

12 NNPP supporters, passengers die in Ondo crashes

Collins Sunday and Peter Dada

TWELVE persons including six supporters of the New Nigeria Peoples Party's presidential candidate, Rabiul Kwankwaso, have lost their lives during separate accidents in Nasarawa and Ondo states.

PUNCH Metro gathered that the six supporters were accompanying the former governor of Kano State to a meeting with stakeholders of the party in Nasarawa State when the tragedy that claimed their lives struck.

It was learnt that the accident occurred when the driver conveying the victims alongside other supporters of the party to

the destination, lost control of the vehicle.

While four of the supporters died on the spot, two other supporters who were part of the injured victims that were rushed to an undisclosed government hospital in the state reportedly died during treatment.

However, before returning to his base, Kwankwaso visited the families of the deceased supporters to condole with them over the unfortunate incident.

Meanwhile, the Nasarawa State Governor, Abdullahi Sule, in a statement issued by his Chief Press Secretary, Ibrahim Addra, lamented over the victims' death.

He also condoled with the families of the victims, as well as the leadership of the NNPP.



One of the accidents scene
In another development, six passengers on Tuesday died during an accident that occurred along Ondo-Ore Expressway, around Ajue, in the Odigbo

Local Government Area of Ondo State.

PUNCH Metro gathered that the accident occurred when a Nissan bus with number plate

Nasarawa,

rescued.
According to him, the accident caused gridlock for some hours before the

RGB 487 XA YF conveying the victims and other passengers to their destinations in the state rammed into a stationary truck with number plate MUS 321.

Speaking anonymously to one of our correspondents, an eyewitness said the crash occurred when the driver of a truck conveying a container from Ondo town, lost control and veered off the road, adding that the Nissan bus loaded with 10 passengers rammed into the truck.

"The six victims who were inside the bus died on the spot, while the injured were taken to the hospital," the eyewitness said.

Explaining further, the eyewitness said it took the intervention of other motorists and sympathisers around the scene before some of the passengers in the vehicle were

rescued.

Contacted, the Ondo Sector Commander, Federal Road Safety Corps, Ezekiel Sonallah, said the accident was caused by loss of concentration, particularly on the part of the bus as it rammed into the truck.

He said, "A truck coming from Ore to Ondo lost control and veered into the bush. Part of the bus was on the road, so, a bus coming from Ondo town and going to Ore rammed into the remaining part of the truck. That was what caused the accident."

Sonallah urged all vehicle owners to always put their vehicles in order before putting them on the road.

The corpses of the victims were said to have been deposited at the Ondo State General Hospital mortuary, Ore, while the wreckage of the bus had been towed to the Ajue Police Station.

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