

# 3 burnt in taxi in Rivers

From **TONY JOHN**, Port Harcourt

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**THREE** persons, yesterday, lost their lives when a taxi carrying illegal petroleum products exploded in Port Harcourt, Rivers State. *Daily Sun* gathered that the incident occurred yesterday morning at the popular Garrison junction, in the state capital.

A source disclosed that some policemen on routine patrol were chasing the driver of the vehicle when they found out that he was carrying fuel in jerry cans.

A witness, Chima Uzodimma, a trader in the area, said the taxi driver, while trying to escape from the policemen, ran over a woman waiting to board a taxi at the junction.

Uzodimma disclosed that the driver and the owner of the illegal petroleum products were inside the vehicle when it went up in flames while the woman was under the vehicle.

He said: "The driver and the owner of the products were inside the vehicle when the vehicle caught fire. The woman he hit was under the tyre. So, three of them burnt to death because help did not come their way.

Meanwhile, the state Commissioner of Police, Zaki Ahmed, yesterday, confirmed the incident at Garrison, when he briefed journalists.

Ahmed described it as an accident. He disclosed that among the casualties was a woman, who was waiting for a vehicle.