

13 die in Ogun, Lagos crashes,

Segun Adewole, Naomi Chima and Daud Olatunji

NO fewer than 13 people have lost their lives in two separate accidents in Ogun and Lagos states.

Ten people were burnt to death around 2am on Thursday in a crash at Conoil Bus Stop along the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway.

A commercial motorcyclist, Jimoh Abiola, said the crash involved a commercial bus, a tanker and a tipper.

He said, "A speeding tipper hit the back of a tanker parked by the roadside, which led to an explosion. Unfortunately, there was a 14-seater Mazda bus with passengers beside the tanker. That was how 10 people died."

The Route Commander, Federal Road Safety Corps, Ogun State, Florence Okpe, said the fire started after the truck's driver lost control.

She said the inferno consumed five vehicles — a Mack truck, a Mazda bus, an Iveco truck, an Howo truck and another Mack truck.



• Scene of Ogun crash

Okpe said, "The fatal crash occurred around 02.13am on the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway around Conoil before the Sagamu Interchange. A total of 10 persons were involved, all burnt beyond recognition."

"The burnt bodies were taken to the Olabisi Onabanjo Teaching

Hospital, Sagamu. Some of the burnt vehicles were towed off the road, leaving the tankers for the fuel content to be transloaded."

Our correspondent, who visited the scene of the incident, noticed that the fire damaged a pub, a billboard, high-tension poles and electricity cables by the side of the

expressway inward Ogun State.

The FRSC Sector Commander, Ahmed Umar, who called for 24-hour surveillance along the expressway, blamed night travel for the accident.

He said, "An advocacy to discourage people from night journeys would be put in place, while night surveillance by armed security personnel would be instituted to curtail such avoidable situations."

The Ogun State Governor, Dapo Abiodun, sympathised with the families of victims of the tanker explosion.

The governor was represented by the Commissioner for Special Duties and Intergovernmental Affairs, Olufemi Ilori-Oduntan.

In a related development, three persons lost their lives in an accident on the Third Mainland Bridge at Adekunle, inward Adeniji Adele, Lagos State.

PUNCH Metro gathered that the accident, which happened on Wednesday, involved a commercial bus which lost control and hit a pillar.

FRSC blames night travel

The bus was said to have crashed with the 14 occupants on board, as the driver and two passengers died on the spot.

The Director of Public Affairs, Lagos State Traffic Management Authority, Toafiq Adebayo, said the accident happened around 6.51pm.

He said, "The accident involved an urban commercial bus. The driver hit the vehicle on a pillar close to the Adekunle interchange."

accident — the driver and two passengers in the front seat." He admonished drivers to adhere to speed limits.

One-chance robbers kidnap Lagos commuter, steal life savings

Naomi Chima

A woman, Olamide Azeez, has sought help after suspected one-chance robbers stole her life savings at Ikosi, in the Ketu area of Lagos State.

The victim said she boarded a cab from Toll Gate, Ikosi, while heading for work at Victoria Island around 6am on Friday, September 29, 2022.

She noted that no sooner had she entered the car than the assailants beat her up and robbed her of her ATM card.

"They made away with my life savings — all N910,000; my iPhone XR, N4,300 cash, earrings, wristwatch, and Oraimo EarPods," she added.

Azeez, who narrated her ordeal on Twitter, said the money was withdrawn at point-of-sale

terminals between 6.45am and 7am, while holding her hostage.

She further provided contact details of the registered owner of the PoS.

She said, "Those robbers slapped me twice before I gave them my PIN and they put Aboniki (balm) inside my eyes when they dropped me at Marwa Gardens, Alausa, around 7.20am."

PUNCH Metro learnt that the case was reported at the Alausa and Ikoyi police stations on September 30, 2022.

However, the victim said nothing had been done by the police since she made the report.

"I am traumatised, helpless, and I do not know what to do. Where do I start from? It took me years to save that much, and to see it wiped all at one go! Please come to my aid. Can the names



• Azeez

on the PoS be tracked? Can I get my money back? Please help," she

added.

The state Police Public Relations Officer, Benjamin Hundeyin, when contacted, said state laws forbade the police from tracking people's bank accounts without the consent of their lawyers.

He said, "In this case, the victim should approach her lawyer, who will in turn go to the police for a duplicate of her statement, which the police will readily provide. She will get a court order and from there other necessary steps will be taken. Without these, nothing significant will be done, except visiting the crime scene and other sorts of frontline investigations."

Court remands teenagers over murder of RCCG pastor

Onozure Dania

A Lagos High Court sitting at

When the matter came up on Thursday, the Director of Public Prosecutions, Dr Babajide