18 die in Niger

In a related incident, 18 passengers of a Lagos-bound 18-seater bus were burnt to ashes in an accident that occurred along Bida-Minna road, Saturday.

An eyewitness disclosed that the bus rammed into a tipper that broke down in the middle of the highway.

He said: "A tipper lorry broke down on the major road and the driver of the bus rammed into it and it caught fire immediately.

"There was no sign to indicate any danger ahead, hence the gravity of the accident as they all perished as the fire consumed all of them."

Niger State Police Command's Public Relations Officer, DSP Wasiu Abiodun, who confirmed the incident, however, explained that one of the victims is currently receiving treatment at the Minna General Hospital, while the corpses of the victims have been given mass burial in Minna.