

Six bodies evacuated as truck crushes tricycles on Delta bridge

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| By Dele Ogunyemi

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Six dead bodies were evacuated from the scene of a ghastly auto crash on top of the ever-busy Udu Bridge in Delta State on Monday afternoon as a truck rammed into a broken-down trailer.

Eyewitness accounts revealed to *PUNCH Metro* that no fewer than six people died on the spot while several others sustained varied degrees of injuries.

Among the dead was a mechanic working under the broken-down trailer, which was carrying electric poles.

The fatal accident was said to have been occasioned by brake failure and the impatience of a tricycle rider.

The incident reportedly occurred as the truck, belonging to Julius Berger Construction firm, attempted to dodge a commercial tricycle (popularly called Keke), and in the process, collided with the stationary trailer while the mechanic was working beneath it.

“Consequently, the impact caused the trailer to topple, killing the mechanic and crushing three moving tricycles with passengers”, one of the witnesses who sought anonymity told our correspondent on Monday.

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When *PUNCH Metro* visited the scene of the fatal crash, the route was already blocked with vehicular gridlock, leaving motorists and tricycle operators stranded for hours.

Workers, students, and traders commuting into Warri and surrounding areas were severely affected, with many forced to seek alternative routes on foot as emergency responders struggled to access the scene.

The Police Public Relations Officer for the Delta State Command, SP Bright Edafe, could not be reached for confirmation of the exact death toll arising from the incident, as of the time of filing this report.

However, the Chairman of Udu Local Government Area, Olorogun Vincent Oyibode, was sighted mobilising rescue workers to the scene.

Oyibode's efforts eventually led to the towing away of the ill-fated trailer and the truck later in the evening, thus giving respite to the teeming road users.