

along with his personal assistant, Oyeboade Atoyebi, on an amended 54 count charge bordering on money laundering.

Trial in the matter could not continue, as Olanipekun announced his appearance as the new defence counsel, informing the court that he was taking over from Mr. Tayo Oyetibo, SAN, Ikuforiji's

# Engineer, seaman die as bulk carrier, tanker collide in Lagos waters

BY GODWIN ORITSE

**T**RAGEDY STRUCK four days to Christmas in the waters off Lagos shores as a

30,000 tonnes deadweight bulk carrier, MV Niki C, ran into a small 940-tonne self-propelled tanker barge, MT Charon, sinking the barge

almost immediately and killing two seamen.

Liberian flagged MV Niki C, laden with wheat, was said to be on its way to Warri Port in Delta State when it over-ran the Togo-flagged barge with Nigerian sea-farers on board.

The Chief Engineer of the barge identified as Momoh Momodu and an AB (able seaman) named Blessing Odafe, lost their lives in the tragic accident, but seven other crew members of the small craft were fortunate to have survived with serious injuries.

Vanguard gathered that for unknown reasons, the captain of the bulk carrier failed to report the accident to the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency, NIMASA, as a statutory requirement by Nigeria and international convention, until about four hours after.

Lawyer to Peter Best Marine Limited, owners of the sunken barge, Lawrence Oiseomoje of Marina Law Chambers, who confirmed the accident, said that apart from the loss of two lives, the seven remaining crew members also suffered severe injuries.

The deceased Chief Engineer, Momodu, he said, left behind two wives and five children including a three month old baby.



Folorunso Alakija for Governor of Lagos state 2015 posters, yesterday, at Lagos State secretariat, Alausa, Ikeja. Photo: Bunmi Azeez

## Displaced traders allotted stores in new Oshodi market

BY OLASUNKANMI AKONI

**T**HE popular, Isopakodowo Market located within the Oshodi area, reconstructed by the Lagos State government was, yesterday, handed over to traders affected by its reconstruction.

Thousands of traders at former Oshodi Market were displaced on

which over 50 per cent of the economy of the state comes.

Earlier in his address, Commissioner for Works and Infrastructure, Dr. Kadri Obafemi Hamzat, stated that the market is equipped with fire fighting equipment, 22 toilets, 54

CCTV cameras, two stand-by generators and a bore-hole.

He added the provision of the market by the state government was another signature of the government to develop every sphere of the state.

## Pensioners task Lagos over unmet