

DAILY TRUST

Friday, February 4, 2022
Rajab 2, 1443 AH

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N200
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PROTECT YOURSELF, PROTECT EVERYONE AROUND YOU.

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Lai, Aregbesola, Yari set to fight back as APC inaugurates state excos

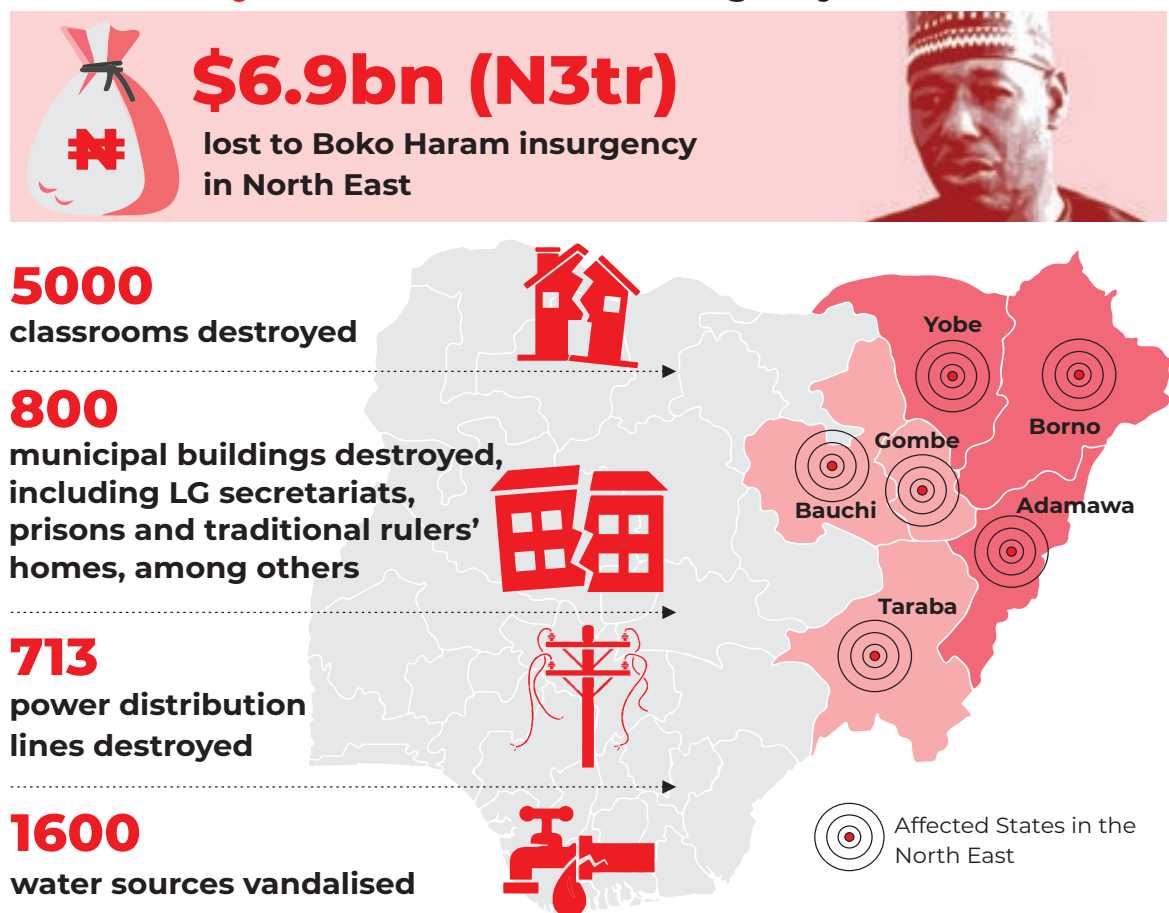
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FG links 96 persons, 156 coys to terrorism financing

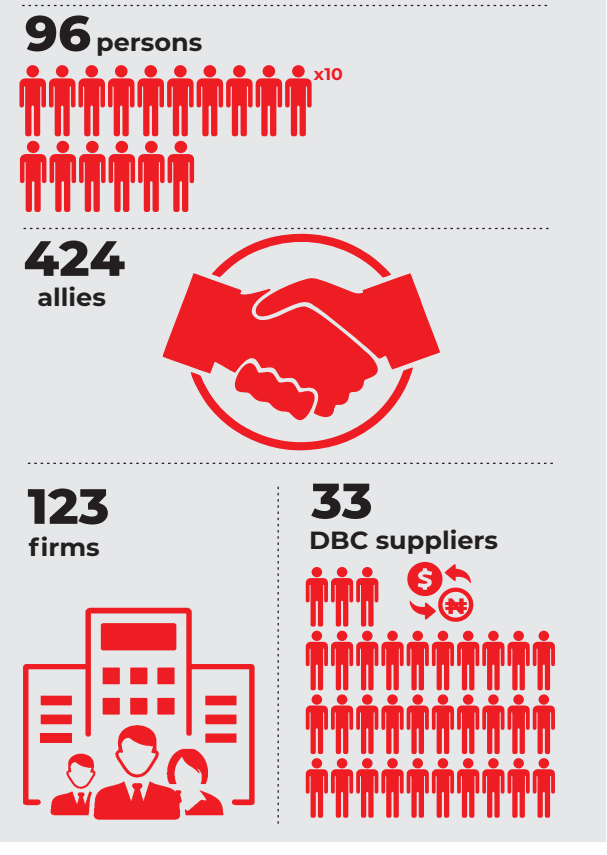
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- North East lost \$6.9bn to insurgency – Zulum
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Losses in 13 years of Boko Haram insurgency in the North East



Individuals, companies and forex suppliers with links to terrorism financing identified by FG (2020 and 2021)



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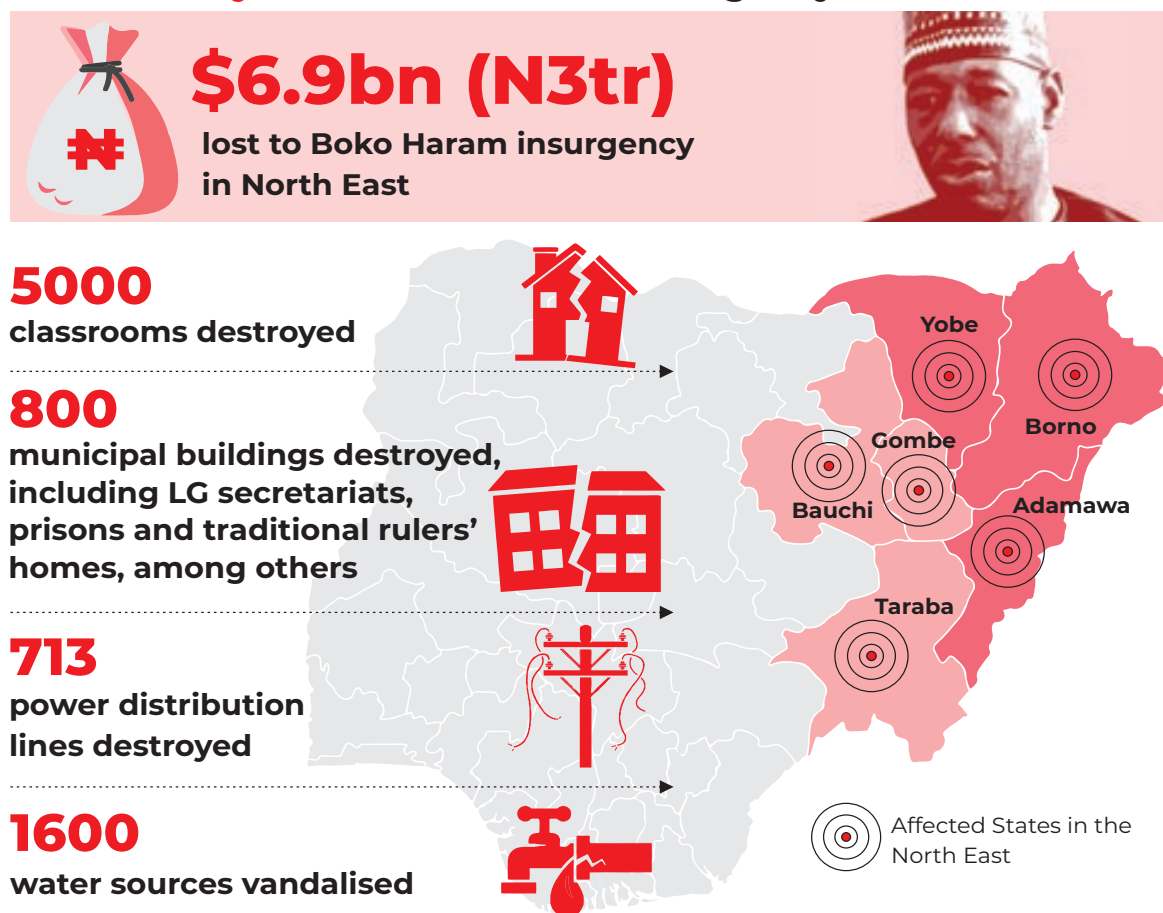
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Losses in 13 years of Boko Haram insurgency in the North East



Individuals, companies and forex suppliers with links to terrorism financing identified by FG (2020 and 2021)

96 persons



424 allies



123 firms



33 DBC suppliers



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FOOD FOR THOUGHT

“Everyone has his burden. What counts is how you carry it”



- Merle Miller

AFRICAN SAYINGS

“Knowledge without wisdom is just like water in the sand”

(African Proverbs)

Source: BBC collection of listeners' proverbs

WEATHER

ABUJA	KADUNA	KANO	MAIDUGURI	Jos	SOKOTO	IBADAN	ENUGU	P/HARCOURT	LAGOS
PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	PARTIALLY CLOUD	THUNDER STORM	PARTIALLY CLOUD
36 21	35 18	34 16	37 17	31 15	36 19	36 23	36 24	26 19	33 25
MAX MIN	MAX MIN	MAX MIN	MAX MIN	MAX MIN	MAX MIN	MAX MIN	MAX MIN	MAX MIN	MAX MIN

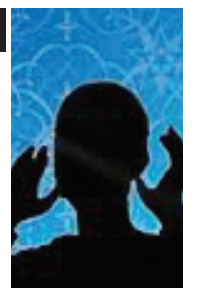
Compiled by JAMIL H. SALIM

(Temperature in centigrade)

PRAYERS TIMES

RAJAB 2, 1443 AH

PRAYERS	ABUJA	ENUGU	KADUNA	KANO	KATSINA	LAGOS	MAIDUGURI	P/HARCOURT	SOKOTO
FAJR	5:38	5:37	5:41	5:39	5:44	5:55	5:23	5:37	5:56
DHUHR	12:49	12:50	12:49	12:46	12:49	1:06	12:27	12:53	12:59
ASR	4:04	4:05	4:04	4:01	4:04	4:21	3:42	4:08	4:14
MAGHRIB	6:37	6:39	6:35	6:28	6:33	6:56	6:11	6:44	6:42
ISHA	7:42	7:44	7:40	7:35	7:38	8:01	7:16	7:49	7:46



SOURCE: Society for the propagation of Islam, Kaduna



PHOTO OF THE DAY

■ Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu having a conversation with some girls seen fetching water during school hours yesterday

Photo: Christiana Alabi

STOCK INDEX

AS AT THURSDAY 3, 2022

GAINERS	OANDO	ACADEMY	SCOA	LASACO	RTBRISCOE	LOSERS	PHARMDEKO	CHAMPION	IKEJAHOTEL	UNITYBNK	MBENEFIT
OPEN	N5.17	N1.24	N1.14	N1.08	N0.28	OPEN	N1.98	N2.10	N1.33	N0.51	N0.26
CLOSE	0.47	0.11	0.10	0.08	0.02	CLOSE	-0.22	-0.20	-0.10	-0.02	-0.01
CHANGE	10.00%	9.73%	9.62%	8.00%	7.69%	CHANGE	-10.00%	-8.70%	-6.99%	-3.77%	-3.70%

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IN-DEPTH

World Cancer Day: Patients lament treatment gaps in Nigeria

● Only one radiotherapy machine functional in North – Expert ● ‘Nigeria has only 90 cancer specialists’

By Ojoma Akor (Abuja) Zahraddeen Yakubu Shuaibu (Kano) Ado Abubakar Musa (Jos) Mohammed Ibrahim Yaba (Kaduna) Risikat Ramoni (Lagos)

As Nigeria joins the rest of the world to mark World Cancer Day, citizens suffering from cancer are lamenting the poor access to care because of the inadequate number of treatment centres, cancer specialists and high costs of treatment in the country.

The patients and medical experts said there is need to address these challenges in order to close the gaps in cancer care in the country. They called on government at all levels, philanthropists and other stakeholders to subsidise treatment for cancer to alleviate the hardships they face.

According to the President of the Nigeria Cancer Society, Dr Adamu Alhassan Umar, the commonest cancers are breast, prostate and cervical cancers.

While lamenting the dearth of cancer data in the country, he said Globacan estimates that Nigeria recorded 124, 000 new cases of cancer in 2020, out of which 78, 000 people died.

‘Only three radiotherapy machines functional in Nigeria’

Dr Umar said as at December last year, only three out of the seven cancer treatment centres in the country had functional radiotherapy machines. Radiotherapy machines use radiation in treating cancer patients.

The seven tertiary hospitals in Nigeria that have radiotherapy machines are: National Hospital Abuja, Usmanu Danfodiyo Teaching Hospital, Sokoto; Ahmadu Bello University Teaching Hospital, Zaria; University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital, Enugu, University College Hospital, Ibadan, University of Benin Teaching Hospital, Benin and the Lagos University Teaching Hospital, Idi-Araba.

He said the functional radiotherapy machines are at the National Hospital Abuja, the Lagos University Teaching Hospital and the one at the University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital, Enugu.

He added that the National Hospital Abuja and University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital, Enugu have a private public partnership agreement that enables the inputs of private stakeholders in the maintenance and operation of the radiotherapy machines.

He said, “For example in the North, only one is currently functional. That is the one at the National Hospital,



■ Bashir Sulaiman

Abuja. I learnt they are replacing the old machine in Sokoto with a new one which is actually good but the problem is that the time in changing and maintaining the equipment costs the patients dearly.

“Imagine a patient travelling all the way from Borno State or Yobe State for radiotherapy treatment at the National Hospital, Abuja, or in Lagos and then travelling back to continue other forms of treatment. So it is actually telling on patients and this is the problem that we have in Nigeria.

“The lack of maintenance culture, and the lack of qualified personnel to handle these machines also count. We are supposed to have these machines in basically every hospital that is managing cancer patients but unfortunately it is not so.”

He called on government, policymakers to create appropriate policies to bridge the gaps and ensure availability of cancer centres for screening treatment and palliative care.

Why governors should have state cancer control plan - Expert

Runcie Chidebe, a cancer control advocate, said cancer care in Nigeria requires more government attention as less than 90 cancer specialists otherwise known as clinical oncologists are treating over 100,000 patients.

He explained that the huge gap between the number of patients and doctors has led to an increase in the number of hours, days and weeks spent at the hospital before seeing a doctor.

Runcie who is also the Executive Director Project Pink Blue said: “The cancer treatment centres are not sufficiently equipped. A facility like University of Port Harcourt Teaching Hospital does not have any

functional radiotherapy machine.

“There is no government-owned facility that has a radiotherapy (machine) centre in the whole of South-South. It is also the same story in the North East zone.”

Runcie said cancer treatment centres are so far away that only 60 per cent of Nigerians are closer to comprehensive cancer treatment centres in Nigeria.

He recommended that each state governor should take cancer care seriously, adding that, “If we continue to leave it with the federal government alone, it is not going to really work.”

‘No PET scan machine in Nigeria’

Runcie lamented that the unavailability of a single Positron Emission Tomography (PET) scan in the whole country calls for concern. The scan is important in cancer treatment and management.

He also lamented the absence of reagents for tumor marking. Tumor marking is a diagnostic done for people battling with cancer already to know if there is any malignancy (cancer spread) left in their body or not.

He said, “The reagents (ingredients) used for tumor marker are not available in Nigeria, rather, they are ordered from South Africa and it has a timeline.”

Patients’ experiences

In 2012, a cyst appeared on Bashir Sulaiman’s cheek which was then suspected to be cancerous. From Nakowa Hospital in Kalun community of Shendam Local Government Area of Plateau State where he under-went a minor surgery, to Murtala Hospital in Kano, and eventually Aminu Kano University Teaching Hospital in

Kano, Suleiman said the cyst which has grown to envelop one side of his face has been properly diagnosed as cancer at the Aminu Kano University Teaching Hospital.

He said almost 10 years since the cyst appeared, he continues to live with excruciating pain and is now financially exhausted from treatment. Bashir added that before he was referred to Kano for treatment, he had depended on traditional medicine for almost seven years which turned out unfruitful.

He told *Daily Trust* that the major challenge for cancer patients is that access to specialists and treatment is not instant. “If you come today for an appointment with a doctor, if you are not lucky to see the doctor, you will be asked to come back another day. So, it has not been easy,” he said.

Nineteen-year-old Mohammed Farhan Musa who is resident in Unguwar Shanu of Kaduna State has been battling stomach cancer over six months. Having undergone surgery at the Barau Dikko Teaching Hospital in Kaduna, he was referred to the Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) Teaching Hospital, Shika in Zaria for another surgery.

The teenager’s father, Malam Musa Abubakar, told *Daily Trust* that doctors at Barau Dikko Hospital and Shika had donated for his son’s treatments because he could not raise the money but said that has not solved their problem.

“The cost of each chemotherapy is N60,000 and the cost of tests is N11,500. We are now at home because we can’t afford to continue with treatment but the hospital asked us to return in February. As we speak, he is in pain but we cannot return to the hospital due to financial problem,” he said.

Malam Abubakar explained that his son’s doctors have resolved that he needs chemotherapy every three weeks but said the injections and drugs are very expensive. “We were initially advised to take him to Abuja for the chemotherapy but the family cannot afford it,” he said.

A cancer survivor, Martina Chia, who just recovered in 2020, said it was not easy for her surviving cancer breast which she spent seven years battling with coupled with stigma from people.

“To cut the story short, I had to undergo radiotherapy in the Abuja National Hospital which took me over three months. Also during the treatment, I almost lost my brain when I took drugs, so it wasn’t easy at all. I spent between five to six million naira during that time,” she said.

Situation in states

In Plateau State, experts say there

are rising cases of cancer diseases based on the cases received by oncologists across hospitals. Dr Mercy Isichei, an oncologist at the Jos University Teaching Hospital (JUTH), said majority of cancer patients are younger with prostate cancer being the most common among men while breast cancer is most common among women.

The State Commissioner for Health, Dr Nimkong Larndam told *Daily Trust* that though cancer cases are being handled in JUTH and Bingham University Teaching Hospital, Jos, the federal government has made plans to upgrade the treatment cancer centre at JUTH, and is expected to be completed by the end of 2022.

Speaking on the prevalence of cancer in Kaduna State, an Oncologist with ABU Teaching Hospital, Dr Aisha Mustapha, said specialists are available but there is need to improve sub-specialisation and training on cancer care.

Dr Mustapha said treatment centres are available but “there is no single functional external beam radiotherapy machine in the whole of northern Nigeria except the National Hospital Abuja. Imagine the burden on the machine,” she said.

Dr Mustapha who is also the Kaduna State Secretary of Nigerian Medical Association said there is still no formal sub-specialty training in oncologic surgery in Nigeria, and few opportunities for training abroad.

A source at the Aminu Kano Teaching Hospital (AKTH) told our reporter that the common cancer case in the state is breast cancer and that he the hospital attends to between 50 and 100 patients every week.

Kano does not have any radiotherapy machine and patients have to be referred to the National Hospital Abuja or Lagos.

A consultant radiotherapist and clinical oncologist, Dr Muhammad Inuwa Mustapha, said 70 per cent of the cancer patients in the state require radiotherapy but find it difficult to do so, as there is no single radiotherapy machine in Kano.

He added that it has been stressful sending his patients to Abuja for radiotherapy which costs N600,000 per patient.

He lamented that people don’t come for cancer treatment until it reaches advanced stage, saying there are higher chances of survival when diagnosed early.

The Director of Hospital Services at the Federal Ministry of Health, Dr Adebimpe Adebisi did not respond to messages about what the ministry was doing to address the gaps at press time.

2023: Kwankwaso in tight corner, weighs three options

● Intensifies consultations ● Osinbajo's camp reaches out to ex-Kano gov

By Ismail Mudashir (Abuja), Clement A. Oloyede & Zahraddeen Yakubu Shuaibu (Kano)

Former governor of Kano State and leader of the Kwankwasiyya Movement, Senator Rabiu Musa Kwankwaso, is in a tight corner as the 2023 politicking gathers momentum.

Impeccable sources around Kwankwaso, who represented the Kano Central Senatorial District in the last assembly, said the two-time presidential aspirant would soon make his new political direction known.

Daily Trust reports that the chances of Kwankwaso - who came second in the 2014 presidential primaries of the All Progressives Congress (APC) won by President Muhammadu Buhari - to pick the presidential ticket of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) for 2023 have become slimmer.

However, aware of the intrigues and horse-trading in the leading opposition party, Kwankwaso is said to be weighing three options. He joined PDP at the build up to the 2019 general elections.

In Kano, which is the base of the Kwankwasiyya Movement, the talks among the political class are that the relative silence of Kwankwaso is a signal that salient moves are being made towards either decamping from the PDP or floating a new movement or what some analysts have called a third force.

Mulling a political movement

A senior member of the former governor's camp told Daily Trust that Kwankwaso is weighing three options. He said the first option before the Kwankwasiyya leader is to form a movement.

"I know by the end of this month or in early March, he and a team of some prominent politicians he has mobilised are coming up with a movement, not a political party," he said.

He said though some Kwankwaso's associates, including Buba Galadima and Senator Suleiman Hunkuyi, want the movement to be transformed into a political party, Kwankwaso was not in support of that.

"He is of the view that a new political party won't fly and might be impossible



■ Kwankwaso

to register before 2023. So, it's based on this that he wants the movement to be used as a platform to negotiate with an existing political party," he said.

Osinbajo's camp reaches out to ex-Kano gov

It was also gathered that the camp of Vice-President Yemi Osinbajo has reached out to Kwankwaso. Osinbajo has not formally declared his ambition to contest for the presidency but sources around him said efforts are on in that regard.

A reliable source said Kwankwaso has been contacted by Osinbajo's camp as well as the chairman of the national caretaker committee of the APC, Mai Mala Buni, to return to the APC.

"Serious talks are ongoing between oga and them. They want him to return to APC but the option is being weighed. It has not been sealed," the source said.

Asked if his boss will accept to pair with Osinbajo as running mate in 2023, he said Kwankwaso was open to all options, adding that "No decision has been taken. What I can tell you is that discussions are ongoing."

Efforts to get the Special Adviser on Political Matters to the President, Senator Babafemi Ojuda, who had last month welcomed Kwankwaso to APC yielded no results as he did not pick calls placed to him by one of our reporters.

Ojuda, is one of the Tinubu loyalists promoting the aspiration of the vice president.

Slug it out in PDP

The last option, according to another source is for Kwankwaso to remain in PDP. The source said the leaders of the party in the North West geopolitical zone have ceded the North West zonal vice chairman to the Kwankwasiyya

movement.

One of the reasons he is mulling leaving PDP is the issues surrounding the zonal vice chairman leadership of the party.

"The situation has changed. All the North West leaders have accepted our candidate. You know the Aminu Wali camp has no strength to challenge our camp, they only feel they can with the support of outsiders.

"So, now all of them have accepted the candidate because they realised that if we leave the party because of that blunder, they will be the biggest losers. So it's the North West seat you want, we will give you. That is what is on the ground now.

"But honestly, he is in consultations. All those visits to his house in the name of condolence are not true, they are political," he added.

But a party source told Daily Trust that the issue has not been resolved. He said at a meeting held on Wednesday, the party leaders resolved that election be conducted to pick the North West zonal vice chairman.

"The issue of consensus has been jettisoned. The two camps in Kano will now test their popularity during the zonal election slated for Kaduna," he said.

Our focus now on N/West congress - Kano PDP Chair

But when contacted, Shehu Sagagi, the chairman of the PDP camp loyal to Kwankwaso in the state, said he was not aware of such moves, adding that their only focus is on the North West zonal conference coming up in eight days' time in Kaduna.

Several sources spoken to said since the movement's leadership was keeping sealed lips on the moves, only Comrade Aminu Abdussalam Gwarzo, the spokesman of the movement and one of the closest allies of Kwankwaso, could authoritatively comment on the matter.

Efforts to get him to comment were, however, abortive as he did not answer several calls to his phone. Similarly, Kwankwaso's Principal Private Secretary, Muhammad Mudathir Inuwa Ali, who was also identified as another official spokesman, did not answer his calls.

10,000 road crashes kill 5,000 in Nigeria annually – FRSC

By Maureen Onochie

The Corps Marshal of the Federal Road Safety Corps, Boboye Oyeyemi, says the FRSC's records show that more than 10,000 crashes occur on Nigerian roads annually with an average of over 5,000 deaths.

He said this in Abuja yesterday at a stakeholders' forum by the FRSC and the Federal Competition and Consumers Protection Commission (FCCPC).

Oyeyemi, represented by Deputy Corps Marshal Administration, Ojeme Ewhrujiapkor, called for concerted efforts to promote safety on the nation's roads.

He said the FRSC was working with tanker owners to install safety valves in their tankers so that even if there was a crash, their products would not spill and cause destruction of lives and property.

President, Nigerian Association of Road Transport Owners, Yusuf Othman, said some of his members could not afford installing the speed limiting device in their vehicles.

Executive Vice President, FCCPC, Babatunde Irukera, asked Nigerians to have a positive change of behavior while using the roads.

He said crashes would reduce if people obey the traffic rules.

Insecurity: Enough is enough, youths tell FG

By Abbas Jimoh

The National Executive Council of the 407 Nigeria Ethnic Nationalities Youth Leaders Council (NENYLC) yesterday urged the Federal Government to be more proactive in dealing with the insecurity in the country.

Its President-General, Terry Obieh, told reporters in Abuja that Nigeria youths could not continue to witness daily mindless killing of Nigerians in their numbers.

He said: "We say today that enough is enough and urge the security agencies to sit up.

"We've heard so many words without action from the government, we've

had enough rehearsed condolence messages from the government, what we demand now is an end to the massacre of Nigerians under whatever guise".

He said that the council also took notice of the pervasive corruption in Nigeria which had impeded development with resulting infrastructural decay across the country.

"The humongous annual budget of the country has not in any way translated to development. There are no commensurate development indices vis-a-vis the trillions of naira released every year as capital expenditure.

"The reason for this gap is not farfetched, it is buried in

the graveyard of corruption," he said.

He also said the council remained resolute on its position on the need for a united Nigeria.

He cautioned politicians against inflammatory statements ahead of the 2023 general elections.

He said, "We urge politicians to put the interest of the country above themselves. They should see themselves as vehicles for national cohesion and not as agents of disunity. This is why we note with serious concern some unguarded utterances by political actors across the country, especially with regards to the 2023 general elections."

FG links 96 persons, 156 coys to terrorism financing

By Abdullateef Salau & Muideen Olaniyi

The federal government yesterday said it has identified individuals, companies and forex operators with links to terrorism financing in Nigeria.

The revelation came about the time when many families of Bureau De Change (BDC) operators took a protest to the palace of the Emir of Kano, Alhaji Aminu Ado Bayero, over the prolonged incarceration of their husbands, parents and children by the Nigerian authorities without arraigning them in court.

Daily Trust had severally reported how dozens of BDC operators and their allies, some of them with agents in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), had been arrested over links to terrorism financing.

However, their families and acquaintances had faulted the claim saying they were into legitimate businesses. They called on relevant authorities to subject them to fair hearing in courts.

Latest revelation by FG

The Minister of Information and Culture, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, while addressing newsmen in Abuja on Thursday, disclosed that the federal government had established that some individuals, their allies and some companies have links to terrorism financing.

Mohammed said the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), the Independent Corrupt Practices and Other Related Offences Commission (ICPC) and the Nigerian Financial Intelligence Unit (NFIU) investigated various graft cases between 2020 and 2021, resulting in the recovery of looted assets running into hundreds of billions of naira and foreign currencies.

On terrorism, he said analysis by the NFIU between 2020 and 2021 revealed 96 financiers of terrorism in Nigeria, 424 associates/supporters of the financiers, involvement of about 123 companies and 33 bureaux de change.

The minister also said NFIU records showed that 26 suspected bandits/kidnappers and 7 co-conspirators were also linked



■ From left: Special Adviser, Media and Publicity to the President, Femi Adesina; Borno State Governor, Prof. Babagana Umara Zulum and Senior Special Assistant to the President on Media and Publicity, Malam Garba Shehu, during a briefing at the Presidential Villa, Abuja, yesterday

Photo: Felix Onigbinde

to terrorism financing in the country.

According to him, the analysis has resulted in the arrest of 45 suspects who, he said, would soon face prosecution and seizure of assets.

Other discoveries

Lai Mohammed said from its analysis of tax evasion and tax avoidance linked to corruption, the NFIU had identified N3.9 trillion in VAT and N3.7 trillion in Withholding Tax due to the government.

"NFIU has also sent 1,165 intelligence reports on cases of corruption, money laundering and other serious offences to 27 domestic agencies for investigation, prosecution and asset recovery," he said.

He said during the same period, 2020-2021, the organisation returned fraudulently-obtained funds totalling US\$103.7 million; 3,000 Pound Sterling; 7,695 Singapore Dollars and 1,091 Euros to 11 countries of victims who came into the country.

The minister said the EFCC had secured a total of 2,220 convictions in 2021.

The figure, he said represents a 127 per cent increase in the number of convictions (976) recorded in 2020, and a far cry from the 195 convictions secured

in 2016, the 189 in 2017, the 312 convictions in 2018, and the 1,280 recorded in 2019.

On monetary recoveries, Mohammed said in 2021 alone, the EFCC recovered N152 billion; 1,182,519.75 Pounds Sterling; 50 Emirati Dirham, 1,723,310 Saudi Riyal, 1,900 South African Rand; US\$386,220,202.85; 156,246.76 Euros; 1,400 Canadian Dollars; 5.36957319 Bitcoin and 0.09012 Ethereum.

The minister also revealed that ICPC, through its Constituency and Executive Projects Tracking Initiative traced 2,000 projects worth over N300 billion.

North East lost \$6.9bn to insurgency - Zulum

● Says B/Haram child's play if ISWAP allowed to grow

Governor Babagana Zulum of Borno State on Thursday put the total losses suffered by the North East as a result of terrorism at about \$6.9 billion dollars, which is about N3 trillion.

Daily Trust reports that for nearly 13 years, the Boko Haram fighters have been waging war against the Nigerian State.

Governor Zulum said the losses so far as a result of the crisis included over 5,000 destroyed classrooms, 900,000 homes burnt beyond repairs, 713 damaged energy distribution sources, as

well as 1,600 destroyed public water sources, among others.

Zulum, who decried the humanitarian crisis in the region, said problems have forced many internally displaced people to go into prostitution.

The Borno governor also warned that Boko Haram's menace will be "a child's play" if the Islamic State's West Africa Province (ISWAP) is allowed to grow in the country.

He gave the warning on Thursday while appearing on the weekly briefing organised by the Presidential Communication Team at the State House, Abuja.

Zulum, who asked the Nigerian Army to re-strategise and defeat ISWAP, said the group, which posed a threat to the entire nation was building up in Borno State by exploiting its closeness to the Sahel. While speaking on the successes achieved so far in the war against insurgency in the North East, he said: "All that I have said now would never have been feasible without the support of the government. But notwithstanding all the contributions of the federal government, we still have some challenges."

"One, I said it before, a growing number of ISWAP in some parts of the state is a matter of great concern to everybody. Luckily, I was told there was military

deployment yesterday to southern Borno State to fight the insurgents in the Tudun Katarangwa area.

"But I think this is an early warning. We shouldn't allow ISWAP to grow. ISWAP are more sophisticated, more funded and they are more educated. And we shall do everything possible to defeat ISWAP. Otherwise, what Boko Haram did will be a child's play. This is an early warning that the Nigerian Army has to re-strategise and defeat ISWAP."

"ISWAP will be a threat to the entire nation. Because of its proximity to Sub Saharan Africa, they are coming from Libya and others resettling here," he said.

He also urged President Muhammadu Buhari to re-engage external mercenaries for additional support in the battle against terrorism.

Governor Zulum underscored the need to sanitise the recruitment process into the armed forces, police and other security agencies in order to address the security challenges.

He criticised the involvement of VIPs in the recruitment process of various security agencies.

Zulum said that the 2023 general elections must not be allowed to shift attention away from the need to tackle the insecurity in the North East and other parts of the country.

Alaafin, Tinubu hail translation of Nigeria's constitution in indigenous languages

The Alaafin of Oyo, Oba Lamidi Adeyemi, on Thursday, lauded the launch of translation of Nigeria's constitution in three indigenous languages, saying efforts would expedite nation-building.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports that Prince Ade Ajayi Foundation (PAAF), Centre for Constitutional Literacy and Civic Education, translated Nigeria's 1999 Constitution into Hausa, Yoruba and Igbo languages and the Naija Patriots Constitution app, which contains the audio

format of the constitution.

The foundation led by Prince Ade Ajayi, also published the book, "I Love Nigeria, My Country" to promote citizens' passionate love for the country.

While unveiling the translations and the book, Oba Adeyemi said: "For a young man to have translated the constitution of Nigeria 1999 as amended into three major languages is a feat."

"It is an opportunity for Hausa, Yoruba and Igbo people to read the constitution in their own local

language and come to a conclusion whether the constitution is working or not."

The traditional ruler, who decried that Ajayi Crowther, haven singlehandedly translated the Bible into Yoruba and other languages, died unsung and uncelebrated, prayed that the PAAF president, would not die uncelebrated for the feat. The Alaafin, who expressed a little disappointment about the absence of many invited dignitaries at the event, said that Nigeria constitution needed to be worked

upon to allow restructuring for the nation to make progress.

The Alaafin, who noted that he had read the constitution many times, urged Nigerians to read and understand the workings of the constitution, with the opportunity provided by PAAF.

Gov. Babajide Sanwo-Olu of Lagos State described the efforts of PAAF as laudable and apt, especially at this time in the nation's history. Sanwo-Olu, who was represented by his Special Adviser on Development Agenda

for Western Nigeria, Mr Adekunle Olayinka, said: "It will have a far reaching impart in governance."

"We should now expect contributions of people in governance, even from pepper sellers on the street."

Also, Sen. Bola Tinubu, a former governor of Lagos state, said that broadening the understanding of Nigerians about the constitution, especially with the translation of the document into three indigenous languages, was a big and laudable job.

N2.4bn 'fraud': Save me from EFCC's harassment, Okorocha begs Buhari

By Muideen Olaniyi

● Says IPOB poorly educated children, not terrorists

Senator Rochas Okorocha (APC, Imo West) says President Muhammadu Buhari has promised to take up the case he has with the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC).

The former governor of Imo State disclosed this was to State House correspondents yesterday after meeting with Buhari.

He said he was at the Presidential Villa to ask Buhari to prevail on the EFCC to stop harassing him.

He alleged that the anti-graft agency had continued to harass him in spite of a subsisting court order restraining it from prosecuting him.

The EFCC had filed a 17-count fraud charges against Okorocha at the Federal High Court, Abuja, after he publicly declared intention to contest the 2023 presidency.

In the charges, Okorocha was alleged to have embezzled N2.4bn public funds through connivance with some individuals and companies.

Okorocha said he met Buhari to get justice because the EFCC was still holding his international passport.

According to him, it is the responsibility of Buhari as president of Nigeria to ensure justice is served on all citizens.

Okorocha said: "The president

said he would take up the matter, especially when he saw the judgment. He said he'll take up the matter and find out what's actually happening. And I hope he'll do so."

The ex-governor said his ordeal was "politically motivated".

On why he sought Buhari's intervention despite the president's commitment to fighting corruption, Okorocha said: "One of the duties of a president is to protect the law of the land.

"And when an issue comes to an issue of judgment the duty is incumbent on the government of the day to ensure that justice is done.

"I came to demand for justice that he should prevail and as the custodian, as the leader of our nation, he should be made to know that such is going on. I didn't come here to say, I don't want to be investigated by the EFCC. That's not the issue, that there's judgment on the ground.

"There's judgment and there's order of court that I'm asking Mr. President who appointed the EFCC to recall that there was the law that established the EFCC. And if that law is good to make somebody EFCC, that law should be obeyed, too."

Okorocha attributed the general insecurity in the South

East to "poor handling" of the issues of the outlawed Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB).

He said the decision to prescribe IPOB as terrorists by the federal government was needless when the matter could have been properly handled by the authorities.

He also asked for justice on the matter involving his in-law, Uche Nwosu, who was kidnapped by masked security personnel, saying the arrested person in connection with the matter had been released.

Okorocha said though the IPOB members had turned out to be terrorists, "I don't see them as terrorists. I see them as children who have not been properly educated on the happenings."



■ From left: Executive Vice Chairman, Federal Competition and Consumer Protection Commission, Babatunde Irukeru; Corps Education officer, Federal Road Safety Commission, ACM Bisi Kassim and Deputy Corps Marshall, Administration, FRSC, Ojeme Ewurdjarkpor during the joint stakeholders forum on safe haulage operations in Abuja yesterday
Photo: Felix Onigbinde

Our health sector still faces critical challenges - Osinbajo

By Zakariyya Adaramola

Vice President Yemi Osinbajo says the Nigerian health sector still faces critical challenges which have resulted in sub-optimal outcomes when compared with healthcare systems in more developed countries in the world.

Osinbajo, according to a statement yesterday by the spokesman of the Bureau of Public Enterprises, Ibeh Chidi, said this in Abuja at the inauguration of the Health Sector Reform Committee.

The 27-member committee, headed by Osinbajo, has its members drawn from critical stakeholders in the health sector.

He attributed the challenges to fragmentation of health service delivery, insufficient healthcare financing, inadequate motivation/poor distribution of health workers, inadequate infrastructure and relatively low private sector participation.

The vice president noted that a quality and affordable healthcare system is central to Nigeria's development.

He said there must be a plan to improve access to quality, reliable, functional and affordable healthcare for citizens.

He said President Muhammadu Buhari approved the establishment of this Health Reform Committee to commence the development and implementation of a wide-ranging reform programme for the country.

He said there had been various attempts in the past to reform the healthcare system in Nigeria and that the present attempt began with the commissioning of a Diagnostic Needs Assessment of the sector.

Nigeria needs to tackle high fertility rate—Buhari

● Launches revised population policy

By Muideen Olaniyi

President Muhammadu Buhari yesterday underscored the need for urgent measures to address Nigeria's high fertility rate by expanding access to modern contraceptive methods across the country.

He spoke in Abuja where he launched the Revised National Policy on Population for Sustainable Development.

He also inaugurated the National Council on Population Management (NCPM) chaired by him and Vice President Yemi Osinbajo as deputy chairman with heads of relevant MDAs as members.

Buhari said the revised population policy was aimed at

improving the quality of life and standards of living of all Nigerians.

"The policy emphasizes the urgency to address Nigeria's sustained high fertility rate, through expanding access to modern family planning, counselling and commodities as well as promote births spacing.

"This will enable Nigeria to achieve rapid fertility control, improve the health of women, adolescents, new born and children, and other population groups," he said.

He said Nigeria's population, the largest in Africa, seventh globally and among the few whose fertility is still growing, was hinged on a youthful population, with more than 72 percent of them being below 30 years while half of the

female population are in their reproductive years (15-49 years).

"These levels have implications for sustained population growth and narrowed prospects to achieving population management, facilitating sufficient demographic transition, harnessing our demographic endowment and eventually realizing sustainable development," he said.

Buhari, while noting that the implementation of the policy would require credible, reliable, timely, robust, geo-referenced and well disaggregated data, expressed confidence that the data generated from the forthcoming census would provide all the information needed for the successful implementation of the new policy.

Chairman, National Population Commission, Nasir Isa Kwara, urged Nigerians to embrace the

noble ideals of planned parenthood and healthy reproductive behaviours enunciated in the policy.

In his goodwill message, the UN Resident Coordinator, Nigeria, Matthias Schmale, said the world and UN looked forward to a Nigeria with low maternal mortality; low teenage pregnancy and childbirth; reduced fertility rate, increased utilisation of modern contraceptive methods and high education attainment, among others.

He said the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), responsible for providing support for the generation of quality data, would continue to work with the NPC to help ensure that Nigeria's forthcoming census meets local and international standards and acceptability.

EYE ON BORNO

Co-Created content

Mass transit: Zulum launches 610 taxis, tricycles, buses in Maiduguri ...Targets 3,200 beneficiaries



■ Zulum cutting tape at the launch of 610 taxis, tricycles and buses at the Ramat Square in Maiduguri yesterday.

Borno State Governor, Professor Babagana Umara Zulum, has launched 610 taxis, tricycles and buses to enhance urban mass transportation in Maiduguri and parts of Jere and Konduga Local Government Areas which fall under the metropolis.

Zulum arrived Maiduguri after his presidential press briefing in Abuja on Thursday and drove from the airport to the Ramat Square in Maiduguri where he launched 610 means of transportation comprising 100 Toyota LE cars for city

taxis, 500 tricycles popularly known as Keke NAPEP and 10 Ashok Leyland buses each with 41-passenger capacity.

While the 10 buses were left under the custody KF Borno Express Transport Corporation for intracity services; the 500 tricycles were allocated to 2,000 operators with each owned by a group of four unemployed persons. The 100 taxis were also allocated to 200 persons with each to be owned by two, making a total 2,200, the number of persons who benefit from the tricycles and taxis.

Modalities for the distribution were arrived at after Governor Zulum had met with leaders of different associations of Keke NAPEP operators who informed him that some of their members formed groups to own tricycles and that they have their ways of jointly managing them and sharing profits.

Earlier, the state's Commissioner for Transport, Dr Abubakar Tijjani, assured the governor of effective and efficient supervision to ensure functional deployment to routes in line with the governor's goal of increasing access to mass

transport in the metropolis.

On the security integrated into the tricycles and taxis, the Managing Director and Chief Executive of Bexil Computers & Communications, Yusuf Hayatuddeen, said each of the 500 tricycles has digital stickers from which passengers can use smart phones to access essential data of all operators.

He said with the stickers, movements of the tricycles would be tracked to ensure they operate within communities they were expected to serve.

... Grants N50m to 1,000 Keke NAPEP operators

Aside the 2,200 persons allocated the tricycles and taxis, Governor Zulum also granted N50m to 1,000 Keke NAPEP operators who did not benefit from the launch because the the association had thousands of members, some of whom either own tricycles or work as riders and spare-riders.

Each of the 1,000 beneficiaries is receive N50,000 as social support.

A total of 3, 200 youths benefitted from the distribution of tricycles, taxis and grant.



■ Zulum presenting cheque to one of the 1,000 operators given grant of N50m as social support.



■ Zulum test-riding one of the 500 Keke NAPEPs. Inset: more of the tricycles at the launch in Maiduguri yesterday.

Bandits kill village head, 5 others, abduct 5 in Katsina

From Tijjani Ibrahim, Katsina

Bandits in the early hours of yesterday stormed Daddara Village in Jibia Local Government of Katsina State and killed six people including the village head, Alhaji Jafaru Rabiu, and his house help, Malam Mansir Danye.

The gunmen also abducted five villagers including a bride-to-be in the attack.

A resident whose daughter was among the abducted victims said several other people sustained injuries.

He said the attackers conducted a house to house search where they carted away animals and other valuables of the residents.

Confirming the incident, Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) in Katsina, SP Gambo Isah, said five people were killed while one person was still missing.

“The bandits carrying sophisticated weapons invaded the village around 11:30pm and started shooting.

“By the time our DPO arrived in company with of some military personnel, he met the bandits trying to move away with some people and animals. They exchanged gunfire and chased the bandits away, but one woman is still missing,” he said.

Isah said the state was witnessing an influx of bandits due to ongoing military operations in Zamfara and Sokoto states.

“Notorious bandits like Dankarami, Abdulkarim and some Turji boys are seen in Katsina and they are converging around the Tsambe area in Jibia Local Government. But there is synergy now between all the security agencies here and we are trying to flush them out,” he added.

Abduljabbar: Court orders return of first prosecution witness

From Salim Umar Ibrahim, Kano

An Upper Shari’a Court sitting in Kano yesterday ordered the Kano State Government to recall the first prosecution witness (PW1) for re-cross examination in an alleged blasphemy case against Sheikh Abduljabbar Nasiru-Kabara.

Nasiru-Kabara is charged with four counts bordering on blasphemous comments against Prophet Muhammad committed the offence on Aug.10, Oct.25 and Dec.20, 2019.

Counsel to Abduljabbar, Ambali Oboimeleh Muhammad (SAN),

applied for the recall of the witness to be re-cross examined according to the provisions of sections 36(5) 6(a)(b) of the 1999 constitution as amended.

The Prosecution Counsel, Suraj Sa’eda (SAN), objected to the application, saying the defence counsel did not give reasons to have the witness recalled.

The judge, Malam Ibrahim Sarki-Yola, after listening to both parties granted the application and ordered the prosecution counsel to recall pw1 for re-cross examination.

He adjourned the matter until February 17 for a re-cross examination.

PHOTO GALLERY



■ Former Head of State General Abdulsalam Abubakar (right) and President, African Development Bank, Dr Akinwumi Adesina, during their honorary doctoral award at the 30th convocation ceremony of the Federal University of Technology, Minna on Wednesday



■ President, Dangote Industries Limited (DIL), Aliko Dangote (left), receiving 'Champion of CILT' from the National President of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT), Mfon Usoro, in his Ikoyi office, Lagos on Wednesday



■ From left: CEO, Bloom Public Health, Prof. Chimezie Anyakaora; Deputy General Manager, NHIS Lagos Zonal Office, Dr. Bethuel-Kasimu Abraham; Chairman Board of Directors, Wellness HMO, Chief Mobolaji Ayorinde; Managing Director, Wellness HMO, Adetutu Afolabi and Special Adviser to Lagos State Governor on Innovation and Technology, Tubosun Alake at the Wellness Plus Official App launch held in Lagos on Wednesday



■ Managing Director, Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA), Mohammed Koko-Bello (sitting 3rd left); Executive Director, Marine and Operations, NPA, Onari Brown (sitting 4th left), acting Chairman, Shipping Association of Nigeria (SAN), Andrew Lynch (sitting 2nd left) and other officials of NPA and SAN during a meeting at the NPA head quarters in Lagos, recently

 VITAFOAM NIGERIA PLC RC 3094				
UNAUDITED INTERIM FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 2021				
The Directors have pleasure in announcing the unaudited interim financial results for the Group and Parent for the Three Months ended 31 December, 2021, with comparative figures for previous year.				
	Group		Company	
	2021	2020	2021	2020
	N. '000	N. '000	N. '000	N. '000
Revenue	12,716,184	8,666,259	11,531,199	7,845,404
Cost of sales	(8,729,347)	(5,804,288)	(8,221,617)	(5,545,300)
Gross profit	3,986,837	2,861,971	3,309,582	2,300,104
Other gains and losses	(23,590)	39,943	77,476	79,160
Distribution costs	(388,011)	(277,358)	(375,471)	(265,763)
Administrative expenses	(1,206,536)	(930,481)	(912,970)	(704,876)
Operating profit	2,368,700	1,694,075	2,098,617	1,408,625
Finance income	189,811	26,119	186,482	22,279
Finance costs	(154,684)	(190,485)	(137,022)	(154,611)
Profit before taxation	2,403,827	1,529,709	2,148,077	1,276,293
Taxation	(714,504)	(417,226)	(643,793)	(381,121)
Profit for the period	1,689,323	1,112,483	1,504,284	895,172
Other comprehensive income:				
Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:				
Foreign exchange differences on translation foreign operations	(54,560)	(41,573)	-	-
Other comprehensive (loss)/income for the period net of taxation	(54,560)	(41,573)	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the period	1,634,763	1,070,910	1,504,284	895,172
Profit attributable to:				
Owners of the parent	1,551,714	752,744	1,504,284	895,172
Non-controlling interest	137,609	359,739	-	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to:				
Owners of the parent	1,497,154	711,171	1,504,284	895,172
Non-controlling interest	137,609	359,739	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the period	1,634,763	1,070,910	1,504,284	895,172
Earnings per share				
Basic earnings per share (kobo)	124.00	89.00	120.00	72.00

Dated this 27 day of January, 2022

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

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**NIGERIA
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14-year-old France girl memorised Qur'an in 4 months in Nigeria

From Abubakar Sadiq Mohd, Zaria

A 14-year-old France girl, Hafizah Fatima Musa, has set a record at Nurul Tilawah International School, Zaria, Kaduna State, by memorizing the

Holy Qur'an within four months.

Daily Trust gathered that it is very usual to memorize the Holy Qur'an under one year, considering the tender age.

Fatima who came from a Muslim family in France came to Nigeria along

with her 18-year-old sister, Anijou Musa, for Islamic knowledge.

The school situated in Gonar Ganye, Zaria, has been receiving students from various African countries and Europe over the last 25 years. The proprietor is the former Special Adviser to

former President Goodluck Jonathan on National Mosque, Tahir Umar Tahir.

The director of the school, Nura Umar Tahir, said the college had never recorded such historical performance from any of their students since inception.

He explained that the lady

memorized six pages daily from the beginning of her enrollment in September 2021 and later increased to eight pages a day contrary to the usual two to three pages by other students.

"Fatima is a highly exceptional girl, who though, is quiet and

reserved in nature but also very inquisitive and curious and always questing for more knowledge.

"She is fond of asking questions continuously and when she asked, the questions are usually too advanced for her age," Tahir said.

Buhari committed to achieving peace in Nigeria-Dingyadi

From Abubakar Auwal, Sokoto

President Muhammadu Buhari is fully committed to achieving peace in the country, the Minister of Police Affairs, Muhammadu Maigari Dingyadi, has assured.

He gave the assurance at the sensitization campaign on the Police Public Complaints Committee (PPCC) activities for the Northwest in Sokoto yesterday.

He said the president had been providing security agencies, particularly, the police with all the necessary support and equipment to achieve this.

On the PPCC, he explained that the initiative was in furtherance of the president's quest to achieving people centric security arrangements.

"Arrangements which prioritizes respect for citizen's right, address genuine cases of infractions, to promote inclusiveness in policing arrangements, and to advance peace and security for national development," he said

He noted that the choice of the North West zone for the second edition of the sensitization campaign was to elicit support towards decapitating terrorists threatening peace and security in the zone.

The permanent secretary of the ministry, Temitope Fashedemi, said the PPCC was borne out of the government's desire to eliminate all sorts of unprofessional conduct by the police.

"Please, we are appealing to the government to intervene in the issue," Zainab said on behalf of all the children.

DAILY TRUST

International Women's Day 2022

March 8: #Elevating the Voices of Women

In commemoration of the 2022 International Women's Day, Daily Trust is publishing a special feature to spotlight efforts being made by emerging women leaders in Nigeria to overcome the persistent social and systemic barriers to women's participation in influencing positive change in our country.

These emerging women leaders, who through thick and thin, are giving their best to build a better Nation for us all, abound in both the rural and the urban centres across the country.

Date of publication is Tuesday, 8th March, 2022.
To be part of this special feature, please contact our Head of Business Development on 08028432200.

Companies, non-governmental organisations and women support groups wishing to place advertisements and/or supplements to showcase their valuable contributions towards strengthening the capacity, skills and knowledge of current and future women leaders, can contact:

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THIS IS **INTELS** - PROUDLY NIGERIAN!

The history of INTELS in Nigeria is a long story which began in 1982

INTELS has enjoyed 35 years of partnership with the Nigerian Ports Authority (NPA) and has actively and substantially contributed to the increase in Government revenue;

INTELS has, by itself and in conjunction with its affiliates, built and developed over 7 km of equipped docks in different Nigerian port locations (Onne, Calabar, Warri and Lagos), more than 6 million square meters of industrial facilities and over 2,000 housing units;

Through its substantial investments over the years, INTELS has played an indispensable role in facilitating and enhancing the operational activities of the major oil companies in the country, providing them with invaluable services and facilities based on efficiency and productivity;

INTELS has always favoured, in the development of its business making extensive use of local suppliers and manpower, thus contributing to the country's economic well-being as well as the local economy and the social fabric in which they operate; INTELS activities have created employment for over 10,000 personnel, including direct and indirect employees of third parties, utilising less than 100 expatriate staff members;

INTELS periodically allocates resources to support widespread community projects by initiating the development of new entrepreneurial initiatives, promoting sports activities aimed at young people and implementing structural assistance, including non-routine maintenance where required;

INTELS has made a significant contribution to the creation of the largest FREE ZONE in the world dedicated to oil & gas related activities.

INTELS was heavily affected by the COVID-19: pandemic at global level during this period, nonetheless:

- It has never interrupted its activities, thereby guaranteeing the continuity of the service provided to all OIL & GAS Companies;
- INTELS and its affiliates have made a major real estate investment in the Lagos area worth over USD 1 BLN;
- It has funded and built two COVID-19 clinics in the Onne area.



OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE AUTHORITIES:

INTELS regrets the constant attacks on it perpetrated through the media which do not reflect the truth and the purpose of which is not understood;

INTELS is constrained to point out that such actions create significant economic and reputational damage, creating dismay and confusion among customers, with consequent inevitable damage to the NPA itself;

INTELS has invested more than USD 1 BLN in the above-mentioned initiatives in Nigerian ports which no entity could have financed; INTELS has made a significant contribution to capitalising the NPA by establishing an agreed mechanism for debt repayment through part of the proceeds from pilotage. It should be remembered that a substantial part of the proceeds of the pilotage activity, managed by Intel in its role as agent, then flow into the NPA coffers, to via the accounts indicated by the NPA, according to a mutually supportive mechanism tested and hitherto working smoothly;

INTELS would be happy to enter into a constructive dialogue with the NPA in order to find suitable solutions to drastically reduce the indebtedness accrued up to now, also with the support of the banking system, but it would be necessary to re-establish a climate of serenity and dialogue, which has been interrupted.

In recent months INTELS has implemented a new governance structure that has enabled it to include among its partners institutional stakeholders capable of strengthening the company's entrepreneurial profile and eliminating any political influence.

Release our people or take them to court, families of BDC operators tell Buhari

From Salim U. Ibrahim & Lubabatu I. Garba (Kano)

Aggrieved family members of the 45 Bureau De Change (BDC) operators from Kano who were arrested 11 months ago have called on the federal government to release their sons, husbands and fathers or take them to the court.

They lamented that the absence of their breadwinners had continued to take a negative toll on their families.

The mothers, wives and children yesterday took their appeal before the Emir of Kano, Aminu Ado Bayero, to seek the emirate's intervention on the issue.

After a listening session, the emir directed a delegation of five among the about 50 women and a few boys to file a proper written complaint with the promise to extend intervention.

Recall that some Bureau De Change operators were arrested

for allegedly facilitating the transfer of money to Boko Haram terrorists.

Some of them were traders at the foreign exchange open market in Wapa, Fagge Local Government of Kano State.

Prominent among the BDC operators arrested in the state are: Baba Usaini, Abubakar Yellow (Amfani), Yusuf Ali Yusuf (Babangida), Ibrahim Shani, Auwal Fagge and Muhammad Lawan Sani (a gold dealer).

Speaking with *Daily Trust* after the meeting with the emir, Halima Jibrin Garo, a mother whose husband is among those arrested, lamented that since they were picked up by the security agents, there had been no sign of their whereabouts.

"Our children have stopped going to school because of the financial crisis we are in. To feed is a problem. Those who are extending a helping hand are tired. Their own issues alone are enough.

"My husband left me with a month-old pregnancy, now I have delivered a four-month-old baby and his father is not even aware.

"Among us is a woman who also gave birth to twins and many of us who underwent operations.

"We are appealing to the government to please come to our aid. We are really suffering.

"We are here today to cry out to our father and leader, the emir of Kano, to please intervene and come to our aid. They should please look at the situation of the little children with us. Most of them have stopped going to school."

Another protester, Nasiba Gwani Lawi, whose husband, Mansur Muhammad Usman, and brother-in-law, Yazid Muhammad Usman, are among those in custody, said she had not heard from the two since they were reinterviewed.

She said, "They (the brothers) were invited at first and later

cleared that they have no issue in the case but later were invited again. Since then, we have not heard about them or know their whereabouts.

"We followed up to Abuja; they said we will see them at court but all to no avail. We have contacted several authorities but nothing positive.

"Our major concern is to know their fates as we are in the dark. Let them be brought out to the court. If they are guilty let them be charged, if they are not, they should be freed."

The mother of Abdulrahman Dukawa, one of those in custody, also lamented how the authorities keep lying to them.

"One of his daughters is even dead and he is not aware. Another is currently sick.

"Honestly, the way we are being treated is our major concern. Let them bring them out so they can face the law and at least, we know they are alive, hale and hearty."

Zannira Uwaisu is the wife of Auwalu Ali Alhassan, who is also in custody. She said her husband was invited along with his three brothers.

"My mother-in-law is now bedridden as a result of her four sons in this dilemma.

"My co-wife has nine children, she is also bedridden. They should please come to our aid. Our 16 children are here with us; we are suffering. They are no longer going to school."

Zainab Garo, Ahmad Munzali, Ruqayya Abubakar Ibrahim, Aliyu Umar Abdullahi and Khadija Idris are some of the children of those in custody. They joined their mothers to appeal to the government to please come to their aid by releasing their fathers so they can come back to them and continue to look after them.

"We are not going to school anymore, feeding at home is not easy anymore. Our mothers are really suffering.

18 killed 3 injured in Yobe road crash

From Ibrahim Baba Saleh

Eighteen passengers died and three others were injured in an accident that occurred along the Potiskum Dogon-Kuka route in Fune Local Government of Yobe State yesterday.

The accident occurred when a Golf wagon car with registration number BKD74SB had a head on collision with a commuter bus with registration KHE454.

The Public Education Officer of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Yobe State Command, Hussaini Haruna, confirmed the accident. He said the accident was caused by a road traffic violation by the drivers.

He said the injured victims had been taken to Damagum General Hospital for treatment.

Kogi cuts off water supply for 5 weeks for repairs

From Tijani Labaran, Lokoja

Kogi State Government has said there will be disruption of water supply for five weeks to residents of Lokoja, the state capital and its environs in order to repair damaged pipelines.

The Commissioner for Water Resources, Abdulmumuni Danga, disclosed this yesterday in Lokoja.

He said there would be a major repair on the damaged major pipeline supplying water from the main source at the greater Lokoja Water Works in Ganaja area at the bank of River Niger to the major reservoir at the heart of the capital city. The commissioner said the repairs could be best carried out during the dry season.



UK to help Nigeria tackle terrorism, other crimes

From Abiodun Alade, Lagos

The United Kingdom has pledged to support Nigeria in tackling the Islamic State in West Africa Province (ISWAP) and Boko Haram terrorists.

The UK and Nigeria also affirmed commitment to deepen partnership in the face of complex and evolving global threats, including human trafficking, serious and organised crimes, drug trafficking, cyber-crime and piracy.

This was contained in a communiqué issued at the end of the inaugural UK-Nigeria Security and Defence Partnership dialogue held in London between January 31 and February 2.

According to the communiqué jointly issued by the UK National Security Adviser, Sir Stephen Lovegrove, and Nigerian National Security Adviser, Major General Babagana Monguno (retd.), the two countries agreed to enhance existing cooperation in civilian policing; approaches to stabilisation including civilian-led security and civil-military co-operation; human rights; women and youth, peace and security; defence co-operation and maritime security; serious and organised crimes, drug trafficking, human trafficking and border security; and countering terrorism and violent extremism.

The dialogue affirmed the importance of the Nigerian police's

role as the primary security actor responsible for domestic law enforcement, for keeping the peace and ensuring a peaceful society.

The United Kingdom also committed to continuing its support for the Lake Chad Basin Regional Stabilisation Facility's work to improve civil military cooperation in the North East and the wider Lake Chad Basin region, including through the provision of expert assistance.

It said it would continue its support for community-led security and peacebuilding in North East Nigeria.

It added that Nigeria and UK reiterated their shared understanding and commitment to protecting human rights for all,

including victims of conflict.

The two countries also committed to continuing to work in partnership to tackle illicit financial flows, terrorism and violent extremism.

The United Kingdom also offered to share insight on terrorist financing, trans-border movements and the illegal movement of small arms and light weapons.

On his part, Monguno said the agreements would deepen and enhance security and defence collaboration in order to create a safe and secure environment for all citizens to thrive.

The next security and defence dialogue is expected to be held in the first quarter of 2023.

Felicitations



Rt. Hon. Chibuike Rotimi Amaechi, CON
Minister of Transportation
Dan Amanar Daura

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who is worthy of it.

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Signed:
Engr. Aliyu Mohammed
President/CEO
Velocity Group Limited



CITY & CRIME

4 family members found dead in Abuja poultry farm

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

Four members of a family have been found dead at a poultry farm on Anguwar Street in Abaji Area Council of the FCT.

City News learnt that a security guard at the poultry identified as Dominic Peter Adegeze, his daughters, Victoria and Judith, and his one-month old son, Peter, were found dead, and the wife, Laraba,



was taken to the University of Abuja Teaching Hospital (UATH), Gwagwalada, unconscious.

■ Mrs Laruba Peter, wife of the deceased guard being rushed to University of Abuja Teaching Hospital, Gwagwalada,

A staff of the poultry, who preferred anonymity, said the incident happened on

Thursday morning, explaining that another staff who went to feed some cattle inside the poultry farm found the main gate under lock and key, and that he scaled the fence and found the guard and his family members gasping and foaming from their mouths.

When contacted, the spokesperson of the FCT police command, DSP Adeb Josephine, confirmed the incident, saying the police is investigating.

FCT polls: 473 candidates, 14 political parties to battle for 63 positions

By Baba Martins

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) yesterday disclosed that 473 candidates from 14 political parties will be vying for 63 chairmanship and councillorship position in the coming Federal Capital Territory (FCT) area councils election.

Addressing stakeholders ahead of the election scheduled for February 12, INEC Chairman Professor Mahmoud Yakubu, said he appreciates the assurances of support by all for peaceful elections next week.

He said FCT was the only part of the country where INEC is required by law to conduct local government elections, adding that the polls are set "to elect six chairmen or chairwomen as the case may be and 62 Councillors."

Yakubu said, "After the period for substitution and withdrawal of candidates as provided by law, the Commission has listed 473 candidates sponsored by 14 political parties for the poll."

"In all, 110 candidates (chair and vice chair) are vying for the leadership of the six area councils while 363 candidates are competing for 62 councillorship positions."

Estate developers flouting FCT rules – Reps committee

By Balarabe Alkassim

The House of Representatives has threatened to involve all relevant authorities against estate developers in Abuja that flout any rule or encroach on prohibited areas.

The Chairman, House Ad-Hoc Committee on the Investigation of Operations of Real Estate Developers in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Blessing Onu (APC, Benue) said this when members of the committee visited various sites in Abuja on Thursday.

She alleged that they have discovered various infractions

by the developers like building without relevant authorization from the government, encroaching on prohibited areas, taking over government lands designated for special purposes as well as failure to deliver to their subscribers.

Onu said the committee would analyze its findings regarding the various infractions by developers and involve relevant authorities to deal with the issue appropriately.

She added: "What we have discovered is so mind-boggling. There are a lot of contraventions, a lot of

infractions by the developers in some of the places we visited.

"They do not have building plan approvals. No documents like where we are here in EFAB. No titled documents.

"All EFAB could present to this committee is just a lease agreement of 2003. There is so much going on here and it is quite unfortunate and we promise that this committee is going to do something about it.

"We would look at the infractions, analyze them and then we would send those that have infractions and contraventions to the necessary authority for intervention."



■ Members of the House Adhoc Committee investigating the activities of estate developers in the FCT during their visit to one of the estates.

Hijab: Several injured as peaceful protest turns violent in Kwara

From Mumini AbdulKareem, Ilorin

One person was feared dead with several others injured as a protest by Muslim parents and students over the continuous denial of the use of hijab by Ogun Baptist High School (OBHS), Ijagbo, turned violent on Thursday.

It was gathered that the parents and the students arrived the school around 7am in protest against the decision but were attacked by thugs.

In one of the viral videos of the incident, the protesters are seen scampering amidst gunshots.

A resident of Ijagbo, Alhaji Soliju, said security operatives had been stationed at the gate while broken bottles littered the ground.

Another resident who does not want his name in print told our reporter on phone that the protest was peaceful until the attack.

The resident said, "The Muslims continued the protest at the gate of the school this morning before they were attacked by some thugs.

"I saw a boy who was injured in the process being rushed to the hospital on a motorcycle. We don't really know whether he was shot or matcheted, but we heard that he later died.

"Another boy was beaten severely in the process by the thugs who came with cutlasses and guns, and several other people were injured. The protest was peaceful until the attack."

He added that, "Although the situation is calm now, but we don't know what could happen next."

It was gathered that banks and other schools around the vicinity closed down as a result of the incident.

Several calls to the state's Secretary of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN), Rev Timothy Reuben Ibitoye, were not answered.

The spokesman of the Ministry of Education, Kamaldeen Aliagan, said a statement would soon be issued on the matter.

It would be recalled that before the school gate incident, students and parents, on Wednesday, stormed the



■ Main entrance of the school

Government House, Ilorin, to protest the decision of OBHS over the matter.

Some of the parents told Daily Trust that their wards had been denied access to the school for the last three weeks despite the directive of the government to the contrary.

They also accused the leadership of the state chapter of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) over the matter.

Before then, the Kwara State Government, on Tuesday, January 25, 2022, restated its policy and directed management of schools in the state to allow the use of hijab and beret by willing students.

Also, a government delegation, led by the Commissioner for Education, Hajia Sa'adatu Modibbo Kawu, had visited the school on two occasions to resolve the matter.

Abia cyclist kills colleague over plate of rice

The police in Abia State, on Wednesday, confirmed the killing of a motorcyclist by his colleague over a plate of rice.

The spokesman of the command, SP Geoffrey Ogbonna, who made this known to newsmen, confirmed that the suspect had surrendered.

A source who craved anonymity told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) that the incident happened at an eatery on Uzompka Street in Amayi, Owerri-Abia in Ugunwagbo Local Government Area, on Monday.

The source said, "That day some cyclists were settling down to eat when another cyclist identified as Chinenye, entered and demanded food. Not wanting to be upstaged, an already seated cyclist named Oberagu who had arrived before Chinenye told him to wait for his turn.

"The owner of the eating spot supported Oberagu's position and went on to serve food to the motorcyclists that were there before Chinenye.

"After that, Chinenye started threatening the woman and the other cyclists, shouting that if the woman dared not serve him and his group he would scatter everywhere."

Continuing, the source said, "That was what caused the fight, in which other cyclists joined to beat up Chinenye, who left in humiliation.

"The cyclists were still eating when Chinenye came back in company of another cyclist. He drew close to them and shot Oberagu in the stomach and disappeared with the same cyclist that brought him."

Cancer Day: Group identifies awareness creation as fighting tools

By Baba Martins

As the world marks the 2022 International Day for cancer, a non-government organization based in the nation's capital, Helpline Foundation for the Needy, has harped on awareness and power of knowledge as the best means in reducing the global impact of the killer disease.

The group also makes case for the affordability of the treatment of the disease by all tiers of government, as cancer remains a major cause of morbidity and mortality globally.

Addressing a world press conference in Abuja as part of activities to mark 2022 World Cancer Day, President of Helpline Foundation for the Needy, Dr. Jumai Ahmadu, called on governments, civil society organisations, and spirited individuals to make facilities available for regular testing and treatment.

Ahmadu said that her call was being guided by this year's theme; "Close the Care Gap."

Gunmen invade Edo farm, kill staff, burn down 20-hectare rubber plantation

From Usman A. Bello, Benin

Gunmen, on Tuesday, killed a staff of Okomu Oil Palm Company Plc and set on fire the company's over 20-hectare rubber plantation in Ovia South West Local

Government Area of Edo State.

Speaking with journalists, the company's spokesman, Mr Fidelis Oliseh, said the gunmen stormed the plantation with AK-47 rifles and shot at one of their workers while he was trying to protect the company's

equipment.

He said after burning the excavators on the farm, the gunmen proceeded to the rubber plantation which was close by and also set it on fire.

Following the development, Oliseh said the company had shut down

production, noting that the company was currently working with security agencies on the attack.

Meanwhile, the state's police spokesperson, SP Bello Kontongs, said the command had not been briefed about the development.



■ Edo State police commissioner, Phillip Ogbadu

Motorcyclists supplying food, drinks to kidnappers get N10,000 per operation

From Jeremiah Oke, Ibadan

Three motorcyclists who supply food items to kidnappers along the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway have been arrested by the police in Oyo State.

The suspects, on Thursday, narrated their role in a recent kidnapping operation on the expressway which led to the death of a 45-year-old man, Oluwatosin Anwajoye.

Daily Trust further reports that the suspects confirmed that they were involved in the January 7, kidnaping at Onigari area of the expressway.

Revealing their role at a press conference held by the state's Commissioner of Police (CP), Ngozi Onadeko, the leader of the motorcycle riders, Bashiru Abubakar, had confessed that the kidnappers promised to buy a motorcycle for him after the operation.

According to CP Ngozi, the suspects said they were playing different roles for the kidnappers and being paid N10,000 each after each operation.

Speaking on other suspects paraded, CP said the command arrested another kidnapping syndicate along the Ijebu-Ode-Ibadan Expressway, and some robbers in Ibadan.



■ The suspects

Court remands Ogun teenagers for killing girlfriend

From Peter Moses, Abeokuta

A magistrates' court sitting in Abeokuta, Ogun State, on Thursday, ordered the remand of four teenagers over the murder of one Sofiat Okeowo.

The suspects, Balogun Mustakeem (20), Majekodunmi Soliudeen (18), Abdulgafa Lukman (19) and Waris Oladeinde (18), were arrested on Saturday for allegedly slaughtering and burning the head of the victim, identified as a girlfriend to one of them, for money rituals.

The police arraigned them on Thursday on a two-count charge of conspiracy and murder.

The prosecutor, Lawrence Balogun, told the court that the defendants committed the offence on January 28, at Kugba area of Abeokuta.

Balogun said the defendants conspired among themselves and murdered Sofiat Okeowo who was a girlfriend to Soliudeen.

He said the defendants killed her by cutting off her head with a cutlass with the plan to use the head for money ritual.

The Magistrate, I. O. Abudu, did not take the plea of the defendants and ordered that they should be remanded in prison pending legal advice from the Ogun State Director of Public Prosecution (DPP), and adjourned the case to March 14.

Fulani radio organizes workshop for journalists on migrants' rights, issues

By Dalhatu Liman

Koode radio international, (KRI), a radio station broadcasting in Fulfulde on Short Waves has organised a four-day capacity building for its reporters on monitoring and reporting on migrants' rights violations across the borders of West and Central African countries.

The training which was started Wednesday in Abuja is due to end tomorrow and was supported by the station's

partner in Berlin Germany, Borderline Europe.

In his speech during the opening ceremony, the station manager of Koode Radio International, Umar Aliyu, said the four-day event was to train the station's selected correspondents from Nigeria, Cameroon, Chad and Niger republic who will be monitoring and reporting the borders under its project dubbed "Watchdog Sahel Routes" which is purposely to look at the rights of the migrants.

AEPB arraigns over 1,000 Abuja residents for failure to obtain waste bins

By Hussein Yahaya

The Abuja Environmental Protection Board (AEPB) has arraigned over 1,000 defaulters of the provisions of its waste disposal bill before mobile courts in various locations in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

Also arraigned were those who failed to obtain waste disposal bins in their houses. At a hearing in Abuja, the Chief State Council with the AEPB, Mr Arome Tukula, said the defaulters were arrested within the city centre.

He said the defaulters contravened AEPB Act No 10, Section 30, Sub-section 4, adding that the defaulters were liable

to three months imprisonment with an option of fine.

On his part, counsel to some of the defaulters, Agbaje Ochai, admitted his clients' failure to paying their waste disposal bill and pleaded out-of-court settlement.

Addressing newsmen on the development, the Director of AEPB, Alhaji Kaka Ali, said the defaulters included those who had refused to acquire bins for the evacuation of waste within the nation's capital city.

Alhaji Kaka said the defaulters were arrested in Wuse, Garki, Maitama, Asokoro and other major areas within the city centre.

Lagos govt demolishes shanties

From Eugene Agha, Lagos

The Lagos State Environmental and Special Offences Unit has demolished shanties in more than areas of the state.

The officials of the unit said the move was to allow for free flow of traffic, discourage haphazard development and promote a crime-free society.

Areas cleared are along Lekki-Marwa Coastal Road, Sapphire Tower and Blue Water Area along Lekki-Epe Expressway.

The Chairman of the task force, CSP Shola Jejeloye, who led the demolition team, said the state was no longer home for miscreants and haphazard development or shanties, but could only accommodate people with positive thinking.



■ Shanties set on fire in some Lagos settlement

QUICK READ

Man arrested for sodomy, rape in Yobe

The police in Yobe State have arrested a 30-year-old man, Mohammed Ibrahim, for sodomising a six-year-old boy and defiling a six-year-old girl in Potiskum Local Government Area.

In a statement, the spokesman of police in the state, ASP Dungus Abdulkarim, said, "The suspect lured the minors into an uncompleted building and committed the dastardly acts.

"The perpetrator is in detention. The matter has been transferred to the state police headquarters in Damaturu for discreet investigation."

Court remands teenager charged with complicity in friend's death

From Aina A. Bello & Sadiq Adamu (Kano)

A Magistrate Court in Kano has remanded a 17-year-old Gaddafi Adamu, who was charged with complicity in the death of his friend.

The court was told that Adamu of Rimi Kebe Quarters had invited his friend, one Abubakar Ahmad to the wedding ceremony of one Khalifa Kabiru and both of them had engaged in a play with sticks as part of the ceremony.

According to the First Information Report (FIR), one Ahmad Saidu of the same area had told the police that it was while Adamu and the deceased were playing with the sticks that one of the sticks hit the deceased on his head leading to a severe head injury.

He was thereafter rushed to the Murtala Muhammad Hospital where he later died.

When the FIR was read to Adamu, he pleaded with the court to tender justice with mercy, saying that his friend's death was an accident.

But the judge denied the accused bail and ordered that he should remain in a correctional centre.

The judge thereafter adjourned the matter to February 9 for the police to present the case diary.

IoD rewards Lafarge

By Daniel Dada

The Institute of Directors (IoD) has given the corporate governance award to Lafarge Africa Plc.

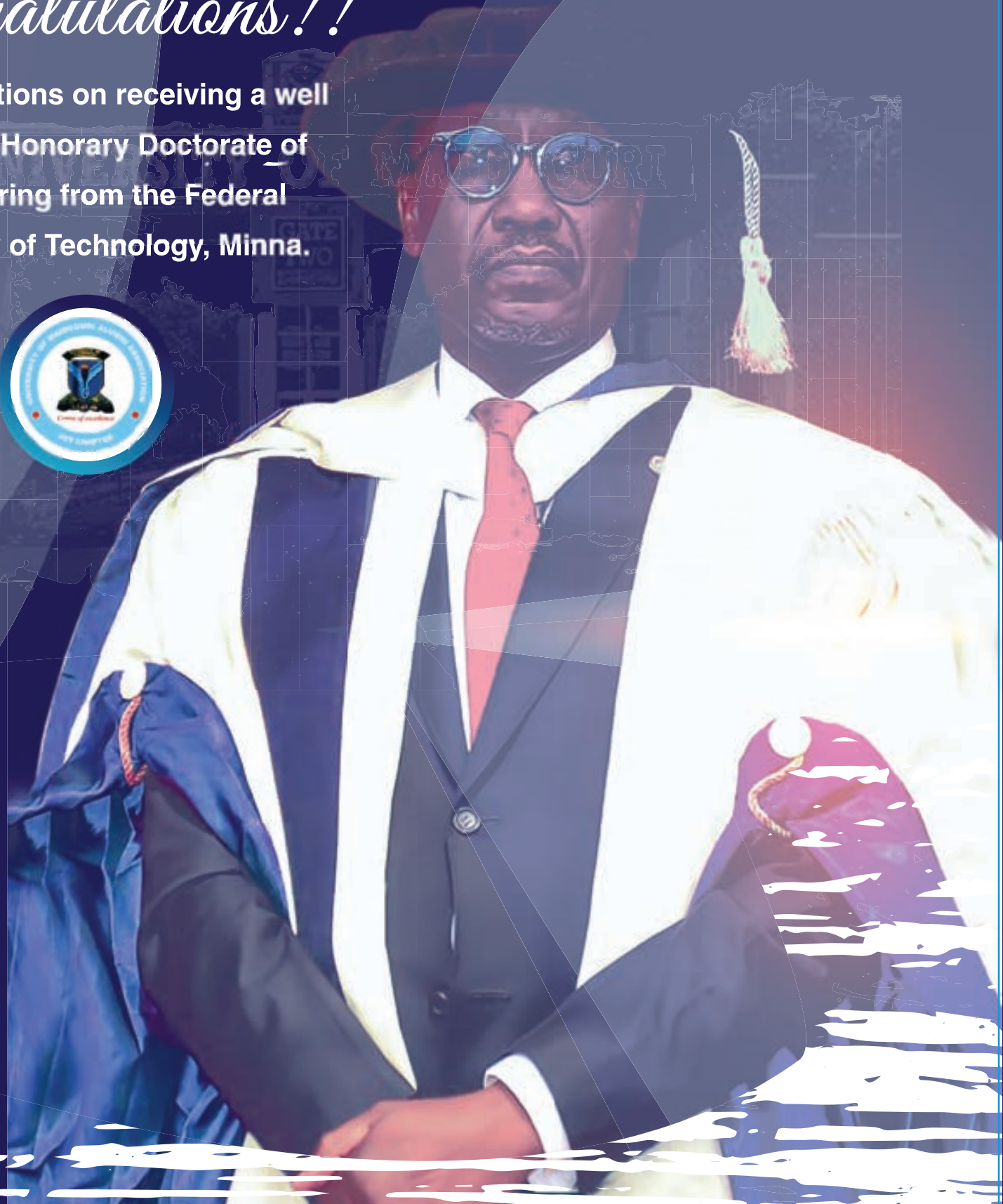
The President and Chairman of the Governing Council, Dr. (Mrs.) Ije Jidenma, EIoD, said the award was given to recognise performance and reward corporate excellence among companies operating in Nigeria, with the ultimate goal of achieving a truly enterprise-wide culture of governance and ethics in organisations.

The CCEO, Lafarge Africa Plc, Khaled El Dokani, in a statement expressed appreciation for the prestigious Corporate Governance Award from the Institute of Directors, Nigeria.

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INSIDE POLITICS

“It’s an abuse of protocol to declare for the presidency in the villa. President Buhari is the president and commander in chief, he is not just the president of the APC
– A presidential aspirant, Gbenga Olawepo-Hashim

After inauguration of state excos, Lai Mohammed, Aregbesola, Yari set to fight back

● Kano left out over litigation ● Suspected thugs attack ex-Osun gov campaign office

By Saawua Terzungwe (Abuja) & Hameed Oyegbade (Osogbo)

The ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) yesterday inaugurated its state executives amidst tight security at the party’s national secretariat in Abuja.

The inauguration saw some prominent politicians who organised parallel congresses in their states losing out.

In Osun State, the Minister of Interior and former governor of the state, Rauf Aregbesola, who has been at daggers drawn with the state governor, Adegboyega Oyetola, over the control of party structure lost out as Prince Adegboyega Famodun, who emerged as state chairman of the party from the governor’s fold, was inaugurated.

Meanwhile, no exco was sworn in for Kano and Sokoto states. Sources said there was no inauguration for Kano because the case between the camp of the state governor, Abdullahi Umar Ganduje and a former governor of the state, Mallam Ibrahim Shekarau, and Senator Jibrin Barau over the control of party structure was still in court.

In Zamfara State where the party is neck-deep in crisis with three factions fighting one another, Alh. Tukur Umar Danfulani who emerged from Governor Bello Matawalle’s group was sworn in while a former governor of the state, Abdulaziz Yari and Senator Garba Kabiru Marafa lost out.

In Kwara State, Prince Sunday Adeniran Fagbemi who emerged as state

chairman from the camp of the state governor, AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq, was sworn in while the current Minister of Information and Culture, Lai Mohammed lost out.

The state chairmen inaugurated are Dr. Kingsley Ononogbu (Abia), Alh Ibrahim Bilal (Adamawa), Mr Augustine Enefiok Ekanem (Akwa Ibom), Hon Basil Ejike (Anambra), Alh Babayo Aliyu Misau (Bauchi), Dr. Dennis Otiotio (Bayelsa), Mr Augustine Agada (Benue), Hon. Ali Bukar Dalori (Borno), and Mr. Alphonsus Orgar Eba Esq. (Cross River).

Similarly, Elder Omeni Sabotie (Delta), Hon. Stanley Okoro Emegha (Ebonyi), retired Col David Imuse (Edo), Barr. Omotosho Paul Ayodele (Ekiti), Chief Ogochukwu Agballah (Enugu), Mr Nitte K Amangal (Gombe), Dr Macdonald Ebere (Imo), Hon. Aminu Sani Gumel (Jigawa), Air Cdre Emmanuel Jekada (Rtd) (Kaduna), Alh. Muhammed Sani (Katsina), Alh. Abubakar Muhammed Kana (Kebbi) and Hon. Abdullahi Bello (Kogi) were all sworn-in.

Others are Prince Sunday Adeniran Fagbemi (Kwara), Hon. Cornelius Ojelabi (Lagos), Mr John D Mamman (Nasarawa), Hon. Haliru Zakari Jikantoro (Niger), Chief Yemi Sanusi (Ogun), Engr Ade Adetimehin (Ondo), Prince Adegboyega Famodun (Osun), Hon Isaac Omodewu (Oyo), Hon Rufus Bature (Plateau), Chief Emeka Bekee (Rivers), Hon Ibrahim Tukur El-Sudi (Taraba), Alh Muhammed A. Gadaka (Yobe), Alh. Tukur Umar Danfulani (Zamfara) and Alh. Abdulmalik Usman



■ Buni

(FCT).

The state excos were inaugurated by Secretary of the APC Caretaker/Extraordinary Convention Planning Committee, Senator John James Akpanudoedehe, without any oath of office, amidst tension and tight security.

Chairman of Borno State who doubles as Chairman of APC State Chairmen, Hon. Bukar Dalori said, “Let us also use this opportunity to assure members in our respective states that we shall work with every party member to ensure APC protects Nigeria from those who destroyed it in the past.”

It was, however, gathered that the aggrieved chieftains of the party are set to fight back. Already litigations are in courts in some states including Zamfara.

Suspected thugs attack Aregbesola’s campaign office in Osogbo

The campaign office of a former governor of Osun State and Minister of Interior, Mr Rauf Aregbesola, in Osogbo, Osun State, was attacked by suspected political thugs on Thursday evening.

The incident happened shortly after the weekly meeting of Aregbesola’s support group at his campaign office popularly known as Oranmiyan House.

The thugs shot directly into the building, causing panic in the area as occupants and passers-by scammed for safety.

A witness told Daily Trust that the hoodlums attempted to set the building ablaze but the fire was put out when the thugs left.

INEC to cancel ‘idle’ polling units after 2023

From Peter Moses, Abeokuta

The Resident Electoral Commissioner (REC) in Ogun State, Olusegun Agbaje, says some of the newly created polling units in the state have not been effectively utilised by citizens in the ongoing Continuous Voter Registration exercise.

To this end, he warned that the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) may cancel idle polling units after the 2023 elections.

Our correspondent reports that in May 2021,

INEC announced the creation of additional 1,832 polling units as part of its voter access expansion.

With the development, Ogun State, which hitherto had 3,210 polling units now has a total of 5,042 units.

But the REC, while addressing political party leaders at INEC Headquarters in Abeokuta on Thursday, during the election of the state chapter of the Inter Party Advisory Council (IPAC), noted that the commission had observed that the newly created polling units were

not being populated by the citizens.

He noted that the development afforded citizens to register or transfer their registration to their nearest voting locations.

He said if the newly created units are not well populated and utilised ahead of next year’s general elections, the commission has a right to cancel them.

The REC urged party leaders to mobilise citizens towards ensuring full utilisation of the polling units to avoid them being taken away.

2023: Gbajabiamila drums support for Plateau Rep, Gagdi

By Itodo Daniel Sule

The Speaker of the House of Representatives, Femi Gbajabiamila, yesterday appealed to the people of Pankshin/Kanam/Kanke Federal Constituency of Plateau State to re-elect Yusuf Gagdi, their representative in the House, come 2023 in view

of his sterling legislative performance.

Gbajabiamila made the call while addressing a delegation of the board and management staff of the defunct Federal College of Education Pankshin, which has now been converted to a Federal University of Technology Pankshin —

after the President signed the establishment Bill into law on Wednesday.

He said his admiration for Gagdi stemmed from his tenacity and the zeal to represent his people in the best possible way, as he strived daily to influence development to them through his legislative engagements in the House.

Yakasai to Clark: Stop issuing threats over 2023 presidency

By Seun Adeuyi

An elder statesman, Alhaji Tanko Yakasai, yesterday tackled Chief Edwin Clark, asking him to stop issuing threats when contributing to national discourse.

Clark, had in a statement on Monday asked northerners aspiring for the presidency on the platform of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) to withdraw from the race, saying “to do otherwise is to invite chaos, which will lead to the disintegration of our dear country.”

Yakasai, who is in his late 90s, in his reaction, warned Clark against issuing threats.

Recalled that Yakasai, had previously supported the quest of southerners to produce the next president of the country.

Yakasai, who was a former Senior Adviser on National Assembly matters to ex-President Shehu Shagari, said: “Chief Clark is not the only elder statesman that issues such threats on unity and peaceful coexistence in our country. There is another elder statesman, who is also a friend of mine and who is fond of resorting to threats when discussing

national issues.

“I think at our age, we should avoid resorting to threats whenever we are discussing national issues. What is expected of people at our age is to provide leadership by way of offering advice and correcting any mistake we discover made by younger Nigerians in the course of national discourse.

“Threats are not expected from senior citizens in any country. What is expected of the senior citizens is leadership, moderation and guidance.

“At the age of more than one hundred years of existence as a united country, what Nigeria needs from the leaders is maturity in any discussion, so that those of us with advancement in age would be moderation and exemplary leadership to the younger generation.”

Yakasai, therefore, appealed to “fellow elderly colleagues to please watch their language when contributing in an important national discourse”, stressing that it will “make their contributions more positive in moving our nation forward than disuniting the people.”

Ekiti gov'ship: The battle of the anointed candidates

From **Abiodun Alade (Lagos) & Raphael Ogbonnaie (Ado-Ekiti)**

Governor Kayode Fayemi and his predecessor, Ayodele Fayose, have remained the most dominant names in Ekiti politics since the 1996-created state started electing leaders in 1999.

Surprisingly, neither commanded any major stake in Ekiti politics until Fayose defeated the then incumbent governor, Niyi Adebayo, to become the second governor of the state in 2003.

From 2003 till date, the governorship position has been alternated between Fayose and Fayemi, except for the brief period that followed Fayose's impeachment in 2006, which led to the reign of Segun Oni, who was removed in 2010 by the Ayo Salami-led Court of Appeal.

Sixty-one-year-old Fayose from Afao Ekiti, successfully completed his second term in 2018 while 56-year-old Fayemi from Isan Ekiti will be rounding off his second term in office later this year.

Saturday, June 18 will be the first time since 2003 that neither of them will be on the ballot but the electorate would be making a choice between the anointed candidates of the duo.

Though there are other candidates in the race, either the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) or the leading opposition Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) is expected to produce the next governor.

Fayose, the leader of the Osoko Political Assembly was able to claim victory for his preferred candidate, Otunba Bisi Kolawole, despite the strong showing by former governor Oni and two deputies – Senator Biodun Olujimi and Kolapo Olusola (incidentally, both were deputies to Fayose during his first and second terms) at the primaries conducted by Gov Udom Emmanuel of Akwa Ibom State.

In a similar manner, Fayemi's right-hand man, Biodun Oyebanji, was announced by Jigawa State Governor Muhammad Badaru as the winner of the APC primaries despite the protest and withdrawal by seven aspirants from the exercise.

The aspirants – Kayode Mojo, Demola Popoola, Femi Bamisile, Bamidele



■ Fayemi



■ Fayose

Faparusi, Dayo Adeyeye, Opeyemi Bamidele and Afolabi Oluwasola – alleged irregularities in the conduct of the primaries.

However, Fayose and Fayemi might have influenced the emergence of these candidates but they are no pushovers in Ekiti politics.

Otunba Bisi Kolawole, popularly known as Bisi Kay, who will be flying the flag of the PDP at the poll, is a grassroots politician, who hails from Efon Alaaye in Ekiti Central Senatorial District.

He has served as councillor and lawmaker representing Efon constituency in the State House of Assembly. Fayose appointed him as Commissioner for the Environment between 2015 and 2018. He is also a former chairman of the PDP in the state.

Analysts argue that Bisi Kay is a friend to all the major players in the PDP and would have gotten the support of Oni and Olujimi if they were not in the race.

In a bid to mend fences after the primaries, Bisi Kay had visited some of

the aspirants who contested against him. However, he was unable to see Engr. Oni when he visited his country home in Ifaki Ekiti as the former governor, who condemned the conduct of the primaries, was said to be away.

Otunba Kolawole, who will be banking on his grassroots support and the political machinery of Fayose at the poll, will also need the support of aggrieved aspirants, especially Oni and Olujimi.

However, the PDP scribe in the state, Mr. Raphael Adeyanju, said Bisi Kay will win the election because he is experienced and sellable. He noted that the APC in the state is in disarray, noting that some members of the ruling party would soon join PDP.

“Bisi Kolawole, is a gentleman who started his career in the local government system. He would make the people proud when he becomes governor of Ekiti,” he said.

The Director of Media and Publicity of Bisi Kolawole Campaign Organization, Lere Olayinka, who is also the spokesman

of Fayose, said the former councillor is the candidate to beat at the poll.

On his part, Hon. Biodun Oyebanji, who resigned as the Secretary to the State Government to contest the primaries, is unarguably one of the most experienced politicians in Ekiti.

The Ikogosi Ekiti-born technocrat served as the secretary of the group that lobbied late General Sani Abacha for the creation of Ekiti State. He also served as Special Assistant on Legislative Matters to the first civilian governor of the state, Otunba Niyi Adebayo, before ending up as his Chief of Staff.

During Fayemi's first term, he served as Commissioner for Integration before he was deployed to the Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning.

Oyebanji said his candidacy points to his track record of competence, compassion and character as well as his vision for moving Ekiti State forward. He enjoined other aspirants to come together to work towards victory for a brighter future for the APC.

The Publicity Secretary of the APC in Ekiti State, Segun Dipe, said the party will win the governorship election on the strength of the achievements of Governor Fayemi. He said APC would use available internal mechanisms to resolve its differences.

Interestingly, Bisi Kay and Oyebanji are from Ekiti Central Senatorial district, despite the calls that the next governor should come from the Southern Senatorial district, which has not occupied the exalted seat since 1999.

On Wednesday, Some aggrieved APC governorship aspirants in Ekiti State, including Senator Opeyemi Bamidele and Hon. Femi Bamisile, have said their grievances over the primary election won't make them defect from the APC.

The aspirants said they won't hesitate to stay in the party and teach it a bitter lesson over the alleged electoral fraud perpetrated during the primary using political and legal means

The emergence of these two leading candidates has reignited the political rivalry between Fayose and Fayemi.

Fayose unseated Fayemi in 2014 while the latter defeated the anointed candidate of the former, Prof. Eleka in 2018. So who is going to win this time? The scheming continues.

Senate deputy minority leader joins APC

By **Muideen Olaniyi**

The Deputy Minority Leader of the Senate, Emmanuel Bwacha, has dumped the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) for the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC).

Bwacha, who represents Taraba South Senatorial District, was on Thursday led to the Presidential Villa, Abuja, by the chairman of the APC national caretaker committee, Governor Mai Mala Buni of Yobe State.

He was formally received into the ruling APC by President Muhammadu Buhari.

I don't need Uzodimma's blessing to contest for presidency – Okorocho

By **Muideen Olaniyi**

Senator Rochas Okorocho (APC, Imo) has said he does not need the blessing of Governor Hope Uzodimma of Imo State before running for the position of president of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

He said this Thursday while fielding questions from State House reporters after a closed-door meeting with President Muhammadu Buhari at the Presidential Villa, Abuja.

He said his first consultation after seeing the president was to meet Nigerians by visiting the six geopolitical zones.

Okorocho, who was asked whether he had done enough consultations and sought the state governor's blessing for his 2023 presidential ambition, said: “It is not for the governor to decide who becomes



■ Okorocho

president, we're talking about the people. Even the governor himself will depend on the people to do so.”

Ebonyi APC faction meets in Abuja, seeks recognition

By **Abbas Jimoh**

Factional chairman of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Ebonyi State, Dr. Haroun Ogbonna Ajah, has led members of his team to a meeting with the APC national reconciliation committee in Abuja.

Speaking to members of the committee on Thursday during the meeting, Ajah explained how he and others worked for and sustained the party before the defection of David Umahi, the Governor of the state.

He said that Governor Umahi wants to completely shut the founding fathers of the party out from the party through imposition of his cronies.

The Chairman of the committee, Senator Abdullahi Adamu, promised to give all a fair hearing.

Hearty Cheers

to our Brother and Friend

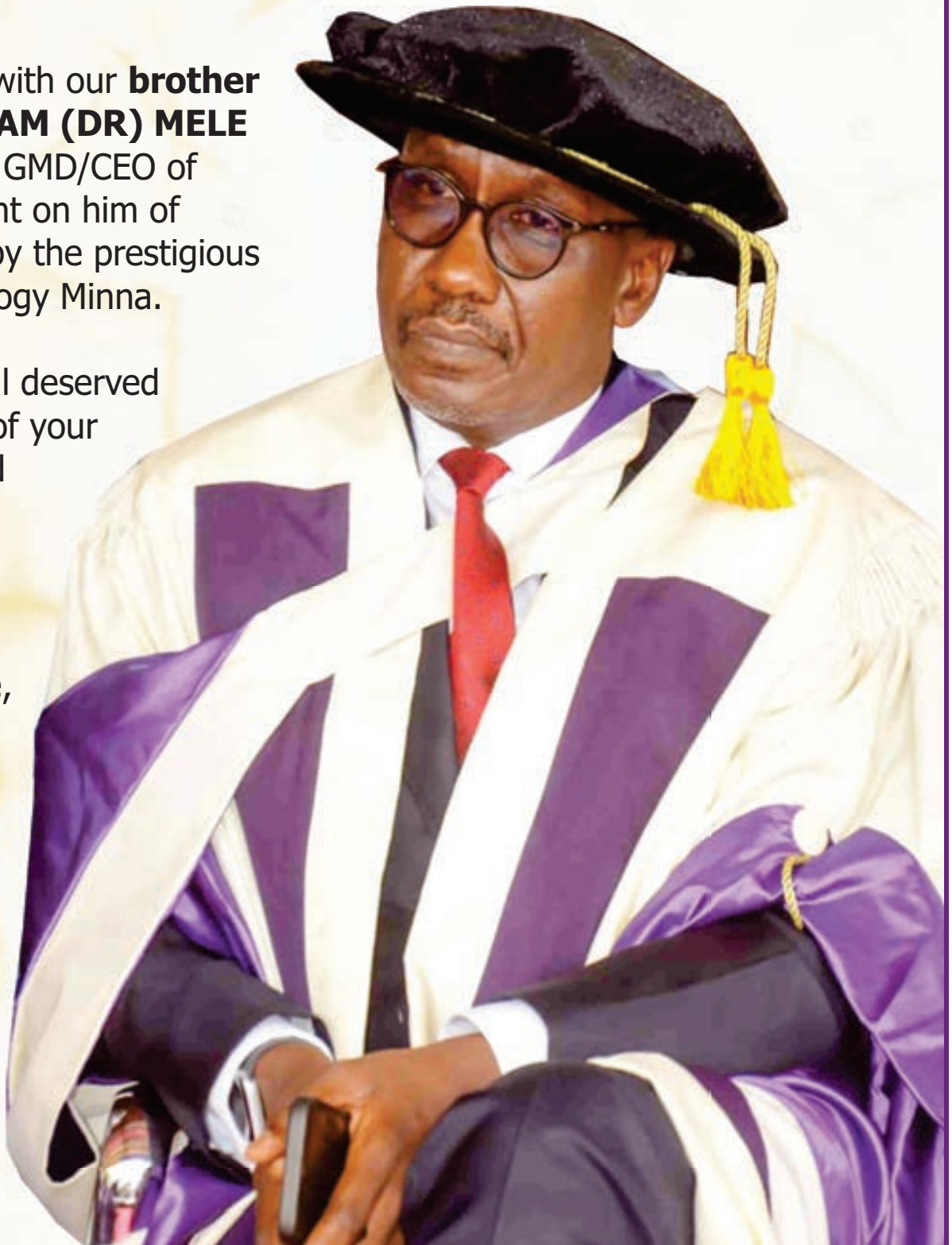
MALLAM (DR) MELE KOLO KYARI

We wish to felicitate with our **brother and friend, MALLAM (DR) MELE KOLO KYARI**, the GMD/CEO of NNPC Ltd over the conferment on him of Honorary Doctorate Degree by the prestigious Federal University of Technology Minna.

We consider this award a well deserved honour and due recognition of your outstanding performance and selfless service to your motherland as the head of the NNPC.

We wish you God's guidance, support and protection in all your noble endeavours and as a worthy ambassador of the University.

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COLUMNEmail: opinion@dailytrust.com
Text: 08131800030**RAINBOW**MOHAMMAD QADDAM SIDQ ISA
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How Russia overshadows France in Africa

France's hitherto undisputed influence in Africa is being increasingly overshadowed by Russia's growing influence across the continent.

Over the decades, Africa has been largely a French exclusive sphere of influence under the longstanding tacit understanding amongst the major world powers to share most of the rest of the world as spheres of influence among themselves.

While other major powers exercise influence over their respective spheres quite tactfully, France exercises it in Africa, in a quite domineering way, thereby overshadowing countries like South Africa and Nigeria; and indeed rendering them bereft of continental influence befitting their weight in the continent.

Besides, French activities in the continent have always been enmeshed in one controversy or another. From particularly blatant exploitation to subversive activities against many governments including its supposed allies, France is largely viewed in the continent as a bully too strong to be tamed by its victims, and too influential to be challenged by its fellow superpowers whose interests are, after all, never affected anyway. Besides, France generally effectively represents Western interests in the continent.

French forces are spread across many countries in the continent supposedly on a mission to fight terrorism and other forms of organised crime. There are also many French-linked "humanitarian organisations" ostensibly providing humanitarian services to the displaced.

However, there has always been a quite credible suspicion of their involvement in the perpetuation of insecurity and instability amid which they perpetuate the systematic plunder of the countries' mineral resources.

Likewise, many incidents of government overthrow and/or assassination of politicians opposed to French activities in their countries have been linked to Paris. Many instances of the rise and reign of governments and political elites committed to doing the French biddings at the expense of their respective countries have been equally linked to successive French governments.

France's purported pursuit of terrorists in many African countries has always been the pretext on which it justifies the continued stay and deployment of its forces and intelligence units.

Meanwhile, the international community continues to turn a blind eye to the largely credible allegations against French activities in those countries whose individual and collective diplomatic weight, if any, remains too insignificant to arouse the conscience of the international community, let alone prompt appropriate actions. Their growing tendency of turning to Russia is, therefore, quite understandable.

Russia has what it takes in terms of diplomatic weight and of course, military and intelligence capabilities to not only tackle terrorist groups but also expose French activities in the region. The affected governments capitalise on the persistent tensions between Russia, on the one hand, and Euro-American countries, on the other, to involve the former in the situation to introduce a balance to the power equation.

The ongoing face-off between France and Mali rages in that context. The authorities in Mali advised the French ambassador in Bamako

to leave. Anti-France sentiment has equally been rising in the country and beyond amid growing suspicion over French activities and their suspected impact on security and stability across the region.

Anyway, realistically speaking, the French presence in those countries is too established to be significantly undermined in the foreseeable future by the advent of Russia on the scene. After all, apparently for tactical reasons, Russia is still reluctant to officially confirm its growing involvement there. Also, though its military-related pacts with African countries are growing, it still largely operates through its private military company, Wagner whose mercenaries are increasingly active in Africa and beyond on behalf of Moscow.

Interestingly, Wagner mercenaries operate also in Nigeria, according to a Euronews report, which suggests that they are out there since at least last year assisting the Nigerian authorities in the fight against Boko-Haram and ISWAP

In any case, just like France and other major powers, Russia is equally only pursuing its own economic and strategic interests in its growing involvement in different countries around the world. In its growing African adventure, in particular, it simply wants to dislodge France in the plunder of the countries' resources and to indeed outmanoeuvre its influence in the region

terrorists in the North-East.

In any case, just like France and other major powers, Russia is equally only pursuing its own economic and strategic interests in its growing involvement in different countries around the world. In its growing African adventure, in particular, it simply wants to dislodge France in the plunder of the countries' resources and to indeed outmanoeuvre its influence in the region. On their part, the governments partnering with it aren't unaware of that fact; they only consider Russia a lesser evil that may not end up as treacherous and exploitative as France anyway.

Meanwhile, France and Euro-American countries are increasingly worried, while Russia remains hell-bent on further expansion at their expense. The struggle can be better understood when viewed against the backdrop of the raging struggle for influence between the two parties.

The affected African countries cannot afford to lose either party; they should act smartly enough to secure the maximum benefit at the minimum cost from both.

OPINION

Tinubu saga: Who is Bola Ahmed Tinubu?

By Dr. Bisi Olawunmi

Since he made his debut in politics as an activist in the pro-democracy agitations of the National Democratic Coalition (NADECO) in the early 1990s, Bola Ahmed Tinubu – latterly Asiwaju, Jagaban - has been in the eye of the storm arising from what is seen as his identity crisis. There have been speculations and claims, as well as innuendoes, about his name, nativity, parenthood and educational records. To many people, the only thing that is real, without contention, about Bola Ahmed Tinubu is the physical person.

In the past few weeks, the intensity of the interrogation of who Bola Tinubu is has revved up several notches as it suddenly, as it were, dawned on people that this person may emerge as Nigeria's number one citizen come 2023. Bola Tinubu is an enigma of sorts, a curio – a subject of phenomenal curiosity and angst. The puzzle is: How could someone be so well known, in terms of public visibility and public office attainment – as a former senator and governor – and yet so unknown, or with contentions, in terms of his antecedents? We have shell companies, usually engaged in shrouded transactions. Is Bola Tinubu a shell persona, an artificial creation to obfuscate transactional reality?

Bola Ahmed Tinubu should have been a subject of intense interrogation by sociologists, psychologists and political communication scholars as a case study in personality construction. What audacity drives him, what 'bold face' impels him to dare institutions and persons to attempt a de-construction or unraveling of Bola Ahmed Tinubu? Chief Bode George, former military governor of Ondo State, who prides himself as the original 'Lagos Boy', has shouted himself hoarse trying to delegitimise Tinubu as a native Lagosian, declaring him a rootless person. Yet Bode George points to a sleepy Iragbiji town in Osun State as Tinubu's root! The wonder of it all is that this alien 'Ara oke' (upcountry native) defeated Bode George's party, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) of which he was a former deputy national chairman, in Lagos governorship elections in 1999, 2003, 2007, 2011, 2015 and 2019 – a record six consecutive elections !! You ask: What is the magic? What has made Tinubu invincible in Lagos politics? This apparent invincibility must have earned him the title: Lagos Landlord!!!

Bola Tinubu extended his territorial coverage when he deployed his magic wand to the national level as the sorcerer who willed the Buhari Presidency into being. But the chicken may be coming home to roost for Bola Ahmed Tinubu now that the Lagos 'Landlord' seeks to transmute to Nigeria Landlord in his bid for the Presidency. The kingmaker, who covets the throne, now wants to take the crown. In what can be described as a public relations gesture, Tinubu paid an obeisance visit to 'King' Muhammadu Buhari at the Aso Rock Palace in Abuja to announce his intentions.

For the aspirant to the throne, the gesture is giving honour to whom honour is due, even if the 'King' is non-committal and treats the homage as just for information only. Since making that pilgrimage to Aso Rock, the long knives have been out and the issue of his identity has returned with greater intensity. There have been publications about how he was a summa cum laude student at college in the United States, which some disputed, while Chief Pius Akinyelure, his former boss at Mobil oil, now turned his protégé in old age, has been singing Bola Tinubu's praises as an audit wizard discovered by a grateful Mobil oil company, which resulted into Tinubu being elevated from the position of Audit Senior to the exalted rank of company Bursar.

The Bola Ahmed Tinubu saga is the story of a very successful manufacture of a persona, the creative construct of a public persona, the incredible success of which has confounded friends and foes. The manufactured Tinubu public persona may not be an outright lie, but something appears shrouded in darkness, which needs illumination to bring it to light. The issue is: Who provides this illumination-Bola Tinubu himself, his surrogates or the 'enemy' camp? There is the saying: The truth shall set you free. Is there a truth Bola Ahmed Tinubu needs to disclose to set himself free? A potential fourth source of providing the illumination is the media, through investigative reporting. But can a hobbled, compromised media take up this challenge? The mystery of Bola Tinubu is how those who must have grown up with him in his formative years – in neighbourhoods, primary, secondary schools – have remained in the shadows as if sworn to the Mafia oath of Omerta – the code of silence. There are speculations about his humble beginnings. If true, is that something to be ashamed of or a trajectory that should be celebrated given how he has turned out a success story? Even Chief Bisi Akande, a former governor of Osun State, who at 83 years plays lapdog to 69-year-old Tinubu, wrote candidly about his palm wine tapper father who died in ABJECT POVERTY, in his recently launched autobiography, *My Participations!* (page 37 in Chapter 3 titled: Poverty and The Lore of Palm Wine) Lapdog to sixty-nine-year-old Tinubu, turning 70 on March 29, 2022? Some dispute this age, but I would rather stay with what is put out in his biodata. Though abandoned while growing up by his Kenyan father, Barack Obama, former American president, nevertheless identified with his root in Kenya in his youth. Had he distanced himself from his roots, the Donald Trumps of this world would have used it against him in the U.S. presidential elections of 2008.

Can Bola Ahmed Tinubu be persuaded that Disclosure brings Closure?. Or would he rather retain the status quo and ride the storm? The nation waits.

Can Bola Ahmed Tinubu be persuaded that Disclosure brings Closure?. Or would he rather retain the status quo and ride the storm? The nation waits.

Dr. Bisi Olawunmi, is a mass communication scholar. olawunmibisi@yahoo.com

EDITORIAL

No. 20 P.O.W. Mafemi Crescent, Off Solomon Lar Way, Utako District, Abuja

Stop the extrajudicial killings

On Saturday January 29, 2022, the Lajolo community in Ilorin-East Local Government Area of Kwara State rose in protest, accusing the Nigeria police of extrajudicial killing of its two teenagers who were shot by stray bullets in a shootout with cultists in the area populated by students of the Kwara State Polytechnic.

Regrettably, this community is not alone. In November last year, the human rights group, Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD), released a damning report, saying that 13,241 Nigerians were “unlawfully killed by security forces in 10 years.”

The report titled ‘Democracy Watch Reports,’ noted that unlawful killings have become commonplace in the country since 1999, and that many of these killings were perpetrated by security forces. The CDD leadership said while presenting the report that, “It is pertinent to state that extrajudicial killings by state actors have become the primary cause of death in the country. In fact, state actors have cumulatively killed 13,241 people since 2011.”

Also, data from various national newspapers collated by *Daily Trust* showed that in the last one year, 108 persons have been killed by the nation’s security forces, including the Armed Forces of Nigeria, Police, Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), Nigeria Immigration Service, vigilantes, even Civilian JTF, Ebubeagu South East Security Network and Amotekun.

And these innocent Nigerians died in the hands of security agents either by point blank shooting, stray bullets or torture.

What is not debatable is that these killings are a violation of Section 33 (1) of the Nigerian Constitution which provides that persons living in Nigeria shall have a right to life and no one shall be deprived intentionally of his life unless in execution of the sentence of a court of a criminal office of which he has been found guilty.

However, the number of persons who have lost their lives through unlawful acts of commission or omission by agents of the Nigerian State, contrary to the provisions of Section 33 of the Constitution has been on the increase in recent times.

What is disheartening is that perpetrators of these unlawful killings largely go unpunished because the Nigeria Police Force Order 237, allows officers to use lethal force, thus enthrone a culture of impunity. Also, the Terrorism (Prevention) (Amendment) Act 2013 permits excessive use of force as law enforcement officers are allowed under sub-section (2) to “use such force as may be reasonably necessary for the exercise of the powers.”

These killings are condemnable and make many believe that the state does not place a premium on the lives and dignity of the citizens, which fits into the pattern of the dehumanisation of human lives in the country. A situation where agents of the state lead in cheapening the lives of the citizens calls for outright redirection and reorientation of the nation’s military and paramilitary services, including the vigilantes.

Whatever their reasons, these agents must realize that the overriding responsibility of the State is to secure the lives of the citizens, and disagreements and arguments should not be the cause to draw the gun and shoot unlawfully, no matter the provocation.

Immediately, the state should begin to pay compensation for every victim of extrajudicial killings as the use of force and the resultant extrajudicial killings are violations of human rights. Towards this, the National Human Rights Commission, which is saddled with protection of human rights in the country, needs to do more in line with its mandate by assisting victims and seeking appropriate redress and remedies on their behalf as mandated by the Act establishing it.

There should be enhanced strengthening of accountability mechanisms among security forces. In this direction, all past reports of investigations on such killings should be made public, all complaints duly investigated and violators prosecuted.

Also, concrete steps must be taken to implement the earlier recommendation to amend the Police Force Order 237, which provides for a much wider scope for the use of lethal force than is permissible under international law and standards.

Moreover, the federal and state governments must realise that they have an obligation under international law to fully conduct independent investigation of extrajudicial killings and the perpetrators of these dastardly acts are arraigned before a competent court to answer for their actions.

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As 2023 ticks in - A tight race beckons (II)

For now, I choose to support Tinubu against those I consider to be bullies, because I am interested in a keen contest between himself and Atiku, if it plays out that way. If by any remote chance the powers that be in the two large parties zone to the South East, I will support Moghalu.

I have expressed my concerns about the VP in recent times, and I am consistent in my position. The VP has been in this same failed Buhari government since inception, and even though we saw how active he could be when he acted as president (before Buhari’s people asked that he never again be handed over to, for whatever reason), the politics is not enough reason for some of his other actions and disposition. He could have found several opportunities to push real game-changing policies as head of the economic council and in spite of the frustrations, beyond distributing Tradermoni, an unaccounted disbursement to market women and such other people who will definitely not repay. He concentrated instead on the ease-of-doing-business index that the World Bank itself says it is stepping down because it is unfit for purpose. He didn’t display that he has a keen mind to emancipate the people. In fact, he recently presided over the National Economic Council meeting at which it was recommended to increase prices of petroleum gas to N302 from February. The VP has shown that he is an ultra-right capitalist, more interested in things like liberalisation, devaluation, privatisation, deregulation, self-regulated markets, and cryptocurrencies; indeed anything psychedelic. Just like President Babangida in his days and I believe that was the era in which Nigeria lost its innocence and has been going downhill ever after - Osinbajo is likely to give unfettered reign to the same people who use their might and cunning to prevent us from thinking for ourselves through their many advisors - SAP, Washington Consensus etc - some of which they later apologised for. This is not about sprite walks, good looks, or sheer eloquence. We cannot hope to keep repeating an approach while expecting different results. Nigeria should be able to develop approaches to her economics that will consider its peculiarities. 2023 should be our turning point.

I believe Tinubu can drive that approach. I have in the past responded to at least two of his writeups. He believes in economic sovereignty and kicked against the idea of dollarising the Nigerian economy by tying everything to the price of crude oil. I like that kind of thinking. At least it sets us on a particular trajectory. What I have heard in contrast from Osinbajo such as that the

Central Bank should allow cryptocurrency trading (which is basically glorified sports betting), when other central banks have outlawed that volatile pseudo asset which has again bitten the dust today, or that the Naira should be fully floated, does not give me the confidence that he could drive the needed radical intellectual fortitude and firepower that can dig Nigeria’s economy out of the doldrums. But again, this is not a blanket support for Tinubu. I am going somewhere.

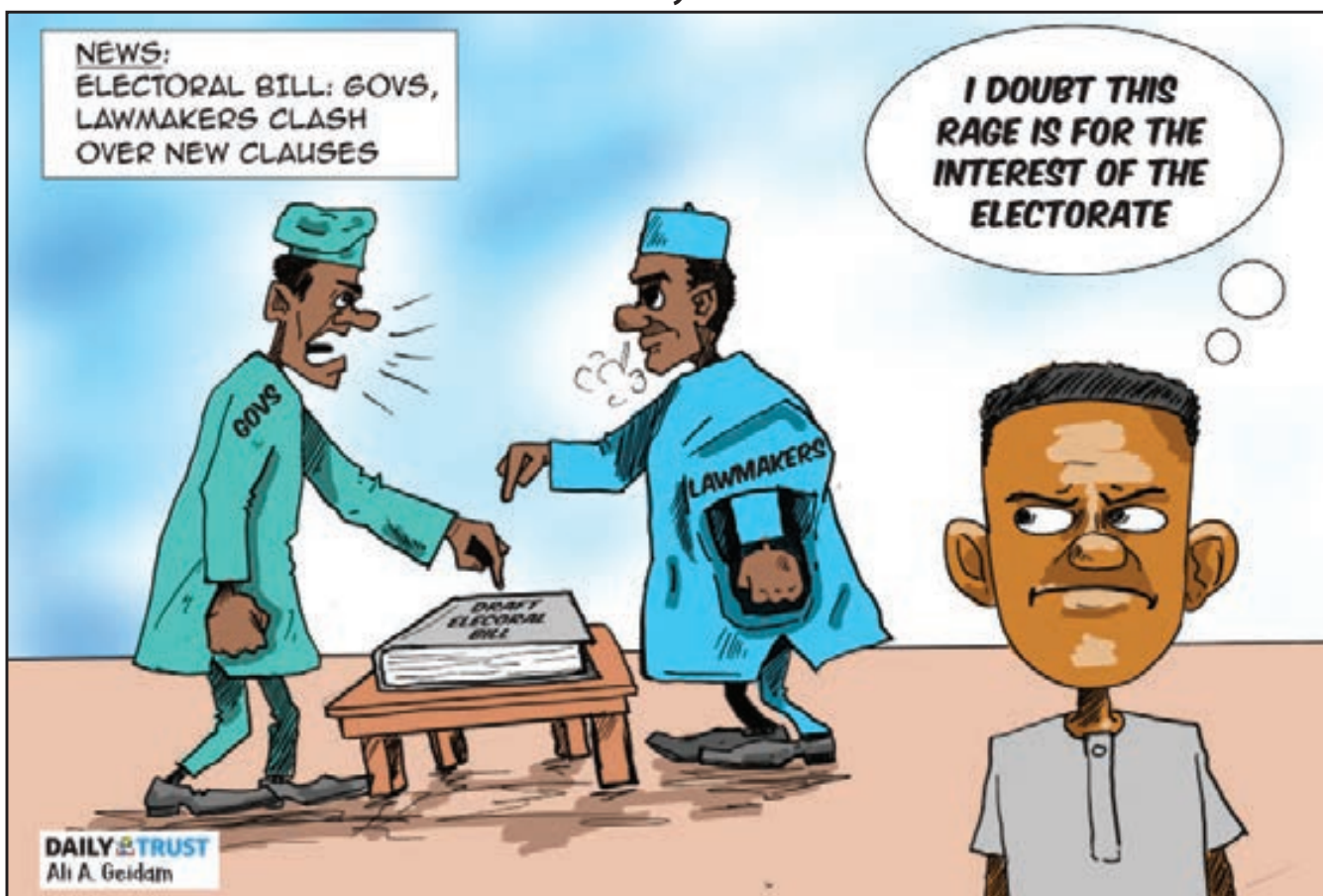
If Osinbajo wins the coming contest, he will get a good northern muslim Vice President - in the mould of El Rufai or Zulum, but may be pitched against an experienced Atiku (if the PDP was wise in my view). Atiku may pair again with Peter Obi, and even though eastern votes hardly swing the results nationally, Peter has quite a few admirers in the South West and may pull the entire East for Atiku. Osinbajo had the Redeemed Church factor, but this is predominant in the South West, where at least 40 per cent of inhabitants are Muslims who may not go with that ticket depending on how Tinubu is treated. Will Tinubu release his structures willingly? Or will those famed structures be easily neutralised by other players in the party? If Tinubu wins, he has to contend with another hurdle - a Muslim/Muslim ticket. His handlers will have a lot of work on their hands and can only conjure the spirit of Abiola/Kingibe in 1993, while hoping that if they win, they will not be denied the opportunity to run the country as happened to Abiola. A keen contest will happen between Tinubu/Zulum or ElRufai and Atiku/Peter Obi for instance. For me, that is what I want to see; two experienced horses, whom I believe may be able to commit class suicide by doing the right thing for the vast poor people of this country, driving up productivity nationally and leveraging the mistakes of the past.

What happens to the other players? The new entrants like Chuka Monye, Khadijat Okunnu, and my philosopher friend, Wole Adebayo (who I believe has a better strategy and a larger potential following than the rest), will learn, like we did in 2019, and perhaps try another day. Wole has apparently been working on this for a while. Not only does he sit on a respectable haul of liquidity, but he owns a TV and Radio Station that could help with his broadcasts and campaigns. He is also solidly on ground at the grassroots, plus he has experience as a lawyer who has handled many electoral cases. His connection is formidable, but getting a platform that can upturn PDP and APC is a major issue. Like many of us, he is not willing to become part of the sicknesses of those parties. But an unknown may happen that will torpedo the best plans of Atiku, Tinubu and other bigwigs and open the autobahn for any of the chaps that have dared to be at the stage. Who knows? Or, some of the gladiators could distinguish themselves so well in the campaign and upcoming debates, such that they are offered ministerial and other positions in what could be an inclusive, national government if we are lucky to get a president that is more open-minded and result-oriented than what we are saddled with today. Time shall tell.

For me, that is what I want to see; two experienced horses, whom I believe may be able to commit class suicide by doing the right thing for the vast poor people of this country, driving up productivity nationally and leveraging the mistakes of the past

LETTERS to the Editor

CARTOON by Ali Geidam



The wisdom of consensus in party primaries

The raging controversy over the Electoral Act Amendment Bill 2021 appears to have subsided with a re-worked version of the bill passed by both chambers of the National Assembly and sent back to the president for his assent. The general expectation is that this new piece of legislation which captures all the three modes of party primaries: direct, indirect and consensus, will finally receive presidential assent to become part of our electoral jurisprudence that will govern the upcoming primaries and the general elections in 2023.

The major bone of contention has been the consensus option that allows the parties to reach unanimity on any aspirant and nominate the person as the party's candidate for an election. It came under a barrage of criticism for being a tool in the hands of many a party chieftain, cabals and governors to impose their preferences on the rest of the party members. That the system is subject to abuse is certainly not in doubt, but so also is both the much hailed direct primaries, as well as the less maligned indirect primaries. The direct primaries are usually manipulated through the party membership list, which explains why the integrity of party register is often a subject of major disputes and controversies ahead of any primary. The indirect primary with a delegate system is notorious for abuse as well. The process is usually hijacked by money bags in a mercantile transaction where delegates are bought and sold like commodities and the candidate with the deepest pocket buys the highest number of delegates to emerge the winner. No system is free of abuse as long as it is operated by humans.

That the consensus option was perceived wrongly and negatively to be demonised as the bane of our electoral politics is unfortunate and shows the amount of mischief, misinformation, misconceptions and propaganda that can affect the quality of public discourse at national level. Politics is all about consensus building. To build consensus, a politician must have the capacity to engage across any political divide through negotiation, consultation and dialogue in order to come to a common agreement to unite the people under one purpose. Political parties are formed by consensus reached by a group of people, and here we are condemning a legal provision that makes consensus one of the options for parties to choose their candidates for elections. What a contradiction! The consensus mode of selecting candidates is to promote inclusion by encouraging our politicians to practice consensual politics which involves reaching out to others to find a common ground as against the increasingly adversarial approach that is making our electoral politics more acrimonious, rancorous and litigious that tends to undermine our fragile polity.

The time has come for our politicians to invest their time and energy in building consensus on issues that affect our life and not just in the selection of candidates for elections, but in their duty to deliver the dividends of democracy to the people.

Ejimofo Boni Agbachi wrote from Abuja.

Cancer awareness, knowledge as tools

As the world marks the 2022 International Day for Cancer, we wish to harp on awareness and power of knowledge as the best means in reducing the global impact of the killer disease.

We also wish to make case for the affordability of the treatment of the disease by all tiers of government, as cancer remains a major cause of morbidity and mortality globally.

As part of activities to mark the day, we wish to call on governments, civil society organisations and spirited

individuals to make facilities available for regular testing and treatment.

We, the cancer community, would want to make our voice heard on a global scale, generate enthusiasm, raise awareness about the need to close the gap in cancer care and make sure that everyone has equitable access to life-saving services.

We wish to commend the Union for International Cancer Control (UICC) for inspiring greater awareness of cancer and action in better prevention, detection and treatment of the disease.

Our call for greater awareness is anchored on the 2022 theme: "Close the Care Gap". We need more awareness from government at all levels, CSOs and individuals. Government should make facilities available for regular and compulsory testing yearly and treatment should be affordable.

The natural remedies should be promoted and encouraged too, especially those plants certified by scientists.

We know that every single one of us has the ability to

make a difference, large or small, and that together we can make real progress in reducing the global impact of cancer. Close the care gap, is about identifying and addressing the barriers that exist for many people around the world in accessing the care they need.

The World Cancer Day is an international day marked on February 4, to raise awareness of cancer and to encourage its prevention, detection and treatment.

Ms Cecilia Kadiri, Helpline Foundation for the Needy, Abuja

Ogun/Oyo initiative on security is a welcome development

Insecurity, no doubt is one of the problems confronting Nigeria today. The country is bedevilled with various forms of security challenges, ranging from kidnapping, banditry, armed robbery, serial and ritual killers, financial crimes to cultism.

The level of insecurity in the country has gone to an all time high and this has made governments to adopt stringent measures against criminal elements.

One is happy to note that Ogun and Oyo states have taken the issue of insecurity very serious. To nip the menace in the bud and ensure that their respective states do not become havens for criminals, the two governors few days ago met in Abeokuta to synergise and come up with practical measures in tackling insecurity, especially in their border areas.

At the meeting, Governors Dapo Abiodun and Seyi Makinde agreed to form a joint security task force, as well as a high-level joint security committee, that would proactively provide the needed security to the border communities and roads linking the two states.

One of the duties of the committee, when it begins operation, is to train

and reorient members of the task force on their operational rules to guard against unwholesome practice, which is synonymous among members of security agencies in the country.

While one is happy with the latest development, the fact that officials of both states will meet regularly to provide oversight, review progress and take necessary action or actions and in most cases, jointly collaborate on emergencies and attend to distressed calls on highways crisscrossing the two sister states, is something to be commended. This would allow not only for sharing of experiences among officials, but would also give travellers and other road users confidence while on the roads.

Since security is the responsibility of all, one is happy that the governors thought it wise that apart from installing Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) on the interstate highways, they also mandated a joint task force to be set up to effectively engage, cooperate and collaborate with all stakeholders like the government at the centre, states, traditional and religious institutions and community development associations. The engagement of these

groups would not only ensure that they get necessary inputs, but also the needed support that would improve securing in the two states.

The meeting of the governors to find a common solution to the security challenges facing their states is a right step in the right direction. It goes to show that the formation of the Development Agenda for Western Nigeria (the DAWN Commission) by the six states that make up the old Western Nigeria is yielding positive results.

The collaboration between Ogun and Oyo states is coming barely a year after a similar step was taken by the Ogun and Lagos state governments to work together for the benefit of their people.

While commending this partnership, we hope that it would achieve its aims. I want to urge the two state governments not to allow this lofty idea to be only on paper, but work towards its realisation. In the same vein, state governments in other parts of the country can take a cue from this by collaboration to put in place security measures that will allow their people to sleep with their eyes closed.

Elijah Udofia, Laderin, Abeokuta

NIGERIAN ASSOCIATION OF ROAD TRANSPORT OWNERS (NARTO)

RC: 113153



Motto: Dedication, Service to the Nation

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT HEADQUARTERS

31, Kofo Abayomi Avenue,
Apapa - Lagos.
Tel: 01-4543553
e-mail: nartoheadquarters@yahoo.com
Website: www.narto.org

NATIONAL SECRETARIAT ANNEX

Plot 460, Joseph Adetoro Street
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Tel: +234 (0) 817 997 2277
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NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

This is to inform all members of the Nigerian Association of Road Transport Owners (NARTO) that the Annual General Meeting of the Association for the year 2022, is scheduled to hold as follows:

VENUE:

Zuma Rock Resort. A2 Daura Road, Abuja-Kaduna Express Way, Niger State.

DATE:

Thursday 10th and Friday 11th March, 2022

TIME:

10 am

MODE:

All members are strongly advised that COVID-19 protocols will be strictly observed throughout the proceedings.

While details about the AGM will be communicated to all zonal and state chairmen through letters and internal circulars, further enquiries should be directed to the following:

- **General Manager (Ops), Mr. Stephen Ugochukwu Okafor (08033360515)**
- **General Manager (Special Services), Mr. Phillip L. Obadiah (08134754808)**

Signed:

For Nigerian Association of Road Transport Owners (NARTO)
Aloga Ignatius Ogbogo
Executive Secretary

BUSINESS

CBN EXCHANGE RATES

	US DOLLAR	Pound STERLING	EURO	YUAN/ RENMINBI	RIVAL	CFA
Buying	410	558	478	58.57	101.02	0.69
Central NGN	410.43	558.10	478.24	58.65	101.15	0.70
Selling NGN	410.87	558.20	478.48	58.73	101.29	0.71

COMMODITIES PRICE (January 10, 2022)

CRUDE OIL BRENT	\$83.57
GOLD	\$1,740.60
SILVER	\$22.60
NATURAL GAS	\$5.4

BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES

	Dollar	Euro	Pound S.
BUYING	N563	N580	N694
SELLING	N565	N595	N705

Experts chide FG over disparaging comment on NBS

By Sunday Michael Ogwu, Faruk Shuaibu (Abuja) Christiana T. Alabi (Lagos)

Financial experts have described as scandalous and unacceptable, the several attempts by the federal government to discredit the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) over unfavourable indices.

The experts' reactions followed comments by the Senior Special Assistant to President Muhammadu Buhari on Public Affairs, Ajuri Ngelale, who said the National Bureau of Statistics oftentimes get it wrong with the data it gives out for public consumption.

Ngelale, who made the remarks while featuring on *Trust TV's* Daily Politics on Wednesday, said the bureau usually gives out the wrong figure when stating statistics of unemployed adults in the country.

He said the figures neglect those in the informal sector as such can be questioned.

"I am not trying to deflect from the challenges we have. Poverty is a problem, job creation is something that we still have a lot and we are working towards, even though we have made more progress towards that than any previous administration combined.

"The statistician general told us that we have a handful of NBS staff. Go to the NBS yourself and see what their employment roll looks like, how many staff do they have to be able to send out to the nooks and crannies of the entire Nigerian federation. They send out a handful of people state by state... To count all the business and head, you think that is done. I can tell you from the mouth of the statistician general that is not being done."

Recall that in 2018, Garba Shehu, Special Assistant to the President on Media and Publicity, and Yemi Kale, the then Statistician-General of the Federation, had disagreed over methods of tracking job creation and unemployment numbers in Nigeria.

Speaking on *Channels TV* Sunrise Daily, Shehu said Yemi Kale told the Federal Executive Council that the NBS concentrates on white-collar jobs when preparing its jobs report.

Shehu said: "So, I think the data collected on the basis of which some of



■ President Buhari

the judgment has been passed that is misleading.

"The data has been unfair to this administration; they had ignored job creation in the area of agriculture. If you are talking about job losses, no, we have created at least 12m new jobs in the area of agriculture."

When the claims were brought to the attention of the then NBS chief on Twitter, he said he made no such submissions to anybody at any time.

"The unemployment computations do take into account all sectors, age groups, and both rural and urban areas," Kale said.

Reacting to the latest claim by Ngelale, A forensic Accountant and Managing Director of Qeeva Advisory Limited, Matthew Ogagavworria said: "This government seems to thrive on propaganda and unfortunately, they also believe their own lies.

"The unemployment data that they are not comfortable with is merely an indication of what government can do in terms of its revenue and expenditure. They have to think of how to engage this population productively so that they can be taxed to contribute to the revenue base."

He said the government rage about the NBS not being adequately staffed is scandalous, unacceptable and annoying because the same government has a



■ Simon Harry

duty to ensure that all its agencies are adequately staffed to perform optimally.

He contended that the NBS uses a particular methodology, which is stated in their report and not a single content global agency has faulted that methodology.

Similarly, The Founder and Chairman of Proshare, Olufemi Awoyemi said: "I do believe that the NBS has put in place a system to provide a fair view of where the country is headed.

"Up to last year, no one doubted the figures from the NBS especially as it compares to the reality that we have seen on the ground."

Olufemi who has had a distinguished career of involvement in many initiatives, associations, academia and developmental activities including services to the Securities & Exchange Commission's Capital Market Committee (CMC) on FinTech Roadmap for Nigeria contended that the NBS use enumeration and work in partnership organisation that has a presence in the places where these data are sourced.

Reacting to the NBS not having adequate manpower to cover the country, he said, "It is about sampling, not a census. The NBS is not conducting the census."

He said in the last few months, there have been concerns about the disconnect

between the report on inflation and the reality on the ground and it coincided with the change in leadership at the NBS so maybe that needs to be investigated.

"But, it will take a quantum leap of good evidence to suggest that they are not doing the correct thing. A lot of work has gone into building the reputation of that agency.

Talking about NBS not capturing the informal sector, Awoyemi said: "The conversation about the informal sector is an ongoing line of inquiry. The question really is, they are informal to who/ certainly not the local government officials who collect taxes from them or the corporate affairs Commission who register them or even the banks that lend to them.

"It is like saying that Nigerians are not paying enough taxes when in fact they are overburdened by multiple taxations.

"However, when put into context, sometimes, it is not to question the persons who raise these concerns, it goes to show how there is not enough understanding around how these things are done."

According to Mustapha Hussain Olarewaju (FCA), the Managing Partner/CEO of MHOA & Co Chartered Accountants; it is not unlikely, saying it is possible.

However, the tax expert pointed out that the error level may not warrant material difference from the current realities.

He said, "the process of data generation, validation, analysis and reporting in Nigeria is sub-optimal due to inadequate facility and human capacity. To a large extent, NBC data has been reflective of our nation's performance indicators."

Olarewaju however stressed the need for conscious accelerated development of the nation's data sector for NBC accurate data.

When contacted on its position, the Head, Public Affairs & International Relations Unit in the National Bureau of Statistics of NBS, Ichedi, Sunday Joel, said he is aware of the statement but would make an official response later in the day.

"Yes, we are aware of the statement but we will get in touch with you later in the day, we are studying the reactions."

The NBS reaction did not reach *Daily Trust* at the time of going to press.

NIGERIAN RAILWAY CORPORATION ABUJA – SUMMARY OF TRAIN HEADWAY AT IDU AND RIGASA

TRAIN NO.	DEPARTURE										ARRIVAL									
	AK 1 (Exp)	KA 2 (Exp)	AK 3	AK 4	AK 5 (Exp)	KA 6	AK 7	KA 8 (Exp)	AK 9	KA 10	AK 1	KA 2 (Exp)	AK 3	AK 4	AK 5 (Exp)	KA 6	AK 7	KA 8 (Exp)	AK 9	KA 10
IDU	07:00	--	9:50	--	12:20	--	14:20	--	--	18:10	--	8:50	--	12:58	--	16:12	--	18:01	20:14	--
RIGASA	--	6:40	--	10:35	--	14:00	--	15:55	18:10	--	09:15	--	12:01	--	14:31	--	16:37	--	--	20:32

CROSSINGS DETAILS	STATION ▶	JERE	JERE	RUANA	RUANA	KUBWA	KUBWA	KAKAU	KAKAU	JERE	JERE	DUTSE	DUTSE	GIDAN	GIDAN
	TIME (HH:MM)	7:56	7:58	11:23	11:20	12:38	12:35	14:15	14:13	15:16	15:14	16:11	16:14	19:15	19:19
	DWELL TIME	7:59	Pass through	Pass through	11:24	Pass	Pass	Pass through	Pass through	Pass through	15:17	19:15	Pass through	19:20	Pass through

NEWS

Sterling Bank, founder institute fellowship award holds in February

By Sunday Michael Ogwu

Sterling Bank Plc, has said it will organize an award in early February, known as the Sterling Heart Fellowship Award, for tech founders whose businesses employ innovative solutions to tackle challenges in the HEART sectors and have been selected to partake in the Founder Institute Lagos Virtual Spring Program.

The HEART sectors include health, education, agriculture, renewable energy and transportation. They represent the sectors where the bank is focusing investments on in its HEART's of Sterling strategy.

Head, Business Growth and Partnerships with Sterling Bank, Mr David Adebayo who disclosed this in a statement issued by the bank recently, said recipients for the forthcoming awards include founders who applied through the Founder Institute

application link and whose businesses align with the Sterling HEART Fellowship guidelines.

Concerning eligibility, he added that a founder's business must fall within the HEART Sectors and the founder must have taken the Entrepreneurship DNA assessment test and made it to the "Accepted" category to be eligible for the award.

He said the organisers of the fellowship are targeting Nigerian start-up founders within the age bracket of 18 to 40 years of age who are young tech founders and tech enthusiasts; especially those with ideas and initiatives within the HEART sectors.

All applications to the Founder Institute program have been human-reviewed by the admissions team, based at its Silicon Valley headquarters with support from the team in Lagos, Nigeria. They are able to provide an admissions decision via email within 72 hours.

Masari wants Katsina international entry points reopened

From Tijjani Ibrahim, Katsina

Katsina State Governor Aminu Bello Masari has called on the Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) to reconsider reopening the international entry points in Katsina as has been done in other states.

Represented by the Secretary to the Government of Katsina State, Dr Mustapha Inuwa, the governor made the call during the customs/community consultative meeting organised by the Controller of Customs, Katsina Area Command, DC Dalha Wada Chedi.

The governor said closing the border for so long did not and will not yield the desired result until such closure was utilized to adequately educate the people on what is required of them.

"Our thought was that the customs authorities

will come up with comprehensive and clear modalities on how people can go about their normal and lawful businesses with ease, such that by the time the borders are reopened, people will not go back to their old way of doing things.

"Closing the borders did not change the smuggling activities because people with their survival instinct will always find a means of their survival.

"What is happening in Maigatari is the same thing happening at Kamba, Illela and Jibia as well as other entry points, so the best way is to take adequate measures to ensure that the nation's means of revenue is guaranteed," he said.

He thanked the controller for the tremendous improvement in customs/community relations and urged him to sustain the tempo.

Host communities to get 3 modular refineries each – HOSCON

By Zakariya Adaramola

The Host Communities of Nigeria Producing Oil and Gas (HOSCON) says it has agreed to partner with the federal government on the construction of the three pilot modular refineries in each of the oil producing communities.

This was disclosed in a communiqué after the 2022 fact-finding annual conference of the HOSCON, a statement by

the association said.

The association said the modular refineries would be constructed with part of the expected Gas Flare Penalty Tax Fund.

It said the conference had also resolved to include a broad representation of all the HOSCON states in its Board of Trustees including representatives of women, youths, and traditional rulers.

Meanwhile, HOSCON said it has elected Professor Jasper F. Jumbo, a founding father of

OMPADEC and NDDC, as its National Chairman and Dr Christie Atako as the new National Woman Leader.

"The conference dissolved all Adhoc and Interim Committees of the PIA Trust Fund set up across the host communities by Prince Mike Emuh, and further affirmed the removal of Mr. Mike Emuh and members of his Executive Council, their tenure having expired."

"The conference which was attended by

representatives of the Federal Government, major landlords to oil and gas companies and members of the host communities from Anambra, Enugu, Edo, Delta, Bayelsa, Akwa Ibom, Abia, Imo, Cross River, Ondo and River States took far reaching decisions with a view to ensuring a peaceful and environmental friendly atmosphere as well as satisfactory corporate social responsibilities of the oil companies in their operations", it said.

US firm introduces new messaging app in Nigeria

By Zakariyya Adaramola

One of the US-based Unicorn, Gupshup has introduced a new conversational app to transform businesses in Nigeria.

The messaging app firm also announced the acquisition of Knowlarity Communications, a cloud communications company. Knowlarity offers cloud telephony, contact center automation, AI-powered voice assistants and speech analytics solutions to over 6,000 customers across 65 countries.

Disclosing this to some Nigerian journalists from Silicon Valley, United States via zoom on Thursday, the co-founder and CEO, Gupshup, Beerud Sheth, said

the acquisition had complemented Gupshup's Conversational Messaging suite and will enable its operate prominently in the Nigerian market.

Sheth said Knowlarity operates in the voice-based Conversational Engagement market, which is poised to transform contact-centres, IVR systems, and smart voice systems, that will account for a total addressable market (TAM) of nearly \$18 billion in 2024.

"As business-to-consumer engagement becomes conversational, Gupshup is busy enabling more ways for businesses to deliver rich experiences. With the addition of Knowlarity's products, Nigerian businesses will now be able

to build seamless conversational experiences across both messaging and voice channels", the Gupshup CEO said.

Also speaking during the zoom meeting, the CEO of Knowlarity Yatish Mehrotra, said the acquisition will lead to richer experiences for the firm's existing and future customers in Nigeria and elsewhere along with product enrichment and significant geographic expansion opportunities.

"Our customer-centric, innovation-focused cultures are perfectly aligned and we see significant synergies and new products emerging from the combination of two great teams," said Mehrotra.

NEWS

PIA: Reps move to transfer assets of defunct NNPC to NNPC Ltd

By Itodo Daniel Sule

● To interface with Finance Minister, CBN Gov, others

The House of Representatives Ad hoc Committee set up to ascertain the total inventory, assets, interests and liabilities of the Nigeria National Petroleum Company Limited is to meet with the Chief Executive Officer of NNPC Limited soon to deliberate on the transfer of assets of defunct NNPC.

The ad-hoc committee chairman, Hon Kingsley Uju Chima, who gave the indication yesterday, at a meeting, also stressed the need to interface with the Minister of State for

Petroleum Resources, Governor of Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) and Minister of Finance, Budget and National Planning.

According to Section 53(2-5) of the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA), the federal government shall hold full ownership of the NNPC Limited with the share held by the duo of Federal Ministry of Finance Incorporated and Ministry of Petroleum Incorporated on behalf of the government of the federation.

Section 53(5-8) however stipulates the government's intention to set in motion

the process of immediate commercialization and privatization of the operation and future private ownership of NNPC Limited.

Section 54 of the Act further provides that: "All assets and liabilities of the NNPC will be transferred to NNPC Limited. The ministers of Petroleum and Finance are saddled with the responsibility of determining the assets, interests and liabilities of NNPC which are to be transferred within 18 months of the PIA coming into effect."

In view of the foregoing provision, the ad hoc committee has resolved to request detailed information on NNPC assets, interests, liabilities and up-to-date audited reports from the CEO of NNPC Limited.

According to him, the committee was mandated to ascertain the total inventory, assets, interests and liabilities of NNPC and its subsidiaries before transfer to the NNPC Limited to ensure a glossary accounting system and report back within eight weeks.



■ From left: Chairperson of Women in Logistics and Transport (WILAT), Khadijat Ifelola Sheidu-Shabi; Group Executive Director, Special Duties and Group Chief Risk Officer, Dangote Industries Limited, Dr Nike Fajemirokun; President Dangote Industries Limited (DIL), Aliko Dangote; National President of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT), Mfon Usoro, (FCILT); Vice President, ENL Consortium, Princess Vicky Haastrup (FCILT) and the founder of WILAT, Aisha Ali Ibrahim at the presentation of 'Champion of CILT' award to Dangote in his Ikoyi office on Wednesday

Moody's acquires GCR to compete with DataPro, Agosto in Nigerian credit rating market

By Vincent Nwanma

Moody's, the world's leading rating agency, says it is acquiring a 51-percent stake in Global Credit Rating Company Limited (GCR).

GCR has operations in various African countries, including Nigeria, South Africa, Senegal, Kenya, and Mauritius.

"GCR's ratings play a significant role in the growth of Africa's financial markets by providing critical insights into credit across a range of economies and sectors," Rob Fauber, President & Chief Executive Officer of Moody's, was quoted: "By combining GCR's successful domestic operations with Moody's global expertise, we have a unique opportunity to expand Moody's presence in a high-growth region."

In Nigeria, analysts see the move as aimed at helping Moody's gain access into the domestic credit rating industry to compete with leading players, including DataPro and Agosto.

While Agosto was historically seen as market leader, DataPro has in recent times issued more credit ratings in the Nigerian market, including its incursion into the Fintech and asset management segments of the market, where investors hitherto had less visibility.

Speaking with the Chief Executive

Officer of DataPro, Mr Abimbola Adeseyoju, he said: "We are aware of the intention of Moody's to enter the Nigeria and broader African market through an acquisition and this reinforces our outlook on the prospect for deepening the credit market in Africa, especially Nigeria, where we believe there is significant scope of enhancing the depth and penetration of the credit market and broader financial services sector."

"The imminent entrance of peers like Moody's also validate DataPro's recent collaborative initiatives with different stakeholders in opening up new markets for ratings and advancing it as a tool for enhancing governance, compliance and operational efficiencies in African corporate institutions, while also furnishing investors with fact-based evidence on the credibility and general fundamentals of Issuers and their issued securities."

"We are leveraging technology and partnerships in advancing our practice, and we are confident on the results thus far, as reflected in our expanded coverage and depth of our services. As you know, rating service is a renowned offering, guided by regulations and global standards, and we have always aligned with the global best practice, irrespective of circumstances of our domestic environment and market

conditions."

This week, DataPro launched its weekly newsletter aimed at improving investor education and utilisation of credit ratings as a tool for investment decisions. "Hence, we welcome new developments that may add value to the Nigerian financial market and catalyse the impetus for new offerings that can increase efficiency in capital allocation and resource mobilisation towards achieving sustainable growth of the Nigerian economy," Mr Adeseyoju added.

He explained that DataPro is not driven by competition, because the rating business, if properly aligned, is driven by complementarity. "We give our opinions. We are not selling a product," he said.

Interestingly, Credit Ratings in Nigeria remains an oligopoly play, with only three active players; Agosto & Co., DataPro Ratings and Global Credit Ratings (GCR), licensed by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the apex regulator for the capital market.

Moody's coming into the Nigerian market is a pointer to the fact that, "There is something going on here," says Adeseyoju, who adds that, "People are beginning to recognise the efforts we have put into the market over the years and the prospects that are ahead."

FG needs \$600m loan to tackle environmental problems in 19 states

By Abbas Jimoh

for a period of six years. It is a loan that the federal government is obtaining from the World Bank."

He also said the project was not the creation of the federal government in Abuja, but initiation of the various state governments considering their peculiarity and needs.

He said, "This project has a high political will whereby all the Nigerian governors had to meet virtually chaired by the Northern Governors' Forum, to ensure that they go on with the project as requested."

"The states are fully participating and the communities are also aware. Sensitisation is already going on even before the effectiveness of the project."

Asked why the southern region was excluded from the project, he said, the south is only affected in terms of gully erosion and flooding.

Speaking earlier, the Country Manager, HarvestPlus Nigeria, Yusuf Dollah, said the meeting was to enable stakeholders to share ideas on how to promote climate tolerant crops.

He said, "HarvestPlus and ACREsAL came together to ensure that we provide technical support for the process. Now, we are promoting crops that are climate tolerant."

The federal government has said it plans to borrow \$600m from the World Bank to address environmental degradation in the 19 northern states and the FCT.

The National Programme Coordinator, Nigeria Erosion and Watershed Management Project, Salisu Dahiru, said this on Wednesday in Abuja at the HarvestPlus consultative workshop with the Agro-Climatic Resilience in Semi-Arid Landscapes (ACReSAL) states level stakeholders.

Dahiru, represented by ACREsAL Water Resources Specialist, Ayuba Anda Yalaks, said "The project entails to address the issue and challenges of environmental degradation in terms of deforestation, erosion, stormwater management, and meeting the needs of the people in terms of food production."

"There is the need to restore this land to better productive use. Being that we are also restoring the landscape. The project has to be implemented at the community level because the community people are those that are very impacted."

"We are targeting the 19 northern states plus the FCT. The cost of this project is about \$600m

IN THE FEDERAL HIGH COURT OF NIGERIA
IN THE PORT HARCOURT JUDICIAL DIVISION
HOLDEN IN PORT HARCOURT

SUET NO: FHC/PH/CP/14/2021

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES AND ALLIED MATTERS ACT, 2020
AND
IN THE MATTER OF AN APPLICATION BROUGHT UNDER SECTIONS 620(B)
AND 649 OF THE COMPANIES AND ALLIED MATTERS ACT, 2020
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE WINDING UP BY COURT
OF CAFINT RESOURCES LIMITED

BETWEEN:

1. OKONKWO SAMUEL CHIJIOKE }
2. OKONKWO MERCY } ===== PETITIONERS

AND
CAFINT RESOURCES LIMITED ===== RESPONDENT

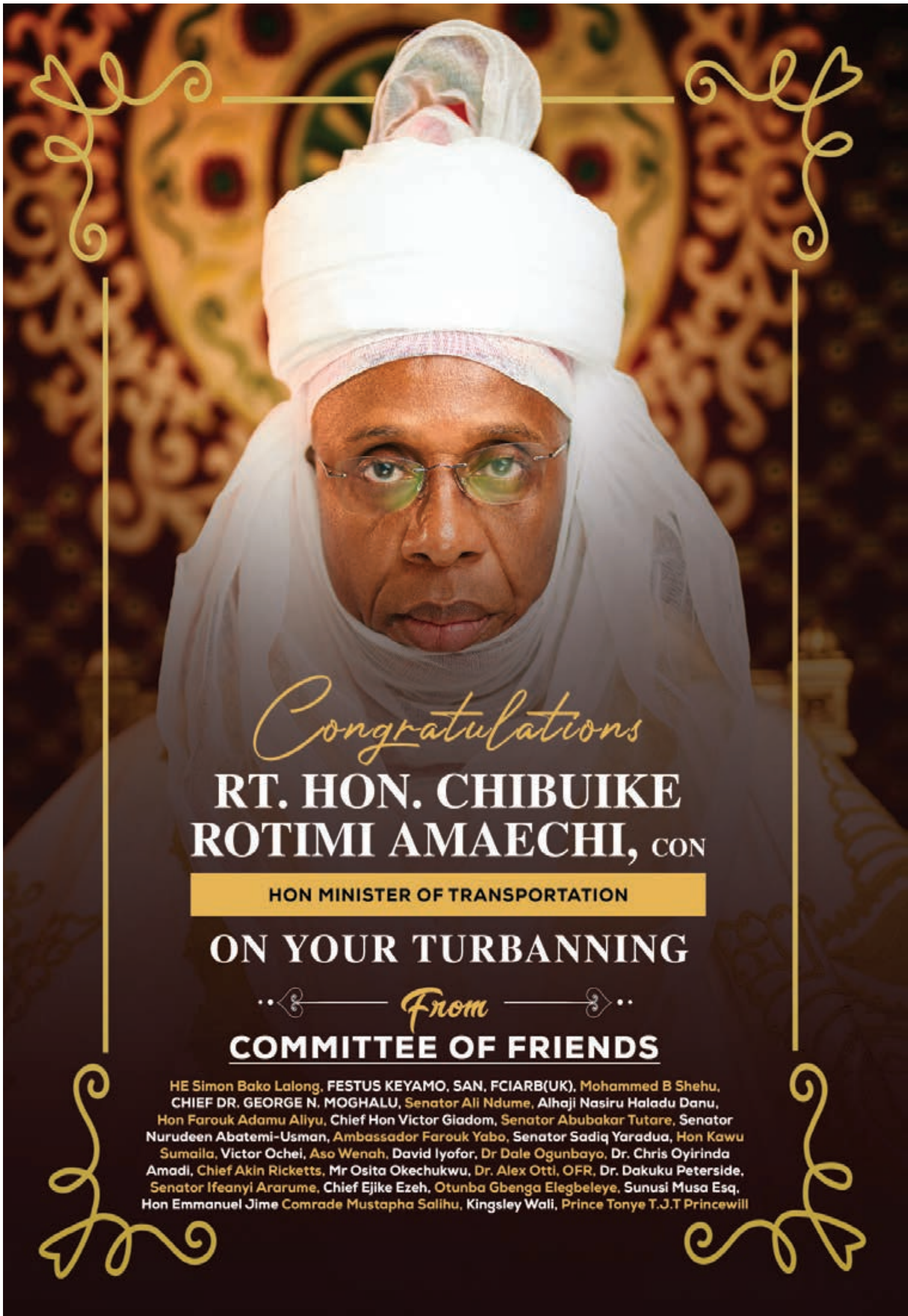
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a petition for the winding up of the above named company by the Federal High Court holden at Port Harcourt was on 15th January, 2022, presented to the court by OKONKWO SAMUEL CHIJIOKE and OKONKWO MERCY both of No. 2 Chief Work Street, Rumigbo, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria.

And that the said petition is directed to be advertised and set down for further mention before the Court sitting at Port Harcourt on 16th February, 2022 and any creditor or contributory of the said company desirous to support or oppose the making of an order may appear at the time of hearing in person or by his counsel for that purpose and a copy of the petition will be furnished by the undersigned to any creditor or contributory of the said company requiring such copy on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Signed: _____
R. E. Wanogho, Esq.,
M. Ogun, Esq.,
H. Onakpoya, Esq.,
R. E. Wanogho & Co.
(Petitioner's Solicitors)
406, Ikwerre Road,
Rumuokwuta,
Port Harcourt,
Rivers State, Nigeria.
reuberwanogho@nigerianbar.org
08033047125

FEDERAL HIGH COURT
PORT HARCOURT JUDICIAL DIVISION
COURT OFFICE I
NO. 2 CHIEF WORK STREET
RUMIGBO, PORT HARCOURT, RIVERS STATE, NIGERIA

Note: Any person who intends to appear on the hearing of the petition must serve on or send by post to the above named, notice in writing of his intention to do so. The notice must state the name and address of the person of, if a firm, the name and address of the firm and must be signed by the person or firm, of his or their solicitor (if any) and must be served or if posted, must be sent by post in sufficient time to reach the above-named not later than forty-eight working hours before the date the petition is for mention.



Congratulations
**RT. HON. CHIBUIKE
ROTIMI AMAECHI, CON**
HON MINISTER OF TRANSPORTATION
ON YOUR TURBANNING
From
COMMITTEE OF FRIENDS

HE Simon Bako Lalong, FESTUS KEYAMO, SAN, FCIARB(UK), Mohammed B Shehu,
CHIEF DR. GEORGE N. MOGHALU, Senator Ali Ndume, Alhaji Nasiru Haladu Danu,
Hon Farouk Adamu Allyu, Chief Hon Victor Gladom, Senator Abubakar Tutare, Senator
Nurudeen Abatemi-Usman, Ambassador Farouk Yabo, Senator Sadiq Yaradua, Hon Kawu
Sumaila, Victor Ochei, Aso Wenah, David Iyofor, Dr Dale Ogunbayo, Dr. Chris Oyirinda
Amadi, Chief Akin Ricketts, Mr Osita Okechukwu, Dr. Alex Otti, OFR, Dr. Dakuku Peterside,
Senator Ifeanyi Ararume, Chief Ejike Ezeh, Otunba Gbenga Elegbeleye, Sunusi Musa Esq,
Hon Emmanuel Jime Comrade Mustapha Salihu, Kingsley Wali, Prince Tonye T.J.T Princewill

MOTORING

As Dangote Peugeot Assembly rolls out new cars

From Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

Nigeria's auto industry has received a boost as Dangote Peugeot Automobiles Nigeria Limited (DPAN) has started assembling vehicles in Nigeria, beginning with the Land Trek, 3008, 5008 and the new 508.

This is coming almost four years after Dangote Group entered a joint venture with PSA Peugeot Citroen, along with five northern state governments to re-start assembling of cars in the Kaduna plant by the first quarter of 2019.

Since then, the Federal Government Group has granted approval to Dangote which previously expressed interest in the former Peugeot plant, now known as PAN Nigeria Ltd.

The Dangote's newly built Green Field Assembly Plant in Kaduna can assemble 120 vehicles per day across two shifts.

The DPAN management explained that the vehicles to be introduced would be of high quality and aesthetics as well as rich technological endowment and safety features.

"With the New Green Field Ultima Assembly Plant, a lot is being done by DPAN to ensure visibility of the Peugeot brand and availability of spare parts to the network and the generality of Nigerians," Dangote said.

DPAN plans to reposition the brand in the short, medium, and long term in order to ensure customer satisfaction and sustainability.

The statement said: "This dream has started with the re-launch of the Peugeot brand in Nigeria as well as the local assembly of the 301 at our new Kaduna plant and thereafter the introduction of the Landtrek, 3008, 5008 and the new 508...Nothing is being spared to enable market recapture, hence all hands are on deck to ensure not just survival but also continued growth in a market with potential for cars in excess of 100,000 units per year and growing."

The company noted that it is not unmindful of the reality that it is re-launching the roaring lion brand amidst socio-economic challenges, steep competition, cheaper and sometimes sub-standard Asian models as well as COVID-19 realities.

The management, however, assured that it is confident that the popularity and reputation of being reliable which the older



generations of the vehicles earned across Nigeria over the past decades with 404, 504, 505, 406, 306 and others, will drive the new generation of vehicles now being assembled at the DPAN plant in Kaduna, to the top of the market.

It said, "With the New Green Field Ultima Assembly Plant, a lot is being done by DPAN to ensure visibility of the Peugeot brand and availability of spare parts to the network and the generality of Nigerians. DPAN will be encouraged by our technical partner to reposition the brand in the short, medium, and long-term as we ensure customer satisfaction and sustainability."

"This dream has started with the re-launch of the Peugeot brand in Nigeria as well as the local assembly of the 301 at our new Kaduna plant and thereafter the introduction of the Landtrek, 3008, 5008 and the new 508...Nothing is being spared to enable market recapture, hence all hands are on deck to ensure not just survival but also continued growth in a market with potential for cars in excess of 100,000 units per year and growing."

In addition, the management has re-energized contact with some existing Peugeot dealers and major customers to fast-track the re-entry into the market and provide excellent customer service and satisfaction both in the short, medium and long term.

This is expected to impact positively on sales volumes, product visibility and overall profitability for all stakeholders.

Stakeholders however believe the DPAN would be a veritable value addition to the indigenous auto industry and a

commitment of the Dangote Group to drive industrialization and massive job creation which the auto assembling activities afford.

Mr. Luqman Mamudu, former Acting Director-General of the National Automotive Design and Development Council (NADDC), in a chat with our correspondent however observed that indigenous operators would have made more headway if the Federal Government had not slashed the duty on imported vehicles as provided in Section 38 of the 2020 Finance Act.

He said, "Automotive assembly activities including that in the new DPAN are always a plus for an Indigenous automotive industry. Local Value addition derived from assembly activities is usually marginal, especially for car assembly where it can be between 10 to 18% depending on if its SKD (semi-knocked down) or CKD (completely knocked down) with the welding process. Local value-added can be much higher in commercial vehicles if bodies are fully fabricated locally."

"Nigeria has done well in this regard. I am not too sure of the installed level of assembly in DPAN but I trust Dangote's capacity to upgrade rapidly. I was directly involved in the establishment of the company's truck assembly in Lagos although the speed of upgrade may have been limited by the ill-advised section 38 of the 2020 Finance Act which totally discourages commercial vehicles assembly in favour of outright import."

Mamudu, who is the Managing Partner, Transtech Industrial Consulting, said the government needs to protect the local

players in order to break even.

"The fact is that most of the inputs to our assembly plants are still imported in the form of knocked-down kits due to policy constraints. Assembly still remains a critical foundation for local content development. If the government can protect the local market for existing assemblers including DPAN, assembly capacity will certainly reach a critical volume attractive enough for parts manufacturers abroad from whom kits are imported presently to locate in Nigeria."

"Local content addition will then grow rapidly for increased value addition, quality employment and sustainable industry. The Ministry of Industry, Trade and Investment must get the National Automotive Industry Development Plan (NAIDP) endorsed by the government to attract FDI. I don't know why they are holding back. I congratulate DPAN. It's a very good addition to the industry and a clear commitment of Dangote to keep jobs in Nigeria," he added.

How the journey started

The journey of the automobile plant began in 2016 when the Kaduna State Government, Dangote Group and the Bank of Industry (BOI) were to acquire majority shares of Kaduna-based moribund Peugeot Automobile.

The Dangote-Peugeot Automobile Nigeria Limited (DPAN), a joint venture of PSA Peugeot Citroen, Dangote Group and five state governments in Nigeria (including the Kaduna State Government) will see about 3,500 cars assembled in 2019.

It was reported that DPAN will commence operations with ₦3.5 billion equity and about \$5 million worth of working capital. There are plans to raise additional capital.

The report also disclosed that Dangote will own a majority stake in DPAN while Peugeot Citroen will own 10%. Peugeot will also operate the plant.

AMCON acquired a majority stake in PAN in 2012 after taking over the company's debts worth about ₦30 billion owed to some Nigerian banks.

PAN was incorporated on December 15, 1972, as a limited liability company with an authorized share capital of N3 million. It commenced full operations on March 2, 1975. The company, however, ran into trouble barely two decades after commencing operations.



10,444 failed vehicles for retest as Lagos rejigs policy

From Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

The Lagos State government has reviewed the roadworthiness system recently introduced by unveiling a booking system to

stem the surge recorded at some vehicle inspection centres.

This followed the assessment of the 'No Vehicle Inspection, No Road Worthiness Certificate' Policy which commenced in January 2022.

The government also disclosed that out of 26,442 that were inspected in January, 15,998 passed, while 10,444 failed the minimum safety standard tests.

Daily Trust reports that the

new policy, which replaced the old system where motorists obtained roadworthiness certificates without submitting their vehicles for inspection, has attracted several complaints from motorists.

Many motorists especially lamented the long hours of waiting at the vehicle inspection centres.

But the state Ministry of Transportation in response to the widespread complaints explained that with the new amendment, the procedure of processing roadworthiness certificate in the state will now be based on scheduled appointments.

The Commissioner for Transportation, Dr. Frederic Oladeinde, revealed that the 30-day window of inspection period has been reviewed to 60 days to reduce panic surge

presently seen in some of the inspection test centres.

It added that the backlog of already referred vehicles will be cleared between now and February 14 to give room for the booking system.

Oladeinde also disclosed that the state government is ramping up consultation with private partners with vehicle inspection facilities to increase the existing 27 centres spread across the state, with five more mobile test centres already on the way.

Applauding motorists who have submitted to the inspection at the Lagos State Computerised Centres across the state, the commissioner noted that out of 26,442 that were inspected in January, 15,998 passed, while 10,444 failed the minimum safety standard tests.



YOUTHVILLE

Friday, February 4, 2022

...young at heart

The sun is new each day – Heraclitus

How locally made drones can tackle insecurity – Inventor, Okoye

By Abba Adamu Musa

Okoye Ogochukwu had since childhood found delight in giving big electromechanical inventions a glare of admiration. At an early age, he had watched Caterpillar's earth movers, graders, and big trucks as they worked.

"I am usually someone who likes big things. Growing up, I liked the Caterpillar brand of earth movers and grader. I always like watching them, or large trucks. Those are things I like," Okoye said.

Time has grown his obsession for these inventions, that, from trucks and caterpillars, his interest had gone up to things that fly, particularly air planes. "You know planes are also very big. So, I used to wonder how something so big can fly," he added.

Dreams are part of every child's life. However, not every child has his/her dreams fulfilled. But for Okoye, from mere fantasies, his dream is gradually coming true.

Now a trained Engineer who works with an engineering company, he has taken his childhood dream to another level.

At the back of his house, he has made what could be described as a small workshop or factory where he makes drones.

In an interview with *Daily Trust*, Okoye has explained how his locally made drones could be helpful in the fight against insurgency.

According to him, his drones that could perform the role of surveillance could be deployed to provide the security agents with vital information regarding the activities of bandits, terrorists or kidnappers.

"I will use the Abuja-Kaduna highway where you always have attacks, kidnappings and stuff like that [for example]. Imagine if you can have a small craft running patrols on these areas from

time to time. If you have two or three [drones], that run missions of two hours or even an hour each, and it comes in to land while another takes its place, you can have eyes on these roads or whatever areas, you can have eyes on these roads 24 hours," Okoye said

He added that whoever is planning to attack or disrupt peace knows that there are eyes on the road. This according to him could help greatly in the fight against banditry, kidnapping and terrorism, menaces that have held the country to ransom for over a decade.

"These things (drones) can also be used as an early warning system. By the time these guys are mobilizing, they are moving towards their target, you would have known, 'oh see these guys are coming!' and then you can send a strike team to respond to them."

Okoye revealed that the drones he makes are not expensive. "It doesn't have to be expensive, what you see around here can do it comfortably. It's just to have a good camera, have a sizable battery and then you run these missions."

The engineer who hails from Anambra state has also narrated how he started making drones. He said that although his love for electromechanical devices and machines dates back to his childhood, the idea of making drones was born out of his desire to make a toy for his child.

He also revealed that the first drone he made crashed. "First few ones I made; I was convinced it wasn't actually for [children]. You know it's not a toy. It's actually a very dangerous thing, it can injure you. So, from that point I knew, it's not something a child would be playing with. But getting it to fly, the first one I made, getting it to fly was so nice, so rewarding, seeing it flying, even though it crashed, but I was so happy," he added.

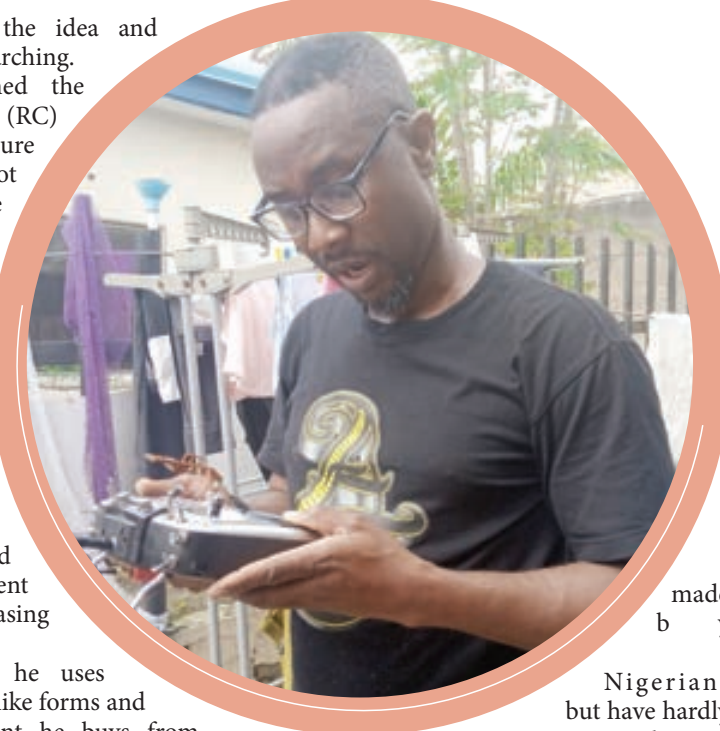
The electromechanical engineer said that after the first crash, he was so worried that he stopped making any attempt to make another. However, he said that

he still kept the idea and continued researching.

He researched the Radio Control (RC) link to make sure he does not encounter the challenge again. Okoye further said that it was difficult for him to abandon this quest to make drones because of how much he had already spent in purchasing materials.

Okoye said he uses local materials like forms and other equipment he buys from China to make his drones. There at his small workshop, he has demonstrated how he makes drones and has even flown one of the drones he has made to show how well it works.

Many inventions like this have been



made by

Nigerians but have hardly grown beyond prototypes to something that could be mass produced. *Daily Trust* had in an article on the 25th of July 2021 reported how many inventions made by Nigerians have failed to fly.



Reality show on job hunt begins airing

By Zakariyya Adaramola

A new reality show on how youths can get good jobs has begun airing on pay television firm, StarTimes.

The audition of the first season of Breaking-In airs every weekend to teach the youths interview techniques.

The show creates a platform for youths to gain insights as well as meaningful career jobs on a TV show, StarTimes said in a statement.

A StarTimes original, Breaking-In held its maiden audition last December. The highlights of the audition premiered on Friday, on ST Nollywood Plus channel.

It will air Fridays to Sundays at 6pm, with a repeat broadcast on Tuesdays to Thursdays at 7pm,

the statement by StarTimes said yesterday.

The audition highlight is packaged in an electrifying way with different stages of hurdles to qualify for the main show. Breaking-In is designed to bring unending suspense, comic relief while educating the viewers.

StarTimes partnered with top companies and government organisations to give immediate job opportunities to over eighty successful candidates. While runners-up will win gifts worth millions of naira.

The high point of the main show will be the negotiation and fate box segment where a tempting offer, as well as three boxes, is thrown at the successful candidates to choose

one. The fate box has options that outweigh the tempting offer, equals the tempting offer, or less than the tempting offer.

The candidate is then left to either accept the offer or dip their hands into the fate box to decide their fate.

Speaking about the audition, Alex Jian, CEO of StarTimes Nigeria said that StarTimes is poised to create more job opportunities for youths using the form of communication most appealing to them – entertainment.

"With this kind of show, people can find jobs while customers can get entertained with the razzmatazz of the show. Having partnered with top companies, about eighty to a hundred candidates are guaranteed jobs with good remunerations.

Nestle's show to gift N1m to best cook

From Christiana T. Alabi, Lagos

Nestlé Nigeria's Maggi cooking show tagged 'O Ta Lenu' has moved to the South-West region of Nigeria where it will give a N1 million prize to the best culinary.

'O Ta Lenu', meaning, it's peppery, is the third in the series of Maggi cooking shows and retains the same MasterChef style, which MAGGI introduced as 'Muna Kwarya' in Northern Nigeria and 'O setigo' in

Southern Nigeria last year.

As contestants display culinary skills over six weeks, other contestants would go home with other MAGGI prizes.

It aims to encourage young Nigerians to explore exciting ways of cooking and enjoying the best of regional dishes they love.

The cooking show brings together 12 contestants from Lagos, Ogun, Oyo, Osun, Ondo and Kwara States who are competing in the 11 episodes running over six weeks.



THE GOVERNMENT OF KADUNA STATE
KADUNA INVESTMENT PROMOTION AGENCY (KADIPA)

**INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR THE ACQUISITION OF
KADUNA STATE GOVERNMENT SHARES IN MAKARFI SUGAR INDUSTRIES LIMITED**

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 Further to the ongoing restructuring and divestiture of Kaduna State Government (KDSG) owned commercial assets by the Kaduna Investment Promotion Agency (KADIPA), the shares held by KDSG in Makarfi Sugar Industries Limited are offered for sale to persons knowledgeable and experienced in the manufacturing sector, particularly within the sugar value chain.

This notice is not a prospectus or an offer for sale to the public of securities.

1.3 Makarfi Sugar Company was incorporated in 1991 with the aim of establishing a sugar processing plant which was commissioned in 2006 with an output level of 80 Tons Crush per day, but commercial operations are yet to commence till date.

1.4 The purpose of the EOI is to get a competent core investor to acquire the 93% shares held by KDSG and:

- a) to inject capital to enhance the efficiency of sugar crushing, processing, and recovery.
- b) purchase, install and commission an additional modern plant in order to achieve the output level of at least 350 tons crush per day.
- c) Make adequate and sustainable arrangements for the sourcing and supply of the main raw material.

2.0 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Submissions by suitably qualified companies shall include the following:

- a) Certificate of Registration with Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC, along with Memorandum and Articles of Association, ownership, and Particulars of Directors.
- b) Company's profile and resume of key technical staff with requisite professional qualification.
- c) Audited financial statements of the company for the past three (3) years (2018, 2019, and 2020) and most recent Management Accounts.
- d) Tax Clearance Certificate for 2018, 2019 and 2020, and VAT registration and evidence of past VAT remittances.
- e) Proof of funds by way of Bank Statements and/or approved loan facility from a major bank.

- f) Bank Draft of N500,000.00, made payable to KADUNA STATE GOVERNMENT, as non-refundable processing fee. Any submission not supported with a draft or **N500,000.00 shall be rejected.**

3.0 SUBMISSION OF BIDDING DOCUMENTS AND OPENING OF BIDS

- a) The Submission shall be in sealed envelopes and clearly marked **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE ACQUISITION OF THE SHARES HELD BY KDSG IN MAKARFI SUGAR INDUSTRIES LIMITED.**
- b) The submission shall consist of six (6) copies (one original & five copies) and shall include the documents or requirements listed in paragraph 3
- c) This should be submitted before noon on 28th February 2022 at the address below:

**The Executive Secretary,
Kaduna Investment Promotion Agency
No. 3, Sokoto Road, Kaduna**

- d) The opening of the bids shall be by 12 noon on Monday, 28th February 2022. Representatives of the bidding companies are invited to witness the bid opening.
- e) On completion of the evaluation of the bids, the 3 most responsive companies on each lot, will be shortlisted for Request for Proposal.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- 4.1 Only shortlisted respondents will be considered for Request for Proposal.
- 4.2 Late submission will be rejected.
- 4.3 This advertisement shall not be construed as a commitment on the part of the KDSG to select any bidder nor shall it entitle any firm submitting documents to claim any indemnity.
- 4.4 All submissions must be made in the English Language.

Signed
The Executive Secretary,
Kaduna Investment Promotion Agency



PLATEAU STATE POTATO VALUE CHAIN SUPPORT PROJECT



**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(CONSULTANT SERVICES-FIRMS)**

COUNTRY: Nigeria
NAME OF PROJECT: Plateau State Potato Value Chain Support Project

FEASIBILITY STUDIES, DETAILED ENGINEERING DESIGN, AND SUPERVISION FOR LAND DEVELOPMENT AND REHABILITATION OF IRRIGATION SCHEME AND DAM IN PLATEAU STATE

Financing Agreement reference: **2100150037297**
Project ID No.: **P-NG-A00-008**

1. This request for expression of interest follows the General Procurement Notice for this project that appeared in Development Business No. AfDB 75-0/18 of January 26, 2018.
2. The Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria/Plateau State Government has received financing from the African Development Bank toward the cost of the Plateau State Potato Value Chain Support Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for this loan to payments under the contract for Feasibility Studies, Detailed Engineering Design, and Supervision for Land Development and Rehabilitation of Irrigation Scheme and Dam in Plateau State.
3. The services under this assignment include feasibility studies, detailed engineering design, preparation of bidding documents, cost estimates, and supervision for the land development and rehabilitation of an irrigated potato scheme and dam.
4. The Plateau State Potato Value Chain Support Project now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar irrigation scheme and dam development assignments, donor-funded project experience, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.).
5. Consultants may constitute joint-ventures to enhance their chances of qualification.
6. The estimated duration of services is 12 months and the estimated starting date is April, 2022.
7. Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the Procurement Policy for Bank Group-Funded Operations (Policy), October 2015, which is available on the Bank's Website at <https://www.afdb.org/en/projects-and-operations/procurement/new-procurement-policy/>. Please, note that interest expressed by a Consulting Firm does not imply any obligation on the part of the Government to include it in the shortlist. Only the shortlisted consultants will be contacted.
8. Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours of 8:00am – 4:00pm Local Time.
9. Expression of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person or by mail,) not later than **17th February, 2022 at 4:00 pm Local Time** and mention 'Feasibility Studies, Detailed Engineering Design, and Supervision for Land Development and Rehabilitation of Irrigation Scheme and Dam in Plateau State'.

Thomas G. Muopshin
Project Coordinator,
Plateau State Potato Value Chain Support Project,
C/O Plateau Agricultural Development Programme
P.M.B. 2119 Dogon Dutse,
Jos, Plateau State Nigeria
Tel. +2348036187940
E-mail: plateaustatepotato@gmail.com



COMMUNITY HEALTH PRACTITIONERS REGISTRATION BOARD OF NIGERIA
(ESTABLISHED BY DECREE 61 OF 1992
(NOW LFN CAP C. 19 OF 2004))

PUBLIC NOTICE

Community Health Practitioners Registration Board of Nigeria is a parastatal of the Federal Ministry of Health. It regulates the training and practice of Community Health Practitioners in Nigeria.

This is to inform the Community Health Practitioners in the employment of Federal and states Ministries, Agencies, NGOs, Military and Para-Military and the general public that, In its efforts toward maintaining quality of service to the citizens of this country, this Regulatory Board has resorted to verify the certificates and licenses of the Community Health practitioners in Nigeria. The exercise shall take place in all the 36 States of the federation and federal Capital Territory in three (3) batches effective from 6th to 26th February, 2022.

The exercise shall be flagged off by the Hon. Minister of State for Health Senator (Dr.) Adeleke Olorunnimbe Mamora on **Monday, 7th February, 2022 at Barcelona Hotel, 23, Blantyre Crescent, Wuse II, Abuja at 10am.**

The schedule of the exercise across the state is as follows:

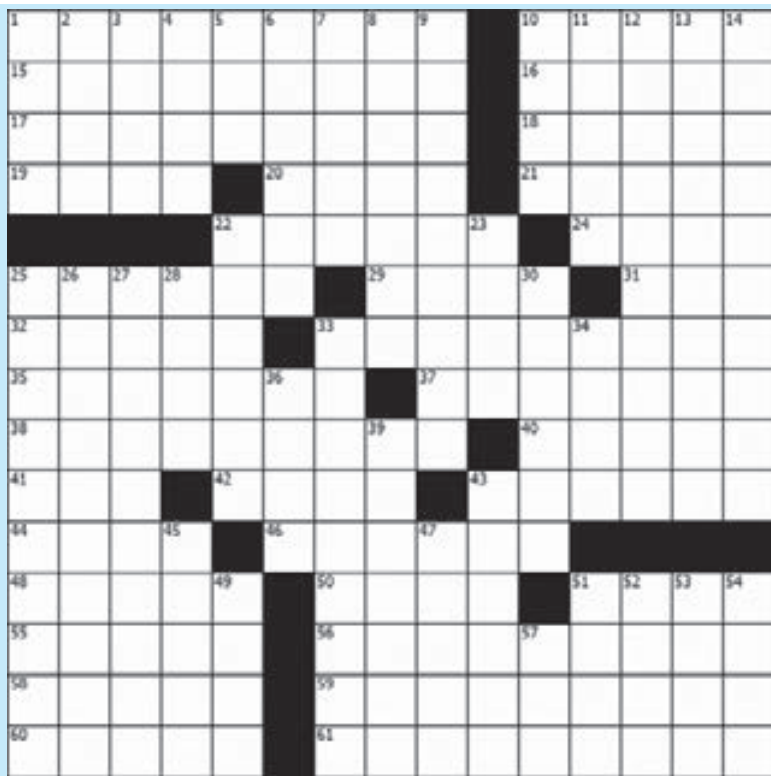
BATCHES	STATES	DATES
A.	Abia Anambra Adamawa Bauchi Jigawa Kaduna Benue Kogi Akwa-Ibom Bayelsa Ekiti Lagos	6 th to 12 th February, 2022
B	Enugu Ebonyi Borno Gombe Kano Katsina Kwara Nasarawa FCT Cross River Delta Ogun Ondo	13 th to 19 th February, 2022
C	Imo Taraba Yobe Kebbi Sokoto Zamfara Niger Plateau Edo Rivers Osun Oyo	20 th to 26 th February, 2022

All Community Health Practitioners are strongly advised to present themselves for the exercise for their own good.

Bashir Idris
Registrar/CEO

36

EASY CROSSWORD >>

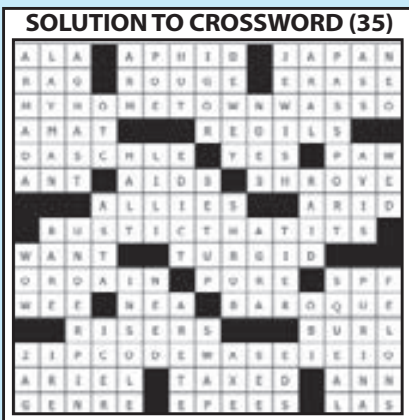


Across

- 1. Preservation aids
- 10. Building units
- 15. Is relentlessly antagonistic
- 16. Dietary label
- 17. It usually has a lot of fruit
- 18. Goat god, perhaps
- 19. The Green Hornet's sidekick
- 20. Yarn
- 21. "Who ___ kidding?"
- 22. Original "Star Trek" studio
- 24. Relative of nuts
- 25. Made cutting comments
- 29. Important fin. yardstick
- 31. Compassion, initially
- 32. Texas's state tree
- 33. "Parsley/Is gharsley" poet
- 35. Dodger's forte
- 37. Performer
- 38. Revolves around
- 40. One with many parts
- 41. Discount letters
- 42. Without feeling
- 43. Opposite of contrasts
- 44. Cruising
- 46. Bud from way back
- 48. Suffolk sucker
- 50. Father of Eliphaz

Down

- 1. Hide
- 2. Screen pet
- 3. It's just an act
- 4. Sonja Henie's birthplace
- 5. Ravens' gp.
- 6. Stunned
- 7. Met expectations
- 8. System of gun-barrel grooves
- 9. "Rikki Don't Lose That
- 10. "Kiss me as if it were the last time" speaker
- 11. Ruling body
- 12. Lingering sensation
- 13. He played Poopdeck Pappy in "Popeye" (1980)
- 14. Handheld transports
- 22. Challenged the accuracy of
- 23. ID holder
- 25. Covert govt. force
- 26. 1959 Sinatra film
- 27. Words of empathy
- 28. What was
- 30. Bring into play
- 33. Pitch phrase
- 34. Little chip
- 36. Double Delight snack
- 39. "Most likely..."
- 43. Olympic wreath
- 45. Antifouling chemical target
- 47. Western buds
- 49. Cry
- 51. NYC locale
- 52. Razor brand
- 53. Describe
- 54. Become involved (with)
- 57. Seam find



SUDOKU >>

How to play: The number 1 through 9 will appear once only in each row, column, and 3 x 3 zone. There are 9 such zones in each sudoku grid. There is only one correct Solution to each sudoku.

Good luck!

36

Solution to Sudoku 35

			8	6	9			
9	4				1			
		2	5					
		7				5	8	1
			4					
6	8			2				
		3						
					3	4		7
2			5			6		

9	8	1	4	6	2	5	7	3
4	2	5	7	8	3	9	6	1
6	3	7	5	9	1	8	4	2
3	5	2	6	1	4	7	9	8
7	1	6	8	2	9	4	3	5
8	4	9	3	5	7	1	2	6
1	7	4	2	3	5	6	8	9
2	9	8	1	4	6	3	5	7
5	6	3	9	7	8	2	1	4

SNAPSHOT >>

Souvenir Platinum Jubilee dishes contain 'Jubbly' spelling mistake



Plates and mugs produced to commemorate Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee are being sold as unusual collector's items due to misspelling the event as "Platinum Jubbly." Website Wholesale Clearance said the dishes were made by a manufacturing company in China and were meant to be sold in British stores for the queen's Platinum Jubilee, the celebration of her 70th year on the throne. But they were pulled when the manufacturers discovered the event was misspelled as "Jubbly." Wholesale Clearance is selling the entire stock of 10,800 misprinted plates, mugs and tea sets for \$43,817.76. Andy White of Wholesale Clearance, based in Poole, Dorset told the PA news agency: "It's a bit of fun." "I think the online trader rejected the items pretty much straightaway, but in hindsight, with the exposure it's getting, they're probably wishing they didn't." "Their loss will be someone else's gain." The firm suggested uses for the souvenirs include: "Wowing your friends with your Lovely Jubbly set"; having a plate-smashing contest, taking up plate spinning as a hobby and having "a dangerous game of Frisbee". The website compared the typographical error to the unusual cockney accent employed by Del Boy, the main character of long-running BBC sitcom Only Fools and Horses. "So if you are a fan of the Queen and Del Boy ... two birds with one stone," the listing states.

- upi.com

SIGN LANGUAGE >>

Funny spelling mistakes on public signs



- BabaMail

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR EMBEDDED GENERATION LICENCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 70 (2) OF THE ELECTRIC POWER SECTOR REFORM ACT – ALL GRACE ENERGY LIMITED

All Grace Energy Limited whose office is situated at the Hamptons, 16 Thames Street, Maitama, Abuja hereby gives notice that it has made an application to the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission whose principal office is situated at 1387, Cadastral Zone A00, Central Business District, Abuja for an embedded generation to operate a 40MW power plant at Ubima Town Community, Ikwere Local Government Area, Rivers State.

Notice is hereby given that persons who have objections to the grant of the licence should send their written comments clearly articulating the basis for any objection within **21 days** of this publication to:

Chairman
Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission
Plot 1387, Cadastral Zone A00
Central Business District
Abuja

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR INDEPENDENT ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION NETWORKS LICENCE PURSUANT TO SECTION 70 (2) OF THE ELECTRIC POWER SECTOR REFORM ACT – FOLTON INDUSTRIAL SERVICES LIMITED

Folton Industrial Services Limited whose office is situated at Plot 547, Central Business District, Abuja hereby gives notice that it has made an application to the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission whose principal office is situated at 1387, Cadastral Zone A00, Central Business District, Abuja for an independent electricity distribution networks licence to operate a purpose built distribution network for the purpose of evacuating 40MW electric power to be generated by All Grace Energy Limited at Ubima Town Community, Ikwere Local Government Area, Rivers State.

Notice is hereby given that persons who have objections to the grant of the licence should send their written comments clearly articulating the basis for any objection within **21 days** of this publication to:

Chairman
Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission
Plot 1387, Cadastral Zone A00
Central Business District
Abuja

DAILY TRUST

NEW ADVERT RATES

EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2022

Account Name:



Bank: GTBank Plc
Account No: 0024570856
Sort Code: 058083231

Bank: Stanbic IBTC Plc
Account No: 0000913253
Sort Code: 221081552

Bank: First Bank Plc
Account No: 2002911690
Sort Code: 011084060

Bank: UBA Plc
Account No: 1007117397
Sort Code: 033080013

Bank: Unity Bank Plc
Account No: 0000617068
Sort Code: 215082101

SPACE	COLOUR			BLACK AND WHITE		
	RATE	VAT	TOTAL	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
FULL PAGE	658,627.20	49,397.04	708,024.24	539,055.00	40,429.13	579,484.13
HALF PAGE	414,950.00	31,121.25	446,071.25	338,625.00	25,396.88	364,021.88
QUARTER PAGE	274,450.00	20,583.75	295,033.75	157,874.06	11,840.55	169,714.61
10"X6 COL	607,200.00	45,540.00	652,740.00	408,342.00	30,625.65	438,967.65
10"X5 COL	556,600.00	41,745.00	598,345.00	374,313.51	28,073.51	402,387.02
10"X4 COL	404,800.00	30,360.00	435,160.00	272,228.00	20,417.10	292,645.10
10"X3 COL	303,600.00	22,770.00	326,370.00	204,171.00	15,312.83	219,483.83
9"X6 COL	546,480.00	40,986.00	587,466.00	367,507.80	27,563.09	395,070.89
9"X5 COL	455,400.00	34,155.00	489,555.00	306,256.50	22,969.24	329,225.74
9"X4 COL	364,320.00	27,324.00	391,644.00	245,005.20	18,375.39	263,380.59
9"X3 COL	273,240.00	20,493.00	293,733.00	183,753.90	13,781.54	197,535.45
8"X6 COL	485,760.00	36,432.00	522,192.00	326,673.60	24,500.52	351,174.12
8"X5 COL	404,800.00	30,360.00	435,160.00	272,228.00	20,417.10	292,645.10
8"X4 COL	323,840.00	24,288.00	348,128.00	217,782.40	16,333.68	234,116.08
8"X3 COL	242,880.00	18,216.00	261,096.00	163,336.80	12,250.26	175,587.06
7"X6 COL	425,040.00	31,878.00	456,918.00	285,839.40	21,437.96	307,277.36
7"X5 COL	354,200.00	26,565.00	380,765.00	238,199.50	17,864.96	256,064.47
7"X4 COL	283,360.00	21,252.00	304,612.00	190,559.60	14,291.97	204,851.57
6"X6 COL	364,320.00	27,324.00	391,644.00	245,005.20	18,375.39	263,380.59
6"X5 COL	303,600.00	22,770.00	326,370.00	204,171.00	15,312.83	219,483.83
6"X4 COL	242,880.00	16,073.14	230,381.71	163,336.80	12,250.26	175,587.06
6"X3 COL	182,160.00	13,662.00	195,822.00	122,502.60	9,187.70	131,690.30
6"X2 COL	121,440.00	9,108.00	130,548.00	81,668.40	6,125.13	87,793.53
5"X5 COL	253,000.00	18,975.00	271,975.00	170,142.50	12,760.69	182,903.19
5"X4 COL	202,400.00	15,180.00	217,580.00	136,114.00	10,208.55	146,322.55
5"X3 COL	151,800.00	11,385.00	163,185.00	102,085.50	7,656.41	109,741.91
5"X2 COL	101,200.00	7,590.00	108,790.00	68,057.00	5,104.28	73,161.28
4"X6 COL	242,880.00	18,216.00	261,096.00	163,336.80	12,250.26	175,587.06
4"X5 COL	202,400.00	15,180.00	217,580.00	136,114.00	10,208.55	146,322.55
4"X4 COL	161,920.00	12,144.00	174,064.00	108,891.20	8,166.84	117,058.04
4"X3 COL	121,440.00	9,108.00	130,548.00	81,668.40	6,125.13	87,793.53
4"X2 COL	80,960.00	6,072.00	87,032.00	54,445.60	4,083.42	58,529.02
3"X3 COL	91,080.00	6,831.00	97,911.00	61,251.30	4,593.85	65,845.15
3"X2 COL	60,720.00	4,554.00	65,274.00	40,834.20	3,062.57	43,896.77
2"X2 COL	40,480.00	3,036.00	43,516.00	27,222.80	2,041.71	29,264.51
1"X1 COL	10,120.00	759.00	10,879.00	6,805.70	510.43	7,316.13

POLITICAL RATE

SPACE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
Front Page Earpiece	769,371.43	57,702.86	827,074.29
FRONT PAGE STRIP	1,312,457.15	98,434.29	1,410,891.44
BACK PAGE EARPIECE	701,482.57	52,611.19	754,093.76
FULL PAGE (COLOUR)	776,612.57	58,245.94	834,858.51
FULL PAGE (BLACK AND WH)	606,728.57	45,504.64	652,233.21
HALF PAGE COLOUR	505,476.19	37,910.71	543,386.90
HALF PAGE BLACK AND WHIT	412,500.00	30,937.50	443,437.50
QTR PAGE COLOUR	339,795.24	25,484.64	365,279.88
QTR PAGE BLACK AND WHIT	186,154.57	13,961.59	200,116.16

Terms of Advert Placement:

- 1) All adverts are expected to be prepaid in cash or draft in favour of Media Trust Limited
- 2) Series discount is subject to the stipulated number of insertions, and it is payable ONLY at the end of a campaign (to be deducted from balance pay).
- 3) Copy date is two days for the North and three days for the South.
- 4) Cancellation of advert placement in less than 24 hours to publication date will attract 50% surcharge.
- 5) Advertisers/Agencies are to supply their camera ready artworks in electronic copies and in (PDF 1x) format
- 6) Advertisers will be surcharged 20% of the applicable rate where artworks are not provided
- 7) Adverts may not be published if the visuals given are considered too poor as to affect the reproduction.
- 8) Alterations to original order should be conveyed in writing at least 24 hours to desired alteration date.
- 9) The management of Media Trust Limited reserves the right to reject an advert or any publication in any of its titles where such materials are considered distasteful for public exposure or libelous.

SPECIAL POSITIONS

SPACE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
FULL WRAP AROUND	13,953,488.37	1,046,511.63	15,000,000
HALF WRAP AROUND	9,302,325.58	697,674.42	10,000,000
CENTRE SPREAD (COLOUR)	1,759,599.05	131,969.93	1,891,568.98
DOUBLE SPREAD (COLOUR)	1,500,520.00	112,539.00	1,613,059.00
CENTRE SPREAD (BLACK & WHITE)	1,300,000.00	97,500.00	1,397,500.00
DOUBLE SPREAD BLACK & WHITE	1,200,000.00	90,000.00	1,290,000.00
FRONT PAGE STRIP	795,428.57	59,657.14	855,085.71
FRONT PAGE SOLUS	658,285.71	49,371.43	707,657.14
BACK PAGE STRIP	548,571.43	41,142.86	589,714.29
FRONT PAGE EAR PIECE	466,285.71	34,971.43	501,257.14
BACK PAGE EARPIECE	425,140.95	31,885.57	457,026.52
ROP STRIP (COLOUR)	228,095.24	17,107.14	245,202.38
ROP STRIP (B & W)	186,623.81	13,996.79	200,620.60

PROPERTY & IT (MONDAYS), VACANCY (TUESDAY), AGRIC (THURSDAY) AND EVENTS/EDUCATION DAILY

SPACE	COLOUR			BLACK AND WHITE		
	RATE	VAT	TOTAL	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
7x3	180,952.38	13,571.43	194,523.81	104,761.90	7,857.14	112,619.05
6x3	171,428.57	12,857.14	184,285.71	95,238.10	7,142.86	102,380.95
6x2	75,714.29	5,678.57	81,392.86	53,809.52	4,035.71	57,845.24
5x3	89,047.62	6,678.57	95,726.19	62,380.95	4,678.57	67,059.52
5x2	70,952.38	5,321.43	76,273.81	41,428.57	3,107.14	44,535.71
4x3	79,523.81	5,964.29	85,488.10	50,952.38	3,821.43	54,773.81
4x2	55,238.10	4,142.86	59,380.95	36,190.48	2,714.29	38,904.76
3x3	57,619.05	4,321.43	61,940.48	38,571.43	2,892.86	41,464.29
3x2	38,095.24	2,857.14	40,952.38	23,809.52	1,785.71	25,595.24
2x2	26,666.67	2,000.00	28,666.67	15,238.10	1,142.86	16,380.95
2x1	12,857.14	964.29	13,821.43	7,619.05	571.43	8,190.48

TECHNICAL DATA

6 Columns	
Depth - 36.83 (cm)	Depth - 13.5 (inches)
Width - 25.4 (cm)	Width - 10 (inches)

TRUST CLASSIFIEDS

POSITION	SIZE	RATE	VAT	TOTAL
Registration of Trustees	3" x 2 cols	14,761.90	1,107.08	15,868.98
Loss of Documents	2" x 2 cols	9,000.00	675.00	9,675.00
Change of Name	Per Box	3,000.00	-	3,000.00

LOOSE INSERTS

	RATE (₦)	VAT (₦)	TOTAL (₦)
Handling for the First 40,000 copies	142,000.00	10,650.00	152,650.00
Per 1000 copies (1 Sheet)	36,000.00	2,700.00	38,700.00
Per 1000 copies (Magazines 4-8 pgs)	60,000.00	4,500.00	64,500.00
Per 1000 copies (Magazines 8-16 pgs)	85,000.00	6,375.00	91,375.00

Advert Hotlines: 0810 049 1948, 0703 513 4441

Advert e-mail: dailytrustadvert@gmail.com

Celebrating

A Trail Blazer On Your Inauguration As Kogi APC Chairman

Hon. Abdullahi Bello (Dollar)
Kogi State Chairman,
All Progressives Congress (APC)

My Brother, the State Chairman of Kogi State APC, Alhaji Abdullahi Bello, aka Dollar.

Congratulations on your well deserved inauguration as the State Chairman of our great Party the All Progressives Congress in Kogi state.

I'm glad and so proud that I was amongst those who were present at the hitch-free and credible convention that overwhelming voted you as the state Chairman of our Party.

Without sounding immodest, your track records in repositioning our Party, by making it the biggest and United Party in the State during the last general election and afterwards remains a watershed in the history of politics of our dear State.

While wishing you the best of luck in the coming years as you sustain the feat achieved by our party in the coming 2023 general election, I'm confident that you will continue in your good stead in carrying all Members of the Party along to further victory.

Let me place on record that your performances as the Kogi State APC State Chairman is the reason that culminated into the overwhelming mandate that made the Party Members to outstandingly vote you to continue to pilot the affairs of our dear Party.

I urge you to sustain the tempo as it is becoming obvious that the GYB2PYB aspiration is becoming a reality in Nigeria if we collectively work together in unison.

Let me express my optimism that with your dogged determination, come 2023, the APC in the State would continue with its winning streak, knowing fully well that you are a goal getter and a pacesetter.

While assuring you of my esteemed support, I wish you many more years of successes in taking our Party to greater heights in good health and prosperity.

May God bless you as you drive our great family the APC to greater heights.

Congratulations and best wishes

Signed:

Prince Yahaya Audu Odidi
APC Chieftain Kogi State.



NIGERIA STOCK EXCHANGE MARKET CAP. ▶ N25,504,320TR (0.85%) ↑ ALL SHARE INDEX ▶ 47,329.8POINT (0.85%) ↑ MARKET TURNOVER ▶ 346,703,273BN SHARES

Thursday, February 3, 2022



NSE GENERAL INDEX						COMMODITIES PRICE	
COMPANY NAME	MARKET(NM)	PRICE	CHANGE	TRADES	VOLUME	CRUDE OIL (BRENT)	NATURAL GAS
BANKING						\$73.46	\$4.09
ACCESS BANK PLC	350,120.47	9.85	1.55	217	19,011,039		
UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA PLC	288,985.11	8.45	1.81	161	8,114,338		
ZENITH BANK PLC	808,459.71	25.75	0.98	348	26,721,550		
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS							
FBN HOLDINGS PLC	428,948.75	11.95	4.82	217	40,648,987		
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES							
MTN NIGERIA COMMUNICATIONS PLC	3,867,357.48	190.00	-	134	6,807,702		
BUILDING MATERIALS							
DANGOTE CEMENT PLC	4,440,756.23	260.60	-	79	29,384		
LAFARGE AFRICA PLC	412,359.56	25.60	-	59	531,868		
BERGER PAINTS PLC	2,376.55	8.20	-	11	71,721		
BUA CEMENT PLC	2,368,811.57	69.95	-	43	132,050		
CAP PLC	15,371.06	19.50	-	22	220,050		
MEYER PLC	292.18	0.55	-	1	276		
PREMIER PAINTS PLC	1,230.00	10.00	-	0	0		
EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION							
SEPLAT ENERGY PLC	464,871.20	790.00	0.51	26	814,794		
AGRICULTURE							
ELLAH LAKES PLC	8,500.00	4.25	-	4	4,260		
FTN COCOA PROCESSORS PLC	814.00	0.37	-2.70	12	636,773		
OKOMU OIL PALM PLC	135,455.22	142.00	-	50	317,220		
PRESCO PLC	87,800.00	87.80	-	32	382,610		
LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC	6,210.00	2.07	-1.43	27	1,453,372		
JOHN HOLT PLC	280.19	0.72	-	1	125		
S C O A NIG. PLC	675.82	1.04	-	2	29,294		
TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATION OF NIGERIA PLC	45,119.27	1.11	0.91	160	30,902,724		
U A C N PLC	25,931.67	9.00	1.12	48	2,375,677		
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION							
ARBICO PLC	152.96	1.03	-	0	0		
INFRASTRUCTURE/HEAVY CONSTRUCTION							
JULIUS BERGER NIG. PLC	40,320.00	25.20	4.35	62	844,371		
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT							
UPDC PLC	20,787.17	1.12	0.90	15	1,052,859		
AUTOMOBILES/AUTO PARTS							
DI TYRE & RUBBER PLC	954.53	0.20	-	0	0		
BEVERAGES - BREWERS/DISTILLERS							
CHAMPION BREW PLC	18,399.32	2.35	-	16	141,613		
GOLDEN GUINEA BREW. PLC	829.98	0.81	-	0	0		
GUINNESS NIG PLC	105,357.41	48.10	2.89	225	2,784,470		
INTERNATIONAL BREWERIES PLC	158,486.20	5.90	7.27	109	2,628,744		
NIGERIAN BREW. PLC	391,677.85	48.50	-	62	585,264		
BUA FOODS PLC	1,159,200.00	64.40	-	35	43,565		
DANGOTE SUGAR REFINERY PLC	211,963.03	17.45	0.87	143	1,379,551		
FLOUR MILLS NIG. PLC	117,065.84	28.55	-	59	199,025		
HONEYWELL FLOUR MILL PLC	27,755.69	3.50	0.29	65	2,400,842		
MULTI-TRIX INTEGRATED FOODS PLC	1,340.19	0.36	-	0	0		
N NIG. FLOUR MILLS PLC	1,541.43	8.65	-	11	139,608		
NASCON ALLIED INDUSTRIES PLC	35,237.53	13.30	1.14	47	1,452,600		
UNION DICON SALT PLC	2,706.05	9.90	-	0	0		
CADBURY NIGERIA PLC	16,340.36	8.70	-1.14	26	265,432		
NESTLE NIGERIA PLC	1,137,461.72	1,435.00	-	35	15,853		
HOUSEHOLD DURABLES							
NIGERIAN ENAMELWARE PLC	1,231.72	16.20	-	0	0		
VITAFORM NIG PLC	30,520.60	24.40	9.91	148	2,215,614		
P Z CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC	27,793.34	7.00	-	27	226,068		
UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC	80,430.08	14.00	-	63	214,794		
FINANCIAL SERVICES							
ECOBANK TRANSNATIONAL INCORPORATED	340,379.12	13.10	9.62	187	8,408,340		
FIDELITY BANK PLC	78,811.45	2.72	0.74	127	13,420,092		
GUARANTY TRUST HOLDING COMPANY PLC	754,909.75	25.65	0.59	268	20,924,386		
JAIZ BANK PLC	24,178.82	0.70	4.48	17	536,907		
STERLING BANK PLC	49,519.52	1.72	8.18	57	10,977,838		
UNION BANK NIG. PLC	174,724.52	6.00	0.84	54	3,172,824		
UNITY BANK PLC	5,727.78	0.49	-	22	1,531,346		
WEMA BANK PLC	32,788.30	0.85	-1.18	32	1,291,749		
INSURANCE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES							
AFRICAN ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC	4,117.00	0.20	-	1	5,000		
AICO INSURANCE PLC	27,820.81	0.76	-1.32	75	6,552,067		
AXAMANSARD INSURANCE PLC	21,150.00	2.35	0.43	22	987,087		
CONSOLIDATED HALLMARK INSURANCE PLC	6,422.70	0.60	-7.69	5	268,744		
CORNERSTONE INSURANCE PLC	9,991.52	0.55	10.00	15	2,997,332		
CORONATION INSURANCE PLC	11,995.84	0.50	-	18	545,322		
GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	909.99	0.20	-	0	0		
GUINEA INSURANCE PLC	1,228.00	0.20	-	0	0		
INTERNATIONAL ENERGY INSURANCE PLC	487.95	0.38	-	0	0		
LASACO ASSURANCE PLC	2,071.95	1.13	-	8	78,891		
LINKAGE ASSURANCE PLC	7,140.00	0.51	-1.92	6	1,649,067		
MUTUAL BENEFITS ASSURANCE PLC	5,617.25	0.28	3.70	23	18,201,822		
NEM INSURANCE PLC	11,507.51	3.49	9.06	55	3,551,853		
NIGER INSURANCE PLC	1,549.90	0.20	-	0	0		
PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC	6,096.18	0.46	-	6	96,092		
REGENCY ASSURANCE PLC	2,734.19	0.41	-4.88	15	1,890,001		
SOVEREIGN TRUST INSURANCE PLC	2,613.83	0.23	-	4	1,054,500		
STACO INSURANCE PLC	4,483.72	0.48	-	0	0		
STANDARD ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC	2,582.21	0.20	-	0	0		
SUNU ASSURANCE NIGERIA PLC	1,743.24	0.30	-	7	52,250		
UNIVERSAL INSURANCE PLC	3,200.00	0.20	-	0	0		
VERITAS CAPITAL ASSURANCE PLC	3,050.67	0.22	4.76	5	1,118,900		
MICRO-FINANCE BANKS							
NPF MICROFINANCE BANK PLC	5,030.60	2.20	7.32	33	1,114,149		
ABREY MORTGAGE BANK PLC	6,270.00	1.04	-	1	560		
ASO SAVINGS AND LOANS PLC	2,370.87	0.50	-	0	0		
INFINITY TRUST MORTGAGE BANK PLC	5,505.00	1.32	-	0	0		
RESORT SAVINGS & LOANS PLC	2,265.95	0.20	-	0	0		
UNION HOMES SAVINGS AND LOANS PLC	2,949.22	3.02	-	0	0		
AFRICA PRUDENTIAL PLC	13,100.00	6.55	-	29	320,880		
CUSTODIAN INVESTMENT PLC	41,761.24	7.10	-	16	148,145		
DEAP CAPITAL MANAGEMENT & TRUST PLC	300.00	0.20	-	0	0		
FCMB GROUP PLC	60,200.24	3.04	-1.32	35	866,942		
NIGERIAN EXCHANGE GROUP	41,541.05	21.15	1.20	81	5,329,150		
ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC	4,270.66	0.83	-	4	12,557		
STANBIC BIC HOLDINGS PLC	465,212.65	35.75	-	26	52,093		
UNITED CAPITAL PLC	65,700.00	10.95	0.92	96	2,141,001		
HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS							
EKDCORP PLC	2,886.90	5.79	-	0	0		
MEDICAL SUPPLIES							
MORISON INDUSTRIES PLC	1,968.43	1.99	-	1	3,000		
PHARMACEUTICALS							
FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC	15,856.34	7.60	0.66	17	482,350		
GLAXO SMITHKLINE CONSUMER NIG. PLC	7,294.85	6.10	-	15	96,664		
MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC	7,884.32	4.57	6.28	21	491,180		
NEIMETH INTERNATIONAL PHARMACEUTICALS PLC	3,513.44	1.85	2.78	14	657,196		
PHARMA-DEKO PLC	477.00	2.20	-	1	1,000		
COMPUTER BASED SYSTEMS							
COURTVILLE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS PLC	2,131.20	0.60	-3.33	69	14,088,133		
COMPUTERS AND PERIPHERALS							
OMATEK VENTURES PLC	588.36	0.20	-	0	0		
IT SERVICES							
CWG PLC	3,105.54	1.23	-	2	1,655		
NCR (NIGERIA) PLC	324.00	3.00	-	0	0		
CHAMS PLC	986.17	0.21	-	0	9,048,819		
E-TRANZACT INTERNATIONAL PLC	13,269.13	2.00	-	6	16,227		
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES							
ARTEL AFRICA PLC	4,776,610.56	1,271.00	-	60	13,402		
ELECTRONIC AND ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS							
AUSTIN LAZ & COMPANY PLC	2,192.12	2.03	-	0	0		
CUTIX PLC	8,454.35	2.40	-4.00	26	1,074,164		
PACKAGING/CONTAINERS							
BETA GLASS PLC	26,473.52	52.95	-	21	75,982		
GREIF NIGERIA PLC	232.39	5.45	-	0	0		
TRIPPLE GEE AND COMPANY PLC	475.16	0.96	-	0	0		
AGRO-ALLIED & CHEMICALS							
NOTORE CHEMICAL IND PLC	100,754.14	62.50	-	0	0		
INDUSTRIAL & MEDICAL GASES NIGERIA PLC	3,954.32	9.50	-	2	2,500		

GAINERS

OANDO	0.47	10.00%
ACADEMY	0.11	9.73%
SCOA	0.10	9.62%
LASACO	0.08	8.00%

LOSERS

PHARMDEKO	-0.22	-10.00%
CHAMPION	-0.20	-8.70%
IKEJAHOTEL	-0.10	-6.99%
UNITYBNK	-0.02	-3.77%

TRUST ISLAMIC FORUM

Muslim women seek actions against anti-hijab sentiments

Some countries continue to deprive women of their right to choose to wear the hijab whenever they want, and some women fear they may not be allowed to wear it at all, according to the organisers of a global hijab-awareness event.

Thousands of women around the world, of all religions and backgrounds, marked the 10th annual World Hijab Day on Tuesday by posting selfies on social media with the hashtag #DressedNotOppressed.

“Unfortunately, there are some countries that want to ban our religious garments, (and this event) allows us to find more of the voices who are against this oppression (in the form) of denying our right to wear our religious garments,” a spokesperson for the World Hijab Day (WHD) Organization told Arab News.

This year, organisers of the event called on teachers around the world to stand in unity and solidarity with Fatemeh Anvari, a Canadian Muslim teacher who in December was removed from her classroom in a school in Quebec because she wears a hijab. Under a law passed in 2019, civil servants in “positions of authority” in the province are barred from wearing visible religious symbols at work.

World Hijab Day is celebrated each year on Feb. 1 and the non-

profit organisation behind it was founded in 2013 by Bangladeshi American Nazma Khan with the aim of educating people and raising awareness of why many Muslim women choose to wear the hijab, and to encourage women to wear and experience it for a day.

WHD said that women who wear hijabs have to contend with a number of stereotypes surrounding them, including the idea that Islam is a violent religion, that the hijab is associated with terrorism, and that Muslim women are oppressed and forced to wear it.

“Speaking against these things because they are not true comes with criticism and backlash,” WHD said. “All we want is our freedom to wear what we want and be safe doing so.”

The degrees to which hijabi women have integrated into society differ around the world and each country or city presents its own particular challenges.

In Nigeria especially in the South, Muslim women continue to suffer harassment for wearing the hijab, prompting calls on the authorities to take drastic action against discrimination.

In Kwara State, one person was feared dead and several others injured as protest by Muslim parents and students over the continuous denial of the use of hijab by the Oyun Baptist High

School (OBHS), Ijagbo turned violent on Thursday.

The Kwara state government had on January 25, 2022 restated its policy and directed management of schools in the state to allow the use of hijab and beret by willing students.

Federal University of Agriculture in Abeokuta (FUNAAB) Ogun state last year placed a ban on the use of hijab and niqab by Muslim female students on campus based on the flimsy reason of wanting to identify each student on campus.

In December 2021, Noheemata, a Muslim youth corps member posted to Akwa Ibom State was harassed and prevented from using hijab by the camp officials until Muslim groups and government authorities intervened.

“We call on all people, our fellow compatriots, institutions, leaders and those in positions of authority to see our hijab as an enabler not an inhibitor,” said the Coalition of Muslim Women in a press briefing in Abuja.

“They should treat hijab with respect and understanding, and as a tool and a vehicle for inclusiveness,” it added.

The coalition resolved that rather than engaging those it described as hijab harassers in open confrontation, it would not hesitate to challenge them in competent law courts.



■ Participants at the Press Conference to mark the World Hijab Day in Lagos on Tuesday

MSSN asks Sanwo-Olu to issue circular on use of hijab in Lagos schools

From Abdulateef Aliyu, Lagos

The Muslim Students’ Society of Nigeria (MSSN) has asked the Lagos State Government to issue a circular reminding school administrators of the court’s ruling which allows Muslim students to use the hijab in schools.

Amirah (female president) of MSSN in Lagos State, Basheerah Majekodunmi, in a statement, called on Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu, and Speaker, Mudashiru Obasa, to order the issuance of a circular in compliance with the Court of Appeal judgement granting the use of hijab in public schools.

She lamented that many principals, teachers, and

administrators are causing crises in schools under the guise that they did not receive the previous circular issued by the former governor, Akinwunmi Ambode.

The student leader, however, warned school principals and teachers against victimisation of Muslim students who wear the hijab, describing such action as approval of indecency among young people.

She said, “Ignorance is no excuse before the law. These teachers and principals who either feign ignorance or turn a deaf ear to justice and morality have made it difficult and fearful for students to use their hijab as prescribed by their creator.

“It is high time the Lagos State

Government issued another circular that will be well-publicised. We enjoy peace in Lagos State and we don’t want crisis. Some principals and teachers are acting unlawfully and in a manner that could cause an outrage without quick intervention,” she stated.

Majekodunmi also acknowledged efforts by the state government to provide quality education for students but warned that continuous victimisation of Muslim students may sabotage these efforts. “The picture of Governor Sanwo-Olu sitting with a hijab-wearing student is a clear contrast of the injustice meted on some students who also choose to wear the hijab in other schools,” she added.

THE RELIGION WITH ALLAH IS ISLAM

AFIS A. OLADOSU
08122465111 (Text only)

Coping strategies in marital union in Islam (II)

In entering into a marriage in Islam, two conditions are usually important to be fulfilled: the primary and the secondary. The primary conditions are Ijab-Qabul and Mahr (bridal gift). The Almighty says: “And give the women (on marriage) their mahr as a (nikah) free gift” (Quran 4:4). The secondary conditions include the consent of a guardian (wakeel) representing the bride, written marriage contract (Aqd-Nikah) signed by the bride and the groom and the presence of two adult and sane witnesses. It is traditional that the Khutbat-Nikah (marriage sermon and invocation of blessings) should equally be organised to solemnize the marriage.

Brethren, I was taken aback the other day when I learnt that the marriage of a young sister in the neighbourhood cost her parents a princely sum of three million naira. Sister, wedding feasts in Islam is expected to be a modest one. It should not be a platform for indulgence in illusion and fakery. In other words, of what use is the Lexus car the bridgroom rented for the occasion? Why should I begin my marital life by pretending to be what I am not? Why should I premise my future life on deceit and deception? The Prophet says one of the signposts of a blissful marital life is that in which the bride-groom incurs little or no debt in order to make it happen; it is that in which the bride reduces her crave and desire for material gifts.

Brethren, in Islam, marriage is an act of worship. It is an opportunity to curry more favours from our Creator. This is because the Muslim life is expected to exemplify, in totality, obedience to the Almighty. Involvement in marriage is therefore deemed to be a lawful response to the basic biological instinct to have sexual intercourse and to procreate children. Whoever does go about the above in line with the dictates and provision of the law prescribed by the Almighty becomes a faithful servant. Such a person would be rewarded for the trials and challenges that usually follow the solemnization of marriage. The Prophet says: “When a man marries, he has fulfilled half of his religion, so let him fear Allah regarding the remaining half.”

A careful contemplation of its features would show that marriage in Islam is a voluntary contract. In other words, when either party is coerced into it, it becomes nugatory. By being voluntary, it means marriage contract in Islam is not a sacrament. It is revocable. Divorce, so says our Prophet, is the most hateful permission granted by the divine to His creatures. Further, marriage in Islam does not occlude spousal identities. In other words, a woman is at liberty to keep her maiden name after her wedding. Both parties are equally granted divine rights to own properties. Islam does not say husband and wife should keep and operate single accounts.

Now when it is said that marriage in Islam is an act of worship this begins to become pertinent when consideration is given to the challenges that usually follow its solemnization. When a woman leaves her home for another, it means she is prepared to be a friend to all and an enemy to none. In other words, to be married into a family is to recognize and respect the right of your in-laws and, I should say ‘out-laws’. Yes. Every family is usually blessed with its own share of ‘in-laws’ and ‘out-laws’. The first are ‘angels’ who strengthen you on a daily basis, the second are ‘devils’ who remind you that this world is not meant for the ‘saints’; the first make the wife forget she is a familiar-stranger among her ‘in-laws’, the second constantly call her attention to the fact that no matter the spousal or marital links and connections, blood relationship is more important than familial connections and affectations. Thus, marital success consists of not only the opportunity and privileges afforded the woman by her in-laws; it also depends, to a large extent, on the extent to which she can manage the excesses of her ‘out-laws’.

In order for your marriage and mine to be successful, Muslim couples are expected to include the following ingredients in the ‘menu’ of marriage. First is the four Ps: piety, patience, perseverance and prayer. Brethren, life and living in a conscious negation of the presence of the Almighty makes for life of iniquity and dissoluteness. Thus piety (taqwa) becomes a very important item that must constantly be given prominence in our marital life. Avoid what He says we should avoid; do His bidding at all times. Again, to be pious is to have and find contentment in every little thing He has provided for us. Sister, remember that contentment is not found in having everything but in being satisfied with every little thing we have.

AEDC, unions agree on 10-month salary for disengaged GMs

By Simon Echewofun Sunday

Operators of the Abuja Electricity Distribution Company (AEDC) and the unions have negotiated a 10-month salary package for the General Managers (GMs) that will be disengaged.

This is according to a Memorandum of Understanding of the conciliatory meeting held yesterday between the board/management, the National

Union of Electricity Employees (NUEE) and the Senior Staff Association of Electricity and Allied Companies (SSAEAC).

UBA had taken the DisCo in receivership since late 2021 over failure of the investors to repay the acquisition loan. In January, the interim management of AEDC backed by UBA disengaged the GMs said to be about 40 in a reform. The unions protested the mass action, causing an outage across the DisCo's franchise area. The parties had reached a truce,

recalled the GMs and began negotiations.

The latest MoU is said to be the fruit of the negotiations.

"That the GMs being exited under this arrangement shall be paid 10 months salaries less statutory deductions and other outstanding obligations to the company.

"That the payments to the GMs shall be made in two equal installments; the first at the end of February 2022 while the second shall be made not later than 31st May 2022," the MoU

stated.

It was also agreed that the DisCo would retain all acting GMs who had not been earning the salaries of GMs instead of disengaging them.

"That a letter be written to each of the GMs in such acting capacity reverting them to the position of Senior Managers and assigned new roles within the company," the MoU also read.

The parties also agreed that any GM having a pending disciplinary action shall remain

a staff of AEDC pending the conclusion of their case and "shall not be part of this arrangement except the case against him/her is determined in his/her favour."

The management shall deduct 2.5 per cent from those that belong to either of the unions and 3% from non-members as benefits to NUEE and SSAEAC.

"That the parties have agreed to unfailingly implement the terms of this agreement," concluded the MoU signed by the respective parties.



■ Vehicles and tricycles distributed by the Borno State government for commercial use within the metropolis to cushion the hardship and challenges bedeviling the transport sector in the state

Works, N/Delta, FCT Ministries get N250bn SUKUK fund

By Faruk Shuaibu

The Federal Government yesterday presented N250bn SUKUK fund to three ministries to fund several infrastructures in the country.

The SUKUK fund, which is a Public Private Partnership (PPP), was presented to the Ministry of Works and Housing (N210 bn), the Ministry of Federal Capital Territory (N29bn) and the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs (N10bn).

The Minister of Finance, Budget and National Planning, Zainab Ahmed, who presented the fund, said Nigeria had borrowed N362.577bn from the bond since 2017.

She said the funds had been used to fund key road projects to sustain the momentum of the economy.

She said with the first SUKUK fund of N100bn released in 2017, 25 roads, covering 482 kilometers length, were delivered; the second SUKUK of 2018 had 28 roads covering 643 kilometers length

delivered; while the third SUKUK funds of N162 billion covered 44 highway and bridge projects with the total length of 757 kilometers covered across the nation.

The Minister of Works and Housing, Babatunde Fashola, said the impact of debt and borrowing on the economic lives of the people was significant, noting that proper usage of the debt on infrastructure in Nigeria had helped in galvanizing the economy.

"Wealth is distributed across when committed to infrastructure. Money moving around the economy, it creates consistent employment and engagement and suppliers are at work," he said.

The Director-General of the Debt Management Office (DMO), Patience Oniha, said the presentation of the N250bn SUKUK cheque to the three ministries was in line with the President Muhammadu Buhari administration's strategic objectives of development of infrastructure.

Convention: 4 APC govs meet Gambari

By Muideen Olaniyi

Four governors elected on the platform of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) yesterday met with the Chief of Staff to the President, Professor

Ibrahim Gambari.

They were Abdullahi Sule, Nasarawa; Yahaya Bello, Kogi; Simon Lalong, Plateau and Abubakar Sani Bello, Niger.

Although they declined speaking to reporters after the four-hour

meeting, Daily Trust learnt that it was on the preparation for the February 26 convention of the APC amid contention over primaries in states and disagreements among contending camps ahead of the 2023 general elections.

ECOWAS' position against coups in B/Faso, Mali, Guinea stands - Osinbajo

By Muideen Olaniyi

Vice President Yemi Osinbajo says ECOWAS Heads of State have reiterated the firm position that there is absolutely no excuse for a change of government by coup d'état.

He said this Thursday after attending the ECOWAS Extraordinary Summit on the political situations in Burkina Faso, Mali and Guinea in Accra.

According to him, as far as ECOWAS is concerned, the one way of changing government in the region, acceptable to all of the protocols and the political rights of the people

is by a democratically elected government.

Osinbajo, who represented President Muhammadu Buhari at the summit, was fielding questions from reporters on the outcome of the summit.

He said:

"So, what happened in Burkina Faso was considered and has been condemned by all of the heads of state and we do not think there is any excuse for it whatsoever.

"But at the moment, of course, engagement is going on with the military junta and also we condemned the attempted coup in Guinea-Bissau and congratulated

President Embalo and the people of Guinea-Bissau for resisting that unconstitutional attempt to change the government.

"All in all it has been fruitful and we are very hopeful that lessons had been learnt and we will not see a repeat of this.

When asked about Mali, he responded: "We're expecting that the Malian authorities would respond to ECOWAS imposed sanctions as you know and we expect that at some point, the Malian authorities themselves would begin to speed up the process of transition. We expect that they'd do so. We're looking forward to that engagement."

Why we're strengthening energy research centres - FG

By Zakariyya Adaramola

The Federal Government says it is strengthening the six energy research centres in Nigeria to boost power supply in the country.

The Minister of Science and Technology, Ogonnaya Onu, said this in Abuja yesterday while meeting with the vice chancellors of host universities of the energy research centres under the purview of the Energy Commission of Nigeria in Abuja.

The centres are hosted at the University of Lagos, Lagos State; the University of Ilorin, Kwara State; the University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Enugu State; Usman Dan Fodio University, Sokoto; Abubakar Tafawa Balewa University of Technology, Bauchi and the University of Benin, Edo State.

"With the challenges we face in the energy sector, arising from global warming and climate change,

research and innovation will help us to transition from use of fossil fuels to a more sustainable energy use as well as improved energy efficiency," the minister said.

Onu said the government would also empower researchers at these centres for the purpose of promoting research and innovation in the energy sector.

He called on the ECN and the Vice Chancellors to develop an excellent working relationship through the Energy Research Centres, to promote research and innovation for sustainable economic development in the country.

Responding on behalf of his colleagues, Vice Chancellor, University of Benin, Professor Lilian Imuetinyan Salami, said that the only way the country could grow was through STI development.

She said the youths should be encouraged to bring out ideas that could be incubated in the universities.

Hijab: Group writes IGP over harassment of Muslim female students

From Hameed Oyegbade, Osogbo

A Muslim group in Osun State, Ta'awunu Human Rights Initiative (THURIST), has written to the Inspector General of the Nigerian Police, Usman Alkali Baba, to complain over harassment of female Muslim students in their schools at Offa, Ijagbo and Oyun communities in Kwara state

because they use hijab.

A copy of the petition signed by the director general of the organization, Sulaymon A. Tadesse, a lawyer, was sent to the Department of State Security Service (DSS) and the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC).

The group said some Muslim female students were sent away from Oyun Baptist High School just because they put on their hijab which is part of dressing

of a Muslim girl and does not violate any law.

THURIST expressed worry over the manner the Oyun chapter of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) was conniving with the officials of the school to intimidate and harass female Muslim students in the school over hijab.

The group appealed to the Muslims in the area to remain calm in the face of the provocation, remain law-

abiding, and avoid taken take the law into their own hands.

THURIST explained that Oyun Baptist High school was owned by Kwara State Government and Muslim students in the schools had equal rights with their Christian counterparts regardless of the name.

The group noted that Kwara State Government had gazetted a judgement of the Kwara State High Court, affirmed by the

Court of Appeal, that CAN in Kwara State has no rights in law to lay claim to any Christian-named government owned schools.

THURIST appealed to the IG to enforce the court judgment to ensure that Muslim female students are allowed to attend schools with their hijab, adding that would be the best way to deal with the issue to avoid breakdown of law and order over the matter.



■ From left: FCT Minister, Malam Muhammad Musa Bello; Minister of Finance Budget and National Planning, Zainab Ahmed; Director General, Debt Management Office, Patience Oniha; Chairman, Senate Committee on Local and Foreign Debt, Senator Clifford Oдиа and Chairman, House Committee on Aids, Loans and Debt Management, Chris Azubogu during the presentation of a symbolic cheque to the FCT Minister for infrastructural, development from Sukuk Bond in Abuja yesterday

Ata Igala to receive staff of office March 4

From Tijani Labaran, Lokoja

The Chairman Central Planning Committee of Ata-Igala's coronation (CPC), Chief Sylvester Momoh Onoja (OON), has said the ceremonial presentation of Staff of Office to His Royal Majesty Matthew Alaji Qpaluwa-Ogwuche would hold on March 4.

He disclosed this yesterday in Lokoja in a statement made available to Daily Trust.

He said the governor of Kogi State, Alhaji Yahaya Bello, had approved the date for the coronation ceremony.

The statement advised all the chairmen and members of the composite coronation committees to redouble their efforts in their respective roles to make the ceremony a huge success.

The CPC called upon all the sons and daughters of Igala, both at home and in the diaspora, to generously contribute to the event.

Sanwo-Olu gives scholarships to 2 girls hawking

From Christiana T. Alabi, Lagos

Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu yesterday offered a lifeline to two out-of-school girls, Amarachi Chinedu, 9, and Suwebat Hussein, 12, who were seen running errands for a bean cake vendor during school hours around Anthony Village in Lagos State.

Sanwo-Olu was on his way to formally launch a Social Welfare Integrated Programme (SWIP) Initiative when he saw the two underage girls who were forced to skip school by their parents in order to render some domestic assistance.

He asked why the girls were not in school.

Amarachi told the governor her mother is a teacher, but that she was not allowed to go to school because her parents could not afford the current session's tuition fees.

Suwebat's mother is the bean cake seller for whom the girls were running errands.

Her parents, who are Jigawa State indigenes, relocated to Lagos some months back.

She told the governor that her four male siblings were in school at the time but her parents preferred she stayed

back home to help with some domestic chores.

Sanwo-Olu told the girls that he would personally take up the responsibility for their education and upbringings, promising to enroll them in school to enable them to continue with their education.

Daily Trust learnt that the governor's decision had been communicated to the girls' parents.

Narrating his experience at the launch, Sanwo-Olu said, "It is needless to ask what brought their parents to Lagos. We must ensure they are not robbed of their future."

"There are several Amarachis and Suwebats out there, who will not have this kind of opportunity. These girls didn't ask to be in the circumstance they found themselves, but it is our responsibility to be able to give them the future they deserve; the opportunity that will make them better children to their family and better citizens of this country."

SWIP is a partnership between government agencies and the private sector to standardise welfare administration for vulnerable children, the elderly, and those suffering mental disorders.

Umahi condemns killing of security officer at Enugu/Ebonyi boundary

From Nabob Ogbonna, Abakiliki

The Ebonyi State Government has condemned the killing of a soldier at the boundary between Uburu in Ohanzara Local Government Area of Ebonyi State and Mpu community in Enugu State.

The officer who lost his life was among the soldiers keeping guard at

the border between the two states.

Briefing journalists, the Commissioner for Information and State Orientation, Uchenna Orji, said the condemnation came at the end of the state council meeting.

Orji also said that the council had urged security agencies to intensify efforts to bring the perpetrators to justice.

He said the council also noted the renewed hostilities in Abaomege/Isinkwo Ukawu communities over their disputed land and directed stakeholders from the area to work closely with the security agencies to identify those responsible for the renewed attack despite the resolutions made on the disputed land by the state government", he explained.

Obaseki pledges support, incentives for women in Edo's mining sector

From Usman A. Bello, Benin

The Edo State Governor, Godwin Obaseki, has said that the state government is reviewing its policies in the state's mining sector to create more opportunities for women to participate in the sector.

The governor said this yesterday in Benin during a policy dialogue organized by the Women in Mining Nigeria in collaboration with Edo State Investment Promotion Office (ESIPO), with support from Ford Foundation.

Represented by the Commissioner for Mining, Oil and Gas, Ethan Uzamere, Obaseki said the state was building the capacity of female

participants in the sector to ensure gender equality.

He said with key positions in his administration occupied by women, it was evident that women had capacities to perform and must be encouraged and promoted.

"We are going through some reforms in terms of policies to help the state participate in developing the mining sector. The mining sector is on the exclusive list of the federal government. But we are trying to do something different through the Ministry of Mining, Gas and Oil. We are willing to partner with Women in Mining in order for the female gender to gain from the industry."

Commissioner for Social Development and Gender Issues, Mrs Maria Edeko, said women were the worst hit by the insecurity challenge in the country as their farms, businesses and children were the targets.

She advocated for policies that would protect the women as they engaged in hazardous jobs in the mining industry as well as other sectors.

Managing Director, Edo State Investment Promotion Office (ESIPO), Mr Kelvin Uwaibi, noted that mining and agriculture were key priority areas for Edo State, hence the need for women to play actively in the space.

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CHANGE OF NAME

AISHA: I formerly known as **AISHA MUHAMMAD BELLO** now wish to be known and addressed as **AISHA MUHAMMAD ABUBAKAR**. All former documents remain valid general public take note.

DAHIRU: I, formerly known as **DAHIRU NAYAYA MOHAMMED** now wish to be known and addressed as **DAHIRU MUHAMMAD MAGURU**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MUDASSIR: I, formerly known as **MUDDASIRU USMAN SOKOTO**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MUDASSIR USMAN**. All documents remain valid. Authority concerned and the general public to take note.

PAUL: I formerly known and addressed as **ISUMAILA FALIDAT** now wish to be known and addressed as **PAUL GREATNESS**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

BUKOLA: I formerly known as Ayodele Victor, but now wishes to be known and addressed as Ayodele Victor Bukola. All formal documents remain valid. General public and WAEC should take note.

MANIR: I Formerly known and address as **MANIR AHMAD OLAJO** with old date of birth **11/07/1990** now wish to be known and address as **AHMAD MANIR** with new date of birth **11/07/1988** all former documents remain valid general public should take note

I formerly known as **ZUWAIARA UMAR** now wish to be known as **RABI YUSUF UMAR**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note

GODWIN: I, formerly known as **JOHN CHRISTOPHER**, now wish to be called as **GODWIN AUDU**. All former documents remain valid; Access Bank and the General Public to please take note.

ABBAS: I, formerly known as **IBRAHIM ABDULAZEEZ**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABBAS IBRAHIM**, with corrected date of birth 02-04-1996. All documents remain valid. Authority concerned and the general public to take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **OGBONNA UGWUMBA** now wish to be known and addressed as **OGBONNA NORBERT UCHE**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

Uchekchuku: I formerly known as Miss Uchekchuku Scholastics Okoli, now wish to be addressed as Mrs Uchekchuku Scholastica Chidiebere. All former documents remain valid. **NIGCOMSAT LTD** and the general public to pls take note.

I formerly known as **BALKISU MOHAMMED KALGO** now wish to be known and addressed as **BALKISU MUHAMMED LIMAN** All former documents remain valid general public to take note

I formerly known as **FATIMA IBRAHIM SALISU** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULKADIR ZARAU** correct date of birth is 1st January 1985. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note

FATIMA: I, formerly known as **ONIZE FATIMA SALIU** now wish to be known and addressed as **ONIZE FATIMA OSINUGA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

CONFIRMATION OF NAME: This is to inform the general public that **KAMAL AHMAD ARABI**, is one and same person as **KAMAL ARABI AHMAD**. All documents remain valid. Authority concerned to take note.

ZARAU: I formally known and addressed as **JELLAH ZARAU** with date of birth 09/09/1985 now wishes to be known and addressed as **ABDULKADIR ZARAU** with date of birth 01/09/1984 all former documents remain valid. Union Bank Nig. Plc, and general public should please take note.

SHETTIMA: I formerly known as **ABDULLAHI SHETTIMA** now wish to be known and addressed as **SHETTIMA ABDULLAHI AMINU**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **IDIRIS MUSA** now wish to be known and addressed as **IDIRIS MUSA** All former documents remain valid general public to take note

I' formerly known as **SARAH INNOCENT CHANGE** now wish to be known and address as **SARAH ANTO BIDDA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I' formerly known as **LAWAL ZULAIHAT**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD ZULAIHAT LAWAL**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

CORRECTION/ARRANGEMENT OF NAME: I, formerly known and addressed as **UMARU-NDAGI IBRAHIM** now wish to be known and addressed as **UMAR-NDAGI IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

MASAUDU: I formally known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR MASAUDU** with date of birth 09/09/1985 now wishes to be known and addressed as **SAIDU MASAUDU** with date of birth 02/01/1996 and phone No. 08104594885 all former documents remain valid. Union Bank Nig. Plc, and general public should please take note.

ADAMA: I formerly known as **YUNUSA BEWA** now wish to be known and addressed as **ADAMA BEWA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **SHAFIU MUHAMMAD** now wish to be known and addressed as **SHAFIU MUHAMMAD BELLO** All former documents remain valid general public to take note

MERCY: I formerly known as **ELIJAH EBERECHI MERCY**, now wish to be known and address as **GEORGE EBERECHI MERCY**. All documents bearing my former names remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **AHMAD MUHAMMAD**, now wish to be known and addressed as **LAWAN AHMAD MUHAMMAD**. My date of birth was wrongly captured as 20/4/1994 instead of 3/5/2002. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

SAIDU: I formerly known as **SAED SALISU AMINU** now wish to be known and addressed as **SAIDU AMINU SALISU**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and the general public to please take note.

DAUDA: I formally known and addressed as **DAUDA IBRAHIM** now wishes to be known and addressed as **DAUDA IBRAHIM DAUDU** all former documents remain valid. Union Bank Nig. Plc, and general public should please take note.

GARBA: I formerly known as **ABDULLAHI USMAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **GARBA USMAN**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **ALIYU IASH** now wish to be known and addressed as **ISAH ANGO** All former documents remain valid general public to take note

IFEDAYO: I formerly known as **MISS OYEBODE IFEDAYO LOLADE**, now wish to be known and address as **MRS OYEBODE - FAWI IFEDAYO LOLADE**. All documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

FAVOUR: I, formerly known as **NNENNAYA AJA ODI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **NNENNAYA FAVOUR AJA CHUKWU**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

UMARU: I formerly known as **UMAR MOHAMMED** now wish to be known and addressed as **UMARU MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and the general public to please take note.

OFODUEME: I formally known and addressed as **OFODUENE CHINAZA MICHEAL** now wishes to be known and addressed as **CHINAZAKEPHERE MICHEAL OFODUEME** with date of birth 10/07/1987 all former documents remain valid. First Bank Nig. Plc, and general public should please take note.

KEMI: I formerly known as **YAKEMI BUKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **KEMI BUKAR**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **FATIMA TUKUR** now wish to be known and addressed as **SAMAILA DANGI** All former documents remain valid general public to take note

MUHAMMAD: I' formerly known, addressed as **IBITOYE ADEOLA LATEFAH**, now wish to be called and addressed as **MUHAMMAD LATEFAH IBITOYE**. All former documents to remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

AGU: I formerly known as **MISS MIMI TYOKYAA** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS MIMI AGU**. All other documents remain valid. The concerned authorities and the general public to take note.

MATTHEW: I formerly known and addressed as **VICTOR JUSTICE ESHIOWE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MATTHEW EDDIE ESHIOTI**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

LUKUMANU: I formally known and addressed as **LUKMANU JIBRIN** now wishes to be known and addressed as **JIBRIL LUKUMANU** all former documents remain valid. First Bank Nig. Plc, and general public should please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI KHADIJAT OMOLARA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **RASHEED KHADIJAT OMOLARA**. All former document remain valid any authority concerned and general public take note.

I formally known as **ADAMU MOHD MAIUNGUWA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **ADAMU MUHAMMED MAIUNGUWA WITH DOB 15/02/1998**. All my documents remain Valid. Authority concerned and general public should take note.

JONATHAN: I formerly known, addressed as **JONATHAN AUDU DANIEL**, now wish to be called addressed as **JONATHAN DANIEL**. All former documents to remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

LADI: I, formerly known as **KUJE EWU LADI** now wish to be known and addressed as **EWU LADI KUJE**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

ZUWERAT: I formerly known and addressed as **SALIU ZUWERAT**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MUSTAPHA SALIU ZUWERAT**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

ILIASU: I, formerly known and addressed as **ASMA'U KABIRU** now wish to be known and addressed as **ASMA'U ILIASU KABIRU**. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and the general public to take note.

HADIZA: I formerly known as **HADIZA KAZIR** now wish to be known as **HADIZA SULEIMAN**. All former documents remain valid, authority concerned and general public please take note.

I formerly known as **ABUBAKAR USMAN**, wish to be known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR ALKALI USMAN**. All my documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should take note.

OMOLADE: I formerly known, addressed as **OMOLADE MITCHEL OMOKOREDE ADEWALE**, now wish to be called addressed as **OMOLADE MITCHEL OMOKOREDE**. All former documents to remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

HALIMOT: I, formerly known as **AZEEZ HALIMOT ADEOLA** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULAZEEZ HALIMOT ADEOLA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

KELVIN: I formerly known and addressed as **OLISEH CHARLES**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **OLISEUWE CHARLES KELVIN**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

ORSON: I, formerly known and addressed as **AKUA PETER SUNDAY** now wish to be known and addressed as **HON SUNDAY ORSON**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

NYITYO: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED AS **IORYEM CELLINA** NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS **NYITYO DOUYUM**. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

I, formerly known as **FATIMA BALA ILELAH** Now wish to be known and addressed as **FATIMA MOHAMMED ILELAH** All my documents remain Valid. Authority concerned and general public Should take note.

OKEOGHENEWOMA: I formerly known, addressed as **MRS DECHINKA PATIENCE OKEOGHENEWOMA**, now wish to be called and addressed as **MS EGWARE PATIENCE OKEOGHENEWOMA**. All former documents to remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

ESTHER: I, formerly known as **MISS. ONI ESTHER** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS. ONI-OKWOKWO ESTHER**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

IKPEA: I formerly known and addressed as **MISS CHRISTIANA OSIGWE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS CHRISTIANA IKPEA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

SAFIYA: I formerly known as **SAFIYA MUHAMMED** now wish to be known and addressed as **SAFIYA ADAMU**. All former documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public to please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **AMINU HASSAN HASSAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **AMINU HASSAN ABDULLAHI**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I formerly known as **SHIMAYA AYUBA** now wish to be known and addressed as **JACOB SHIMAYA AYUBA** My DOB is 01/01/1997 all my documents remain valid authority concerned and general public should take note

KINGSLEY: I formerly known, addressed as **BONIFACE KINGSLEY IFEANYICHUKWU**, now wish to be called and addressed as **UGWUOKEJA KINGSLEY IFEANYICHUKWU**. All former documents to remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known as **NGOZI CHRISTOPHIN MAUREEN EZENMA** now wish to be known and addressed as **NGOZI CHRISTOPHIN MAUREEN SAM-IMIDE**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

RAZAK: This is to notified the general public that my name was wrongly arrange as **ABDUL RAZAK IBRAHIM**. Instead of **RAZAK ABDUL IBRAHIM**. Now wish to be known as **RAZAK ABDUL IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note

AHMAD: I formerly known as **AHMAD INUWA** now wish to be known and addressed as **AHMAD INUWA ALHAJI DOB 10-1-1999** not 1-10-1999. All former documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public to please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **BADE BISI GANGANG** now wish to be known and addressed as **BADE BISI**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **ADAMA DRISU**, now wish to be known, Called and addressed as **ADAM IDRIS**, all former documents remain valid, All authorities concerned and General public please take note.

I formerly known as **AUDU DEBORAH**. Now wish to be known and called as **AUDU DABORAH OJONUGWA**. DOB: 29/5/2001 not 29/5/1998. Former documents remain valid. UBA bank PLC and General public should please take note

UMAR: I, formerly known as **UMAR JIBRIN ISHAQA**, **UMAR JIBRIN ISHAQ** now wish to be known and addressed as **UMAR ISHIAKA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

SALAMAT: I formerly known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI A. J. SALAMAT**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **ADAMU A. J. SALAMAT**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

ADAMU: I formerly known as **IDRIS ABDULLAHI AUDU** now wish to be known and addressed as **ADAMU IDI**. All former documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public to please take note.

MUKAILA: I, formerly known as **AMEH OLOBO** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUKAILA YUSUF ADEJOH**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **SHAMSU TINAU**, now wish to be known, Called and addressed as **MAMMAN TINAU**, all former documents remain valid, All authorities concerned and General public please take note.

I' formerly known and called as **SALAMI RASHIDATU** and **MOMOHJIMOH RASHIDATU**. Now wish to be known and called as **MOMOHJIMOH RASHIDATU**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and General public should please take note

HASSAN: I, formerly known as **BUBA HASSAN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BUBA HASSAN IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

ERABHALEMEN: I formerly known and addressed as **ERABHALEMEN ENDURANCE ONOHUOMHEN**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **ERABHALEMEN FOVOUR ONOHUOMHEN**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

BABALE: I formerly known as **BABALE BABALE** now wish to be known and addressed as **BABALE SAIDU**. All former documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public to please take note.

JULDE: I formerly known and addressed as **MOHAMMED DAHIRU JULDE** now wish to be called **DAHIRU MUHAMMAD JULDE**. All document valid bank, NIMC and general public please note.

I formerly known and addressed as **ISAH YANKOMRE**, now wish to be known, Called and addressed as **ISAH YARKWAMRE**, all former documents remain valid, All authorities concerned and General public please take note.

TIMBEE: I formerly known and addressed as **MBAHAN JACOB**, now wish to be known and addressed as **JACOB TIMBEE MBAHAN**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

ABIGAIL: I, formerly known as **ABIGAIL YAKUBU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **JONATHAN ABIGAIL AHMADU**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **MUNIRU KUBURAH ALICIA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **SULEIMAN KUBURAH ALICIA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

ALHAJI: I formerly known as **ADAMU SULE** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALHAJI USMAM DADI**. All former documents remain valid, Authority concerned and the general public to please take note.

I, formerly known as **BAAJI LAWAN** Now wish to be known and addressed as **BAAJI LAWAN SALEH** All my documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public Should take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **MOHAMMED ALIYU MURTALA**, now wish to be known, Called and addressed as **MURTALA ALIYU MOHAMMED** and my correct and proper date of birth is 27-07-1974, all former documents remain valid, All authorities concerned and General public please take note.

OKOM: My correct name is **OKOM PETER EBIZO** and my correct date of birth is 15/May/1993, not as was wrongly captured in the **NECO** results as **OKOM PETER EBIZOR** date of birth as 15 May 1996. All former documents remain valid, general public concern please take note.

NYAM: I, formerly known as **MUSA KUDOS NYAM**, now wish to be known and addressed as **NYAM MUSA ALI**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

ODOH: I, formerly known and addressed as **ODO CHINONSO KEVIN** now wish to be known and addressed as **ODOH KEVIN CHINONSO** and my date of birth is 31/01/1999. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

IFEAJIKA: I formerly known as Onyemaechi Chimazuruihenlie ThankGod now wish to be known and address as I'feajika Chimazuruihenlie ThankGod. All former documents remain valid, authority concerned and general public please take note.

HADIZA: I Formerly known and address as **HADIZA YAU** now wish to be known and address as **HADIZA DANSANDA SANI** all former documents remain valid general public should take note

I, formerly known as **OYELEKE MUIINAT AYO**, now wish to be called and addressed as **OYELEKE MUIINAT AYODELE**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

AKPA: I formerly known as **SULEIMAN USAMAN** now wish to be known and addressed as **AKPA SULEIMAN USMAN**. All former documents remain valid general public take note.

EWAOCHÉ: I, formerly known as **EWAOCHE-THOMAS**, now wish to be known and addressed as **EWAOCHÉ THOMAS ELAIGWU**. All documents remain valid. Authority concerned and the general public to take note.

SUNDAY: I formerly known and addressed as **ABACHE SUNDAY**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **IGIEGBABHE EMMANUEL SUNDAY**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

MINGYI: I formerly known as **DORCAS EPHRAIM**, but now wishes to be known and addressed as **DORCAS EPHRAIM MINGYI**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

JOHNSON: I Formerly known and address as **DAMILOLA JOHNSON** now wish to be known and address as **DAMILOLA MERCY JOHNSON** all former documents remain valid general public should take note

I, formerly known as **JAMILU KABIRU DANASIBI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **JAMILU KABIRU**, All former documents remain valid. General public and the authority concerned should take note.

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I, formerly known as RABI'U ALIYU, now wish to be known and addressed as RABI'U ALIYU DARMA. All former documents remain valid. General public and the authority concerned should take note.

I formerly known as JOSEPH BULUS DANIEL, now wish to be known and addressed as JOSEPH BULUS. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should take note.

KONLET: I formerly known as KONLET LONGBAP CPL, now wish to be known as LONGBAP KONLET JOHN. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

MUHAMMAD, I formerly known as MUHAMMAD ZAKIRU HUSSAINI now wish to be called and addressed as MUHAMMAD ZAKARI MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as JAMILA KABIR AGAYAWA now wish to be called and addressed as JAMILA KABIR. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

ZACHARIAH, I formerly known as TIETIE CAROLINE DOMINION now wish to be called and addressed as ZACHARIAH CAROLINE DOMINION. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as AISHA IMRAN HARUNA, now wish to be known and addressed as AISHA IMRAN UMAR. All former documents remain valid. General public and the authority concerned should take note.

JOEL: I formerly known as JOEL HILDA K, now wish to be known and addressed as JOEL HILDA. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

RAHILA: I formerly known as PETER RAHILA GEOFFREY, now wish to be known as MANJUM RAHILA JONATHAN. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

BASHIR, I formerly known as BASHIR MUSA now wish to be called and addressed as BASHIR MUSA YAHAYA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

ABDUL, I formerly known as AKPAI ABDULLAHI now wish to be called and addressed as ABDUL DAVID AKPAI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

MUSTAPHA: I formally known as MUKTAR MUSTAPHA now wish to be known and address as MOHAMMED MUSTAPHA MUKTAR. All former documents remain valid. general public shall take note.

I formerly known as LAWRENCEVILLE NAMTIRA now wish to be known and addressed as NAMTIRA MAAJI LAWRENCE. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note

HUSSAINI: I formerly known as USEINI HAMZA, now wish to be known and addressed as HUSSAINI HARUNA. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

NANKILING: I formerly known as YALE GOJE NANKILING ABIGAIL, now wish to be known as YALE NANKILING GOJE and my date of birth was wrongly captured as 12 March, 1987 instead of 12 March, 1990. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

KHADIJA, I formerly known as KHADIJA BASHIR MAIFADA now wish to be called and addressed as KHADIJA HISHAM ABDULMALIK. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

AHMED, I formerly known as AHMAD MOHAMMED now wish to be called and addressed as AHMED SANI HUSSAIN. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as ABUBAKAR IDRIS, ABUBAKAR I. SALE wish to be known and addressed as ABUBAKAR IDRIS SALE and my correct Date of Birth is 01/04/2002 not 01/04/2000 former documents remain valid general public should take note

JUMBA: I formerly known as COMFORT BOBBY, now wish to be known and addressed as COMFORT HANTSI JUMBA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

YAHAYA: I formerly known as YAHAYA UMAR, now wish to be known and addressed as YAHAYA UMARU CHELEDI. And my correct date of birth is 01-04-1977 not 06-07-1970. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

HUDU, I formerly known as HUDU MOHD now wish to be called and addressed as HUDU MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

HAMZA, I formerly known as HAMZA BABALLE now wish to be called and addressed as HAMZA KABIRU. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

ZAHRAU, I formerly known as ZAHRAU YUSUF now wish to be called and addressed as ZAHRAU YUSUF ABUBAKAR. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as OZOR CHIGBATA NELSON wish to be known and addressed as OZOR NELSON former documents remain valid general public should take note

SUMALKYA: I formerly known as MINAN PHILIP, now wish to be known and addressed as PHILIP MINAN SUMALKYA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

MATHIAS: I formerly known as DOSU LUKA, now wish to be known and addressed as MATHIAS BITRUS and my correct Date of Birth is 17/08/1986. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

BALERI: I formally known as BALERI MALANDIYE now wish to be known and address as BALERI NADIYE KUMKWALEN All former documents remain valid. general public shall take note.

ALIYU, I formerly known as ALIYU YA'U now wish to be called and addressed as ALIYU YA'U ABUBAKAR. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

IZIOGBA, I formerly known as IYANGBESO LOVE ODALO now wish to be called and addressed as IZIOGBA LOVE ODALO. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as K. AISHATU AISHATU SHEHU wish to be known and addressed as SHEHU AISHATU former documents remain valid general public should take note

RECONCILIATION OF NAMES: This is to inform the general public that GIDEON O. BULUS on my Bvn and GIDEON OBIDA BULUS on my National Identity Card are all referring to one and the same person, but henceforth, I wish to be known and addressed as GIDEON OBIDA BULUS. All Authorities concerned and general public should take note.

ANNAH: I formerly known as MISS. ANNAH LUKA, now wish to be known as MRS. ANNAH PHILEMON. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

JAMILA, I formerly known as JAMILA MOHD NAFIU date of birth 09-01-1986 now wish to be called and addressed as JAMILA BASHIR ZAKARIYYA date of birth 11-12-1987. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

NAFIU, I formerly known as NAFIU SAMBO now wish to be called and addressed as NAFIU SAMBO DABO. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as Idris Muhammad Inusa now wish to be called and addressed as Idris Muhammad. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

I formerly known and addressed as DAVID ALKULOLU SHEKINA GLORY wish to be known and addressed as MRS DAVID ALKULOLU SHEKINA GLORY former documents remain valid general public should take note

MUSA: I formerly known as MUSAMO BADARA, now wish to be known and addressed as MUSA ALI BADARA. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

UMAR: I formerly known as MAHMUD UMAR ABDULLAHI, now wish to be known as MAHMUD UMAR. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

I was formally known and addressed as USMAN HABIBU, I now wish to be called LAMARA HABIBU. All former documents remain valid. FCMB and general public should take note

I formerly known as ugwuanyi maduabuchinow wish to be called and addressed as Peter maduabuchi fidelix. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

I formerly known as Abdullahi Hussaini now wish to be called and addressed as Kabiru Usman Haruna. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

I formerly known and addressed as SAHURA SANUSI DANMUSA wish to be known and addressed as MRS SAHURA SANUSI DANMUSA former documents remain valid general public should take note

ILIYASU: I formerly known as JIBRIN YUSUF, now wish to be known and addressed as JIBRIL YUSUF ILIYASU. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

ZACHARIAH: I formerly known as MATHEW ZACHARIAH, now wish to be known as MATHEW ZACHARIAH DRAMBI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

MAIMUNA, I formerly known as MAIMUNA MUHAMMAD SANI now wish to be called and addressed as MAIMUNA MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

IBRAHIM, I formerly known as IBRAHIM MUSA now wish to be called and addressed as IBRAHIM MUSA KOKI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as FATIMA SULAIMAN now wish to be called and addressed as FATIMAH SULEIMAN DUHU. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

HARUNA I formerly known and addressed as HARUNA ALHAJI ADAMU now wish to be known and addressed as HARUNA ADAMU All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

ADAMU: I formerly known as ADAMU IBRAHIM, now wish to be known and addressed as ADAMU.N IBRAHIM. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

REBECCA: I formerly known as RIFKATU MARKUS BOMAN, now wish to be known and addressed as SADDIKA ABDULKADIR KAMAL. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

SADDIKA, I formerly known as SADDIKA ABDULKADIR SULE now wish to be called and addressed as SADDIKA ABDULKADIR KAMAL. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

LUKMAN, I formerly known as LUKMAN ADAMU ALI MUKTAR now wish to be called and addressed as LUKMAN ADAM MUKHTAR. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as BINTA HAMISU KANO now wish to be called and addressed as BINTA HAMISU SULAIMAN. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

CHUKWU I formerly known and addressed as CHUKWU EMEKA OPKIBE now wish to be known and addressed as CHUKWU EMEKA OKIBE All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

WAZIRI: I formerly known as BABAGANA WAZIRI, now wish to be known and addressed as GONI-FANTAM WAZIRI. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

RUTH: I formerly known as MISS. VAMBE RUTH MBATUMUN, now wish to be known as MRS. BABDANG RUTH ILIYA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

MOHAMMED, I formerly known as MOHAMMED INUWA INUWA AHMED now wish to be called and addressed as MOHAMMED INUWA AHMED. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

MUSBAHU, I formerly known as MUSBAHU DAHIRU now wish to be called and addressed as MUSBAHU DAHIRU SADIQ. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as HALIMA SANUSI now wish to be called and addressed as HALIMA SANUSI ABDU. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

HADIZA: I formerly known as HADIZA SANI DANFULANI now wish to be called and addressed as HADIZA ALBISHIR DANFULANI All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

WAZIRI: I formerly known as RAWANA GONI, now wish to be known and addressed as RAWA-GONI WAZIRI. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

IYATKO: I formerly known as NANPOLEON DAMARIS, now wish to be known as NANPOLEON IYATKO. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

BURENBENSO, I formerly known as GURENBENSO HAUWA now wish to be called and addressed as BURENBENSO HAUWA. All former documents remain valid. FIRST BANK LTD and the general public should please take note.

SADIQ, I formerly known as SADIQ UMAR now wish to be called and addressed as SADIQ UMAR ELWANUS. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as ABDULLAHI USMAN LAGA. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

JAMILU: I formerly known as SAGIR SHEHU now wish to be called and addressed as JAMILU SHEHU All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

SHAFI'U: I formerly known as SHAFIU YAU, now wish to be known as MUHAMMAD SHAFI'U LADAN D.O.B 5/5/2000. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

JOHN: I formerly known as JAN, JOHN GOTETE, now wish to be known as JAN, JOHN WUNIGAK. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

BELLO, I formerly known as BELLO AISHATU now wish to be called and addressed as BELLO AYI. All former documents remain valid. FIRST BANK and the general public should please take note.

BINTA, I formerly known as BINTA SANI ABUBAKAR now wish to be called and addressed as BINTA ABUBAKAR SANKA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

RABI, I formerly known as RABI WADA now wish to be called and addressed as RABI MUHAMMED WADA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

SA: I formerly known as HADIZA MUSA I now wish to be called and addressed as HADIZA MUSA ADAM All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

AISHA: I formerly known as AMINA MUJAZU, now wish to be known as AISHA MUJAZU. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

EHI: I formerly known as MISS. EHI OCHECHI, now wish to be known as MRS. ANYEBE BLESSING EHI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

AMINA, I formerly known as AMINA SHARIF now wish to be called and addressed as AMINA AWAIUS SHARIF. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

NASIR, I formerly known as MUKTAR NASIR ADAM now wish to be called and addressed as NASIR ADAM MUKHTAR. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

MUHAMMAD: I formally known as MUHD SULAIMAN now wish to be known and address as SULAIMANU MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid. general public shall take note.

ABDULMUDALLIB: I formerly known as IMAMU ALKASIM ABDULMUDALLIB now wish to be called and addressed as IMAMU ALKASIM. All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

JOHN: I formerly known as YARI MORE JOHN, now wish to be known as YAHAYA JOHN D.O.B 08/08/1998. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

ASABE: I formerly known as ASABE BALANCE GESABIRU, now wish to be known as ASABE BALA. All former documents remain valid, the general public should take note

NAFIU, I formerly known as NAFIU TIJJANI GARBA now wish to be called and addressed as NAFIU TIJJANI and 10-Oct-1984. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

HALIMA, I formerly known as HALIMA MUHAMMAD now wish to be called and addressed as HALIMA MUHAMMAD INUWA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

IDRIS I formerly known and addressed as IDRIS YUSUF now wish to be known and addressed as IDRIS MALLAN YUSUF All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

ZAINAB: I, formerly Known as ZAINAB YUSUF USMAN, now wish to be Known and addressed as ZAINAB YUSUF UMAR. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and the general public to take note.

I formerly known as OKEKE ANNE NGOZI, now wish to be known and addressed as CHINEKE ANNE NGOZI. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should take note.

DELMWA: I formerly known as BOT DELMWA DUNG, now wish to be known and addressed as BOT DELMWA DUNG (CORRECT NAME ON BVN). All former documents remain valid, constituted authorities and the general public should take note

SAMAILA, I formerly known as MUSA KAMISU S now wish to be called and addressed as SAMAILA KAMISU MUSA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

GARBA. I formerly known as IBRAHIM GARBA ZAKAR, now wish to be known and addressed as GARBA NURA ZAKAR. All former documents remain valid General public should please take note.

ALDULMUMINI I formerly known and addressed as ALHAJI MALA ABDULMUMINI now wish to be known and addressed as ABDULMUMINI ALHAJI MALA All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

MOHAMMED, I formerly known as LAURATU MUHAMMED YARO now wish to be called and addressed as MOHAMMED LAURATU YARO. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as FATIMA GARBA, now wish to be known and addressed as FATIMA YAHAYA. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should take note.

ADDITION OF NAME: I formerly known as MAGAJI JUSTICE on my National Identity card, now wish to be known as AMIAH JUSTICE MAGAJI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

ALI, I formerly known as ALI MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM now wish to be called and addressed as ALI IBRAHIM MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

MUHAMMAD, I formerly known as MUHAMMAD USMAN now wish to be called and addressed as MUHAMMAD USMAN BABAJIYA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

CHRISTIANA I formerly known and addressed as CHRISTIANA CHUKA NWABUFO now wish to be known and addressed as CHRISTIANA NWABUFO All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

NAFISA, I formerly known as NAFISA LAWAN ABDALLAH now wish to be called and addressed as NAFISA LAWAL. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as ESTHER LILI and ESTER LILI, now wish to be known and addressed as ESTHER GODWIN and my correct Date of Birth is 16/01/1976. All my former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should take note.

LYDIA: I formerly known as MISS. JOB LYDIA NOMCHIA, now wish to be known as MRS. JACKSON LYDIA NOMCHIA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

THOMAS, I formerly known as TH ADAMU NINAT now wish to be called and addressed as THOMAS ADAMU NINAT. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

ALI, I formerly known as DAHIRU HARUNA now wish to be called and addressed as ALI MUHAMMAD MASI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

SALEH: I formerly known as SALEH TUKUR and SALEH TUKUR MUHAMMAD, now wish to be called and addressed as SALEH TUKUR MOHAMMED. All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

KHADIJA, I formerly known as KHADIJA MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM now wish to be called and addressed as KHADIJA MUHAMMAD MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

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ABDULAZIZ, I formerly known as **ABDULAZIZ KABIRU MUHAMMAD** now wish to be called and addressed as **ABDULAZIZ KABIR**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

MOSES: I, formerly known as **MISS NWOKO OBIANUNWA YVONNE**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS MOSES JOSEPH OBIANUNWA YVONNE**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

SALISU: I formerly known as **SALISU UMAR DANGWANI** now wish to be called and address as **SALISU UMAR MUHAMMAD**, All former documents remain valid, Authority concern and general public should please take note

BARUWA-GIWA : I, formerly known and addressed as **GIWA TAWA ABIODUN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **BARUWA-GIWA TAWAKALT ABIODUN**, due to change in my marital status. All former documents remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

AISHA I formally known as **AISHA ALIYU** now wish to be known and addressed as **SADIYA ABUBAKAR** all former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

ALI: I Formerly known as **MALLAM ALI WALASA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MALLAM ALI KACHALLA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

MARYAM: I formerly known as **ABDULMUNAF MARYAM I** now wish to be called and addressed as **MARYAM BALARABE ABDULMUNAF** All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

ASOQUO: I, formerly known as **ASQUO DAVID CHRISTOPHER**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ASOQUO DAVID CHRISTOPHER**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

RUKAYYA: Formerly known as RUKAYYA ABUBAKAR SADIQ now to be address as **RUKAYYA ABUBAKAR IBRAHIM**. The general public to take note and all former documents remain valid

OKE : I, formerly known and addressed as **FASEUN OLUWASEUN VICTORIA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **OKE OLUWASEUN VICTORIA**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

HARUNA I formerly known and addressed as **HARUNA ALHAJI ADAMU** now wish to be known and addressed as **HARUNA ADAMU** All former documents remain valid All concern and authority General public should please take note.

HAUWA. I formerly known as **HAUWA SADAM**, now wish to be known as addressed as **HAUWA ALHAJI SADAM**. All Former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

MARYAM: I formerly known as **BALARABE MARYAM** now wish to be called and addressed as **MARYAM BALARABE ABDULMUNAF** All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

Addition of Name I, formerly known as **HAMZA SALIHU**, now wish to be known and called **HAMZA SALIHU JAMAA**. All former documents remain valid. First Bank and all the authorities concern should please take note

ASMAU: I, formerly known as **A. JIMOH ASAMUA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ASMAU ABDULSALAM JIMOH**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

FATAI: I Formerly known and addressed as **OLAYIWOLA KAFAYAT ABENI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **FATAI KAFAYAT ABENI**. All former documents remain valid. General public to please take note.

YUSUF. I formerly known as **HARUNA YAKUBU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **HARUNA YAKUBU YUSUF**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

I, formerly known as **MUHAMMED GARBA**, Now wish to be known and addressed as **MOHAMMED GARBA**. All my documents remain Valid. Authority concerned and general public Should take note.

MARYAM: I formerly known as **ABDULMUNAFI MARYAM 1** now wish to be called and addressed as **MARYAM BALARABE ABDULMUNAF** All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

AYENI: I, formerly known as **TOYIN A OGUNLEYE BOSE**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AYENI OLUWATOYIN ABOSEDE**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

NDUKWU: I, formerly known and addressed as **NDUKWU BLESSING OBIOMA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **NDUKWU DEBLESSING OBIOMA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

I, AWOYALE OLUWASEYI. That **AWOYALE OLUWASEYE RICHARD** is my biological son. That he was formerly known and addressed as **YAKUBU OLUWASEYE RICHARD**. That he now wish to be known and addressed as **AWOYALE OLUWASEYE RICHARD**. That all former documents remain valid. Banks and General public take note.

MATHIAS. I formerly known as **MATHIAS MORIS**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MATHIAS MORIS MAINA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

I, formerly known as **ABUBAKAR ABDULLAHI** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI HASSAN**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

HALIMA: I formerly known as **ABDULMUNAFI HALIMA** now wish to be called and addressed as **HALIMA ABDULMUNAFI INUSA** All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

GRACE: I, formerly known as **SUNDAY GRACE MARVELOUS** now wish to be called and addressed as **GRACE MABEL SUNDAY** all former documents remain valid. Gt Bank and general public should please take note.

ADEKOLA: I, formerly known and addressed as **OPELOYERU ADEBOLA ABIBAT**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs ADEKOLA ADEBOLA ABIBAT**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ARRANGEMENT AND CORRECTION OF NAME I, ADETUNJI AISAT ASAKE. That on my NIN my name was wrongly arranged and written as **ADETUNJI ASATE AISAT** instead of **ADETUNJI AISAT ASAKE**. That my correct name is **ADETUNJI AISAT ASAKE**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

AHMAD: I formerly known as **Ahmed Muazu Adam**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **Ahmad Muazu Adam**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

JAGILA : I Formerly known as **JAGILA JOEL WAYARDA** now wish to be known as **JAGILA RUFAI MOHAMMED**. All former document remain valid. General Public should take note.

HALIMA: I formerly known as **ABDULMUNAFI HALIMA** now wish to be called and addressed as **HALIMA ABDULMUNAFI INUSA** All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

ODUOLA: I, formerly known as **ODUOLA TUNDE**, now wish to be known and called **ODUOLA TUNDE IDRIS**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

AKINMADE: I, formerly known and addressed as **FATAI KHADIJAT DESOLA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **AKINMADE KHADIJAT DESOLA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ADESHINA: I, formerly known and addressed as **CHRISTOPHER TEMITOPE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **ADESHINA TEMITOPE ESTHER**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

I formerly known and addressed as **IBRAHIM MAZU DANGOTE** now wish to be called and addressed as **HAMZA MAZU**. All former document remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note please.

ABDU : I Formerly known as **NOHAMMED ABDU T**, now wish to be known as **MOHAMMED ABDU**. All former document remain valid. General Public should take note.

I formerly known as **ABDULMUNAFI SAFIYA** now wish to be called and addressed as **SAFIYA ISAH ABDULMUNAFI INUSA**. All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note.

AMADU: I, formerly known as **GONI BABAGANA** Now wish to be known and addressed as **AMADU BALUMA BARU** All my documents remain Valid. Authority concerned and general public Should take note.

FABIAN: I, formerly known and addressed as **NMOR OLIVIA BLESSING**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **FABIAN OLIVIA BLESSING**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

FEMI-AGUDA: I, formerly known and addressed as **ONIPEDE SIMILOLUWA MERCY**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **FEMI-AGUDA SIMILOLUWA MERCY**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

HADIZA: I formerly known as **HADIJA BILKI ABATCHA** now wish to be known and addressed as **HADIZA ABATCHA**. All former documents remain valid. General Public Should please take note.

MARYAM: I Formerly known as **MARYAM ALI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MARYAM MOHAMMED SHERIFF**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

SAFIYA: I formerly known as **ABDULMUNAF SAFIYA** now wish to be called and addressed as **SAFIYA ISAH ABDULMUNAFI INUSA**. All former documents remain valid. The Authority concern and the general public should please take note

SALEH: I, formerly known as **GABRIEL EUNICE**, now wish to be known and called **SALEH AFINIKI**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

NURENI: I, formerly known and addressed as **ARO KUBURAT ORITOKO**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **NURENI KUBURAT ORITOKO**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

GREEN: I, formerly known and addressed as **OYEBAMIJI OLUBUNMI ADEJOKE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **GREEN OLUBUNMI ADEJOKE**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

JOHN: I formerly known as **AGDZAMAYA JOHN ARBOKO**, now wish to be known as **AGDZAMAYA JOHN**. All former document remain valid. General Public should take note.

SAID: I Formerly known as **SAIDU ALHAJI IBRAHIM**, now wish to be known and addressed as **SAID SAID IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

RAHINATU, I formerly known as **RAHAINATU ABDULMUMINU ABDULSALAM, RAHAINATU ABDULMUMINU ABDULSALAM, RAHAINATU ABDULMUMINU ABDULSALAM** now wish to be called and addressed as **RAHINATU ABDUSALAM**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

YAHAYA: I, formerly known as **YAHAYA ISYAKU**, now wish to be known and called **YAHAYA SALISU ISYAKU**. All former documents remain valid. General public and First Bank **BVN** should take note

CHARLES: I, formerly known and addressed as **Mr. CHARLES AGU MELLITUS**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **CHARLES AGU MELLITUS**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

ADEBOYE: I, formerly known and addressed as **Miss AWONIYI SULIAT ADEWUNMI**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **Mrs ADEBOYE SULIAT ADEWUNMI**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

HALIMA I, formerly known as **ZAINAB KALLI** now wish to be known and called **HALIMA ABDULRAHMAN**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

ABUBAKAR: I formerly known as **the ABUBAKAR ALI** now wish to be known as **ABUBAKAR ALHAJI ALI**. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

I, formerly known as **ALHAJI LAMARA MOHAMMED HAJJI**. Now wish to be called and addressed as **LAMARA HAJJI MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public should please take note.

LABARAN: I formerly known as **LABARAN SALISU** now wish to be called **LABARAN YAKUBU**, all former documents remain valid, general public all authority concern should please take note

AMADI: I, formerly known and addressed as **UZODINMA MERCY CHISARAM**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **AMADI MERCY CHISARAM**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

JAMES: I, formerly known and addressed as **FATIREGUN HANNAH ABIDEI**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **JAMES HANNAH ABIDEI**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

GONI I, formerly known as **GREMA GAMBOMI** now wish to be known and called **GREMA MALAH GONI**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

I formerly known as **ALLI PETER JATAU** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALI PETER JATAU** All former document remain valid General public and any authority concern should please take note.

GOWON, I formerly known as **LENKA GOWON** now wish to be called and addressed as **GOWON NDOM LENKA**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

VICTORIA: I, formerly known as **VICTORIA DOGO** now wish to be called as **VICTORIA DOGO SIMON** all former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note

AMADI: I, formerly known and addressed as **EKE HANNAH ONYEMECHI**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **AMADI HANNAH ONYEMECHI**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

KELANI: I, formerly known and addressed as **OLADELE PHILIP BAMIDURO**. Now wish to be known and called **KELANI ISMAILA OLADELE**. Also my correct date of birth is 28th day of December, 1976. All former documents remain valid. Bank Authority and General public please take note.

I, MUHAMMAD ABDULLAHI GATA do solemnly declare that: The names **MUHAMMAD ABDULLAHI GATA** and **MUHAMMAD ABDULLAHI** are referred to me, as I used to answer either of the names. Now I wish to be known and called **MUHAMMAD ABDULLAHI GATA**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

UMAR: I formerly known as **the UMAR ADAM**, now wish to be known as **UMAR SHARIFF ADAM**. All former document remain valid. General Public should please take note.

AHMAD, I formerly known as **AHMADU BUBA** now wish to be called and addressed as **AHMAD ABUBAKAR**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note.

FATIMA: I, formerly known as **AISHA BALA KUBARACHI** now wish to be called as **FATIMA BALA KUBARACHI** all former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note

ABOLADE: I, formerly known and addressed as **ABOLADE MORENIKEJI AYOKUNLE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **ABOLADE JOSHUA TUNDE**. That I was born on 5th day of August, 2000 not 5th day of August, 1998. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

YAMUSA I, formerly known as **YAMUSA FRANCIS** now wish to be known and addressed as **YAMUSA FRANCIS TUKURA**. All former document remain valid public to take note

I, MISHAL OLADIPO JERIEL DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT: THE NAMES MISHAL OLADIPO JERIEL, MISHAL JERIEL, JERIEL MISHAL OLADIPO AND MISHAL JERIEL OLADIPO ARE REFERRED TO ME, AS I USED TO ANSWER EITHER OF THE NAMES. NOW I WISH TO BE KNOWN AND CALLED MISHAL OLADIPO JERIEL. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. AUTHORITIES CONCERNED AND PUBLIC TO NOTE.

JIMBA : I Formerly known as **NOHAMMED TIJJANI**, now wish to be known as **MOHAMMED JIMBA TIJJANI**. All former document remain valid. General Public should take note.

ABDULLAHI, I formerly known as **ABDULLAHI YARO DAUDA** now wish to be called and addressed as **ABDULLAHI DAUDA**. All former documents remain valid. **UNITY BANK PLC** and the general public should please take note.

MUHAMMAD: I formerly known as **MUHAMMAD BAQEER** now wish to be called as **MUHAMMAD BAQEER MUSA** all former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note.

I Formerly known and addressed as **MISS AYENI OLUWASEFUNMI OLAJUMOKE**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS MICHAEL OLUWASEFUNMI OLAJUMOKE**. All Former documents remain valid. The general public take note.

MUSA: I formerly known as **SHUAIBU AHMED**, now wish to be known and addressed as **SHUAIBU AHMED MUSA**. All former documents remain valid. General Public Should please take note.

ABUBAKAR I, formerly known as **YAKUBU USMAN** now wish to be known and called **ABUBAKAR MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

I formerly known and addressed as **RAFIA HAMISU** now wish to be called and addressed as **ZAHARIYYA MAHUTA**. All former document remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should please take note please.

UMAR, I formerly known as **UMAR UMAR** now wish to be called and addressed as **UMAR ISYAKU**. All former documents remain valid. **UBA BANK** and the general public should please take note.

MICHAEL: I Formerly known as **MICHEAL JESSY RITIYO** Now wish to be called and addressed as **MICHAEL JESSY RITIYO** All Former documents remain valid Any Authority concern and the general public to please take note

I Formerly known and addressed as **MISS OJO OLUWAFUNMILOLA HANNAH**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS BANKOLE OLUWAFUNMILOLA HANNAH**. All Former documents remain valid. Nigeria Immigration service, Abuad and general public take note

SALIM I formerly known as **SALEEM GAMBO** now wish to be known and addressed as **SALIM GAMBO**. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

AMADU I formerly known as **AMADU JANAI DU MODA** now wish to be known and addressed as **AMADU JANAI DU** with **DOB:14-06-1997** not 12-04-2000. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

IMMACULATE: I, formerly known as **IMMACULATE GINIKA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **IMMACULATE GINIKA DENNIS**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concern and general public should please take note.

AMINA: I, formerly known as **AMINA ZARA GARBA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **AMINA ZARAHATU GARBA MUHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

SHEHU: I, formerly known as **SHEU ZAHARIYA** now wish to be called as **SHEHU ZAHARIYA** all former documents remain valid Any authority concern and general public all authority concern should please take note

BAKO: I, formerly known and addressed as **EMMANUEL GIDEON BAKWO**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **BAKO EMMANUEL**. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

NA'ILATU I formerly known as **NA'ILATU IBRAHIM TAHIR** now wish to be known and addressed as **NA'ILATU ABUBAKAR HASSAN**. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

YUSUF I formerly known as **ABUSUFYAN YUSUF** now wish to be known and addressed as **YUSUF SHINKAFI ABUSUFYAN** with **DOB:22-01-1995** not 22-02-1995. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

ANI : I formally known as **BENJAMIN ANI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **IFEANYICHUKWU BENJAMIN ANI**, All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

ABIGAIL: I, formerly known as **ABIGAIL JOHNSON**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABIGAIL SABBATH JOHN**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

ZAHARADDIN: I, formerly known as **ZARADEEN ZAKARIA, ZAHARADDIN HUSSAIN ZAKARIYA** now wish to be called as **ZAHARADDIN ZAKARIYA HUSSAINI** all former documents remain valid access Bank, pension office and general public should please take note

ALAAFIA : I, formerly known and addressed as **OKAFOR IJEOMA HOPE**, now to be known and addressed as **ALAAFIA IJEOMA HOPE**. All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should take note.

AJAO : I formally known as **HABEEBAT BOLA SALAUDEEN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **HABIBA BOLA AJAO**, all former documents remain valid, authorities concerned and general public should please take note

ADAMU: I formerly known as **ADO HAMIDU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ADAMU HAMIDU**. All former documents remain valid. General Public Should please take note.

HASSAN : I formally known as **HAJARA HASSAN**, now wish to be known and addressed as **HAJARA AHMAD HASSAN**, All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note

ABDURRAHMAN: I, formerly known as **ABDURRAHMAN ISAH KAMILU**, now wish to be known and called **ABDURRAHMAN KAMILU ISAH**. All former documents remain valid. Union Bank Plc, general public and any authority concerned to please take note

HAUWA'U: I, formerly known as **HAUWA AHMED ALIYU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **HAUWA'U ALIYU**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note

MISS. UZUEGBU: I, formerly known and addressed as **MRS. IGUIBARRA ADAOBI SANDRA**, now to be known and addressed as **MISS. UZUEGBU ADAOBI SANDRA**. All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should take note.

HALADU : I formerly known as **HALADU MALLAM MAMMAN** now wish to be known as **HALADU MAMMAN**. With **D O B 12/01/1974 to 12/01/1970**. All former document remain valid. General Public should take note.

FATIMA: I formerly known as **HAJJA MODU ONE**, now wish to be known and addressed as **FATIMA ALHAJI SALEH**. All former document remain valid General public should please take note.

JONATHAN: I formally known as **OGONNAYA ODI OGBONNAYA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **OGONNAYA JONATHAN OGBONNAYA**, All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note

From Iniabasi Umo, Uyo

Clergy urges Gov Emmanuel to rescind decision on successor

The Akwa Ibom State Council of Ministers has called on Governor Udom Emmanuel to rescind his endorsement of Commissioner for Lands and Water Resources, Umo Eno, as his successor in 2023.

President of the group, Apostle Joseph Nyong, and Secretary, Apostle Elijah Usuh, said the choice of Eno was bereft of equity and fairness, adding that the selection was an imposition designed to outsmart the majority of the Akwa Ibom

people. Speaking yesterday in Uyo, the group criticised former Governor Obong Victor Attah for spearheading the endorsement and wondered why he connived with the governor to scuttle the zoning arrangement he had started. They argued that the

endorsement was skewed against the zoning arrangement which produced Attah and Emmanuel which should in fairness be micro-zoned to Itu/Ibiono Federal Constituency in Akwa Ibom North East Senatorial District.

“There is no gainsaying the

fact that it is only Itu/ Ibiono Ibom Federal Constituency that is yet to produce the governor of all the Federal Constituencies within Uyo Senatorial District. It is therefore equitable and fair that it should be micro zoned to the federal constituency of Itu/Ibiono,” the group stated.

They dismissed the claim that Emmanuel’s choice is a revelation from God as a bare faced lie to give Eno credence.

They warned that if the public outcry against the endorsement was not well handled, it might degenerate into an avoidable crisis ahead of the 2023 general elections.

Resolve teachers’ stagnation, NUT tells Ekiti govt

From Raphael Ogbonnaiye, Ado-Ekiti

The Nigeria Union of Teachers (NUT) has demanded the Ekiti State Government to resolve the issue of teachers’ stagnation at level 14 in the civil service and give them the opportunity of getting to level 17.

The union also urged teachers in the state to continue to be professionals in their line of duties

The NUT National President, Nasir Idris, gave the charge while inaugurating a multi-million naira water factory established by the Ekiti chapter in the state.

Idris, represented by a former Ekiti NUT chairman, Samuel Akosile, said the factory was another innovation and development by the teachers.

In his speech, the Ekiti NUT chairman, Oke Emmanuel, while reeling out his achievements to mark his one year in office, said the water factory would boost the image and economic status of the union.

He said he had procured one “Mikano generator”, refurbished the union bus, and made the environment at the union’s secretariat more conducive.

The Ekiti State Governor, Dr Kayode Fayemi, who was represented by the permanent secretary in the state’s Ministry of Education, Dr Folakemi Olomjobi, promised to safeguard the interest of teachers.

He warned that anyone who assaults teachers would be prosecuted to checkmate the excesses of some parents recorded in recent times.

FG not paying attention to Benue IDPs – SEMA

From Hope Abah Emmanuel, Makurdi

The Benue State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) has accused the federal government of not paying adequate attention to the internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the state.

SEMA’s Executive Secretary, Dr Emmanuel Shior, stated this yesterday in Makurdi while distributing food to the IDPs.

“The IDPs have been in camps for over four

years now. It’s mind boggling that the federal government hasn’t paid much attention to Benue IDPs like those in the North East,” he said.

Shior said it was only occasionally that the federal government through the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and the ministry of humanitarian would come to the aid of the displaced persons in the state even as he urged them to increase such food supplies so as to lessen the burden on the state government.

He lamented that schools, homes and bridges had been destroyed during the perennial herders-farmers clashes, thereby making access to affected villages difficult and increasing the number of the out of school children.

Daily Trust reports that the agency had put the figures of the IDPs in the state at over 1.5 million in over 15 official and unofficial IDPs camps across several local governments in the state.

ABIDAH : I formerly known as **ABIGAIL MESHEK** now wish to be known as **ABIDAH MICHEAL**. All former document remain valid. General Public should take note.

I, formerly known as **AKANNI JIDE ISAIAH** now wish to be known and addressed as **AKANNI OLUJIDE ISAIAH**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

ABIODU - I, formerly known as **GEORGE ANGAMA DIANA**. Now wish to be known as **ABIODU NANCY ONOKHIFA**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

AKUNEME: I, Formerly known and addressed as **ALOY PRECIOUS UCHECHI** wish to be known and addressed as **AKUNEME PRECIOUS UCHECHI**. All Former Documents Remain Valid General public please take note

OGBONNA: I, formerly known as **OGBONNA OKEKE VERONICA**. Now wish to be known as **OGBONNA OGECHUKWU VERONICA**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **ABDULLAHI MUHAMMAD** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULLAHI MUHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. UBA, general public and authorities concerned should please take note.

MOHAMMED : I formerly known as **ALHAJI KAGU ABBA** now wish to be known as **MOHAMMED ALHAJI GUWO**. All former document remain valid. General Public should take note.

MARYAM I formerly known as **MARYAM UMAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **MARYAM ABDO ABU** with DOB:02-05-2000 not 01-01-1988. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

I, **REGINALD CHRISTIAN IBOROMA**, That my name/date of birth was wrongly written on my (BVN) as **JONATHAN CHRISTIAN /14th APRIL 1988** instead of **REGINALD CHRISTIAN IBOROMA /14th APRIL 1989**. That my correct name/date of birth is **REGINALD CHRISTIAN IBOROMA/14th APRIL 1989**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

ONONOGBO: I, formerly known and Addressed As **CHIBUEZE ONONOGBO OSMOD**, Now Wish To Be Known And Addressed As **ONONOGBO EZE**. All Former Documents Remain Valid General public please take note.

OLATOBI: I, formerly known as **TOBI AKEEM OLA**. Now wish to be known as **OLATOBI AKEEM OJO**, and my correct date of birth is 26th May, 1986. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **ABDULRASHID ABUBAKAR TAKWARE** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULSHEED ABUBAKAR TAKWARE**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MUSA MUHAMMAD** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD MUHAMMAD ALHAJI**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

HALLIRU I formerly known as **MAGAJI HALLIRU** now wish to be known and addressed as **HALLIRU MAGAJI**. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

OBINNA: That I was formerly known as **MISS. EMMANUEL EBERECHI FORTUNE**. Now wish to be known called and addressed as **MRS. FORTUNE OBINNA ANYAEHIE**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

My name was wrongly written as **ELEGAGAM MIRIAM** and **ELEGAGAM MIRIAM ADAOBI**, instead of **ELEGALAM MIRIAM UGOCHI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ELEGALAM MIRIAM UGOCHI**. All former documents remain valid general public take note

UGBUWIAKO - I, formerly known as **DIVINE P. EDOJARIOGBA**. Now wish to be known as **UGBUWIAKO DIVINEPEACE**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note

I, formerly known as **BELLO AHMAD** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD BELLO SALIHU** with D.O.B 03-02-1999. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note

I, formerly known as **SUNDAY HANGIBA ALI** now wish to be known and addressed as **SUNDAY HANGIBA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

MRS LILIAN: I, Formerly known and addressed as **MISS LILIAN NKIRU OSUAGWU**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS LILIAN NKIRU NDUBUISI ONWE**, All former documents remain valid general public take note.

NNAWULEZI: I, Formerly known and addressed as: **NNAWULEZI CHUMA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **NNAWULEZI CHUMA ETHELBERT**, All former documents remain valid general public take note.

CHUKWU: I, formerly known as **MRS. AKUMA NANCY OGOINNA**. Now wish to be known as **CHUKWU NANCY AKUMA**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **KASIMU YUSUF USMAN, KASSIM YUSUF USMAN, KASSIM YUSUF** and **YUSUF KASIM** now wish to be known and addressed as **YUSUF KASIM**. All former documents remain valid. Umaru Ali Shinkafi Polytechnic, general public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known as **AMINU LAMIDO, MUHD AMINU, SIDI AMINU MUHD, SIDI AMINU LAMIDO, AMINU MOHAMMED** and **MUHD SIDI AMINU** now wish to be known and addressed as **SIDI LAMIDO AMINU**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
This is to inform the general public of the Loss of Original Payment receipt of Plot NO CON/RES/2010/09 situated AT DANBARE QTRS IN KUMBOTSO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF KANO STATE belonging to LUBABATU B. YUSUF which she inherited the said Plot from her Late Father ALHAJI YUSUF is declared missing. The Original payment receipt issued to her in respect of the said plot got lost in her possession. All efforts made to trace same proved abortive. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
On the 2/02/2022 at about 1800hrs One Ali Abdullahi Dibal "M" of Damba Road area Maiduguri came to G. R. A police station and reported that sometimes last year 2020 he misplaced his Original Receipt with No. 427806, of his plot No. 813 File No. 35186 located at after Polo Federal High Court Maiduguri. All efforts made to trace it proved abortive hence the report.
ACTION TAKEN:- The complainant was advised to go to court of law and swear an affidavit. To enable her get replacement from the authority concerned.

I, formerly known as **MURADEEN YA,U** now wish to be known and addressed as **NURA YA,U**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known as **USMAN ABUBAKAR** now wish to be known and addressed as **USMAN ABUBAKAR DIKKO**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

I, formerly known as **NURA M LAWAL** now wish to be known and addressed as **NURA LAWAL**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concerned should please take note.

Requirement for Change of Name Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit; Men: Court Affidavit

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
This is to notify the general public. I Mrs MARY YOBALIYAT AUDU of no 4b Katsina Road Kaduna is the rightful owner of the said documents original C of O issued by lands and survey Kaduna with number NCL /14372 in respect of plot No 12 Road 'A' TPO. 450A Kafanchan. Any C of O bearing my name on the said plot of land is fake. I wish to bring to the notice of the public that I did not authorize anyone to sale my plot of land on my behalf or to sign and receive a Grant of Occupancy on my behalf ,general public, all authority concern should please take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
This is to inform the general public of the Loss of Original Occupancy Permit of Plot No 904 Plan No TP/KNUPDA/328C dated 7th April, 15 situated at WESTERN BYE PASSINKUMBOTSO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF KANO STATE Belonging to ISMAIL IBRAHIM DANKANI, sold to him by Basiru Magaji is declared missing. All efforts made to trace it proved abortive. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
This is to inform the general public of the loss of Original Certificate Of Occupancy No NC 4936/KDL/12027 bearing the name of JOHN A EZENWA Located at Kagoro Road Kaduna issued to him by KADGIS and same got lost on 15/9/2007 along Maraban Rido Kaduna State. All effort made to trace same proved abortive. If found, please return to the nearest police station or the above mentioned address. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

Commission unveils 5-year plan for inclusion of PWDs

By Dalhatu Liman

The National Commission for Persons With Disabilities yesterday unveiled a five-year strategic plan and revalidation process

to integrate Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) into the society.

The executive secretary of the commission, David Lalu, said he was expected to align with the strategic interest of the government to improve the

living condition of PWDs.

While lamenting that PWDs were still at the receiving end of social and societal discrimination, Lalu said the rate of crimes perpetrated against PWDs was worrisome as they were not given the

necessary support by their communities.

He said the commission remained steadfast to bringing those people to realize that PWDs now have benefactors in the commission.

Earlier, the consultant and

presenter of the plan, Dr Toyin Aderemi, described the strategic plan as an operational instrument for the commission to implement the provisions of the Discriminations against Persons Living with Disability Act.



Photo: Onyekachukwu Obi

■ From left: Co-Convenor, Nigeria Civil Society Situation Room, Mrs Ene Obi; Executive Director, African Centre for Entrepreneurship and Information Development, Mr James Ugochukwu and Director Information and Communication PLAC, Mrs Agianpe Onyema during a press conference on the electoral Act Amendment Bill awaiting assent by President Buhari held in Abuja yesterday

Oronsaye: EFCC closes case after 21 witnesses

By John Chuks Azu

The Economic and Financial Crimes Commission yesterday concluded its case against a former Head of Service of the Federation, Stephen Oronsaye, over alleged fraud.

Oronsaye was arraigned before a Federal High Court in Abuja in June 2016 on allegations of diversion of funds in the civil service biometric data project.

At the resumed hearing on Thursday, witness number 21, Umar Abba Tilde testified that Oronsaye was not a signatory to the Federal Pension Accounts where alleged fraud was perpetrated.

Abba Tilde, a Compliance Officer with Zenith Bank PLC, stated that he could not ascertain whether Oronsaye ever made an endorsement for withdrawal

from the accounts.

The banker, who testified for the anti-graft agency revealed that two withdrawals, N161, 472, 00 and N28, 375, 000 were transferred from a pension account to a company on July 6, and July 7, 2010 respectively.

While led in evidence by EFCC lawyer, Oluwaleke Atolagbe, the witness confirmed that mandates relating to the pension accounts were submitted by his bank to the EFCC in January 2020 based on request.

However, under cross examination by Mr Joe Agi, lead counsel to Oronsaye, the witness said that the former HOS did not sign mandate for the two transfers made in 2010.

Justice Ekwo fixed March 9 and 10 for Oronsaye to open his defence.

Glo TV reality show broadcast kicks off Saturday

By Zakariyya Adaramola

Broadcast of dance competition in TV reality show, Glo Battle of the Year Nigeria, will commence tomorrow on Glo's mobile streaming app, GloTV by 8pm.

The dance reality TV show, which will be anchored by popular Nigerian on - Air - personality and discjockey, Oladotun Ojuolape

Kayode, will parade seasoned show coaches including Poco Lee, Pinky Debbie, Izzy Odigie, Big Flo, Maxbuck, Dunamis, Franc Okwara, and JC Jedor. Others are Poxo from Cameroon, Gidnasty from USA, Menno from Netherlands and Manuela from Germany.

In a statement in Lagos, Globacom said the show would offer millions of cash prizes to winners

across seven dance categories and also provide the opportunity to win the grand prize of representing Nigeria at the international battle of the year.

"We appreciate the commitment of our partners and project team who have been instrumental in bringing the show to episodic viewing for the first time in Nigeria," the company said.

World Read Aloud Day, free vaccine for literacy - UBEC boss

By Seun Adeuyi

The Executive Secretary of the Universal Basic Commission, Hamid Bobboyi, has described the World Read Aloud Day as a free vaccine for literacy.

He spoke in Abuja Wednesday during an event held in commemoration of the 2022 World Read Aloud Day, organized by UBEC in partnership with the Universal Learning Solutions (ULS).

The World Read Aloud Day is held yearly to celebrate the joy of reading, especially with children.

Bobboyi said: "The World Read Aloud Day aims at expanding children's interest in books, vocabularies,

comprehension, grammar and attention which could be seen as a free vaccine for literacy."

Director of Academic Services, UBEC, Roseline Medubi, said: "Reading is fun, it provides for long-term growth and productivity, and Jolly Phonics has assisted us in achieving this objective."

Chief Executive Officer of ULS, Gary Foxcroft, said in conjunction with UBEC, his organization had trained over 6,000 Nigerian teachers on Jolly Phonics in the last 12 months.

Foxcroft said Jolly Phonics methodology is widely recognized as the most effective tool to enable children to develop the skills required to read and write confidently in the English language.

Imo reiterates commitment to infrastructural devt

By Baba Martins

The Imo State Government has reiterated its commitment to turning around the fortune of the state, especially in the area of infrastructural development.

The Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Declan Emelumba, said this while conducting journalists round some projects executed by Governor Hope Uzodinma's administration.

He said the administration had embarked on legacy projects that had changed the landscape of the state in the last two years.

He said: "When President Muhammadu Buhari visited last year, a total of 90 roads were being worked on. By January this year, 32 of the road projects had been completed; while serious work is ongoing at the rest, including the signature dual Owerri-Orlu

and Owerri- Okigwe Roads. The dual carriageways will connect the three senatorial zones of the state."

At the Owerri Water Works, the commissioner said: "The facility had been abandoned for a quarter of a century. Governor Uzodinma brought it back to life and today, water is flowing from the public taps for the first time in years.

"More pumping machines have been procured by the governor and installed. Many parts of the city outside Owerri municipality are now enjoying the public water supply."

One of the projects visited was the Imo State University Teaching Hospital, Orlu, whose students, according to the commissioner, had not graduated for five years.

He said Uzodinma's administration had reversed the situation by providing necessary equipment.

FG urged to hike tax on tobacco by 70%

By Faruk Shuaibu

The Corporate Accountability and Public Participation Africa (CAPPA) has urged the Federal Government to increase the tax on tobacco products by 70 per cent.

The Executive Director of CAPPA, Akinbode Oluwafemi, said this would enable the government to generate more revenue, improve healthcare and save lives.

He said this in Abuja during a visit to the corporate head office of Media Trust Limited (publishers of Daily Trust and other titles).

He solicited the company's support for reduction of tobacco consumption in the country.

He said his organization was working with the Nigerian Video and Censors Board to begin enforcement on the ban of smoking in movies.

He said with low taxes paid on tobacco products, the government was inadvertently subsidizing tobacco consumption in the country.



■ Akinbode Oluwafemi

"There is also the issue of funding of tobacco control and we've been advocating the patronization of the tobacco control fund. When it's operationalized, it means the government will be able to generate more revenue to do the work they're supposed to do and that's the global standard.

"If you compare prices, you'll see that our cigarettes are among the cheapest in the world. A pack of cigarette is seven pounds (N3,962) and the same product is selling for N250 in Nigeria. Our argument is: why is it only petrol the government wants to remove subsidy on? Why not remove subsidy on the products harming the people?"

SPORT



■ Alhaji Aliko Dangote (R) and the Minister of Sports and Youths Development, Sunday Dare, addressing the press yesterday at the revamped pitch of the MKO Abiola National Stadium in Abuja

...Dangote visits renovated pitch of MKO Abiola stadium Abuja

By David Ngobua

Billionaire businessman and Africa's richest man, Aliko Dangote, yesterday visited the main bowl of the Moshood Abiola National stadium which his company renovated with a whopping N1billion.

He expressed satisfaction with the job done as the water sprinklers were working perfectly and the digital score-boards beaming as he was conducted round the pitch.

In his remarks, Dangote assured the Sports Minister of his continued support. He said "You can be rest assured of our continued support. You can always knock on our doors.

"We shouldn't allow our stadiums to collapse. Nigerians have a very strong love for Sports, so I think we need to complement the government's efforts to ensure that everything works."

On his part, the Minister of sports, Sunday Dare expressed appreciation to Dangote for accepting to adopt the Moshood Abiola Stadium, stating that he (Dangote) was the first to embrace the Ministry's Adopt-a-Pitch initiative.

"I want to thank you for investing in the development of our Sports and the fruit of that partnership has blossomed into what we see here today. I would like to inform you that we have just received CAF certification of this Stadium for international matches, which means that the World Cup qualifiers will be played here. This wouldn't have been possible without your support", Dare emphasised.

CAF approves MKO Abiola stadium for Super Eagles' WCup playoff

...Demands upgrading of playing turf, dressing rooms

By David Ngobua

The Confederation of African Football (CAF) has given approval for MKO Abiola National stadium Abuja to host the return leg of the 2022 World Cup playoff match between the Super Eagles of Nigeria and the Black Stars of Ghana in March.

However, in the letter of approval signed by Raul Chipenda, Development Director in CAF, the continental body also stated that after assessment and inspection process on the match venue provided by the

federation, certain conditions must be met, if the stadium is to be guaranteed the hosting right.

Going by the content of the letter, CAF is not completely satisfied with the condition of the stadium playing surface area, floodlights and dressing rooms which it said must be brought up to the required level.

"Please note that the approved stadium will be set as the venue to host the match Nigeria vs Ghana related to the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022 Africa Qualifier playoff round.

"Nonetheless, please find attached in Annex A the

inspection comments and remarks to be addressed in the coming period by your association in order to guarantee that the stadium is maintained in the list of CAF approved stadiums for senior competitions.

"Among other aspects mentioned in the report, the stadium management is requested to ensure that the playing surface area, floodlights and the dressing rooms are brought up to the required level to host this important match," the letter reads in part.

It will be recalled that the mainbowl of the MKO Abiola

National stadium Abuja was recently reopened after the renovation work which was sponsored by the Dangote Group to the tune of one million US Dollars.

A member of the NFF Executive Committee who spoke under anonymity assured that the lapses identified by CAF would be addressed in time for the stadium to host the make-or-mar match.

"There is no cause for alarm. The observations made by CAF would be looked into. As you are aware, the stadium was reopened recently after renovation," he said.

2022 Winter Olympics gets underway in Beijing

By David Ngobua with agency report

The 2022 Winter Olympics which is the first Winter Olympic Games in China, the second overall Olympics in China, and the last of three consecutive Olympics in East Asia (after the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea, and the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan) will commence today in Beijing.

Beijing will be the first city to have hosted both the Summer and Winter Olympics.

The four existing indoor venues originally constructed for the 2008 Summer Olympics will be used while the Beijing National Stadium will again host the opening and closing ceremonies.

A total of 2,871 athletes made up of 1,581 male and 1, 290 female



athletes from 91 countries will feature in 109 events in seven sports at the games to be declared open by the President of China, Xi Jiping.

Meanwhile, Nigeria will be making a second appearance at the games after making her debut in 2018 at the Pyeongyang, South Korea, Winter Olympics.

For the first time in history, Nigeria will field a cross-country skier named Samuel Ikpefan at the games in Beijing.

Samuel Ikpefan, born in Annemasse in the French Alps and activated his dual nationality switch in 2016 will be the first Nigerian skier to qualify for the Olympics and the first male athlete to make the Games.

In a similar vein, Dr. Seun Adigun will be contesting into the IOC Athletes' Commission at the Games.

Gombe United win 3-0 to inflict more misery on MFM

By David Ngobua

Gombe United yesterday returned to winning ways in style after scoring three first half goals to thrash relegation bound MFM FC Lagos 3-0 at the Pantami stadium in Gombe.

The visitors who have not picked a single point in their last five matches were no match for the 'Desert scorpions' in the 2022 NPFL week 10 fixtures.

After losing 0-2 at Kwara United in week 9, the resounding victory over MFM was a huge relief to the teeming fans of Gombe United.

Abdulazeez Yusuf scored the opener for Gombe United in the 10th minute after he was assisted by Kelechi Chimezie.

Assisted by Abubakar Saád, Aminu



Muhammed doubled Gombe United's lead in the 42nd minute.

And in the 44th minute, Muhammed the goal scorer turned provider as he assisted Yusuf to score his second of the evening and Gombe United's third goal of the match.

On resumption, MFM fought harder to reduce the deficit and their efforts nearly paid off in the 67th minute but Muiywa Balogun's dangerous cross went past Gombe United's goal with no one to get to the end of it.

Nine minutes later, Gombe United came close to increasing their tally but Alimi Adebayo blocked the goal-bound strike by substitute, Musa Najere, from close range.

The victory has lifted Gombe United to 15th position with 12 points from three wins, three draws and four losses.



AFCON 2021

JIDEOLUSOLA REPORTING FROM CAMEROON



everywhere you go



Egypt exert revenge on Cameroon to set up final clash with Senegal



■ Hero for the Pharaohs of Egypt, Gabaski who saved two penalty kicks last night to send his country into Sunday's finals

The Pharaohs of Egypt have avenged their defeat by Cameroon in the 2017 AFCON final by ending the hosts' hopes of glory on home soil last night at the Olembe Stadium, Yaoundé.

The second semi-final which started with a high intensity finished goalless after 120 minutes but it was Egypt who prevailed in the shootout, just as they did in the last-16 against Ivory Coast.

They will now be in the hunt for an eighth AFCON title as they face the Terranga Lions of Senegal

on Sunday.

Cameroon were the better side in the first half, Aboubakar hitting the junction of the bar and post, but rather lost their way afterwards.

Egypt had the biggest chance of the second half with Mohamed Salah passing up an opportunity to round Andre Onana and score.

Queiroz was first shown a yellow card in the 86th minute and he was sent to the stands, four minutes later over his uncontrolled reactions to leave Egypt in the hands of the team

manager with assistant coach Roger De Sa serving a four-match ban from CAF.

The 90 minutes ended with more tension with another Egyptian official shown a yellow card on the bench.

However, the Pharaohs were clinical during the penalty shoot-out, while Cameroon crumbled to lose the penalties 3-1 with the goalkeeper Gabaski being the hero.

The penalty shoot-out started with Cameroon and it was converted by Aboubakar while

Zizo also sent Onana the wrong way.

Goalkeeper Abou Gabal saved Henry Moukoudi while Mohamed Abdelmonem put Egypt in front by sending Onana the wrong way again.

Lea Siliki stepped up for the third attempt but it was parried again by Egypt goalkeeper while Mohanad Lasheen converted his effort. Clinton Njie finally ended the Indomitable Lions' dreams after placing the fourth effort off target despite sending the keeper the wrong way.

Egypt coach Queiroz knocks CAF over \$100,000 fine

Egypt national team coach, Carlos Queiroz, has knocked the Confederation of Africa Football (CAF) for slamming a \$100,000 fine on the Egypt Football Federation (EFA).

It will be recalled that CAF fined the EFA \$100,000 for failing to attend the pre-match press conference prior to the match against Morocco in the AFCON quarterfinals last Saturday.

"On behalf of the Egyptian national team I want to say that we were not responsible for not attending the press conference. The CAF alongside the media committee and the Cameroonian police are responsible for what happened," Queiroz said at the pre-match press conference ahead of the game against Cameroon.

"We were ready to attend the press conference but they took us to another place far away from the conference headquarters," he said.

"We received a massive \$100,000 fine by CAF for no fault of our own. Hereby, our position on the fine is that it is unjustified and unfair," Queiroz said.

Meanwhile, prior to the game against Cameroon, the 68-year-old former Real Madrid tactician had hit back at Samuel Eto'o, the head of the Cameroonian Football Federation and former Barcelona star striker, for urging his players to give their all and to treat the match as "going to war."

In his reaction, Eto'o, explained that his statements ahead of the Egypt clash was just meant for motivation, adding that at the time he made them and back then he didn't know they would face Egypt in the tournament semifinals.

"As you know when I spoke to the players, we didn't know the team we will face but our target was not to insult any country as we only aim to motivate the team," Eto'o told reporters.



■ Carlos Queiroz

I fought Watford to release Sarr, says Cisse

Senegal coach, Aliou Cisse, has stated he 'fought' English club side, Watford to release Ismaila Sarr to join the team in Cameroon.

It will be recalled the Hornets were holding on to the player just as they did with Super Eagles striker, Emmanuel Dennis.

The club said Sarr had a knee injury and had to undergo rehabilitation with a knee specialist in Barcelona before attending the competition.

Since then Sarr has shown his national side were right to push for his attendance at AFCON by scoring in his first game back from injury and helping them reach the final of the tournament.

"Ismaila Sarr is here but it was very difficult to have him in the team and it was very difficult talking, it was heated discussions with Watford. Watford and the Senegalese Federation finally found an agreement and we thank them for all the effort and the understanding in the end.

"Sarr is an important player in my team and we saw what he did in the previous game and that is the kind of quality he has. It was very brilliant to see and we will keep on monitoring his health and we will make sure that he is healthy throughout the tournament.

"He wanted to be here with his teammates and he showed so much commitment to be here so he is really happy," he said.



■ Ismaila Sarr

CAF reschedules Burkina Faso, Cameroon third place match

The Confederation of African Football (CAF) has confirmed the rescheduling of the third and fourth place final between Burkina Faso and host nation, Cameroon of the Africa Cup of Nations in Cameroon.

The federation announced the changes following consultation between its organising committee and the Cameroonian government. The change only affected the date and not the venue.

Both matches will be played in Yaounde, with the Olembe Stadium hosting the final and the Ahmadou Ahidjo Stadium the venue for the third-place game.

"The CAF Africa Cup of Nations Organising

Committee, after discussions with the government of Cameroon and the Local Organising Committee [LOC], decided to move the Africa Cup of Nations Cameroon 2021 third and fourth place originally scheduled for Sunday 06 February 2022 to Saturday, 05 February 2022. The match, to be played at Ahmadou Ahidjo Stadium, will kick-off at 20h00 (8pm Nigerian time)," CAF announced.

CAF did not give reasons that informed their latest amendment on the schedules.

The 33rd AFCON edition, which started on January 9 amid strict restrictions to prevent the spread of coronavirus, will conclude on February 6.

**DEEPENING
 DEMOCRACY**

with
Jibrin Ibrahim
 jibrinibrahim@dailytrust.com

Enablers of the return of the military in West Africa

The current democratic transition in West Africa started in the early 1990s.

At the formal level, it led to the establishment of constitutional rule and the operation reestablishment of a multiparty systems. The problem is that democratic transition requires a more profound socio-political transformation that allows freely elected rulers and the majority of the civil population to impose their supremacy over ruling oligarchies of the military or civilian ethno-regional cabals that had been in power for decades. This did not happen in most of our countries. The end goal, which was to have been the development of a democratic political culture in which large sections of society internalises democratic values and citizens are able to determine those who exercise power was not achieved. Most African constitutions are excellent documents; they have most of the right provisions about the rule of law, human, civil and political rights, elective institutions, governmental accountability, and separation of powers and so on. The problem however is that these provisions are often not followed.

It is important to note that West African politics has been excessively marked by a history of a high frequency of coups d'état, civil wars and militarism. The military were in power in most countries of the region for 20 to 30 years. When liberalisation and democratisation began in the early 1990s, there was a long history of militarism and their enablers that stepped up to usurp new political opportunities that were emerging. One of the basic outcomes of decades of militarism in West Africa has been the decomposition of state and society with the widespread growth of private armies and armed bands. In many of the countries, the military lost control of the monopoly of the means of violence. Numerous warlords with a stake in war emerged and entrenched themselves in the political process and fought for the control of power and natural resources. These countries and regions such as Sierra Leone, Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea Bissau, the Niger Delta and large parts of the Sahel/Sahara regions of Mali and Niger witnessed persistent armed banditry in the 1990s.

This was the context that led ECOWAS to adopt the Supplementary Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance (21 December, 2001). It sets out the constitutional convergence criteria to be fulfilled by community members based on the principles of good governance – respect for the rule of law, the separation of powers, the independence of the judiciary, the promotion of non-partisan and responsible press and the democratic control of the armed forces. It was on the basis of this protocol that when President Gnassingbe Eyadema of Togo died in 2005, and his son simply took over power in total

disregard of the constitution of the country; the Chair of ECOWAS, Mamadou Tandja of Niger Republic and President Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria mounted enormous pressure on Faure Gnassingbe to step down. Faced with the pressure, he stepped aside and allowed for elections.

It is ironical that the same President Tandja who was giving lessons in democracy to Faure Gnassingbe also fell afoul of the wrath of ECOWAS principles. His tenure of 10 years, which consisted of two terms of five years each was to end in December 2010. Just before that time, he demanded a constitutional review that would allow him tenure elongation. The constitutional court ruled that his request was unconstitutional as the constitution had a provision that the tenure clause could not be amended. He disbanded the constitutional court

The argument is simple. The people of West Africa are being exhausted by repeated cycles of bad governance. Secondly, ECOWAS was much more focused on contesting the derailment of the democratic order. They did not wait until the military takes over before acting. Today, they do nothing until there is a coup and offer medicine after death

and wrote up his own "personal" constitution which even had a clause allowing him to continue in power without elections for three more years. ECOWAS, however, come out clearly and unambiguously to oppose his move. In an unprecedented move in West Africa, ECOWAS went as far as declaring that as far as they were concerned, his tenure as president expired in December 2010 meaning they no longer recognised him as president. This clear stance gave fillip to the struggle of opposition parties and civil society that organised mass demonstrations against Tandja's attempt to destroy Niger's democracy. It was in this context that the military intervened, removed Tandja from power, organised fresh elections and went back to the barracks in less than a year.

ECOWAS was also very active in guiding Cote d'Ivoire back to the path of democracy from the carnage of civil war. Cote d'Ivoire is a country that was not too long ago one of the

shining stars of stability and prosperity in the West African region. Political relations in the country broke down following the death of the country's founding president, Felix Houphouët-Boigny in 1993, coupled with the military coup that overthrew the government of Henri Konan Bedie who succeeded him in 1999. This threw up deep internal divisions resulting in the mutiny that escalated into a full-scale rebellion in September 2002. After his tenure in 2005, Gbagbo refused to organise another election for five years. It was only in 2010 that ECOWAS, the African Union and the United Nations persuaded him to hold elections under UN supervision. He lost the elections but got the Constitutional Council he had appointed to declare him winner. ECOWAS, however, stood firm and threatened to remove him by force if he did not step down and hand over to Ouattara who won the elections. Eventually, patriotic forces marched on Abidjan and removed him from power allowing the elected president to take up his mandate which Gbagbo had confiscated.

In Senegal, President Abdoulaye Wade at 85 wanted a third term in 2012. Citizens surrounded the National Assembly to stop them passing a law to allow authorise his ambition. What was important, however, was the massive demonstrations organised by the Movement, M-23 and rap musicians who galvanised the youth to chase Wade out of power. One of the leading politicians that joined the revolt was current President Macky Sall, who was the main beneficiary of the struggle. Today, Macky Sall too wants a third term.

Guinea is another country in which ECOWAS played a major role. It is a country which had not known free and fair elections since 1958. The shooting incident that led to the evacuation of Guinea's third dictator in fifty years, Captain Dadis Camara paved the way for democratic transition that led to elections of 27th June 2010. Two major candidates emerged, Cellou Dalen seen as the leader of rich and powerful Fulani elite who had been excluded from power since 1958 and Alpha Conde, leader of the ethnic minorities and an historic opposition figure and Malinke power broker. In the second round of the elections, Alpha Conde emerged winner and was sworn in as president. Alpha Conde came to Daura in April 2019 and stayed a week enjoying Sallah meat with President Buhari and was even honoured with a chieftaincy title. He returned to Guinea and announced a third term agenda which finally led to the coup. President Buhari kept quiet. At 83 years old, what did he want to remain in the presidency for?

In Mali, former President Ibrahim Boubakar Keita – (IBK) died at 76 years old after being removed in a coup. He was in power between 2013 to 2020. He had been Prime Minister between 1994 to 2000 after which he became the President of the National Assembly from 2002 to 2007. Why would that old man rig elections to remain in power?

The argument is simple. The people of West Africa are being exhausted by repeated cycles of bad governance. Secondly, ECOWAS was much more focused on contesting the derailment of the democratic order. They did not wait until the military takes over before acting. Today, they do nothing until there is a coup and offer medicine after death. Finally, the military are returning to power in West Africa because the politicians are enabling them. We must develop the capacity to disrupt the activities of such enablers.

SPORT REPORT

Injury-plagued Thiem eyes Indian Wells return



■ Dominic Thiem

Former US Open champion and world No 3 Dominic Thiem, who has been sidelined since June with a wrist injury, said on Thursday he hopes to be back on court at the Indian Wells Masters in March.

Austrian star Thiem, 28, had planned to return to action in Cordoba in Argentina this week but withdrew because of pain in his hands between his knuckles.

"In addition to the Cordoba Open, Dominic Thiem has also withdrawn from the Argentina Open, Rio Open and Chile Open. He will look to make his comeback to competition at Indian Wells in March," said a statement by his management team.

Lampard admits tough task as he prepares for Everton bow



■ Frank Lampard

Frank Lampard admitted on Thursday he has a tough job on his hands to revive the fortunes of struggling Everton after taking over as manager following Rafael Benitez's dismissal.

Lampard was hired by Everton on Monday, inheriting a team sitting 16th in the Premier League, four points above the relegation zone.

"I understand in the short term the job is to improve our league position," he said. "In the long term, it is clear it is a club with big ambition, a big history, a huge fanbase and a desire to improve."