

# 4 die, 15 injured in A-Ibom, Osun auto crashes

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**UYO**—NO fewer than three persons, all females, were said to have lost their lives while one male was injured in an auto crash which occurred near Akon community on Calabar-Itu highway in Itu Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom State.

Similarly, an unidentified person was reportedly killed in an auto accident on Osogbo-Sekona road, Osun State, yesterday.

In the Akwa Ibom crash, sources in the area said the accident occurred on Saturday at 7:45p.m. when a tricycle operator ran into a Mack truck, killing all the three female occupants on board.

This, according to our source, angered the youths of the area, who complained that accidents had become a frequent development, barricaded the Calabar-Itu highway for hours, causing

gridlock that stretched to neighbouring community of Odiok.

It was gathered that the angry youths, who chanted songs and wielded machetes and sticks, scared away officers of the Federal Road Safety Commission, FRSC, who came for rescue operation, while many passengers were stranded.

Confirming the accident, yesterday, Deputy Corps commander in charge of Operations, David Ironuje, described the accident as unfortunate.

He said the command has been preaching to road users in the state to always take necessary precautions while driving on highways to minimise incident of road crashes.

He said it took the intervention of the Special Assistant to Governor Udom Emmanuel on Projects for the youths to clear the blockage.

"On Saturday, the youths did not allow our men to conduct rescue operation, they barricaded the road chanting war songs but today (Sunday), the SA to the Governor on Projects came and was able

to pacify the youths before allowing our men. The road is now clear," Ironuje said.

## One dead, 14 injured in Osun

According to the Osun State Sector Commander, FRSC, Mr Paul Okpe, 14 other persons were injured in the accident which involved two vehicles at Oogi town.

The vehicles include a white Mazda commercial bus with number plate, FFA114XB and a Toyota Corolla car with number plate, SMK582GE.

Okpe added that the accident was due to over-speed and wrongful overtaking by the vehicles involved.

He added that FRSC personnel arrived the scene on time and evacuated the body of the victim while the injured victims were taken to the hospital.

The deceased body was claimed by his family and members of drivers' union in Ikirun.

Buildings vehicles submerged in

Randitry 1 600