## Driver killed as vehicle catches fire in Lagos

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By Johnson Idowu

A yet-to-be-identified driver was burnt to death after his vehicle caught fire along the Lekki-Epe Expressway on Thursday.

*PUNCH Metro* learnt from the spokesperson for the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority, Adebayo Taofiq, that the accident occurred when the driver lost control of the vehicle and collided with a moving truck.

Taofiq stated that the impact of the collision led the vehicle to catch fire while the driver was trapped in the inferno.

He stressed that efforts by emergency responders could not salvage the driver from death as he was recovered dead.

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In his words, "The incident involved a Toyota Highlander Jeep (GGE 432 JC) and an empty Sino tipper truck.

"Preliminary investigations indicate that the Toyota Highlander Jeep, travelling inward Ajah, lost control while in motion, veered across the expressway, and collided with the moving Sino tipper truck heading toward Epe.

"The collision resulted in the Toyota Highlander catching fire, with the driver tragically trapped inside."

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The body of the driver was said to have been handed over to his family.

He continued, "LASTMA Officers, in conjunction with the Lagos State Fire Services (Epe Division), acted swiftly to extinguish the fire and recover the remains of the driver.

"The deceased's body was subsequently handed over to his family members, who arrived at the scene from Epe."

Reacting to the incident, the LASTMA General Manager, Olalekan Bakare-Oki, expressed the agency's condolences to the family of the deceased while stressing the need for motorists to adhere to safety.

"Expressing his sympathies, LASTMA General Manager, Mr Olalekan Bakare-Oki, conveyed his profound condolences to the bereaved family. He prayed for divine solace and strength to help them endure this tragic loss.

"LASTMA reiterates its commitment to promoting road safety and urges all motorists to adhere strictly to traffic regulations and prioritize regular vehicle maintenance to prevent such preventable calamities," Taofiq concluded.