

HAITI

26 killed after truck's brakes fail

The number of Haitian merchants who died in a truck accident outside the Caribbean nation's capital climbed to 26, the government said.

President Michel Martelly's office said in a statement that the passengers died when their truck flipped on National Highway 2 near the western town of Petit Goave. Thirty other people were injured, the office said. The truck was filled with merchants transporting goods to the countryside.

Officials said the brakes failed as the truck tried to ascend a steep hill, causing it to roll backward. It then veered off the side of the highway.

Fatal traffic accidents are common in impoverished Haiti, where police seldom enforce traffic laws and many vehicles are overloaded with passengers.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

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