

# BRT driver flees as crushed mother

Deji Lambo

**A** yet-to-be-identified Bus Rapid Transit driver has crushed a woman, Reini Akakpo, to death at Union Road, Dopemu, in the Agege area of Lagos State.

The victim's one-year-old daughter, Amelia, who alongside her 26-year-old mother was knocked down by the BRT bus, was admitted to the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, Ikeja.

**PUNCH Metro** gathered that Reini and her daughter attempted to cross the BRT lane to link to their destination on Union Road when the bus driver, who was said to be at top speed, rammed into them.

An eyewitness, who gave his name simply as Uche, said after the accident, some good Samaritans rescued the victims, adding that Reini lost her life due to the injuries she sustained.

He said, "The woman and her daughter were beside me when I



## • Reini and her kids

wanted to cross to connect to Union Road to go to my shop around 8.13am. But the woman rushed and the BRT driver, who was driving at top speed, knocked down the woman and her daughter.

"After the accident, people started pouring water on the woman's face; her daughter was unconscious. The woman's pain

was too much, but people rushed her to a hospital. It was later that I got to know that she died."

A resident, identified simply as Remilekun, said after the accident, the driver abandoned the bus on the dedicated lane and fled.

"But the police came to tow it away. The husband of the woman was called, as people rushed her

and her daughter to LASUTH. The woman died; her daughter has been hospitalised since then," he added.

Reini's husband, Monday, while lamenting the incident, alleged that his wife was abandoned at LASUTH for one hour till she died in a vehicle on the premises of the hospital.

# dies, daughter hospitalised

He said, "I left for Maryland to work early in the morning last Friday and was working when I suddenly received a call from a neighbour that my wife had an accident and was rushed to the emergency ward at LASUTH. I quickly left Maryland and rushed down to the hospital, but met the corpse of my wife in a vehicle.

"My neighbour, who hired a cab to convey my wife and daughter to the hospital, said despite getting there for an hour, no doctor or nurse attended to her. My daughter is still hospitalised, but I have conveyed my wife's corpse to Togo for burial."

The Chief Medical Director of LASUTH, Prof. Adetokunbo Fabamwo, said a system had been put in place for medical practitioners to render first aid to patients even if there was no bed space.

The Chairman, Medical Advisory Committee, LASUTH, Prof. Adebawale Adekoya, said Reini died on arrival.

He said, "As to the claim that the patient spent an hour in LASUTH and nobody attended to her, that is not correct. It is an unfortunate allegation and it is very easy to see it as such because as we speak, the child of the deceased is still in LASUTH and there is no way the child would have been alive without care after the accident. The child is now going to be moved from the emergency unit to the ward and you can physically confirm that by visiting the hospital."

The state Police Public Relations Officer, SP Benjamin Hundeyin, said nobody reported the incident to the police.

"But immediately the police got wind of it, policemen from the Shasha division proceeded to the scene. The driver was apprehended and detained, while the vehicle was towed away.

"After 24 hours of waiting to see if someone will come to the station to give useful information on the identity and whereabouts of the woman, the driver was released to

a reliable surety as the case has not been concluded.

"But with the new development about the woman's death, the

## Lagos tackles real estate filing case with for

Segun Adewole

**T**HE Lagos State Ministry of Justice has described as false allegations that the state Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice, Moyosore Onighanjo, relied on forged documents to file charges against the Group Managing Director, CFL Group, Mr Lai Omotola.

**PUNCH Metro** had reported that Omotola made the allegation during a briefing in Lagos during which he also revealed that he was tagged a land grabber by the state after his property in the Agege area was demolished by government officials.

He stated that a forensic test showed that his statement was forged by the police.

The Inspector-General of Police

declined comments when