one Shaft'atu Abubakar with 174kg of cannabis and 2.1kg diazepam, while a suspected bandit, Usman Sani, was arrested in Dan-Anacha town, Gasol LGA, Taraba, with two pistols and ammunition.

The Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the NDLEA, Brig. Gen. Mohammed Marwa (retd.), said the arrest of the fake security agents should serve as a warning to drug traffickers who wanted to wear uniforms of security agencies as a cover to escape scrutiny, adding that they would not go undetected.

"But the number of the youth outnumbered security officials. However, on Sunday, December 26, 2021, there were unsubstantiated reports of missing persons, which were confirmed on Monday, December 27, 2021, after three dead bodies were recovered by a search team of divers around 10am," he added.