33 die in Potiskum road crash

THIRTY THREE people died, Tuesday, in Potiskum, Yobe State when two buses collided and burst into flames, a road safety agency official said.

Boyi Alli Maigari, head of the Federal Road Safety Commission in the city said: "We had an accident on the outskirt of Potiskum involving two commuter buses in which 33 people were burnt to death."

He said the crash occurred when one of the buses burst a tyre and the driver lost control and rammed into a bus going in the opposite direction.

Maigari said that all 33 occupants of the two buses were burnt beyond recognition, adding that they were given a mass burial at a public cemetery in Potiskum.

More than 17,000 people died in about 31,000 road accidents across the country between 2007 and 2009, according to the road safety agency.

The agency said more than 73,000 were injured in these accidents during the period.