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11 die in Kogi auto crash, 11 survive

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...as FRSC says road's not a race track

By Boluwaji Obahopo

Lokoja—Eleven persons, yesterday, died in an auto accident involving a bus belonging to popular transport company and a truck at Ohiana area, along Okene–Auchi Road in Kogi State.

An eyewitness account has it that the accident, which occurred around 6a.m., was a head-on collision between a Toyota Hiace bus, with number plates Delta AYB 939 XP, belonging to a transport company, and a truck loaded with cement.

Confirming the report, the Federal Road Safety Corps, FRSC, Okene Unit Commander, Sunday Ogungbemi, said preliminary investigation revealed that the bus, which had 22 passengers on board, was heading to Warri from Abuja.

Ogungbemi disclosed that the accident might have been caused by speeding on the part of the bus driver, who reportedly lost control and crashed into the trailer truck that was coming from Okpella.

He disclosed that his unit carried out the evacuation of the victims with 11 corpses deposited at the Okene General Hospital morgue, while the remaining 11 passengers that survived sustained various degrees of injuries.

Ogungbemi cautioned motorists not to see the road as a race track for unhealthy competition, adding that the recent accident has again justified the reason FRSC is canvassing for the installation of speed-limiting device on vehicles to mitigate unnecessary deaths on the roads.

He called on road users to be more careful during the Easter season and advised passengers not to leave their fate in the hands of drivers.

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