

Russian chief justice in intensive care after Ghana car crash

Written by Muhammad Iqbal
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ACCRA: Russia's top judge was hurt in a car accident in the west African nation of Ghana on Monday and was being treated in an intensive care unit, officials said, adding that he was in a stable condition.

Details of chief justice Vyacheslav Mikhailovich Lebedev's injuries were unclear following the accident, which occurred during an official visit to the country.

"The Rt. Hon. Lebedev who is currently at the intensive care unit of the 37 Military Hospital was brought to Accra through an emergency airlift conducted by the Ghana Airforce," a government statement said.

"He is in stable condition."

The statement said the accident occurred near Tsito in the Volta region in the country's southeast at around 3:00 pm local time (1500 GMT).

"Initial investigations show that the accident occurred when a tipper truck suddenly veered into the lane in which his convoy was travelling," the statement said.

Officials said that Lebedev was on his way to the capital Accra after an address at the Ghana Bar Association in the city of Ho when the accident occurred.

"A truck just got in the way of the convoy," said Felix Kwakye Ofori, Ghana's deputy information minister. "An accident occurred and he got injured."

An official with Ghana's Motor Traffic and Transport Unit, Alex Obeng, called the accident "minor", but details were unclear.

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"The accident was minor and two persons sustained injury and are being airlifted to Accra for immediate attention," Obeng said earlier.

"I can confirm that (Lebedev) was involved together with a police officer."

The cause of the crash was under investigation.

Lebedev was in Ghana on a four-day visit at the invitation of the African nation's chief justice. Local media reported that he had arrived on Saturday.

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