

being rendered inconclusive at the tribunal, as it would have exceeded the stipulated 180 days.

Melaye, while speaking against the backdrop of the transfer of the case to another panel for hearing on Friday in Lokoja, expressed hope that the petition challenging his victory might not be able to meet the deadline.

Meanwhile, the National Assembly Election Petition Tribunal sitting in Lokoja Kogi State has fixed Monday, August 31, for ruling on two applications filed by the counsel of Dino Melaiye in a petition against him by Senator Smart Adeyemi on his being declared the winner of the March 28 National Assembly election.

Melaiye, through his counsel, had filed an application to clarify whether party primary was a pre or post-election matter.

He also raised technical issues on the re-counted votes in the disputed 21 polling units of Lokoja council areas of the state.

The chairman of the three-member tribunal, Justice Akinniyi Akintola after lis-

of the declared winner of the that the reply was filed on backed up by laws.

Scores feared killed as 911 truck, SUV collide in Delta

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- WARRI

SCORES of persons were feared killed while others were injured on Friday night in a fatal accident along Eku - Abraka road in Delta State.

The accident, as gathered, involved a 911 truck laden with planks and Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV), which was said to have been badly mutilated.

The incident happened at a bend near Baptist junction along Eku - Abraka road.

Unconfirmed report said an aide of the vice chancellor of the Delta State University (DELSU) was among those who lost their lives in the accident.

The death of the aide of the DELSU vice chancellor was said to have thrown the campus into a mournful mood.

The accident was said to have caused a heavy gridlock along the road as road users had to manoeuvre their way through to their destinations.

At the time **Sunday Tribune** visited the scene of the accident on Saturday afternoon, the remains of the vehicles and the dead had been cleared off the road.

The Public Relations Officer (PRO), Mr Edward Agbure, was still in a mournful mood when **Sunday Tribune** got across to him on phone.

He, however, confirmed the death of the aide of the DELSU vice chancellor in the accident, but couldn't give details as he was still in shock.

Agbure said he spoke with the deceased shortly before the accident occurred.

In an emotion-laden

voice, he added that the deceased was returning from the campus after the day's work in a colleague's car on Friday evening when the tragic incident happened.

In another development, about 15 cars were involved in a multiple accident on Friday evening along Eku-Ovirie road in Ethiope East Local Government of Delta State.

Scores of person were said to have sustained varying degrees of injuries in the caused, an eyewitness said was caused by leakage of diesel by a truck on the road.

The spilled diesel coupled with the downpour made the road slippery making some of the vehicles to ram on poles by the roadside.

When **Sunday Tribune** got to the spot on Saturday afternoon, only one badly damaged Hilux was seen at the scene of the incident.