

2 Accident claims seven lives in Ekiti

Abiodun Nejo, Ado Ekiti

NO fewer than seven persons on Wednesday lost their lives during an accident along the Iluomoba-Aisegba highway in Ekiti State.

PUNCH Metro gathered that the accident occurred when an 18-passenger bus had a head-on collision with a Toyota car along the highway.

While two persons died at the scene of the incident, other victims who sustained varying degrees of injury were rushed to a nearby hospital for treatment.

The Sector Commander, Federal Road Safety Corps, Ekiti State, Olusola Joseph, confirmed the accident, noting that a total of 17 persons were in the two vehicles.

Explaining that the corpses of the seven passengers had been deposited in the morgue, Joseph said other passengers who sustained varying degrees of injuries were receiving treatment at a tertiary hospital in the state capital.

He warned motorists against excessive speeding, noting that it was responsible for the unwarranted road accidents claiming the lives of people in the state.

Meanwhile, the state Commissioner of Police, Moronkeji Adesina, said the police would continue to prioritise safety of lives and properties of residents as she advised them to abide by the traffic rules in the state.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Sunday Abutu, in a statement, said Adesina explained that the command had observed the recurring road accidents in the state.

The statement said, "Analysis of data had shown that the main causes of the accidents were speed violation, wrongful overtaking, light and sign violation, dangerous driving, tyres bursting, bad vehicle and motor maintenance culture, lack of proper driving education, driving under influence, overloading and fatigue.

"In view of this, the command shall emplace tougher control measures to check improper and reckless driving. Members of the public, especially motorists and motorcycle riders are therefore enjoined to avoid reckless driving, over speeding, driving against traffic lights and signs, one way driving, driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs, and other traffic offences to avoid arrest and prosecution."