## Nine killed, many injured in Edo, Ogun road crashes

Daud Olatunji and Adeyinka Adedipe

HREE travellers have lost their lives while one other sustained injuries in a fatal crash on the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway.

The incident occurred when two vehicles had a head-on collision at Ogunmakin village in the Obafemi Owode Local Government Area of Ogun State.

The accident, which involved six travellers, affected a mini truck and a Toyota Hiace bus.

The Public Relations Officer of the Federal Road Safety Corps, Ogun State Command, Florence Okpe, confirmed the incident on Wednesday.

Okpe said the accident occurred around 10.22pm on Monday, leaving three persons dead — the bus driver and two female adults.

She said, "The suspected causes of

the fatal crash were speed and route violation on the part of the truck driver."

In a related development, six persons were killed and 16 others injured on Wednesday when a lorry conveying cement lost control and rammed into several stores in Auchi, in the Etsako West Local Government Area of Edo State.

A resident, Sani Aliu, said the illfated vehicle, which was coming from the popular Upgarage area of the polytechnic town, was descending the hill when it had a brake failure.

Sani said the vehicle smashed into many shops, killing several persons and destroying goods worth millions of naira.

He said sympathisers pulled out corpses from the collapsed buildings and under the vehicle.

An FRSC official confirmed that six persons died in the accident, while 16 others, who sustained injuries, were taken to a hospital for treatment.