

Bayelsa PS, driver killed in auto crash

By Samuel Oyadongha

YENAGOA —
BAYELSA
Ministry of Water Resources and the Government House yesterday wore a gloomy look following the death of the Permanent Secretary in

charge of the ministry, Mr. Tonbra Okalai, and his driver in a tragic road accident along Calabar highway.

Okalai and his driver were returning to Yenagoa after attending a workshop in Calabar, Cross Rivers State, Tuesday, when their vehicle collided with a truck and was badly mangled.

The deceased permanent secretary, a native of Okpoama and kinsman of Governor Timipre Sylva from Brass local government area, was said to have died instantly after the fatal crash with his driver.

Loved by his colleagues and subordinates because of his friendly disposition, the ever smiling and boyish looking Okalai, it was learnt, was recently deployed in the Ministry of Water Resources as its new Permanent Secretary.

The news of his death Tuesday night raised dust among his friends and admirers, including members of his church.

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Architect Esoetuk Etteh of awarding 44 consultancy contracts without due process.

"Mr. Ugwoha and some of his loyalists were said to have commenced a string of calumnious campaigns against the person of Architect Etteh. Architect Etteh, in turn, accused Chibuzor Ugwoha of awarding more than 60 contracts for projects, 51 of which were located in Rivers State alone."