

...and waiting sheds, are to be provided for the op-

socio-economic well-being of the people.

contractors with requisite knowledge of the terrain.

...before the elections.

Widow of slain technician seeks justice

Sola Adebayo, Warri

THE widow of an Ughelli-based technician in Delta State, who was allegedly killed by the police, Mrs. Rose Osemere, has cried out for justice.

Her husband, Mr. Peter Osemere, was reportedly beaten to death by some policemen at a checkpoint in Kwale on June 13.

Rose, a mother of seven, said her husband was unjustifiably murdered by the policemen attached to the Delta State Command.

The bereaved, who spoke with our correspondent at her Ughelli family house on Tuesday, recalled that Peter was killed by three policemen at a checkpoint after dispossessing him of N10,000.

According to Rose, her husband was on the way to Asaba to return a cable, which one of his clients rejected on the premise that it was below standard.

She said an eyewitness informed her that Peter was singled out in an Asaba-bound bus at Kwale, from which he was ordered to disembark.

The widow said the information at her disposal revealed that her late husband was thoroughly searched and a sum of N10,000 in his possession confiscated by the police.

In spite of that, Rose said Peter was not released by the policemen.

Rose, who sobbed uncontrollably throughout the encounter with our correspondent, said Peter was detained at the checkpoint while other passengers were allowed to continue the journey.

JOMALIC laments absence of ship builders in Nigeria

**Femi Makinde,
Port Harcourt**

THE Joint Maritime Labour Industrial Council has said that its progress is being slowed down by the absence of ship builders in the country.

The Deputy Director of JOMALIC, Mr. Ibrahim Jibril, disclosed this at a seminar in Port Harcourt on Tuesday.

He said, "The near absence of ship builders in the

She said the policemen, thereafter, descended on her husband for no just cause, adding that he was beaten to death in the process.

She added that an eyewitness, who went through the mobile phone of the deceased for telephone numbers of his family members, broke the news of the ugly development to her on the phone.

Consequently, Rose demanded that justice be done by bringing the killers of her husband to book.

country has slowed down the acceleration initially made by JOMALIC."

Jibril urged the media to enlighten members of the organised private sector on the benefits of investing in ship-building venture.

He said that the Federal Government had created a huge opportunity for them to invest in the venture, through the ongoing ports reform programme.

He added that the ports reform would enhance the

The senator said though the April 2007 date set by the Independent National Electoral Commission might not be convenient for many people, there was nothing that was unconstitutional about it.

He said a proposal that would have made elections to hold six months before, was thrown out with the failed Constitutional Amendment Bill.

He said until an amendment was made in that respect, the nation had to work with the timetable set by INEC.

security at the nation's ports, adding that the private operators would ensure that only authorised persons were allowed to their terminals.

The take-over by private operators at various terminals at the nation's ports would also enhance productivity, according to Jibril.

The Nigerian Ports Authorities, Eastern Ports, last week handed over five terminals in the area to private operators.

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