

Seven die in Imo road crash

By Chidi Nkwopara

OWERRI — At least seven persons died yesterday, at Imo State University, IMSU, roundabout when the break of a tipper lorry failed, causing it to crashed into a restaurant close to the road.

An eyewitness told *Vanguard* that some of the victims of the crash may be IMSU students, who converge on the place for their meal.

"At the last count, five or six dead bodies have been removed from the accident scene and taken to the morgue. Some other victims were still under the tipper," an eyewitness said.

A female traffic officer, who preferred anonymity, said the tipper was moving down from the Orji end of the road, heading towards Owerri municipality when the driver lost control and crashed into the restaurant.

"Several lives have been lost at this roundabout, which the government started constructing several months ago and has remained largely incomplete till date," the lady said.

A student, who simply identified himself as Emeka, wondered why a roundabout should be built midway along a slope, stressing that big vehicles will continue to lose control and crash into stationary vehicles, pedestrians or nearby houses.

At press time, some sympathisers were still making efforts to extricate other dead bodies from the vehicle.