

Three pedestrians die in Anambra head-on collision

Ikenna Obianeri, Awka

Three persons were crushed to death when an unidentified driver of a commercial blue truck marked LSD697YD and an unidentified driver of a commercial blue/white Mitsubishi L300 bus with number plate: LEH596XA collided.

The fatal crash occurred at the Onitsha Head Bridge by Asaba-Onitsha Expressway on Friday.

It was gathered that 10 people, comprising six male adults and four female adults, were involved in the crash. While three persons comprising two males and one female died on the spot, seven others were injured.

An eyewitness said the victims were pedestrians walking down the bridge.

The rescue team of the Federal Road Safety Corps from RS5.31, Onitsha, took the victims to a hospital where the three persons were confirmed dead by the doctor on duty and their corpses deposited at the hospital morgue.

Confirming the accident on behalf of the sector commander, the acting Sector Public Education Officer, FRSC in Anambra, Margaret Onabe, said the injured victims were currently receiving treatment.

Onabe attributed the probable cause of the fatal crash to brake failure and mechanical fault.

She said, "The truck developed a fault and broke down on the bridge. On sighting a van towing another vehicle out of the bridge, the driver of the truck sensed that the towing truck might come back later to tow his vehicle. He quickly moved his vehicle without fixing the defect.

"The driver moved and the brake failed on the bridge, lost control of the vehicle and rammed into three pedestrians walking down the bridge.

"On getting to the place where the Ojukwu statue is, it finally collided with a bus and crashed. The driver took to his heels thereafter."

She added that the rescue team on ground managed traffic to ensure there was no vehicular obstruction.

The Sector Commander, Anambra State, Corps Commander, Adeoye Irelewuyi, wished the injured victims quick recovery, sympathising with the families of the dead victims and prayed for the repose of their souls.

He urged motorists to service and maintain their vehicles regularly to minimum safety standards before plying the road.



•Anambra State gov, Chukwuma Soludo,