

FRSC blames speeding as eight killed in Anambra car crash

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| By Ikenna Obianeri

Eight people lost their lives while six others sustained varying degrees of injuries in a road accident that occurred along the Nteje-Awka road, near the New Terminal, Ukpo Junction in Dunukofia Local Government Area of Anambra State.

The accident occurred at about 9 p.m. on Sunday when a Toyota Hiace bus, registered as EKP375XM, collided with a Mack tanker without a registration number.

Eyewitnesses near the scene said the bus, which was travelling from Abakaliki to Onitsha, was speeding and overtook dangerously before colliding with the tanker, which was heading towards Awka on a single-carriageway.

The source said, “The crash resulted in eight fatalities — four males and four females — six persons comprising two males and four females sustained various injuries while two died on the spot.”

| Scene of the crash.

The Sector Public Education Officer of the Federal Road Safety Corps, Anambra Sector Command, Margaret Onabe, confirmed the incident in a statement on Monday.

Onabe added that the rescue team from RS5.33 Nteje attended to the injured victims, transporting them to the hospital for treatment, while the dead victims were taken to Jerusalem Mortuary, Nteje.

She attributed the cause of the crash to speeding.

She said, “The Federal Road Safety Corps Anambra Sector Command regrets to announce a fatal crash on April 27, at approximately 9 pm along the Nteje-Awka route, near the New Terminal close to Ukpo Junction.

According to eyewitness accounts and preliminary investigations, a Mack tanker without a registration number collided with a Toyota Hiace bus, registered as EKP375XM.

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“The bus, which was travelling from Abakaliki to Onitsha, was speeding and overtook dangerously before colliding with the tanker, which was heading towards Awka on a single carriageway. The crash resulted in eight fatalities—four males and four females—and injured six others, comprising two males and four females.”

She conveyed the command’s admonition to drivers to prioritise their safety and that of others by maintaining a safe speed and ensuring that the road was clear before overtaking.

“The FRSC Anambra Sector Command extends its condolences to the families of the victims and wishes a speedy recovery to those injured. The Sector Commander, Corps Commander Joyce Nnennaya Alexander, has urged drivers to prioritise their safety and that of others by maintaining a safe speed and ensuring that the road is clear before overtaking to prevent such tragic incidents.

“Drivers must ensure they drive at a minimum safe speed and only overtake when the road is clear,” emphasized the Sector Commander.

“The rescue team from RS5.33 Nteje attended to the injured victims, transporting them to the hospital for treatment, while the deceased were taken to Jerusalem Mortuary Nteje after confirmation by a doctor.”

She promised that the command would continue efforts to promote road safety awareness, enforce traffic regulations, and collaborate with relevant stakeholders to create a safer road environment for all users.

“She (the Corps Commander) also visited the surviving victims at Regina Caeli Hospital and Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu Teaching Hospital to assess their condition and offer support.

“The Sector Commander’s proactive approach underscores the FRSC Anambra Sector Command’s dedication to preventing road crashes and ensuring the safety of all road users. By engaging with stakeholders like NUPENG and monitoring the aftermath of the crash, the Command aims to identify areas for improvement and implement measures to reduce the risk of future accidents.”