

Speeding, wrongful overtaking responsible for death of 14 in Niger – FRSC

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FILE PHOTO: FRSC patrol vans

By Chika Otuchikere

The Niger State Command of the Federal Road Safety Corps has concluded that overspeeding and wrongful overtaking caused an accident that claimed the lives of 14 passengers in Niger on Saturday.

The accident, which occurred along the Lapai to Bida Road, involved a Toyota Hiace bus with registration number WWD744XB coming from Minna to Agaei and a Mac Tanker with number SEY169ZY heading to Kaduna from Lagos.

Arewa PUNCH reports that both vehicles were said to have carried 20 persons, including six females, one male child, and 13 male adults.

Overall, 14 people were said to have lost their lives in the crash, including five women, one child and eight men.

The six men who sustained various degrees of injuries were rushed to the Lapai General Hospital, where the 14 corpses were also deposited.

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Various items were recovered at the scene of the accident, including one Tecno phone N7,050 recovered from one of the corpses suspected to be the remains of a Fulani passenger and which was handed over to the FRSC 2 personnel

The Niger State Sector Commander of the FRSC, Kumar Tsukwam, confirmed the crash, saying that overspeeding and wrongful overtaking was the cause of the accident.

“The crash was caused by the Toyota Hiace bus coming from Minna to Agaei, which was on excess speed and did wrongful overtaking. Suddenly, it had a head-on collision with the tanker,” he said.

Tsukwam warned motorists to observe speed limit rules and avoid dangerous overtaking on the highway, stressing that life does not have any duplicates.