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Governor Shinkafi:

Zoning overtaken by events

From Nahimah Ajikanle Nurudeen, Lagos

THE ruling People's Democratic Party stands the risk of losing power at the centre in 2011 if it sticks to the power rotation formula because the prevailing circumstances do not favour zoning, Zamfara State Governor Mamuda Shinkafi has said.

Shinkafi, the first among northern governors to voice his opposition to zoning since they discussed it in Kaduna last week, said power rotation was previously used as a strategy to win elections but that it has now been overtaken by events.

The northern governors were briefed last week in Kaduna by two groups of

northern leaders, one for zoning and the other against it, after which they decided that every governor should hold consultations in his state preparatory to another meeting on July 22, "to take a final decision of whether or not to support zoning and power rotation."

Speaking at the Murtala Mohammed

Airport in Lagos on Saturday evening, Shinkafi said: "There should be no zoning arrangement to cede power to any part of the country. What happened that they refer to as PDP's zoning arrangement was some arithmetic to capture the centre.

"But, today, events have overtaken that

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PHOTO: NAN



CROSS section of members of the Nigerian Army at the interdenomination service to mark 2010 Army Week at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Church, Mogadishu Cantonment, Abuja, yesterday.

Chinese firm flees with Kano's N80 million

From Auwalu Umar, Kano

A Chinese construction company collected millions

of naira for a road project from the Kano State government but disappeared before executing the work,

state commissioner for projects monitoring and evaluation Alhaji Ibrahim Garba has said.

The Eighteenth Engineering Company (EEC) was awarded a contract for the rehabilitation of some

portions of Wudil Road behind Kano Government House stretching 1.9 km long. The company col-

lected N80 million and vanished without trace, the commissioner said.

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Gunmen abduct Ondo PDP chairman

From Adewale Giwa, Akure

THE Peoples Democratic Party Chairman in Ondo state, Dr. Tayo Dairo, was at the weekend abducted by unknown gunmen.

Dairo was taken alongside his driver identified as Sola Abiodun at about 8.00pm in Okada, Ogbomuse area of Benin.

Daily Trust learnt that the PDP Chairman was going for a crucial

meeting in Edo State when six armed men abducted him.

Dairo who is also the Chairman of the Governing Board of the Lagos State Teaching Hospital was said to have attended a caucus meeting of the Ondo State chapter of the party held at Iju Odo in Okitipupa Local Government Area of the state. It was gathered the abductors have placed a N50million ransom on

the chairman.

Publicity Secretary of the PDP in the state, Chief Adeyemi Adedipe, expressed regret over the incident, saying abduction had become a recurrent threat to lives and property. He confirmed that contact had been made with the chairman and the kidnappers, and that he was in good health.

Adedipe said the party would do everything to secure the

release of the chairman.

Meanwhile, the state government has described the kidnap of Dairo as shocking and another sad commentary on the increasing spate of insecurity in the nation. A statement by the Chief Press Secretary to the State Governor, Mr. Kolawole Olabisi, enjoined security agencies to do everything to facilitate immediate release of Dairo and bring the

culprits to book.

While assuring that no stone would be left unturned to ensure the safety of lives and property in Ondo State, the release warned those behind the act to steer clear of the state.

The Ondo State police command image inaker, Adeniran Aremu, could not comment, saying where the incident happened was not his jurisdiction.

ANPP mandates aspirants to sign bond

From Yemi Bamidele, Ibadan

ALL political office seekers under the platform of the All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) particularly in Oyo State are to sign a bond that they would not defect to other parties after the forthcoming 2011 general elections.

It was reliably gathered in Ibadan over the weekend that prospective office seekers on the ticket of the party are also expected to have spent at least 12 months within the party before the polls.

Oyo State chairman of the party, Alhaji Razaq Folorunso, dropped the hint while speaking with journalists shortly after the party's congress which saw him and other 28-member executives returned unopposed for the next four years.

According to the ANPP state chairman, the party has resolved to put the conditions before the aspirants to prevent a situation where aspirants would use and dump the party after the election and to ensure that only party loyalists are fielded for the various elective posts during the forthcoming general elections.

Alhaji Folorunso said the ANPP in Oyo State would invoke Section 109(g) of the 1999 constitution on all aspirants within the party to check frivolous defection to other parties, especially after the polls. The section frowns against defection and stipulates conditions under which one can join any other political party.



MEMBERS of Nigerian Army Officers Wives Association taking part in the sanitation exercise to mark the 2010 Nigerian Army Week celebration in Abuja on Saturday.

2011: Shown opposes zoning

From Andrew Agbese, Jos

CHAIRMAN of the PDP in Plateau State, Prof. Dakum Shown, has said the party at the national level should not adopt the zoning formula for the 2011 presidential election.

He said this is because the PDP had never practiced zoning. Shown who spoke with newsmen in Jos said those insisting on zoning were doing it for selfish aims. "I'm still wandering if PDP ever made any zoning arrangements in the history of the party."

I recall in 1998, Obasanjo contested in the primary from the south west, Ekwueme contested the same primary from the south east, late Abubakar Rimi contested from the north east and a host of others.

"In 2003, the same thing hap-

pened, Okorocho from the south east contested the 2003 primaries, so also late Okadigbo and some others from the north equally contested.

The same thing happened in 2007 where both north and south contested in the PDP primaries, so where was the zoning formula, I have been part and parcel of PDP since the formative period but I can't recall a time we practiced zoning, not at the presidential level. If we try it now the party will not be able to withstand the risk, it can kill a party", he said.

He said the PDP is the people's party, so it would be an irony to prevent people from choosing their leaders.

Shown said the PDP in Plateau had resolved to support the candidacy of President Jonathan in 2011.

Sambo commends Yuguda's prudence

VICE President Namadi Sambo on Saturday commended Governor Isa Yuguda of Bauchi State for spending N850 million to complete the Sa'adu Zungur Model Primary School in Bauchi. Sambo, who spoke while inaugurating the school, said the governor was prudent in executing the project. He said he was surprised when the governor told him that the school cost N850 million, contrary to allegations in the media that the project cost the government N2 billion.

"As an architect, who has had practiced for about 30 years, it is all right even if this project costs N4 billion. When I saw a model of the school, I said even the N2 billion alleged by some people is not bad, but when the governor told me it cost N850 million, I was surprised," Sambo said.

When I saw a model of the school, I said even the N2 billion alleged by some people is not bad

Sambo commended Yuguda for "the prudent management of funds in the execution of government projects". The re-constructed project now comprises of nursery, primary and junior secondary schools. (NAN)

ICPC takes Wabara, Osuji to S/Court

By Boco Edet

INDEPENDENT Corrupt Practices and other related offences Commission (ICPC) has gone to the Supreme Court seeking to nullify an Appeal Court judgment in favour of former Senate President Adolphus Wabara and ex-Minister of Education Prof. Fabian Osuji.

Wabara and Osuji had been engaged in a long-drawn legal battle to prevent a court from trying them over their alleged involvement in sharing of N55m bribe from Education Ministry between 2004 and 2005.

The Court of Appeal on June 1 dismissed the 9-count charge against the Wabara and Osuji, describing the charges as frivolous, baseless and lacking in merit.

But the ICPC has appealed the judgment at the Supreme Court. The anti-graft

agency filed a notice of appeal raising five grounds to nullify the Judgment by the Appeal Court, praying the Supreme Court to uphold the ruling of the trial court which dismissed the preliminary objection filed by Wabara and others.

The ICPC said the appellate court erred in law by granting Wabara and Osuji reprieve, and hence further prayed the apex court to direct the trial court to proceed with the trial of the respondents.

The ICPC said the Appeal Court also erred by demanding that the applications against the defendants ought to have been accompanied by sworn statements by witnesses, noting that such a demand was needless since the trial court had obtained proof of evidence which had established a prima facie case already.

The anti-graft commission is also fault-

ing the Appeal Court Judgment on the ground that it referred to a national broadcast by former President Olusegun Obasanjo on the N55 million bribery scandal as having a kind of influence on the trial court.

It also took the Appeal Court on the issue that the trial court compromised the fair hearing rights of the respondents by gathering all issues raised in the applications before him rather than considering them separately.

It argued, however, that the trial Judge formulated many issues which it said were properly considered and resolved against the defendants, stressing that even the defendants have so far not been able to state any issue in their applications which was not considered by the court.

Before the N55million scandal in 2004 in the Senate, some senators had accused

Wabara, then Senate President, of exceeding his authority by authorising execution of various contracts without the knowledge or approval of appropriate Senate committees.

The scandal became the subject of a national broadcast by then President Obasanjo in which he decried the level of corruption in the Senate and the House of Representatives, alleging that the former Senate President and Committee Chairmen on Education in both chambers of the National Assembly took bribes totalling N55 million from then education minister to inflate the budget of the education ministry for 2005 fiscal year.

The allegation by former President Obasanjo led to resignation by Professor Osuji as education minister, while Wabara also resigned as Senate President in April 2005; six months after the scandal broke.



Vice President Mohammed Namadi Sambo (middle), Bauchi State Governor Isa Yuguda (right) and other officials during the commissioning of Senior Staff Development Centre in Bauchi yesterday.

Niger Republic sets presidential election for January

NIGER will hold a presidential election in January 2011, its first since a military coup in February, the west African country's electoral commission said.

Presidential and legislative elections intended to restore civilian rule in the uranium-exporter will be held on Jan. 3, and a second round of voting for the presidency, if needed, will be on Jan. 14, the commission said late on Saturday.

If the transition is successful, it could be the second country in the region to shift from military to elected government in less than a year. Guinea, on the west African coast, peacefully held a presidential vote last Sunday, the first stage on its journey towards democracy.

Results of Niger's election will be announced in March.

"The inauguration of the new President will take place on March 11," commission president Ghoumane Abdourahmane said on national radio.

Soldiers ousted President Mamadou Tandja in February this year, after which they promised to restore civilian rule within 12 months. Niger is one of the poorest countries on earth despite having attracted billions of dollars of investment in its uranium and oil industries, mainly from France and China.

Tandja, who had been in power for a decade, caused a political crisis and drew fierce international and domestic criticism last year, when he changed the constitution in an attempt to harden his powers and extend his term in office.

While world bodies and foreign powers were quick to denounce the coup, which installed Major Salou Djibo as head of state, diplomats have given their tacit backing to the junta as Tandja's desire to hold onto power beyond the end of his constitutional term had shown no sign of weakening. *Reuters*

Jonathan cuts N/Assembly budget by N8bn

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar

THE proposed downward review of N4.6 trillion 2010 budget by President Goodluck Jonathan may suffer set back in the National Assembly as the legislature is to suffer N8 billion cut from the original provision.

The 2010 budget had provided for N127.7 billion expenditures for the National Assembly and all other arms connected to it while

President Jonathan is proposing to review the figure downward to N119.4 billion.

Breakdown of the two budgets show that the Senate which has a provision of N35 billion in the 2010 budget is to suffer a cut of N4 billion down to N31.8 billion while the National Assembly Office is now to get N8.6 billion instead of N10 billion.

The House of Representatives has a provision of N58 bil-

lion in the original 2010 budget, but President Jonathan wants it slashed down to N45 billion with a reduction of N13 billion.

Provision for legislative aides is to also suffer a cut of about N2 billion down from N7 billion to N5.7 billion while the National Assembly Service Commission (NASC) will now get N1.2 billion instead of N1.5 billion originally budgeted.

The reduction by the President however became minimal with

increases to other sub-heads in the budget of the legislature.

The biggest beneficiary is the General Service Office which is now to receive additional N8 billion up from N16 billion to N24 billion.

President Goodluck Jonathan has said the N4.6 trillion 2010 budget is not feasible owing to dwindling revenues from oil but his proposal for budget cut has been rejected by some lawmakers.

FG redeploys perm secs

By Francis Okeke

PRESIDENT Goodluck Jonathan has approved the redeployment of Federal Permanent Secretaries.

A press statement by the Head of Civil Service of the Federation Mr. Stephen Oronsaye on Friday said that two recently appointed permanent secretaries received postings with 11 permanent secretaries reshuffled while 32 retained their portfolios.

The two recently appointed are Dr. M. Nwaobiala and Cyril Nnabuike Eneh who were posted

to the Office of the Head of Civil Service of the Federation (OHCSF) and the Ministry of Youth Development respectively.

Those reshuffled are Prof. N. A. Damachi, who moved from OHCSF to Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation (OSGF) Political Affairs Department; Prof. S. Ogamdi moved from the OHCSF to the Ministry of Labour and Productivity.

I.G. Mahe moved from the OHCSF to the Ministry of Culture and Tourism; Dr. A. J. Awosika moved from the Ministry of Interior to the OHCSF; Goni

Musa Sheik moved from the Ministry of Mines and Steel to the Petroleum Resources ministry.

Others are Mrs. E.B. Emuren who moved from Petroleum Resources to Mines and Steel; S. BOzigs moved from Ministry of Culture and Tourism to the Interior ministry; while Danladi Kifasi moved from Aviation to Ministry of Finance.

Ms. Anne Ene-Ita was redeployed from the Ministry of Youth Development to that of Aviation.

The Head of Service directed that all handing and taking over formalities should be completed on or before Thursday, July 8, 2010.



GOVERNOR Mohammed Danjuma Goje of Gombe State (right) receiving Champion Leadership award from Interior Minister Captain Emmanuel Iheanacho in Abuja on Wednesday.

Nigcomsat takes e-voting plan to INEC

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar

THE Nigcomsat says it intends to sell the electronic voting machine it developed to the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) today, saying it holds the potential to solve Nigeria's balloting challenges.

Science and Technology Minister Prof Muhammed Abubakar will lead the Nigcomsat executive to INEC Chairman Prof Attahiru Jega to unveil the new machines hoping the commission would use it to conduct subsequent elections.

Managing Director of Nigcomsat Engr. Ahmed Rufai said the locally developed e-voting system takes care of all difficulties in conduct of elections in the country.

"Nigcomsat e-voting system is based on Radio Frequency Identification technology which uses a contact-less card system with enhanced security features like triple DES, PES, AES all embedded in a voting card. The registered voter ID with his passport photograph and finger print will be on the card to show that he is eligible to vote. A voter's finger print will be screened against his card for authenticity and detect multiple registration.

"Once the finger matches with the one on the card, the voter is then eligible to vote. After a choice of candidate has been made, a printout of the political party, person, time and place he voted will be given to him with a copy placed in the ballot box. This will prevent multiple registrations and voting. The System also displays full names and pictures of candidates for various offices being contested for as registered by INEC along with names and logos of political parties they belong to."

Rufai said the machines are powered by rechargeable batteries that have longevity period of up to 30 days and also takes care of challenges of illiterate voters.

"Once activated during voting the machine is programmed to speak to the voter in a language he or she understands to guide the voter on how to proceed from one step to another, if there is a problem it can be re-programmed and started all over," he said.

The agency said if INEC accepts its proposal, Nigcomsat has the capacity to produce 40,000 machines by November at a cost of about N10 billion for use during the 2011 and subsequent elections.

Northern lawyers disagree over NBA presidency

By Atika Balal

NORTHERN lawyers have been divided over who would take over as president of the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA) upon the expiration of Aderotimi Akerodolu's tenure this month.

Although the NBA has zoned the presidency of the association to the North, northern lawyers are yet to agree on a candidate.

At a meeting with pressmen in Abuja, spokesperson for the Committee of Chairmen and Secretaries of the northern branches of NBA W.D Kadima said the forum has agreed that Daudu (SAN) and his counterpart Joe Kyari Gadzama (SAN) will be allowed to run for the position rather than adopt one candidate.

The Arewa Lawyers Forum (ALF) was reported to have

adopted Daudu as its sole candidate. But the forum denied the report.

"We are asking them to face the electorate because at this point in time it is late for anyone to adopt any candidate."

Kadima said it would be wrong to adopt Daudu as a sole candidate because he hails from Kogi State, just like Bayo Ojo, the last northern NBA president.

They said "Being from another part of the north, Gadzama should have been given a ticket in the first place but because we want to practice democracy properly we have asked that both candidates should contest."

The lawyers said that allowing both candidates to contest would strengthen the policy of inclusion and fairness which the NBA had in mind when it decided to adopt the practice of rotating the presidency among the north, the west and the east.

Hajj commission retains air carriers for 2010

By Abdulkadir Badsha Mukhtar

THE National Hajj Commission of Nigeria (NAHCON) said the four indigenous air carriers that airlifted Nigerian pilgrims for the 2009 will be retained for this year's exercise.

The carriers are Max Air, Kabo Air Limited, Medview Airlines, and Meridian Airlines.

NAHCON chairman Mallam Muhammad Musa Bello said President Goodluck Jonathan has already approved the rollover of the four air carriers that airlifted 85,000 Nigerian Pilgrims during Hajj 2009.

Bello, who spoke through the commission's spokesman

Uba Mana, said the approval was for the same job in 2010 based on "their commendable performance and the needs to consolidate successes."

The retaining of the air carriers, according to Bello, is an attempt by the government to encourage indigenous air carriers.

He informed the carriers that the approval is subject to their fulfilling all regulations of the Nigerian and Saudi aviation authorities as well as the commission's guidelines.

Bello called on the chosen air carriers to strive to meet the aspirations of Nigerian Muslims by effectively and efficiently airlifting pilgrims on schedule, safely and in comfort.

Election of CAN president begins today

By Sunday Williams

THE Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) will today in Abuja commence the processes of electing a new president for the association.

The election which is billed to take place at the National Ecumenical Centre Abuja will be contested by the incumbent President of the association and Archbishop of the Abuja diocese John Onaiyekan and President of the Pentecostal Fellowship of Nigeria (PFN) Pastor Ayo Oritsejafor.

In a preliminary election conducted by a 15 man electoral college in Abuja recently, Pastor Oritsejafor won the election with Onaiyekan coming second, thereby narrowing the final

contest to the two of them.

Based on the outcome of the preliminary elections, it was reported that Onaiyekan was pressurized by the Conference of Catholic Bishops chaired by Bishop Alaba Job to withdraw from the race.

If pastor Oritsejafor wins the election, it will be the first time in the history of CAN that a Pentecostal leader will head the association which has been dominated by the Orthodox churches.

The 105-member National Executive Committee of CAN are expected to vote for the new president and whoever comes second in line with the association's guidelines for election will automatically become the vice president.

British convict dupes John Fashanu

By Boco Edet

A Briton convicted four times in the United Kingdom has been arrested by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) for allegedly duping Nigerian sports Ambassador, John Fashanu of £300,000 and \$10,000.

Davis Littlechild who is the

Managing Director of Business Mart Ltd in Ikeja, Lagos, was arrested by operatives on Thursday. A source said investigations so far revealed that Littlechild who is currently in detention allegedly obtained the money from John Fashanu under false pretence.

EFCC's spokesman, Femi Babafemi confirmed the arrest.



A suspected thief being beaten when he was allegedly caught trying to remove a cell phone from the pocket of a victim, after the occurrence of an accident, in Ibadan at the weekend.

Chinese firm flees with Kano's N80m

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Apart from the road in question, the company is also handling the rehabilitation of Press Road and NEPA Sultul Quran Road, construction of Gidan Dawaki-Masallaci Primary School Road as well as rehabilitation of some roads in the Zoo Road Housing Estate.

Garba said his ministry discovered that the road rehabilitation was not completed when the company left the site after collecting 50 percent mobilisation fees.

Speaking to newsmen in Kano at the weekend, the commissioner said his ministry has been looking for the company since October last year without success.

He said the ministry could not locate the corporate headquarters of the company in Abuja as the address given by the company was discovered to be a fake one. He said the courier company contracted out to deliver a message could not find the place in Abuja and so returned it undelivered.

The letter to the firm, titled 'Up-date on the Financial State of the Projects Awarded to EEC', was written on October 5, last year, inviting the company to a meeting on October 22 concerning the various projects it was handling in different parts of Kano metropolis.

The state government, according to him, was considering writing the Embassy of the Peoples Republic of China to help trace the company for the government to get its money refunded.

The commissioner, who described the attitude of the construction firm as a breach of contractual agreement, said the government was lucky that payment had not been done for the other outstanding road projects awarded the company.

INEC: Jega resumes today

By Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

THE new Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) Prof Attahiru Jega will resume work at the commission's headquarters today.

Jega was sworn-in on Wednesday June 30 by President Goodluck Jonathan along with six national commissioners: Mrs. Gladys Nwafor; Col. M.K. Ham-manga; Prof. Lai Olorode; Dr. Ish-mael Igbani; Dr. Nuhu Yakubu, and Mrs. Thelma Iremiren.

Jega has described his appointment as a major challenge and promised to do organise a credible election in 2011.

At his first meeting with staff of the commission on Wednesday, Jega asked for their support and reminded them of the expectations of most Nigerians.

ECOWAS considers rotation of posts

By Aisha Umar Agaie

ECONOMIC Community of West African States (ECOWAS) heads of state have set up a five-member ministerial committee to work out modalities for rotating statutory positions in the community's institutions.

The committee members are Cape Verde, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal.

This was contained in a communiqué issued after the 38th ordinary summit of ECOWAS heads of state in Sal Island, Cape Verde.

The leaders, according to the communiqué, also called for a 70-30 per cent opening of the region's market in the Economic Partnership agreement with the European Union to safeguard the region's develop-

ment.

The region's leaders also called for the mobilization of additional resources to complement the €6.5bn pledged by the EU to finance the EPA Development Programme (EPADP), to enable the region cope with the adjustment costs of implementing the impending agreement.

At the summit, the ECOWAS Member States agreed to sustain efforts towards consolidating the gains recorded in 2010 with the revival of their economies which were adversely affected by the global financial, economic and food crises.

In the areas of regional peace and security, they commended the progress made in some member states with democratic consolidation but expressed concern at the fragility of the democratic processes in some others.

Zoning overtaken by events

Continued from page 1

arrangement, it is no longer useful. The PDP can also do whatever the party feels is better to capture the centre."

Shinkafi spoke to aviation correspondents on his way back from Ogun State, where he was decorated with a chieftaincy title by the Owu Kingdom.

He said every Nigerian should be free to contest election for the presidency, adding that the zoning arrangement of the PDP would not

help the ruling party in the present realities.

"You know this zoning sometimes is a political trick to have power, sometimes by a political power. This zoning is only for the PDP.

"May be the time PDP opted for zoning, it was good then to get power for the party (but) I think this time around it will not help the party to get to power. There are circumstances when zoning is good and other times when zoning is not good," the governor said.

The debate over zoning propped up two groups of top northern politicians, one led by Chief Solomon Lar advocating for the jettisoning of the zoning policy, and the other, the Northern Political Leaders' Forum led by Alhaji Muhammadu Dikko Yusuf, championing the adherence to power rotation.

If the PDP upholds the power rotation policy, then President Goodluck Jonathan would not be given the party's presidential ticket. Jonathan is believed to be inter-

ested in standing for president in 2011, though he is yet to make a public declaration.

Advocates of power rotation say the North should be allowed to produce the next president, in line with PDP's policy, to preserve national unity and political stability.

But opponents of the formula say it is no longer practicable with Jonathan, a sitting president from the South, interested in standing. They also say the nation's constitution does not recognise the zoning arrangement.

120 passengers escape death as air mishap averted

From Nahimah Ajikanle Nurudeen, Lagos

NOT less than 120 passengers yesterday escaped death when an Abuja bound flight from Lagos, operated by the newly re-branded Air Nigeria, survived air crash and made an emergency landing at the Murtala Muhammad Airport terminal 2 (MMA2), Lagos.

According to one of the passengers on board, the crew announced that the pilot could not establish communication signal with the Air Traffic Controllers (ATC), a situation which caused panic among the passengers on board. The pilot, according to the passenger, initiated an

air return for emergency landing where all the passengers were evacuated safely at MMA2.

Media relations officer for Air Nigeria Sam Ogbogoro confirmed the incident to *Daily Trust* on phone yesterday. He said the emergency landing was observed in the interest safety.

According to him, the pilot followed the standard operating procedures in operating the flight and landed it safely.

Ogbogoro explain that non-establishment of communication by any pilot in the mild air may not really be caused by a fault in the aircraft but may be from the ATC or sometimes weather.

Onovo told to open Bauchi dep gov's office

By Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

CONFERENCE of Nigerian Political Parties (CNPP) has urged the Inspector General of Police Ogbonna Onovo to order Bauchi State Police Commissioner Danlami Yar'adua to open the office of the state deputy governor for Alhaji Garba Gadi.

Gadi, who was removed from office by

the state House of Assembly over allegation of gross financial misconduct, was reinstated last week by the judgment of the Bauchi High Court.

CNPP's National Publicity Secretary Osita Okechukwu condemned the closure of the deputy governor's office which denies Alhaji Gadi to gain access to his office, describing it as "gross violation of Justice

Haruna Tsanmani of Bauchi High Court's judgment."

Okechukwu said in a statement in Abuja yesterday that "the Commissioner of Police and indeed all security agencies in Bauchi State must ensure that the court judgment which reinstated Alhaji Garba Gadi as the Deputy Governor of Bauchi State must be obeyed and also guaranteed Alhaji Gadi's

security."

The CNPP also asked Alhaji Babayo Gamawa to stop parading himself as deputy governor "for such act amounts to serious breach of the law and height of recklessness."

He also challenged the Bauchi State governor Mallam Isa Yuguda to comply with the court judgment in the interest of peace and security of Bauchi State.

Reps suggest N10m for family of murdered corps member

By Turaki A. Hassan

THE House of Representatives will next week consider the report of its joint committees on Women Affairs, Women in parliament and Human Rights into the death of Miss Grace Adie Usang.

Usang, a youth corps member, was raped and killed last year during her National service in Borno state.

The committees recommended that the Borno state government should adequately compensate the family of the deceased and recommended that it pay the sum of N10m.

The committees led by Rep. Binta Masi Garba (PDP, Adamawa) were mandated by the House to ascertain the circumstances leading to the death of the corps member and report back to the House.



GOVERNOR Adebayo Alao-Akala of Oyo State (middle) cutting tape to commissioning 70 taxi cars for the state's poverty alleviation scheme. Those with him include the Commissioner for Establishment, Training and Poverty Alleviation, Alhaji Jelili Agboola, Chairman NURTW, Alhaji Lateef Salako in Ogbomosho, Oyo State, recently.

Army launches wide area Internet facility

By Misbahu Bashir

THE Nigerian army has established the Nigerian Army Wide Network Infrastructure (NAWANI) to cover all its formations in the country.

The Director of Army Plans and Policy Maj. Gen. A.A. Atoferati said during the commissioning ceremony of the project that it is a wireless information technology facility that can deliver services and data to the army.

The facility links the army headquarters with its divisional headquarters and other formations in the country. The army can communicate and view pictures from all their branches on computer screen attached to the network.

He said the infrastructure can save biometric records and be used in the maintenance of public peace.

Minister of State for Defence Murtala Yar'adua said army must adopt modern information technology which has become the yardstick to development and provision of better services.

Youth council counsels INEC on successful polls

THE new leadership of the National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN) has urged INEC to take a cue from the youth, who held successful elections in Abuja.

The newly elected NYCN President Comrade Olawale Ajani said in Abuja that INEC should take a cue from the youth who had demonstrated

that democracy could thrive in the country if the electoral body heard the voice of the electorate.

Ajani said the youth had showed that they could be "part of the Nigerian project" and that they were ready to take the leadership role in Nigeria.

He said the new EXCO

was set to do the bidding of the Nigerian youths and would consult from all parts of the country adding, "and whatever we come up with, is what we are going to implement".

He said that Saturday's elections were symbolic and a true representation of the Nigerian youths which

indicated that the 2011 elections could be successful and "could even be free and fairer than the 2003 elections".

He described the notion that Nigerian youths did not have the capacity to rule the country as "a fallacy, and we will prove that in the next few months that we can lead".

Also speaking, NYCN

Secretary General Saleh Alhassan, an engineer, said they were set to be "architects of the developmental programmes in Nigeria and not just participants".

The National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN) had on Saturday in Abuja elected a new set of leaders. (NAN)

Baba-Ahmed: Military destroyed civil service

By Turaki A. Hassan

A retired Federal Permanent Secretary, Dr Hakeem Baba-Ahmed, said reforms introduced by military administrations with the aim of repositioning the Nigerian civil service ended up destroying the service.

He also faulted the recent reforms of the service by the Federal Government which led to the retirement of many directors and permanent secre-

taries.

Baba-Ahmed spoke in a paper titled, "Reflections on fifty years of the Nigerian Civil Service" in Kaduna on the occasion of the Nigerian Civil Service week.

Baba-Ahmed also noted that the reforms of the Obasanjo administration suffered a massive revisionist onslaught owing largely to the resistance of the civil servants and the absence of political will to entrench them.

By Ruby Leo

THE National Primary Health Development Agency (NPHCDA) has appointed six new directors following the retirement of the six previous ones.

The new directors were appointed following their success at a recent competitive Public Service recruitment interview and examination jointly conducted by a Human Resource Consulting Firm, Federal Civil Service Commission, Federal Character Commission, Federal Ministry of Health and the Governing Board of the Agency.

The three new directors are Dr.

Emmanuel Adebayo Abanida (Disease Control and Immunization), Dr. Emmanuel Odu (Planning Research and Statistics) and Dr. Abdullahi Jibril Mohammed, (Primary Health Care System Department).

Others are Ashogbon Duru Oluwa Daniel (Finance and Accounts), Mrs. Lami Aishatu Abubakar (Administration and Human Resources), and Dr. (Mrs) Nnenna Ihebuzor (Community Health Services).

Their appointments take immediate effect and have been ratified by the Governing Board of the Agency.

Five former directors of the agency recently proceeded on

retirement either at full age of 60 or affected by the new Federal Government Policy of compulsory retirement after 8 years on a grade level.

An old director in the agency, Mr. AbdulFatah Sa'ad, who before now, was in charge of Administration and Human Resources is now director, special duties working directly in the office of the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the agency.

Meanwhile, Executive Director of the Agency Prof. Muhammad Ali Pate has urged the new directors to see themselves as change-agents interested in sustaining the reputation and credibility of the NPHCDA.

Health agency appoints six new directors

Unions issue 2 weeks ultimatum over monetisation arrears

By Francis Okeke

SOME unions have given the Federal Government a two week ultimatum within which to pay 50 percent monetisation arrears owed them or face a strike action.

The monetisation arrears were part of a deal

reached between government and labour unions last year with both agreeing on a 50 per cent payment with the balance to be paid this year.

The workers issued the ultimatum at the end of a meeting held last week at the secretariat of the Medical

and Health Workers Unions of Nigeria (MHWUN) in Abuja led by the Deputy President of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) and President of the Senior Staff Association of Nigerian Universities (SSANU) Comrade Promise Adewusi. The unions are, SSANU,

MHWUN; National Association of Nigeria Nurses and Midwives (NANNM); Amalgamated Union of Public Corporation, Civil Service Technical and Recreational Services Employees (AUPCTER), National Union of Posts and Telecommunication Employees

(NUPTE); Nigeria Union of Journalists (NUJ) and Radio, Television and Theatres Workers Union (RAT-TAWU).

Comrade Adewusi said workers would embark on the strike at the expiration of the ultimatum because the money had been appropri-

ated for in the 2010 Budget.

However, in a swift move to stop the strike, the Minister of Labour and Productivity Chief Emeka Wogu invited the unions to a meeting over the weekend, pleading with them to shelve the planned strike as he works on resolving the dispute.

Legislator dismisses Bukar, wife

From Hamza Idris, Damaturu

BUBA Kalallawa, the legislator representing Damaturu II constituency in the Yobe State House of Assembly yesterday said Senator Bukar Abba Ibrahim and his wife, Khadija

cannot be returned to the National Assembly in 2011 because they are no longer saleable.

Bukar was elected in 2007 to represent Yobe East Senatorial Zone after completing his two term tenure as governor while his wife, Khadijah, was

elected to represent Damaturu, Gujba, Gulani and Tarmuwa at the House of Representatives after completing her term as commissioner.

Kalallawa while fielding questions from newsmen said he would contest against Khadija because

the constituency is neither a personal estate nor a family business.

According to him, the influence of former Governor Bukar Abba Ibrahim cannot return his wife to the National Assembly due to her failure and he too (Bukar)

should leave his seat for the younger generation.

Khadija's spokesman, Mohammed Sani, described the allegations of Kalallawa as baseless and the ranting of a failed assembly member, adding that both Khadija and her husband are doing well and

would continue to do so.

"Kalallawa has not sponsored a single bill since he was elected into the state assembly in 2003...Do you think he will make any impact when he gets to the House of Representatives?" Mohammed asked.

Shehu Sani: Why Jonathan voted for sanctions against Iran

From Isa Liman, Zaria

PRESIDENT Goodluck Jonathan and his foreign minister voted for sanctions against Iran out of naivety and lack of respect for the sovereignty and people of Nigeria.

President of Civil Rights Congress of Nigeria (CRCN), a human right organisation, Shehu Sani made this assertion yesterday, saying before a country like Nigeria takes such an important decision it should have at least consulted members of the National Assembly who are the representatives of Nigerians.

Shehu Sani said while Nigerians appreciate the membership of Nigeria in the UN Non-Permanent Security Council and its one month rotating leadership, it was regrettable that Nigerians were not consulted by the Federal Government when crucial and sensitive international decisions are taken.

"It is pertinent to know that whatever position Nigeria takes on any issue will be seen as reflective of a collective national resolve that would be a stamp on all Nigerians.

The voting on sanctions against Iran is more of an attempt to please the West than the interest of Nigeria," Sani added.



FROM left: Rev. Father Okafor (second left) with Rev. Father Obiora Ike of Enugu Catholic Diocese praying for new National Chairman of the People's Democratic Party (PDP), Dr. Okwesilieze Nwodo, accompanied by his wife Dr. Dorothy Nwodo, Enugu State Governor Chime Sullivan and Minister of Aviation, Mrs. Fidelia Njeze, during a thanksgiving service for the national chairman in Enugu yesterday

Sacked Kwara CJ heads for Supreme Court

From Mustafa Abubakar, Ilorin

FORMER Chief Judge of Kwara State, Justice Raliat Elelu Habeeb, has gone to the Supreme Court to challenge the decision of the Court of Appeal after her removal last

year by the Kwara State government.

In the notice of appeal filed Friday, July 2, 2010 through her lead counsel, Adegboyega Awomolo (SAN) she is asking the court to reverse her removal by the state government.

Joined in the case in order of hierarchy are, National Judicial Council (NJC) Attorney General of the Federation (AGF) Attorney General of Kwara State and Kwara State House of Assembly.

She prayed that the Supreme Court set aside

the judgment of the Court of Appeal and grant the relief granted by the Federal High Court which reinstated her. It would be recalled that Court of Appeal last Friday ruled that the Federal High Court that ordered the reinstatement of the

sacked Chief Judge lacked jurisdiction. Elelu-Habeeb was removed from office by Governor Bukola Saraki on allegations of financial impropriety, misconduct, embezzlement of funds and refusal to open up more judicial divisions.

Court orders Kwara to pay N1.6bn arrears to pensioners

From Mustafa Abubakar, Ilorin

THE Court of Appeal in Ilorin, Kwara State, has directed the Kwara State government to pay the 50 percent balance of arrears totaling N1.68 billion being gratuities and pensions owed 9,024 pensioners in the state.

In a unanimous judgment read Friday by Justice Benson West, the court directed the state govern-

ment to ensure the payment of the arrears within the next six months beginning from the day of the delivery of the judgment.

Delivering judgment in an appeal filed by Alhaji Ishola Lawal, Mr. Ayobamidele Ajibola, Mr. Usman Kasimu, Mr. Joseph Kolawole, Imam Gbagba and Mrs. Mariam Akanbi under the agies of the Concerned Pensioners on behalf of other pensioners in the

state, the court grant all the reliefs sought by the pensioners.

According to the court, the payment of the arrears should also be supervised by the national executive of the National Union of Nigeria Pensioners (NUNP) together with the state Accountant-General.

The pensioners had earlier had their case struck out at the State High Court on March 5, 2010.

Air Nigeria plane makes emergency landing

From Nahimah Ajikanle, Lagos

ABOUT 120 passengers yesterday escaped death when a Lagos to Abuja flight operated by the newly re-branded Air Nigeria survived a mishap and made an emergency landing at the Murtala Muhammad Airport terminal 2 (MMA2) Lagos.

According to one of the passengers, the crew announced that the pilot could not establish commu-

nication signals with the Air Traffic Controllers (ATC) a situation which caused panic. The pilot therefore initiated an air return for emergency landing where all the passengers were evacuated safely at MMA2.

The media relations officer for Air Nigeria, Sam Ogbogoro when contacted on phone confirmed the incident, saying the emergency landing was observed in the interest safety.



**OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF THE CIVIL SERVICE OF THE FEDERATION
THE PRESIDENCY, FEDERAL SECRETARIAT COMPLEX, ABUJA**

**NOTICE OF FINANCIAL BID OPENING IN RESPECT OF PRE-QUALIFIED
COMPANIES FOR THE MDG CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT**

Further to our Invitation for Pre-Qualification in the *Daily Trust* and *The Punch* newspapers of April 14, 2010, the Office of the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation wishes to announce that the under-listed companies have been pre-qualified under the lots listed against their names.

**DEVELOPMENT OF JOB
COMPETENCE CATALOGUE FOR
FEDERAL MINISTRIES
DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES
(MDAs)**

S/N NAME OF COMPANY

1. AAC CONSULTING LTD
2. ABUSCONS NIG. LTD.
(ABU Consult. Ahmadu Bello
University Zaria)
3. ACCENTURES LTD
4. DELLOITTE (Akinola Williams)
5. H. PIERSON
6. INTERTEL NIGERIA LTD
7. INTEGRAL DEVELOPMENT KONSULT
LTD
8. IMPERIAL ASSOCIATES
9. NIGERIAN INST. OF
MANAGEMENT (NIM)
10. PM GLOBAL CONSULTING
11. PRICE WATER HOUSE COOPERS LTD
12. QUICK PROJECTS LTD
13. RESTRAL CONSULTING
14. ROCK GLOBAL & CONSULTANCY LTD
15. UMM CONSULTANCY SERVICES
16. USMAN DANFOFIO UNIVERSITY
CONSULTANCY SERVICES

**DEVELOPMENT OF A NATIONAL
POLICY ON TRAINING FOR THE
FEDERAL CIVIL SERVICE**

S/N NAME OF COMPANY

1. AAC CONSULTING LTD
2. ACCENTURE
3. ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COLLEGE
OF NIGERIA (ASCON)
4. BENVIC GLOBAL CONCEPT LTD
5. CENTRE FOR MANAGEMENT
DEVELOPMENT (CMD)
6. FANKIN CONSULTING
7. INT'L PRIME RESOURCES
DEVELOPMENT LTD
8. KPMG
9. LEO-THEO ASSOCIATES
10. MAC TAY CONSULTING
11. MICHAEL STEVENS CONSULTING
12. NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF
MANAGEMENT (NIM)
13. PAUL-ESTHER CONSULTING LTD
14. PM-GLOBAL CONSULTING
15. QUICK PROJECTS LTD
16. ROCK GLOBAL TRAINING
AND CONSULTANCY LTD
17. U.I. VENTURES LTD
(University of Ibadan Consultancy Unit)
18. USMAN DANFOFIO UNIVERSITY
VENTURES LTD

**TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT
FOR FEDERAL MINISTRIES
DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES
(MDAs)**

S/N NAME OF COMPANY

1. ABUCONS LTD
2. ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COLLEGE
OF NIGERIA (ASCON)
3. ACCENTURE
4. ABUJA ENT. AGENCY
5. AAC CONSULTING
6. AGRICULTURAL RURAL
MANAGEMENT TRAINING
INSTITUTE (ARMTI)
7. BACK-AGE KONSULT

8. BENVIC GLOBAL CONCEPT LTD
9. BOSS BEN NIG. LTD
10. BLUE GLACIER CONSULT
11. BUSINESS EDUCATION
EXAMINATION COUNCIL
12. CHIUKE GLOBAL RESOURCES LTD
13. CONSULT & CAPITAL LTD
14. CENTRE FOR MANAGEMENT
DEVELOPMENT (CMD)
15. CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND
DEVELOPMENT (CERAD)
16. CRESTCOM (Smeap Consult)
17. CUMBAMED ASSOCIATES
18. DELOITTE (Akinola Williams)
19. DEE-4Y LTD
20. DOLF MADH INTER. CONST.
DRM
21. DRM
22. OMOLAYOLE & ASSOCIATES
23. FA'AMOUS CONSULTING LTD
24. FANKIN CONSULTING
25. FIRST MEGAR. C. LTD
26. FOCUS INTEGRATED SERV. LTD
27. FROKE CONSULTING
28. FITC CONSULTING
29. GODALL NIG. LTD
30. H. PIERSON ASSOCIATES
31. HRD KONSULTING & ASSOCIATES
32. HIGA ASSOCIATES
33. INTEGRATED BUSINESS
STRATEGIES
34. IMPERIAL ASSOCIATES LTD
35. INTER. PRIME RES. DEVT.
36. INTEGRAL DEVT. CONSULT
37. INTERTEL NIG. LTD
38. I-SKILL LTD
39. J.K. CONSULTING CO. LTD
40. JOHNSON UNI. SOLUTION
41. KADUNA BUSINESS SCHOOL
42. KEREX CONSULT
43. KPMG PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
44. LEO-THEO ASSOCIATES LTD
45. LEADING EDGE CONSULTING
46. LAWAGIMA CONSULTANTS
47. MAC WEALTH NIG.
48. METHODS DESIGN ASSOCIATES
49. MCBAY TECH & RES. MGT.
50. MICHAEL STEVEN CONSULT
51. NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF
MANAGEMENT (NIM)
52. NIGERIAN INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL
AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH
(NISER)
53. NJOKS CONSULTANTS LTD
54. NEXUS ALLIANCE LTD
55. NOVELTY CONSULTING LTD
56. OASES CONSULTING
57. ORGMAN CONSULTANTS
58. PFA SERVICES & CONSULTING
59. PREMIER CSB CONSULTING
60. PM GLOBAL CONSULTING LTD
61. PRICE WATERHOUSE COOPERS
62. PAUL-ESTHER CONSULTANTS
63. QUICK PROJECTS LTD
64. RESTRAL CONSULTING LTD
65. RARE KONSULT
66. ROCK GLOBAL TRAINING
CONSULTS
67. SHARONIT & EDU. RESOURCES
68. SIAO
69. STANDARD CONNECTION LTD
70. SOUTH-SEADAT CON LTD
71. SNUGEE INVEST. LTD
72. STETONIC NIG. LTD
73. STEPWISE TECHNOLOGY/STANEUS
TRAINING
74. SUCCESSORY NIG. LTD
75. TEEKAY RES. LTD
76. TENABLE CONCEPTS LTD
77. TOPAZ EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
78. TROJAN HEALTH CARE CONS.
79. UNITY-PLUS CONCEPT
80. UMM CONSULTANCY SERVICES
81. ULTAPEX NIG. LTD

82. USMAN DANFOFIO UNIVERSITY
CONS. SERV.

**DELIVERY OF TRAINING
PROGRAMMES AND
INTERVENTIONS FOR FEDERAL
MINISTRIES DEPARTMENTS AND
AGENCIES (MDAs)**

**LOT 3 - DELIVERY OF
ADMINISTRATIVE AND
SECRETARIAL COURSES**

S/N NAMES OF COMPANIES

1. ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COLLEGE
OF NIGERIA (ASCON)
2. ALPHA SHIELD NIG. LTD
3. CENTRE FOR MANAGEMENT
TRAINING (CMD)
4. HIGA ASSOCIATES
5. IMPERIAL ASSOCIATES
6. INT'L PRIME RESOURCES
7. LAWAGIMA CONSULT LTD
8. LEO-THEO ASSOCIATES
9. MICHAEL JACOBS CONSULT
10. SKILLS DYNAMICS (SDS)
11. SUCCESSORY NIG. LTD

**LOT 5 - DELIVERY OF
EDUCATIONAL PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT COURSES**

S/N NAMES OF COMPANIES

1. INTEGRAL DEV. CONSULT
2. NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR
EDUCATION PLANNING AND ADMIN.
(NEIPA)

**LOT 6 - DELIVERY OF
ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL
MANAGEMENT COURSES**

S/N NAMES OF COMPANIES

1. ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COLLEGE
OF NIGERIA (ASCON)
2. BANCORP CONSULT LTD
3. BUSINESS EDUCATION
EXAMINATION COUNCIL
4. FED. TREASURY ACADEMY, OROZO
5. I-SKILL
6. JK CONSULT
7. PFA SERVICES & CONSULT
8. PREMIER CSB CONSULTING
9. QUICK PROJECTS LTD
10. RARE CONSULT

**LOT 7 - DELIVERY OF
AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT
COURSE**

S/N NAMES OF COMPANIES

1. AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL
MANAGEMENT TRAINING
INSTITUTE (ARMTI)
2. CONSULTANCY SERVICES
3. ZEBRAMULTI SERVICES

**LOT 8 - DELIVERY OF HEALTH
MANAGEMENT COURSES**

S/N NAMES OF COMPANIES

1. CONFERENCE FOR AFRICAN
STUDIES
2. INTEGRAL DEPT. CONSULT
3. MACBALLY CONCEPT NIG
4. NATIONAL PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

**DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (NPHGDA)
5. WESTLAKE CONSULTANTS
6. STETONIC
LOT 9 - DELIVERY OF ECONOMIC
PLANNING COURSES**

S/N NAMES OF COMPANIES

1. ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COLLEGE
OF NIGERIA (ASCON)
2. CONSULT AND CAPITAL LTD
3. CONFERENCE FOR AFRICAN
STUDIES LTD
4. CROWN AGENTS NIG. LTD
5. I-SKILL LTD
6. NIGERIAN INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL
AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH
(NISER)

**LOTS 10 - DELIVERY OF
TRAININGS ON ETHICS,
ATTITUDINAL
CHANGE/CULTURAL CAPITAL
CHANGE MANAGEMENT,
COMMUNICATION AND PUBLIC
SPEAKING, RISK MANAGEMENT
AND REPORT AND SPEECH
WRITING**

S/N NAME OF COMPANY

1. ACIOE
2. ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COLLEGE
OF NIGERIA (ASCON)
3. AFRICAN DEPT. SOLUTION INT'L
4. AGUALINK LTD
5. ADROIT CONTINENTAL PROF.
SERVICES
6. ALPHA SHIELD NIG. LTD
7. BENVIC GLOBAL CONCEPT LTD
8. BUSINESS EDUCATION
EXAMINATION COUNCIL
9. COUNCIL OF WEST AFRICA
CHARTER
EDUCATORS, NIGERIA
10. FA'AMOUS CONSULTING LTD
11. FOCUS INTEGRATED SERVICES
LTD
12. FROKE CONSULTING
13. GODALL NIG. LTD
14. HENFEN
15. I-SKILL
16. INTERNATIONAL PRIME
17. JOS BUSINESS SCHOOL
18. KALISA CONSULT
19. LANTIS MANAGEMENT CONS.
20. LAWAGIMA CONSULTANTS
21. LEADING EDGE CONSULTING
22. MACTAY
23. MARKETING ACADEMY
24. MARKET RESEARCH SOCIETY
25. NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY
CENTRE
26. RARE KONSULT LTD
27. RESTRAL LTD
28. OLA-OLU MGT. CONSULTANCY
29. PROSEL CONSULTING
30. PUBLIC SERVICE INSTITUTE OF NIGERIA
(PSIN)
31. STEPWISE TECHNOLOGIES
32. STRATEGIC CONSULT
33. SUPERIOR OPTIONS
34. TONNIE IREDIA & ASSOCIATES
35. UNIQUE LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES
36. ZENITH ICON
37. TROJAN HEALTH CARE LTD
38. RARE CONSULT
39. RESTRAL LTD
40. TROJAN HEALTH CARE LTD.

The already submitted financial bids of the companies will be opened on Friday, July 9, 2010, beginning from 10.00 a.m., in the Atiku Abubakar Hall, Office of the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation, 1st Floor, Block A, Federal Secretariat, Phase II, Abuja. Pre-qualified companies are by this notice invited to witness the bids opening.

Signed:
Permanent Secretary (CSO)
For: Head of the Civil Service of the Federation

Oshiomhole, Anenih disagree on LG polls

From Vincent Egunyanga, Benin

DISAGREEMENTS between the Edo State Governor Comrade Adams Oshiomhole and the former chairman, Board of Trustees of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Chief Tony Anenih are not yet over, as they have again faulted each other on the conduct of the next local government election in the state.

Anenih has alleged a plan by Oshiomhole to stagger the dates of the election for what he called selfish and political motives. He made the allegation at a rally to receive some Action Congress (AC) members in Edo North senatorial district. He accused

Governor Oshiomhole of plotting to conduct the local government elections in the 18 local government areas of the state at different days 'because the governor and the ruling AC party in state knew they would not win the elections if they were held in one day'

Chief Anenih warned against such a plan, saying the PDP and the people of the state would wait to see how the plan could be achieved, just as he congratulated the defectors, noting that those who went to AC from the PDP were already returning to PDP because the original members of the AC were giving them a good fight.

But the Edo state Commissioner for Information and Orientation, Mr. Anslem

Ojezua dismissed the allegation as a ridiculous proposition, saying it should be disregarded because Chief Anenih had been consigned to history and therefore should not be taken seriously.

Ojezua, who said Anenih should be advised to retire from politics so that younger minds in the PDP could have the opportunity of making informed propositions. He said the issue should be what the rules were and whether they were being followed religiously, just as he accused the PDP of breaching rules. Ojezua added that Governor Oshiomhole was an apostle of one man, one vote philosophy who knew the world was watching. Earlier, the Edo PDP

chairman, Chief Dan Orbih, faulted the decision of AC to concede the Edo North senatorial seat to Akoko Edo, saying such a decision negated the principles of true democracy and the philosophy of one man, one vote.

Orbih, who received the defectors, said the solution to the liberation of the people of the state from the alleged failure of the AC-led administration's policies lied in the return of the PDP to the state Government House. The leader of the defectors, Chief Sylvanus Eruaga said they left the AC for the PDP because the policies of the AC-led administration had failed and that the party had become undemocratic and dictatorial.



EKITI State Governor Segun Oni speaking during the presentation of buses to the physically challenged schools in Ekiti recently.

Community leaders deny notice of govt action on boundary

From Mustafa Abubakar, Ilorin

LEADERS of Share community in Ifelodun Local Government Area of Kwara State, one of the disputed communities in the state have said the community has not been served any notice in respect of boundary demarcation in disputed areas.

Speaking with Daily Trust at the weekend, the chairman of the community, Professor Sulaiman Jamui and his deputy, Mr. Gabriel

Jimoh, said, "We have not been served any notice. We only eared as you heard".

It would be recalled that the State Attorney General and Commissioner for Justice Dr. Ali Ahmed disclosed last Wednesday while speaking with journalists that the state government had cancelled its former resolution recommendations on the Share/Tsaragi dispute, and had identified 18 villages and allocated 11 to Edu Local Government Area and seven to Ifelodun Local Government Area.

He further explained that Kange and Agbonna hill had been acquired by the state government.

"The villages identified include Kason, Argunyo Pengbe the beginning of Fenjewe, Fenjawa and Iyana Share belong to Ifelodun while Eyeforiji, Estan, Kochiotako, Ewani, Lechua, Boribo, Dada, Esan Kotako, Yikpata old bridge and Yikpata new bridge, Kokona and Ankoru, all now belong to Edu Local Government", he said.

ANPP elects new execs in Jigawa

From Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Dutse

THE All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) has devised plans to unseat the ruling party in Jigawa state, the PDP in 2011, just as the party elected new executives in the state with Alhaji Sa'idu Yusuf Miga and Alhaji Abdullahi Jibo as chairman and secretary respectively.

The new leaders that elected through consensus during the party's congress in Dutse over the weekend are expected to run the affairs of the party for the next four years.

Addressing members after he became the chairman, Miga called on them to equip

themselves ahead of the 2011 general elections, as according to him, ANPP was preparing to unseat the ruling party PDP in the state.

Miga urged party followers to register themselves whenever the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) started voters' registration exercise, as according to him obtaining the card is the first stage of defeating the incumbent government of the PDP.

"People of Jigawa State are tired of the PDP, hence we have to put our heads together to chase it out of office come 2011," he said.

Zoning divides ANPP in Kaduna

From Ibraheem Musa, Kaduna

THE Kaduna State chapter of All Nigeria Peoples Party (ANPP) has failed to produce new executive members due to disagreements over the zoning of political offices during its state congress which was held Saturday, Mr Kennedy Musa, the state secretary said yesterday.

Speaking to Daily Trust on telephone, Musa said the congress had been postponed for one week in order to find a consensus on the issue, adding that the event would hold next Saturday. He said the party wanted to use the 2006 zoning formula which allowed the party chairman to come from zone two while the secretary would come from zone three to conduct the congress but some party members kicked against it.

According to the secretary, there were two contenders for the chairmanship position and they were, Alhaji Lawal Zubairu El-Rufai who comes from zone two and Senator Lawal Aliyu Silver who hails from zone one. The position of the secretary was left in zone three, he said, adding that the deputy chair-

man and deputy secretary, public relations officer, treasurer and youth leader as well as Assistant legal and financial secretary were all zoned to zone one in the 2006 zoning formula.

Meanwhile, Alhaji Muhammad Sani Ibrahim, an ANPP legislator in the House of Representatives, told Daily Trust that the issue would be resolved and that he was optimistic that the party would elect credible executives to man the affairs of ANPP in Kaduna. Rep Ibrahim who represents Kaduna North federal constituency advised party members not to allow the issue of zoning to divide the ANPP because elections were around the corner. The legislator said the ANPP was poised to dislodge the PDP in the coming elections because with the appointment of Professor Attahiru Jega as chairman of the Independent Electoral Commission (INEC) there is no more room for rigging of elections. He described Jega's appointment as unprecedented in history as it was unanimously hailed because of his integrity, adding that that was why the PDP didn't want President Goodluck Jonathan to appoint him.

Senate to provide more funds for education

From Ismail Adebayo, Birnin Kebbi

THE Senate committee chairman on Education Senator Abubakar Atiku Bagudu has said the Senate would make adequate provision for the education sector in next year's budget.

The Senate committee Chairman noted that the education sector in the country was currently faced with enormous challenges which needed to be addressed urgently.

Bagudu said at the weekend when the committee members paid an oversight visit to the Waziri Umaru Federal Polytechnic (WUFED) in Birnin Kebbi.

He said, "We understand the challenges facing the education sector is enormous but we are ready to address them in next year's budget."

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October 15 - 25 and

October 23 - November 4 2010

Nigeria-Niger commission to partner with ECOWAS

NIGERIA-NIGER Joint Commission for Cooperation (NNJC) said it would partner with the ECOWAS on its cross border initiative. Director General of the National Boundary Commission Alhaji Sadiq Diggi said this in an interview in Niamey.

He said the commission has decided to continue the placement of pillars along settlements that straddle the boundary of the two countries so that it could determine which country exactly the settlements fell into.

He said the exercise would help to point out exactly in which country some villages along the border belonged to.

"We now agreed that we are going to continue the pillar emplacement exercise. We are going to place about 20 major pillars and we are also going to place intermediate pillars in sec-

tors which now straddle the boundary.

"In Katsina State you must have heard of Mai-Mujiya village, which actually straddled our boundary, initially we thought it was in Niger Republic until after the demarcation exercise we came to realise that almost three quarter of the village falls into Nigeria.

"We are going to work hand in hand with the ECOWAS on the cross border initiative and we will do everything possible to bring together the Immigration, Customs and security agencies of both countries.

He said the NNJC would discuss with the people affected by the boundary adjustments to find out what country they would like to belong to. (NAN)



AFRIKAANS dressed in Mollateye and a wool felt winter blanket made from sheep wool in Bloemfontein, South Africa, yesterday.

NNPC boss institutes scholarship fund for Ebira youths

By Sunday Williams

GROUP Managing Director of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) Engineer Austen Oniwon has instituted an Education Trust Fund that would give scholarship to indigent but intelligent Ebira youths to study at the university level.

Addressing the Ebira Youth Congress (EYC) in Abuja during a reception held to honour him and two other Ebira sons, Muhammad Adoke Bello and Alhaji Muhammad Ataba Sanni-Omolori (the Minister of Justice and Attorney General and the Clerk of the House of Representative respectively), Oniwon said education was the bedrock of every developed society.

"In order to encourage the young ones who are looking up to us, I wish to use this auspicious moment to institute a scholarship trust fund that would support prospective students to

study engineering, management and the arts from Ebira land", Oniwon said.

He said that some Chinese investors would be partnering with the NNPC to establish Greenfield Refineries in Kogi, Lagos and Bayelsa States. He said the refineries would go a long way in creating jobs, wealth and socio-economic development for the people.

He urged the Ebira people to embrace peace and reunite in order to encourage investors to invest in their land.

Chairman of the event Dr. Tom Adaba lauded the Federal Government for appointing Ebira sons into prominent positions in the country and enjoined them to carry out their duties efficiently.

President General of the EYC Mallam Nuhu Ogirima urged the leaders to attract development to Ebira land for the common good of all.

Publisher decries high rate of piracy

By Maureen Onochie

THE continuous pirating of books and other publications by dubious people is gradually sending many publishing companies out of business, Executive Director, Operations, of Macmillan Publishers Mr. Olayinka Olaniyan has said.

Mr. Olaniyan who spoke at a one day programme tagged "Team spirit day" at the weekend in Abuja said the influx of pirated books makes publishing difficult in Nigeria.

He said piracy is on the rise in Nigeria thereby affecting the growth of literary works, movies and music industries in the

country. He also described the menace as the evil militating against the promotion of literary works in Nigeria.

"Piracy is something we experience every year. People are finding it difficult to print in Nigeria again; they print in India, China and some other countries outside Nigeria," he said.

He said his company is collaborating with the Nigerian Copyrights Commission (NCC) and customs to checkmate the activities of pirates.

"We are also collaborating with the police to carry out raid on any place we have information about. We also hope that the judiciary will assist us in prosecuting the culprits," Olaniyan said.

Coal to power: Firm engages foreign expertise

By Abdulkadir Badsha Mukhtar

INDIGENOUS coal mining company, Zuma Nigeria Limited, said it has engaged foreign expertise for the exploration of coal for power project in the country. The company engaged consultants from France, South Africa and the United States of America to achieve its mandate of exploring coal for power generation in Nigeria.

Managing Director of the company Dr. Innocent Esuma made this known on Friday when he led a delegation to the Minister of Mines and Steel Development Arch. Musa Muhammad Sada to brief him on the work progress at the site.

Dr. Esuma said the company is into coal exploration for the Coal to Power Project with the company site in Okogbo village, Ankpa, Kogi State to address the militating power problem in Nigeria.

Responding, the minister said his ministry is ready to collaborate with potential mining investors for the development of the sector.

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PUBLIC NOTICE ON ALTERED/FAKED/FORGED TAX CLEARANCE CERTIFICATES (TCC)

This is to draw the attention of all Revenue Staff, Tax Practitioners, Consultants, Tax Payers and the General public, particularly all those agencies of governments, embassies, banks and corporate organizations required by law to request for Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC), to the prevalence of altered, faked, forged Tax Clearance Certificates (TCC) in circulation.

INTRODUCTION

In view of the ugly development with regards to altered faked/forged tax clearance certificates (TCC) the Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) wishes to clarify as follows:

It is simple and easy to obtain a genuine TCC. It is issued free of charge within two weeks of the demand for it, provided taxes assessed on the profits or income of the applicant have been paid.

An altered, fake, forged T.C.C. is one which has not been issued by a relevant tax authority, either an Integrated Tax Office/Large Tax Office (ITO/LTO) of the FIRS or a State Internal Revenue Service Office, as the case may be.

Issuance of a TCC for corporate bodies is a provision of the law as enshrined in S. 101 of CITA CAP C21 LFN 2004 while issuance of TCC for Personal Income Tax is enshrined in S. 85 of PITACAP P8 LFN 2004 (as updated)

A genuine T.C.C. is one issued by the relevant tax authority upon settlement of tax liabilities by a taxable person up to the preceding year of assessment.

S. 101(3) provides that a tax clearance certificate shall disclose in respect of the last three years of assessment-

- a. Total profits or chargeable income;
- b. Tax payable;
- c. Tax paid;
- d. Tax outstanding or alternatively a statement to the effect that no tax is due.

REQUIREMENTS

In order to obtain a genuine T.C.C. from the FIRS, a taxpayer shall do the following:

- Register with an office of the FIRS and obtain a unique Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN),
- Submit a complete self assessment returns by himself or through an appointed tax professional;
- Must settle tax liabilities, as established on any self assessment form filed by the taxpayer or any assessment issued on the taxpayer, as at the date of the application for TCC (subject to relevant exceptions).
- Section 40(4) provides that "a company which is yet to commence business after at least six months of incorporation shall for each year it obtains a tax clearance

• certificate pay a levy of"

- a. N20,000 for the first year; and
- b. N25,000 for every subsequent year, before a tax clearance certificate is issued

- Submit an application form for TCC (in triplicate) by self or through an appointed tax professional.

AUTHENTIC TAX CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (TCC)

The authenticity or otherwise of a TCC can be established by writing to the office of the Executive Chairman FIRS for confirmation.

Generally, the following parameters would apply to an authentic TCC:

- It would be issued by a designated Tax Office, having jurisdiction over residence or address of the taxpayer;
- It would be signed by a designated Tax Controller or duly authorized signatory in the relevant Tax Office.
- There would be no alterations to the contents of the TCC.

FAKE TAX CLEARANCE CERTIFICATE (TCC)

A fake TCC on the other hand will have one or more of the following characteristics:

- It is not signed by a designated Tax Controller or duly authorized signatory in a competent Tax Office with appropriate tax jurisdiction.
- It is presented in a scanned or laminated form and not conforming with the original.
- It is presented with certain caveats, such as: "DO NOT PRESENT FOR RENEWAL AT ANY FIRS TAX OFFICE", "DO NOT PRESENT AT ANY BANK OR THE CENTRAL BANK OFFICE", "DO NOT PRESENT AT ANY EMBASSY OR HIGH COMMISSION" etc.

It should be noted with emphasis, that a Tax Clearance Certificate is issued free of charge on application at all times provided the applicant has met the conditions mentioned earlier. Any demand for payment of gratification before issuance of TCC should be reported immediately to the Office of the Executive Chairman, Federal Inland Revenue Service (ECFIRS), Plot 15 Sokode Crescent, Wuse Zone 5, Abuja.

All embassies, banks, Ministries, Departments and Agencies of Government (MDAs) at Federal, State and Local Government levels are advised to always crosscheck the genuineness of any tax documents presented to them and feel free to direct any such enquiries on tax matters to the offices of Tax Controllers, Regional Coordinators or Coordinating Director, Tax Operations Group or the Director, Field

Operations Processes and Programmes Department, or the Office of the Executive Chairman, Federal Inland Revenue Service.

SACTIONS

The general public is hereby warned against engaging fraudsters or unknown third parties as tax representatives and advised to note the offences and penalties which the FIRS, in collaboration with other law enforcement agencies are empowered to enforce:

Section 480 (1) (b) of the Criminal Code Act, Cap C38 LFN 2004 states with regards to forgery, as follows:

"Any person who, without lawful authority or excuse, the proof of which lies on him makes, or begins or prepares to make, or uses or knowingly has in his possession or disposes of any paper resembling any paper such as is specially provided by the proper authority for the purpose of being used for making any such things as stamp, license, permit or other documents, used for the purposes of the public revenue of Nigeria or any part of Nigeria or of any part of Commonwealth Country or any country under the protection of a Commonwealth country, is guilty of a felony and is liable to imprisonment for fourteen years."

Section 467 of the Criminal Code Act Cap C38 LFN 2004 has the provisions for forgery in general stating that: any person who forges any documents, writing or seal is guilty of an offence which unless otherwise stated, is a felony and he is liable, if no other punishment is provided, to imprisonment for three years.

Finally Section 43 subsection (a-e) of FIRS Establishment Act No 13 LFN 2007 provides under counterfeiting of documents etc that: "any person who, counterfeits or falsified any document which is required for transactions of any business under this Act or any Law listed in the first Schedule to this Act commits an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding N200,000 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or to both such fine and imprisonment".

It is hoped that this notice would assist you to comply with the law. Please, feel free to direct any enquiries on the above to the Office of the Executive Chairman, or the Director, Field Operations Processes and Programmes Department, Federal Inland Revenue Service, Plot 15 Sokode Crescent, Wuse Zone 5, P.M.B 33 Garki, Abuja.

Igho Andy K. Ejemeyawwi
Director,
Field Operations Processes & Programmes Department
Federal Inland Revenue Service.

Over 1,200 applicants spotted with fake credentials

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

POLICE in Niger have spotted over 1,200 candidates, who applied for jobs with the Nigerian Police in Niger State with fake credentials.

According to the Niger State

Police spokesman and Secretary of the recruitment panel, Mr Richard Oguche, most of the candidates presented fake results. Oguche in an interview with our correspondent in Minna, yesterday added that not less than 40 percent of

the applicants also falsified their ages to fall within the required age bracket of 18 to 25. Apart from presenting fake GCE results, some presented fake birth certificates. Many of the recruits had doubtful education qualification cer-

tificates, indigene ship certificates as well as, local government and states of origin certificates.

In fact, someone even came with a certificate that had a different picture on it and after interrogation, he confessed that the result

was that of his younger brother", he said.

When asked if the command had made any arrest, Mr Oguche said, "We just disqualified them and let them go with a strong warning not to repeat such".



FROM right: Brazilian President Lula Da-Silva, ECOWAS Chairman, President Goodluck Jonathan, and President of ECOWAS Commission Victor James Gbeho at the opening of ECOWAS-Brazil Special Commission at the weekend in Cape Verde.

Labour Party boss harps on unity among aspirants

From Adewale Giwa, Akure

THE Chairman of the Labour Party in Owo Local Government Area of Ondo State Comrade Omotayo Akinrogbe at the weekend advised politicians aspiring for different positions in the party to stop attacking each other, saying they should rather unite and make the party stronger.

Akinrogbe, who gave the advise while presenting vehicles and motorcycles donated by an aspirant vying for the House of Representatives, Femi Adekambi, to party executives in Owo, said a level playing ground would be provided for all aspirants seeking elective positions in the 2011 general elections. He said politics should not be seen as a do-or-die affair, adding that the party would not tolerate anything that would cause division in

the party.

He maintained that due process would be followed in the selection of candidates, who would represent the party.

While commending Femi Adekambi for the gesture, the party chairman urged other aspirants to emulate him.

"What Adekambi has done is highly commendable. The major task that should be before every aspirant in this area is how to develop the party, and that is what Adekambi has just demonstrated," he added.

Adekambi on his part, said the donation was to entice more people to the party.

"I did not donate these things because I am seeking an elective position, but because I want to build Labour Party in Owo/Ose. Many aspirants are not thinking in this direction, but I think the party needs such things to develop," he said.

Nasarawa community seeks compensation for road

From Hir Joseph, Lafia

THE people of Panda community in Panda Development Area of Nasarawa State are asking the government to compensate them for their land which was acquired for road construction.

The traditional ruler of Pande, Barrister Joel, Aninge, told the inspection team, which visited him at the weekend that the people should be compensated because the government did not seek their permission before commencing work.

But the state Commissioner for Works Dr. Joseph Ogbere and the Chairman of the Nasarawa State Public Works Maintenance Agency (NAPUWNA), Dr. Aliyu Ramalan appealed to members of the community and their traditional ruler for understanding.

They said the land is a sacrifice the people have to make for the state to construct an access road to link it to other communities.

The road which is captured in the 2010 budget is about eight kilometres and expected to cost N83 million.

Kwara govt reacts to court order on ex-CJ

From Mustafa Abubakar, Ilorin

THE Kwara State Government has said that the former Chief Judge of the state Justice Raliat Elelu-Habeeb can resume duty as a judge, but not as the Chief Judge of the State.

The state Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice Dr. Ali Ahmad, who said this in reaction to the judgment of the Court of Appeal in Ilorin division on the former Justice Raliat Elelu Habeeb last week, said if a court lacks jurisdiction then, the case is closed.

The Court of Appeal presided over by Justice Mohammed Adamu Dentijo had on Friday ruled that the court lacked jurisdiction to try the matter.

The commissioner added that, with the decision of the court, it was now left for the respondent, the former Chief Judge to do whatever pleases her, adding that the former Chief Judge was never dismissed from the state judiciary. "Our door is open. The removed CJ has always remained a judicial officer. The bone of contention is whether she is still the Chief Judge or not and the court decided today that the court she went to, had no jurisdiction to entertain the case", he added.

It would be recalled that Elelu-Habeeb was removed from office by Gov Bukola Saraki on allegations of financial impropriety, misconduct, embezzlement of funds and refusal to open up more judicial divisions.

Principal tasks youths on nation building

From Ruqayyah Yusuf Aliyu, Kano

THE Principal of the Nigerian/Turkish International College Mr Orhan Kertim has called on Nigerian youths to contribute to the country's development.

Kertim, who gave the advice while presenting a speech at the sixth graduation ceremony of the college in Kano Saturday said youths must remember that the nation's development lies in their hands as future leaders.

He said it was important for young people to understand that nursing an ambition is not enough, but that it must be complemented with action and dedication.

The principal congratulated the out-going students, urging them to be good ambassadors of the school wherever they find themselves.

Mr. Kertim also advised the students to justify the investment made by their parents in educating them by exhibiting good manners saying, their certificates were awarded for based on learning and character.

Aliyu orders LGs to provide lands for varsity

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

NIGER State Governor Babangida Aliyu has instructed chairmen of the 25 local government areas of the state to set aside 20 hectares of land each for the establishment of universities.

The governor, who said this

at the 11th graduation ceremony of the El-Amin International School in Minna at the weekend, eulogised the late wife of former president Ibrahim Babangida, Maryam Babangida, for promoting quality education in the state.

He added that the state was

ready to reinvigorate the sector.

"We have asked each of the 25 local government areas in the state to reserve 25 hectares of land in case any group or individual indicates interest in establishing a university", he said.

He urged interested stakehold-

ers to cash-in on the opportunity.

Aliyu added that the government would exploit all avenues to woo interested persons/groups to establish institutions of higher learning in the state because according to him, it will fast track development in the state.

Amaechi: Govs yet to take stand on Jonathan

From Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

RIVERS State Governor Chibuike Amaechi has said that the Governors Forum is yet to take a position on President Goodluck Jonathan's bid for the

Presidency in 2011.

Amaechi, who spoke at an interactive session with newsmen at the weekend said, "We have not discussed the issue of President Goodluck Jonathan for 2011. But I do not think we

will vote against him at the People Democratic Party convention. You know the governors cannot be underrated, they have a say in what goes on in the party. It is my believe that there will be horse trading".

Amaechi also lauded President Jonathan's decision on the Super Eagles, saying it was in the best interest of the country.

Speaking on developmental projects in his state, Amaechi

said there was a N60 billion mono rail project currently on going. He expressed the hope that the rail would commence operation in August 2011. He also promised not to leave any project uncompleted.

Jigawa Assembly gets 31 new cars

From Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Dutse

THE Jigawa State House of Assembly has purchased 31 new cars at N179.8 million for its committees, the Clerk of the House, Alhaji Sabo Wada, has said. Speaking to our correspondent at the weekend, Wada said each of the cars cost about N5.8million and that the cars were supplied by a Kano based company.

He said the vehicles used by the committees had been due for replacement since 2008.

The Clerk said contrary to speculations, the cars were not bought for the House by the state Government, but from the 2010 budget of the House.

FCE Potiskum honours Gaidam, others

From Hamza Idris, Damaturu

GOVERNOR Ibrahim Gaidam of Yobe State and his Kogi State counterpart Ibrahim Idris as well as the Minister of Police Affairs Adamu Maina Waziri were on Saturday honoured by the Federal College of Education, Technical Potiskum, Yobe State, for their exemplary leadership. The award of the fellowship of the college was conferred on them at the combined convocation of 1,810 students, who concluded their National Certificate of Education (NCE) programmes between 2005 and 2009.

Provost of the college Dr. Shettima Sa'idu said since its establishment in 1988, the college had witnessed academic and infrastructural growth.

"We have produced hundreds of technical and science teachers, who are now working in various places," he said.

Dr Shettima, who appealed for more funding for colleges of education in the country, said it was necessary because the colleges were more qualified to train teachers than many universities in the country.

Governor Ibrahim Idris donated N5 million to the college while Adamu Maina Waziri donated a 30-seater bus and IT equipments.



FORMER Attorney General of the Federation Chief Bayo Ojo SAN (centre) being presented with certificate of office as the Paramount ruler of Ijumaland, Olujume of Ijumaland, Oba Jerome Sumanu (left) in Ijumu, Kogi State, at the weekend. With them is his wife, Justice Folashade Ojo.

PDP asks Shekarau to mind his business

From Ibraheem Musa, Kaduna

GOVERNOR Ibrahim Shekarau of Kano State has been advised to concentrate on the problems that are confronting him both at the level of governance and politics in his state and stop dabbling into the internal affairs of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP).

The North-West Zonal Secretary of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Barrister Baba Lawal Aliyu,

who gave the advice while addressing newsmen in Kaduna yesterday, alleged that Governor Shekarau factionalised the ANPP in Kano State by hand picking Alhaji Salihu Sagir Takai as his successor.

"This alone is causing so much confusion in the party that even Alhaji Abdullah Yusuf Atta, one of Shekarau's Special Assistants has decamped to the PDP", he said.

Governor Shekarau was reported to have advised the PDP at an event to respect its zoning arrange-

ment because rejecting it according to him, will be immoral.

"Shekarau has no business with the zoning principle of the PDP or any other issue that affects the party for that matter. The Congress for Progressive Change (CPC) is posing a lot of challenge to Shekarau in Kano. In addition to this, is the issue of governance, whereby the governor has been unable to provide any tangible dividend of democracy in the past eight years to Kano people", Aliyu added.

Kebbi Assembly rejects independent candidacy

From Ismail Adebayo, Birnin Kebbi

THE Kebbi State House of Assembly has rejected the proposal of independent candidate and qualification of aspirants to the National Assembly in the amended constitution sent to it by the Senate. Sambo Zogirma, representing Bunza constituency in a motion called for the rejection of section 65 of the constitution on independent candidature and section 131 on minimum educational qualification for members of the

National Assembly.

The Assembly maintained that independent candidature and minimum qualification for Assembly members were undemocratic, particularly in multi party system.

The lawmakers argued that good governance was more important than intimidating academic credentials that may not impact positively on the lives of the people. The House also rejected section 318 and section 221 to 227 on registration and financing of political parties,

position of INEC on financial transactions and prohibition of quasi-military organizations. The motion, which was seconded by Imam Besse, representing Koko Besse was adopted by the House.

Some members of the public, who attended the session also condemned what they described as the hasty passage of the bill by the Senate, saying the amended constitution failed to address section 207, which has to do with the independence of the judiciary.

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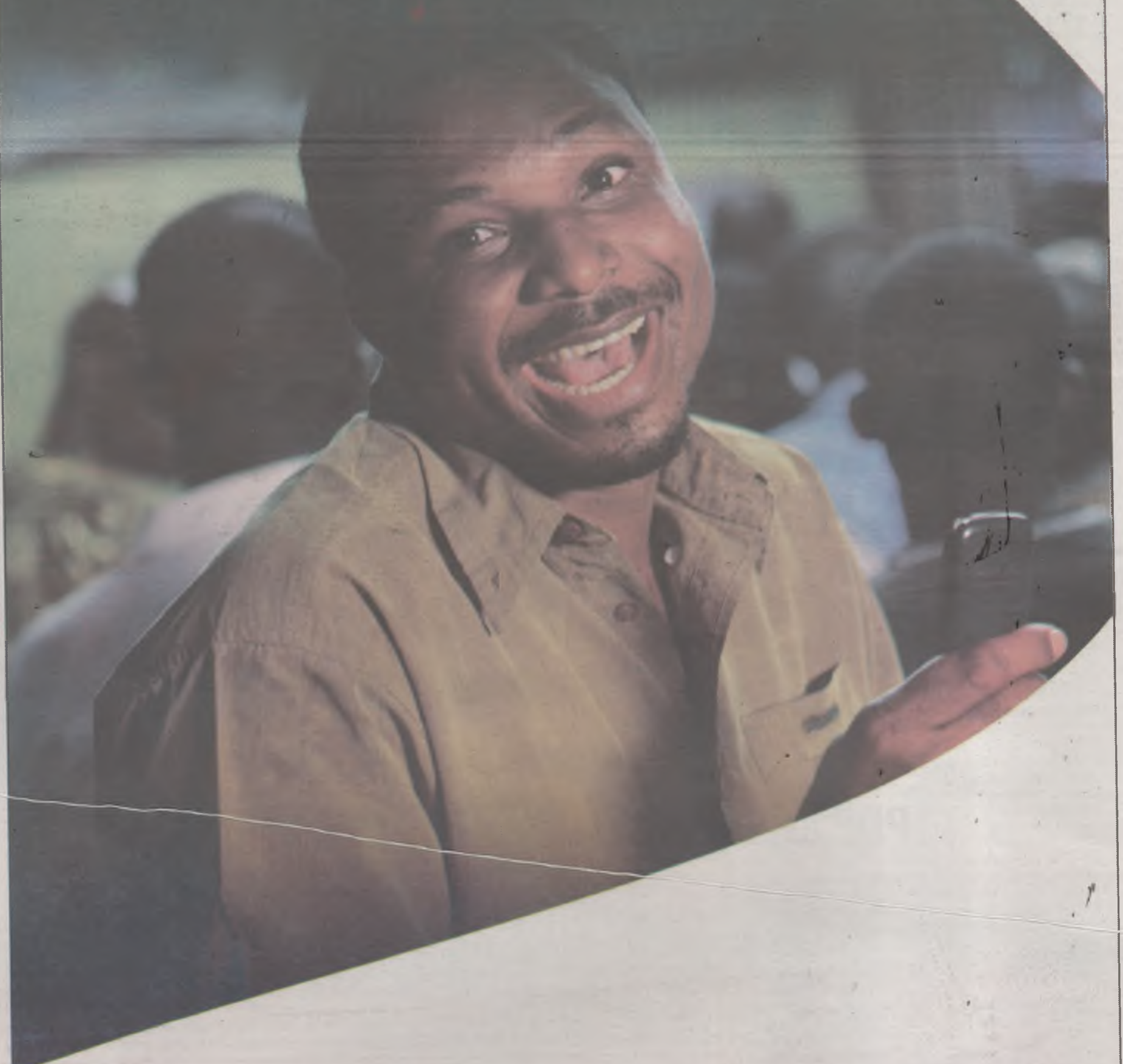
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Inside Politics

Maccido: Budgeting N10bn for Nigeria @ 50 is wrong

SENATOR Ahmed Maccido represents Sokoto Central in the Senate. In this interview in Sokoto, Maccido who is the vice chairman Senate Committee on Appropriation speaks on a number of issues including the N10billion budget proposal for Nigeria at 50, the PDP zoning arrangement and the appointment of Professor Attahiru Jega as INEC chairman, Excerpts:

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

WHAT would you say is your greatest achievement as senator in the last three years?

Really, I can't tell you there is any particular great achievement that I have, being a modest person and trained and oriented towards that [modesty]. We can be very modest when we want to be, but the fact that people elected me to represent them, I need to say a few things that I have done. First, on the legislative aspect of my job, I am the vice chairman of the Appropriation Committee of the senate, therefore all appropriation bills in the past three years came through our committee. In fact I do the leg works, the chairman oversees it. So practically I handle the budget and we try as possible to give Nigeria a good budget. As far as we [Senators] are concerned, it is the implementation of the budgets that is the problem.

There could be a few questions regarding what we do but overall we really have done a lot as a committee. I can tell you that whoever does any job in Nigeria and achieves about 60 to 70 percentage success, he can say he has done a lot.

You said implementation of the budget is the problem, but it is part of your responsibility to ensure it is implemented accordingly through your oversight function...

Through our oversight function, we try as much to make the executives implement budget. Unfortunately, somewhere along the way things are not going very well. But one thing I can say is that none of these budgets in the past three years has passed 50 percentage implementation, none. It is on record, in fact, the last one was only 23 to 30 percent implemented even though they insisted that it got up to 40 percent.

The Minister of Finance was beating his chest that they had got 40 percentage which is very unfortunate. Implementation of our budgets is very poor and as a lawmaking body, the Senate is trying to find ways of making them [the executives] to live up to their responsibilities.

It is our responsibility to oversee and monitor what they are doing, so we are trying to find ways of making sure that they do their job.

How would you describe the senate which you are part of?

The senate has been quite effective and vibrant. There was no day that we had a dull senate; everyday there is something to discuss and it is comprehensive. And we try as much as we can to avoid personal vendetta and political bickering which obtains elsewhere. We are free of that in the senate. We have also passed very good laws that are effective. Like I explained earlier, it is the implementation that is the problem.

What would you say have been the challenges?

There have been challenges from many places, most especially from society, the society has been battered for a very long time people are hungry and angry, they are angry because they don't have jobs, they don't have employment, they are hungry because they don't have food therefore it is only right for them to be angry, therefore they are impatient they needed to see results now, if they elect a senator they expect you to provide solutions for them now and it doesn't work like that, like I said a hungry man is an angry man. There is really the need for us to do more to see that our people get the dividend of democracy.

What would you say is the most pressing problem in your constituency?

The most pressing challenges facing my constituency are youth empowerment and job creation. Our people are not overly ambitious of making things difficult for somebody. If they could just have a way of getting employment and have something to fend for themselves, they are okay. Nigerians are generally like that. Our youths are restive because they are unemployed; they don't have jobs. So that is the primary problem in my constituency.

So to what extent have you been able to ensure that the problem is



SENATOR Ahmed Maccido

redressed?

Things are difficult but a lot can be done to the youths. On the part of employment, we have skilled and unskilled labour. You can help the youths to acquire some basic skills so that they can find their means of livelihood. In that respect, I have entered into agreement with the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) and we brought about 30 of our youths on the first batch to train. They finished the training and they were given certificates by the NDE. Now they are waiting for us to assimilate them into the system. We also had a second batch of 30 youths and a third batch of 59. We have trained all these boys through NDE and we have now got instruments with which they are going to work with on all aspects of skills they acquired. By next month, God willing, we are going to provide these things to the boys.

How much did you expend on this?

I have spent at least N12 million on the purchase of the materials. We also set aside some cash to avail the beneficiaries to enable them kick off their trades and be self sustaining.

How much have you set aside for that?

We have not decided that but we are going to provide it.

What about the constituency projects?

I have constructed six boreholes with overhead tanks in six local government areas which include Kware, Binji, Tangaza, Silame, Sokoto South and

Wamakko. I have also provided public health clinic at Wamakko and it is about 80 percentage completion. I believe it will be ready for commissioning before we commence campaign for re-election. There are also two computer centres in Sokoto, although those ones, the contractors have just come to the site.

Nigerians are concerned about the sanctity of the electoral process in the next election. Do you think the appointment of Professor Attahiru Jega as INEC boss will help matters?

Jega is known to be a principled person. He is also an intellectual and everybody knows that he has the capacity and administrative experience to deliver. He has administered a university for a very long time. He has that experience, but the problem is that we have so many professors that oversaw our electoral bodies and they failed. As I said earlier, he is a principled person, so let's hope that God will help him and that he will have less interference from politicians and stakeholders. By and large I think he will perform; we believe he will deliver Insha Allah.

What's your comment on the much talked about zoning of the presidency in the PDP?

I am for zoning because it is a gentleman agreement that has earlier been entered into, that is one. Two, PDP has accepted it as part of its policy, so I don't see why anybody should quarrel over that. It is a party issue and that is what they want and it should be allowed to thrive. It is an existing agreement so if anybody wants to rescind that agreement, the

same people should sit down again, and re-examine the agreement, if they deem fit to discontinue, they should do that. But if they insist on leaving the agreement [on zoning] as it is, so be it.

What, in your opinion, will be the implication of jettisoning the 'gentleman' agreement?

It will be unfortunate because anybody will have a reason to be mischievous in the future. Anybody can do the same because it suggests lack of trust; they can no longer trust one another. And, if you can't trust somebody, it's difficult for you to live with him. So I think anybody can wake up tomorrow and decide to disobey agreement reached.

How do you see the N10billion proposed budget for the 50th Nigeria's anniversary.

This is something very touchy. To be frank with you, no credible leader would agree to spend 10 billion naira on celebrations when people are hungry. Nigerians are very hungry and they are also equally angry over government's decision to spend 10 billion naira on celebrations when there are other things to be done with such huge sum of money. I think it is not right. The president should look into that committee's works and re-examine it. If he accepts the committee's work as it is, it is unfortunate. There is going to be a lot of agitations; it may not go down well with people and it will make him lose the level of credibility he is enjoying now. But I think he should review the committee's work and reduce the amount to something less.

Inside Politics

'Why state legislators reject higher education qualification for election'

From Hamza Idris, Damaturu

ALHAJI Sirajo Wakil, the Deputy Majority leader of the Yobe State House of Assembly, yesterday described the proposed amendment of section 65 of the 1999 Constitution which borders on minimum qualification for contesting elections as unrealistic.

Wakil who spoke to journalists in Damaturu said amending the section will only favour national assembly aspirants to the detriment of other Nigerians.

"Our argument on section 65 is that the proposed amendment has failed to give fair and level playing ground to Nigerians... The amended version of sec-

tion 65 recommends a minimum of diploma certificate to contest election into the state and national assembly, but at the same time gives national assembly members the leverage of contesting with school certificate which is improper...there should be level playing ground" he said.

The Yobe State House of Assembly had last week rejected the proposed amendment to section 65 of the constitution. The lawmakers equally rejected the amendment of sections 68, 131, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227 and 318 of the Constitution.

"I am happy to say that every member had consulted with his constituency before coming up with our position," Wakil said.

Group tasks Jega on voters' register

By Mustapha Suleiman

A group operating under the aegis of Jonathan Consolidation 2011 (JC11) has called on the new chairman of Independent National Electoral Commission Prof. Attahiru Jega to review the voters' register to give room for wider participation in the 2011 general election.

Speaking to our correspondent at the weekend on behalf of the group, the director in charge of Planning, Research and Logistics, Chief Frank Woopet Okoye, said the call became necessary in view of the fact that most Nigerians were not registered in the previous exercise due to under-age factor.

He argued that millions of Nigerians were below 18 years of age at the time of the last election held in 2007, stressing that the exercise could be carried out within a short period of time.

Chief Okoye equally called on Nigerians to come out en masse to participate in the general elections in 2011, pointing out that active participation of the electorate will give credibility to the election.

He equally enjoined the new INEC boss to put all necessary machinery in place with a view to



PROF. Attahiru Jega, INEC boss

ensuring that all Nigerians irrespective of where they reside have the right to vote as it is done in

other parts of the world, pointing out such step will be a departure from the old system.

Anambra North: Group threatens to sue INEC

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar

THE Coalition of Anambrians for Democracy and Justice (CADAJ) has threatened to sue the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and its new officials should the commission fail to investigate alleged discrepancies in the Appeal Court judgment that removed Senator Joy Emodi from the Senate.

In a statement by the coordinator of the group, Dr. Ikediora Obike, CADAJ called on the officials of INEC to investigate documents tendered by Senator Alphonsus Igbeke at the election tribunal.

While hailing the appointment of Jega as INEC boss, the group said "One of the major challenges of the new INEC chairman was to restore the confidence of the electorate, especially the people of Anambra State in the elec-

toral process by probing the veracity of the claim by the Anambra State Election Petitions Tribunal that the alleged INEC certified results tendered by Igbeke before it were, in the Tribunal's word, "freshly oven baked and less than authentic."

The group maintained that "The failure of the INEC and the Nigeria Police to investigate such weighty indictment by the lower tribunal judges with a view to bringing to book anyone found culpable was a harmful rust in the nation's electoral system and must not be swept under the carpet. We voted a record three times to be able to elect a Senator in 2007, but our will have been upturned, but we won't take it lying low any longer."

The group said even with Jega's acclaimed integrity, the commission cannot succeed if the rot such as alleged complicity of its commissioners and high officers in faking election results for the highest bidders are not quickly addressed.

Avoid Jang to win Plateau - Adeh tells Jonathan

By Andrew Agbese, Jos

FORMER member of the House of Representatives Mr. Lumumba Da Adeh has advised President Goodluck Jonathan to avoid the Plateau State governor Jonah Jang if he wants to win in the state.

Adeh, who was reacting to a comment by Jang that he would deliver Plateau to PDP in the 2011 presidential elections, said Jang does not have the capacity to deliver such a promise as he has lost grip of the state.

Adeh who was also Special Assistant to former president, Olusegun Obasanjo, Jang had become more of a liability rather than a political asset. He advised President Jonathan to avoid political liabilities that could spoil his chances if he eventually decides to run.

"It is funny that Jang would

promise to deliver something he does not have," Adeh said pointing out that the PDP, which used to win all the local governments in Plateau State in the previous administration, had lost an unprecedented four local governments in an election which was even conducted by the governor's appointee at the state electoral commission.

He said PDP's win in two other local governments were achieved without the support of the governor.

Adeh reminded President Jonathan that majority of the stakeholders in the Plateau PDP are not with the governor, stressing that the claim by Jang that he can deliver is hollow as it is the other stakeholders who the governor has sidelined that have worked hard to keep the PDP in the state and are in a position to deliver the state to Jonathan when he declares.

Ex-minister, Nakande, declares for Senate

By Andrew Agbese, Jos

FORMER minister of state for information and communication, Alhaji Ibrahim Dasuki Nakande has declared his intention to run for the Plateau north senatorial seat in the 2011 elections.

Nakande who made this known in a statement, said the idea of representation at the national level has to be well captured in a way that will make meaning to the ordinary people, hence his offer to put up for the job.

He said his aspiration should be viewed from the point of service and appealed to the people of the zone to demonstrate their

willingness to come out of stagnation by identifying with, and supporting him in his zest to serve them.

He confirmed he will be contesting on the platform of the PDP. Senator Gyang Dantong is currently representing the constituency and will certainly seek re-election.

The people of Plateau North have so far demonstrated a resolve for the principle of zoning in deciding who contests for the seat as Barkin Ladi, Jos South, Bassa and now Riyom have occupied the seat leaving only Jos East and Jos North. Nakande is from Jos North.

Group tasks Jega on voters' register

Kwara ANPP elects new execs

From Mustafa Abubakar, Ilorin

THE All Nigerian People's Party (ANPP) in Kwara State has elected new state executive committee members to run the affairs of the party ahead of the October local government elections.

The Twenty four -man committee which will serve a term of four years was elected at the weekend.

Speaking at the congress, the state governorship aspirant Alhaji Bolaji Khalil called on the Independent Electoral Commission (INEC) to ensure fairness for all parties in the conduct of the 2011 general elections in the country.

Alhaji Khalil said the only thing the new INEC chairman Professor Attahiru Jega will do to Nigerians is to ensure 'one man one vote' in subsequent elections.

"ANPP is determined to wrestle power from the ruling People's Democratic Party (PDP) in the coming elections so that it will take its rightful place in the political scene of the country," the aspirant said.

In his remark, leader of "The Kwara Patriots" (TKP), an umbrella for opposition parties in the state, Chief Wole Oke, commended the doggedness of Alhaji Bolaji Khalil in financing of the party's activities in the state.

He assured ANPP members of the support of TKP in ensuring that the party returns to power in the state.

In his acceptance speech, the newly elected state chairman of the party Alhaji Taiwo Hassan Eleja said democracy can only thrive in the country if it takes into account the wishes of the people.

BUSINESS

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Jonathan's budget of controversy

By Turaki A. Hassan

SEVEN months into the year it is safe to say Nigeria has no workable budget. Since the return to civil rule in 1999 this is the first time the Federal Government is requesting for a budget cut, not long after it was signed into law. Late President Yar'adua had in November last year presented the 2010 Appropriation bill to the National Assembly and the lawmakers did approve N4.6trillion which was signed into law by the then Acting President Goodluck Jonathan on April 22. However, early last month the President forwarded a letter to the lawmakers requesting them review downward the budget explaining that there were challenges posed by "serious shortfall in projected revenue" which had made it necessary to be trimmed to a manageable size. This, he said was due to significant drop in both oil and non-oil revenue.

In the case of oil revenue, Jonathan stated that the prices of crude had dropped on the international market from "over \$80 per barrel to under \$70" lately. The budget was predicated on \$67 per barrel of crude oil. The letter reads in part, "It is prudent to revise the oil benchmark price to a more realistic level. On the expenditure side, it is necessary to revise downwards, the aggregate level of expenditure from the N4.61bn approved in the 2010 Appropriation Act, and adjust the budget details accordingly."

Ironically however, the president in the same letter also requested the legislature to approve an N639.8bn supplementary budget to address areas that were "inadvertently omitted" in the 2010 budget. These include the negotiated civil service wage increase, Power Holding Company of Nigeria arrears of monetisation and the country's 50th anniversary celebrations, which the government intend to spend N10 billion and is now a subject of controversy across the country.

In the new bill, Jonathan wants an additional N507.12bn for recurrent (non-debt) expenditure and N132.69bn for the Development Fund. The proposal also provided N287.32billion for wage adjustments for the public service, this is in addition to the N100billion already provided for wage increase in the 2010 Appropriation Act. The adjustments include the payment of two months arrears to the members of the Academic Staff Union of Universities; wage increases for non-teaching staff of universities, polytechnics and Colleges of Education; core civil servants; as well as arrears for medical professionals.

In the power sector, Power Holding Company of Nigeria got N200billion as arrears of monetisation for staff; while N4.49billion was voted for the feeding allowances/stipends of ex-militants under the phase II amnesty reintegration programme.

However, lawmakers in both Red and Green chambers are not comfortable with what they called "contradictory budgeting process" and many of them have vowed to frustrate its passage because the executive is proposing to cut 40 percent the capital expenditure. At a meeting between the Finance Minister Dr. Olusegun Aganga and members of the House of Representatives committee on Finance last week the MPs expressed serious reservation on the proposed budget slash especially that it is the capital expenditure that will be reduced by 40 percent "We do not agree with you minister because this is election year and we have made a lot of promises to our constituents that we will do this or that to them and now how do you expect us to go back and tell them that it can't be done." Dr. Aganga had argued that it was the need to



be realistic in the projection of the budget that necessitated the downward revision of the benchmark from \$67 to \$60 and the oil projection from 2.35 million barrels per day to 2.25 million barrels per day. The Rep. John Eno-led committee said there was no basis for the downward review as the states and local governments would suffer most due to the amendment whereas there was never a time that the price of crude oil fell below the approved benchmark in the international market.

MPs expressed dismay at the proposed budget cut, saying it may sent wrong signals to the populace in terms of the willingness of the government to implement the budget.

Aganga then contradicted himself when he told them that federal government earned 76 percent more income this year than it did in 2009. Both Senators and House members lamented that at the second half of the year the amendment of the budget is still the issue, and noted that MDAs are presently confused because they are not sure of the figures to work within the implementation of their projects.

The Minister however took on the blame when he said the budget was faulty and prepared based on wrong and faulty assumptions. "The budget was inherited by me. It's just that I have the responsibility to ensure that it works and is well implemented. The budget was optimistic and was not well grounded on realism. The reality is that we can only budget on what we have."

BRIEF

CBN reviews economic conditions today

By Idris Ahmed

THE Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) meets today in Abuja to review the country's economic conditions and chart a way forward for the rest of the year. Today's MPC meeting would be its fifth for the year. In the previous meetings, the Committee retain the Monetary Policy Rate (MPR) of 6 percent, which has been same since July 2009. The apex bank Governor Sanusi Lamido Sanusi said at a conference last week in London that he saw no basis for changing the interest rate. In the previous meetings, the Committee made far reaching decisions to grow the economy which was adversely affected by the global financial and economic crisis. One of the monetary decisions taken by CBN at its special meeting on April 15, was the injection of N500 billion into the real economy and the power sector. It has also been extended into the aviation sector. It is also expected that the Committee would leave unchanged the Liquidity Ratio (LR), Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR), Standing Lending Facility (SLF) and Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) at 25 percent 1 percent 8 percent and 1 percent respectively.

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TRUST INDEX

Inflation	11%
GDP	7.23%
Budget	N4.6tr
Ext. Reserves Acct	\$38bn
Excess Crude Acct	\$3.2bn
Poverty Ratio	54.4%
Monetary Policy Rate	6%
Banks	24
Oil Price	\$75 a barrel
Power Supply	3,759.9MW
Oil output per day	2.6mbd
Broad Money Supply	N10,959,238.2m
Credit to Private Sector	N10,065,975.8m
Inter-Bank Rate	4.3700%
Treasury Bills	1.65%
Deposit Rate	7.51%
Prime Lending Rate	18.06%

CBN EXCHANGE RATES

	Buying (NGN)	Central (NGN)	Selling (NGN)
30/6/2010			
CFA	0.2553	0.2653	0.2753
DANISH KRONER	21.2958	21.3782	21.4606
EURO	181.0563	181.6701	182.2838
POUNDS STERLING	221.6483	222.3997	223.151
RIYAL	39.3333	39.4667	39.6
SDR	218.123	218.8621	219.6018
SWISS FRANC	136.4099	136.8723	137.3347
US DOLLAR	147.5	148	148.5
WAUA	216.9238	217.6592	218.3945
VFN	1.6611	1.6671	1.6731

Bureau de Change Rates

BUYING	
Dollar	N152
Euro	N182
Pound	N227
SELLING	
Dollar	N153
Euro	N186
Pound	N230

Source: SB J Bureau de Change, Wuse Zone 4, Abuja.



CBN

Business/Finance

Budget monitoring in North West

*Contractor defaults six months deadline

By Idris Ahmed who was in Kaduna

THE N1.1 billion contract works for the rehabilitation of the access road to Kaduna Refinery was awarded by the federal government in November last year and the completion date was fixed at May 17, 2010.

Six months after, the contractor Messrs Mothercat Nigeria Limited said it needed additional time to complete the project even though it agreed that fund was not an obstacle.

N950 million was appropriated for the project in the 2010

budget. The contractor said it has already received N497, 173, 121. 81 from the federal government, being payment for the first and second quarters of the year.

The contractor listed two obstacles that hindered it from meeting the target date. It however said that it has attained 70 percent completion work and estimated the percentage lapse of time at 116.67 percent.

"The volume of traffic flow is slowing down the pace of work and the increased level of rainfall is hampering works on

drainage structures" Mothercat's deputy project coordinator Abdulaziz Mohammed said when *Daily Trust* inspected the project site in Kaduna.

Observers and experts believe the project may still not be completed by August because July and August are serious rainy months and no serious construction work can happen.

The rehabilitation of the road has several advantages. The two main benefits are that when completed it creates free-flow of traffic to the Kaduna Refinery and Petro-chemicals

(KRPC) which is currently congested.

It will also open the Kaduna-Kachia access road network unto Kaduna Eastern Bypass and Kachia Interchange. The KRPC is a dual carriageway with a distance of 2.269km, while the Kaduna-Kachia road covers distance of 2.1km Southwards of Kaduna.

The access road from Kachia road has failed in several portions with noticeable surface defects such as potholes, cracks, depressions, ruts among others.

The contractor was asked to

complete the rehabilitation of the pavement and stabilizing and strengthening a section of the road vulnerable to flooding and construct drainage structures in the area.

On the other hand, the access road to the refinery has only one carriageway and the rehabilitation works include the construction of an additional carriageway from Eastern Bypass to Kachia Interchange.

The existing carriageway is to be upgraded with the provision of Sub-base, stone base, binder and wearing courses.

Works executed by the contractor so far

THE work done so far by the Mothercat include pavement strengthening and resurfacing on access road to refinery from Kachia road, with minor work left before completion.

Building of additional carriageway on access road to refinery from Kaduna Eastern Bypass road has been completed up to binder level, while the reinstatement of all eroded shoulders has been completed.

Provision of new culverts and extension of some existing ones are in progress on both sections of the projects, while the provision of drains, kerbs and other ancillary works have reached advance stage.

Staff of the Ministries of Finance and Works that accompanied our reporter to the site are not willing to comment because "we are civil servants and we are not allowed to make public statement."

Observation

The reconstruction and rehabilitation of the

access road to the refinery will enhance smooth traffic flow access to the refinery and also decongest volume of tankers influx into the Kaduna metropolis.

Meanwhile, out of the N4.6 trillion in this year's budget N221.3 billion is appropriated for the Federal Ministry of Works and Urban Development for capital project. Now that the President wants the budget to be cut by 40 per cent, it is most unlikely that some of the projects will be completed this year.

Road projects in the Northwest:

1. Rehabilitation of Kaura - Namoda - Shinkafi - Sabon Birni road-N656, 424, 071

2. Rehabilitation of Funtua-Gusau-Sokoto road section ii: Gusau-Talata Mafara -N192, 462, 361

3. Rehabilitation of Funtua-Gusau-Sokoto road section iii: Talata Mafara -Sokoto N178, 115, 532

4. Rehabilitation of Funtua - Yashi - dayi - Kano

state border road- N1, 823, 741, 924

5. Construction of Kano Western bye pass -N3, 500, 000, 000

6. Rehabilitation of Hadejia - Nguru road-N2, 000, 000, 000

7. Rehabilitation of Kano-Katsina-Jibia -Gusau road section i: Kano-Katsina state border in Kano state-N2, 200, 000, 000

8. Rehabilitation of Kano-Katsina-Kaura Namoda-Jibia road section iii: Kaura Namoda-Jibiya in Zamfara/Katsina state-N1, 500, 000, 000

9. Rehabilitation of Kano-Katsina-Kaura Namoda-Jibia road section iv: Kaura Namoda-Gusau in Zamfara state-N1, 500, 000, 000

10. Kano -Kazaure-Daura-mai adua road in Katsina state-N1, 000, 000, 000

11. Rehabilitation of Mararaba-Pambeguwa-Saminaka-Jos road section i: Mararaba-Pambeguwa in Kaduna state-N1, 700, 000, 000.



CONSTRUCTION of culvert on the Kaduna refinery road.



DRAINAGE work on the Kachia-Kaduna eastern bypass.



2.269KM access road to Kaduna refinery under rehabilitation.



WORK going-on on Kachia-Kaduna road.

Business/International

Nigeria assumes Chairmanship of D-8 for 2 years

NIGERIA has assumed Chairmanship of the Commission of D-8 countries for two years, the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports.

The D-8 Commission comprises, developing nations of Nigeria, Egypt, Turkey, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iran, and Pakistan and aims at promoting economic growth and development among member-countries.

Nigeria is also host of the current 28th Session of the Commission, which began on Sunday in Abuja, while its chairmanship expires in 2012.

The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Amb. Martin Uhomoibhi who represented the country as Chairman of Commissioners at the opening of the group's session, lauded the achievements of the Commission since inception in 1997, noting that "bilateral trade relations are on the upswing among member-states".

Uhomoibhi said that the achievements would be improved upon to include other areas of development as contained in the D-8 Roadmap.

NAN reports that the roadmap aims to encourage greater economic cooperation among member-states through the mobilisation of resources from government and private sources in implementing D-8 projects.

Uhomoibhi said that under the chair of Nigeria, issues bordering on Preferential Trade Agreement and harmonisation of visa regimes would be addressed in a bid to boost the contribution of members to global trade from 5 per cent or \$1.2 trillion to 15-20 per cent by 2018.

He said that attainment of the target would require "sufficient political will", noting that the session would focus on suggesting antidotes to progress.

According to him, Nigeria during its tenure, will also promote private sector-led coop-

eration to enhance intra-trade among member-countries.

"My country hopes to encourage private sector-led cooperation in such diverse areas as energy, civil aviation, airport and infrastructural development, including sea transportation and shipping, while our motivation is to enhance the volume of trade among members of our organisation" he said.

Uhomoibhi expressed optimism that the Business Forum of the summit would open opportunities for mutual benefits to investors.

Also speaking, Amb. Dato' Zainol Omar, Deputy Secretary-General of the Malaysian Foreign Affairs Ministry, who handed over the Council's Chair to Nigeria, said that food security remained a major challenge to member-states.

Omar explained that under the reign of Malaysia, a number of proposals were initiated to promote agriculture, and private



FINANCE Minister Olusegun Aganga

rectification measures to improve the efficacy and attractiveness of the D-8".

"I would like to propose that we get our economists and business captains to form an Eminent Persons' Group to assist us in our prioritisation exercise and to determine doable proposals in line with D-8 objectives, as well as the modalities of cooperation that will attract private sector participation," he said.

He further said that three new programmes had been approved by the Council of Ministers to broaden the scope of the summit.

They comprise D-8 Vision meeting put forward by Turkey, the Young Diplomats Exchange programme proposed by Egypt and the Inter-Governmental Group of D-8 to assist in the finalisation of the D-8 Charter, suggested by Malaysia.

The session which ends on July 8, has the theme: "Enhancing Investment Cooperation among D-8 Member-States.

sector participation of the D-8 roadmap.

To this end, he said that "Malaysia would like to call for a stock taking exercise and for some

Egypt assures Nigeria of increased trade relations

THE Egyptian Minister of Economic Affairs, Amb. Muhammed Durabi, has given the assurance that his country will work assiduously with Nigeria to boost trade relations during its tenure as Chairman of the D-8 Commission.

For the next two years, Nigeria chairs the group of developing countries comprising Nigeria, Egypt, Turkey, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Iran, and Pakistan.

The Commission was established in 1997 to promote economic growth and development among member-countries.

Durabi told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) on Sunday in Abuja although both countries had similarities in GDP, human and natural resources, volume of trade between both countries was in favour of Egypt, by \$145 million yearly.

Durabi, who noted that the daily flights from Nigeria to Egypt had further strengthened relations between both countries, said that the Nigerian community in Egypt was growing by the day.

He commended Nigeria as the new chair of the D-8 group, and expressed the hope that President Goodluck Jonathan would facilitate the attainment of the D-8 roadmap which sought for greater economic cooperation among member-states through the mobilisation of resources from governmental and private sources in implementing D-8 projects.

Nigeria is hosting the 28th Session of the D-8 Commission in Abuja, from July 4 to July 8.



EGYPTIAN President Hosni Mubarak

Also speaking, the President of the Nigeria-Egypt Business Council, Alhaji Mohammed Lere, stressed the need for government to encourage the private sector to trade with Egypt as well as other members of the D-8 Commission.

He said that such partnership would also develop cultural relationship, noting that "lots of Nigerians now reside in Egypt, some are in school, while others go for medical treatment, tourism and trade".

Lere, who said that plans were also on to establish a Nigeria-Saudia Arabia Business Council, explained that such platform would enable both countries to ascertain the exact volume of trade, and identify challenges with a view to proffering solutions.

US sees 125,000 jobs lost in June

THERE were about 125,000 US jobs lost in June, the Labor Department has said, the first time jobs were shed on a month-on-month basis since October.

The overall decline was driven by the departure of 225,000 temporary employees who had been working on the US census in May.

The private sector created 83,000 jobs, data which investors will look to for signs of recovery.

That was an improvement on May but below March and April's totals.

It was also less than analysts had hoped for and less than is needed to keep pace with a growing population.

There have been growing concerns in recent weeks that the economic recovery in the US, and around the world might be weakening.

These new figures are not bad enough to suggest an imminent return to recession, but they do reinforce those worries about the possibility of flagging economic growth.

If the jobs market remains weak it will aggravate the problems facing the US government in managing its own finances.

Fewer people at work means less tax revenue and more spending on unemployment benefit, making it harder to stop the rise in government debt.

The US unemployment rate fell to 9.5% in June from 9.7% in May.

However, that was due to people no longer looking for work and therefore not officially counted as unemployed.

Reacting to the figures US President Barack Obama said the



US President Barack Obama

economy was heading in the right direction, but not fast enough.

People had left the work force "because they think there's nothing out there", said Nigel Gault, chief US economist at IHS Global Insight.

"It could have been worse, but it wasn't good. It's adding to the evidence that growth has slowed."

The monthly jobs report is one of the most closely watched economic indicators in the US.

High unemployment remains one of the biggest obstacles to

strong, sustained growth.

US firms have been reluctant to rehire workers given the uncertain outlook and poor access to credit.

Analysts say that high unemployment has kept consumer confidence low, preventing retail sales from growing rapidly.

Given that consumer spending accounts for about two-thirds of US economic activity, there are concerns that until more people are in work, the economy will grow only modestly. BBC.

Business/Energy

'Gas now available for power'

FROM Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos

HOPE of improved power supply came to the fore weekend as the Federal Government said there is now sufficient gas to fire all available power generating plants in the country.

The Group General Manager of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) Engineer David Ige disclosed this in a paper he presented at 2010 Annual General Meeting [AGM] of the Nigerian Gas Association [NGA] in Lagos.

He said with the current development, the Federal government is fast closing in on black-out which has slowed down industrialization.

According to him, 285 million standard cubic feet of gas equivalent to about 1 Gigawatt [GW] capacity are expected to be added to existing power plants in the country by the end of this year.

He disclosed that while the Western area of the plants would get 1829 million standard cubic feet of gas, 1037 million standard cubic feet of the product would be pumped into

power plants in the Eastern area of the country.

According to him, by next year, an additional 567 million standard cubic feet of gas would be pumped into the power plants.

Breakdown of gas expected to be pumped into the plants revealed that Utorogu NAG GP expansion 2 would get 150mmscf, Gbaran Gas Plant, 80mmscf, Agip Ebocha plant, 70 mmscf, Pan Ocean Ovade Ogharafe flowstation upgrade, 65 mmscf, Obigbo GP Reactivated, 45 mmscf, Shell AG East [Cawthorne Channel], 41 mmscf and Agip Idu flare down project 40 mmscf.

Others are: Addax Izombe LPG project, 40 mmscf, NGC Compressor refurbishment, 34 mmscf, Total Obite gas plant, 30 mmscf, Escravos GP-Compressor A B Debottlenecking, 27 mmscf and De-commissioning of Ughelli gas plant, 55 mmscf.

He said due to available gas, Power Holding Company of Nigeria [PHCN] and National Integrated Power Plants [NIPP] have been allocated gas and are currently closing Gas Supply Purchase Agreements.

Civil societies decry lapses in oil revenue accounting

By Abubakar Yakubu

REPRESENTATIVES of various civil society organizations from across the country Thursday in Abuja, criticized the lapses detected by the NEITI Audits of 2004/2005) and the reluctance by the federal government to implement the audit's recommendations to the latter.

The seminar which was organized by the Zero Corruption Coalition and US AID saw the participants condemning the lack of accountability and transparency in the management of revenues from natural resources in the form of taxes, royalties and other payments.

The civil society leaders also criticized the delay in auditing the accounts of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) and advocated that it be done yearly.

They wondered why government is saying nothing about the N655 billion owed by NNPC to the Federation, in respect of domestic crude and sundry incomes.

In a paper titled NEITI Audits (1994-2004/2005), EITI Implementation in Nigeria, Dr Sofiri Peterside, lamented that the Office of the Accountant-General of the Federation (OAGF) still plays a reactive role as it is by-passed by flows of information in the extractive industries sector, while the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) kept records

of payments incompetently.

He said the records of CBN were not organized in a manner to facilitate extraction of required information, adding that the CBN could not confirm Company Income Tax receipt due to the way in which the system of tax collection operates.

"There were differences in payment of gas flare penalty between the companies and CBN," the presenter stated.

He revealed that the NNPC monthly returns on crude oil sales did not indicate the volume of crude, the applicable price, the exchange rate used and the method used for computing the proceeds.

"The absence of effective regulation of gas, thus company declaration of gas produced, flared and sold were not susceptible to corroboration," he said.

Dr Peterside disclosed further that the Revenue Mobilization, Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC) was not able to establish access to NNPC, hence did not have the data it needs to discharge its constitutional duty in the economy.

"RMAFC's operation was hindered by lack of capacity and under resourced just as gaps exist in relationship between institutions governing the Sector," he reasoned.

He said the Directorate of Petroleum Resources lacks capacity for assessing, filing, monitoring royalty payments and measuring (metering) the exact quantity of oil produced.

The guest lecturer added that there was no agreement between the OAGF, Petroleum Trust Development Fund (PTDF) and the CBN as to who was responsible to manage the bank accounts of the PTDF.

"Confirmation and validation of signature bonus was abandoned because no government entity accepted responsibility for managing the receipt of signature bonus, which showed lack of communication between NNPC and DPR," he said.

Dr Peterside advocated for the need to improve information technology and accounting systems to levels commensurate with those used by producing companies.

The Department of Petroleum Resources lacks capacity for assessing, filing, monitoring royalty payments and measuring the exact quantity of oil produced.



THE FEDERAL POLYTECHNIC
P.M.B. 1012, KAURA NAMODA, ZAMFARA STATE, NIGERIA

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION TO TENDER

The Education Trust Fund (ETF) has given approval to this institution to use the 2009 Special Intervention in construction of VIP Stand at the Convocation Arena. The Polytechnic is therefore, in accordance with Public Procurement Act 2007, inviting reputable contractors for Pre-Qualification to Tender.

PROJECT TITLE

- Construction of VIP Stand at the Convocation Arena.

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTRACTORS.

1. Registration with Corporate Affairs Commission.
2. Detailed Company Profile.
3. Tax Clearance for the last three years.
4. Evidence of VAT remittance in the last three years.
5. Evidence of pension and social security contribution.
6. Verifiable list of similar projects successfully executed in Nigeria in the last three (3) years. Photocopies of letter of Award and certificates of completion should be enclosed as evidence.
7. Evidence of financial capacity, banking support and company audited accounts in the last three years (duly endorsed by a chartered accounting firm).
8. A letter authorizing the Polytechnic to make inquiries about the company.
9. Copy of Article and Memorandum of Association.

All relevant information facilitating the procurement e.g. contact address, GSM Number, e-mail address of the company.

SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS

Duly completed pre-qualification package should be sent in separate and wax sealed envelope with title of the project written clearly at the left hand corner of the envelope and to be submitted to the Office of

The Registrar
The Federal Polytechnic
P.M.B 1012
Kaura Namoda

in the Tender Box not later than two weeks from the date of this publication.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. The Polytechnic will deal with **only authorized officers of the tendering company** and not through individual or agents purporting acting on their behalf
2. The Polytechnic **will not be held liable** for any submission sent by couriers or by post not received.
3. Pre-qualification submissions shall be opened same day and time immediately on expiration of the deadline of submission.
4. Interested contractors are advised to familiarize themselves with the Procurement Act 2007 of the Federal Government of Nigeria.

All bidders must be ready to show the Polytechnic Management the Company's head office and sites for claimed completed projects.

All bidders must be ready to appear before the Polytechnic's Management for an interview as part of the Contract Award Procedure.

Signed:
ALH. SALISU ABUBAKAR CIROMA
Registrar

Business/Finance

Stocks: Quoted companies target high yields in 2010



NDI Okereke-Onyuike, DG NSE



ARUNMA Oteb, DG SEC

From Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

QUOTED companies listed on the floor of the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE) are targeting high profits at the end of 2010 financial year.

Specifically, Skye Bank Plc forecasts Gross Earnings of N61,936.25 million and profit after tax of N8,289.11 million during the third quarter ending September 30, 2010, Nigerian Bottling Company plc is targeting a turnover of N20,620 million and profit after tax of N675 million during the third quarter ending September 30, 2010 while AG leventis (nig) plc has forecast a turnover of N3,500.0 million and profit after tax of N207.4 million during the third quarter ending September 30, 2010.

Others are: UTC Nigeria Plc with forecasts turnover of N773.64 million and profit before tax of N32.95 million during the third quarter ending September 30, 2010.

Beta Glass Co. Plc forecasts turnover of N3,204.2m and profit after tax of N268.2m during the third quarter ending September 30, 2010 and Lasaco Assurance Plc with forecasts Gross Premium of N1,750.0m and profit after tax of N380.03m during the third quarter ending September 30, 2010.

However, for the first time in almost one month, traded equities on the floor of the Nigerian stock Exchange close the week on appreciable level as the All-Share Index (ASI) appreciated by 69.44 points or 0.3 per cent to close on Friday at 25,223.70 while the market capitalization of the 199 First-Tier equities closed higher at N6.14 trillion. Also, The NSE-30 Index appreciated by 5.59 points or 0.55 per cent to close at 1,047.48. In the previous week, ASI and NSE-30 Index depreciated by 2.8 per cent and 3.2 per cent, respectively.

Also a total of 1.11bn shares worth N9.84bn in 29,892 deals was recorded last week, in contrast to a total of 1.63bn shares valued at N13.7bn exchanged in the previous week in 30,368 deals.

There were no transactions in the Federal Government Development Stocks, State Government Bonds and Industrial Loans/Preference Stocks sectors.

The Banking subsector was the most active during the week (measured by turnover volume), with 651.2m shares worth N4.98bn exchanged by investors in 15,641 deals. Volume in the Banking subsector was largely driven by activity in the shares of First Bank of Nigeria Plc, FinBank Plc and Fidelity Bank Plc. Trading in the shares of the three Banks accounted for 24.14m shares, representing 37.5 per cent and 21.9 per cent of the subsector's turnover and total volume traded during the week, respectively.

The Insurance subsector, boosted by activity in the shares of Goldlink Insurance Plc and AIICO Insurance Plc, followed on the week's activity chart with a turnover of 131.5 million shares valued at N132.25 million in 1,521 deals.

Last week, the banking sub-sector led on the activity chart and was followed by the Insurance sub-sector.

Two of the four sectoral indices appreciated during the week, The NSE Food/Beverage Index appreciated by 23.46 points or 2.9 per cent to close at 844.00 and the NSE Oil/Gas index appreciated by 4.20 points or 1.04 per cent to close at 409.09. However, the NSE Banking Index depreciated by 2.71 points or 0.7% to close at 385.04 and the NSE Insurance Index depreciated by 6.19 points or 3.32 per cent to close at 181.23. Please note that that the points and percentage changes in the NSE Indices are calculated by computing the daily changes in the index values.

However, 39 stocks appreciated in price during the week, higher than the 23 of the preceding week. Julius Berger Nigeria Plc led on the gainers' table with a gain of N2.40 to close at N55.00 per share while Oando Plc followed with N1.99 to close at N74.99 per share. Other price gainers' include Flour Mills of Nigeria Plc with N1.90, Dangote Sugar Refinery Plc-N1.85, Ashaka Cement Plc-N1.60, Conoil Plc-N1.50

Cadbury Nigeria Plc-N1.49, Lafarge Cement WAPCO Nigeria Plc-N1.00, Dangote Flour Mills Plc-N0.96 and May & Baker Nigeria Plc-N0.73. Also, 51 stocks depreciated in price during the week, lower than the 63 of the preceding week.

Also as in the preceding week, Nestle Nigeria Plc led on the price losers' table, dropping by N4.50 to close at N355.00 per share while African Petroleum Plc followed with a loss of N0.97 to close at N35.61 per share. Other price losers include Honeywell Flour Mills Plc with N0.80 per share, The Okomu Oil Palm Plc N0.71, Aluminium Extrusion Industries Plc-N0.65, Zenith Bank Plc-N0.55, First Bank of Nigeria Plc-N0.54.

International Breweries Plc-N0.46, Eterna Oil & Gas Plc-N0.46, and United Bank for Africa Plc with N0.34 per share. Three equities were adjusted for dividend as recommended by the Board of Directors. Nigerian Breweries Plc was adjusted for interim dividend of N1.15 per share. Cement Company of Northern Nigeria Plc was adjusted for dividend of N0.10 per share. Ecobank Transnational Incorporated was adjusted for dividend of N0.45 per share.

However, the Union Homes Real Estate Investment Trust Plc's Initial Public Offering of 250,019,781 Units of N50 each at N51.50 per share were admitted on the daily official list on Friday, July 2, 2010. It was listed in the Real Estate Investment Trust subsector. By this action, the number of equities and securities listed on the stock market increased to 215 and 261, respectively. Review of The NSE-30 and Sectoral Indices The Index Committee held its quarterly meeting to review and rebalance The NSE 30 Index and the four sectoral indices.

COMPANY NEWS

Dangote Sugar Refinery Plc: Audited result for the year ended 31st December 2009 shows turnover of N82,395.71 million as against N80,671.4 million in 2008. Profit after tax stood at N13,185.6 million compared with N21,871.05 million in 2008. The Board of Directors is recommending a dividend of N1.00

per share. The date of closure of register of members is July 14, 2010 while payment date is July 30, 2010.

Dangote Sugar Refinery Plc: Unaudited result for the first quarter ended 31st March 2010 shows turnover of N22,787.43 million, as against N19,107.9 million in the comparable period of 2009. Profit after tax stood at N3,971.1 million compared with N4,193.91 million in the comparable period of 2009.

Red Star Express Plc: Audited result for the year ended 31st December 2009. The Board of Directors is recommending a dividend of N0.30 per share. The date of closure of register of members is August 10, 2010 while payment date is August 31, 2010.

University Press Plc: Audited result for the year ended 31st March 2010. The Board of Directors is recommending a dividend of N0.40 per share and bonus of 1 for 5. The date of closure of register of members would be advised later while payment date is September 30, 2010.

Portland Paints & Products Nigeria Plc: Audited result for the year ended 31st December 2009 shows Turnover of N2,269.25 million as against N1,963.72 million in 2008. Profit after tax and exceptional items stood at N183.1 million compared with profit after tax of N187.8 million in 2008. The Board of Directors is recommending a dividend of N0.12 per share. The date of closure of register of members is August 23, 2010 while payment date is September 3, 2010.

Honeywell Flour Mills Plc: Audited result for the year ended 31st March 2010 shows turnover of N33,528.01m as against N28,580.1m in 2009. Profit after tax stood at N1,175.92 million compared with profit after tax and exceptional items of N217.11 million in 2009. The Board of Directors is recommending a dividend of N0.11 per share. The dates of closure of register of members and payment would be advised later.

Prestige Assurance Plc: Audited result for the year ended 31st December 2009. The Board of Directors is recommending a dividend of N0.10 per share. The date of closure of register of members is July 20, 2010 while payment date is August 2, 2010.

Trans-Nationwide Express Plc: Audited result for the year ended 31st December 2009. The Board of Directors is recommending a dividend of N0.05 per share. The date of closure of register of members is August 6, 2010 while payment date is August 31, 2010.

Utc Nigeria Plc: Audited result for the year ended 31st December 2009 shows turnover of N2,579.82 million as against N2,153.93 million in 2008. Profit after tax stood at N74.8 million compared with profit after tax and extra-ordinary items of N93.25 million in 2008.

First Aluminium Nigeria Plc: Audited result for the year ended 31st December 2009 shows turnover of N8,290 million as against N8,080.1 million in 2008. Profit after tax stood at N48.32 million compared with loss after tax of N298.65 million in 2008. The date of closure of register of members is July 19, 2010.

Beta Glass Co. Plc: Unaudited result for the first quarter ended 31st March 2010 shows turnover of N1,681.3 million, as against N2,476.2 million in the comparable period of 2009. Profit after tax stood at N121.8n million compared with N189.15 million in the comparable period of 2009.

Ihs Plc: Unaudited result for the first quarter ended 31st January 2010 shows turnover of N10,855.11 million, as against N8,020.61 million in the comparable period of 2009. Profit after tax stood at N457.11 million compared with N950.53 million in the comparable period of 2009.

Resort Savings & Loans Plc: Unaudited result for the first quarter ended 31st March 2010 shows turnover of N281.3 million, as against N246.92 million in the comparable period of 2009. Profit after tax stood at N72.53 million compared with N66 million in the comparable period of 2009.

Report on the OTC for FGN Bonds

A turnover of 315.84m units worth N346,493.4m in 2,999 deals was recorded this week, in contrast to a total of 257.51m units valued at N280,914.14m exchanged in 2,452 deals during the week ended Thursday, June 24, 2010. As in the preceding week, the most active bond (measured by turnover volume) was the 7th FGN Bond 2013 Series 1 with a traded volume of 59.4m units valued at N59,561.52m in 523 deals.

This was followed by the 6th FGN Bond 2029 Series 5 with a traded volume of 53.5m units valued at N53,385.41m in 520 deals. At least 15 of the available 37 FGN Bonds were traded during the week, compared with 20 in the preceding week.

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The Manager, Distributorship Enquiries
1, Alfred Rewane Road
Ikoyi, Lagos, Nigeria
P.O.Box 40032, Falomo

For further enquiries contact:

Abuja	Samuel Kikiowo - 08070491927
Kano	Salman Shehu - 08070491925
Maiduguri	Samaila Biu - 08070491926
Port Harcourt	Johnson Olaniyi - 08070494262
Lagos	Bright Iliya - 08070496700
Lagos	Bayo Olodo - 08070491212
Obajana	Ahmed Umar - 08070483573
BCC	Johnson - 08070485244

Or send an email to applications@dangote-group.com



Online Reactions

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ON www.dailytrust.com



SPEAKER Dimeji Bankole

Female senators ask Bankole to reinstate Doris Uboh

WHAT a man can do, a woman can also do. Why the special treatment? They should be treated equally because they are all honorable members.

S. Bulama
shuaiibulama@yahoo.com

Chevron faults oil spill report in N/Delta

DID Mr Odumagbo watched the CNN report of oil spills in the Niger-Delta before making the comment '...what happened in the gulf of Mexico cannot happen here'? If America with all its stringent regulations failed to prevent the Gulf of Mexico disaster, I think Mr. Odumagbo is not being honest if he wants us to believe that oil companies in Nigeria are living up to their responsibilities. The CNN report shows oil spills all over the NGD. Remember, we don't have a rig explosion yet, these are just spills from surface pipes and flow stations and oil companies are unable to clean them up.

Abdulfattah Muhammad
abdulfattahmuhammad@yahoo.com

IT is misleading and wrong to assume that what happened in the Gulf of Mexico cannot happen in Nigeria. The spill occurred in a deep off-shore oil well. Nigeria also has off-shore oil wells operated by floating platforms.

Let them prepare for any eventuality.

Godia Bukar
dryabo@yahoo.co.uk

Oshiomhole urges clean up of INEC

GOVERNOR Oshiomhole, INEC is ok now but the remaining half of electoral fraud lies with law enforcement agents who collaborate with governors to harass people even at the point of death so as to rig. President Jonathan, you must wake up to this challenge.

Sanusi Mohammed Yaro
sanusiyam@yahoo.com

Northern govts reject pro-Jonathan summit

IF we will have free and fair elections in Nigeria, we do not need any Governor to decide who will become the President next year. Instead of the Governors sitting down to govern their states with all honesty and sincerity, providing the full dividends of democracy, they are worried about who becomes the President. How many of them can actually win elections in their states if free and fair elections are conducted now? Which one of them is pushing for rotational democracy in their states now? If there is any place that needs rotational leadership, it is the states; it's the main reason why people are agitating for creation of new states. The Governors should start pushing for what they want to be done at the center in their states first if not, they should allow us rest. Since when have governor begun to decide who leads? Do they mean the electorate can't decide? They know how they came into power and that is why, I guess! Well, things must change and the electorate must begin to decide with their votes.

Aji Isuwa Suleiman
suleimanaji@yahoo.com

WITH all these useless meetings here and there, when do these Governors spend time in their respective states? No wonder we are suffering in this region. Go and fix your states and you won't have to worry about zoning. If Jonathan performs well, he will leave the PDP and the country will vote for him in his new party. Remember that the PDP cannot rig this election with Jega in charge of INEC.

Bagudu
bagudu@yahoo.com

WELL, your Excellencies, this is rather a confirmation of an allegation that all our governors are either PDP or PDP moles planted by the PDP in other parties. Throughout the North today, no governor can boast of supplying even 60% of his people with



PRESIDENT Goodluck Jonathan

drinking water, not even in the state capitals. Yes, they are executing projects costing billions but what is the state of our Hospitals, Schools and the general quality of life?

Whether President Jonathan contests or not is basically a PDP affair. It is none of your business. What we want is the chance for the Nigerian people to decide by their votes who governs them at Local, State, Federal and Legislative levels; no more no less, your Excellencies.

Muhammad NaIya
naiyamd@yahoo.com

THE northern leaders or Governors should reject any thing contrary to zoning. However, they should also ensure that only trusted ones like Buhari, Dan Giwa Umar, Balarabe Musa or even Kingibe should be supported and not just any Tom, Dick or Harry. Any attempt to back a wrong candidate may just be the beginning of the end.

Mustapha Warabe
miwarabe@yahoo.com

I am afraid that the NGF may not be able to take a definite stand

on this issue especially when viewed against the fact that most of the governors either have the ambition of re-contesting or of planting a stooge to take over from them. They will be caught between two contending issues; identifying with their subjects and hence supporting zoning, or playing along with the center, thus currying shield from EFCC's harassment and gaining easy ride to government houses.

Kaka Gana mustapha
kagamustapha@hotmail.com

ARE these Governors the only 'North'? They sometimes make decisions that are not in the interest of the North; whether he (Jonathan) contests or not, we are going to vote a trusted leader under a credible, free and fair election come 2011, Insha Allah. May Allah Help us. Amin.

Yahaya Ibn Idris
ibnidrees@gmail.com

I don't understand what the Northern Governors are saying. I remember what the Chairman of the Northern Governors Forum, Dr Babangida Aliyu of Niger state saying during the 10th year anni-

versary of the Arewa Consultative Forum that, "The North should forget about presidency 2011". Was this man speaking the minds of the Northern Governors or was he speaking his mind?

Kabir ibrahim Gusau
ahlulzikri@yahoo.com

...NORTHERN political leaders or Northern PDP leaders? ...rotational presidency or rotational stealing?

Bala Daura Abdullahi
balabdululu@yahoo.com

THE consensus on power rotation among the Northern politicians cannot be achieved.

Mujahid Ajah Matazu
mujahidajah@yahoo.com

ALTHOUGH it is a PDP affair, it affects us all as Nigerians so we have to talk! I will like to note that these so-called northerners fighting for zoning today are doing so for their own worldly-political aspirations. The fact is that they think we have all been blindfolded and we will succumb to any agitation in the name of the north. I want every reader to cast his/her mind back to 2003; didn't northerners contest in the PDP primaries? Was it the turn of the north then (in the PDP zoning agreement)? Please let us decide whom we want! And by the way, the zoning issue is for the PDP not the all the political parties! We will vote for who we want from any party from which ever zone he comes from.

Muhammad
muhamadani@yahoo.com

I have no position per se on the issue of zoning but my fear is that I have no confidence on those powerful northern presidential aspirants who have contributed tremendously in arm twisting this nation. Their records are bedeviled with a lot of negative controversies.

Usman Gambo Alih
gamboteidi@yahoo.com

Survey report: Courts, biggest bribe takers

Of course, what do you expect when you their lordships receive peanuts compared to what our fighting politicians receive? We all live in the same country; to qualify as a Court officer you must have earned a degree with good character. What follows thereafter makes some of them bribe takers.

We have a tendency to offer unsolicited 'gifts' particularly to officers who have to make a decision in our interests.

The society generally does not respect integrity; instead, the good ones are derided as "poor and obscure".

Muhammad NaIya
naiyamd@yahoo.com

The former AGF is entitled to his opinion and observation as one amongst 150 million Nigerians but the UNODC report has reflected the true situation of corruption in Nigeria and those that are deeply involved. The way forward is for the stakeholders to change their attitudes so that Nigeria can start moving forward. Acceptance of truth is an act of honesty.

Buba S.D
sanibintahir@gmail.com

Nigerians can now see that hospital workers such as doctors and nurses perform their jobs conscientiously, without demanding bribes from patients. Yet, we

always have to resort to strikes before the government pays us our dues. True case of 'monkey dey work, baboon dey chop'.

Nura Alkali
nalkali@yahoo.com

To me this survey's findings are "ridiculous." If the said survey is true than EFCC has to do something. I believe that Judges are doing their best in my dear country. They prove to us that "Justice delayed is not justice denied", the cases of the Bauchi Deputy Governor, Edo State governor and many others reflect this. Who are those that fill the questionnaires? Are they politicians, civil servants or businessmen? Let us not

deceive ourselves.

Kabir Ibrahim Gusau
ahlulzikri@yahoo.com

To me this survey seems somewhat lopsided and unbalanced because, it lists some institutions which in which it claims corruption is rampant without including the EFCC. Please Mrs. EFCC, when will a similar survey be conducted on EFCC because the report under discussion did not capture your organization. Also, when will the EFCC update Nigerians about the stolen monies it has recovered since its inception? Charity begins at home.

Nasiru Abdulmalik
nasiruabdul75@yahoo.com



By Sa'ad Abubakar Zongre

That presidential hammer on the NFF and Super Eagles

When I first heard the news via the BBC world service, I thought it was a comedy presentation until subsequent news bulleting and analysis confirmed it; President Goodluck Jonathan has, in a manner befitting a 20th century military regime, dissolved the Board of the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) and imposed a 2-year ban from participating in all international competitions on the Super Eagles for what the Presidential spokesman termed as the "woeful" outing of the country's senior football team at the ongoing senior male World Cup in South Africa tagged "South Africa 2010".

The seemingly disappointed and angry President, obviously acting on the weakly thought out advise or recommendation of the so-called Presidential task force on World Cup (the first of its kind in the whole world) headed by the "Mr. Know all" Governor of Rivers State, Rotimi Amaechi, recklessly threw out the bathwater with the baby in the name of serving out a punishment to the football administrators and the Super Eagles players who had "underperformed" and "disgraced" Nigeria at

All these feats with the exception of the Olympic gold, were achieved by Nigeria's most successful coach ever - Clemence Westerhoff

the 2010 World Cup by not making it to the second round (a failure recorded by three time winners and defending champions-Italy, 1998 champions and 2006 finalist-France and Africa's football power houses-Cote d'Ivoire and Cameroon). With due respect Mr. President, you have been misled and thus, missed the point.

The real problem with Nigerian football is rooted in the retrogressive attitude of those "good for nothing" power suckers who have for years now, taken Nigerian football hostage by feeding our leaders with false information while deliberately refusing to tell them the truth. In the process, Nigerian football continue to suffer as huge pressure is brought to bear on the NFF to indiscriminately sack and hire a coach, invite certain players and not to invite certain players, etc.

Just few months ago, when Amodu Shu'aibu (Nigeria's most successful indigenous coach in handling the Super Eagles) achieved the two targets (World Cup qualification and a semi-final spot at the Confederation of African Football-CAF Nations Cup) set for him by the NFF as pre-condition for getting the go ahead to coach the team at the World Cup, the NFF expressed its readiness to allow him lead the team to the mundial, but high-level pressures engineered largely by the

Presidential task force on the World

Cup supported by some ill-informed football analysts/journalists and poor students of football history, forced it to replace Amodu with Lars Lagerback.

It is common knowledge that the period from 1994 to 1996 was Nigeria's golden age in football having qualified for the men senior World Cup for the first time, winning the CAF Nations Cup for the second time, ranked 5th in the FIFA monthly ranking, voted the second most entertaining side after eventual champions-Brazil at the 1994 World Cup and winning the Olympic gold medal in football at Atlanta 1996. All these feats with the exception of the Olympic gold, were achieved by Nigeria's most successful coach ever-Clemence Westerhoff.

But was Westerhoff employed and handed over a World Cup bound team at the expense of a predecessor who had earlier secured the ticket? Or was the Super Eagles of 1994 a product of a reorganization process that was brought about by an earlier presidential ban from participating in all international competitions from say, 1991 to 1993 for failing to qualify for the 1990 World cup or winning the CAF Nations Cup in Algiers 1990 or even Senegal 1992? Since the answers to all these questions are capital NO, then it is expedient for our football loving President, the Sports Minister/Chairman, National Sports Commission (NSC) and the Presidential task force to take a comprehensive study of the factors that contributed to the success of Westerhoff from 1989 (when he was employed) to his glorious exit in 1994 (a period of 5 years).

It may be of interest to note that, out of the 3 coaches who have, at different times, qualified Nigeria to her total of 4 World Cups, only one-Westerhoff was allowed to "reap the fruits of his labour" in leading the team to the mundial and he understandably did well. Frenchman Philip Troussier, who qualified Nigeria to the France 1998 World Cup even with a match outstanding, was dropped and replaced with Bora Milotonovich and the result was a disgraceful 1-4 thrashing at the hands of an average Denmark side despite a promising start in the first two matches against Spain and Bulgaria. The messianic Amodu Shu'aibu salvaged Nigeria's World Cup dream by qualifying the country to the Korea/Japan 2002 World Cup, but was unfortunately, dropped and replaced by the big-mouthed and tactically deficient Adegboye Onigbinde and the end result was a first round elimination for the first time with a pathetic 1 goal only to show. It was Nigeria's worst World Cup record to date.

Continuity is therefore the answer to Nigeria's perennial failures at major football championships and not these dangerous, short time, fire brigade and emotionally driven approaches/steps that would rather worsen the situation instead of solving it. Westerhoff was allowed to "fumbled and wobbled" for a lengthy period of 4 years (1989 to 1993) and he benefited massively from his errors and the foresight of our leaders then (who were even military men) before delivering the first World Cup ticket and the CAF Nations Cup gold.

Zongre wrote from Turaki 'A' Ward, Jalingo (sazongre@yahoo.com)



By Itua Aikhojo

Origins and significance of Father's Day

Sunday June 20 was celebrated as Father's Day in most parts of the world. In Nigeria, the occasion was marked in most churches and in other fora. Father's Day is celebrated on a variety of dates worldwide and typically involves giving of gifts, special dinners to fathers and family oriented activities. Specifically, June 17th is a day set aside in Nigeria to celebrate Father's Day.

Father's Day Celebration was inaugurated in the early twentieth century to complement Mother's Day in celebrating fatherhood and male parenting. It is also celebrated to honour and commemorate our fathers and forefathers.

The first observance of Father's Day is believed to have been held on June 19, (about 100 years ago) through the efforts of Sonora Smart Dodd of Spokane, Washington. After listening to a church sermon at Spokane's Central Methodist Episcopal Church in 1909 about the newly recognized Mother's Day, Dodd felt strongly that fatherhood needed recognition, as well. She wanted a celebration that honoured fathers like her own father, William Smart, a Civil War Veteran who was left to raise his family alone when his wife died giving birth to their sixth child.

Dodd was the first to solicit the idea of having an official Father's

churches in Asia. In one of his letters to the church in Corinth, he wrote that "though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus, I have begotten you through the gospel" "therefore, I urge you, imitate me" - 1 Cor. 4:15-16. Here in All Christian Fellowship Mission, Rev. (Dr.) William Okoye is our spiritual father and our mentor. He spends his time, resources, energy, etc, to tutor and mentor us.

Here on earth, we have biological fathers and we are adopted children. An earthly father should provide basic things as shelter, clothing, sound education, food, etc, for his family members. In the same vein, a father should be disciplined, God-fearing, loving, kind, merciful, trustworthy, honest, transparent, open, accessible, accountable, dependable, and reliable as our heavenly father in Heaven is.

A father is the shepherd of the family and he is to lead or shepherd the family in the right way acceptable to God Almighty. Proverbs 22:6 states "Fathers, bring up your children in the way of the Lord so that when they grow up they will not depart from it". The focus of a Christian father himself and his family should be eternity.

How do you treat those children living with you? - I mean your house girls, houseboys, security guards, drivers, cooks, stewards, etc

Day observance to honour all fathers. Enlisting help from the Spokane Ministerial Association 1909, she arranged for the celebration of fatherhood in Spokane. On June 19th, 1910 members of the Young Men Christian Association (YMCA) went to church wearing roses; a red rose to honour a living father, and a white rose to honour a deceased one. Dodd travelled through the city in a horse-drawn carriage, carrying gifts to shut-in fathers.

Who is a Father? A father is a male parent of a child or a person who is acting as the father to a child. The title of a priest especially in the Roman Catholic and the orthodox churches is "Father". Generally, Christians refer to God as "our Heavenly father".

Lord God, our father, through Jesus Christ had reconciled us to Himself. Jesus Christ our saviour said 'my father gives you the true bread from heaven' - John 6:32. The Psalmist wrote that our fathers trusted in you i.e. God, Ps. 22:4

Our leaders in Christ who tutored us in Christianity are our spiritual fathers. Apostle Paul was a spiritual father to Timothy and indeed to the

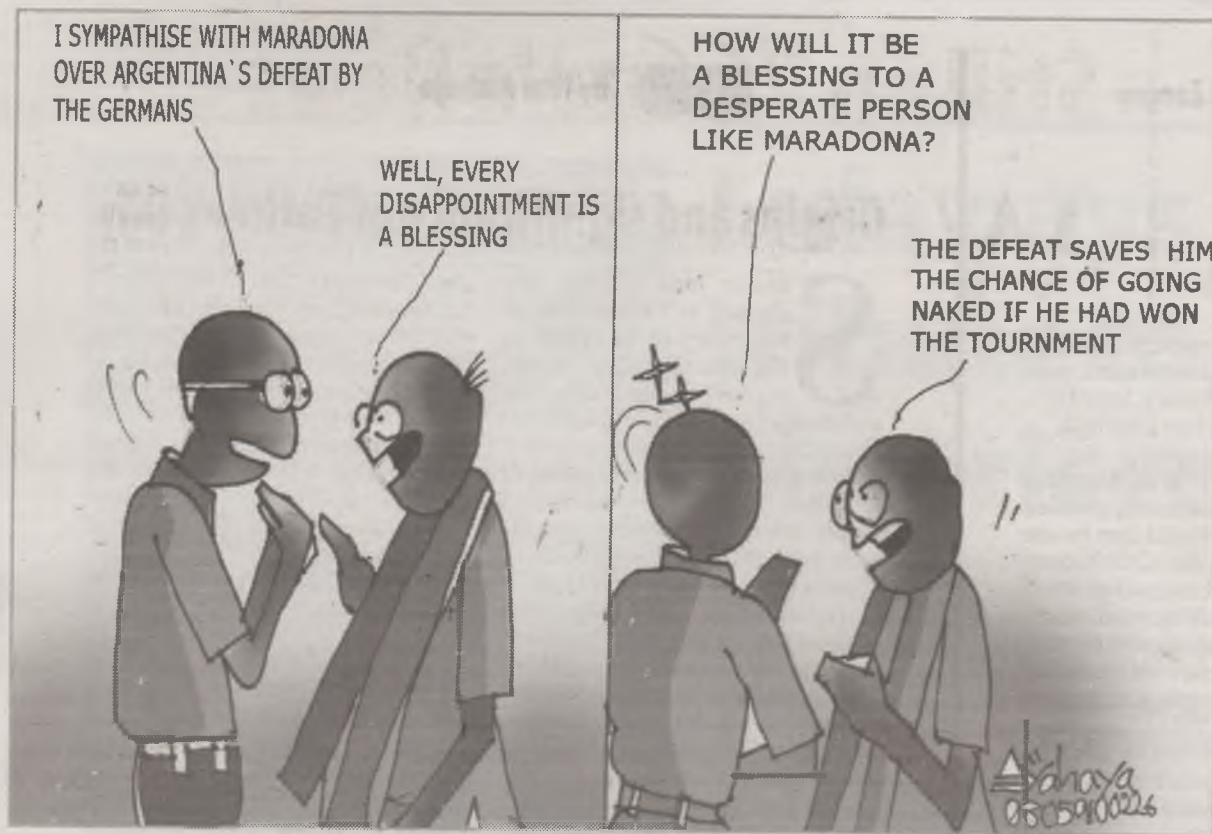
Men, as our wives and children celebrate us today as fathers, what kind of a father are you?

- Are you a real father or ceremonial father?
- Do you show love to your children?
- Do you meet their expectations as a father?
- Do you care about your family?
- What are your lifestyles?
- What are you teaching your children?
- Can your children model after you?
- What kind of father are you in the society?
- Do you behave like a father?
- What about your place of work?
- What type of a leader are you?
- Can people come to you when they are in need?
- Are you a father only to your biological children?

How do you treat those children living with you? - I mean your house girls, houseboys, security guards, drivers, cooks, stewards, etc. Do you treat them as human beings like yourself who are created by the same God?

Men, Father's Day is for sober reflection on our standing as fathers and mentors to our children and others. This is not the time for dining and wining only, but to also re-examine yourselves and make amend wherever you are doing it wrong so that, it shall be well with you. Remember that, sooner than later, we shall all appear before God on his judgment seat.

Aikhoje, mni, is Chairman, Men's Fellowship of All Christian Fellowship Mission, Maitama.



Time to return to radical student unionism (III)

Cont'd. from last week.

By Nazir Ashiru Galadanchi

Rather than for government to fund free and qualitative education, it continues to starve it more of funds while encouraging private individuals (majority of them, politicians and government lackeys) to gain huge profits from government-induced public education collapse. This contradiction requires a solid, consistent and radical students' organization that will be able to expose and raise the banner of progressive unionism. We must also know that the demands of students are also political because the present age government is one whose ideological basis is rooted in scrupulous globalized capitalist neo-liberalism and the invisible hands of the market and imperi-

alism. This crooked government, while it continues to regenerate itself in brazen corruption, will continue to stand for imperialism; stand against public education, social welfare, etc. Therefore, the new Nigerian students' movement, that I intend work towards-if finally formed would link up with other pro-people and working class organizations to provide the requisite leadership and the radical working people's party that will champion the demand for massive funding of social services - free education, free health, reasonable wages and pension, clean water, affordable public transportation, accessible mass housing schemes, jobs for all, etc. if the nation's economy is nationalized to provide enough fund, that is currently being held by just 1 percent of the population who control over 80 percent of the nation's wealth.

Though, there was a right-wing movement going on at a time in British students' movement which tends to side-line the mass of students while giving the organization to the capitalist government, but was challenged by progressive students' organizations in Britain. The examples of 2006 French movement where students played major roles along with workers, in battling Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin's anti-poor labour policy, and the mass movements of students against education commercialization in Greece, are signs of what a genuine students' movement can achieve. Now is the time for genuine radical students' unionism in Nigeria.

Concluded.

Galadanchi, NANS Senate President, wrote from FUT Minna (ngaladanchi@gmail.com)

Text us on 08 131 8000 30

It's not fair

THERE is no rational basis to blame the deteriorations in the country to a single individual, because the name NIGERIA is just a title as the name HOUSE. When we study the nature of the house in particular, more than a single person makes it better. And vice-versa, hence, I don't agree and I will never ever agree to relate the matter to an individual. **MUJITABA, Matazu, Katsina State, 08060843641.**

Wrong about IBB

I thought IBB was a bad leader, not until we encountered someone who was worse, OBJ. I have a change of heart, and now urge all Nigerians to support IBB and vote for him if he wants to contest the presidency in 2011. **SAIDU Pella, Abuja 08068564410.**

Zoning, why now?

LET me ask Nigerians, why

is it that during the tenure of Yar'adua, the PDP did not raise the matter of abolition of zoning until when Jonathan took over? This clearly shows we have been selfish. By the way, who is afraid of zoning?

ABDU Birma, Maiduguri 08057448575.

Give the man a chance

NIGERIANS should be patient and give President Jonathan a chance to perform in the PDP before forcing him to defect to other party. This zoning of a thing should not be taken as a national issue because it's not constitutional. Moreover, it's not all political parties that are agreed on the zoning principle. So the north can't take it as a national issue, as if PDP is the only party in Nigeria. They should challenge this God-ordained good luck presidency to salvage us to a greater, better developed nation. So let anybody dare God, come

2011 and face the wrath of the almighty.

APOSTLE PAUL O. Olugbenga, of C & S aka Throne of Mercy, Kaduna 08064346459.

Why single out the Eagles?

IF the banning would be the only solution to poor performance, Mr President should kindly extend the sanction to include PHCN, FERMA, INEC, state governors and the legislatures, because their performance is not only been 'poor' but a disgrace. **MUSA Abdullahi, Jos. 08032890675.**

For the Eagles to fly again...

LET them be a standing committee, instead of an ad-hoc one. And the longstanding issue of favouritism, politics and godfather must be tackled for any future success of the national team by 2014. **SALISU Silo, Kano, 08138172743.**



By Mahmud Boyi

Saving Kebbi PDP from godfather syndrome

The Nigerian political landscape will not remain the same given the nod by President Goodluck Jonathan before World leaders in Toronto, Canada some days ago as he continue to reiterate the need for credible election even from our own great party, Peoples Democratic Party, PDP. The President in the recent time has been admitting the electoral flaws that marred the credibility of 2007 general election, which is a source of concern to him and our late President Umaru Musa Yar'adua. Before the world leaders at G-8 Summit, President Jonathan restated his resolution to ensure a level playing ground for all contestants in the 2011 general election irrespective of electoral levels from the ward to the federal. It is cheering news to very well meaning Nigerian especially the politicians and more importantly, those that will be seeking elective positions in the forthcoming general election in 2011.

It is a fact that before Jonathan's emergence, the concern for lack of credulity in our electoral process had forced credible Nigerian politicians to quit politics because of the reign of godfathers, favouritism and imposition of candidates and administration of the party in the state. Governors are in the habit of not allowing credible candidates to emerge, irrespective of their credentials. They always facilitate the emergence of mediocre who would not challenge them, which is the result and quality of representation we are getting at the national and the state assemblies today. With the latest news of creating a level playing ground where every genuine politician can vie for elective offices regardless of their relationship with one big man or woman, those who benefit from the unsustainable status quo are apprehensive. With Jonathan's determination, all issues of electoral fraud and other vices associated with our electoral system will hopefully be a thing of the past.

Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) cannot fold its arms and allow gatecrashers spoil the party. Many of the big shots at the state level who call the shots today did not labour for the party but are now the biggest beneficiaries of its goodwill. All the founding members at the grassroots have been pushed aside while mediocre are having a field day at the expense of credible members and qualified candidates.

With the present momentum to instil discipline and pave way for credible election, it is our fervent hope that PDP will triumph if the monsters at the state level are curtailed, especially on the issue of imposition of candidates and godfatherism. This call becomes necessary given the situation in Kebbi state PDP, where the governor actions have polarized the party as political neophytes now dictate what goes on.

Party members are disillusioned and disenchanted in Kebbi state, groaning under a leadership they believe is working against the party's interests. As a result, the PDP is adrift; unless urgent actions are taken to save the situation, 2011 may prove calamitous for the party. National Working Committee, NWC of this great party should not be carried away with the facade being put up there. It's all propaganda. Unfortunately, the governor who should know better has instead surrounded himself with cronies and political lightweights, people who never contributed anything to the formation, maintaining and sustenance of the party and have nothing to lose as gate-crashers.

Several attempts made in the recent past to ensure the intervention of the party leadership from the National Secretariat were to no avail. It is the maladministration in the party that led to intra-party wrangling that fractionalised the PDP into the Aliero and Dakingari factions. I am compelled to write because election is round the corner and if national leaders do not intervene and take steps to forestall imposition of candidates, mediocre will emerge and our party could fail.

The governor may have the power of incumbency, but he apparently has not learnt from the Bauchi State experience of 2007 where Malam Isa Yuguda defeated a sitting government with massive votes due to rift within the party. The PDP loss of Bauchi state in 2007 was due to arrogance, insincerity and deceit. What is happening in Kebbi State presently is a replica and re-enactment of the Bauchi State scenario. It was the acrimony between the members and the state executive of the party that led to the recent fiasco between the loyalists of Dakingari and Aliero. That incident was a sign of what to come in Kebbi state. The earlier national leadership instils some order by cautioning the man, the better. NWC should wade into the problem immediately by summoning the aggrieved party members together to put our house in order.

Boyi wrote from Nasarawa ward, Brinin Kebbi.

DAILY TRUST

EDITORIAL

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The NCC ban on SMS promotions

The Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) recently banned telecom service providers from sending promotional Short Messaging Service (SMS) to who do not have prior subscription for them. The NCC ban came following complaints by subscribers that such unsolicited messages constituted nuisance to them. Until now, the messages usually come from corporate organisations and event promoters who pay service providers in advance to advertise their programmes. However, the operators subsequently take the liberty to inundate their subscribers with the messages, sometimes pushing them through at odd hours.

With the issue of revenue at stake, the NCC action has drawn the ire of another government agency, the National Lotteries Regulatory Commission (NLRC), which has asserted it alone has the mandate of the 2005 Lotteries Act to regulate such promotions and suggested that the ban would have no practical effect. The NLRC also argued that the NCC power is limited to granting licenses to service providers to operate. This area of conflict needs to be streamlined for both agencies, and other organs involved in the telecommunications industry, to be aware of their powers and limitations.

Subscribers already exasperated with quality of service of telecom operators, putting an end to frequent and unsolicited sms would be a welcome development because they consider them an intrusion into the privacy of their customers, most of who cannot filter the messages, thus having their inboxes clogged with such spam material. Another issue of concern is the lack of freedom of choice to receive or not to receive such unwanted mail. Very often, the receiver is constrained from protesting because of this lack of choice; willy-nilly, the subscriber to phone service must endure the solicitations of the service providers and third parties who may obtain the subscriber's details from the service provider, a potentially illegal, even criminal, act.

Moreover, there are established organs of mass advertisement of products and services by those who seek to reach target audiences, such as the electronic media, the press and outdoor displays, etc, which these advertisers can use, instead of encroaching on individual rights to privacy of subscribers without their prior consent. The radio or television advertisement can be switched off if the subscriber does not want to hear or watch it, and in newspapers, there is the option of flipping to the next page. Such options are available in the GSM communication; its providers in Nigeria however more often than not, do not offer it. They can for instance ask subscribers before or on activating their new subscriber identification module (SIM) cards whether or they would accept certain messages.

License for unsolicited mass messaging should be granted only when the message is of public importance such as during periods of national emergency, or the outbreak of an epidemic. The maxim for mass messaging must not be given at the expense of nuisance or violation of the right of others to be excluded. Perhaps there is need for dialogue between the two agencies on this but as it stands, we believe that the NCC has acted in good faith and response to a problem that become of considerable concern to a significant number of subscribers. What needs to be emphasised is that consumers of telecom products want more value added and sanction for poor quality services that still plague telecommunication services in Nigeria.

There is a bill that has been pending since 2006 before the National Assembly seeking amendments to certain portions of the NCC Act. This is an opportunity to include the seeming overlapping functions of Lotteries Commission and the NCC among the gray areas that were observed. If necessary, the Lotteries Act may also be looked into for possible amendment to address some of the issues we have raised. The overriding need to protect the consumer must not be overlooked in the process.

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Still on Vuvuzela News

Well before the tournament is over, South Africa 2010 soccer competition's trade mark, VUVUZELA has metaphorically resonated in Abuja, albeit for the worse. Far from the plastic horn blasting the underperformed Super Eagles home as it would have been if they superbly performed, the miserable team has been commendably and rightly vuvuzelaed out of circulation for the next two years according to President Jonathan Goodluck. For once we have a President who openly shares with the nation, the anguish and frustrations the pack of cards, (wrongly dignified as a Super Eagles team) had serially brought home in place of goals and glory. Chairman of the Presidential Task Force on the World Cup 2010 and Rivers State Governor Rotimi Amaechi spoke the mind of most fans of Eagles, home and abroad. He rightly observed that not few have suffered heart attacks and hypertension on the account of an unaccountable national soccer team, called Super Eagles.

For a nation that forgets so soon, Amaechi reminded us about the torturous path to 2010 qualification. Yours sincerely had a singular misfortune of joining the patriotic train of fans all the way from Kaduna to cheer Super Eagles to victory during the Tunisia-Nigeria qualifying match in September last year. It was during last year's Ramadan. We all watched in misery as Super Eagles at Abuja national stadium scandalously ended in a tie with Tunisia (2-2) before an unprecedented supportive but depressed home crowd.

With three desperate substitutes that included Nwankwo Kanu and three yellow cards to match, before our very eyes, Eagles of Carthage proved more super than Eagles of Nigeria. The Eagles actually pushed the nation on devilish road as it were. What could be more devilish than for a nation of believers feverishly "praying" for others (Tunisia) to lose to Mozambique so that we can "qualify"! What a qualification is it that rests not on your proven strength but the prayed weakness of others?

In dubious measure, super Eagles were cheeky enough to start and end every miserable match with "prayers" as if what other teams were doing (set to play!) on the pitch were mutually exclusive from an art of prayer. The issue is not that Eagles scored with tears in this tournament for as long as they were tolerated. The issue is that the players betrayed no emotions while they lose as they lost all the way. We all watched in sympathy Ghana's Asamoah Gyan in flood of tears after the Black stars-Uruguay campaign. We could feel his loud sorry to stunned and pained African fans last Friday for missing a decisive goal that could have seen Africa for once

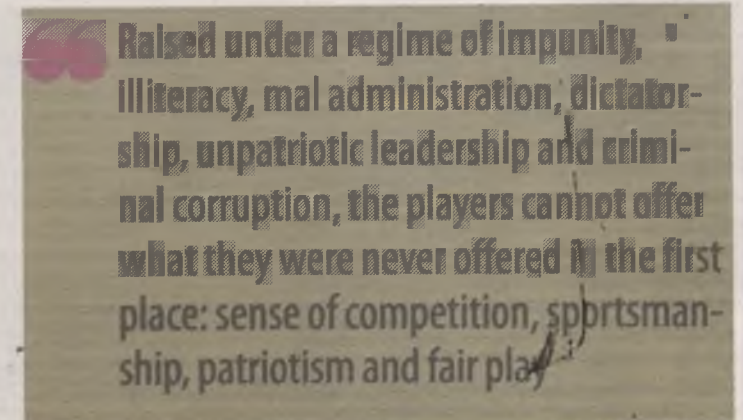
Issa Aremu, mni
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to a semi-final. Asamoah's historic sense of regret was visible enough to elicit the singular support of Nelson Mandela. Pray how do you sympathise with a Sanni Kaita who undoubtedly covered his lost head in shame but nevertheless betrayed no emotions whatsoever?

How do you sympathise with a Yakubu who was as hardnosed to miss a goal by the nose. Our footballers are too "business-like", not "foot-ball" or nation-like. They are hardly

ball card is a flash or an enduring national commitment, all national priorities regardless of riot of the number of the agendas come down to governance. More far reaching logical official reflections are certainly needed.

Beyond suspending Super Eagles for two years in international competition, why should South Africa, (Nigeria and Nigerians) helped to liberate beat us to it to host the first soccer tournament in Africa, and not Nigeria. Already South Africa is bidding for Olympics in 2020, why not Nigeria to launch 2020 vision? Of course, governance crisis that manifests in collapse of



impressed either by the generosity (is it indulgence?) of a nation that throws millions of Naira at them as if they are rented legs! Super Eagles players are permanently hunted by their lowly origin. Raised under a regime of impunity, illiteracy, mal administration, dictatorship, unpatriotic leadership and criminal corruption, the players cannot offer what they were never offered in the first place: sense of competition, sportsmanship, patriotism and fair play. Consign them to the dustbin of yesteryears' national leaders who invented them in the first place and safe the nation the serial annulment of our expectations with respect to soccer competition.

On the ashes of this pack of cards, we must raise a new team imbued with what is at stake: competitive national (not muddling through mercenary) soccer. Odemwinge said as much; Super Eagles, he said did not win one of their matches because "their luck in the lucky bag got exhausted". If it took a President whose name is Goodluck to remind the players that it takes more than good luck to compete in international arena, it is good luck for the nation to be so liberated and free of hypertension.

Nonetheless yours sincerely is surprised that of all the current burning issues on presidential template, soccer captured the presidential imagination. Of the downsized (or is it right-sized?) 7-point agenda of his predecessor-boss, sport in general was never mentioned as one of Jonathan's priorities: electricity, electoral reform and Niger Delta as critical success factors to judge this administration. Whether the foot-

infrastructure denies us competitive edge in industry as much as in sports. Why then should President Jonathan not suspend his open ended international safari trips and settle to work at home. What is good for football might very well be more desirable for the nation as a whole. At the last count President Jonathan has been in Washington (I can't remember for what?).

He was in South Africa for Nigeria's opening match that ended in hard luck, in Canada (for G-20 even though we are not a member of G20), almost in London for a 50th "independence" anniversary lecture (as if we are set to renegotiate our independence back to dependency).

Of recent, he was sported in Cape Verde. Of what value-additions are these overseas trips just as of what values are the suspended soccer competitions? President Jonathan must sit down and address the national assembly about his national priorities, rather than engaging in controversies with Nigerians in Diaspora.

He must visit power projects. He must meet Nigerians at home at work, at the remaining surviving factories. Still on soccer Professor Attahiru Jega must create time and watch the officiating skills of the referees in this tournament.

Some officiating are controversial, but officiating nonetheless. With respect to red cards, it does not matter; who works for it gets it; from Australia's Everton midfielder Tim Cahill to Germany's Miroslav Klose. Even Brazil's Kaka and South Africa's goal keeper! Spare no red cards for election riggers however skilful and well positioned.

Star Feature

Kano's growing beggars

The racecourse is the main hub for beggars in Kano. **Lawan Danjuma Adamu and Ruqayya Yusuf Aliyu** report

With hundreds of them seated in groups along the Race Course road, the destitute form a long human corridor extending more than half a kilometre. As vehicles pass-by, they chorus kiyaye (May Allah protect you) and wave their hands, eagerly anticipating alms.

The beggars' colony comprises mostly old women and few of their children helpers. Men constitute only a small percentage, hardly over a hundred. Begging for these people is not only a means of survival, but also a way of life.

Starting from 7am every morning, they begin to head for the rendezvous from their various homes in villages and communities on the outskirts of Kano. The financially buoyant ones pay to be transported to the place, while the poorest of the poor make the long trip by foot. While others go in groups, some prefer going solo, so that any donation, food or money, they are able to get on the way, will be solely theirs, as they abhor sharing with others.

If they are unlucky and it rains for a whole day, and they can be forced to remain at home. Most of them detest such moments, because they claim all their daily bread come from begging.

Barring any delay, the beggars settle every morning for the day's job between 9am and 11am. Every available shade, be it in front of a residential quarters or isolated, is taken over by them until 6pm when they close for the day, and retire back to their respective homes.

Our reporter visited a day after it had rained cats and dogs. Because the heavy downpour happened in the evening, the beggars ended up being trapped in the street, not in their homes. Therefore, after spreading their sitting cartons and extending morning greetings, they jumped into the rain issue. Exhaustively, individuals narrated how and where the rain caught them, and how they fought the cold as they got back home. They punctuated the escapade stories with shouts of kiyaye. In the end, they concluded that any of the group members that did not turn up by 12am, must have fallen ill and whispered some kiyaye for themselves, before continuing with business as usual.

Roughly, about 20-50 groups take positions under trees along the road. And in each group, can be found between 8 and 30 members, in addition to a leader. When a vehicle pulls over and hands out a donation, depending on the lucky

group, one of the members will receive it. All monetary donations are shared equally, but items like wears, are costed and sold to an individual member. The proceeds are divided among members, without excluding the buyer.

The turf is guarded jealously here. And this cannot be unconnected with the struggle by one group to outpace the other in accumulating alms. Fighting between individuals and groups is common. For instance, one issue that constantly fuels fracas in the colony, is when members of a group attempt to hijack another group's donations. Or when, after receiving their own, they melt into the next group to cleverly take a double ration. Such excesses almost always, end up in a fight or serious verbal attacks. Any member of a group that covetously shortchanges others is automatically banished.

When the outing is good, a beggar can take home N70 to N100 in one day. But on some occasions, they return home just the way they came - "empty-handed," one of them said.

"I began begging three months ago, after the death of my husband," says a female beggar, Binta Adamu. The bereaved said she would quit the practice at the completion of traditional mourning of her late husband, when she will return to her village, saying begging puts food on the table for her now.

Poverty is often cited by the destitute as the cause of their taking to the street to beg for alms, and only a few are ready to quit it after a brief sojourn, like Binta. "I am related to rich and influential persons who can take care of my



THEY wait for charity.

wellbeing. But I will not go back to my hometown to live with them, because I'm used to Kano, and I'm afraid I could be bewitched if I return home," Zara Mohamed, an indigene of Borno State,

explained as her reason for taking to begging.

Like Binta, most of the women beggars said the death of their husbands forced them to beg, in order to fend for themselves and their children. As most of them have no house of their own, they live in rented apartments, and do other duties that would have been the responsibility of their male spouses. Hajiya Asabe was saddled with the responsibility of raising 14 children, after the death of her husband two years back. Although some of them have married, she consistently assists them because they do earn very little from "menial jobs," she says. "Therefore, whatever I get from here, I go back home to support them."

Another beggar who seems to be in her late 50s, said she has no child to look after, while she blamed old men who don't come to them for marriage, as being responsible for the large population of begging women in the state. "Old men like us, don't marry from among us, they go for young girls instead," Amina Abubakar continued, "If you see them marry-



BEGGING and selling.

With hundreds of them, seated in groups, the destitute form a long human corridor extending more than half a kilometre.

r colony



BEGGARS receiving alms.

as a night watchman. I only come here in the day time to get what I can get, and leave," he said. He also disclosed that a number of his colleagues have jobs. "Only the disabled and the aged have no other work. But all those that are still strong do some other jobs," Yahaya stated.

Other beggars also cash in on the population at the joint to engage in petty trading. As a result, kola nuts, bitter kola, soap, pomade and fast local foods are always available. They are however affordable to only those who can buy. Therefore, not everybody is concerned about the stocks. But all the groups are sure that when food donations come from rich houses, they will have something to eat without spending a kobo. Some philanthropists prepare jollof rice and other cuisines, and serve it to the beggars

on some selected days. However, the beggars are sure that everyday, with the exception of Sundays, a Good Samaritan will distribute two doughnuts to each of them.

Like migratory birds that travel seasonally in search of food, all the beggars are fairly acquainted with all the places to go to for food, within the week. Therefore, on every Wednesday, the beggars troop to the houses philanthropists along Ahmadu Bello Way. After long queues on Wednesdays, they are given fresh maize or rice. At other houses, they are fed. They will take leave of their permanent post on Fridays, for the second time in a week, to go to major markets like Kantin Kwari, Sabon Gari and Singer. There, they said, some traders give five naira to each beggar, and finally, on Saturdays, they go for collection of charity at another different part of the state. When there is still time before

nightfall, the beggars will head to their race Course road base, to top up what they got, before finally heading home.

The beggars dodge questions that have to do with misunderstandings among them, fearing that the "government will come and drive them" away. However, they are keen to explain that quarrels among co-beggars are settled without intervention by outsiders. They also want to describe them as minor skirmishes. But it is a common occurrence to pass the mini-camp, and see the beggars engaging in bare-knuckle fights.

Also, people have expressed fears over the safety of destitute close to a road that is busy with traffic all the time. However, there have not been any reported cases of vehicles crushing any beggar along the road. Even though, reports have it that many of them have been knocked down by drivers as they tried to cross other roads to go for begging, or while returning home.

Similarly, the issue of the security of the beggars, with regards to the activities of ritual killers that is on the rise in the state, is often raised. On the same spot for instance, a beheaded corpse of a mentally-ill woman was said to be discovered after she slept in the open two years ago.

With the potent threats nonetheless, the population of the beggars continues to swell along Race Course road. And with the seeming absence of an end to their problems, real or claimed, their presence will continue to tower above the landmarks in the area. Perhaps, the road could someday be named after them, Beggars' Street, in the way the road derived its names from the horse racing arena situated there.

their mate (an old man), the man must be rich and owns houses and property. When they find such goldmine, they will not work again, but depend on the aged wife to feed, clothe and provide a roof on their heads. If I have a husband to marry, why should I waste another minute in the street begging for alms?"

by commercial vehicle or achaba everyday. The elderly will sell gari and groundnut cake to the beggars, and when a philanthropist comes to give alms, she will queue up to collect. "I am a beggar and a business woman," she said with a hint of a smile. "It is not wrong for me to collect alms, for good. I can use it to cover my transportation cost to and from here. That in itself is a gain, you see," she argued.

But not all the women and men, who troop to Race Course road in search of alms, can be said to be forced to do so by abject poverty or lack of opportunity. For long, people have been speculating about some of the beggars owning fat bank accounts, collecting rents and running other businesses that spin money for them. Similarly, many of the street beggars are said to have defied the ban placed on them by their mental relatives, especially biological children to beg in the street. Hajiya Tabawa, for instance, does not want to be classified as rich, but will admit living in a house of her own built for her by her children. She comes to the begging joint

Aside Hajiya Tabawa, another beggar, Abdulkarim Yahaya, does a night watch job, just some houses away from where he begs. Yahaya was appointed the leader of his own group. "My life is not entirely dependent upon this place. I work



WAITING for alms.

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WORLD REPORT

Poles vote in presidential election run-off

THE people of Poland voted yesterday in a run-off election to determine the country's next president. Observers say the final result between Bronislaw Komorowski and Jaroslaw Kaczynski could be close.

Mr Komorowski has been acting president since his predecessor, Mr Kaczynski's twin brother Lech, was killed in a plane crash as he travelled to Russia in April. Results are expected to be released today.

The election has been dominated by the crash. Poland's first couple and 94 other people died when their plane came down in Smolensk on 10 April as they flew to attend a memorial ceremony for the World War II Katyn massacre.

The contests pits the business-oriented Bronislaw Komorowski from the ruling centrist Civic Platform against the conservative Jaroslaw Kaczynski of the main opposition Law and Justice party.

Mr Komorowski won 41.5% in the first round and Mr Kaczynski 36.5%. Eight other candidates were eliminated.

Final opinion polls before yesterday's voting got under way suggested a close call, with floating voters certain to be pivotal.

Mr Komorowski's support ranged from 45 to 54%, and Mr Kaczynski's from 42 to 45%, AFP news agency reported. Mr Komorowski's supporters see him working well with Prime Minister Donald Tusk in trying to curb fiscal deficit.

Mr Komorowski, 58, said at his rally on Friday: "You have the choice between a politician who harbours resentment and grudges, and the future, with an optimistic vision of Poland."

Mr Kaczynski's supporters hope a victory for their candidate would curb cuts in public spending. He said on Friday: "This election began with a tragedy. I hope it will end with a great success for Poland." Mr Kaczynski, 61, served as prime minister but was voted out of office in 2007.

15 die as Philippine bus hits wall to avoid crowd

THE driver of a runaway bus in the Philippines smashed into a concrete wall in a bid to avoid hitting bystanders, police say.

At least 15 people were killed and another 48 injured in the crash on the central island of Cebu. The bus was carrying factory workers to their homes when the brakes failed and it began to

career out of control.

Deadly crashes are common in the Philippines. In June, 21 people died when a coach went into a ravine. The latest bus to crash was travelling at high speed from Cebu city to rural townships at the outskirts of Cebu province, Police Senior Superintendent Erson Digal said.

Iran has 'proof US kidnapped missing scientist'

IRAN has handed over new documents proving one of its nuclear scientists was abducted by the US, Tehran said. The evidence, the contents of which have not been disclosed, has reportedly been given to the Swiss embassy, which represents US interests in Iran.

Shahram Amiri, who disappeared during a pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia a year ago, is believed to be in the United States.

Three videos purportedly of him emerged recently - one saying he had been kidnapped, the other that he was free. The BBC reported that Iran's statement is the latest twist in Mr Amiri's case.

It is all part of a war of words, and a war of nerves, in which the

rival intelligence agencies attempt to prove they are one step ahead of each other, our correspondent says. There has been no official comment from the Swiss embassy, nor from the US, on the latest developments.

The US has strenuously denied abducting Mr Amiri, but ABC News reported in March that the scientist had defected and was helping the CIA compile intelligence on Iran's controversial nuclear weapons programme.

In the final video, aired on Iranian TV at the end of June, the second video, the man denounced the web broadcast as a "complete fabrication" and said he had escaped.

Hezbollah 'mentor' Fadlallah dies in Lebanon



LEBANON'S top Shiite cleric Grand Ayatollah Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah speaks during an interview with The Associated Press in the southern suburbs of Beirut, Lebanon.

LEBANON'S top Shia Muslim cleric, seen as a key figure in the founding of militant group Hezbollah, has died at the age of 74.

Grand Ayatollah Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah was regarded as Hezbollah's spiritual guide after the group was founded in 1982, a charge both denied.

An implacable critic of the US, he had a wide following among Shias and backed the 1979 Islamic Revolution in Iran.

But he was known among Shias for his moderate social views. He held particularly progressive views on the role of women in Islamic society.

The ayatollah had been ill for weeks, reports said, and was too frail to deliver his weekly sermon on Friday prayers. He was admitted to hospital on Friday, reportedly suffering from internal bleeding.

As news of his death emerged, Hezbollah's TV sta-

tion, al-Manar, interrupted its programming to broadcast his picture and recitations from the Koran.

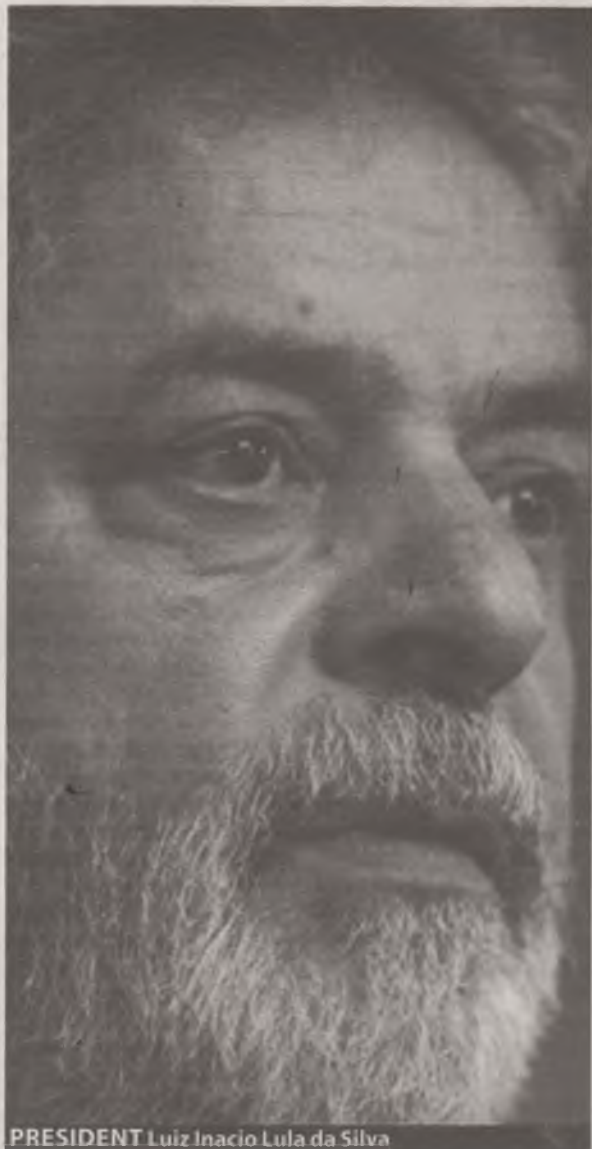
Medical sources at Beirut's Behman hospital told news agencies Fadlallah had died, before a spokesman for the cleric emerged from the hospital to confirm the reports.

In the suburb of Haret Hreik, where the ayatollah preached at the al-Hassanayn mosque, black banners were hung in mourning and women wept openly in the street, the Associated Press reported.

Born to Lebanese parents in the Shia holy city of Najaf, in Iraq, Fadlallah moved to Lebanon in 1966 after completing his studies. He won followers both in his home country and in Lebanon, extending his influence to Central Asia and the Gulf, Reuters reported.

He became regarded as the spiritual mentor to Hezbollah when it emerged as a Shia militant group in 1982.

Africa



PRESIDENT Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva

Lula pays tribute to Africa's historic role

BRAZIL is committed to help Africa build a future of stability and development, President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva has said. On his last African tour as president, he said Brazil could never repay its historic debt to the continent.

His successor would have a moral duty to increase trade and investment, he told West African leaders in Cape Verde.

Brazilian trade with Africa has quadrupled since Lula became president in 2002. The Brazilian leader has made improving links with Africa a vital part of his foreign policy, which emphasises "South-South" relations. He has toured the continent at least ten times, visiting 25 different countries. Despite high popularity ratings at home, he is barred by the Brazilian constitution from a third consecutive term as president and must step down after elections in October. "Today we are united for the future," President Lula told a summit of the West African regional grouping ECOWAS in Santa Maria, Cape Verde.

"Brazil - not just me - took a political decision to make a re-encounter with the African continent." He said Brazil could never repay its "historic debt" to Africa - a

reference to the millions of Brazilians who are descended from African slaves.

"Brazil would not be what it is today without the participation of millions of Africans who helped build our country." He said Brazil was determined to help eliminate hunger and poverty in Africa through trade, investment and the transfer of technology. "Whoever comes after me has the moral, political and ethical obligation to do much more."

President Pedro Pires of Cape Verde paid homage to Lula on behalf of ECOWAS.

"Brazil is a country that is respected and listened to, and its president is a great defender of Africa's interests. It should have a permanent seat on the UN Security Council," he said. Trade between Brazil and Africa has grown from \$6bn to \$24bn under President Lula. Brazilian companies have invested heavily in oil and mining, and have taken on big infrastructure projects.

Lula has also promoted cooperation on agricultural development and bio fuels, and launched an international television station - TV Brasil Internacional - that broadcasts to African nations. Lula's final tour also takes in Equatorial Guinea, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia and South Africa.

DR Congo fuel truck victims buried in mass graves

THE bodies of some of the scores of people killed in a fuel truck explosion in the Democratic Republic of Congo have been buried in mass graves.

At least 230 people were killed when the overturned oil tanker exploded and sparked a fire in Sange village. Some of those who died were trying to collect leaking fuel but others were trapped inside buildings, including a cinema, by the blaze.

UN peacekeepers, aid workers and troops have been helping the injured. The truck overturned in the village of Sange.

As Saturday wore on, Red Cross teams carried bodies wrapped in plastic sheeting to two mass graves outside the village, the Associated Press reported.

Jean Claude Kibala, South Kivu's vice-governor, said scenes in the village were "terrible". "There are lots of dead bodies on the streets. The population is in terrible shock - no-one is crying or speaking," he said.



NIGERIAN NAVY

DIRECT SHORT SERVICE COMMISSION COURSE 19

CHANGE OF RESUMPTION DATE

1. Sequel to the Nigerian Navy publication of List of Successful Candidates for Direct Short Service Commission (DSSC) 19 in The Guardian newspaper of Tuesday 1 June 2010 and Daily Trust newspaper of Wednesday 2 June 2010, this is to notify the candidates that the resumption date has been changed from 4 July 2010 to 19 July 2010. All other details remain the same.

2. For further information visit the website: www.service.nigeriannavy.gov.ng

Signed:
Navy Secretary
for Chief of the Naval Staff

Join the Navy - see the World



NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND CULTURE

Plot 1370 Ukpo Close, Off Oro Ago Crescent, Off Muhammad Buhari Way, (by Old CBN),
Garki II District, P.M.S. 252, Garki, Abuja.
Tel/Fax: 01-4786861, e-mail: info@ncac.gov.ng, www.ncac.gov.ng

PRE-QUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR PROJECT TO BE DONE BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND CULTURE IN YEAR 2010

The National Council for Arts and Culture, Abuja is desirous of undertaking its 2010 capital budget. In view of the above, the office is inviting competent and reputable companies/contractors to tender for the pre-qualification for the following job.

PROJECT TITLE: Establishment of National Herbal Garden of Indigenous Plant Species Project in Enugu, Enugu State.

2. **Pre-Qualification Requirements**
Interested contractors are required to submit the following pre-qualification documents:
 - Evidence of company registration with Corporate Affairs Commission
 - Company Audited Account for three (3) years, (2007, 2008 and 2009).
 - Evidence of Tax Clearance Certificate for three (3) years (2007, 2008 and 2009).
 - Evidence of Financial Capabilities and Banking Support
 - Experience/Technical qualification of key personnel
 - List of similar project executed and evidence of knowledge of the industry
 - VAT registration and Evidence of past VAT remittances
 - Equipment deployment and equipment/technology capacity.
 - Evidence of compliance with Pension Act.
3. **Submission of Pre-Qualification Documents**
The Pre-Qualification Documents should be neatly bound and submitted separately in a sealed envelope and marked at the top left hand corner "The project name" to the Executive Director, National Council for Arts and Culture, Plot 1370, Ukpo Close, Garki II, P.M.B. 252, Garki - Abuja on or before two (2) weeks from the date of advertisement on 5th July, 2010. The closing date is 19th July 2010 by 12noon and opening in the same day by 2:00pm.
4. **Additional Information:-**
 - i. Tender information and instruction shall be given only to contractors that have been screened and found suitable to provide the services.
 - ii. The Advertisement shall not be considered as commitment on the part of the National Council for Arts and Culture nor shall it entitle potential companies to make any claim whatsoever and/or seek any indemnity from the National Council for Arts and Culture by virtue of such company having responded to the advertisement.
 - iii. Late submission of pre-qualification documents will be rejected.
 - iv. Only pre-qualified contractors will be allowed to participate in the competitive tender.
 - v. The National Council for Arts and Culture reserves the right to reject any application.

SIGNED:
Executive Director/CEO
NCAC -Abuja.

Power Holding Company of Nigeria Plc

Abuja Electricity Distribution Company
 No. 1 Ziguinchor Street, Off IBB way, Wuse Zone 4, P. M. B. 631, Garki - Abuja

PUBLIC NOTICE

INVITATION TO TENDER

1.0 INTRODUCTION: Further to our Advertisement for Pre-qualification published in the Daily Trust of 28th January 2010, Guardian News Paper of 26th January 2010 and Federal Tenders Journal, Vol. 6 No 3 (Monday February 8 Sunday, February 21, 2010), all manufacturers, contractors, suppliers and architectural/structural engineering consulting firms that responded to the said Advertisement and those interested to tender are hereby invited to bid for relevant Lot(s) listed

LOT No:	SCOPE OF WORK DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT	TENDER FEE (N=)
GROUP A	EXPANSION	
LOT:A1a	Supply of High Tension Cables	20,000.00
LOT:A1b	Supply of Low Tension Cables	20,000.00
LOT:A1c	Supply of Termination Kits	20,000.00
LOT:A2	Construction of 11kv and 33kv overhead line associated with injection substation	20,000.00
LOT:A3	Provision of 2x15MVA, 33/11KV substation at Isanlu - Yagba East	50,000.00
LOT:A4	Construction of 2x15MVA, 33/11KV injection Substation at Anjope and 500KVA, 33/0.415KV transformers be injected to upgrade the existing 200-300KVA in circuit in both Anyigba, Egwume, Okura, Anjope etc.	50,000.00
LOT:A5	Construction of 2x15MVA, 33/11KV injection Substation at Idah and 33KV line from Idah through new Okpachala road to Idah	50,000.00
LOT:A6	Construction of 2x15MVA, 33/11KV injection Substation at Dekina	50,000.00
LOT:A7	Construction of 1x7.5MVA, 33/11KV injection Substation at Egums	50,000.00
LOT:A8	Kabusa (Lingo, g & I. Dorant estate axis) electrification in FCT, Abuja	20,000.00
LOT:A9	Construction of 1x7.5MVA, 33/11KV injection Substation at Oboro/Inuvashe	50,000.00
LOT:A10	Relief substation at Oboro 1 & 2, Ebano, Ikueti, Otanlere	20,000.00
LOT:A11	Extension of electricity to Imane, Olamaboro LGA, Kogi state	20,000.00
LOT:A12	Reinforcement of the existing under rated 33KV cable on Itobe bridge with single core 33KV 600mm ² armoured cable.	20,000.00
LOT:A13	Electrification of Kushiaki - Gidgori (on-going), Niger state	20,000.00
LOT:A14	Electrification of Gussoro, Numba Gani/Numba, Koro/Azu Relief Substation in (Niger state)	20,000.00
LOT:A15	Electrification of Adabo - Kusa and Sabo Akah-Gaba/Akpogu and Ozi in Kogi state	20,000.00
LOT:A16	Electrification of Iweedo-Amunio/Ofin Isanlu in Yagba East LGA of Kogi state	20,000.00
LOT:A17	Installation of transformers in Ogbabo, Ibradu and Araba in Abocho in Dekina LGA, Kogi state	20,000.00
LOT:A18	Electrification of Fehinli quarters extension in Kabba/Bunu LGA	20,000.00
LOT:A19	Electrification of Surulere / Iudun extension in Kabba/Bunu LGA	20,000.00
LOT:A20	Electrification of Agalupa / Owode extension in Kabba/Bunu LGA	20,000.00
LOT:A21	Electrification of Ode / Bunu Rural Kabba/Bunu LGA	20,000.00
LOT:A22	Electrification of Agbede-aga in Kabba/Bunu LGA	20,000.00
LOT:A23	Electrification of Ogidigbi-Ayere in Ilumu LGA	20,000.00
LOT:A24	Electrification of Ayangan, Ogoagba in Kabba/Bunu LGA Kogi state (on-going)	20,000.00
LOT:A25	Electrification of Akutupe, Odo-Ape in Kabba/Bunu LGA, Kogi state (on-going)	20,000.00
LOT:A26	Electrification of Iku-ehunruks, Kabba/Bunu LGA, Kogi state (on-going)	20,000.00
LOT:A27	Electrification of Panuwa-Ayere, Sheria, Akakana I & II, ITCTDN in Bassa LGA, K. state	20,000.00
LOT:A28	Installation of 300KVA/500KVA transformers	20,000.00

LOT:A29	compensation layout 4th and 5th Avenue, Gwagwalada Extension of electricity supply to Kakaji - Ndako - Egbati, Chala - Assanyi, Essangi - Nnawoyegi, Mashina - Kola, Lapai - Mashina - Egunkpa, Takuti - Ndeji - Tsadza, Borgu - Kpabisan - Maiyugi, Duma - Kapako - Zago, Boko - Magba, Kpado & Zuyi, Lapai - Dangana, Niger state.	20,000.00
LOT:A30	Completion and extension of electricity in Kabol'era, Shako, Dogon Kumi/Chawa, Kuta, Kusa-Gussoro	50,000.00
LOT:A31	Suleja/Gurara Tafa fed. const. in Niger state	20,000.00
LOT:A32	Reconducting of HT/LT lines at Suleja and replacement of poles	20,000.00
LOT:A33	Installation of 300KVA transformers and 500KVA transformers for HR members	50,000.00
LOT:A34	Procurement and installation of 2x7.5MVA 33/11KV transformer at Sun-City in Abuja	20,000.00
LOT:A35	Procurement and installation of 300KVA transformers in Ben hotel area (Iyath-Kabba), Konedo, Agoromo, Surelere, water works in Kabba community, Kogi state	20,000.00
LOT:A36	Provision of 11KV 1st feeder at Okane checkpoint, Kogi state	20,000.00
LOT:A37	Construction of 1x7.5MVA 33/11KV Injection Substation at Paiko	50,000.00
LOT:A38	Provision of 11KV 2nd feeder at Adavi LGA, Kogi state	20,000.00
GROUP B	Extension of electricity supply to Bagaji - Unguwan Baka - Rafin Panisaka - Kalbon mada - Unguwan Sokwalawa - Keffi	20,000.00
GROUP C	OPERATIONS	
LOT: B1	Replacement of 11KV Obsolete switchgear	20,000.00
LOT: B2	Provision of test Equipment	20,000.00
LOT: B3	Heavy equipment vehicles, cranes, Etc	20,000.00
LOT: B4	Design and commencement of constructing of standard company stores at the proposed sites	50,000.00
LOT: B5	Provision of safety tools and kits	20,000.00
GROUP C	MAINTENANCE	
LOT: C1	Provision of 800A, 4-way Feeder Pillars and complete Ring Main Unit and extension	20,000.00
LOT: C2	Line Reinforcement/Replacement (Rehabilitation of overhead HT & LT lines)	20,000.00
LOT: C3	Rehabilitation of Distribution Transformers/Substations	10,000.00
LOT: C4	Trace Clearing of 11KV and 33KV overhead lines	20,000.00
LOT: C5	Reconducting of 11KV and 33KV overhead line	20,000.00
3.0 REQUIREMENTS		
1.	Evidence of company registration / certificate of incorporation	
2.	Photocopies of Current Company Tax Clearance Certificate for the last (3) Three Years, 2007, 2008, 2009 (for Companies operating in Nigeria).	
3.	Photocopy of VAT registration certificate (for Companies operating in Nigeria).	
4.	Evidence of verifiable similar jobs successfully executed, showing letters of award and related completion certificates.	
5.	Evidence of remitting Employer and Employee pension Contributions to the appropriate Pension Fund Administrator.	
6.	Evidence of Payment of Non-Refundable Tender Fee.	
7.	Evidence of financial capability to execute the proposed work/supply with certified bank statement to buttress claim.	
8.	Company's audited account for the last (3) three years (2007, 2008, 2009).	
9.	Companies interested in major construction works including the construction of injection substation must have at least one of its Directors registered with COREN.	
10.	Evidence of being a manufacturer with SON or ISO Certificate where applicable, for suppliers.	

11. Evidence of technical, operational and managerial capabilities with detailed profile of key management staff)

12. A sworn affidavit affirming that none of the Directors of the Company was ever convicted in a court of Law.

13. A sworn affidavit affirming that none of the information provided above is false, falsified or forged.

14. Any other related document that will enhance verification of experience and competence.

METHOD OF APPLICATION: Soft Copies of Tender documents are available for collection upon payment of the appropriate Non-Refundable Tender Fee from the office of:
 Principal Manager (Procurement)
 Abuja Electricity Distribution Company
 1st Floor, No. 1 Ziguinchor Street,
 Wuse Zone 4 Abuja.

4.0 SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS: Interested Applicants should submit their spirally bound Documents in line with the Requirements stated above in sealed envelopes marked "Tender" indicating the LOT NO and description of project on the left hand corner of the envelope, Name and mailing address of the Tender Company shall be clearly stated at the back of the envelope(s). Please adhere strictly to packaging instructions of the bid documents as contained in the tender. The documents must be delivered by hand or mail to match the following address on or before 10.00am on 11th August, 2010.
 The Chief Executive Officer
 Abuja Electricity Distribution Company
 No. 1 Ziguinchor Street, Wuse Zone 4
 Abuja.

Tender documents shall be opened on the same day by 2.00pm at Arewa Suite, Central Business District, Abuja

NOTE:

- No bidder will be considered for more than Two (2) Lots
- Any submission that is not substantially responsive will not be processed
- Contractors / Companies are advised to bid for lot in the area of their competences.
- Non compliance with the provision of the Procurement Act 2007 will result in automatic disqualification.
- Any company/contractor that submit take document shall be disqualified.
- Only Technically qualified companies/contractors shall be invited for Financial Bid Opening.

Two sets (Original & Copy) plus soft copy are to be submitted. All information shall be provided in English Language.

This Advertisement shall not be construed as a commitment on the part of Abuja Electricity Distribution Company's Management nor shall it entitle responding Contractors to seek any indemnity from Abuja Electricity Distribution Company by virtue of such Contractors having responded to this advertisement.

Further clarification can be obtained from
 Principal Manager (Procurement)
 Abuja Electricity Distribution Company
 1st Floor, No. 1 Ziguinchor Street, Wuse
 Zone 4, Abuja. Phone: 0803 314 1459
 E-mail: aedproc@yahoon.com

SIGNED
 MANAGEMENT
 ABUJA ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION COMPANY



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF POWER

NIGERIA ELECTRICITY AND GAS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (NEGIP): STAKEHOLDERS' FORUM/WORKSHOP FOR THE PARTIAL RISK GUARANTEE (PRG) COMPONENT OF NEGIP.

The Federal Government has obtained a Credit from the World Bank under the Nigeria Electricity and Gas Improvement Project. Part of this Credit is to be applied for the Partial Risk Guaranty Initiative under NEGIP

The Stakeholders' Forum/Workshop is aimed at achieving the following Objectives:

- (i) Enlightening all relevant Stakeholders about the goals of all components of NEGIP especially the PRG aspect.
- (ii) Understanding the Mechanics of the PRG and its intended impact on the Nigerian Electricity and Energy Industry.
- (iii) Reaffirmation by Stakeholders of their responsibilities and commitments towards making the PRG initiative work.
- (iv) Charting the "Way Forward" on the overall success of NEGIP.

Representatives of identified Stakeholders (see list below) are kindly requested to attend this important Forum/Workshop which has been schedule to hold as follows.

- Venue** - **Nicon Luxury Hotel (Conference Hall),
Plot 903 Tafawa Balewa Way, Area 11 – Garki,
Federal Capital Territory, Abuja.**
- Date** - **Monday 12th – Tuesday 13th July, 2010.**
- Time** - **0830hrs – 1630hrs (Days 1 & 2)**

List of Stakeholders whose representatives are expected to the Forum/Workshop:

1. **Federal Ministries - (Power, Petroleum, Environment, Finance & Niger Delta, Energy Com)**
2. **PHCN - (HQ, GenCos, DisCos, TransysCo & PMU)**
3. **Government Agencies (DPR, NERC, NGC, NNPC, NDDC & NDPHC)**
4. **Independent Oil Companies - (SPDC, Chevron, Oando, Mobil, Pan Ocean & Total-Elf)**
5. **Independent Power Producers - (Omoku, Okpai, Afam 6, Ibom Power, AGIP & AES)**
6. **Invited Civil Society Organizations**
7. **Legislature - (Senate & House Committees on Power)**
8. **Friends of NEGIP**
9. **Invited Non Governmental Organizations**
10. **SSS & Nigeria Police, Navy, Air force and Immigration**

Signed:

S. O. Agboola
Chairman – NSCC;
0809-834-8352; 0706-628-7470

Chief Pius Njoku
Secretary-NSCC:njokupci@yahoo.co.uk;
08033144034;0805-8519611

IT WORLD

Hotline:08056159961

Undersea cable set to boost West Africa broadband

AN eagerly-awaited submarine cable linking West Africa to Europe has gone live, paving the way for cheaper and more reliable internet access in one of the world's fastest-growing telecoms markets, its operators said on Friday.

The 7,000 km (4,350 mile) fibre optic Main One Cable runs from Portugal to Nigeria and Ghana, and also branches out to Morocco, the Canary Islands, Senegal and Ivory Coast.

The Main One Cable Company says it delivers more than ten times the broadband capacity of

the South Atlantic Terminal (SAT-3), Nigeria's sole existing undersea cable, and 20 times the entire satellite capacity of sub-Saharan Africa.

"The ramifications of Main One's cable will be felt in all sectors -- from education, to health, to entertainment, helping drive economic growth and creating job opportunities all over Africa," the company said in a statement.

An expanding network and falling prices are expected to fuel explosive growth in mobile broadband in Africa over the next few years, particularly Nigeria, which

has overtaken South Africa to become the continent's largest mobile telecoms market.

Internet connectivity in Nigeria, Africa's most populous nation of 140 million people with 5 per cent broadband penetration levels, is expensive and unreliable and many businesses are forced to rely on satellite communications.

Enhanced capacity will bring more competition among big operators such as South Africa's MTN and India's Bharti, which last month completed a \$9 billion acquisition of the African opera-

tions of Kuwait's Zain.

Main One's cable will also put Nigeria at par with the rest of the world in terms of internet and broadband services. The cable, which has a capacity of 1.92 terabits, has a speed which can accommodate 1 million MP3 downloads and 100 million voice calls per second.

South Africa has 1.28 terabits. "Given the increase in bandwidth and the falling cost of accessing that bandwidth, it is really going to move West Africa and Nigeria into the 21st century,"

said Andrew Alli, Chief Executive Officer of the Africa Finance Corporation (AFC), which financed \$37 million of the \$240 million project.

"There now needs to be investment within Nigeria to take that capacity to the end-user."

There are around 10 undersea cables either under construction or in the planning stages around the whole of Africa. A second new fibre optic cable owned by Nigerian telecoms firm Globacom is also due to go live this year.

Reuters.

Glo to give out 30 cars, 90 motorcycles, other prizes in 30 days

By Zakariyya Adaramola

NIGERIA'S national carrier, Globacom, has rolled out a new subscriber-reward scheme aimed at doling out prizes worth over N70 million within the next 30 days to its active subscribers.

The reward scheme tagged 'Recharge and Win promo' will see lucky subscribers receiving one car every day until July 30, 2010. Also, 90 others will receive 90 motorcycles, three per day, for the duration of the scheme.

Other prizes to be won are 300 bicycles with ten to be given out each day for 30 days, 90 flat screen television sets with three sets to be given out every day and 3,000 multiband radio sets with 100 to be given out every day for the 30 days the promo will last.

According to Globacom's Group Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Mohamed Jameel, it is customary for Globacom to reward

its subscribers from time to time.

"Globacom remains very grateful to Nigerians who have supported the company and whose patronage has catapulted the network to the top. If Nigerians did not believe in us we would not be the major player that we are now in Nigeria and in the West African sub region", he said.

In a presentation on the modalities of the promo, Valentine Halim of the Glo Promotions Unit explained that to qualify for the prizes, subscribers only need to recharge with a minimum of N500 per week after which their mobile lines will be captured for a draw on a weekly basis that will determine the winners. After the draw, winners will be announced and prizes will be presented to them at their doorsteps anywhere in the country. "We will deliver the big prizes like cars and motorbikes to the lucky winners wherever they live or work", Halim said.



FROM left: Acting head of NCC, Dr Bashir Gwandu, Minister Counselor for Economic Affairs, United States Embassy, Mr. Perry Ball, Director, Public Affairs NCC, Mr Dave Imoko, ICT Officer United States Embassy, Mrs Sadie Okoko, after a meeting between the US officials and NCC on cyber crime- security in Abuja recently.

Pension executives brainstorm on e-payment

From Yunus Abdulhamid, Lagos

ABOUT 70 senior pension industry executives from 25 Pension Fund Administrators & Custodians met recently to discuss and share experiences on e-Pension and e-Payment at a Remita workshop in Lagos.

The workshop tagged Remita e-Payment and e-Pension was organised by SystemSpecs for pension industry stakeholders to discuss among other things, the implications of the Central Bank of Nigeria Payment System Vision 2020 mandate on e-Payment as it relates to pension contribution remittances and retirees' pension processing and payment. John Obaro, Managing Director SystemSpecs, in his remarks said it was important for all stakeholders to continue to work together to achieve operational efficiency, optimize internal operations and empower employer organizations to meet e-Payment regulatory requirements while remitting her employees' pension contributions.

Obaro said a true e-Payment solution should enable a user to view consolidated bank balances across multiple banks on a single screen, End-to-End processing of all payments electronically, conduct multi-bank activity from just one place, and replicate an existing payment workflow.

NCC denies leadership crisis

By Zakariyya Adaramola & Sunday Williams

THE Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC) has said that none of its accounts is frozen and there is no leadership crisis at the commission.

There were news reports last week that there was leadership crisis at the commission over who acts for Executive Vice Chairman (EVC) and that because of the crisis its accounts were allegedly frozen.

But NCC's Head of Media, Mr Reuben Mouka, said in a statement that there is no crisis of succession in the commission and that no account of the commission has been frozen for whatever reason.

He said that Dr. Bashir Gwandu, the Executive

Commissioner in charge of Engineering and Standards, have since June 21, 2010, been appointed the Acting Executive Vice Chairman of the commission.

He said: "The attention of the Nigerian Communications commission has been drawn to a report in a newspaper insinuating that the bank accounts of the Commission have been frozen, following a leadership crisis, or that there is a leadership crisis in the commission."

"While it is not the intention of the commission to join issues with the press, we have the responsibility to inform the Nigerian public, and all industry stakeholders that no account of the commission has been frozen for whatever reason."

Telecoms companies admit there is stress in the industry

By Zakariyya Adaramola & Yunus Abdulhamid, Lagos

TELECOMMUNICATION companies' association has admitted that some of its members may have been deceiving their subscribers by appearing all is well with them even when they are in stress.

The national executive committee of the umbrella Association of Telecommunication Companies of Nigeria (ATCON), led by its President, Titi Omo-Ettu, told journalists that there is stress and distress in the industry belying the popular but false belief that telecommunication firms are making excessive profit.

According to Mr. Titi Omo-Ettu, it is this false belief that makes

everybody, including state and local governments want to impose frivolous, unfair and sometimes illegal taxes on telecommunication firms.

Pressed for his association's stand on the impasse currently going on in NCC, Mr. Omo-Ettu said he agreed with NCC's public posturing that all is well with the Commission except that it should surprise anybody.

He said: "It is bad omen for our industry to see the folks in charge replacing an acting EVC with another acting EVC. Our reading of the situation is that there are some people somewhere who do not know the implication of these indecisions on the wellbeing of our industry and on our investments."

IT World

'How software can stimulate economic devt in Nigeria'

Mr. Omo Oaiya is a software expert and the CEO of Datasphir Solutions, an Information Technology firm based in Lagos. In this interview in Abuja, he speaks on how software can help Nigeria solve the problem of unemployment.

By Zakariyya Adaramola

How do you see the software industry in Nigeria?

It is growing. There are several software companies in the country and some of them have very good programs. There are a lot of business opportunities in the software industry in Nigeria. We have not yet scratched the surface. But many people in the country are yet to get involved in software development.

Everybody knows the Indian story, how they have so much capacity in software development. This happened because a lot of them got involved and they are now ruling the world, so to speak.

What is your advice to those at the country's helms of affair as regards software? Don't you

think it is high time they look away from crude oil and fix their gaze on other sectors like IT?

Well, if you look at the Indian example I have just cited, yes, we could be saying things like that. IT could actually give more revenue earnings to the country than crude oil. Let me give an example of an individual, Ousman Wilane. He is a Senegalese and a software programmer who was trained in Senegal but he has done programming in virtually all countries in the world, earning money through that, also attracting people to Senegal who usually come to hire him. This also goes to tell us that you do not need to go to the so-called advanced economies to learn software development; you can actually learn it here in the country and become expert in it.

If there are more efforts in our tertiary institutions to review the curriculum to include modern languages so that the students will know how to write different pro-

grams right from schools that will



MR. Omo Oaiya go a long way in increasing more programmers, and once this is done, unemployment problem will be solved because more people will be able to earn millions working with their brains through software developing.

I can tell you that there is a lot of interest in outsourcing to Nigeria if everything goes right. We have large population of English-speak-

ing people.

We don't have any language barrier and we have got intelligent people around.

What we lack now is infrastructure. But increasingly, communication is improving by the day. So what we should do is to increase the quality of human resource so that by the next five years when internet access will be cheaper, we will establish more centres on software development. Many Nigerians will soon have internet access because a lot of undersea cables are coming.

Some say Computer Science as being taught in Nigerian tertiary institutions is a mere Mathematics... (Cuts in)

It is not fair to say this as a sweeping statement because this does not apply to Nigeria. Let me tell you that even some of the countries these people refer to have similar problem—that computer science courses in universities are different from the realities of the market place.

I think what we should rather

do is to look at ways of reviewing the curriculum process systematically. For instance, if we do not have teachers who are fluent in modern languages there is no way they can teach them.

So it all connects to capacity building. So, let me admit that there is an element of truth in what they say but what we should do is to look for ways of strengthening the system rather than attacking it.

How can the government solve the cyber crime challenge in the country?

It is by grooming more people, especially the security agents, to be proficient in IT so that they can devise ways to outsmart the criminals.

Why should Nigerians embrace Python?

To a layman, a python is simply a big snake. But in this context it is a software programming language. Python is a very powerful and dynamic language, which has characteristics that makes it excellent to teach people how to write software programs.

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labour report

Wase: Sacked workers with genuine cases will be considered – NULGE

ALIYU Musa Ajuji is the Chairman Nigerian Union of Local Government Employees (NULGE) Wase Local Government Chapter. In this interview with our correspondent **Mahmud Lalo**, Ajuji said NULGE has embarked on a continuous effort to make case for workers wrongly sacked to be reinstated. He also talked about payment of workers' salary, leave grant arrears and other issues affecting the council.

OVERSTAFFING was one of the factors said to have militated against prompt payment of salary with council owing workers for months; now that quite a number of the workers have been laid off, has the situation changed?

Before we came on board, payment of salaries was an uphill task for the council to accomplish and everybody within the council was aware of that because sometimes we end up getting half salaries instead of the full payment despite the delays.

The screening exercise conducted in the council led to the laying off of about one thousand staff, the wage bill has reduced and that allows the council to pay salaries promptly.

On the leave grant issue, what the council used to do was to prepare a leave roster at the beginning of every year; it is the leave roster that fixes the staff ranging from January to December on different grade level so that when the salary is paid it will be paid alongside the salary for that month.

But we sat down and rubbed minds with the council chairman and I advised him to clear the current leave grant on time, and after reaching an agreement with him, I talked with my congress on my discussion with the chairman

and we collectively agreed that the payment of the leave grant should be on departmental basis rather than on monthly basis in order to prevent some people from benefiting more than they should.

The chairman lived up to his promises of paying the grant and as I am talking to you now the last leave grant that was paid was three days ago which was paid to the Primary Health Care Department and that marked the clearance of all leave grant for the current year 2010 in the council.

Some workers affected by the screening are claiming that their employment followed proper procedure yet they were sacked, what is NULGE doing to ensure that genuine workers are not erroneously affected?

I have said it severally and I will still repeat it, the issue of retrenchment, employment and promotion is purely a managerial issue, but sometimes, we come in at any time to offer advice which is not mandatory for it to be accepted.

But as far as the issue of the last screening is concerned, after the payment of salaries for about three months, we have received complaints from those affected claiming to be genuine workers. Being human, I believe the

screening committee is prone to record some margin of errors. They gave us an opening saying if we feel there are some cases that are genuine or worthy of being reconsidered we should forward it to them. In the first instance I remember we cleared about 191 workers that were affected and this exercise is going to be continuous process. There are about nine people that have cases of inter local government transfer that were also affected and those were also cleared.

I want to reemphasize that the exercise was not meant to witch hunt anybody, rather it was meant to bring sanity into the system.

One issue bedevilling local government councils in the state is staff promotion especially within the junior cadre, what is NULGE doing in that regard?

Honestly speaking that is one of the factors militating against the growth and development of human capacity on the Plateau generally not only in Wase local government.

Since my tenure began, I have been confronted with series of complaints in the council regarding junior staff promotion. We have been putting efforts in that regards and currently about 284 staff on different grade level were



ALIYU Musa Jaji

promoted.

At some point the council suspended its operation from the secretariat due to allegations of a planned attack on the secretariat, what is the current situation now?

Immediately after the screening exercise, there was some unrest which made the council insecure for workers especially the senior workers which led to the operations of the council not taking place in the secretariat for some time.

There were lots of threats about kidnapping or ambush,

so most of the operations of the council took place in the state headquarters because of the fear of insecurity that culminated from the retrenchment.

I had an audience with head of the SSS in Wase about the security of the council; he gave me the assurance that it was conducive, so I wrote formerly to the local government to reopen the secretariat telling them that even security personnel have given the assurance of safety in the council. As I am talking to you now the operation of the local government council is in full force and normalcy has since returned back.

Trade unions urged to train members

From Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos

LABOUR unions in financial institutions across the country have been enjoined to ensure periodic training of their members so as to acquaint them with knowledge of their rights and obligations in the work place.

Stakeholders in the financial institutions

expressed this at a round table discussion on "Industrial Relations in the Banking Industry" hosted by the Nigerian Industrial Relations Association in Lagos.

In a communiqué issued at the end of the meeting, participants urged trade unions to "educate workers on their rights relating to outsourcing and contract employment while also enjoining the banking industry

to look beyond retail banking and veer into lucrative investment banking market and prime debt financing.

The communiqué also urged the banking industry to actively participate "in the vast emerging housing market and collateralised debt."

The stakeholders also made a case for unions and management to work together

whilst advising unions to provide an avenue for interactive sessions with their members.

They added that drastic measures should be taken to reduce unfair labour practices in the banking and insurance sectors and also the encourage seeking redress in court, just as they advised workers to avoid unwholesome practices and operate within the context of the law.

...As NLC trains 30 unionists in Abuja

By Francis Okeke

THE Federal Capital Territory (FCT) chapter of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) has commenced a 10 weeks training programme for 30 unionists in Abuja. Chairman of the FCT chapter

of NLC Comrade Zakariya Adams said the workers, drawn from over 20 affiliates of the union would be trained on "labour laws, labour/government relations, collective bargaining, globalisation, grievance handling and HIV/AIDS" amongst others.

Comrade Adams said the training was conceived out of the desire of the NLC National Headquarters to create a pool of enlightened labour leaders abreast with contemporary issues in the labour industry. He added that "it is also better to have an enlightened followership

than to have an ignorant followership because this will even make the work easier for both the leaders and the followers who will become leaders one day."

On his part, the National Education Officer of NLC Comrade Valentine Udeh said the programme

which started in 2005 is being run in the 36 states of the federation including the FCT.

Udeh added that the NLC also has a certificate programme accredited to the University of Jos "all in the bid to build the capacity of our people."



PEOPLES DEMOCRATIC PARTY



POWER TO THE PEOPLE

JADA II WARD, JADA LOCAL GOVERNMENT, ADAMAWA STATE

IS ADAMAWA PDP MIGHTIER THAN OUR PARTY CONSTITUTION? ATIKU'S WARD CHAIRMAN CRIES OUT THAT HE FACES EXPULSION FOR RE-REGISTERING THE FORMER VP IN LINE WITH NWC DIRECTIVE.

My attention has been drawn to several newspaper reports from Friday 25th June, 2010 in which the Adamawa State Chairman of the PDP Alhaji Mijinyawa Kugama was quoted on the reaction of the Adamawa State PDP to a request by Alhaji Abubakar Atiku, GCON (former Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria) for a meeting with the PDP Adamawa State Exco.

In the said report, Alhaji Mijinyawa Kugama indicated that Alhaji Atiku Abubakar was not duly registered at his ward in Jada Local Government and Placed reliance on Article 10 sub section (3) part (b) of the PDP constitution. According to Mijinyawa: "that section duly stated that if a member of PDP lost his membership as a result of not paying his dues, he can be readmitted at his ward after he paid, but if he lost his membership by jumping to another political party, it is only State Executive of the Party that can write the National Working Committee (NWC)" of the PDP and recommend for the readmission of such a member.

I wish to state here that from the construction placed on Article 10 (b) iii of the PDP constitution by the PDP State Chairman, it is obvious that either the Chairman does not understand the PDP Constitution or is deliberately misquoting and misinterpreting it for self serving and selfish ends. It also clearly demonstrates that the Chairman is totally out of tune with developments in the PDP, especially as it relates to the return of Alhaji Atiku Abubakar and others into the party.

It is a fact that when in 2006, the PDP undertook a membership revalidation exercise, some powerful elements within it manipulated the revalidation exercise in order to edge out their perceived opponents with a view to preventing them from participating in the party primaries that was then forthcoming.

The end result was that the likes of Alhaji Atiku Abubakar and other persons who were affected, and could not get their membership revalidated became estranged and were forced out of the party and had to seek accommodation elsewhere. (Not that they Jumped to other political parties).

Now realizing the danger in these politics of estrangement as practiced in the prelude to the last (2007) elections, the PDP Leadership in the country, at the prompting of the then President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Alhaji Umaru Musa Yar'adua, bent on repositioning the Party on the path of success in subsequent elections and having appreciated the role of the estranged founders of the party, as men of the people and grassroots mobilizers, decided to empanel a National Reconciliation Committee headed by Dr. Alex Ekueme with a mandate to among others "... reconcile and bring back to the fold all estranged or aggrieved members of the party."

The white paper on the report of the National Reconciliation Committee has since been released. Of particular interest is Recommendation 9 at page 5 of the White Paper under reference, which reads thus:

"the 2006 membership revalidation exercise should be revisited to allow for unfettered and unconditional return of all members of the party and access to new members."

"National Executive Committee (NEC) accepts the recommendation. Cards have continued to be made available to those who claim they were shut out during the exercise."

I believe that it was on this premise that Alhaji Atiku Abubakar (undoubtedly one of the estranged founding fathers of the party) visited the party National Secretariat and had a meeting with the National Working Committee of the Party, where he was directed to go back to his ward and be formally registered there. This directive was also officially communicated to us through Sen. Paul Wampana (PDP Zonal Chairman Northeast) on the BBC and other Media where all Party Ward Chairmen were directed to reopen the party membership registration exercise, for the likes of Atiku and their followers. Also Kugama himself and the state secretary Mr. P. P. Ilesha on several occasions made statements on ABC Radio (Katakore Programme) that if Atiku wishes to return to the Party he should go back to his ward and register. Why change the rule now?

As the PDP Ward Chairman for Jada II Ward in Jada Local Government Area, Adamawa State, the Ward of Origin of Alhaji Atiku

Abubakar, we received, processed and approved Alhaji Atiku Abubakar's application to register in the Party in our Ward and did formally register him as a member of the PDP in the Ward. This we did in full compliance with the PDP Constitution as we are empowered to do.

The reference to Article 10 (b) iii of the PDP Constitution by Alhaji Mijinyawa Kugama is only misleading and mischievous. The responsibility of registering a member under the POP Constitution is that of the Ward and not of the state Exco. Article (10) (b) (iii) of the POP Constitution is a remedial provision for persons under disciplinary measures of losing their membership for reasons ranging from non-payment of dues to other sundry issues. It is therefore not applicable to the case of Alhaji Atiku Abubakar who is not under any disciplinary measure and who has taken proper steps to be registered in his ward.

I make bold to ask Alhaji Mijinyawa Kugama, who appeared to be an apostle for constitutional compliance, why he hijacked, removed and commandeered all the party membership cards and ward Registers of the party, contrary to Article 8.2, 8.3 and 8.6 of the PDP Constitution, all of which provide to the effect that the Register of members shall be kept and maintained at the Ward Secretariat of the Party and the register so maintained shall not be removed from the ward secretariat. Membership cards and registers shall be classified as Party security documents respectively.

We believe that Alhaji Mijinyawa Kugama is not acting in the interest of the PDP in the state but only expressing his frustrations and fears, and carry personal vendetta against Alhaji Atiku Abubakar by employing primordial antics to shut out the former vice president out of the PDP once again.

This, I believe is too late at this hour, as it is undemocratic and contrary to the spirit of the National Reconciliation Exercise, a mechanism put in place by Mr. President, recommended after full deliberation by the National working Committee (NWC) and approved by the National Executive Committee of the party.

I believe that the earlier Alhaji Kugama puts aside sentimental and personal interest in handling this issue, the better it will be for the overall interest of the party so that we can make meaningful progress with one accord.

Kugama must understand that PDP as a party which belong to all Nigerians who are willing to be part of it, cannot be run as a personal estate by those of us that are entrusted with the leadership at various level of the party.

I also want to state categorically clear that there is no law in either PDP or Nigerian Constitution that says that a ward chairman cannot register a willing member into the party until he seeks clearance from the Local Government, State Chairman or National Chairman of the party before doing so. And Jada II ward cannot be an exception.

Lest I forget, if not for the statement made at Yola International Airport by former National Chairman Mr. Vincent Ogbufor recognizing Kugama as s Chairman, he is not by law the chairman of Adamawa State Chapter of PDP. **We came to office via election; he came to office through a letter of appointment.**

In that case, if Kugama believes in equity then he should come with clean hands.

Finally, I will like to state unequivocally that the only legal and constitutional point of entry and exit from the party is only through the ward and I stand to be contradicted.

I Musa Yahya being a person who was elected to serve as chairman of Jada II Ward and with the confidence and trust that the people have in me, I will not in anyway under any circumstances allow my personal interest to affect or influence my action or decision as a leader of the party and at the same time will not allow myself to be used by either Kugama or any other person within the hierarchy of the party for vengeance or to settle personal grudge.

MUSA Yahya

Musa Yahya

PDP Chairam Jada II Ward.

DIGEST

Baby lives with half brain

...She'll learn how to use one side for everything

FOR in a groundbreaking operation doctors "switched off" the side which was so badly damaged by a birthmark it could have killed her.

And they say year-old Angelina will be as good as new as the left half of her brain takes over tasks the disconnected side would normally carry out.

Mum Lisa smiled: "We've been told there's a good chance of normal development because she is so young."

Lisa, who discovered her daughter had Sturge Weber Syndrome BEFORE doctors diagnosed it... after finding the symptoms on the web, explained:

"The brain is very adaptable at such an early age and one half can more easily take over functions of the other. But without the surgery her outlook would have been bleak."

The nightmare began for hairdresser Lisa, 34, and dad Stephen, 43, when Angelina began having epileptic fits at only 18 weeks old.

She was born last June with a port wine birthmark on her face. Doctors who scanned her as a precaution after birth found nothing wrong.

Worried

But when Angelina started having fits, worried Lisa checked her symptoms online. She recalled: "I found that some children with a port wine stain have it on their brains as abnormal blood vessels."

Angelina was rushed back to Norfolk and Norwich Hospital but doctors dismissed Lisa's fears and prescribed antibiotics for risk of meningitis. They said Sturge Weber was so rare just 14 CHILDREN a year in the UK are born with it.

But after further tests and scans they admitted Lisa was right - and that her daughter's life was in danger. The abnormal blood vessels could cause a brain clot and so Angelina was put on aspirin to thin her blood. Lisa said: "Every time she had a fit it was a bit like having a small stroke and the brain became more damaged."

Angelina was referred to Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital where top surgeon William Harkness told Lisa and Stephen that, because the damage was on just one side of Angelina's brain he could carry out a life-changing operation. Called a hemispherectomy, it would involve disconnecting the damaged right hemisphere of the brain from the left. Stephen says:



LITTLE Angelina Mills had the right half of her brain ravaged by a rare condition... but thanks to miracle surgery she's left with a great chance of a normal life.



Angelina Mills in hospital

"Angelina was lucky. There are some kids who have it on both

sides." Mr Harkness and his team spent seven hours carrying out

the meticulous disconnection 10 days ago. So far Angelina has had



I found that some children with a port wine stain have it on their brains as abnormal blood vessels

no more fits. And when her parents offered her a toy in her hospital bed she reached out with her right hand - controlled by the left side of the brain - which shows it is operating normally. "All the signs are good," smiled Lisa.

Angelina will need up to five years of rehabilitation, including physiotherapy and speech therapy and has an 80 per cent chance of being seizure-free. The family are trying to raise money towards a special light and sound sensory room to aid her recovery at home in Gresham, Norfolk. Lisa says: "We're so grateful to Great Ormond Street."

News of the World GP Dr Hilary Jones adds: "These operations are rare and risky - but they work. Children can do very well after this procedure. Angelina is very lucky."

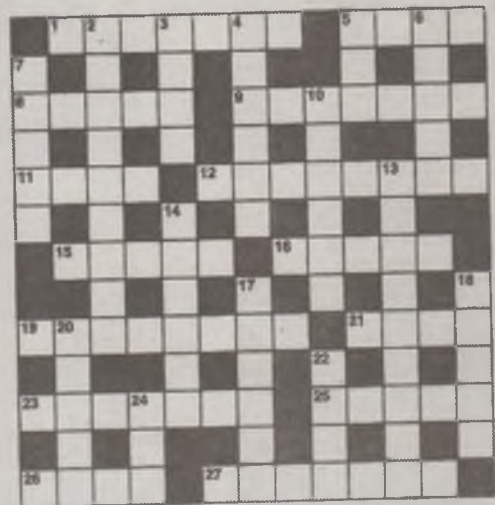
Culled from newoftheworld.co.uk

Sign Language



Facebook, notice the spelling of statione(a)ry
Photo location: Dhaka, Bangladesh, by Tahseen Raiyan Hasan
Culled from www.signspotting.com

CROSSWORDS 18



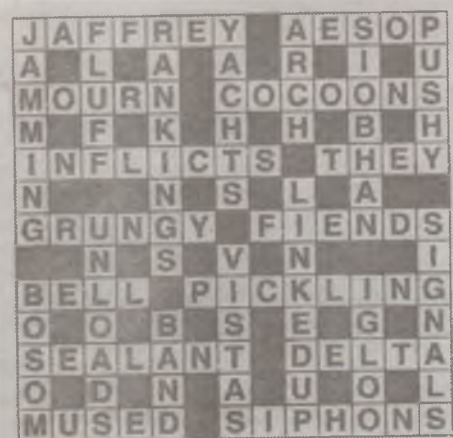
ACROSS

- 1 Tropical lizards (7)
- 5 Hose (4)
- 8 ___ Melua, singer/songwriter (5)
- 9 Senior household servants (7)
- 11 Reminder note (4)
- 12 Pace repetitively (2,3,3)
- 15 Aberdeen ____, breed of cattle (5)
- 16 Rascal (5)
- 19 Those travelling by sea (8)
- 21 Unusual fruit, which is trademarked (4)
- 23 Evaluated (5,2)
- 25 Took part in an election (5)
- 26 Town which hosted the 1952 Winter Olympics (4)
- 27 Totally impractical (7)

DOWN

- 2 Football match proceeds (4,5)
- 3 Keeley Hawes' character in *Ashes to Ashes* (4)
- 4 Literary name for ancient Britain or England (6)
- 5 Chum, mate (3)
- 6 More chaste (5)
- 7 Reads superficially (5)
- 10 Knee-length male garments in ancient Greece and Rome (6)
- 13 Disinfects with smoke (9)
- 14 Thrust (6)
- 17 Searches blindly (6)
- 18 Archaeological discoveries (5)
- 20 Overlooks (5)
- 22 South London cricket ground (4)
- 24 The 'I' (5)

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORDS 17



SUDOKU

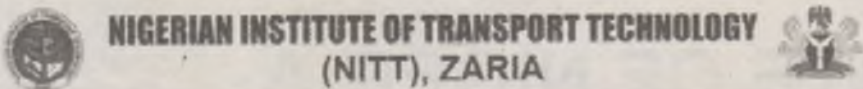
The Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9x9 square grid made up of smaller 3x3 square grids (regions). The numbers already present within the puzzle are "given"- these are there to start you off. The aim is to complete the puzzle by filling the empty cells. Every digit from 1-9 needs to fit in each row, column and region of 9 squares. Each row, column and region must contain just one instance of each number, 1-9.

184

		9				8		2
		6		7				5 1
1				2				9
			9		4			3
	2			5				8
	9		7		2			
	1			4				8
3	4			6		1		
5		8					7	

Solution to Sudoku 183

9	1	4	6	5	8	2	3	7
2	3	6	9	1	7	8	4	5
7	8	5	4	3	2	6	1	9
6	9	1	7	2	4	5	8	3
5	4	2	3	8	6	7	9	1
8	7	3	5	9	1	4	2	6
4	5	8	1	7	9	3	6	2
3	2	9	8	6	5	1	7	4
1	6	7	2	4	3	9	5	8



INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR PROVISION OF INSURANCE COVER FOR INSTITUTE'S ASSETS

INTRODUCTION
The Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology (NITT), Zaria has provision in its year 2010 Budget to **PROCURE GENERAL INSURANCE COVER** for the Institute's assets. The Institute wishes to procure the services of Insurance Companies/organizations with specific **EXPERTISE AND PROVEN TRACK RECORD** in providing **GENERAL INSURANCE SERVICE**.

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENT
The Institute hereby invites eligible Insurance Companies to express their interest in providing the service. Interested Insurance companies are requested to submit Pre-Qualification documents consisting of the following:-

- i. Evidence of Registrations/Incorporation with Corporate Affairs Commission
- ii. Evidence of registration with NAICOM
- iii. Profile of Insurance Company including details of Directors and Management, total staff strength and experience
- iv. Evidence of payment of claims in the preceding three (3) years
- v. Tax clearance certificate for the preceding three (3) years
- vi. Audited Account of the Company for the preceding three (3) years
- vii. VAT Registration and evidence of past VAT remittances
- viii. Evidence of similar Insurance cover provided in the preceding three (3) years
- ix. A sworn affidavit indicating that all documents submitted are genuine and verifiable.

DURATION OF INSURANCE COVER
The Insurance cover is for one (1) Calendar year.

SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENT
The Pre-Qualification documents duly signed by the company's Managing Director are to be submitted in sealed envelopes marked **"EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PROVISION OF INSURANCE COVER FOR INSTITUTE'S ASSETS"** at the top left hand corner of the envelope to:

The Director General/Chief Executive
Nigerian Institute of Transport Technology (NITT), Zaria
P.M.B 1448,
Basawa Road,
Zaria.

Interested Companies should specify the nature of service they intend to render (whether as Brokers or Under-writers).

Pre-Qualification documents must be hand delivered or by Registered mail to the above address within two (2) weeks from the date of this publication.

- Note**
- (a) The Institute shall not enter into any correspondence with any unsuccessful company that applied for pre-qualification
 - (b) This advertisement is not a commitment on the part of the Institute. Hence, the companies applying cannot make any claims(s) whatsoever nor seek any indemnity from the Institute by virtue of such application in response to this advertisement.

Signed
Management



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RURAL WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION (AGENCY)
Shuwarin, Dutse-Kiyawa Road, Dutse Jigawa State

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION

The Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) is inviting reputable companies /contractors to apply for pre-qualification as potential contractors for the award of contract for the drilling and installation of hand pump boreholes in the state under the rural component of EU-UNICEF Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Reform Programme (WSSSRP)

REQUIREMENT FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION

To qualify for pre-qualification contractors are required to submit copy of profile containing the under listed documents.

1. Certificate of incorporation with Corporate Affairs commission
2. Evidence of financial capability
3. Evidence of availability of relevant equipment and technical capacity
4. Evidence of performance in other similar / relevant projects
5. Evidence of three year tax clearance.

SUBMISSION

The completed documents should be submitted in sealed envelop to reach the office of the Manager Director not later than two weeks from the date of publication. Only pre-qualification contractors will be invited to tender for the project.

Signed
The Managing Director
RURAL WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION (AGENCY)



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BAUCHI STATE OF NIGERIA



Communiqué

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF TWO-DAY SEMINAR HELD ON 29TH – 30TH JUNE, 2010 (17TH – 18TH RAJAB, 1431 AH). AT ZARANDA HOTEL, BAUCHI, TAGGED "THE ROLE OF TRADITIONAL INSTITUTIONS, RELIGIOUS BODIES, COMMUNITY-BASED AND YOUTH ORGANISATIONS IN ENTRENCHING DISCIPLINE AND PEACEFUL CO-EXISTENCE IN THE SOCIETY" ORGANIZED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SPECIAL ADVISER ON EDUCATION AND SOCIETAL REORIENTATION, BAUCHI STATE

A Two-Day Seminar organised by the Office of the Special Adviser on Education and Societal Re-orientation effectively being championed by Dr. Salisu Shehu, was held at Zaranda Hotel, Bauchi, between Tuesday to Wednesday 29th – 30th June, 2010 (17th – 18th Rajab, 1431 AH).

The Theme of the Seminar was titled "The Role of Traditional Institutions, Religious Bodies, Community-based and Youth Organisations in Entrenching Discipline and Peaceful Co-Existence in the Society".

This is in consonance with the resolve of the Executive Governor, Mal. (Dr) Isa Yuguda who pledged to ensure the prevalence of a consistently peaceful and crisis free atmosphere in the State to accelerate all round development in the State for the overall benefit of the citizenry.

The Seminar was declared Opened by the Executive Governor, Mal. (Dr) Isa Yuguda (Matawallen Bauchi), attracted a large turn-out of participants that included all the District Heads in the State, Jum'ah Imams from all the 20 Local Government Areas of the State, Pastors and Reverends, and Security Agencies, Youths and other stakeholders.

In his Opening Speech, His Excellency Mal. (Dr) Isa Yuguda stressed the importance of peaceful co-existence, commended the organisers of the Seminar for the meticulous and thought provoking manner in which it addressed various areas that required deep and sober reflections, adding that most crises are not necessarily religious in nature but are made to look so by the mischievous perpetrators, as no religion preaches violence.

After exhaustive deliberations, the following observations and subsequent recommendations were made:

OBSERVATIONS

1. That Societal Re-orientation was described as fore-mostly cardinal in human development and by the same token, the family plays a key role in instilling discipline to its offspring.
2. That provocative and unguarded preaching by some clerics is the bane of religious conflicts.
3. That Peace and Multi-Cultural Education plays a vital and effective role in cementing societal harmony.
4. That envy, malice, ill-will and ungodly attitudes constitute impediments to societal developments.
5. That justice, fairness and equity were identified as necessary ingredients for fostering peaceful co-existence and societal growth.
6. That the society celebrates success at the expense of hard work and industry as clearly exhibited by the rampant and unsubstantiated awards of traditional titles and honours.
7. That periodic meetings and interactions between the clerics of both the Islamic and Christian faiths have been recognized as effective means for promoting sustainable unity and understanding among the followers of the two-Religions.
8. That even though, it has generally been acclaimed as a progressive and corrective programme, "Gyara Kayanka" activities do not cover the entire State.
9. That lack of good and proper upbringing of children is responsible for breeding un-desirable elements that engage in

10. cultism, political thuggery and other and other social vices. That law and order are as old as human history, and that the larger the society becomes, the more complex the security situation becomes hence the need for constant review and promulgation of appropriate laws.
11. That in most cases the society shuns participation in law making processes on issues that have direct bearing on their lives.
12. That drug abuse which often leads to psychiatric cases has been identified as a societal menace that culminates into criminality, especially among the youths of our generation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the observations made above the Seminar therefore recommended that:-

1. Societal Re-orientation and family values should be institutionalized in the polity.
2. The authorities concerned should appropriately empower the relevant organs and traditional institutions to make them effective in check-mating or curtailing the excesses of provocative and unguarded preaching.
3. Multi-Cultural Education and dialogue should be encouraged at all levels of society to stimulate mutual trust, understanding and respect.
4. While preaching, clerics should consistently delve on the virtues of love for one another, tolerance, honesty and the fear of God.
5. The leadership should always lead by example by being just and imbibing the spirit of equity and fairness in all their dealings.
6. The society should recognise and celebrate hard work, competence and industry more rather than mere success and achievements alone.
7. Interactive sessions and joint meetings between the Islamic and Christians Clergies should be held at frequent and constant intervals, to cross fertilise ideas on gray areas that will snowball into concrete understanding which will translate into peaceful co-existence based on trust and unity among the Moslems and their Christians counterparts.
8. Based on its wide range of progressive programmes and activities, the Government of Bauchi State should upgrade the status of "Gyara Kayanka" to a Commission so as to accord it the necessary impetus to spread its tentacles across the State for maximum impact.
9. Discipline should be instilled in children at tender ages from homes, so as to enable them grow as responsible members of the society.
10. Population growth requires constant training and re-training of security and Law enforcement agents to conform with the prevailing situation in order to curb crime and criminal activities.
11. The society should get involved in legislative matters through active participation and involvement in all legislative processes that have direct bearings on them.
12. Parents should discourage their children and wards from associating with way-ward peer groups, while the authorities should take stringent measures against drugs dealers and their agents.
13. Gyara Kayanka activities should be introduced from the primary to tertiary levels with a view to guarding students against societal degeneration.

Signed:

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News Extra

Baby born with back-to-front knees

... Waiting months for specialist treatment

The family of a baby boy born with back-to-front KNEES said they were disgusted that he was still waiting for specialist treatment months after his birth.

Gabriell Camilleri-Nugent was born with hyperextended knees and bronchomalacia, meaning his lungs and airways are too small for him to breathe on his own.

A 20-week scan showed Gabriell's legs were doubled back near his head in the womb, instead of being curled up in the foetal position.

When he was born by caesarian section last December his shocked family said he looked 'like he was doing the splits' as his knee caps are effectively back to front.

Now aged six months, he has worn plaster casts on both legs since birth but he is still waiting to be transferred to a specialist hospital for treatment.

His grandmother, Carol, 50, said the youngster's health is being compromised by NHS bureaucracy.

The mother-of-five from Bedford, said: 'Gabriell is still in neonatal just lying in his cot. He has never been outside and we can only pick him up on a good day.'

'He has got lung problems and dislocated knees but we don't know if that's a particular syndrome because he has not been assessed since he was three weeks old.'

'Nobody wants to take control and the hospitals just kept moving the goal posts. We don't know when or where he can be treated because no one wants to take him.'

She added: 'The nurses have been wonderful and are backing us but officials are stopping him being treated. It's disgusting how the NHS is treating our children.'

When Gabriell's mother Shahna Camilleri, 17, gave birth in Bedford Hospital last December, doctors quickly realised he needed to be transferred to a specialist unit.

They sent him to the Royal Brompton Hospital in London, but at three weeks old and weighing just under 4lbs he was too weak for surgery.

So the youngster was transferred him to the Lister Hospital in Stevenage, Hertfordshire, to gain weight.

His parents were told he would go back to the Royal Brompton when he hit 7lbs, but although he achieved this aged three months in March, he is still waiting.

They said the Royal Brompton said he needed to be heavier still



GABRIELL is pictured in the neo-natal ward in Bedford Hospital. He looks like he is doing the splits because of his hyperextended knees

and they had no free beds.

Now aged six months, Gabriell remains in the neo-natal unit in Lister Hospital where they lack the specialist expertise to treat him.

Four weeks ago his family

breathe.

He also has dysmorphic features, wears plaster casts on both legs and contracted the E.coli virus twice and pneumonia once.

from family and friends to be able to see him.

'It's been awful for us. I haven't even been able to hold my own baby or feed him without a nurse being present.'

'Our focus now is to get him

Brompton Hospital, a specialist heart and lung centre, insisted they were not the best place to treat Gabriell's severe health problems.

She said: 'We have been in discussions with colleagues at Lister Hospital about the best treatment for baby Gabriell for some time.'

'Given Gabriell's complex medical condition and multiple organ problems we feel that he would be best cared for at a specialist centre that can treat all his needs.'

A spokesman for the Lister Hospital said Gabriell's needs are highly specialist and he is need of complex treatment.

He said: 'We are helping support him with breathing and developmental requirements but we don't have the specialism or resources to do more.'

'The actual treatment he needs has to be provided by a specialist centre like Great Ormond Street or Royal Brompton.'

“ A 20-week scan showed Gabriell's legs were doubled back near his head in the womb, instead of being curled up in the foetal position

were told he is third on the waiting list to be transferred to Great Ormond Street Hospital but were given no clues as to how long this could take.

Since birth, Gabriell has been permanently attached to a continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) machine to help him

His mother Shahna and father Connor Nugent, 17, who is training to be a football coach, said they felt let down by the NHS and frustrated with the delay in getting Gabriell to a specialist unit.

She said: 'I spend around eight hours day at the hospital, at least five days a week, and rely on lifts

into Great Ormond Street, that is the only hospital left that will be able to treat him.'

'After six months of him just being kept alive at Lister we just want to get him treated and given a proper diagnosis as we still have no idea what is wrong.'

A spokeswoman for Royal

News Extra

One big happy family

... Meet the world's tallest couple



KEISHA at a teachers training college in Jamaica

The people of Dagenham really look up to Wilco Van Kleef-Bolton and his lovely wife Keisha - for they are the TALLEST married couple in the world.

Wilco, 29, busts the tape at 7ft and 31-year-old Keisha's not far below at 6ft 5in in her flat shoes. And their kids look set to follow their giant footsteps.

The Guinness World Record holders have four-year-old son Lucas who's already the size of a seven-year-old and two-year-old sister Eva - 3ft and growing fast.

Shopping for clothes is the

family's biggest problem - even on the so-called HIGH streets of Essex! Even though 15-stone Keisha's torso is a svelte size 12, her legs stretch to 38 inches and she admits: "Finding stuff to fit can be a nightmare. I use normal women's dresses as shirts because they come up so short!

"But we both accepted our height years ago. There's not a lot you can do about it. Flying on budget airlines with no legroom is a problem too.

"And of course we get a lot of attention when we're out. But there are perks - I never have to use a stepladder to reach the top

shelf!"

Wilco works as a security guard at Barking and Dagenham College and often gets ribbed by students comparing him to England star Peter Crouch. "If only I could play football like him!" said Wilco.

"But being this size and 18½stone means it's no problem at all for me to pull two kids apart if they're fighting. And with 40-inch legs like this I can get there faster than anyone else.

"But of course I have to get my uniform custom-made. And finding a good pair of shoes that fit is really difficult."



LOVE GROWS: Wilco met Keisha through website



Wilco's size 15 feet means he has to order from specialist websites that cater for giant American basketball players. And Keisha admits other everyday tasks can be a pain.

"Our bedroom can only take a standard 6ft bed so our feet dangle off the end," she said. "We often clip our heads on door frames. And our Renault Megane's one of the few cars Wilco can drive without sticking his head out the

sun roof!"

So how did Keisha meet her perfect match? Fed-up looking daft with short guys on the dance floor she advertised for a lofty date on the Tall Persons Club website and Wilco replied: "I think I'll do!"

He told us: "When we met it truly was love at first sight." And he insists that's NOT a tall story...

Culled from newsoftheworld.com

CITY NEWS



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Ex-Kwali council boss accused of auctioning tractors at N200,000

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

THE Kwali Area Council Property/Audit Committee's Chairman, Alhaji Ibrahim K. Mijindadi, Thursday accused the immediate past acting chairman of the council, Saleh Yebo, of auctioning two trucks belonging to the council at N200,000.

Mijindadi stated this while presenting the committee's report to the council boss, Mr. Joseph Shazin.

He said the committee was not satisfied with the manner in which the tractors were sold, adding that the criteria used in the sales was not revealed.

The committee chairman also revealed that the tractors were auctioned without regards to financial regulations or rules.

"The auction committee members could not explain to us the criteria used in identifying unserviceable or scrap materials and we were equally surprised about the non-involvement of inventories of scrap materials for reference purpose and professionalism," he said.

He said those who auctioned the tractors could not produce any letter mandating them to carry out the assignment, adding that their recommendations will serve as a reference point in carrying out similar assignments in future.

The council chairman, Mr. Joseph Shazin, said the decision to set up the Audit Committee was due to the hasty manner in which the previous administration disposed of the council's property as soon as the new administration was elected and thanked the committee for doing a good job.

INEC driver knocks down teenage girl

By Ogechi Ohalee

A 12-year-old girl was on Saturday afternoon knocked down by a Peugeot 406 car with registration number GG 464 ABC that was driven by James Anekwe, a driver with the Independent National

Electoral Commission (INEC).

According to an eye witness, Mr. Jonas Emeka Agbolu, the driver hit the girl near Idu market and did not stop until his vehicle was blocked, which prompted him to return to the accident scene to see the victim.

The driver however disclosed that he did not know that he hit someone and only knew when his car was blocked by another car.

The victim, who appeared seriously in pains had blood gushing from her nose and could not stand or speak.

Reacting, Karmo Divisional Police Officer, Mr John Ali Zongo, described the incident as unfortunate and blamed it on reckless driving.

"The police have taken the girl to the hospital and she is responding to treatment," he said.

Karmo police recover CCECC's stolen iron rods

By Ogechi Ohalee

THE police at Karmo Police Station at the weekend recovered stolen iron rods worth millions of dollars during a 'stop and search' operation.

An eye witness, who said the incident occurred at 1 am, said the truck with registration number XN 343 BDG zoomed passed the check point, which made the policemen on duty to chase after the vehicle.

"The truck was driven close to a bush at Dei-Dei, where the occupants fled into abandoning the vehicle, he said.

He said when the police opened the truck, they discovered imported rods worth millions of dollars.

The eyewitness said the management of CCECC has been looking for the rods before it was discovered by Karimo police.

When contacted, Umar Yahaya, a personnel officer with CCECC, said two security personnel in the company confessed that they sold the iron rods to some men who came with a truck for N80,000.

"Fortunately for us, Karimo policemen recovered the rods and the two security men have been arrested by the police and investigation on-going.



THE truck arrested with stolen iron rods by Karimo police officers.

He said the Karimo divisional police officer has asked the company to bring proof of ownership for the rods before they can be released to them.

The accused security men corroborated what the personnel officer said and blamed the devil for their action, adding that they shared the money equally.

When contacted, Karimo Divisional Police Officer, Mr John Ali Zongo, declined to comment and referred our reporter to the FCT Police Command for details.

Minor flogged for hawking in Abuja

By Usman A. Bello & Romoke W. Ahmad

THE Abuja Environmental Protection Board's (AEPB) Mobile Court last Friday ordered that a minor be given six strokes of the cane for hawking on the streets of Abuja.

The court also sentenced 18 hawkers to one month imprisonment for violating environmental laws.

Kabiru Daliru 22, Nura Abdul 22, Uko Helen 22, Jeffrey Obas 47, Musa Zainab 24, Patient Ugwu 26, Henrietta Eyeye 30, Peter Ane 20, Peace Peter 27, Usman Abubakar 25, Bridget Atume 22, Patience Bose 19, Queen Ekperio 28, Emmanuel

Satiy 18, Amodu Yakubu 22, Saradu Lawal and Paul Unwar 22 were however given fine options ranging from N3,000 to N4,000 depending on the offences.

Prosecuting Counsel, Barrister Eze O.Eze told the court that the on June 2, the accused persons were caught by AEPB's task force officials hawking, selling and displaying articles of trade at various junctions as well as unauthorized places within the city.

He said their offences are punishable under Section 31 (1d & 6) of AEPB's Act number 10 of 1997.

The accused persons pleaded

guilty to the charges and begged for leniency, promising to desist from hawking.

Magistrate Aminu Abdullahi sentenced them to one month imprisonment each or to pay fines in the alternative.

After the ruling, the Special Adviser to the AEPB's Director on Security Matters, Titus Ndawa called on parents to desist from sending their children to hawk in the streets of the city.

He said the children are supposed to be in school instead of hawking, adding that some of them have been knocked down by vehicles.

Tomato price skyrockets in Abuja markets

By Ogechi Ohalee

THE price of tomato in most markets in the Abuja has increased by N100 which has resulted in the increased demand for tin tomatoes.

In a survey conducted by our reporter at Dei-Dei, Wuse, Nyanya and Karu markets, a small bowl of tomatoes that used to sell for N100 now goes for N200.

Some women not pleased with the increased prices were seen buying other alternatives such as tin tomato as they complained of the high prices.

At Dei-Dei Tomato Market, a seller, Mallam Abdullahi blamed the increase on the rainy season.

"During the rainy season, the price of tomato rises because the product is scarce," he said.

APPRECIATION

On behalf of myself, the Government and good people of Bauchi State, I wish to convey my sincere gratitude and appreciation to His Excellency, Dr. Goodluck Jonathan GCFR President and Commander In-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for sending our amiable Vice President Arc. Muhammad Namadi Samba GCON to represent him on a one-day State visit to Bauchi State where he commissioned a number of Development Projects executed by the State and Federal Governments in the State on Saturday 3rd July, 2010.

My gratitude also goes to my fellow governors who attended the occasion. They include His Excellency the Executive Governor of Kaduna- Mr. Parick Ibrahim Yakowa, Sokoto- Alh. Magatakarda Wamako, Kebbi- Alh. Saidu Nasamu Dakingari, Kogi- Alh. Ibrahim Idris, Borno- Sen. Ali Modu Sharif and Taraba Mr. Danbaba Suntai as well as the deputy Governors of Gombe, Zamfara, Kano, Niger Katsina and Nasarawa States who physically graced the occasion despite their tight schedule.

Equally worthy of my appreciation are the members of the National Assembly in the persons of His Excellency Alh Usman Bayero Nafada deputy Speaker House of Representatives who represented the Speaker of the Low Chamber, others are Distinguished Senators Mainamaji Lawal, Bukar Abba Ibrahim, Sulaiman Nazif Gamawa and Hon. Members of House of Representatives Abdul Ahmed Ningi and Mustapha Ahmed who attended the occasion, the Secretary to the Government of the Federation Alh. Mahmoud Yayale Ahmed, Honourable Minister of Special Duties and Minister of State (In-

terior) who came to rejoice with us on the momentous occasion. I also extend my appreciation to the National, Zonal and State PDP and other Political Party Stalwarts, representative of the Chief of Army Staff, the Inspector General of Police, Comptroller Generals of Custom, Immigration, Prison and Nigerian Civil Defence Corps. I cannot forget to thank our respected Hon. members of Bauchi State House of Assembly, members of the Bauchi State Council of Emirs and other Traditional Title holders who stood by us during the visit. Worthy of commendation are the Chairman of the Central Working Committee on the Presidential visit who is also the State Deputy Governor Alhaji Babayo Garba Gamawa and members of his Committee who include the SSG, HOS and other members of the State Executive Council for organising a hitch-free and successful ceremony and many other important dignitaries too numerous to mention.

I am most grateful to the good people of Bauchi State for the rousing reception accorded to Mr. President. This is a clear testimony of your unflinching support to the efforts we are putting to improve the living standard of our people. With the prevent hope that Almighty Allah has returned each and every one of you safely to your various and respective destinations. May the Allah reward you all abundantly.

Long Live Bauchi State!

Long Live The Federal Republic of Nigeria!

**MALAM (DR) ISA YUGUDA, FNIM
(MATAWALLEN BAUCHI)
GOVERNOR**

AMAC to sanitise Utako Market

By Usman A. Bello

THE Chairman of Abuja Municipal Area Council, Micah Jiba, has said that the council will sanitise Utako Market to ensure orderliness.

Jiba said on Thursday the clean-up exercise became necessary because it has been discovered that shanties, batchers, indiscriminate disposal of waste as well as tampering of sewage and water lines exist in the place.

He warned the market management to desist from illegal allotment of spaces to traders, saying that the council will partner with the Abuja Environmental Protection Board (AEPB) to find lasting solutions

to the market's problem.

The council boss disclosed that the council will also sanitize the Utako Motor Park to ensure orderliness in the park, so as to serve the residents better.

He disclosed that the council

has approved the purchase of two pay-loaders to enhance waste collection and disposal in the council, adding that the vehicles were part of his campaign promises to make the city clean.

PIC: HUSSEIN YAHAYA



FROM left: Representative of the Chief Imam of Abuja, Malam Shehu Usman Muhammad, Chief Imam of Kado Estate Juma'at Mosque, Dr Sulaiman Gumi and Director-General Islamic Peace & Development Initiative (IPDI), Dr Bashir I. Mohammed, at the 5th FCT Imams Seminar in Abuja yesterday.

Imams urged to preach unity

By Hussein Yahaya

THE Chief Imam of Abuja, Ustad Musa Muhammad yesterday called on imams in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) to always preach unity in their sermons in order to ensure peaceful and harmonious co-existence among residents of the territory.

He made the call in a paper delivered at a seminar organised by the Committee of FCT Imams (CFI) for all imams of Jumat Mosques in the territory.

Imam Muhammad, whose paper touched on the importance of unity between Aimmah stressed on the need for imams to work together as a team in the interest of the Muslim Ummah and the country in general.

The chief imam, who was represented by Shehu Usman Muhammad, said education is very important in Islam and advised imams to continue to seek Islamic knowledge for constant updating.

Also in a paper titled "The best way to be a successful Imam", the Chief Imam of Kado Estate Central Mosque, Sulaiman Gumi

urged all imams to always fear Allah in all their activities in order to set good examples for their followers.

"Imams must therefore exhibit exemplary leadership and strictly follow what the Prophet preached in order for them to be good role models for the entire humanities," he said.

Earlier in his opening remarks, the Chief Imam of Wuse Zone 3 Central Mosque, Imam Tajudeen M.B. Adigun, said the seminar is aimed at creating awareness for the Imams on the need to always update their knowledge and make their sermons current and relevant to what is going on in the society.

He stressed the need for Imams to be constantly reminded on the need to preach unity among Muslims, adding that the seminar is the fifth edition apart from regular internal meetings among the Imams.

Earlier, the FCT Minister's representative, Mallam Bashir Mohammed, commended the organisers of the event and said what was learnt will go a long way to foster unity among the Muslims.

Advertorial

WHO WANTS TO DESTROY A.B.U.?

As brilliantly envisaged by its first Chancellor, the late Sir Ahmadu Bello, the Sardauna of Sokoto, the Ahmadu Bello University Zaria, was established to "impart knowledge and learning to men and women of all races without any discrimination on the grounds of race, religion or political beliefs." Almost half a century later there is no doubt that the Sardauna's vision has indeed become a reality. There is hardly a local government in Nigeria without an alumnus or a student currently attending the university. Deservedly, therefore, among the first generation universities, ABU has established a reputation for itself as the only truly pan-Nigerian university, with a vibrant mix of staff and students drawn from all parts of Nigeria and indeed the world. Our alumni are to be found in all corners of the globe.

When ABU was established there were only four other universities in Nigeria. Now there are over 100 universities and still counting. Not only did ABU help to nurture some of the younger universities, those universities have nurtured younger ones of their own. ABU is therefore a kind of grandmother among Nigerian universities. As a consequence, those among us who are concerned that ABU should continue to maintain its standards for which it has become famous, are beginning to ask if ABU should not redefine, or at least refocus, its mission. As a first generation university, it should become a trainer of trainers for the younger universities.

ABU in short needs the kind of overhaul it went through in 1975. With the potential sources of support from FGN - financed projects by NUC, ETF and by several donor agencies, it is highly possible to transform ABU into a first class apex university. The real challenge for ABU however comes from the ascension of negative tendencies which threaten the university's harmony and which, if left unchecked, will destroy all that ABU stands for, unleashing conflicts that might affect the whole of Nigeria. In fact the spirit and letter behind the establishment of Ahmadu Bello University has been so crudely violated in recent times that it is in the best interest of the FGN, the University's other stakeholders and well wishers to intervene now before the situation degenerates and our dear country and institution are plunged into another needless ethno-religious conflict with all its implications.

ABU is in a state of limbo because of poor leadership based on the role of vested interests whose ascendancy in the University has made it virtually impossible in the last one year to come up with a credible candidate as Vice Chancellor. Even after the selection of Professor Abdullahi Mustapha by a Council dominated by vested interests, it is clear as the Hausas say that "akwai sauran rina a kaba". After announcing him as Vice Chancellor the council still found it necessary to constitute a fact-finding committee to, among others, investigate "the direct and remote causes of the seeming division within the university community and proffer solutions". How strange that an intelligent community has been reduced to the lowest common denominator! ABU has never witnessed a more blatant attempt at legitimization like this one.

In our view, the Federal Government of Nigeria is partly to blame for the on-going crisis. The central problem continues to be the composition of ABU's Governing Council. When cunning men pass for wise, there is bound to be a crisis. Is the Federal Government trying to

say that there is a dearth of men cast in the heroic mould of the Pro-Chancellors of old such as Mai Bedde Umar Sulaiman, Chief Obafemi Awolowo, Etsu Nupe Umaru-Sanda Ndayako, Chief S.B. Awoniyi, Sir Arthur Mbanefo, to mention but a few?

There were equally powerful, decent and credible members of Council appointed by Government. It was these men and women who gave ABU the leadership guidance it needed for development. After all if the intention had been to establish a local University to serve parochial interest, the Sardauna would have settled for his kinsmen rather than Sir Norman Alexander as its first Vice Chancellor. In the same vein, the then Governing Council would not have appointed the late Professor Ishaya Audu because he was a Christian. All this is now gone and in place of it ABU has been left with very weak Councils, especially in the last 8 years, which operate on the basis of vested interests and in violation of some of the laws and procedures that are good for the management of the University.

The situation in the crisis prone university is currently compounded by a flawed process of selection of Vice Chancellor characterized by several violations which include:

1. The deliberate implementation by the management of the University of the provision for electing Congregation to Senate. Instead of electing 30% of ex-officio members, 30% of the whole Senate was elected. The elections into the illegally expanded vacancies from Congregation to Senate were entirely conducted on ethnic and religious basis. If this trend is not halted, it will lead to disharmony and confrontation whose consequences are difficult to contemplate. Yet this possibility is ignored or played down!
2. The election of Graduate Assistants who by law are not examiners and other Staff-In-Training to Senate in utter disregard of the law and of Government Whitepapers from Visitation Panel Reports on the matter. Yet this was done in a University with over 200 Professors, 100 Readers and 250 Senior Lecturers! Nobody in Government, NUC or Council is worried that over 500 Senior Academicians of all tribes, nationalities and faiths are set aside and very junior faith-based militants are pushed into the highest organ of University management. Yet Council, NUC, Ministry of Education and Government loudly talk about standards, academic leadership, etc. when in practice they violate them in order to appease destructive vested interests within and outside the university. This is double standards by a Government some of whose functionaries are ABU alumni.
3. The appointment by Council of a Vice Chancellor at the age of 63 when the mandatory retirement age for academics is 65 and whose own guidelines (flawed as they were) had stated that anyone who would be 65 before the expiration of the five-year tenure was disqualified. According to an establishment Circular, a person who is interested in an office whose term exceeds his/her retirement time, can do so if he/she retires before applying for the office. There is no evidence that this was done in ABU. Professor

Mustapha, the current 63 years old Vice Chancellor did not even apply at all. He was searched two weeks after the deadline for application to the post. Why he was not screened out by the Council and the Selection Board in which the Federal Ministry of Education is represented is quite puzzling?

4. The disregard of several Court cases on the matter even when both parties were required not to act pending the hearing of the motions in service! This was done by a Council in which the Federal Ministry of Education is represented and under a Government that claims fidelity to the rule of law!

The violations referred to above raise the important question of Government's own sincerity about its motives. Why should there be two different laws for similar situations - one in *Shari'ah* and the other in *Zaria*? Which vested interests are Government and the Council serving? Who indeed is interested in creating chaos and destruction in ABU? Where are the large influential ABU alumni many of whom are in various branches of Government? Is it now in their own interest that their alma-mata should be dismembered block by block by mercenaries donning the explosive garb of religion and ethnicity? Who wants to destroy the great legacy of the North in the name of the North?

Setting up a 'fact finding' committee is not a solution to the problem. The facts are known and they are about violations and self-interest. Most members of the committee are themselves deeply involved in the problem. The truth is that the Federal Government of Nigeria has looked the other way when those it entrusted with running the affairs of ABU violate the laws and procedures set by Government. Thus, instead of halting the drift, the Federal Ministry of Education has also turned the other way to allow those who created the mess to handle it as they deem fit. But there will be no peace, stability or productivity in ABU unless the violations are reversed and the University is overhauled. To start this process of doing the right thing, the following minimum ways forward should be implemented:

- ✓ Government should, as a matter of urgency, dissolve the Governing Council of ABU and reconstitute a befitting Council.
- ✓ The Council so constituted should rectify the violations of the university law, including those relating to the elections from Congregation to Senate and Council and procedures for the appointment of the Vice Chancellor.
- ✓ Government should direct the Ministry of Education to, as it did in the case of University of Lagos, act through the reconstituted Council to withdraw the appointment of Professor Abdullahi Mustapha because he is appointed at the age of 63 and in violation of Establishment procedures.

Signed:
Dr. Mohammed S. Usman
On behalf of Concerned Stakeholders.
Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.



INVITATION FOR BIDS



FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT GIRLS COLLEGE, OWERRI

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION
POST BASIC (STEP-B) PROJECT

PROCUREMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNICAL
EQUIPMENT AND
INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Credit NO: 4304
Issuance Date: 5th July, 2010

1. This invitation for bids follows the general procurement notice for this project that appeared in Development Business NO: 591 of 2nd July, 2007.

2. The Federal Republic of Nigeria has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of Science and Technology Education Post Basic (STEP-B) project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the contract for the procurement of Science and Technical Equipment and Instructional Materials **IFB NO: STEP-B/FGGC/OW/NCB/GDS/01/2010**.

3. The Science and Technology Education Post Basic (STEP-B) Project, Federal Government Girls College, Owerri now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the procurement of the following:

Lot NO	Description	Qty	Bid Security	Bid Validity	Delivery Period	Delivery Location
1	Procurement and Installation of Science and Technical Furniture/Fittings	Various	2.5%	90 days	60 days	FGGC Owerri
2	Procurement of Science and Technical Equipment	Various	2.5%	90 days	60 days	FGGC Owerri
3	Procurement of Chemical and Reagents	Various	2.5%	90 days	60 days	FGGC Owerri
4	Procurement of Science and Technical Text Books and Instructional Materials	Various	2.5%	90 days	60 days	FGGC Owerri

4. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits, and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines.

5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from: **Science and Technology Education Post Basic (STEP-B) Project, Federal Government Girls College Owerri** and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from 0800 hrs – 1600 hrs daily, Mondays to Fridays, except public holidays.

6. Qualification Requirements include:

- I. Evidence of previous supply (sale) of similar equipment for the past five years.
- II. Audited financial statements for the last three years.
- III. Evidence of registration with appropriate/relevant government agency

7. A complete set of bidding documents in **English Language** may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **N10,000** (Ten Thousand Naira Only). The method of payment will be **Certified Bank Draft in favor of Science and Technology Education Post Basic (STEP-B) Project, Federal Government Girls College Owerri**. The Bidding document will be collected by hand or courier service on request.

8. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 1200 hrs, Wednesday, 4th August, 2010. All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of Two and a half percent (2.5%) of the bid price in Naira or its equivalent in a freely convertible currency from a reputable Commercial Bank. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representative who choose to attend at the address below at 1200 hrs, Wednesday 4th August, 2010.

9. Bidders may bid for one or more complete lots as award will be based on individual lots. Any bid submitted for incomplete lots will be declared non-responsive.

The address referred to above is:-

**The Project Manager,
Science and Technology Education Post-Basic (STEP) Project
Federal Government Girls College Owerri,
Imo State.**

Telephone: 08032650841

E-Mail: stepbfggcowerri@yahoo.com



NASARAWA STATE UNIVERSITY, KEFFI

INVITATION FOR PRE- QUALIFICATION OF CONSULTANTS

1. Introduction

Nasarawa State University is desirous of inviting competent and interested Consultants Firms for prequalification in areas of Architecture, Engineering, Quantity Surveying and Project Management for the proposed ETF Projects in the University.

2. PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Interested Consultancy Firms should submit the following information in one booklet arranged in the following order:

- a. Certificate of incorporation by the Corporate Affairs Commission
- b. Evidence of Registration of firm with appropriate professional bodies.
- c. Company Profile, giving details of technical and administrative staff with evidence of their qualifications
- d. List of projects supervised within the last (5) years, including letters of commission
- e. Reference to three (3) major projects giving names, addresses and telephone numbers of contact person from the client.
- f. Evidence of current registration with the Nasarawa State University, Keffi. Firms not yet registered are still eligible to do so.
- g. Copy of current Tax Clearance Certification for (3) three years.
- h. VAT Registration Certificate and Evidence of Remittances.
- i. Company Audited Account.

3. SUBMISSION

The pre-qualification documents must be submitted and marked in a sealed envelope addressed to:

The Registrar, Nasarawa State University, Keffi, P.M.B. 1022, Keffi, Nasarawa State not later than two (2) weeks from the date of this advert.

Alh. Dalhatu O Mamman FICEN
Registrar



**NIGER STATE GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA
WORLD BANK ASSISTED STATE GOVERNANCE
AND CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT 2**

VACANCY

Project Coordinator

Niger State is a beneficiary of the World Bank Assisted State Capacity Building project 2 (SGCBP2) under the coordination of the Federal Ministry of Finance. Niger State Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning wishes to invite applications for the position of a Project Coordinator (PC). Applications are therefore requested from interested and qualified candidates for the position. The PC will be appointed on full time basis through a competitive process.

Project Description

The objective of the project is to improve transparency, accountability and quality in Public Financial Management and Human Resource Management systems with a view to strengthening governance in the State. The Project activities will include:

- Carrying out analytical work to review Public Expenditure Management and Financial Accountability, Procurement and Fiscal Responsibility Reforms, Accounting and Financial Reporting and Audit; and
- Capacity Building for Agencies responsible for Public Financial Management and Procurement in the State and putting in place legal frameworks for procurement and Public Finance in the State.

Qualification And Experience

Applicants should possess a minimum of a Second Class Honours Degree in Social Sciences with not less than 10 years post qualification experience or post graduate degree with eight years of working experience. 3-4 years cognate experience in Project Management would be essential and knowledge and experience in Managing World Bank Projects and similar records would be an advantage.

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Responsibilities of the PC will include, inter alia:

- The PC will be the Head of the State Project Coordinating Unit (SPCU) to be located in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Department of Budget and Planning.
- The PC/SPCU will be responsible for the day to day management and oversight of the project and ensuring effective and efficient project implementation to achieve the project development objectives. These will include:
 - Ensuring compliance with guidelines and procedures of IDA/World Bank
 - Liaising and working with the Project Financial Management Unit (PFMU), State Steering Committee (SSC), the National Project Coordinating Unit and IDA/World Bank task team to ensure successful project implementation;
 - Provision of technical support to the implementing Ministries/Agencies.
- Preparation of Annual work and Procurement Plans and quarterly reports to the National Project Coordinating Unit (NPCU), and the SSC;
- Responsible for overall coordination of the project;
- Provide secretariat for the State Steering Committee (SSC);
- Supervise and guide project staff.
- The PC will report to the Commissioner of Finance and Economic Planning through the Permanent Secretary Budget and Planning, the SSC and the NPCU in accordance with the provision of the project implementation manual and appraisal documents.

REMUNERATION

Salaries are attractive and negotiable.

Method and Submission of Application

Application should be addressed to the Honourable Commissioner, Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Abdulkareem Lafene secretariat, Paiko road Minna, Niger State. The deadline for submission of application which should be in decuple (10 copies) is two weeks from the date of this publication. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Signed:
Permanent Secretary
(Department of Budget and Planning)



**NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RESEARCH
(NISER), IBADAN**

STAKEHOLDERS' FORUM ON EFFECTIVE BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION IN NIGERIA

NISER has just completed a study on the constraints and opportunities for effective implementation of the 2010 budget across the 6 geo-political zones of the country. To disseminate the findings of the study and gather inputs for the finalization of policy measures to address the monumental implementation challenges in the budget system, a forum of stakeholders is being organized in three locations as follows:

Zone	States	Location of Forum	Date
NorthWest & NorthEast	Kaduna, Katsina, Kano, Jigawa, Kebbi, Sokoto, Zamfara, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Yobe, Adamawa, Taraba	Aso Hotel, Muhammadu Buhari Way, former Walf Road, Kaduna	July 5-7, 2010
SouthSouth & SouthEast	Edo, Delta, Bayelsa, Rivers, Akwa Ibom, Cross River, Imo, Anambra, Enugu, Abia, Ebonyi	Metropolitan Hotel, Ibiuniala Ibrahimmed Way, Calabar	July 14-16, 2010
North Central & SouthWest	Kwara, Kogi, Niger, Benue, Plateau, Nassarawa, Oyo, Ogun, Ondo, Osun, Ekiti, Lagos	Hallins Hotel & Towers, 6 A & B G-inaja Junction, Lokoja, Kogi State	July 27-29, 2010

In view of the development importance of this forum, each State is expected to sponsor 6 participants for the specified period. They are to be selected from the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Economic Planning and Budget, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Housing and Environment. There is no participation fee other than the subsistence and transportation costs to be borne by each state to ensure effective representation by their delegate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

PROF. S. TUNJI AKANDE
DIRECTOR- GENERAL
0805-774-0789

PROF. ADE S. OLOMOLA
COORDINATOR
0808-613-2535



**FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA
CROSS RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
MURTALA MOHAMED HIGHWAY, PMB 1248, CALABAR, CROSS RIVER STATE**

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OPENING OF TECHNICAL BIDS FOR THE EXECUTION OF CAPITAL PROJECTS IN THE 2010 APPROPRIATION

The Honourable Minister of Water Resources has approved the opening of Technical Bids suspended on 10th June, 2010 in consequence of the Federal Government decision on budget reduction.

All Contractors/Consultants who had earlier submitted their Technical/Financial Bids for the implementation of 2010 Capital Projects of the Cross River Basin Development Authority are hereby invited for the opening of the Technical Bids as scheduled below:

Date: Thursday, 8th July, 2010

Time: 10:00am

Venue: Conference Centre, Cross River Basin Development Authority, Calabar

The outcome of the Technical Evaluation shall be published ahead of the opening of the Financial Bids.

Signed:
ENGR. N. D. MADU FNSE
AG. MANAGING DIRECTOR

DAMINA 2010**CRD
CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND
DOCUMENTATION, KANO****CALL FOR PROPOSALS****2010 RESEARCH TRAINING WORKSHOP (DAMINA SCHOOL)**

Theme: "Poverty in Nigeria: the Most Challenging of the Millennium Development Goals."

The CRD is a registered, independent research organisation dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge and academic capacity building in Nigeria. Every year, CRD organises a Research Training Workshop (Damina School) that brings together about 25 Graduate Students around a particular theme for a period of two weeks. This year's theme for the Damina School is "Poverty in Nigeria: the most Challenging of the Millennium Development Goals."

Workshop Objectives:

The 2010 Damina School involves identifying and interpreting structural and institutional challenges associated with the studying of poverty and its eradication; group agitations and social upheavals engendered by neo-liberal economic reforms. The Workshop aims to:

- * Explore theoretical and methodological orientations relating to the theme;
- * Develop participants' analytical skills in the study of poverty and economic reforms;
- * Sharpen the advocacy skills of researcher/activists in campaigning for the eradication poverty;
- * Expose participants to scholars working in their fields of research;
- * Provide participants with current literature in their areas of focus; and
- * Nurture the writing skills required in postgraduate research.

Eligibility:

The Damina School is open to post-graduate students undertaking Master's and Doctoral studies in the social sciences and humanities. The CRD particularly encourages applications from women.

A letter of application should be submitted along with:

- A one-page academic resume and photocopies of certificates;
- 5 Copies of Research proposal (M.A., M. Sc., M.Phil. and Ph.D.) outlining theoretical framework, methodology, scope and objectives;
- A copy of the candidate's admission letter for postgraduate studies;
- Letter from the thesis supervisors and/or HOD supporting the application; and
- Email, Telephone or Fax number for easy contact.

The workshop will take place from 20th to 30th September, 2010. Applications should reach the CRD not later than 30th July 2010. Please note that applications sent by email or fax and incomplete applications will not be considered. Successful candidates will be notified by 20th August 2010, at the latest.

Applications should be addressed to:

The Coordinator, 2010 Research Training Workshop (Damina School), Centre for Research and Documentation (CRD), 29A Sokoto Road, Nassarawa GRA, P.O. Box 72, Kano, Nigeria

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON DRUGS, NARCOTICS
AND FINANCIAL CRIMES AND JUSTICE

Cordially Invites

**The General Public and All Stakeholders
to Public Hearing**

On

MONEY LAUNDERING, (PROHIBITION) Bill 2010 (HB.391)

A bill for an act to repeal the money laundering (prohibition) Act, 2004 and enact the money laundering (prohibition) for related matters;

And

**PREVENTION OF TERRORISM Bill
2009 (HB.322)**

A bill for an act to provide for measures to combat terrorism and for related matters.

Date: Wednesday, 7th July 2010
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Venue: Conference Room 2.31; 2nd Floor, House of Representatives (New Building), National Assembly Complex, Abuja.

All written Memoranda on any of the Bills should be submitted in twenty (20) copies to the Secretariat of the Joint Committee in Committee Room 5 (White House), House of Representatives, National Assembly complex.

**For further enquiries please contact the
Committee Clerk on
telephone No. 08083334373.**

Signed
Hon. Dr. Rabe Nasir
Committee Chairman

TRUST CLASSIFIED

UKWUANI YOUNG GENERATION ASSOCIATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act no. 1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Mr. Sunday Sylvester Oise- Chairman
2. Mr. Chukwunaku Isaac Eke- Secretary
3. Mr. Batholomew Adoh- Member
4. Mr. Jerome Omode

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To promote and articulate the interest and well being of every Ukwuani youth and the entire Ukwuani nation
2. To educate and conscientise the less privileged in Ukwuani nation

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

SIGNED:

Clem- Stands Chambers
08035882174

BRIDGE THE GAP FOUNDATION FOR THE LESS-PRIVILEGED

This is to notify the general public that the above named Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act CAP 59, Laws of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Hauwa Ibrahim
2. Onaolapo Joel Oluwoji
3. Shehu Awwal Maimuna

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- a. To Raise awareness among the less privileged as to how hard-work, skill and education can bring success.
- b. To provide encouragement to the less-privileged and unemployed youth as how to realize their dreams & ambitions through skill acquisition, employment and hard-work.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Maitama Abuja within 28 day of this publication

Signed

Barrister Saleh Musa
08037882708

CIVIL CHAPLAIN AND PEACE SQUAD MISSION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named organisation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Pastor Nanmwa Banda Rindaps
2. Apostle Ayuba Reaper Parah
3. Dr. Kafewo Joseph
4. Sis. Joyce Yachit Inji
5. Elder Dale Onifade Jacob

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To serve as a training ground in raising men and women of integrity to the service of humanity with godly fear and reverence.
2. To train and commission Chaplains and pastors to serve as Chaplain officers as well as volunteers in every and any area of the society both locally and internationally.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:

Secretary
Mngohof Adeniyi
Legal Practitioner

GOSPEL OF CHRIST REVIVAL MINISTRY

The general public is hereby notified that the above named organisation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Evangelist Emmanuel Usman
2. Justice daniel Danjuma Longji
3. Rev. Canon (Prof.) Emmanuel Bayode Ajulo
4. Mrs. Bosede Usman
5. Mr. Musa Emmanuel Umar
6. Mr. David Garba
7. Mr. Ademola Adabayo Olatire

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. Raise and train men for the preaching of the gospel of Christ
2. Aid, strengthen, encourage and inspire the body of Christ to promote church revival and unity.
3. Reach out to the un-reached people everywhere with the gospel of Christ through mission and evangelistic activities

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:

J.D Dafe Esq.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

The general public is hereby informed of the underlisted missing documents belonging to ABIMBOLA ONABANJO respectively:

- 1- Receipt of allocation paper of plot 503 with no. OG1720 in Cadastral Zone FO2 of Bwari, Abuja.
- 2- Original allocation papers of plot no. 661A with file no. OG133, in phase AA4 Layout at Kuje Area Council, Abuja.

All efforts to trace the missing documents proved abortive. If found please return to the nearest police station. AGIS and FCDA take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to notify the general public of the loss of the original re-certification and re-issuance of C of Acknowledgement with file No. FCT/BZTP/LA/KN/2001/490 Plot No. 171 in Cadastral Zone 07 to 05 within BAC, FCT Abuja a total area 430.59sqm belonging to Alhaji Sheikh L. Abubakar. All efforts to trace the document proved abortive. If found please return to the nearest police station.

GAZELLE LOVE & HOPE FOUNDATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named initiative has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under part C of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No.1 of 1990.

The trustees are:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Pharm. Mrs. May Ohaedoghasi | 2. Mrs. Meg Okudolo |
| 3. Mrs. Angie Nwelih | 4. Barr. Sunday Ani |
| 5. Miss Ogome Rita Ohaedoghasi | |
| 6. Pharm. Mrs Veronica Idowu Panox | |
| 7. Mr. Ike Momah | 8. Chief Innocent Anoliefo |

The objectives are:

1. To build character into the lives of the youths and enjoin adults to make it a priority in all aspects of life.
 2. To promote bond of love and friendship within the family set up.
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, plot 565, Ndola Square, Wuse Zone 5, P.M.B. 198, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

Signed: Sally Odianah
SCRIBES & LEGALS

08023229785, 09035463185, 07928100785

VIBRANT FRIENDS ASSOCIATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named organisation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| 1. Gyang Iliya | Chairman |
| 2. Nengak Ishaya | Secretary |
| 3. Ardo musa | Member |
| 4. Alexander Daniel | P.R.O |

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To foster unity among members.
2. To protect the interest of members
3. To partner with government and other NGOs in order to better the lives of members.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General Corporate Affairs Commission, Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

Signed:
Secretary

LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL, MULTIPLE DISTRICT 404 NIGERIA

This is to inform the general public that the above named Club has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and allied matters act no. 1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1. Mr. Akintola Williams | 2. Mr. Ola Vincent |
| 3. Engr. Kola Adeyemo | 4. Engr. Hameed Oluogbenga Babajide Lawal |
| 5. Elder Walter Akpana | 6. Chief Bassay Edem |

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To organize charter and supervise service clubs to be known as LIONS Clubs.
2. To coordinate the activities and standardize the administration of Lions Clubs.
3. To create and foster a spirit of understanding among the peoples of the world.
4. To promote the principles of good government and good citizenship.
5. To take an active interest in the civic, cultural social and moral welfare of the community.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

SIGNED:

Barr. Chikwendu Vivian
No. 17 Uyo Crescent Area II, Abuja

NEXT GENERATION CHILDREN FOUNDATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and allied matters act no. 1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Majirola Shote | 2. Kehinde Shote |
| 3. Adedayo Sonubi | 4. Simon Adegbenro |
| 5. Oluola Adewole | 6. Out Etuk |

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To ensure the next generation of Nigeria children are properly catered for and brought up in schools that are well structured with adequate teachers training programme and a well balanced feed scheme.
2. To install electronics in schools, that is, computers, video and audio player are conditioners, that will further produce a good learning environment.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight (28) days from the date of this publication.

SIGNED:

Lekan Ogunleye Esq.

CHANGE OF NAME

I formerly called SENAM MARKUS VITALIS wish to be called SENAM PAUL BETHUEL. Former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

I, formerly GARBA USMAN, now wish to be called as IBRAHIM ADAMU GARBA. All former documents remain valid SPHDA and public should take note.

I formerly known as MISS FELICIA AVOSAH AROKE. Now wish to be known as MRS ABDUL-MUMIN FARIDAT. All former documents remain valid. NYSC, and public take note.

I formerly known as MISS OKEDIRAN VICTORIA ADENIKE. Now wish to be known as MRS DAIRO VICTORIA ADENIKE. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, FORMERLY KNOWN AS HADJIA AOLAT ADERONKE HASSAN NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESSED HENCEFORTH AS MRS. HADJIA AOLAT ADERONKE ODUSOGA. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. NIGERIAN IMMIGRATION SERVICES, FOREIGN EMBASSIES AND GENERAL PUBLIC TO NOTE.

I, formerly known as MISS KABADON SOLOMON now wish to be known as MRS. KABADON VICTOR AKOGWU. All former documents remain valid. The general public to take note.

I, formerly known as MISS YIPIYA MIWA now wish to be known as MRS YIPIYA EMMANUEL AMANCHI. Former documents remain valid. NYSC and the general public should take note.

I, formerly known as MISS EZE ONYEKACHUKWU MIRACLE now wish to be known as MRS. OKEKE ONYEKACHUKWUMIRACLE. Former documents remain valid NYSC and the general public should take note.

I formerly known as MISS NANKLING MAXWELL DAKUR now wish to be known as MRS. NANKLING NANFWANG GUNAT. Former documents remain valid. NYSC and the general public to take note.

I, formerly known as CHRISTIANA OBADIA ALLU now wish to be known as HAFSAT OBADIA ALLU. All former documents remain valid. The general public should take note.

I FORMERLY KNOWN AS MISS UDEAGBARA EZINNE IMMACULATE NOW WISH TO BE CALLED MRS NNAJI EZINNE IMMACULATE ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID.FUTO,NYSC AND GENERAL PUBLIC TO NOTE.

I FORMERLY KNOWN AS MISS SUMAYYA SHEHU MUSAWA NOW WISH TO BE CALLED AS MRS SUMAYYA SHEHU MUSAWA ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID.NYSC AND GENERAL PUBLIC TO NOTE.

I FORMERLY KNOWN AS MISS MUSA IDAKWOJI RAHAMAT NOW WISH TO BE CALLED AS MRS AMINU RAHAMAT ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID.NYSC AND GENERAL PUBLIC TO NOTE.

I FORMERLY KNOWN AS MUJIDATU MUSTAPHA NOW WISH TO BE CALLED MUJIDATU ABDULRASHID KHALIFA ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID.NYSC AND GENERAL PUBLIC TO NOTE.

FORMERLY MISS RASHIDAT MOMOH, NOW TO BE KNOWN AS MRS RASHIDAT IBRAHIM. PREVIOUS DOCUMENT REMAIN VALID NYSC AND GENERAL PUBLIC PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

I, formerly called TOLULOPE OLUWASEUN ADARAMEWA now wish to be called KOLADE OLUTOYOSI ADARAMEWA. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

TRUST CLASSIFIED

REDEEMED HOPE LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under the 'Part C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 1. Engr. Emeka Ugonu | President |
| 2. Barr. Kehinde Obanura | Secretary |
| 3. Dr. Ugonu Chudy Francis-Kate Okafor | Treasurer |
| 4. Engr. Ugonu Betty Amaechi | |
| 5. Chief Emmanuel Anokwe | |
| 6. Prince Harusa Momoh | |
| 7. Ugonu Chukwudi Francis | |
| 8. Ugonu Andrea Chidera | |

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

- To inculcate leadership skill and qualities into young ones who will in turn reach out to every home, school, offices and business.
- To develop leaders that will fill in the Gap/Vacuum that has been created due to lack of values and good conduct.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of the publication.

Signed:
CHIJOKE EZEH ESQ.

GEMADE ESTATE RESIDENT'S ASSOCIATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the companies and allied matters act no. 1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- Chief Kehinde Olofinikha
- Mr. Adeleke Desalu
- Mr. Nnaji Ndubisi
- Mr. Lanrey Odulanmi

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To promote that unity of the membership of the estate.
 - To engage in educational interest for the children.
 - To engage in social-cultural preservation of its membership.
 - To preserve and improve the amenities of the residence.
- Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight 28 days from the date of this publication.

SIGNED:
Abbas Shelter
08032054639

DELTA WOMEN EMPOWERMENT INITIATIVE

This is to inform the general public that the above named initiative has applied to Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part C of Companies and Allied Matters Act, 2004, LFN.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- ELSIE IJOROGU REED
- DR. DEBORAH IFY ODIMGBE
- MRS. LILLIAN IJOROGU ASAPOKHAH
- MR. ASAPOKHAH, GEORGE

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To inspire our women with the courage to break from the chains of limiting belief pattern and societal or religious condition that have traditionally kept them suppressed and to see their true beauty and power.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs Commissions, 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B. 198, Maitama, Abuja, within 28 days from the date of this publication.

SIGNED
U.H. USMAN ESQ.

KOJOY ENTREPRENEUR FOUNDATION

This is to inform the general public that the above named Foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the companies and allied matters act no. 1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Geoffrey Chibuzo Nwaoko | - Chairman |
| 2. Kosisochukwu Joy Nwaoko | - Secretary |
| 3. Adanma Nwabueze | 4. Ugochukwu Nwaigwe |
| 5. Uchenna Nwoko | 6. Chukwuemeka Okeji |
| 7. Kennedy Nwaoko | 8. Nnamdi Nwaoko |
| 9. Ikenna Nwaoko | 10. Chibuzo Nwaoko |

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To enable members obtain information, advice, support and develop strategies in growing their businesses in the area of craft technologies and small scale manufacturing.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight 28 days from the date of this publication.

SIGNED:
Barr. Amina Ahmed Fari

CHANGE OF NAME

I FORMERLY KNOWN AS APEH ROSE NOW WANT TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS FARIDAT YAHAYA. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND MY EMPLOYER SHOULD TAKE NOTE.

I, Formerly CORDELIA UKAMAKA AJIBO now wish to be called MRS CORDELIA UKAMAKA AJIBO-ORBAN. All former documents remain valid. Katsina ministry of education take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public that the Regularization of Land Titles and document of FCT Area Council Acknowledgment with file No. MISC.2577 on Plot No. 2812 in Gwagwalada Area Council of Abuja, FCT dated 12th September 2006, belonging to Proco Nigeria Limited have been declared missing. All efforts made to trace the document proved abortive. If found please contact the owner Proco Nigeria Limited or the nearest Police Station.

ADVOCATE WHEEL FOR LEGAL-RIGHTS FORUM

This is to inform the general public that the above named Forum has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part 'C' of the companies and allied matters act no. 1 of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- Barr. IBB Benede - Advocate-Ambassador
- Kememopigha Paullett Kahky (Miss)

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To teach beginners of legal ideals.
- To become incorruptible citizens of the world.
- To know legalities from illegalities.
- To become discipline, dependable, dynamic role model.
- To teach excellence by example.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, 420 Tigris Crescent, off Aguiyi Ironsi Street, P.M.B 198, Maitama, Abuja within twenty-eight 28 days from the date of this publication.

SIGNED:
Barr. IBB Benede

UJUMMA INTERNATIONAL YOUTH INITIATIVE

This is to notify the general public that the above named initiative has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (C.A.C.) for registration under part 'C' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act CAP 59, Laws of 1990.

THE TRUSTEES ARE:

- Roseline Ujumma Chikwa
- Anthony Ndaka Ede
- Ozichi Amaechi Njoku
- Elizabeth Uzama

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To develop youth effectively and efficiently for national tasks of interest and international recognition, also to improve their standard of living.
- To educate the youth in the different disciplines that will provide knowledge for national duties and programmes.
- To create vocational skills in the youth at an early stage for them to be self-reliant in terms of being job creators in their professional fields.
- Providing the youth with adequate resources that are necessary for your development.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Maitama Abuja within 28 day of this publication

Signed
Barr. Wuraola Ajakaye
08095248204

CHANGE OF NAME

I formerly MISS JAMILA SHAIBU now MRS. JAMILA SHAIBU. All former documents remain valid N.Y.S.C and public take note.

I MISS. AISHATU AHAMED SULUM now MRS. AISHATU Y. MODU SULUM. Former documents remain valid NYSC. And public take note

I formerly known and addressed as MISS JOY USUANLECE now to be known and addressed as MRS IGBINOSA COURAGE JOY. All former documents remain valid. NYSC, Nigerian Immigration Service and general public take note.

I formerly known as AKINGBADE OLUWASEUN now wish to be addressed as AMUSA OLUWASEUN. All former documents remain valid. General public please note.

I formerly known as MISS IYABO IMONITIE IRIBOJE now wish to be known as MRS IYABO IMONITIE ABUA. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and general public take note.

I formerly known as OSATOHANMWEN OSAMUDIAMEN AKPATA now want to be known and called as OSATOHANMWEN OSAMUDIAMEN ANASTASIA ERUAGA. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I formerly known as BABALOLA ELIZA OLAITAN now wish to be known as MRS ADEYEMI ELIZA OLAITAN. All former documents remain valid. General public note.

I, formerly known as MISS MOEMEKE BLESSING wish to be called MRS OKWUNONKE BLESSING. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and general public take note.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly NURAINI MUSIBAU ISHOLA now NURAINI JOSEPH ISHOLA .M. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly MISS BRIADE GRACE KIOBA now wish to be called MRS GRACE K. NWOYEocha. All former documents remain valid. Ministry of Works & Housing and general public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS CHIKA FRANCES OGECHI ANORUO wish to be known and address as MRS CHIKA FRANCES EMEKA NWAGWU. All former documents remain valid. General public, PHCN and Embassies should take note.

I, formerly as "DAVID BIDEMI MICHAEL and ISEHUNWA MICHAEL. now wish to be called ONI MICHAEL BIDEMI. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as AKINSEYE ADEFUNKE KIKELOMO now wish to be known and called BAYO-BENSON ADEFUNKE KIKELOMO. All former documents remain valid. Allco Insurance Plc and general public take note.

I formally called MISS KEZIAH DAUDA ABATA now wish to be called MRS KEZIAH MUSA MAMMAN. All documents remained valid. UNIMAID and the general public to note

I formally called IBRAHIM A UMAR now wish to be called IBRAHIM UBA. All documents remained valid. Yobe State Water Board and the general public to note.

I, formerly known as MISS MAIRO IDRIS now wish to be called MRS MAIRO CLEMENT ARIGI. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS NNEKA DOROTHY KAMA now wish to be called MRS NNEKA DOROTHYKORO. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and general public take note.

I, formerly known as GRACE IKWUE now wish to be called MRS GEORGE GRACE. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and general public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS BUKOLA OLUWAKEMI ABODUNRIN now wish to be called MRS BOKOLA OLUWAKEMI NIYI DUROWOJU. All former documents remain valid. NYSC, Oduago-Iwoye and general public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS LYDIA OSEMHEGHOGHO AIMUAN now wish to be called MRS BOKULA LYDIA OSEMHEGHOGHO AMEDU. All former documents remain valid. FCMG and general public take note.

I, formerly known as MUSTAPHA JIBRIL now wish to be called MUSTAPHA JIBRIL ABDALLAH. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS MAUREEN IGWE now wish to be called MRS MAUREEN IJEOMA OBINWA. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and general public take note.

I, formerly known as NNEKA CELESTINA OGUAJU now wish to be called MRS NNEKA CELESTINA OKONKWO. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS GRACE ELEOJO OKOH now wish to be called MRS MRS ELEOJO AKOWE. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as ADAJA MARTHA OZOHU now wish to be called ROTOYE MARTHA OZOHU-RONUOLA. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I formerly known as ESTHER CHINYERE IBUAKA now wish to be known as ESTHER AKHIGBE. All former documents remain valid. UNIBEN and the general public please take note.

SPORT

FIFA bans Suarez
for handball

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NFF sacks Sani Lulu, Uchegbulam, Ogunjobi

By Orkula Shaagee

THE current crisis in the nation's football took a dramatic turn yesterday, as nine members of the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) Executive Committee signed for the dismissal of the Federation's President Sani Lulu Abdullahi, First Vice President Amanze Uchegbulam and Technical Committee Chairman Taiwo Ogunjobi from the Committee.

On the other hand, the Committee has announced the nomination of Alhaji Aminu Maigari as the Acting President and Obinna Ogba as First Vice President.

The decisions, which were announced at a media briefing in Abuja yesterday, were taken at an emergency meeting of the NFF Executive Committee on Saturday.

A member of the Committee, Princes Bola Jegede, who read the communiqué on behalf of the nine members, explained that the dismissed officials were guilty of dictatorship, limitless powers, misuse of public funds and neglect or marginalization of other members of the Executive Committee.

Asides taking decisions without the knowledge of the board, the Executive Committee members also accused Lulu and his two allies of withdrawing huge sums of money and spending same without approval from the Committee as required by its statutes.

The communiqué says the action of the Executive Committee is in line with Article 34 (m) of the FIFA approve-statutes of



FORMER NFF President Alhaji Sani Lulu Abdullahi who was kicked out of his post by the Federation's Executive Committee yesterday

the NFF, which says "the Executive Committee may dismiss a person or body or suspend a member of NFF provisionally until the next General Assembly".

According to the aggrieved members, the decision to dismiss the trio was further fuelled by the current crisis in the nation's football, in which the Federal Government has with all national football teams from further participation in international competitions, as well as FIFA's threat to sanction the country from its activities.

The aggrieved member, who also dissociated themselves from the purported letter of the NFF Executive Committee reporting the Federal Government of Nigeria to FIFA, which was found in the possession of Uchegbulam, also said their action was a re-visit of earlier memo to Lulu, dated 8th June, 2007 and notice of impeachment served on Lulu on 5th February, 2010.

Consequently, the Committee, which tendered unreserved apology to President Goodluck Jonathan, Minister of Sports Alhaji

Ibrahim Isa Bio and the entire Nigerians for the poor performance of the Super Eagles at the ongoing World Cup In South Africa, appealed to the President to rescind his earlier decision to withdraw all national football teams from all CAF and FIFA organized competitions for two years.

The communiqué was signed by Abubakar Ladan, Dominic Iorfa, Princess Bola Jegede, Patrick Ekong, Taiwo Odeunmi, Stephen Gyebgon, Dr. Peter Singabele, Obinna Ogba and Aminu Maigari.

Adisa backs Jonathan on Eagles' ban

By David Ngobua who was in Ilorin

FORMER Green Eagles goalkeeper, Amusa Adisa has thrown his weight behind President Goodluck Jonathan who recently banned the country from taking part in international football for the next two years.

The former international told Trustsports yesterday in Ilorin that what Jonathan did was highly commendable.

He said Nigerian football has degenerated to a sorry state and

if something urgent is not done to arrest the drift, within a short time, the country's football will be in total disarray.

Adisa maintained that those charged with the responsibility of administering the game have indeed been toying with the joy of most Nigerians who see football as their opium.

"For a very long time, I have been dreaming of what happened. For over close to six years now, Nigerian football has been led by the nose. We have not been getting

right our bearings and I always feel it is high time we re-organized our football. So what the President did is commendable.

"I won't have any problem, if we leave the international scene completely for two years to go back and re-organize and begin all over again. If we refuse to re-organize our football, sooner than later, we would make ourselves a laughing stock in international football. Other nations like Kenya and Ghana did same and today, they have positive

things to say about their football", he stated.

He said if his advice is accepted by concerned authorities and Nigeria returns to the basics, it will not take time before the dividends would begin to unfold.

Adisa further advised that football administration henceforth should be entrusted in the care of knowledgeable former international footballers who have what is required to move the game forward in the country.

He therefore said ex-interna-

tionals like Segun Odegbami and Adokiye Amasiemaka who have demonstrated enough commitment and ability to administer the game should be given a chance.

"The other time Odegbami came out to contest, he had fantastic programme but he was frustrated by those who don't want anything good for Nigerian football. Those with vision and pragmatic ideas should be given a chance henceforth", Adisa maintained.

Ladipo appeals against ban on football

By Adeolu Johnson, Lagos

THE President General of the Nigeria Football Supporters Club and other Supporters Clubs, Dr. Rauf Ladipo has added his voice to the growing list of Nigerians calling on the President Dr. Goodluck Jonathan to rescind the suspension order on the country's national football teams' participation in international football competitions.

President Jonathan gave the order last week, following the Super Eagles dismal performance at the ongoing World Cup in South Africa.

But Ladipo told journalists in Lagos on Saturday said though the Supporters Club has no right to question the decision of the Federal Government; he would want the President to temper justice with mercy.

"We are not saying what the boys did was right, we are just appealing to Mr. President to give the matter a relook because of the upcoming players," he pointed out.

He described the bunch of players that represented the coun-

try at the 2010 World

Cup as very unpatriotic Nigerians in spite of the support they got from all Nigerians.

"Even the President was physically present in South Africa to support them, but they disappointed him. They showed little commitment, they put every foot wrong and sometimes came out of the match still smiling. This shows that they were not committed despite the huge amount expended on them," he explained.

He supported the decision that the set of players should be sanctioned but asked the government to reverse the decision to suspend them because of the consequence it will have on the up and coming players.

"The suspension will not just be for two years. By the time FIFA wields its big stick Nigeria may be made to be out of international engagement for four or six years.

"By so doing, none of our national team which include the Eaglets, The Flying

Eagles, the Falcons and Falconets will feature in international tournaments.

Nigerian clubs will be barred



LUKMAN Haruna of Nigeria is challenged by Konstantinos Katsouranis of Greece when the two countries met in Group B of the South Africa 2010 World Cup of Greece

from continental football, while we will not also feature at the Olympics. This why we are appealing to our dear President to please reverse the order," he said.

"We the Supporters Club members are on our knees begging the President to withdraw the order and let just do away with the old ones," he pleaded.

On the allegation of the funds misappropriation levelled against

the Nigeria

Football Federation (NFF) board members, Ladipo asked the government to call for an investigation and anybody that is found wanting should be made to face the music.

Said he: "The NFF is a parastatal under the Federal Government and the government has the right to do anything it wants with it"

FIFA extends Nigeria deadline

FIFA has extended the deadline given to the Nigeria government to reverse their decision to withdraw from international football or risk expulsion.

On Friday, FIFA General Secretary Jerome Valcke said the Nigerian government had 48 hours to reverse their decision, but in a letter to the Nigeria Football Federation, FIFA advised that unless the decision is reversed by Monday July 5, "the FIFA Emergency Committee will decide on the suspension of the NFF with immediate effect."

The letter also went on to add that FIFA neither recognises nor condones the decision of the Nigerian government, and will not also recognise or deal with the management committee it has put in place.

It added that it will continue to deal only with the NFF executive committee led by Sani Lulu, even beyond its tenure of August 28.

Further, FIFA says it has commenced the process of inviting an alternative team to replace Nigeria at this month's FIFA Under-20 Women Championships in Germany.

FCT coaches want ban on football lifted

By Orkula Shaagee

THE FCT Chapter of the Nigeria Football Coaches Association has appealed to President Goodluck Jonathan to rescind his decision to withdraw the country from international football in the next two, saying such action would not achieve the desired result at the end of the day. Rising from its Annual General Meeting in Abuja on Saturday, the coaches noted that though some aspects of the Nigeria football needs restructuring, withdrawing the country from international football for two years would be detrimental to the development of game.

Going down memory lane, the coaches said that the problem Nigeria Football is facing today can be traced back to 1996 when the Super Eagles were withdrawn from defending the Africa Nations Cup in South Africa, resulting in the negative effect on the nation's football till date. They however noted that present structures on ground, nothing meaningful can be achieved in two years.

According to the coaches, Nigeria should rather tow the path of other countries of the world that went through similar situation and were able to resolve the crisis without withdrawing their national teams from international competitions to get out of the situation

"With the present trend, what they would want to achieve with the local league would not be visible if the our clubs are not allowed to participate in CAF organized matches, our youth teams are not participating in international matches, and our females team that have been the pride of the country in international matches are cut out from the world. Before we return, other countries would go far"

KATSINA FLOUR MILLS LIMITED (KFML)

Block B, Katsina Light Industrial Layout
Dutsinma Road, P. O. Box 584,
Katsina

JOB VACANCIES

Katsina Flour Mills Limited based in Katsina invites qualified Nigerians to fill the under listed vacant positions.

1. General Manager (GM)

The GM shall have a minimum of a University Bachelors Degree or equivalent and 15 years experience in a similar industry including a minimum of 7 years in senior management position. The GM will be responsible for the overall direction and administration of the Company, execute the company's business plan to achieve the objectives of the company and ensure proper resource & risk management and aggressive growth. The GM will also be responsible for the overall marketing strategy of the company.

A Masters of Business Administration Degree and membership of relevant professional bodies will be an added advantage.

2. Production/Maintenance Manager (PMM)

Under the supervision of the GM, the PMM will be responsible for the overall production and maintenance of the mill. He/She will ensure the quality of inputs/outputs, achievement of production targets; ensure proper maintenance of plant & equipment and ensure compliance with quality standards as well as regulatory requirements of relevant bodies.

Candidates should possess a minimum of a University Bachelors of Engineering or equivalent in a relevant discipline with at least 10 years experience, out of which 5 years must be in a supervisory position. A Masters Degree in a relevant field and membership of relevant professional bodies will be a clear advantage.

3. Admin/Finance Manager (AFM)

The AFM will be responsible for the general office administration, budgeting, preparation of accounts, personnel matters, assets maintenance and internal audits. He/She shall report to the GM and should possess a minimum of a Bachelors Degree or equivalent in a relevant discipline and/or a Chartered Accountant with a minimum of 10 years experience in the manufacturing sector out of which 5 years must be in a supervisory position.

A Master Degree and membership of relevant professional bodies will be an added advantage.

4. Admin. Officer

Prospective candidates should possess a minimum of a Bachelors Degree or equivalent in a relevant discipline with at least 8 years experience.

5. Accounts Officer

Prospective candidates should possess a minimum of a Bachelors Degree or equivalent in Accountancy with at least 8 years experience.

6. Sales/Marketing Officer

Prospective candidates should possess a minimum of a Bachelors Degree or equivalent in a relevant discipline with at least 8 years experience in marketing.

7. Stores Officer

Prospective candidates should possess a minimum of Higher National Diploma in a relevant discipline with at least 8 years experience out of which 3 years must be in a supervisory position.

8. Production Officers (2 Positions)

Prospective candidates should possess a minimum of a Bachelors Degree or equivalent in mechanical and/or electrical engineering with at least 8 years experience out of which 3 years must be in a supervisory position.

9. Maintenance Officers (2 Positions)

Prospective candidates should possess a minimum of a Bachelors Degree or equivalent in mechanical and/or electrical engineering with at least 8 years experience out of which 3 years must be in a supervisory position.

10. Quality Control Officer

Prospective candidates should possess a minimum of a Bachelors Degree or equivalent in a relevant discipline with at least 8 years experience out of which 3 years must be in a supervisory position.

11. Maintenance Supervisors (2 Positions)

Prospective candidates should possess a minimum of Ordinary National Diploma in mechanical and/or electrical engineering with at least 8 years experience out of which 3 years must be in a supervisory position.

12. Secretary/Receptionist

Prospective candidates should possess a minimum of Ordinary National Diploma in a relevant discipline with at least 5 years experience.

All prospective candidates must be computer literate and should submit detailed Curriculum Vitae with a covering letter indicating the position applied for by email to obliqueng@gmail.com with KFML JOB APPLICATION in the subject field.

The closing date for applications is 2 weeks from the date of this advertisement. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Apam thrilled by Rennes switch

NIGERIA international defender Onyekachi Apam has said he is delighted to join up with an ambitious club like Rennes who splashed out 4 million Euros for the former Nice star.

"Rennes have the ambition to win something. That suits me," said Apam, who last season captained Nice to safety after an indifferent run in the French top flight.

The centre-back, who missed Nigeria's World Cup final squad as a result of a knee injury, will however ask his new club to beef up the team with a couple of quality signings in the summer.

"[The club] must move fast in the transfer market because the other teams are not going to wait to recruit," he cautioned.

Apam, 23, has now reunited with the man who gave him his breakthrough in France, Coach Frederic Antonetti.

"Apam is a very good defender who has the advantage by the fact that I know him very well," offered Antonetti.

The Rennes general manager, Pierre Dreossi, equally hailed the capture of the Nigerian defender, who has reportedly attracted interests from top clubs in France and England.

"This is an excellent signing for the club because Apam is a top-class player who has proved himself in France over several seasons now," said Dreossi.

Former Enugu Rangers star Apam signed professionally for Nice in the 2006/07 season. Last season, he started a total of 23 matches for the south of France team.

"This is an excellent signing for the club because Apam is a top-class player who has proved himself in France over several seasons now"

Wimbledon 2010: Serena plays down praise

SERENA Williams insists she is not concerned about where she ranks among the great players in the game after winning her fourth Wimbledon title.

The American beat Vera Zvonareva 6-3 6-2 to secure a 13th Grand Slam title, taking her past Billie Jean King to sixth in the all-time list.

Chris Evert and Martina Navratilova are next on the list with 18 Slams each.

But Williams said: "I'm happy to win 13. You never know what tomorrow brings and I'm happy to have gotten this far."

King was in the Centre Court royal box to see her mark of 12 Grand Slam titles overtaken, and Williams said: "This one means a lot because it's 13 and I was able to pass Billie, that's always nice. I don't know where it rates but to have four Wimbledon is really, really exciting."

And asked about how concerned she is to be considered among the great players, she added: "It's definitely important. I never thought about it but I think I'd be mentioned regardless of whether I won here or not. It's cool."

"I don't think about that kind of stuff. My thing is I love my dogs, I love

my family, I love going to the movies, I love reading, I love going shopping - it's not on my list to be the greatest."

"At the end of the day, I'd love to open more schools in Africa or the United States. I would love to help people and be remembered, 'Yeah, she was a tennis player but she really did a lot to inspire other people.'

"That's what I think about, not 'I'm Serena Williams and I won X amount of Grand Slams.'"

Williams was in superb form at the All England Club, sweeping through all seven matches without dropping a set, but she admitted: "I honestly didn't think I was going to win this tournament because I felt like my strokes were off, especially in practice."

"I just felt like I was connecting late and I'm really happy to have got through it."

Martina Navratilova said before the final that Williams has the best serve in the history of the women's game, but despite hitting 89 aces in the tournament the champion herself was not about to agree it is the best ever.

"Is that what it's dubbed now?" she said. "I have a really consistent serve and I might not hit it as hard (as some) but I place it really well."

And the 28-year-old said she has no timetable for the rest of her career, saying: "I just try to stay healthy and do the best that I can, I never try to think about how long I'm going to play."

"Will I still be playing at 38? If I am, I want you to escort me off the court. There's no way I need to be out here at 38."

Zvonareva had been a huge underdog going into her first Grand Slam final against the three-time champion but was not about to make excuses for her swift defeat.

"I think it's great to be in the final and I'll realise that later but at the moment I think I'm still a bit disappointed with the performance today," said the 25-year-old. "Not with the result but more the way I played, I think I could have done better."

"I didn't show my best and it's a bit disappointing because it's the final, and you don't reach the Wimbledon final every day. But Serena played really well, she didn't really give me a chance to get into the match."

Williams fired nine aces past the Russian, who failed to force a single break point, but Zvonareva would not entertain the thought that the American was all but invincible on the grass.



SERENA Williams says she is not concerned about where she ranks among the great players

Klose: Spain are not invincible

GERMAN striker Miroslav Klose insists that semi-final opponents Spain are not invincible, and insists die Mannschaft have improved considerably since their meeting in the Euro 2008 final.

Fernando Torres clinched the title for Luis Aragonés' side, scoring the only goal in a 1-0 victory, but in South Africa, Germany have been one of the most attractive sides, disposing of England and Argentina in impressive fashion.

Speaking in a press conference today, Bayern Munich striker Klose, who has four goals at the competition already, reckons that

although Spain are superior to the teams that Germany have already vanquished, they remain beatable.

He said, "Spain are definitely better than England and Argentina. They are a fantastic team. I saw a replay of their match against Paraguay, and it revealed that Spain is not invincible, and not unstoppable."

"We can locate and exploit their weaknesses."

Klose also added that the last meeting between the sides in that European final will have no bearing on the match on Wednesday.

He added, "You cannot compare the two games. The teams have changed, there are different players, and I think that we have improved considerably."

Klose's deadly double against the Albicelestes edged him onto 14 goals in World Cup competition, level with the legendary Gerd Muller and just one short of Brazilian Ronaldo's all-time record of 15.

"You cannot compare the two games. The teams have changed, there are different players, and I think that we have improved considerably"

NSC: We are working to resolve football crisis in Nigeria

By Orkula Shaagee

THE National Sports Commission yesterday said it will not do anything that would undermine the development of football in the country.

Disclosing this in a telephone interview with Trustsports, the Chief Press Secretary in the Commission Tony Ohaeri informed that the Commission and is aware of the ultimatum given to

Nigeria by world football governing body to rescind its decision to withdraw from international football activities, and is working towards resolving the matter.

According to Ohaeri, considering the good name and fame that football has brought to the country at international stage, the government would always take decisions that will be in the best interest of the game in the country.

Explaining that Nigeria has no problem with FIFA over the running of football in the country, the Image Maker added that the Commission is looking at all the options and implications of the planned sanction on the country by FIFA with a view to arriving at a final decision that will be fair to all.

"Government is aware of the ultimatum given to the country by world football ruling body, FIFA to

rescind the earlier decision or face sanction, and is working towards that. We have no problem with FIFA and whatever we are doing is for the interest of football development in Nigeria.

"Football is one thing that unites our people and has brought fame to our great country, and there is no way we (Nigeria) will take decisions that will weaken the development of the game", Ohaeri stated.

FIFA bans Suarez for handball

FIFA has suspended Uruguay forward Luis Suarez for one match for his



LUIS SUAREZ

deliberate handball to deny Ghana the winning goal in the teams' World Cup quarterfinal match.

FIFA's disciplinary committee ruled Saturday that Suarez was guilty of "denying the opposite team a clear goal-scoring opportunity" as it imposed the one-match suspension.

The penalty means Suarez will be out when Uruguay meets the Netherlands in the semifinals on Tuesday, but would be available for the final if his team advances.

After Suarez's goal-line

handball in the last minute of extra time at Soccer City on Friday, Ghana forward Asamoah Gyan missed the ensuing penalty kick and time ran out with the score tied at 1-1. Uruguay won the penalty shootout that followed, 4-2, to advance.

Suarez's actions spurred debate about sportsmanship, and whether he should be given a more stern penalty.

Uruguay Coach Oscar Tabarez said earlier Saturday that Suarez should be allowed to play in the tournament final if Uruguay

gets there.

"It's not my business. The disciplinary committee will look at it," Tabarez said Saturday. "But I think it (a two-match ban) would be extremely exaggerated."

"I think (calling him a cheat) would be too far-fetched and too twisted," he added.

Suarez, who has three goals in the tournament, said it was "complicated" to be ejected from a World Cup game.

"But the way in which I was sent off-truth is, it was worth it."

THE MONDAY COLUMN

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Wriggling out of honour pacts

Even though President Goodluck Jonathan severally said on CNN, during his televised Media Chat, in his private meeting with newspaper editors and at several meetings with Nigerian Diaspora elements that he has not decided on whether or not he will run for election in 2011, the stepped up effort in the past week by several disparate political groups to overthrow the PDP's power rotation formula is proof enough that the president had actually made up his mind.

Otherwise, why are so many people working so hard to unilaterally rewrite a ruling party agreement that was the cornerstone of its existence for 11 years now? Let's be very frank here; besides zoning and power rotation, PDP does not stand for anything. It does not have any sharp ideological focus and does not have any identifiable party program. When it was being formed in 1998, the only reason given by its amalgam of founders was that they were coming together irrespective of ideological leaning in order to ease the military out of power. The most substantive thing they did in that direction was to accommodate the then very noisy demand—all of it from the South—for "power shift" as it was then called, by conceding the presidency to the South West in order to bury the ghost of June 12.

Today, many groups have emerged on the political stage who are working to overthrow the power rotation scheme, inappropriately called "zoning". Zoning is slightly different; it means the sharing of political posts among the regions and states, which has some

constitutional backing in the federal character principle. Power rotation is about rotating the presidency between North and South. Now, zoning and power rotation are two means to the same end; they would politically swim or sink together. That is why some people have recently questioned why PDP strictly applied its zoning formula in choosing Nwodo to replace Ogbuafor, while some of its leaders are now scheming to jettison power rotation.

Incidentally Nwodo, the latest beneficiary of zoning, is slowly becoming the arrowhead of the effort to overthrow power rotation. The others are Chief Tony Anenih; members of the [disbanded] PDP Reform Forum; organisers of the Northern Political Summit; organisers of the pro-Jonathan rally in Bauchi; and Chief Edwin Clark's group. Not a very fortunate selection of allies by President Jonathan, including as it does some of the country's best known AGIPs as well as many men whose motives are as transparent as glass.

Anyway, three substantive reasons have so far been adduced by President Jonathan and his allies for uprooting power rotation. The oldest one is about Dr. Jonathan's constitutional right to contest elections. The second [implied by Jonathan himself] is that PDP's

landmark November 2002 decision to rotate power to the North from 2007-2015 was made by an advisory organ, and not the NEC or party convention. The third point, recently made by Anenih and Nwodo, is that the policy has been observed more in the breach.

The first point, about constitutional rights, reminds me of early 1993, the last time a major agreement, i.e. the FG-ASUU pact of September 1992, was unilaterally abrogated in Nigeria. That agreement was signed by five ministers and 8 other top government officials and was publicly endorsed by General Babangida, but in repudiating it, Education Secretary Prof Ben Nwabueze said it was "valid but not binding" because it negotiated away the government's constitutional right to allocate money. Some people are now saying that an intra-party pact took away someone's constitutional rights.

This is a curious argument because even though the Constitution grants everyone the right to contest elections, it does not guarantee to everyone the right to win. Therefore, when a political party is strategising to win an election, a voluntary party member's constitutional rights could be abridged as part of the political give-and-take.

This is not very different from forgoing your right to spend the weekend with your family in order to obey the instructions of your boss to embark on a long official journey, without which your family's meal could be imperilled. Your boss' strategy for the survival of your company, upon which your salary depends, could abridge some of your natural rights. The second argument implied that the PDP caucus' decision was a mere gentleman's agreement, not a party law. ASUU once pointed out that this is akin to agreeing with your girlfriend that you are going for a walk at a certain hour. When you turn up at the appointed hour and she says she is not going [as Nigerian girls often do], what can you do? You cannot take her to court; you can only appeal to her honour and say, "But you promised to come with me for a walk. This is not fair. I abandoned many other things because of this appointment, and you know I love you so much..." If the parties to it have honour, an agreement binding in honour is usually harder to breach than a written law. An elder's pledge on honour in an African village has higher compliance chances than a signed deal in an urban court room.

Does the unilateral award of contracts by governors, ministers and presidents mean that Financial Regulations and the Public Procurement Act are no longer applicable?

Thirdly is the Anenih-Nwodo point about the policy being observed more in the breach over the years. This is another curious argument because in Nigeria at least, too many laws are observed in the breach but are still regarded as valid. Nigerian traffic laws, for example, are observed by motorists and pedestrians mostly in the breach. The fact that many motorists drive against the traffic, or drive cars without number plates, or that sirens blare on the roads when there is no medical or fire emergency, or that some people drag huge logs of wood across the road at Giwa and Yan Kara in order to slow down traffic, does not mean that Nigerian traffic laws are no longer applicable. Does the unilateral award of contracts by governors, ministers and presidents mean that Financial Regulations and the Public Procurement Act are no longer applicable? Even the Electoral Act in Nigeria is mostly observed in the breach; does the snatching of ballot boxes and the deployment of thugs to polling stations mean that the Act no longer applies?

Not only laws; the most solemn honour pact, i.e. a love affair, is regularly observed in the breach here in Nigeria. A cardinal principle of a Nigerian love affair is that you must send stimulating text messages and remember to send a Valentine's card. The fact that many men forget to do this does not invalidate all love affairs in Nigeria. What this therefore means is that if a law or even a gentleman's agreement is observed in the breach, then you work harder to ensure compliance, not repudiate it. In any case, it is not true that the PDP's zoning agreement was mostly observed in the breach. The fact that it succeeded in producing Obasanjo in 1999 and 2003 and in producing Yar'adua in 2007 shows that there was substantial compliance because the biggest contenders refrained from contesting, even if some upstarts tried to beach it.

Now, in gentlemen's agreements as well as in laws, no one expects total compliance. At best what you get is substantial compliance. Nigerian courts have several times okayed a flawed process when there was substantial compliance, not total compliance. I wish to advise Chief Tony Anenih and Dr. Okwesilieze Nwodo to please cook up another excuse.

SPORTS REPORT



RAFAEL Nadal

Nadal routs Berdych for second Wimbledon title

Rafael Nadal has swept Tomas Berdych in straight sets to win his second Wimbledon title and eighth Grand Slam championship. The top-ranked Spaniard beat the 12th-seeded Czech 6-3, 7-5, 6-4 yesterday to reinforce his current status as the No. 1 player in the game.

Nadal broke four times and never lost serve in 15 service games.

It's the second time he has won the French Open and Wimbledon back-to-back. He is now 5-0 in his last Grand Slam finals.

With eight Grand Slam titles, Nadal joins a list of greats that includes Andre Agassi, Jimmy Connors, Ivan Lendl, Fred Perry and Ken Rosewall. He also has five French Open championships and one Australian Open title.



KAKA

Kaka was not fit for duty - Brazil doctor

Brazil team doctor Jose Luiz Runco admitted yesterday that star midfielder Kaka, who failed to shine at the World Cup, was not properly fit and wouldn't have played at a lesser event. "Maybe in other situations Kaka would not have played even the World Cup, but he really wanted to be there," said Runco as the squad touched down in Rio following their flight back from South Africa.

Kaka came into the tournament on the back of a disappointing season with Real Madrid which was marred by thigh problems which forced him to miss more than six weeks of the season.

And when he did play the 65 million-euro summer signing from AC Milan did not hit the heights, prompting him to admit that he had himself not been happy.

