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# DAILY TRUST

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2010 RABI'U THANI 1, 1431 A.H.

TRUST IS A BURDEN

www.dailytrust.com VOL. 23 No 88 N150

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## 98.2% flunk NECO exams

From Ayegba Israel Ebije, Minna

ONLY 1.80 percent of candidates that sat for the 2009 November National Examination Council (NECO) examinations passed with five credits including English and Mathematics, resulting in a failure rate of more than 98 percent.

NECO's registrar Professor Promise Okpala disclosed this in Minna yesterday while announcing the results of the November/December Senior Secondary School Examination (SSCE).

He said 4,223 candidates passed the exam with five credits including Maths and English out of

“Lagos State produced the highest number of candidates that passed

the 236,613 that sat for it in 1,708 centres spread across the country.

He said candidates that scored five credits and above irrespective of subjects were 12,197 or 5.20 percent.

Okpala also said Ogun State produced the highest number of candidates that passed the examination with 1,076 representing 5.45 percent of the total. Lagos State came next with 900 representing 5.40 percent while Abia recorded 39 candidates representing

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# 2011 elections hold Jan or April — INEC proposes

By Abbas Jimoh & Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

ELECTION to the office of President of the Federal Republic due in 2011 should hold either on January 22 or April 23 next year depending on the outcome of electoral reform bills now before the National Assembly, Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) Prof. Maurice Iwu proposed in Abuja yesterday.

Iwu spoke at the opening of a three day national conference for stakeholders in the electoral process with the theme "2011 General Elections: Issues and Challenges." He said the presidential election could hold on any of the

two days or any other day, depending on the final contents of electoral reforms laws.

Senate President David Mark said at the same occasion that the Electoral Act will be amended and made ready for the next general elections. Chairman of the Senate Committee on INEC, Senator Isiaka Adeleke, who spoke on his behalf, also foreclosed the use of electronic voting machines in the 2011 elections. He said the most important thing is to get the electoral system right before plunging into electronic voting.

The presidential term of ailing President Umaru Yar'adua ends on May 29, 2011 and elections are due by April next year under existing election

laws. The reformed electoral laws ultimately enacted by the National Assembly could force an election date in between the two dates proposed by INEC. Iwu said that until a notice of poll is issued either on August 2, 2010 or November 1, the provisional dates could still be modified.

He said, "We have prepared two provisional schedules for the elections. What this means is that whatever the National Assembly comes up with, it is incumbent on the commission to modify these dates to accommodate the provisions."

The provisional time table also states that elections to the National Assembly could hold either on Janu-

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CHARRED remains of a taxi which was allegedly used in conveying suspected kidnapped children in Kano on Tuesday.

PHOTO: SANI MAIKATANGA

# Meningitis kills 9 in Gombe

From Aliyu M. Hamagam, Gombe

NINE persons have died from cerebrospinal meningitis in Gombe State, the Commissioner of Health Dr. Umar Isa has said. The commissioner who

disclosed this yesterday while speaking with newsmen said 94 cases had been reported this year. He added that 10 persons were still receiving treatment while the others had been treated and discharged, not-

ing that the disease had spread across the 11 local government areas of the state with the exception of Nafada and Billiri Local Government Areas.

Umar said the victims were between the ages of 5 and 15.

The commissioner said his ministry had embarked on immunisation with preference to places with records of the disease as well as identified densely populated areas, like prisons, schools and the NYSC orienta-

tion camp. He added that the state had since taken delivery of 30, 600 doses of the CSM vaccines and had been distributed them to all general hospitals in the state. He said treatment of the disease was free.

PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE



From left: Kaduna State Governor Namadi Sambo, former INEC Secretary Alhaji Abubakar Jauro and PDP Deputy National Chairman Bello Halliru Mohammed Aleiro at the INEC stakeholders meeting in Abuja, yesterday.

## Police release 44 Jos suspects

From Andrew Agbese, Jos

THE police in Jos yesterday released the 44 persons arrested at Riyom Local Government of Plateau State on Saturday. After a thorough search of the men and the trailer in which they were travelling, it was discovered that the truck was filled with bags of cement and cans of palm oil.

Most of the passengers of the truck were mainly youths between the ages of 18 to 35. The police used metal detectors and mine sweepers to certify the content in the cement bags. They also found 11 knives and two hammers.

One of the female passengers in the vehicle who gave her name as Mrs Ijeoma Stanley said she and the other women boarded the truck from Port-Harcourt and that they were going to Kano to sell palm oil.

She said the cement bags were already in the truck before they boarded it. She said the youths joined them at Okigwe in Imo state. The Assistant Commissioner of Police in charge of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) in the state Femi Oyeleye confirmed to our correspondent that the men had had been released.

## New Nigerian gets Ag MD

By Abbas Jimoh

MALAM Tukur Abdulrahman has been appointed the Acting Managing Director of the New Nigerian Newspapers.

He takes over from Mr Ndanusa Alao who has been acting in that capacity since the expiration of his tenure.

Chairman of the Northern Governor's Forum and Governor of Niger State Dr. Muazu Babangida Aliyu has approved the appointment, according to a statement by the Secretary to the Niger State and Coordinating Secretary of the forum Dr. Mohammed Kuta Yahaya. Malam Abdulrahman was until his appointment the Daily Editor of the newspaper.

Meanwhile, issues concerning the repositioning of New Nigeria Newspapers among other issues will be discussed at the meeting of the forum next week Thursday in Kaduna, the statement added.

## Nyako commends Media Trust

From Ibrahim Muhammad, Yola

ADAMAWA State Governor Murtala Nyako on Monday commended the management and staff of *Media Trust*, publishers of *Daily Trust*, *Weekly Trust*, *Sunday Trust* and *Aminiya* newspapers for promoting the basic tenets of journalism which

according to him would ensure stable democracy and peaceful co-existence. Nyako, who said this when he received the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of *Media Trust* Mallam Kabiru Yusuf in Yola, expressed concerns that many newspapers in Nigeria used sensational headlines, unconfirmed and distorted

stories just to sell their papers. He urged *Media Trust* to uphold the ethics of journalism, pledging his support.

Earlier, Yusuf said he was in Yola to inform the governor and the people of the state that part of the responsibilities of *Media Trust* was to give voice to the people by bringing to the fore issues

that affect the society and to commiserate with the governor on the death of Lamido Adamawa Aliyu Mustafa.

He said work on the Maiduguri printing press had reached 80 percent and that when completed, all the states in the North-East would be able to read any of the *Trust* titles in the morning.

## Fire incident: House delegation to visit Kano

By Nasidi A. Yahaya

THE House of Representatives yesterday constituted a seven-member delegation to visit Kano State and commiserate with the state government over the recent fire incident in Kantin Kwari textile market.

The members are Reps Patricia Etteh, Abdul Ningi, Overah Joyce, Bala Bantex, Gilbert Nnaji, Buba Jibrin and Ibrahim Kamba.

The lawmakers in a motion sponsored by Rep Danlami Hamza (ANPP, Kano State) also urged the Federal and state governments to

assist the victims.

Leading the debate, Hamza said the victims needed to be supported to re-start their businesses. According to him, the market was famous for textiles not only in Nigeria, but in Africa.

Rep Ubale Jakada Kiru (ANPP, Kano State) said over 8000 shops

were burnt in the incident, adding that the motion came at the right time. He commended the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) the Kano State Fire Service and the state government for their prompt response.

The House unanimously adopted the resolutions.



FRESH tomatoes and pepper on display at a market in Abuja after the end of strike by the Pepper Sellers Association.

# Biz activities pick up after strike

Reports from Rakiya A. Muhammad, Ismail Adebayo, Ruqayyah Aliyu, Isa Umar Gusua, Yemi Bamidele, Kayode Ekundayo and Zakariyya Aderamola.

DEALERS of food stuff and consumers across the country are counting their losses resulting from the one week warning strike by the traders in the North just as normalcy gradually returns to the various markets in the southern states.

Daily Trust's investigations show that hundreds of trucks conveying assorted food stuff and animals from the Northern states have been arriving the various southern markets.

Dealers in perishable items in Sokoto revealed that they might have lost over one billion naira worth of items to the strike they embarked upon to protest against multiple taxation charged by governments of southern states.

#### The cost of the strike

Secretary of Vegetable sellers association in Sokoto, Abubakar Sahabi said the total loss incurred

by dealers in the various products in Sokoto amounted to two billion Naira adding that dealers in perishable items such as tomato incurred 80percent of the total loss.

"People that suffered most were those with perishable items. We incurred over N2billion loss, representing over 80 percent of the total loss", he said.

Sahabi said during the strike over 1,000 vehicles that usually convey produce and food stuffs from the north were idle.

Our correspondent who spoke with pepper and tomatoes sellers in Jega, Aleiro and other towns in Kebbi State reports that they may have incurred over N300 million due to the recent strike.

The chairman of the association of pepper and tomato sellers, Alhaji Salihu Isa Bello, said the amount represented total amount lost during the strike as almost all the tomatoes and pepper they packaged to be taken to different parts of the country perished.

He said the items perished

because we could not move them to places where they were needed, adding that "We just want something to be done to cushion the

**"People that suffered most were those with perishable items. We incurred over N2billion loss, representing over 80 percent of the total loss", he said**

effects of this on our members".

One of the traders, Hajiya Salamatu Adamu, lamented that she bought pepper and tomatoes from Gwandu and Jega but could not move them outside the state due to the strike. She said she did not know about the strike when she bought them.

At onions market in Aleiro, the traders also lamented that they could not move their onions out of the town. One of the traders, Alhaji Shehu Abubakar said, "We are only lucky that onions take time before they get spoil".

#### Thousand of cattle shipped

No fewer than 778 vehicles of tomatoes, onions and pepper were reported to have left Kano for Southern states in the last few days following the suspension of the one week warning.

Secretary General of the association Alhaji Kabiru Alhassan Rurum in an interview with our correspondent in Kano yesterday said the vehicles were from Dorawa Sallau, Kadawa market and Yankaba markets, which are

the major vegetables markets in the state.

Rurum added that since the suspension of the strike on Monday, business activities have been upbeat.

He however warned that the association would embark on an indefinite strike if in two weeks, the Federal Government failed to address the problems identified by the association.

Over 500 trailers with over 17,000 cows also left Borno State for various parts of Southern Nigeria just as the dealers lamented that multiple taxes imposed on them had not been removed.

The chairman of Goats and Sheep Dealers Owners Association in Jere Local Government Area Alhaji Ali Gana Dangote who spoke on behalf of the cattle dealers in Gamboru market said over 17,000 cows were taken in over 500 trailers between Monday and Tuesday.

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# Gaddafi says split Nigeria in two

By Habeeb I. Pindiga, with agency report

LIBYAN president Muammar Gaddafi has suggested that Nigeria should be divided into two nations—one for Christians, the other for Muslims—to solve recurring sectarian violence, official JANA news agency reported yesterday.

“The only thing that could put an end to the bloodshed ... is the appearance of another Moham-

med Ali Jinnah, who established a state for the Muslims and another for the Christians,” he said, referring to the partition model of Pakistan, which was born in 1947 after the Muslim minority of predominantly Hindu India founded their own homeland, led by Mohammed Ali Jinnah.

Gaddafi was speaking in the capital Tripoli to African student leaders, some of them from Nigeria, the agency reported.

Nigeria has witnessed bouts of

sectarian violence, the most recent one in Jos, where tit-for-tat attacks left hundreds dead.

“The painful situation that Nigeria is enduring resembles the situation of the Indian subcontinent before 1947, at the time of the massacres between Hindus and Muslims,” Gaddafi said in the remarks on Monday.

India's partition resulted in hundreds of thousands killed, thousands raped, and more than 10 million left homeless on both

sides.

The Libyan leader suggested that former President Olusegun Obasanjo should lead efforts for a Christian homeland in the south with Lagos as its capital, and that a Muslim homeland in the north should have Abuja as its principal city.

Gaddafi, until recently the head of the African Union, said the two communities should peacefully agree to share Nigeria's oil and other natural wealth. He is

known for unusual declarations. Last month, he called for “holy war” against Switzerland ostensibly because of a recent Swiss referendum banning the construction of new mosque minarets.

During Israel's attack on Gaza last year, he urged Arab leaders to let their citizens travel to the territory to fight Israel. But he then said the world's Jews deserved their own homeland — albeit in a state shared with Palestinians called “Isratine.”

PIC: FELIX ONIGBINDE

## RMAFC: No pension for acting governors

By Idris Ahmed

THE 1999 constitution did not make provision for anybody that acted as state governor to benefit from a lifetime pension that former governors and deputy governors are entitled to, the Revenue Mobilization Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC) has said.

RMAFC Chairman Eng. Hamman Tukur told *Daily Trust* that the amended law by the Adamawa State House of Assembly to favour its current speaker, who served acted as governor for two months, is unconstitutional.

Adamawa State House of Assembly had last week included a clause in its amended law to offer a lifetime pension to its Speaker James Barka as a former acting governor of the state.

The ‘Adamawa State Governor's Pension (Amendment) Law 2010’ states that “Any person who through democratic process took oath and acted as a governor of the state is entitled to pension and such other benefits for life.” “That law can't stand because it contradicts the constitution,” Eng. Tukur said.

If the new law becomes operational, Barka, and acting governors by implication, would be entitled to free housing, free medical care, regular supply of vehicles, retinue of personal staff and protocol services, same with former governors and deputy governors.

Section 124(5) of the 1999 constitution stipulates that: “Provisions may be made by a Law of a House of Assembly for the grant of a pension or gratuity to or in respect of a person who had held office as Governor or Deputy Governor and was not removed from office as a result of impeachment; and any pension granted by virtue of any provisions made in pursuance of this subsection shall be a charge upon the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the State.”

Barka acted as governor of Adamawa State in 2008 for two months within which a rerun election was held following the annulment of the governorship election in the state.



MEMBERS of Nigerian youths and Nigerian actresses in struggle with policemen at the entrance of the National Assembly during their protest over the state of the nation in Abuja yesterday.

## FG says militants have no reason to bomb Warri

By Abdulfattah Olajide and Mohamed S. Shehu

The Federal Government said the Niger Delta militants have no reason whatsoever to bomb the Delta State Government House Annex in Warri.

Minister for Niger Delta Ufot Ekaeta stated this yesterday shortly after the Niger Delta stakeholders' committee meeting with the Acting President Goodluck Jonathan at the Presidential Villa, Abuja.

The Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) had claimed responsibility for the Monday's explosion at the Post Amnesty Dialogue organized by Vanguard Newspapers in Warri, Delta State, claiming that it struck to prove that the movement was not a media creation.

Jonathan has also directed all

stakeholders in the Niger Delta to fast-track the implementation of the post amnesty program.

Jonathan who stated this yesterday through his spokesmen, Ima Niboro, said the government was determined to address the problem through infrastructural and social development of the Niger Delta region.

Ekaeta, who represented Jonathan at the post amnesty event, said the attack remained a mystery to him.

He also dismissed reports that the attack has signalled the end of the amnesty programme saying it only succeeded in aborting another opportunity to proffer solution to the Niger Delta problems through dialogue.

Ekaeta said the event could have provided a missing link in the entire amnesty programme and expressed unhappiness that the event had to end on a sad note.

## Minister: Police foresaw Delta blasts

By Misbahu Bashir

MINISTER of Police Affairs Dr. Ibrahim Yakubu Lame said police have anticipated the recent blasts in Warri, Delta State that abruptly ended the post amnesty confab organized by the Vanguard newspaper.

The minister said yesterday in Abuja that the Inspector General of Police Ogbonna Onovo had briefed him on the incident in which the police made adequate arrangement in anticipation.

“The police isolated all vehicles from the venue apart from those of invited guests which reduced the crowd around. This even reduced the number of casualty,” he said.

Two explosives were detonated near the Delta State Government House annex in Warri, during the post amnesty dialogues organised by Vanguard Newspapers. Three people reportedly died while six others were seriously injured.

The minister said police have commenced investigations into the blasts saying “Police are on top of the situation”. Meanwhile, the minister also denied saying that policemen are incompetent.

Speaking during the commissioning of 134 new Toyota Hilux (pick-up) vehicles for the seven-city policing programme in Abuja, Lame said, “I never said the police are not performing, but showed concern on how the image of the country is being portrayed on security.”

He said Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs), boats and bullet-proof vehicles have been ordered for use by the police, adding that effort is being made to install Closed Circuit Television Cameras (CCTV) in seven selected cities.

Onovo said the vehicles would be utilised in the prevention of crimes and violence and the police need more operational vehicles and helicopters.

## AC berates INEC's election timetable

By Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

THE National Secretary of Action Congress (AC), Dr. Usman Bugaji yesterday said Chairman of Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) Professor Maurice Iwu's unveiling of a proposed timetable for 2011 general election was a plot to perpetuate his leadership of the commission against popular wish. Iwu's first tenure of five years expires by July 6th. Dr. Bugaji said the chairman had moved swiftly to unveil the time table so that he3 will be given another mandate.

He told BBC Hausa Service that AC and its allies will soon meet to critically assess the new arrangement and come up with a position.

## 98.2% flunk NECO exams

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4.41 percent.

Speaking on cases of malpractices, he said Kogi State ranked the highest with 27.63 percent, Bauchi came next with 23.08 percent and Ondo came third with 23.06 percent.

The NECO registrar further said FCT-Abuja ranked lowest in cases of malpractices with 1.14 percent, followed by Abia with 1.72 percent and then Oyo with 4.63 percent.

He called on candidates to check on the NECO website for their results, adding that they can use the scratch card earlier used for registering for the examination as there won't be any need to buy a new card.

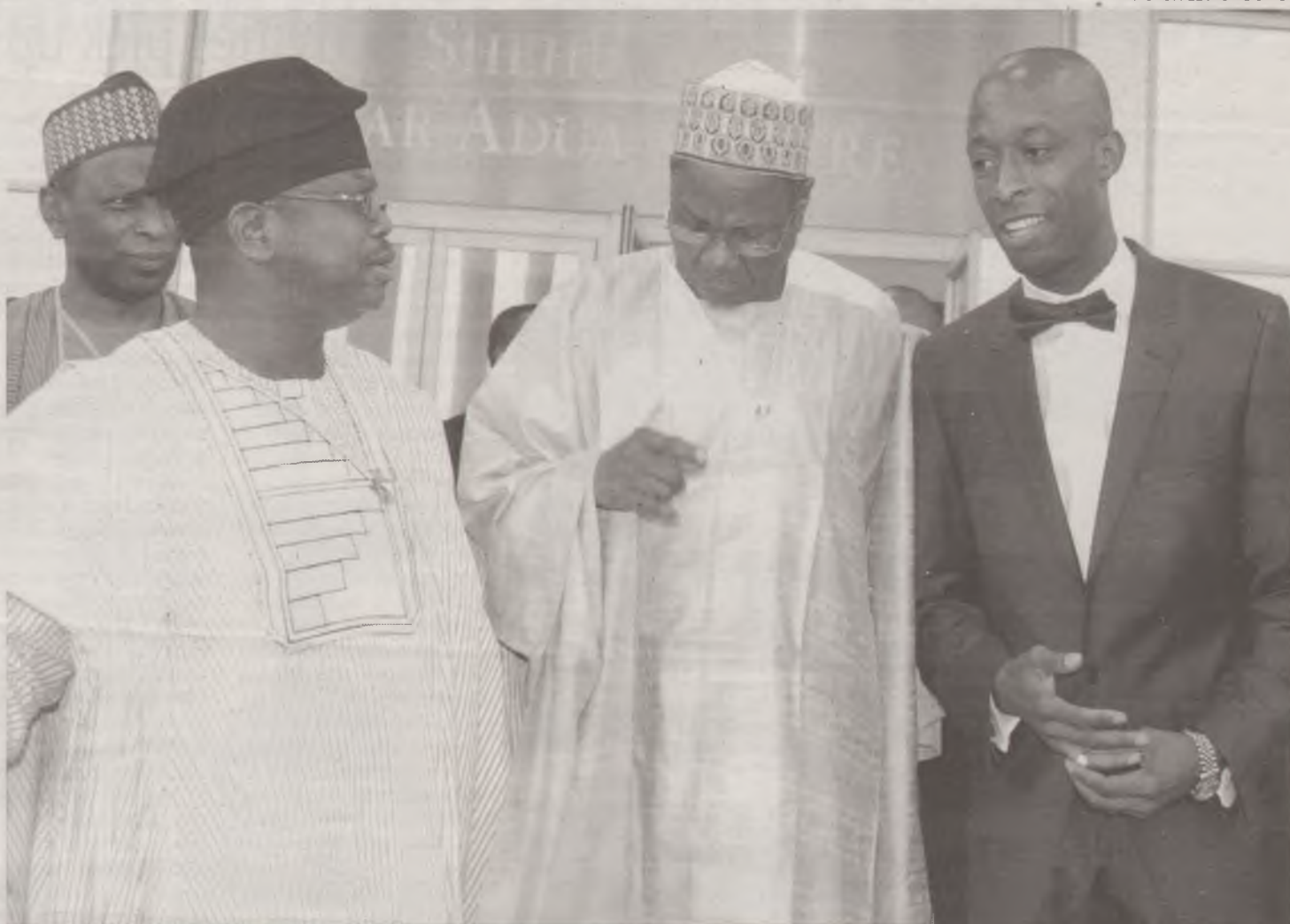
"We advice candidates to check the internet for their results with the same scratch card they used in registering for the examinations", he said.

When asked to compare the current result with last year's, Okpala said, "Last year's result wasn't really good, so it is difficult to compare the two bad situations as both have very poor outcomes."

It could be recalled that most secondary school leavers failed the May-June examinations conducted by the West Africa Examinations Council (WAEC), the National Examinations Council (NECO) and the National Board for Technical Education (NBTE).

Of the candidates who sat for this year's May/June Senior Secondary Examinations, 84% failed. According to WAEC, only 356,981 or 25.99 per cent of the 1,373,009 candidates (755,955 males and 617,054 females) got five credit passes and above in English, Mathematics and at least three other subjects. Of those who passed, 116,729 are Science-oriented; 33,024 in Social Science class, and 100,632 in the Arts.

Of the 1,200,765 candidates who registered for the May/June NECO examinations, only 126,500 or 10.7% secured five credits, including English and Mathematics. Also, 289,966 candidates or 24.5% came out with five credits without English and Mathematics.



FROM left: Minister of Youth Development, Senator Akinlabi Olasunkami, Secretary to the Government of Federation Mahmud Yayale Ahmed and Speaker, Nigeria Youth Parliament Onofiok Luke during the regional senior government officials meeting in Abuja yesterday.

## Jonathan to meet political parties

By Abbas Jimoh & Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

ACTING President Goodluck Jonathan would be meeting 57 registered political parties and other stakeholders to ensure the success of the 2011 general election, just as he promised to ensure free and fair elections in 2011.

Jonathan, represented by Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Prince Adetokumbo Kayode SAN, stated this yesterday in Abuja at the opening of the three-day national conference for stakeholders in the electoral process themed '2011 General Elections: Issues and Challenges'.

"We promise today that we will do all within our powers to promote open, free, fair and transparent election. This government is ready for electoral process and

there is no going back on that. Very soon I will call be calling a meeting with all political parties to build confidence on the electoral process including promoting credible election; all this to benefit the generations to come," he said.

"Nigerians are not happy about our elections," the Acting President said and urged the National Assembly to expedite action on amending the electoral laws. He said a great opportunity lie ahead 'to right the wrongs and advance our democracy beyond the negativism'.

The Acting President also warned that politics should not continue to be a ground for god-fatherism, anger and frustration, stressing that ethnicity, the indigene/settler dichotomy, regionalism and religious differences must not be allowed to becloud the polity.

## Ohakim, Haliru defend Iwu

By Suleiman M. Bisalla, Abbas Jimoh & Abdulmutallib A. Abubakar

GOVERNOR of Imo State Ihedi Ohakim and the Deputy National Chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party Dr. Bello Haliru Mohamed have said that condemning the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and calling for Iwu's removal will not help any politician to win election in Nigeria.

The duo spoke separately in defense of the wide condemnation of the electoral chief and the commission at the opening of a three-day conference for in Nigeria's electoral process in Abuja yesterday.

According Governor Ohakim, rather than casting aspersion on INEC, people should direct their energies towards calling on the political actors to reform their attitudes.

He regretted that those who lose elections waist precious time 'propounding hypothesis on how INEC failed'.

"Whether we like it or no INEC has performed creditably.

You may not agree with me but in a democracy, I'm entitled to my opinion...election in Nigeria is a complicated issue, the electoral field is full of electoral mines. Politicians who have become deities feel that if they didn't win election, the world will become to end," he said.

Taking his turn, Deputy National Chairman of the PDP Alhaji Haliru said demanding for Iwu's removal will not serve any purpose and urged the electorate to vote and guard their votes jealously.

The PDP chief regretted that many opposition politicians do not go to the electorate to canvass for votes, but only wait to criticize the elections or seek to win in the courts.

He'said, already, rather than seek for votes; some politicians have started bracing up to condemn the 2011 polls.

He insisted that the PDP was determined to promote electoral reforms, stressing that the recent Anambra governorship election brought hope for improved elections.

## 2011 elections hold Jan or April

Continued from page 1

ary 8 or April 9; while the governorship/state assembly elections are slated for January 15 or April 16.

While saying that for all elections in 2011, the votes will be counted at the end of the polls in every polling centre, Iwu said the commission is by this rule com-

mitted to eliminating the possibility of "those miracles" that had been known to happen in the past between polling centres and collation points.

On the voters' register, he said, "The Commission is determined to let Nigeria's electoral process reap the full benefits of the electronic voters register. For two distinct periods before the 2011 elec-

tions therefore, the Commission will be mounting a review and revalidation of registered voters in all constituencies across the country. The first of these exercises will take place between April and July, 2010. We have also established a National Voters Registry and two electronic data back-up centres to facilitate processing and maintenance of vital electronic informa-

tion for the conduct of elections in Nigeria."

Senate President David Mark, whose representative had earlier declared that the National Assembly would not adopt the use of Electronic Voting Machines (EVM) for the 2011 polls, however advised INEC to give priority to voters' education and sensitisation.

PIC: OLADIPUPO ODUNEWU



TRUCKS loaded with tomatoes and pepper started arriving Lagos as traders suspended their one week strike. That brought commercial activities to a stand still.

## Biz activities pick up after strike

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He lamented that despite their contribution to meat distribution in the Southern states, their members were being exploited.

The Borno State Chairman of Miyetti Allah Cattle Breeders Association Alhaji Ahmadu Musa who also complained over multiple taxes suffered by cattle dealers said he would go Abuja to attend a meeting with the Chambers of Commerce to tackle the issue.

With the resumption of trading activities between the North and Southern states, normalcy has returned in various markets across the region.

Our correspondents who visited the Ibadan market report that there is now availability of pepper and other condiments which have been elusive in the markets for the past one week due to strike action.

Signs of the gradual return of normalcy became noticeable on Monday when four trailer loads of assorted pepper were off loaded at the popular Shasha Market in Oyo State.

Our reporters who visited the Shasha and Bodija markets in Ibadan on Tuesday said prices of the commodity have been drastically reduced following the arrival of the new consignments. For instance, some quantity of pepper that sold for N500 over the weekend is now selling for the normal price of about N100 in the markets.

Oyo State Agriculture commissioner, Mr. Kunle Ishola, at a meeting held with stakeholders in his office also assured the people of the state that "cows are now coming in gradu-

ally into the state," thus signifying an end to the artificial scarcity of the commodity in the market.

"Four trailers have arrived Shaha this morning and I want to believe that the situation will return to normalcy in due course," the Commissioner stated just as he explained that the scarcity of the commodity was as a result of a disagreement between the suppliers and pepper sellers.

While maintaining that the issue at stake had been resolved amicably, the commissioner warned the stakeholders not to hoard the commodity any longer.

He also gave assurance that the government would address the veterinary fees which was being charged per cow at the designated slaughter slabs to check the high cost of meat.

Normal business activities also resumed at the two prominent food stuff and livestock markets in Lagos, our correspondents who went around Lagos metropolis especially at Mile 12 and Alaba rago in Okomaiko in Ojo Local government of Lagos state on Tuesday said that business activities have resumed.

At the Julius Berger the main entrance to the Lagos, trucks loaded with cows were seen unmolested by the police who mounted gate at the point.

*Daily Trust's* investigations at Mile 12 yesterday indicated that the prices of food stuff are gradually coming down. A basket of tomatoes was sold for N3,500 as against N9,500 charged last week, a bag of pepper which was sold for N15,000 during the strike

is now N6,500 while a bag of carrots which was sold for N13,000 is now N6,000.

Also a bag of beans which was sold for N13,000 last week now goes for N5,000 at the various markets.

At Alaba rago, a ram now goes for between N50,000 and N60,000 against last week's N120,000 and N150,000.

At Abattoir, a cow can be bought between N75,000 and N100,000 depending on the size.

Speaking with our correspondents in Lagos yesterday, the Public Relations officer (PRO) of the Food Items Association, Alhaji Muhammed Abdul confirmed that the strike has been suspended and that vehicles loaded with food stuff and cattle have been arriving Lagos since Sunday from the Northern States.

“ Signs of the gradual return of normalcy became noticeable on Monday when four trailer loads of assorted pepper were off loaded at the popular Shasha Market in Oyo State.

PIC: ISA UMAR GUSAU



COWS at the Gaboru market yesterday, waiting to be shipped to Southern Nigeria.



TRAILERS in queue at the Gaboru market yesterday, waiting to load cows for shipment to Southern Nigeria.

# Reps threaten to reject Jonathan's requests

By Nasidi A. Yahaya

THE House of Representatives yesterday threatened to declare Acting President Goodluck Jonathan's requests "illegal" if he sends such requests late.

The resolution followed the failure of the Acting President to formally request for the approval for the appointment of five Special Advisers from the House of Representatives.

The lawmakers warned that it would no longer such acts from the executive.

Speaking at yesterday's plenary session, Deputy

Speaker Usman Bayero Nafada (PDP, Gombe State), who presided over the session, said the members are not under any obligation to remind the executive of the provisions of the constitution as it relates to requests.

He said: "Henceforth, if they write to the Senate without doing so to the House, we will not remind them. We will not approve and whatever they do there will be illegal."

"It is obvious that there is a problem on the part of the executive for their failure to send the request to the House of Representatives when they were sending to the Senate but this should be the last time that that the House will

remind them of their duties," he added.

The House took the decision while adopting the resolutions of a motion moved by Rep Tunde Akogun (PDP, Edo State), who urged the House to approve the appointment, remuneration and allowances of five special advisers for the acting president.

Rep Ita Enang (PDP, Akwa Ibom State) condemned the executive's habit of leaving the House out on such matters, saying henceforth the mps would not condone them.

In his contribution, Rep Halims Agoda said it was a slight on the House by the presidency to bring such matters late.

## S/Court to hear case on Jokolo's deposition Oct 26

By Nasir Imam & Ibraheem Musa, Kaduna

THE Supreme Court, on Monday in Abuja, has fixed October 26, to hear the case of the deposition of Alhaji Al-Mustapha Haruna Jokolo as Emir of Gwandu on the basis of accelerated hearing.

Jokolo, had in 2005 filed a suit before the High Court in Kebbi challenging his deposition by the Kebbi State government and sought, among other things, a declaration that his deposition by the then state governor, Sen. Adamu Aliero, is irregular, illegal, unconstitutional, null and void and of no effect.

Sen Adamu Aliero and 12 others had through their Counsel, Yunus Ustaz Usman (SAN), filed a preliminary objection to the effect that Gwandu emirate council constitutes a local council and a one-month notice must be given in any litigation with a local council which was not done in this case.

Yunus Ustaz Usman said the Judge of the Kebbi High Court agreed and struck out the case, but the plaintiffs asked the court of appeal to set aside the judgement of Kebbi High Court and made an order for determination of the case on merit.

He said Aliero and the other defendants thereafter went to the Supreme Court seeking the court to stop Kebbi High Court from hearing the case pending its decision on the matter, which, according to Yunus Ustaz Usman, the Supreme Court did on November 24, 2009.

Barrister Abubakar Malami (SAN), counsel to the former emir, told *Daily Trust* in Kaduna that they went to the Kebbi High Court asking it to go on with the hearing on the grounds that they were not served the November 24 Supreme Court order and because it was obtained by fraud.



ACTING President Goodluck Jonathan (right) with leader of Finland delegation, Dr. Paavo Vayryne (middle) when Finnish officials visited the State House, Abuja, yesterday.

## Nigeria, Brazil sign pact on culture, human rights

By Mohammed S. Shehu

NIGERIA and Brazil have signed a memorandum of understanding on cooperation in the areas of cultural rights, combat against discrimination, promotion of racial equality and other related activities.

Minister of Tourism, Culture and National Orientation, Bello Jibrin Gada and the Brazilian minister in charge of the secretariat for the promotion of racial policies and equality Mr. Edson Santos signed the agreement on behalf of the two countries in Abuja.

Speaking at the ceremony, Gada said the MoU was an offshoot of a three-year collaboration between Nigeria through the Centre Black African Arts and Culture (CBAAC) and the racial policies secretariat in Brazil.

He said the agreement would further strengthen the existing mutual relationship between the two countries.

Highlighting the importance of the agreement, the Executive Director of CBAAC, Prof. Tunde Babawale said it was as a result of two major international colloquia issued by the two countries in the last two years.

He said the colloquia centered on issues of the history of Africans in the Diaspora and the need for the two countries to form a closer relationship. He said this would give the two countries the opportunity to network together.

In his remarks, Santos said Nigeria provided his country a lot of convergent point in the relationship especially in areas of culture, science and technology.

He said their mission was to strengthen relationship with the government of Nigeria in a bid to strengthen the study of African history in Brazil.

## US lauds FG over 'unedited' report Uwais panel report

By Aisha Umar Agaie

THE United States of America has commended Nigerian government for transmitting the full, unedited version of the Electoral Reform Committee (ERC) report to the National Assembly for its consideration.

"We applaud this bold action to send the unedited ERC report to the National Assembly, which demonstrates Nigeria's

willingness to work toward holding more transparent elections," the U.S. mission in Nigeria said in a statement.

The U.S. said the National Assembly now has the opportunity to consider a wider range of potential reforms recommended by the ERC and hoped the lawmakers will "deliberate and move forward quickly on passage of important electoral reforms so that key steps can be taken toward holding credible elections in Nigeria in 2011."

U.S. Ambassador to Nigeria Robin Renee Sanders said "We encourage the Nigerian government to continue in this positive direction. As a friend and partner of Nigeria, the United States will continue to work with the people and government of Nigeria to strengthen and enrich democratic institutions in Nigeria, particularly regarding election reform, and forwarding the unedited ERC report is a step in the right direction."

## River Niger to be ready for navigation in June – Contractors

By Shehu Abubakar

INDICATIONS have emerged that the ongoing dredging of the Niger River may be completed on schedule and full navigation activities may commence by June this year.

All the four contractors handling the dredging of the river told Transport Minister Alhaji Ibrahim Isa Bio when he toured the full length of the river to personally inspect the dredging work.

Bio said he was satisfied that the dredging work is going on effectively and according to specification, adding that engineers and other specialists from the Ministry will continue to keep close mark on the contractors until the dredging is completed.

Bio, who was at all the five lots covering the full length of the river, said he was very optimistic that if the contractors maintain the tempo in the execution of the contract, the dredging work will be completed by June and navigation

activity may start in the river immediately.

He said the volume of sand now discovered in the river that must be excavated is more than the quantity earlier estimated.

Chairman of Fung-Tai Nigeria limited handling the dredging work at lot one, Sir Chuks Eze, said he has ordered for six dredgers in addition to the one he has been using to enable his company meet up the completion period of the work.

# Sokoto guber: Court of Appeal suspends judgment indefinitely

From Rakiya A. Muhammad, Sokoto

THE Court of Appeal in Sokoto has suspended judgment on the governorship election petition between the DPP candidate Alhaji Maigari Dingyadi

and Governor Aliyu Wamakko indefinitely.

The Court of Appeal had fixed yesterday March 16, 2010 for judgement after it was initially adjourned on February 24.

However the Supreme Court on Monday March 15, granted the relief sought by Governor Aliyu Wamakko to stay action on the case.

When the case came up yesterday, the presiding Judge,

Justice Musa Dattijo, said the adjournment followed the directive by the Supreme Court for the court to stay action. He said the parties would be notified whenever the judgement is due.



ONDO State Governor Olusegun Mimiko (left) inspecting the eye of a pupil of L.E.A. Primary School, Owode-Owena, Master Lekan Ganiyu suffering from glaucoma shortly before announcing a free eye surgery for the boy at Owode Owena in Ifedore Local Government Area of the state.

## Kadpoly matriculates 7000 students

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

THE Kaduna State Polytechnic yesterday matriculated 7000 students for the 2009/2010 academic session.

The Rector of the institution Dr. Danjuma I. Isah who spoke at the ceremony said the students were admitted into various programmes at both the National Diploma (ND) and Higher National Diploma (HND) levels.

He said the institution now had 100 percent accreditation for all academic programmes in the institution. Dr. Isah said the Federal Government through the Education Trust Fund (ETF) had approved a special intervention fund of N1.2 billion for the improvement of structures and purchase of equipment for the institution this year.

He said the management of the institution in collaboration with the ETF had identified critical intervention areas and that very soon the institution would be up graded.

He warned that the institution would not harbour anyone whether staff or student involved in anti-social activities such as cultism and examination malpractices, saying anybody found wanting would be made to face the law.

"You are therefore advised to liaise with the office of the Dean of Students Affairs and study the list of approved associations in the school before joining them. You are also advised not to dress indecently," he added.

He urged the students to tolerate one another and live in peace, saying without peace there would be no development.

## Shekarau urges law on street begging

From Ismail Mudashir, Kaduna

KANO State Governor Ibrahim Shekarau has called for the enactment of a law by the National Assembly and state Assemblies to address street begging in the North.

Delivering a lecture titled, "The challenges of Almajirici and destitution in the North" at the annual lecture of the Arewa Media Forum in Kaduna, he said whatever policies are put in place to address the challenges of the almajiri system, there must be a legislation at federal and state levels to back them up.

The governor who spoke through the Kano State Com-

missioner for Science and Technology Dr. Bashir Galadanchi said, "However care must be taken to ensure that such a legislation gets all the inputs required from relevant stakeholders, including the alaramomi, themselves so that it truly addresses the problems and challenges of the system. The state Assemblies would also need to make their own relevant laws," he said.

According to him, the challenges facing almajirai are enormous, saying attempts had been made to address these problems, but were unsuccessful because of the lack of political will among other factors.

"If the problems of the almajirai are essentially in the education sector, then the responsibility of addressing them falls on the shoulders of the different levels of government. The Federal Government must take a critical look at the entire system and evolve a specific policy that would directly address the problems of the system. The policy must recognise the Tsangaya system for what it is, an educational system that has been in existence for ages. It needs to be upgraded to accommodate the missing elements, but it would have to retain its emphasis on Qur'anic recitation and memorization," he said.

## Kano govt, health workers agree on new salary

From Ibrahim Musa Giginyu, Kano

THE Kano State government and the Joint Action Committee on Health Professionals have signed an agreement on the implementation of a new salary scale for health workers in the state.

The state Head of Service Alhaji Rabi Zakariyya said the state was the first to implement the consolidated health salary scale (CONHESS) for its health workers.

"We have agreed that health professionals in the state should start enjoying the new package this month. We have also agreed that the remaining 35 percent will

be implemented next year depending on the financial situation of the state. I have to commend the association for their understanding and cooperation," he said.

The Chairman of the Joint Action Committee on Health Profession, an amalgamated body comprising of different associations of health related workers, Comrade Sarki Adamu Musa, said they were aware of the fact that there was economic recession and were considerate.

Health workers in the state according to the new salary scale will now receive N23,064.34 as minimum salary.

## Jos crisis: NANS to hold government responsible for future crises

From Andrew Agbese, Jos

THE National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS) says it would hold both the state and

the Federal Governments responsible for any future crisis in Plateau State.

The national President of NANS Comrade Jude Imagwe

who spoke in Jos yesterday said students were tired of excuses and would want the government to take proactive measures to forestall a reoccurrence. He said gov-

ernment at all levels should live up to their responsibilities and ensure lasting peace in Plateau.

Comrade Imagwe said it was regrettable that the University of

Jos had lost a session due to incessant crises in the state.

NANS called on government to expose those behind the crises in Plateau.

# 2011: Forum wants FG to hasten electoral reform

By Abbas Jimoh

THE federal government has been urged to fast track and finalise the ongoing electoral reform process to ensure a credible free and fair election for the coming 2011 general elections.

The appeal was made by cross

sections of speakers at a one-day 'Nigeria People's Parliament' organised by Make Your Votes Count in partnership with Nigeria Democratic Liberty Forum and other organisations.

Coordinator of Make Your Votes Count Chido Onumah said the aim of the parliament

is to provide an alternative platform for Nigerians to discuss the country's immediate and future problems.

"This has become imperative in light of a National Assembly challenged by the task of discharging its constitutional responsibilities."

The forum themed "Securing and Strengthening Democracy" was presided over by Dr. Mairo Mandara.

Former Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) official Dapo Olorunyomi, who spoke on Corruption and Accountability, said that corrup-

tion is so astronomical in the country that what has been stolen by corrupt officials and politicians can build six times the model of Europe after it was re-built at the end of the Second World War.

He therefore calls on all Nigerians to assist the government in war against corruption.

PIC: SANI MAIKATANGA



SPEAKER, Kano State House of Assembly Alhaji Abdulaziz Garba Gafasa with other House members during their visit to Kantin Kwari market yesterday.

## Entrepreneurs create 731 jobs

By Hamisu Muhammad

A total of 731 youths have been employed by 227 entrepreneurs who graduated from the National Board for Technology Incubation (NBTI).

The entrepreneurs emerged from the Technology Incubation Centres (TICs) and Technology Incubation Programme (TIP) of the board across Nigeria with different skills in manufacture of consumer products and the subsequent setting up of various scales industries for the massive manufacture of the products for the markets.

The head of NBTI press unit Usman Abubakar said in a statement that the entrepreneurs have a net worth of N294 million, while the 146 trainee-entrepreneurs among them have a net worth of N829 million.

According to the figures released by the Board for the end of 2009, 22 of the graduated entrepreneurs have received various awards of excellence on the consumer products they manufacture; five entrepreneurs received patents for their inventions while 13 are awaiting approval for their patent applications.

The board pledged to support any Nigerian with such innovations or R&D results wishing to become an entrepreneur and set up an industry of his or her own to manufacture consumer products.

The TIP is an integrated support programme provided by the governments, academic institutions and the private sector, either individually or in partnership, with the intention of creating and nurturing budding value-added and technology-based enterprise.

## Jonathan's wife tasks women on capacity building

By Akor Ojoma

WIFE of Acting President, Dame Patience Jonathan, has called on women to build their capacities at every level both in the private or public sector to contribute meaningfully to national development.

She stated this yesterday in her address at the event marking the International Women's Day celebration in Abuja.

Mrs Jonathan said there is need for women to be adequately empowered to function. "Women should team together to ensure the implementation of the gender policy for 35% affirmative action of women in both appointive and elective positions and the domestication of The Convention

on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)."

Minister of Women Affairs and Social Development Mrs Salamatu Hussain Suleiman said the yearly event is an opportunity to review the challenges and accomplishments made in the efforts to promote the empowerment of women and ensure the actualization of gender equity, equality and balance in all aspects of life.

Salamatu said this year's activities are being celebrated under the global theme of "Equal Rights, Equal Opportunities: Progress for All," to coincide with the 15th Anniversary of the adoption of Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

## NGO trains women in conflict resolution

By Amina Alhassan

A nongovernmental organisation has trained its 36 states directors and coordinators on conflicts transformation, mediation and forgiveness during crisis situations.

The training took place during the annual state directors meeting held in Kaduna and participants were drawn from across the 36 states and Abuja under the national body of Women for Peace in Nigeria (WOPIN).

At the end of the three-day programme, the group has resolved to send delegations to Jos, Plateau State capital, as a result of the ethno-religious crises that have rocked the state.

Delivering a lecture at the meet-

ing, Professor Harriett Nettles of the University of Maryland USA, who is also a US court appointed mediator, said the role of mediators in conflict resolution is very important.

She said while mediating, the mediator should be neutral, non-judgmental, transparent and assist the parties to create a better conversation among others.

Participants were taught the act of mediation practically and how to forgive one another in finding a lasting solution, should in case of severe and sharp disagreement between parties in conflict, particularly families and other disputes.

National president of WOPIN Hajiya Maryam Abdullahi said the organisation puts the family setting the first in every peace initiative.

## Mark, PDP pay tribute to Lamido of Adamawa

By Abdul-Rahman Abubakar & Muideen Olaniyi

SENATE President David Mark has called on Adamawa State government to immortalise the late Lamido of Adamawa Alhaji Aliyu Mustapha "for posterity because his contributions to nation build-

ing are immeasurable."

In a condolence message to the Adamawa State Governor Murtala Nyako and family of the deceased, Mark said the late Monarch "lived an eventful and fulfilled life worthy of emulation."

He described the late Lamido as a man of peace, saying "I recall

that throughout the more than half a century of his reign in Adamawa, there was no record of violence or rancour in his domain, it was a rare achievement that should be emulated by today's leaders."

Also, the National Chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Prince

Vincent Ogbulafor described the passing away of the late Lamido as the 'end of a glorious era'.

Ogbulafor, who mourned the late traditional ruler on behalf of the party's National Working Committee (NWC), said his demise had created a huge vacuum.

PDP National Publicity Secretary Professor Rufai Ahmed Alkali, who spoke for the party, urged the people of Adamawa State to sustain the virtues of peace and respect for one another as a befitting tribute to the late Lamido whom he described as 'great sage of all time'.

# Kano Speaker commiserates with fire victims

From Hisham Habib Kano

SPEAKER of the Kano House of Assembly Alhaji Abdulaziz Garba Gafasa yesterday commiserated with victims of the Kantin Kwari

market fire. The Speaker who led legislators to the scene prayed to God to give the victims the courage to bear the loss. He assured the victims of the readiness of the House to assist them rebuild

their businesses, urging them to be patient.

The Speaker said as Muslims, they should always remember that every calamity is from God and that He knows how to take

care of his servants.

The Chairman of the National Amalgamated Traders Union Alhaji Bature Abdulaziz who went round the market with the legislators said they were happy with the

concern shown by the lawmakers. He commended the Speaker and the House for the gesture, adding that the traders would support government's efforts to prevent a reoccurrence.



FROM left: Minister of Defence, retired Maj.-Gen. Godwin Abbe, Ghanaian Minister of Interior Mr. Amidu Martins and President, ECOWAS Commission Ambassador James Gbeho, at the meeting of ECOWAS Ministers of Defence and Security in Abuja yesterday.

## Kano Fire Service sues bank over forgery

From Lawan Danjuma Adamu, Kano

THE Kano State Fire Service has instituted a legal action against a bank in Kano over alleged display of forged fire safety certificate and contravention of the state fire safety regulations. Assistant Director in charge of Safety Enforcement and Legal Matters in the agency, BH Kabara, told our correspondent yesterday in Kano that the bank had already been served with a court summon over the issue, saying the matter would come up for mention on March 18, before a magistrate's court. Kabara added that the alleged forged document was discovered by his men at the premises of the bank when they went on a fire safety enforcement duty on March 4, 2010, saying the visit was a follow up to an earlier routine inspection in January where the bank was ordered to report to its headquarters in order to obtain fire certificate.

He said when the one

month ultimatum given to the bank to acquire the certificate elapsed, the department approached it to find out its reason for defaulting, only to discover that it had produced a fake copy of the said document and pasted it on its wall to evade payment of the certificate fee. Kabara said his department quickly wrote the bank and notified it of the said fake certificate and also asked it to forward the name and address of the signatory of the certificate within a week or face legal action. He said it was when the bank failed to comply that the fire service took the matter to court where it is asking for an order to seal off the Bachirawa branch for failing to comply with the Fire Protection Regulation 1885 and Fire Service Edict 1970.

When contacted by our correspondent, the administrative manager of the branch confirmed the case, but declined further comments citing "security reasons."

## Mimiko condoles LG over slain worker

From Leye Adewumi, Akure

ONDO State Governor Olusegun Mimiko yesterday visited Akure South Local Government Council to commiserate with the workers of the council over the death of Mr. Dayo Adeola, a staff of the local government who was killed recently, assuring that justice would be done. The governor who was received by the chairman of the council interim committee, Mr. Tayo Oluwatuyi, commended the council workers for the manner in which they handled the matter.

"I must commend you for your maturity and the faith you have in your leadership. For refusing to take law into your hands,

I'm very proud of you. You have demonstrated a high sense of maturity which shows that we are civilized in Ondo State", he said.

The governor commiserated with the family of the deceased and promised that they would be compensated. The interim caretaker chairman, Mr. Tayo Oluwatuyi, commended the governor for his commitment to justice, saying the governor's position on the matter led to the arrest of the culprit.

Mr Dayo Adeola, a staff of Akure South Local Government Council was allegedly shot dead by a policeman, Corporal Tunde Bolarinwa, last week Thursday in Akure, the state Capital.



### COMMUNITY ACTION FOR POPULAR PARTICIPATION (CAPP)

#### VACANCIES

Community Action for Popular Participation (CAPP) is a membership, voluntary, non-religious, non-ethnic, non-governmental and not for profit, community focused organization established in 1993.

As a result of a special education initiative targeting the girl-child in Northern Nigeria, we require the services of qualified and experienced persons who have passion for work in basic education, gender HIV/AIDS for these positions.

Position: Programme Officer (2 positions) Bauchi and Katsina

#### Key Responsibilities:

- Work closely with the Programme Manager
- Coordinate and execute state project activities
- Coordinate research and documentation in selected states
- Project documentation and circulation
- Mobilize and conduct training for stakeholders in the project area

#### Functional Skills and competences

- Functional skills and knowledge, ability to work effectively in team.
- Ability to analyze data, present results and effectively monitor progress
- Good command of written and spoken English and Hausa Languages
- Ability to work with diverse and large groups
- Excellent communication and presentation skills
- Computer literacy and basic skill
- Training/teaching/facilitation skills

#### Experience and qualifications

- A good degree or equivalent in Social Sciences, Humanities and Journalism, Linguistics, Sociology, and Arts.
- Basic computer certification
- Good knowledge of communities dynamics in Northern Nigeria
- 2-4 years working experience in CSO or social development field.
- Certification in education will be added advantage
- Knowledge of project management and administration is a key requirement
- Must be able to speak Hausa language.

All Applications should be forwarded to [capppopular@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:capppopular@yahoo.co.uk)

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.  
Women are strongly encouraged to apply

Application Deadline: Two weeks from the date of publication.

## Jigawa sponsors 18 students for studies abroad

From Yusha'u A Ibrahim, Dutse

THE Jigawa State government has sponsored 18 secondary school students that excelled in the West African Examination Council (WEAC) and National Examination Council (NECO) to Egypt to study medicine. Addressing the beneficiaries yesterday, Governor Sule Lamido said the gesture was part of the present administration's effort to produce more doctors and engineers in the state. He added that government would continue to sponsor candidates with the best WAEC and NECO results in the state.

"We will not let our future to fail. I am therefore urging you to reciprocate the gesture by studying hard. We want you to come back as qualified doctors. I hope that in five years, you will come back and take up employment with the state government and serve your people. The money being invested on you is for the people

of Jigawa and they are expecting you to come and serve them after completing your studies", he said.

The Commissioner for Education Professor Ruqayyah Ahmad Rufa'i said the students would leave Nigeria for Egypt on Thursday, adding that this batch was the fourth to be sent abroad for studies since the inception of the present administration.

Professor Rufa'i added that 13 of the students earlier sent abroad had successfully completed their degrees, three studying for their masters degrees in the UK while 20 others would conclude their first degree programmes next year.

The Executive Secretary of the Jigawa State Scholarship Board Alhaji Babangida Husaini commended the government for its commitment towards manpower development.

Alhaji Babangida added that Jigawa had started repositioning its education sector, appealing to the government to maintain the tempo.

# Online Reactions

WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ON [www.dailytrust.com](http://www.dailytrust.com)



**CBN Governor Sanusi Lamido Sanusi**

## CBN rolls back Soludo's reforms

THIS is a positive development in the banking sector. It is very clear to all that the consolidation of banks by Prof. Soludo was a farce and it only succeeded in breeding MDs that were feeding fat on depositors' funds.

**Ibrahim Tsadu Ibrahim**  
[elkutigi@gmail.com](mailto:elkutigi@gmail.com)

I believe Sanusi is carrying out all these reforms to restore sanity and avoid any possibility of distress in the banking sector. It is a wonderful development and a welcomed idea. I want to advise Sanusi to give more attention also to Micro-Finance Banks and other finance houses because of their role in touching the lives of the downtrodden.

**Zanna Baruwa Gashua**  
[bukar.zanna@yahoo.com](mailto:bukar.zanna@yahoo.com)

I am very happy with this development. It is more realistic, practicable, simple and easier to govern. It will certainly bring about the much needed concentration and specialization of the banks and of course bring in more investors into the system. We certainly are going to go away from the jack-of-all-trade, master-of non banks. And as a matter of fact it will bring more banks closer to the people as the nation is grossly under-banked believe or not.

**Mustapha**  
[mustie01ng@yahoo.com](mailto:mustie01ng@yahoo.com)

The Nigerian economy has failed to achieve meaningful development due to the inconsistencies in implementing policy. Why would Prince Sanusi not continue with the UBS under a well-censored and monitored structure? After all business is all about risk and depositors funds must be invested in viable ventures to yield returns for investors. It is wrong to weather away the Universal Banking System at this time.

**Andrew Gauji**  
[gaujiandrew@yahoo.com](mailto:gaujiandrew@yahoo.com)

## SNG formed to ridicule Yar'adua - Group

CISAN should see themselves as those that don't want the progress of Nigeria and at the same time the ones trying to overheat the polity by their actions. Even if the SNG were formed by Obasanjo as claimed by CISAN, SNG

## Suspected kidnapper killed in Kano

NIGERIANS are not law abiding at all. Imagine how people chased an innocent man and burnt him to ashes based on unfounded rumors. It is very unfortunate and if we continue like this, Nigeria will become a stage for free brutal killings. God forbid.

**Zanna Baruwa Gashua**  
[bukar.zanna@yahoo.com](mailto:bukar.zanna@yahoo.com)

It is time the Kano state government ban the operation of Okada in the metropolis.

**Mohammed**  
[amhial2@yahoo.com](mailto:amhial2@yahoo.com)

Nigerians have resorted to taking law in to their own hands because of loss of confidence in the nation's security system.

**Kabiru Danladi**  
[kblondon2003@yahoo.com](mailto:kblondon2003@yahoo.com)

What are Okada operators turning into? Why can't the government put a stop to their nefarious activities? Are they serving the people or are they killing them? My belief is that the Okada operators operating in Kano are stronger than the government that is why they can treat anybody anyhow they like and still get away with it. If the state government is incapable of stopping their activities, the federal government should do something about it...or are they above the federal government too?

**Ismail**  
[asimails@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:asimails@yahoo.co.uk)

It is high time the Kano State government take the bull by the horns and take a proper decision on Okada riders. They are not contributing anything to the develop-

ment of the state. They don't pay revenue and they are a complete nuisance to the society. May Allah in His infinite mercies forgive the sins of the deceased. It is on record that many states have banned Okada from their streets. Kano should also borrow a leaf.

**Farouk Umar Musa**  
[farouknahco@yahoo.com](mailto:farouknahco@yahoo.com)

It is quite unfortunate the way Okada riders take the law into their hands without the intervention of security personnel. The state should come up with a better solution to the problems they cause to the public.

**Mustapha Ali**  
[alimustapha60@yahoo.com](mailto:alimustapha60@yahoo.com)

It is unfortunate that this type of thing is still happening in our

society. This type of primordial behavior should be stopped and the Nigeria police have a lot to do. The culprits must be identified and brought to book. The activities of commercial motorcyclists in Kano have to be checkmated by the combined efforts of the State Government, FRSC and the police before there will get out of hand. May the soul of the gentleman rest in peace.

**Tijani Haruna**  
[haranem@yahoo.com](mailto:haranem@yahoo.com)

It's very unfortunate for a country like Nigeria to have law enforcement agents but who couldn't discharge their primary responsibilities up to the time that this man's life was taken away.

**Raji Yahaya Adewale**  
[abu4real64@yahoo.com](mailto:abu4real64@yahoo.com)



**SMOKE** billowing from the second car bomb blast on the NPA/DSC Expressway, opposite Delta Government House Annex in Warri during the post amnesty dialogue on Monday.

## Bomb blasts stop Niger Delta confab

IT is sad and unfortunate at a time when all are looking forward to peace! Disaster is in the offing. Please the security agencies should be on alert always! Governments, please do enough to cater for the needs of your peoples. I sympathize with the deceased.

**Ahmad**  
[batumuye@yahoo.com](mailto:batumuye@yahoo.com)

The happiest song ever composed by the self appointed MEND leader, Jomo Gbomo over the years was actually composed as a song of shame. The reason he gave for the attack 'was to prove to the governor of the Niger-Delta state that MEND was real'. What a cowardly statement! ...Even worse than the ones given for

the Jos attacks. All the major and minor ethnic groups in Nigeria are doing everything possible to make sure Jonathan succeeds in that honorable position, only for you miscreants of the creeks to come up with this...for what reason?

**Oladimeji**  
[osunkayode@yahoo.com](mailto:osunkayode@yahoo.com)

## ...MEND faction claims it bombed Warri

HOW can a small group of militants keep issuing orders to the Government and law

abiding citizens of the country as if they were above the law, which they are not and

will never be?  
**Rabiu Muhammad**  
[muhammadrabiu09@yahoo.com](mailto:muhammadrabiu09@yahoo.com)

## INEC releases 2011 polls timetable today

WHEN I read this kind of news I began to wonder were and how we never listen and learn from our mistake as my mother always tells me you never listen! the thing here is how can a man that was criticized and still is even by the government that came to power through his corrupt and improper handling of the last general elections in the country which almost brought the country into a state of collapse, because of this man called Prof Maurice Iwu be allowed to conduct another election, this is preposterous to let him decide the fate of 140 million people, and by allowing this to happen we have failed the fundamental rules of democracy.

**Rabiu Muhammad**  
[muhammadrabiu09@yahoo.com](mailto:muhammadrabiu09@yahoo.com)

## Keep the military out of this pettiness

PLEASE leave the Nigerian armed forces out of these petty political fights because they are the only institution that seems to still have the spirit of cooperation in the country at the moment and they have even gone outside their duties to do the work of the police. In order for history not to repeat itself we should let them be.

**Rabiu Muhammad**  
[muhammadrabiu09@yahoo.com](mailto:muhammadrabiu09@yahoo.com)

## Senator Argungu faults almajiri system

11 million almajirai? What happens in 10 years time when these children are grown up without any skills? We seem to be piling problems on ourselves. The north is sitting on a powder keg.

**I. Haruna**  
[haba\\_yaro@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:haba_yaro@yahoo.co.uk)

that has a contrary view should count himself as one that doesn't want the unity and peace of this great country, Nigeria. God save us.

**Jonathan**  
[j\\_ahua@yahoo.com](mailto:j_ahua@yahoo.com)



By Abdulkarim Abdulmalik

## Much ado about Dambazau

**T**he media play a special role in a free society. Perhaps, this is why a free press has often been called the oxygen of democracy as one cannot survive without the other.

It is in this light that one should reflect on the recent media war against the Chief of Army Staff, Gen. Abdulrahman Bello Dambazau over the deployment of army personnel to receive President Umar Musa Yar'adua at the Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport on February 23.

The controversy generated by such development was anchored on the Acting President Goodluck Jonathan's alleged ignorance of the entire episode. The military authorities tried to justify its action. Yet members of the public are sharply divided along ethnic and religious sentiments that further heightened the prevalent national crisis.

However, the matter would have died down as one the ripples effect of

“Yet, the man being accused of religious and ethnic bigotry made a Christian from the southwest his PSO. Who then is deceiving who?”

the impasse, but the vehement position taken by some Christian leaders especially the Northern Christians Elders' Forum (NCEF) who canvassed for the Army Chief's removal was seen by Muslim leaders as a fragrant display of intolerance not just for Dambazau but the entire Muslims community.

It is unfortunate that at a time when the nation needed most, the voice of men of God and elder statesmen to complement the wisdom of our bi-camera Legislative arm of the government, an “unregistered political party” called NCEF took a position that could further rock the boat. Where then is their godliness and elders' wisdom? The recent provocative utterance is not the first time an otherwise religious group or personalities would dabble into political crisis with unguided sentiment.

To start with the entire army population is about 90,000. The Muslim constitutes about 40 percent of that.

When President Yar'adua returned from Saudi Arabia, the Army was criticized for not informing Acting President Jonathan but the critics failed to also recognize that it was a joint Army-Air force exercise. However, this is not intended to draw the Air force into the controversy but if the Chief of Air Staff were a Muslim, would Dambazau's critics have spared him? The military men, as far as the issue of presidential security is concerned, should be taken for their words in matters concerning their duties. But in the event of any oversight, it could be resolved amicably without further hitting up the polity as done in the media by some self seeking Christian leaders/elders.

Bearing in mind that a man's judgment cannot be better than the information on which he has based it, the

Nigerian public is entitled to know the truth as it were, on the alleged lopsided postings in the Army. There are six Principal Staff Officers (PSOs) at the Army Headquarters and they are distributed as follows: Major General A.A. Adefarati, DAPP (policy and planning), a Muslim from Kwara State, has Christian as his deputy; Major General MB Obi, DTOPS (operations), a Christian from Cross River State also has a Christian deputy; Major General AM Jibril, DOAA (Administration), a Muslim from Kano State has Christian deputy; Major General UT Usman DOAL (legal), a Muslim from Kano State, has three deputies who are all Christians; Major General SU Abdulkadir, MS (Military Secretary), a Muslim from Niger State has Christian deputy; and Major General BC Azurunwa, DASE (Standards and Evaluation), a Christian from Abia State has a Muslim deputy.

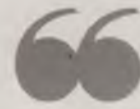
**B**eaming the search light on the highly sensitive GOCS (General Officers Commanding), the list showed that Major General KA Role GOC HQI DIV (Infantry), is a Muslim from southwest while his deputy is a Christian from the Niger Delta; Major General EGC Nwanguwa, GOC 81 DIV, (Lagos), a Christian from Imo State while his deputy is from southwest; Major General S. Maina, GOC 3 DIV, a Muslim from Kano State, his deputy is also from southwest; Major General LP Ngubane GOC 2 DIV, Adamawa State, is a Christian with fellow Christian deputy from Southwest; Major General MD Isah GOC 82 DIV, a Muslim from Kebbi State with deputy also from the north; and Major General DM Edi, GOC Garrison, a Christian from Cross River State with a Christian deputy from southwest. Of course the Principal Staff Officer (PSO) to the Chief of Army Staff is a Christian from southwest. It is pertinent to point out that whoever is familiar with the military structure will agree that the position of the PSO to the Army Chief is very strategic and highly influential. Yet, the man being accused of religious and ethnic bigotry made a Christian from the southwest his PSO. Who then is deceiving who?

In the case of Corps commanders, the army has a total of 19 among whom, nine are from the north while ten are south. Out of these 19, only five are Muslims while 14 are Christians.

The Nigerian Army has a total of 40 schools, each with a commandant. Among them, 28 are from the north while 12 south. Muslims are 20 and the Christians too are 20.

The Brigade Commanders, who are 35 in number, north has 20 while south 14. The Muslims among them are 13 with Christians account for 22. Interestingly, One Brigade Battalion, Sokoto, the seat of the Sultanate is under the command of Brigadier Gen. DD Enetie, a Christian from Akwa Ibom posted there to replace another Christian from Rivers State, Brigadier Gen. KTJ Minimah while Lt. Col. IO Agachi, Christian from southeast is commander of 177 Guards Battalion (Presidential Guard). Brig. Gen. PJ Isang Commands the Military Police Corps.

Abdulmalik can be reached at [nowmalik@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nowmalik@yahoo.co.uk)



By Ahmadu Abdullahi

## No mean task managing Africa's largest democratic organ

**T**he Nigerian House of Representatives is by far the single largest democratic institution on the African continent, comprising 360 members elected from Federal constituencies. Their election is on the basis of representation based on population, not equality of states as the case with the Senate.

In the last two years, the youthful Dimeji Bankole has been presiding over the affairs of the house as its speaker. Even in the best of democracy with a quarter of the number of Nigerian House of Representatives, debates and deliberations on the floor of parliament are often rowdy and sometimes rancorous.

The challenges of managing a 360 member House can be daunting; a lot of people don't seem to get this aspect in assessing Bankole's tenure so far. While some readily admit to Bankole making some pioneering moves in the history of the nation's federal legislature in such areas as budget process, like unspent funds, quantum of legislation and proactive oversight, that had in the least revealed the rot in some sectors, others would find fault with his leadership style, without a proper understand-

“The challenges of managing a 360 member House can be daunting; a lot of people don't seem to get this aspect in assessing Bankole's tenure so far”

ing of the dynamic of managing a chamber of 360 equal members.

The latter category would want to attribute democratic decision of the House to Bankole as if he is a dictator in the executive arm of government or accuse him of manipulating the process leading to the decisions. The fact that proceedings are broadcast live on national television gives the lie to that assertion.

**U**nlike in the Senate of 109 members, the House is mostly populated by young men and women with much of their lives and career still unfolding. Old men among them are the exception while the reverse is the case in the manageable 109 Senators.

In our peculiar political milieu, forces outside the chambers, mostly godfathers, like governors exercise a lot of influence on members' attitude and disposition. Debates on issues that appear innocuous soon get a complex colouration based on this external influence, which is often not factored in when people criticize Bankole's adroit handling of affairs of the House these last two years.

The issue of numbers also impact on the way the presiding officer discharges his functions. At any point in time, there will always be some opposition to whatever is on the floor. Nothing bad in this ordinarily, but when this opposition has other consideration or influences behind it, it becomes a herculean chal-

lenge just getting the House to move on. Whereas for instance we may have one third of 109 members opposed to an issue in the Senate through debate, a similar percentage in the House of 360, means quite a large chunk of people in a system that reckons with one-man-one-vote. So if we have three people creating problems in Senate, the equivalent in House will be over ten and that number sequentially raising points of order, a gimmick that one must be heard, can effectively filibuster the House into a deadlock on any legislative day.

This has been happening in recent time just to frustrate the Speaker and the House from taking decision/position democratically on national issues. At such times, Bankole as Speaker had to take measures just to ensure a decision, favourable or otherwise is taken, sometimes even against his wish and popular expectation.

That happened when some members wanted the House to debate a motion compelling President Umaru Yar'adua to abide by Section 145 of the constitution to make Dr. Goodluck Jonathan Acting President. A majority of the 360 members were opposed to debating the motion while a vocal minority wanted the House to take a position, following the easy passage of similar motion in the Senate.

**T**he majority in the House raised a total number of 14 points of order to ensure that the motion was not debated but the Speaker patiently overruled all the points of order, just to bow to public sentiment and allow a democratic decision to be taken on the issue. In addition, the Speaker uncharacteristically waived all the rules of the House to allow the motion to be taken as a matter of urgent national importance, as otherwise the bill would have to be taken on another day by the House rules. After an even debate by members for and against, the Speaker put the question and the motion was rejected by majority voice votes. Despite the transparent process, some uninformed observers have wrongly saw Bankole as being biased in handling of the issue.

Similar scenario took place when a motion was moved by Hon. Friday Itulah for the House to consider taking a position on alleged threat to democracy by the action of Comrade Adams Oshiohmole, the governor of Edo State. A raft of points of order was raised and when members appeared to be in breach of the rules of the House, Bankole threaten to impose harsh disciplinary measures that are in the rules book jointly made and subscribed to by all members.

Order was restored by this threat and the House eventually passed the resolution condemning Edo Governor for undemocratic acts and calling on the Inspector-General of Police to investigate alleged forgery of signatures of members of Edo State House of Assembly in the removal of their Speaker Garuba Zakawanna.

What can one make of all of this? Certainly the allegation of arbitrariness levelled against Bankole cannot hold water.

Abdullahi wrote from 23 Angwa Rimi Road, Kano.



Your Letters

Re: Genocide on the Plateau: The way out

In his 1996 book *The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of the New World Order* the American political scientist Samuel P. Huntington theorized that "peoples cultural and religious identities" will be the primary source of conflict in the post Cold War era.

His critics argue that there are no distinct cultural boundaries" and that he "omits the dynamic interdependency and interaction of culture". Others like the Palestinian activist Edward Said argue that the "clash of igno-

rance" is the main culprit and the former reformist President of Iran Mohammad Khatami would however call for a "Dialogue between Civilizations".

As a life long advocate of "Dialogue among Religions" Pope John Paul II observed that "a clash ensues only when Islam or Christianity is misconstrued or manipulated for political and ideological ends".

The government support and sponsorship of religious leaders and activities in our society that has a high level of "intra and inter religious intolerance" where a majority of citizens are "victims and products of the contradictions of a semi industrial economy that is not fully developed or expanded" opens new vistas of intolerance.

The nature of the religions across the divide should also attract close scrutiny.

According to Mr. Huntington, both are "missionary" in the sense they strenuously attract converts sometimes "by any means necessary". Both are "all or nothing religions" because it is believed by both sides that only their faith is the correct one. Finally both are "teleological" religions because their values and beliefs represent "the goals of existence and purpose in life".

Religious leaders today lend spiritual legitimacy to political leaders and pray to "ward off political enemies and ensure the physical and political longevity of their patrons".

Ahmed Yahya-Joe, 53, France Road, Sabon-Gari, Kano.

Text us on 08 131 8000 30

What would they say now?

WHAT will the Americans and the West call the bomb blast at the Post-Amnesty Dialogue at Warri? May be legitimate protest; NOT terrorism.

A.M. Bature, Abuja, 08099374243.

Militants or terrorists?

THE Niger Delta drama has advanced to planting bombs in civilian areas and targeting defenceless civilians and government officials. Someone should tell me the difference between them and the freedom fighters in Palestine, Afghanistan...Niger Delta armed persons are the real terrorists.

08032200555.

Bamanga Tukur was right

WHEN he said the north should compete and contest with other regions in the presidential elections in 2011. Enough of all this regional nonsense, so that this great nation can move forward. Open your eyes and realise what northern leaders have done and

are still doing. What I know is that I will cast my vote for any candidate accepted by me... even from the moon.

08066265694.

Past time

MR. Acting President should be informed that we are in a digital world now; why is he bringing people of the analogue to be in the Presidential Advisory Council (PAC)?

BABAGORO, Central Market, Jimeta-Yola, 08032449512.

Jungle justice

A lot of people have died in this country for the crime they probably did not commit. Example is where a taxi driver was mobbed to death in Kano only to discover later that he was innocent. This trend if allowed to persist could only invoke more of God's wrath on the whole populace. The government should seriously look at this and bring to book anybody that takes law into his hand; after all, we are not in barbaric era.

MARWAN S. Tafida Kano, 08066470090.

Made my day

DAILY Trust made my day with its Monday editorial on detention of Nigerians abroad, especially in regard to Dr. Ahmad Gumi's detention in Saudi Arabia. Not one prominent Nigerian (your columnists included) has come out to speak out.

MARTIN Luther King, Jnr. AAZIZ Labo, Malumfashi, Katsina State, 07035029199.

SOS to Zamfara Gov

WE need water to drink in Unguwar Dan Baba/Sinami area. We are in real danger of outbreak of diseases courtesy of our current source of water. Please come to our aid.

KABIRU, Gusau, 08139579115.

Market fire in Kano and Bauchi

THESE incidents will continue unless the traders start giving out zakat as ordained by God.

HUSEIN Bayero, Ungwan Rimi, Kaduna, 08035957538.



By Tunde Asaju

The saga of an Egyptian doctor

If northern governors adhere to the native intelligence of Aliyu Ahmed, the recurrent daily slaughter of wedding guests on northern roads would be a thing of the past. And in case you are wondering who he is, he is the Chairman of Ilella Local Government Area of Sokoto State who recently pegged dowries, aka bride price at N4,000; outlawed outlandish and extravagant ceremonies. If you happen not to know where Ilella is on the map, please connect to Google Earth. I know that some of you would complain that northerners should be allowed to celebrate something. After all, we are not known to lavish money on our burials, and until governors and presidents began to take wives and marry off their daughters, extravagant wedding ceremonies are not part of our culture. Now, I believe that nobody should stop a people from choosing how to spend their money, but Ahmed even went ahead to confine ceremonies to the township stadium, several kilometres away from the town centre. This is how to solve the problem - those in favour of Ahmed say - Taliban! And those against say Netanyahu!

While we await the result of the polls, I wonder what happens if Magatakarda Wammako, the governor with the longest name finds a beautiful bride in Ilella and wants to add her to his harem. Since the decision, it has been quite difficult for young men to find flights to Sokoto, and even harder to find a bus going to Ilella. Those who rushed in early are complaining that all the brides have been taken leaving only the teenagers and that *almajirai* are complaining that they no longer have enough succulent leftovers to feed on at weekends. If only Gani Fawehinmi were alive, he would have taken on their case pro bono.

But Ahmed is not the only official jostling for the trophy of the outrageous. Except something more ludicrous happens before the year runs out, that title would go to Alhaji Idrissa Machinama. He is the commissioner for health in Yobe State. Just before the season of meningitis, Machinama took some *estacode* and went to Egypt to recruit doctors. He found out that Yobe patients were allergic to Nigerian doctors, especially if they happen to come from other parts of the country dubbed educationally advantaged, they tend to mock the rest of us.

Machinama's Arabic is truly dusty, and because truly qualified Egyptian doctors hardly want to miss the ever-smiling face of Hosni Mubarak, he only succeeded in getting ten real ones willing to brace Yobe heat. And so, he recruited 13 others who went through a nine-month crash medicine training organised by the famous Rapid Results College. On his return, he persuaded his governor to pay them just a little above the average civil servant, including the locally trained doctors, who happen to be black.

Machinama and the state government agreed to pay a paltry package of between N540, 000 and N640, 000 monthly. I did not know if they also have all expenses paid trips to Cairo every weekend, but knowing that Yobe has no international airport, that is probably not part of the package. Anyway, one of the doctors, a jealous one who goes by the name Mohsen AbdelHameed must have been reading too many Nigerian newspapers. Because he discovered a passion he could not have engaged in Egypt - petition writing, and in practice, he overwrote. Because, having found that the 13 Rapid Results graduates were not real doctors, he sent his petitions to the Yobe State Government (he realised quite quickly that Machinama is not government) and copied the EFCC and the Egyptian Embassy. Did I hear you say outrageous? He found out that while advertising for the position, the Yobe government had insisted that recruited people must possess the equivalent of the membership of the London Royal College of Physicians (MRCP).

How this physician knew that Rapid Results College degrees are not equivalent to RCP certification beats my imagination. But he found out that the fake 13 lacked the capacity to diagnose diseases. When the other doctors found out what he did, imaginably, they also realised that apart from medicine, they also had crash courses in karate and aikido. They found Dr. Mohsen and kicked in his face. And when Machinama found out that the man was out to rubbish his recruitment drive, he also followed it up with a ban from government hospitals.

So, Dr. Mohsen had to seek medical help at the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital, where, I hope, his quondam friends would not reach him to finish the job. Machinama was quick to defend himself. He told reporters that there is no record of any problem as a result of prescription by the RRC doctors.

(tundeasaju@yahoo.co.uk)

## DAILY TRUST

## EDITORIAL

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## Aliyu Musdafa (1922-2010)

**T**he death last Saturday of Dr Aliyu Musdafa, the 11th Lamido of Adamawa and longest-serving monarch in Northern Nigeria, marked the end of an era. Dr Musdafa's longevity on the throne was a testament to apolitical stance that saw his reign outliving thirteen Nigerian heads of state, military and civilian, and numerous state governors, from the days when his domain was in the old North Eastern State, through the defunct Gongola State and the present Adamawa State. His death is indeed a great loss not only to the region and the country but to the neighbouring Niger, Chad and Cameroun as well, and the entire Fulbe community globally. He loved his people and there is little doubt that the people loved him back, as shown in the large gathering of the high and low in the society who trooped to Yola, the Adamawa state capital to witness his burial. He had a glorious reign and lived a fulfilled life well spent in the service of his community.

His departure after reigning for 57 years has left a vacuum that many believe would be difficult to fill in the immediate future.

Aliyu Musdafa introduced changes to the emirates which at one time extended to the northern part of the Republic of Cameroun, Southern part of former Borno state and the present Taraba state. The late Lamido ruled one of the biggest and most versatile emirates in the history of northern Nigeria. During his reign, the emirate also enjoyed peace, stability and prosperity as he superintended over the transformation of Adamawa from a largely pastoral community to a pinnacle of modernisation. He was a believer of a united Nigeria and extended his hands of fellowship beyond the border of Islam. He also strove to maintain a balance between Muslims and Christians as well as ethnic issues that could have otherwise polarised the emirate. At the national level, he preached and encouraged peaceful co-existence among all tribes and followers of all religions devoid of sentiment and emotion. The late Lamido Musdafa, a direct descendant of Modibbo Adama and product of Othman Danfodio Islamic jihad, was for long a spiritual and Islamic leader of the entire Fombina emirate, as well as father of all by socialisation. As a ruler who led by example, the late Lamido established a farm and spent most of his time on it.

Born in 1922, Dr Aliyu Musdafa ascended to the throne as the 11th Lamido and received the staff of office on July 26, 1953 from Governor Sir Bryan Sherwood-Smith of British colonial administration. He received his education at Yola Elementary School and Yola Middle School (1936-1943). His work experience started with the Adamawa Native Authority in 1943. He was appointed the Chief of Police in Adamawa province in 1945 with the title of Wali. He barely spent eight years as a supervisor when he was selected as the Lamido, following the deposition of Lamido Ahmadu Maigari.

**T**he late Aliyu Musdafa also made tremendous contributions to the Northern House of Chiefs where he served as a member of the Public Accounts Committee. He was also a member of the Northern Nigeria Development Corporation, and member of the Council of Chiefs in North-Eastern state (1967-1976). When Gongola state was created in 1976, he was made President of the Council of Chiefs. In 1979, he was, in line with the constitutional provision, appointed to the National Council of States. As the nation awaits the emergence of his successor, we urge the kingmakers to be guided by the principle of justice and fairness that the late Lamido cherished championed and lived by; we also pray that whoever emerges as successor would follow in his footsteps. We hope the government and people of Adamawa state would extend their support to the new Lamido for peace and development to continue to reign in the emirate, and for the general progress of the nation.

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## Jang: Between the hammer and the anvil

**I**t is now official that 109 persons were killed in the villages of Dogo Na Hawa, Zot, Rasat and Kutgot in Plateau State, by pastoralists said to be seeking to avenge earlier massacres in Kuru Jenta. Up to 200 suspects have been arrested in connection with the latest mayhem. As relations of victims of the horrendous episodes live through their anguish, in painful effort to come to terms, the State Governor Jonah David Jang and the Army in Jos are playing the blame game. Jang had said that the security formations in the State capital had been forewarned by him personally, but did nothing about the impending murders which as feared, eventually took place at Dogo Na Hawa and environs in Jos South. In angry response however, the army accused Jang of "naivety" and "lacking in knowledge of ground operations". The statement said the security operation in Jos was a joint one involving the army, the Navy, the Air Force and other paramilitary formations, and that Jang should have known better where to take his complains to. As if not satisfied, the General Officer Commanding the 3rd Division of the Nigerian Army and Commander of the Special Joint Military Task Force Major General Sale Maina again denied being notified by Jang of the likelihood of the impending attacks.

So where does this leave us? Confused and in despair. Here was a Governor who got wind of plans by a horde of hoodlums set to attack villages on a revenge mission, and notified (as he claimed) as highly placed an officer as the General Officer Commanding the 3rd Division of the Nigerian Army and Commander of the Special Joint Military Task Force Major General Sale Maina who has denied being notified.

**T**he Army is the Senior Member of the Security Coalition in charge of the Jos Crisis. Jang as Governor and Chief Security Officer in the State certainly knew the right person to alert of an impending occurrence that everyone knew would have such ominous an outcome as the mass murders. Whether that is true or not remains to be seen.

Regardless of the merits of their arguments, it is wrong of the army, headed by officers junior to Jang, to reply Jang especially in the foul language employed. Not only is Jang a senior officer of the Nigerian Armed Forces, even though retired, but a two-time military governor and presently, governor and chief Security officer of Plateau State, (that is until the establishment of the current military authority over the area). It is a shameful display of indiscipline and professional misconduct for the army to publicly respond and without defending itself of the serious oversights and lapses pointed out by Jang, dwell merely on frivo-

### Timawus Mathias

timmathias@yahoo.com

lous procedural considerations. What is "dynamics of land operations" for God's sake? How do you explain that to the bereaved of Dogo na Hawa? We are talking about lives lost that could have and should have been saved! We are talking about a step taken in the crisis that could cause a chain of reprisals and escalate the conflict nationwide.

It is obvious that there is no love lost between Jang and the 3 DIV of the Nigerian Army since the beginning of this crisis and this has seriously jeopardised and undermined the security and public confidence of Plateau State even the more. It therefore stands to good reason that the Governor of Plateau State Jonah David Jang and the General Officer Commanding 3 Div Nigeria Army Major General

with the information that Jang gave him?

Since the reprisal killings at Dogo Na Hauwa and environs, there has been apprehension of the likely response of the local tribesmen. Jang and the Community Leaders have done well to restrain the locals from retaliation. One prays that the local communities make the sacrifice to turn this other cheek and work for peace instead of a revenge that will definitely beget another act of violence.

**T**here is sadly selfishness and parochialism from the elite and opinion moulders, particularly columnists that can only serve to worsen matters. It has not been possible for majority of commentators and columnists on the Plateau situation to rise above their primordial backgrounds to offer solutions that will achieve peace. Given the political antecedents of the Jang Governorship, it is not expected that his political opponents, would have compli-

The army accuses Jang of naivety? How does this compare with the dubiety in the initial sacking of the Police from duty when the army took control of Jos at the onset of the violence

Saleh Maina, are separated in the public interest.

The army accuses Jang of naivety? How does this compare with the dubiety in the initial sacking of the Police from duty when the army took control of Jos at the onset of the violence, only to backtrack when attention was drawn that this move implied the (illegal) establishment of a State of Emergency on Plateau State. There was dubiety in the haste to transfer arrested persons to Abuja where they were charged to court for as outlandish an offence as terrorism (not even treason), especially when some of those arrested were said to be in army uniforms. At a time when the army was being accused of partisanship in the crisis, the Commissioner of Police for Jos got sanctioned for saying what he knew to be true, except that there was an incident the previous day that sparked off the violence. At the time the army intervened in Jos, the crisis had not expanded to the suburbs and the Police was doing well at control. By its conduct, the army earned accusations of complicity, partisanship and bias. Is it not naivety of the most diabolical, when a State Chief Executive tells the coordinator of the security structure on the Jos crisis three hours ahead that there is a planned attack on communities. The attack does take place leaving the gory scenes we saw at Dogo Na Hauwa? What did the coordinator of security do

mentary remarks for him. Many columnists, out of ignorance, echo the sentiments of sworn enemies of Governor Jang, even as realities to the contrary stare in the face. The political leaders especially those from Plateau are quick to blame the crisis on poor leadership when in truth, they are themselves the nefarious brains behind the conduct of the ordinary folk. They are the sponsors of evil and terror and their intention is to make Plateau ungovernable for Jang and ensure his failure. Plateau according to them, should not know progress until they are in political control. The shocking thing is that they are prepared to stomach such human carnage to achieve their selfish political ends?

**M**any columnists write with crass ignorance on the factors behind the conflict on the Plateau and employ parochial mindsets and stereotypes in their conclusions. They expect Jang to declare and defend a policy that opens up indignity to "settlers", against the will of the people who voted him? It is like asking Mugabe to return recovered lands to the whites of Zimbabwe. No leader will pursue policies against the wishes of the people that voted him in. Jang's head is therefore between the hammer and the anvil as he applies every persuasive means to stop the indigenes from carrying out another cycle of killings in the name of vengeance.

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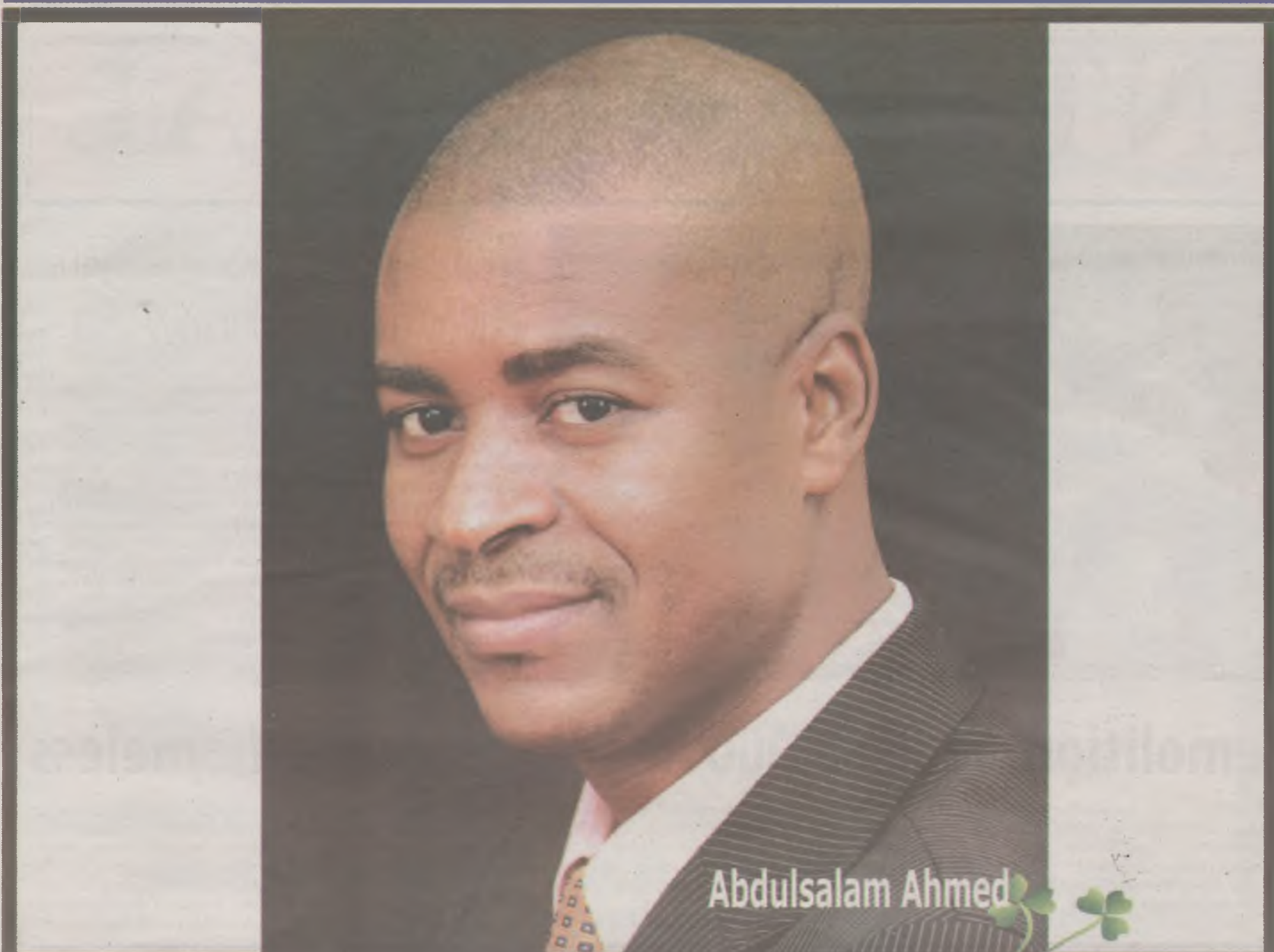
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# INTERNATIONAL



GHANA'S President John Atta Mills.

## Ghana leader meets Ivorian envoy over border row

GHANA President John Atta Mills met an Ivorian envoy yesterday over a dispute about the neighbours' offshore boundary, which falls in an oil-rich zone, and said the row must not harm their ties.

Ghana's recent discovery of oil reserves off its coast has kicked off a row with Ivory Coast over the border, with Accra accusing Abidjan of claiming part of its maritime area.

"We must ensure that the boundary issue does not destroy the strong relationship between us," Atta Mills told journalists after a closed-door meeting with the envoy of Ivorian President Laurent Gbagbo. The envoy, Ivory Coast mines minister Austin Komoe Kuadio, handed the Ghana president a message that was not made public. He told reporters that Ivorian authorities also believed the boundary issue should not divide the neighbours.

The Ghana National Petroleum Corporation announced last month the discovery of an "extensive deepwater petroleum province" offshore Ghana.

## Demolitions leave 3,000 Angolan families homeless

THOUSANDS of Angolans have been left homeless as 3,000 homes were being demolished in the Angolan city of Lubango to make way for railway upgrades, an opposition lawmaker told AFP yesterday.

Almerindo Jaka Jamba, from the main opposition Unita party, said the displaced people were being moved five kilometres (three miles) from the southern city to an area without accommodation.

They are living "without a roof, since there are not enough tents, without water, without medical care, without schools and without work, since many women, heads of households, lived off the informal market in the city

centre," Jaka Jamba said. "We do not oppose this operation, but we are worried about where the displaced people will be accommodated," he said.

The demolitions are part of an operation to raze "chaotic

buildings", according to the independent weekly newspaper Novo Jornal. Squatters settled along a railway line that once linked the Atlantic port of Lobito in southwest Angola to the Mozambican port of Beira on the Indian Ocean.



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#### To succeed in this role you must have:

University degree or HND in Business Administration, Supply Chain/Logistics management.

Minimum 8 years experience, 5 of which must be at managerial level as a supply chain or Logistics management position in a multinational company.

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Based in Head Office and reporting to the Head of Engineering with 6 direct reports, the job holder will be:

Leading the electrical function of Central Engineering. Responsible for electrical maintenance and projects, instrumentation, power generation and electronics in our 13 plant locations. Involved in Auditing of maintenance and projects in all plant locations.

#### To succeed in this role you must have:

B Eng / HND in Electrical Engineering with minimum 10 years experience in electrical maintenance and assemblies within the manufacturing industry.

### Electrical Engineer

Based in Head Office and reporting to the Senior Electrical Engineer, the job holder will be:

Responsible for New Installation of electrical Equipment. Calibration of Instrumentation.

#### To succeed in this role, you must have:

B Eng / HND in Electrical Engineering with 5 - 10 years experience in maintenance of electrical equipment and machinery, as well as in project environment within the Manufacturing Industry.

### Refrigeration Engineer

Based in Head Office but supporting our 13 Plant locations across the country, the Job Holder will be:

Responsible for maintenance and repairs of Refrigeration equipment, Ammonia systems and water cooled package unit.

#### To succeed in this role you must have:

B Eng / HND in Mechanical Engineering with a minimum 10 years experience in a Multinational Company. Be familiar with Hansa, Grasso and Maykom Compressors. Excellent Problem solving and trouble shooting skills.

### Steam Boiler Maintenance Engineer

Based in Head Office and supporting our 13 Plant locations, the Job holder will be. Responsible for repairs, preventive maintenance, inspection and Hydraulic tests of Boilers.

#### To succeed in this role, you must have:

B Eng / HND Mechanical Engineering with 5 - 10 years experience in a Multinational company. Knowledge of Statutory requirements. Will be an asset.





# THE GOVERNMENT OF KOGI STATE OF NIGERIA

*You are Welcome*

## MR ACTING PRESIDENT



I, Alh. (Dr) Ibrahim Idris, Executive Governor of Kogi State, on behalf of the government and good people of our dear State heartily Welcome the Acting President and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Federal Republic of Nigeria, **Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan** to the Confluence State, on his First Working Visit to the Ajaokuta Steel Complex and the Commissioning of the Kogi State International Market Lokoja on Thursday March 18, 2010.

Once again Mr. Acting President

*You are Welcome*

**OLALE! NYANSE!! E KAABO !!!**

KOGI STATE INTERNATIONAL MARKET LOKOJA



Signed

**ALH. (DR) IBRAHIM IDRIS**  
Executive Governor of Kogi State

## International

# Thai protesters pour own blood at government HQ

THAI protesters seeking a change of government turned to shock tactics yesterday, pouring gallons of their own blood into a glistening puddle at the gate of the prime minister's office.

The dramatic gesture, repeated in front of the headquarters of Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva's Democrat Party, grabbed attention but put the "Red Shirt" protest movement no closer to its

goal of forcing new elections.

More than 100,000 demonstrators from all over the country gathered in Bangkok on Sunday, vowing to keep up their protest until victory.

But Abhisit has rejected their demands to dissolve Parliament, saying only that he will listen to the protesters' point of view and leaving the situation in a stalemate. Reporters asked one of

the protest leaders what their next move would be, and Veera Musikapong replied, "I want to know that myself." He said the group maps strategy on a day-by-day basis.

The protesters comprise supporters of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who was ousted by a 2006 military coup for alleged corruption, and pro-democracy activists who opposed the army takeover.

They believe Abhisit came to power illegitimately with the connivance of the military and other parts of the traditional ruling class who were alarmed by Thaksin's popularity, particularly among the poor.

Thailand has been in political turmoil since early 2006, when anti-Thaksin demonstrations began. In 2008, when Thaksin's political allies came back to power for a year, his "Yellow Shirt" opponents occupied the prime minister's office compound for three months and seized Bangkok's two airports for a week.

Yesterday, thousands of Red Shirts formed long lines Tuesday morning to have their blood drawn by nurses, a day after their leaders vowed to collect at least 1 million cubic centimeters of blood — 264 gallons (1,000 liters) — to spill at Government House. They claimed to have collected 300,000 cubic centimeters.

Suriya Laemthong, 28, shielded his eyes with a baseball cap as a nurse pricked his arm. He said he doubted that the blood spilling would compel the government to step down but that he finds the protest leaders' strategies "rational and acceptable."



A supporter of ousted Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra holds a blood bottle before spilling at the front gate of the Government House yesterday in Bangkok, Thailand.

## Riots rock Jerusalem as Hamas calls for new 'intifada'

HUNDREDS of Palestinians clashed with Israeli security forces across east Jerusalem yesterday in the worst rioting in years as a senior Hamas leader called for a new "intifada," or uprising. As the unrest rocked Jerusalem, US Middle East envoy George Mitchell delayed a visit to the region amid the most severe diplomatic row in decades between Israel and the United States, which has been struggling to revive peace talks.

Police fired rubber bullets, stun grenades and tear gas at protesters who hurled stones and set up barricades with dumpsters and burning tyres in several neighbourhoods. In at least one neighbourhood undercover Israeli police officers disguised as protesters wrestled demonstrators to the ground and handcuffed them.

Sixteen Palestinians were taken to hospital, with fractured bones, eye and stomach injuries, and dozens more were treated on the spot, according to the emergency services of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society.

Police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld said four officers were briefly taken to hospital and another 10 were treated on the spot, while 60 Palestinians were arrested. There were clashes in the Shuafat refugee camp and in several other parts of east Jerusalem, which Israel occupied in the 1967 Six Day War and later annexed in a move not recognised by the international community.

As the rioting was under way Hamas deputy politburo chief Mussa Abu Marzuk called for another popular Palestinian uprising. "The intifada must enjoy the participation of all of Palestinian society," he told Al-Jazeera television.

## Head of Israel Holocaust memorial asks to meet Ahmadinejad

THE Holocaust memorial head, a survivor of the Nazi death camps, asked Brazil's president yesterday to help arrange a meeting with Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, Israel's arch-foe.

"As a child of Buchenwald, I want to meet him so that he hears my testimony and that I can prove to him that he is wrong to deny the

existence of the Holocaust," Rabbi Israel Lau said in a statement after President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva toured the Yad Vashem memorial in Jerusalem.

He asked the Brazilian president to transmit his request to meet Ahmadinejad "anywhere and at any time."

Lula is currently due to visit

Iran on May 15. Brazil, which holds a non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council, favours dialogue with Tehran.

It opposes US-led moves to impose a fourth set of UN sanctions on Iran over its continued defiance of international demands to halt its uranium enrichment programme.

## Sri Lankan opposition leader faces court-martial

THE former Sri Lankan army chief who lost his opposition bid for the presidency objected yesterday to his court-martial hearing, saying the panel formed to decide his fate was biased against him, an ally said.

The arrest of Gen. Sarath Fonseka has been condemned by the opposition and human rights groups, who accuse the government of retaliating against

a man who dared challenge President Mahinda Rajapaksa in his re-election bid.

The court-martial Tuesday of Fonseka, considered one of the heroes of the government's war against the Tamil Tiger rebels, has been shrouded in secrecy, with the military barring reporters from the event and refusing to release a detailed account of the proceedings.

# International

## World's shortest man dies of heart complications at age of 21

THE world's shortest man, He Pingping, has died at the age of 21, a Guinness World Records spokesman said Monday. Pingping, who was 29 inches tall, was filming a television programme in Italy when he developed chest problems.

The Chinese-born man, who became a record-holder in March 2008, was taken to hospital in Rome for treatment but passed away on Saturday. It is understood

he died of heart complications. Guinness World Records editor-in-chief Craig Glenday, who measured Pingping in Inner Mongolia to confirm his status as the world's smallest man, paid tribute to him Monday.

He said: "From the moment I laid eyes on him I knew he was someone special - he had such a cheeky smile and mischievous personality, you couldn't help but

be charmed by him. "He brightened up the lives of everyone he met, and was an inspiration to anyone considered different or unusual."

Pingping, who was born with a form of primordial dwarfism, had been accompanied by his brother-in-law on the trip to Europe to film records show Lo Show Dei Record.

His successor will be announced at a later date."



HE Pingping (left).

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## NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PARA-MILITARY OFFICERS

NATIONAL RETIRED PARA-MILITARY LIASON OFFICE, NO.1 DEEPER LIFE JUNCTION  
FRCN/KUTUNKU Rd, GWAGWALADA - ABUJA.

Our Ref:  
Your Ref:

E-mail: mhmdbala@yahoo.com  
Date: 15th March 2010

### RE: REPS SUMMON CIPPO BOSS OVER PENSION

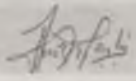
The attention of National Association of Retired Para-Military officers has been drawn to a press statement on the above subject-matter in the Daily Trust Newspaper of Monday March 15, 2010.

In the publication, it was alleged that the Ag. Director and entire management team of CIPPO deliberately absented themselves from a re-scheduled visit of the Honourable Members of the House of Representatives committee on Pension Matters on Wednesday 10/3/2010.

In the light of the above, the National Association of Retired Para-Military Officers wishes to state as follows:

**1) ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PRESENT ADMINISTRATION:**

- (a) As a result of the effort of the present management of CIPPO, payment of monthly pension has been stabilized
- (b) Monthly pension is now paid between 20<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> of every month
- (c) The National Association of Retired Para-military officers is now embedded in CIPPO as the office attends all stake holders meetings with CIPPO Management.
- (d) To Buttress the above point, members of The National Association of Retired Para-Military Officers actually attended the budget defence of 2009 and 2010 respectively together with CIPPO management precisely on the following date: 3rd November, 2009, 25th Novemb6r, 2009, 16th December, 2009 and 18th November, 2009.
- (e) We are therefore surprised to read in the newspaper (Daily Trust to be precise of 15th March, 2010) that CIPPO was alleged not to have attended the 2009 and 2010 budget defence which was not true
- (f) Para-Military are also involved in HAPPSS and CONPASS working Committee. We wish to equally inform our members that arrangement has reached advance stage to start paying HAPPSS and CONPASS by April and May, 2010.
- (g) The present management has also computerized payroll system in CIPPO. This ensures speedy payment of pensioners benefit as at when due.
- (h) We want to place it on record that because of the present management effort, complaints desk has been established which has the mandate to treat all cases within 24 hours.
- (i) Our National members can also testify to the establishment of liaison offices at state level to enlighten our members, collect and collate information on complaints of the retirees for onward transmission to the office of Acting Director.
- (j) We as members of National Association of Retired Para-Military Officers wish to hereby categorically pass a vote of confidence on the present management of CIPPO - and we least expected the Chairman, House Committee on Pension Matters to have made all the allegations contained in the publication of Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2010 considering the fact that he is also a beneficiary of the above achievements being a CIPPO pensioner.
- (K) In the light of the above, NAPRO wishes to inform the General public that CIPPO is living up to its expectation and we feel any unfounded attack on CIPPO Management is not in our interest as pensioners.

  
**BALA MAHMOUD B.**  
Liaison Officer  
DCI (RTD)

**National Association of Retired Paramilitary Officers**

**For further enquiries**

Consult

1. **ABDULLAHI E.D**  
07058280300
2. **ALEXANDRA A. HENEN UBI**  
National Secretary  
08065344354

## VACANCIES

The following vacancies exist in a fast growing Media organisation and its Subsidiary Company located in Abuja. They are for self-motivated and result oriented individuals who can work with minimum supervision and ability to deliver results.

### 1. GM Production (ref: GMP)

#### Qualification & Experience

The successful candidate will be responsible for the production of Newspaper titles and the maintenance of press and utilities.

- He is required to possess a minimum of ten (10) years experience in production management, five (5) of which must be in a Management cadre of a successful newspaper outfit or from similar industry.
- B.sc or HND Mechanical Engineering obtained from a reputable university or polytechnic
- Possession of an MBA and registration with COREN will be an added advantage.
- Those without the adequate number of years of experience but with demonstrable experience can also apply.
- The successful candidate will report to the Managing Director.

### 2. GENERAL MANAGER/CEO (Subsidiary Company) (ref: GMMTL)

#### Qualification & Experience

The successful candidate will head the subsidiary arm of the company. The subsidiary being a going concern is focussed on Investments, Property and Trading businesses

- The young subsidiary arm requires a goal getter and an individual that possess high managerial and aggressive marketing skills.
- He should possess a B.sc or HND in Business Administration, Economics, Accounting or any related discipline
- Possession of an MBA and membership of relevant professional bodies will be an added advantage
- The ideal candidate should possess a minimum of seven (7) years experience four (4) of which must be at a top management level
- Evidence of successful career in similar activities will be given a high priority.

### 3. Regional Managers (Kano & Maiduguri) (ref: RMG)

The successful candidates(s) will oversee the general administration of the company regional offices at Kano and Maiduguri. He/She will closely monitor the human and material inputs of the outstations in compliance with company policy, rules and regulations.

#### Qualification

The ideal candidates must hold B.sc or HND in humanities with minimum of 7 years post graduation experience, 4 of which must be in a management cadre.

- Possession of an MBA and membership of relevant professional body will be an added advantage.
- Candidates with good experience in general administration and proven capacity for results will be specially considered
- The successful candidate will report to the Managing Director.

### 4. Advert Manager(s) for our Titles (ref: ADM)

The ideal candidate(s) must be aggressive and result oriented. He/She will lead a team of motivated Advert Executives to achieve targeted sales results from time to time.

#### Qualification

- He/She must possess a B.sc or HND in Business Administration, Economics or Humanities and be a member of APCON.
- Possession of an MBA will be an added advantage
- Knowledge of the Advert industry for not less than 7 years is required.
- The successful candidates(s) will report to the General Manager (B&S)

Interested candidates that satisfy the above requirement should please direct their hand written applications, within two weeks, and quoting the appropriate references at the back of the envelope to:

The Human Resource Manager  
P.O. Box 6873  
Wuse Zone 3, Abuja



## MINISTRY OF EDUCATION KEBBI STATE

### INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION AND TENDER

The Kebbi State Ministry of Education plans to award contracts for the under listed projects under merged 2008/2009 Education Trust Fund Intervention. The Ministry is therefore inviting eligible and competent contractors to apply for qualification and to tender for the projects.

#### SCOPE OF WORK

The Scope of work includes the following:

- 1) 18 Blocks of 3 Classrooms, stores, offices and veranda.
- 2) 6 Blocks of Science Laboratories and Furnishing.
- 3) 6 Consignment of Science Equipment in Physics, Chemistry and Biology.
- 4) Supply of Furniture:-
  - (i) Procurement of 756 No 3 seater ETF standardized school desks
  - (ii) Procurement of 54 No Teachers Table.
  - (iii) Procurement 54 No Teachers armless Chairs.
  - (iv) Procurement of 20,690 Volumes of assorted Library Text Books.

#### PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Interested contractors are invited to submit the following pre-qualification documents:

1. Evidence of Registration with Corporate Affairs Commission
2. Three years income tax clearance certificate or evidence of tax relief
3. Evidence of registration with Kebbi State Tender Board'
4. List of similar projects successfully executed in the task three years indicating names of client letters of award, and certificate of completion
5. Bank statement from a reputable Bank indicating financial capability of the contractor to execute the job.
6. List of major plants/equipment
7. List of managerial, technical and administrative staff of the company

#### COLLECTION OF TENDER DOCUMENTS

Interested and competent contractors who wish to collect the tenders documents of the projects must pay NON-REFUNDABLE fees as follows.

#### PROJECTS

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| 1. Construction of 1 Block of 3 Classrooms with office, store and veranda. | N50,000.00 |
| 2. 1 Block of Science Laboratory and Furnishing                            | N50,000.00 |
| 3. Procurement of 1 Consignment of Science equipment in Phy. Che. and Bio. | N50,000.00 |
| 4. Procurement of 756 No 3 seater ETF standardized school desks            | N50,000.00 |
| 5. Procurement of 54 No Teachers Table                                     | N10,000.00 |
| 6. Procurement 54 No Teachers armless Chairs                               | N5,000.00  |
| 7. Procurement of 20,690 Volumes of assorted Library Text Books            | N50,000.00 |

#### SUBMISSION OF TENDER/PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTS

The completed pre-qualification and tender documents must be in scaled envelopes and items for which interest in being expressed clearly indicated on top of the envelop and returned to the office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Birnin Kebbi.

Receipt of pre-qualification/tender bids will be closed weeks from the date of publication of this invitation. All bids will be opened at 2:30pm on the closing date in the office of Permanent Secretary.

All bidders or their reprehensives are expected to be present.

Submission closes in one week beginning from the date of the publication.

Signed  
HAJIYA MAIMUNA M. BALA  
Permanent Secretary

## **ADVERTORIAL**

### **ENOUGH OF THIS ORCHESTRATED MALICE AND FALSEHOOD AGAINST CHIEF UFOT EKAETTE AND THE MINISTRY OF NIGER DELTA AFFAIRS**

The attention of the Hon. Minister of Niger Delta Affairs, Chief Ufot Ekaette, has been drawn to a spurious paid advert purportedly signed by one Donald Spiff who claimed to be an 'acting coordinator' of a shadow organisation called "Partner for Sustainable Development" alleging duplication of projects by the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs and published on page 35 of The Nation of March 9, 2010. Since then, the document aimed at smearing the reputation of the Hon. Minister of Niger Delta Affairs and the Ministry has obtrusively been appearing in other newspapers in a fashion that suggests that the advertorials are being bankrolled by persons with ulterior motives geared primarily towards gratifying their narrow selfish interests.

In particular, the spurious group accused the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs of duplicating nine projects that were either completed or were about to be completed by some State Governments and the Niger Delta Development Commission.

Curiously, while the said Donald Spiff splashed the fake document on the pages of newspapers, a faceless "Cynthia Whyte", with no known address went on the Internet to unleash unimaginable vituperations on the person of Chief Ufot Ekaette, calling for his sack for allegedly duplicating projects.

It would have been unnecessary for the Ministry to waste its time and energy to join issues with elements who only exist on the pages of newspapers and on the Internet since it is clear that they are merely seeking relevance through falsehood, but it has become imperative to set the record straight so that the majority of the people of the Niger Delta are not hoodwinked by these phantom individuals and groups masquerading as 'development monitoring group'.

Even without going too far, it should be clear to men of good conscience that these allegations are not only baseless but are also being orchestrated with the sole aim of poisoning the minds of the people against a man who has served this nation for many years in various capacities without blemish.

Donald Spiff listed Owerri-Elele Road (particularly Owerri-Omerelu Segment totaling 35.41 Kilometres), which was only recently awarded by the Federal Government, as being undertaken by the Rivers State Government. The Ministry hereby states categorically that there is no evidence whatsoever that either Rivers State or Imo State has awarded contract for the dualisation of the 35.41 Km Owerri-Elele Road (particularly Owerri-Omerelu Segment totaling 35.41 Kilometres). We challenge Donald Spiff and his sponsors to provide evidence to the contrary.

While it is true that Amadiama-Abuloma and Trans-Orashi roads in Rivers State, Ekeremor-Agge Road in Bayelsa State, Ikot Ekwere-Ndukpoise-Ikot Eyo-Ikot Ntung Road in Akwa Ibom State and the Araya-Bible Site Road in Delta State were all captured in the 2009 budget by the representatives of the respective States and the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs made effort to implement them as part of its mandate to open up the Niger Delta, inadequate budgetary provisions made it impossible for the Ministry to carry out the projects beyond their survey and design. Again, we state that the Ministry has not awarded contract for the construction of any of the roads as alleged by Donald Spiff who claims that the Ministry might have wasted at least N87.62 billion as a result of the duplication of projects. It is public knowledge that the Ministry's capital budget for 2009 was N48 billion only out of which N28 billion was dedicated to the on-going East-West Road, leaving a balance of N19.5 billion for new projects. How Donald Spiff arrived at N87.62 billion is nothing but a figment of his imagination. I challenge him to publish the list of his phantom projects awarded by this Ministry amounting to N87.62 billion.

On the issue of the Niger Delta Coastal Road, which the author claimed was awarded by the NDDC in October 2008, the Ministry finds it strange that Donald Spiff and his cohorts can stand the truth on its head. Nothing can be farther from the truth. The design and construction of the Niger Delta Coastal Road, which is to stretch from Calabar in Cross River State to Ilaje in Ondo State, is one of the mega regional projects, which the Federal Government directed the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs to carry out as one of its priority projects in the 2009 budget. We are not aware of any change of mandate by the Federal Government on the project and we would want Donald Spiff to provide evidence showing the agency for which the Government has approved another budget to implement the project.

It is true that the then Acting Managing Director of NDDC, Pastor P. Z. Aginighan had said at the South-South Economic Summit in Calabar last year that the NDDC had a design of the Niger Delta Coastal Road but the same officer was to apologise to the Minister that the Commission did not have such a design when he was asked to produce it during a subsequent meeting with the Minister in Abuja a few days after the Calabar Summit. Based on the clarification by the NDDC that the commission did not have the feasibility study/design of the road and given the directive of the Federal Government to the Ministry to start work on the road, the MNDA on December 1, 2009 called for tenders for pre-feasibility/feasibility studies on the road. Shortly after the adverts for the tender were published in the newspapers, a Port Harcourt-based company, Pearl Consultants wrote to the Hon. Minister claiming that the NDDC awarded it the contract on October 30, 2008 to carry out the studies and design of a road called 'East-West Coastal Road from Calabar to Lagos' for the sum of N300 million.

According to the company, the contract was to be completed and handed over to the NDDC within nine months, which means the company was expected to turn in the report to the NDDC in May 2009. On the strength of the company's claim, the Ministry in a letter No. MNDA/ID/151/Vol. 1/96 dated January 6, 2010 wrote to the Managing Director of the NDDC to clarify the claim by Pearl Consultants. While still awaiting the response of the NDDC Managing Director to its enquiry on the said road, the Principal Partner of Pearl Consultants, Eng. Mayne David-West met with the Minister of Niger Delta Affairs and officials of the Ministry on December 21, 2009 and promised to avail the Ministry of a copy of the design and survey of the 'East-West Coastal Road from Calabar to Lagos', which it had earlier submitted to the NDDC. Unfortunately the company has not come forward with any document on the road till today.

The position of the Ministry is that given the urgency needed to transform the Niger Delta through the provision of critical infrastructure, it would be against the interest of the people of the Niger Delta to wait endlessly for a document that is not forthcoming. In any case it is doubtful whether the 'East-West Coastal Road from Calabar to Lagos', which the company is referring to is the same Niger Delta Coastal Road from Calabar to Ilaje in Ondo State which the Federal Government has mandated the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs to handle.

The allegation of project duplication by Donald Spiff cannot be true because the Minister of Niger Delta Affairs, who also chairs the Niger Delta Sub-committee on Infrastructural Development, has been meeting with major stakeholders in the region including State Governments and NDDC officials as well as other MDAs doing projects in the Niger Delta region all in the effort to avoid duplication and wastage. In all the meetings so far held, the issue of duplication of any project has not been raised by any of the States or NDDC.

The Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs hereby challenges 'Cynthia Whyte' and Donald Spiff to publish the details of the contracts which NDDC and the State Governments first awarded and which the Minister of Niger Delta Affairs subsequently duplicated.

Failure by the duo to provide evidence of the duplicated projects would mean that they were motivated by ulterior motives and should not be taken seriously.

If we may ask, whose interest is Donald Spiff, who claims to be the 'acting coordinator' of 'Partner for Sustainable Development' representing by deliberately fabricating lies to deceive the people of the Niger Delta and who is paying for the propagation of this falsehood?

Those whose sense of reasoning has not been tainted by sentiments are aware of what the man Ufot J. Ekaette stands for and they know that he is unwaveringly committed to his ideals of honesty, integrity and accountability, which are the hallmarks of his career history. He cannot compromise any of these traits.

We therefore urge the people of the Niger Delta not to fall to the antics of these elements but to support all development initiatives by the MNDA geared towards transforming the Niger Delta and empowering the people. Enough of the orchestration of malice against a man whose only interest in coming to serve after many years of dedicated service to his fatherland, is to render honest, selfless and dedicated service to the people.

**Soni Daniel**  
Special Assistant on Media to the  
Hon. Minister of Niger Delta Affairs  
March 15, 2010

# BUSINESS

0805 1000 536

## Experts react to CBN's new policy for banks

From Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos & Idris Ahmed

THE Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) on Monday said a new banks with regional, specialised and non interest banks would emerge with different categories of capital base. As a result of this, there have been divergent views over the new policy.

Tunde Popoola, the managing director of CRC Credit Bureau and season banker welcomes the new policy but was of the opinion that the CBN would have to cope with the problem of skill manpower both from within the regulators and the industry.

CBN through its director of banking supervision, Samuel Oni said banks would be made to concentrate on banking activities under the new setting as separate licenses would be issued to commercial banks, microfinance bank, mortgage bank and investment bank.

"Any bank that wants to go international or national would also have a separate license. There would also be separate license for banks that would want to concentrate on small and medium enterprises or funding of agriculture. The new policy is to create room for financial activities to have a model where banks would not divert their capitals and deposits into speculative activities or high risk venture", he said.

But Popoola said: "Looking at the history of the banking sector in the United States, banking sector was regionalised with specialised banks but when Bill Clinton came, mega banks emerged and the whole formation changed. Even with that, we still have over 8,000 banks in the US today some are mega banks, others are specialised banks"

He said the conventional banking structure in Nigeria has not been helpful as only a few people have access to fund, adding that there have been challenges for coping as universal or commercial banks due to lack capacity such as lack of fund, skills staff.

"There should be specialised banks. Take for instance, Nigerian Development Bank which basically deals with infrastructural development though it is owned by the federal government, yet it has done well. We have microfinance banks which also focus on the poor", he said.



CBN Governor Sanusi Lamido Sanusi

Also, Opeyemi Agbaje an economist said he was not convinced that the CBN has fully thought through the proposed bank scheme.

"I am not convinced that the CBN has fully thought through the proposed bank categorisation scheme. I fear that we may be rushing into a policy of this huge significance and risks. I would have wanted the CBN to release, for discussion purposes, a draft of the proposed framework so that stakeholders can fully examine the merits or otherwise of the proposal. One is unable to agree or disagree with the proposal given the scanty details on the policy content", he said.

Agbaje said the global financial crisis brought to the fore the dangers in banks engaging in highly speculative investment banking transactions with retail depositors' funds with the result that the government and regulators are forced to save them when they fail to protect depositors

He said the banking regulators should take into account the level of risk a bank is bearing before deciding on capital levels, deposit insurance premiums, regulatory scrutiny

"It is also important that banking regulators take into account the level of risk a bank is bearing before deciding on capital levels, deposit insurance premiums, regulatory scrutiny etc. Categorisation for such purposes may offer some value.

Agbaje however urged CBN to provide full details of its regulatory direction to ensure we don't again rush into a policy that we haven't fully discussed and debated "Nevertheless, we would prefer that the CBN provides full details of its regulatory direction to ensure we don't again rush into a policy that we haven't fully discussed and debated", he said

An economist and former deputy governor (Economic Policy) of CBN Dr. Obadih Mailafa said if the new policy was to effectively regulate the sector, it is welcome one.

He however said that Universal banking is what is in vogue in most parts of the world.

"The trend is still universal banking, this is what is obtained in United States of America and in the Europe", he said.

He said CBN may have taken the decision in the best interest of the country.

A university lecturer at the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria Dr. Bashir Kurfi said the decision would introduce professionalism in the banking sector.

He said the decision by the former CBN Governor Soludo Chukwuma to have uniform capital base for all banks was wrong.

"Nobody should tell you that banks should operate with same capital base. You don't grade banks with policy statement by the CBN. The implication of the universal banking system is that the level of professionalism may reduce", he said.

He advised CBN to be steady fast in the regulation of the banks.

"They should research very well in what they are doing. I support the policy and we are lucky that Governor Sanusi Lamido Sanusi does not belong to those people that have worked in government before or those World Bank fanatics", he said.

## Stocks: Foreign investment hits N204bn

From Kayode Ekundayo, Lagos

DESPITE the global recession experienced last year, foreign investors stocks in the Nigerian Stock Exchange purchases is estimated to be in excess of N204.235 billion, representing 29.8 per cent of the aggregate turnover recorded last year. This was an increase compared to the N153.457 billion recorded in 2008. Currently, total sales (outflow) during the year were in excess of N185.2 billion, culminating in a net inflow of N19.035 billion, a reversal of the net outflow of N480.5 billion in 2008.

Speaking in Lagos yesterday during the celebration of Thomson Reuters information partnership with the Nigeria stock Exchange (NSE), the director general of the exchange Ndi Okereke-Onyiuke said some of our erstwhile foreign investors are returning; while new investors are seeking opportunities and market information, adding that despite the global recession, our market remains attractive to foreign investors and portfolio managers at current low pricing of our equities and the high yield achievable on our bonds. She said current upward movement in equity prices in our market suggests strongly that the market have seen the bottom of the decline of the last several months. "The total market capitalization, which opened the year at N7.03 trillion, stood at N7.72 trillion by March 10, 2010, indicating a growth by 9.8 per cent. Significantly, the equity market capitalization, which stood at N5 trillion in December 2009, now stands at N5.64 trillion, indicating a growth by 12.8 per cent", she said.

### Trust Index

Inflation	→	12.3%
GDP	→	6.90%
Budget	→	N3.1tr
External Reserves Acct	→	\$41.5bn
Excess Crude Acct	→	\$4.2bn
Poverty Ratio	→	54.4%
Monetary Policy Rate	→	6%
Banks	→	24
Oil Price	→	\$81 a barrel
Power Supply	→	2, 200MW
Oil output per day	→	2.5mbd
Broad Money Supply	→	N10,796,734.5m
Credit to Private Sector	→	N10,018,035.3m
Inter-Bank Rate	→	1.1600%
Treasury Bills	→	2.02%
Deposit Rate	→	12.28%
Prime Lending Rate	→	18.38%

CBN EXCHANGE RATES				BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES	
	Buying (NGN)	Central (NGN)	Selling (NGN)		
CFA	0.2855	0.2955	0.3055	BUYING	
DANISH KRONER	27.0079	27.0997	27.1914	DOLLAR.....	N151
EURO	201.0552	201.7379	202.4206	EURO.....	N204
POUNDS STERLING	221.4198	222.1717	222.9235	POUNDS.....	N231
RIYAL	39.2667	39.4	39.5333	SELLING	
SDR	225.3514	226.1166	226.8818	DOLLAR.....	N152
SWISS FRANC	137.5782	138.0454	138.5126	EURO.....	N206
US DOLLAR	147.25	147.75	148.25	POUNDS.....	N234
WAUA	224.3258	225.0875	225.8492	Source: S&P Bureau de Change, Wise Zone 4, Abuja.	
YEN	1.6233	1.6288	1.6343		

### Stock Market Index

Date:	Tuesday, March 16, 2010
Index:	24,380.09
Deals:	8,795
Volume:	631,486,910
Value:	N 4,654,102,552.64
Cap.:	N 5,871,276,514,736.09

## Business/Energy

# Why refineries are not working – PENGASSAN

THE Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria (PENGASSAN) has identified lack of accountability and ownership as part of the reasons why the nation's refineries have not worked.

Mr. Babatunde Ogun, the PENGASSAN President, said in Lagos that the refineries could function effectively without undue pressure.

He called for the early passage of the Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB) now before the National Assembly to ensure that interests of oil workers are protected.

"The content of the bill must be made open for people to contribute and understand the discussions on it because people are worried on the movement from Joint Venture (JV) to Integrated Joint Venture (IJV).

"It is also good to tell the people the worth of NNPC before unbundling it. Nobody knows the worth of NNPC; nobody knows the liability of those organisations.

"Nobody knows the current worth of those refineries. Nobody knows what is required to transfer those refineries

or upgrade them to the new standards," Ogun said.

The PENGASSAN chief said it was pertinent to know the problems and the net worth of the organisation before the take off of the IJV.

Ogun said with this, the new management would be accountable to both the people and the Federal Government.

He said the pensions and gratuities of NNPC workers should be settled before the integrated joint venture takes over so that new investors would not be burdened with many encumbrances.

"It is regrettable

that experts in Nigeria are replaced by less competent foreigners because of poor understudy," Ogun said.

He said PENGASSAN was not averse to deregulation, saying that it only opposed the people who siphoned the money accruing from the subsidy without adding value to the nation's economy.

Ogun said though no time was fixed for the deregulation of the sector, government should ensure that necessary infrastructural facilities were put in place before its implementation. (NAN)



MINISTER of State for Petroleum, Odein Ajumogobia

## Privatization not the answer – PHCN boss

By Fidelis Mac-Leva

THOSE calling for the deregulation of the power sector, particularly the privatisation of the Power Holding Company of Nigeria, are missing the point because what is actually required is to reform the power sector, Managing Director of PHCN has said.

Engineer Hussein S. Labo said in an interview with Daily Trust that the PHCN has gone far with the reforms in the power sector. "One of the achievements in this regard include the passing into law of the Power Sector Reform Act 2005", he said adding that the Act provided for the unbundling of the then vertically integrated NEPA [National Electric Power Authority] into autonomous generation, transmission and distribution companies.

"We now have seven generation companies, one transmission company and eleven distribution companies which have all been registered with the Corporate Affairs Commission and they receive grants directly from the federal government," Labo said.

Engineer Labo who stated that PHCN now operates "a shadow electricity market" said: "The greatest challenge we face today as managers of the Nigerian Power Sector is inadequate generation to please Nigerians."

According to him the presidential mandate of 6000MW was to be achieved through rehabilitation of old PHCH plants adding that the failure to achieve this was primarily due to limited time.

For the projected mandate to generate additional 10,000MW by 2011 to be realised the PHCN boss said: "We definitely need new plants and this is where the plants presently being constructed through the NIPP becomes relevant.

Commenting on recent calls for the sacking of anyone who has anything to do with the power sector, Engineer Labo said: "The fact remains that even if they are sacked and the issue of quality gas for power is not addressed, the next team will be faced with the same challenge."

## FG committed to steady power supply, says Minister

By Fidelis Mac-Leva

THE Federal Government is committed to ensuring steady power supply in the country in spite of the challenges of gas supply, Minister of Power, Lanre Babalola has said.

The Minister who spoke through the Head of Press and Public Relations of the Ministry, Mrs. Olunmi Badejo said efforts to provide for adequate, commercial, industrial and domestic needs in the short term were being intensified, especially towards increasing gas supply to the power stations.

"To address the problem in the medium term,

diversification of electricity generation is being explored to include using mixed sources of energy such as coal, wind, solar, biomass as well as small hydro plants [SHPs]", the Minister said.

Babalola said efforts being made at improving the commercial framework include the development of Power Purchase Agreement [PPA], guaranteeing investments as well as improving on efficiency of delivering electricity services.

He said: "For Nigeria to achieve the Vision 20:2020 of being among the top 20 economies of the world by 2020 there is the dire need for adequate and sustain-

able electricity supply to grow the economy."

He explained that in order to achieve the Vision 20:2020 objectives, the Power sector needed to grow at an annual rate of 15 percent in order to generate, transmit and distribute additional 1500MW and 2000MW annually in the long run.

"The financial implication of our national aspiration is between \$3billion and \$5billion per annum", he said pointing out that based on the pattern of the federal government funding of the power sector, it was clear that government alone cannot meet the funding requirements.

## Total assures of quality lubricants

From Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos

TOTAL Nigeria Plc, one of the petroleum marketing companies in Nigeria, has restated its commitment to continue to produce quality lubricants that meet international standards and enhance the functionalities

of vehicular engines in the country.

The Managing Director of the company, Mr. Dominique Thiolon made this assurance at the official presentation of prizes to the winners in the "Total Drive-On Promo" in Abuja and Port Harcourt recently. He said his company has

become the reference point in lubricants technology in Nigeria, and quality of our lubricants has remained the best in the industry. "We will continue to emphasise the sustenance of our quality management system, as this ensures continuous improvement in the quality of our products," he assured.

## PHCN is overstaffed -Power minister

...Has N400bn debt

From Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos

THE Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN) is overstaffed and government will take drastic measures to put the company back to shape, Minister of Power has said.

Mr. Lanre Babalola said the power company is overstaffed in non-core areas of its operation while the core areas of the company are understaffed thereby affecting output. Babalola, who spoke weekend while addressing newsmen in Lagos said the current total debt of the company is over N400billion out of which N117billion stood for workers pension and liability.

According to him, the revenue collection of the power company monthly is N8billion, adding that over 90 percent are diverted to payment of staff salaries and is inadequate to sustain PHCN for efficiency. The electricity union workers had penultimate week raised alarm over the accumulated N78billion monetization benefits owed them by the Federal government since the commencement of the scheme.

## Saudis: Oil market tightening, OPEC may not need to act

THERE are signs of increasing demand for oil, Saudi Oil Minister Ali al-Naimi said on Monday, which could mean OPEC does not have to take any action on supply this year.

"We have been sailing very well and we will continue to sail very well," Naimi, minister for the world's top oil producer, told

reporters a day ahead of a meeting of the group, many of whose members have voiced concern it is pumping too much oil.

Kuwait's oil minister Sheikh Ahmad al-Abdullah al-Sabah said on Tuesday compliance was "the major issue".

Angola's Oil Minister Jose Botelho de

Vasconcelos said his country might ask to be exempt from its output quota as it continues to produce above that level.

But Naimi is more relaxed about overproduction.

"Compliance is there," he said on Monday. "The market is happy, there is balance,

there are no shortages, there is enough investment going on," he added.

He said he did not think there would be a need for any additional OPEC meetings this year.

OPEC is due to meet in September and December. (Reuters/NAN)

## Business/Agric

# N200bn agric loan: **Bank yet to disburse to small farmers**

By Idris Ahmed

SMALL holder farmers will still have to wait much longer to be able to access the N40 billion earmarked for them from the federal government's N200 billion agriculture loan facility.

Daily Trust learnt that banks are sceptical in disbursing the funds to the farmers because the farmers have "no collateral."

Banks are saying that until the farmers form themselves into co-operatives which can be easily located, they are not willing to bear the risks involved.

Only United Bank for Africa (UBA) has so far disbursed about N24 billion to commercial farmers, according to Daily Trust's investigation.

Many big commercial farmers are also not willing to access the funds because of the tight conditions attached.

Small farmers who are willing to benefit from the scheme can-

not do so because they don't have collateral.

Parts of the conditions for accessing the loan include showing the proof of ownership of land in highbrow areas and large livestock. The Minister of Agriculture and Water Resource Sayyadi Abba Ruma said at an event Monday in Abuja that it is only when farmers group themselves into co-operatives that they can benefit from the scheme.

The Group Managing Director of Fidelity Bank Plc Reginald Ihejiahi also said that it would not be possible for farmers to access the funds overnight without forming into a body.

"It would not take too long for them to access the loan but it would also not happen overnight", he said.

The minister of agriculture said that farmers would not be able to access the agricultural credit facilities until effort are made towards making it possible

for them.

"The way out is to ensure that farmers are very well organised into co-operative group. This is the best practice in other jurisdictions and models that have succeeded in agricultural credit financing", he said.

He said to address the problem, government has commenced a land reform programme with a view to ensuring that farmers are collateralised and the land they have could be used as collateral. But this would probably take a longer time.

"In the next one week, we are commencing an agric censorship exercise that would take the biometric of farm, families and their corporative leaders with a view to making sure that they are probable located within a development finance institution which is the agric bank", he said.

To fast track agricultural development in the country, the Nigerian Agricultural, Co

- operative and Rural Development Bank Limited and the China National Machinery and Equipment Import and Export Corporation (CMEC) are willing to sign a Memorandum of Understanding for the Chinese firm to provide 10, 000 tractors to farmers.

The MoU was deferred on Monday by the minister of agriculture to a date to be announced later.

The cost of the 10, 000 units of tractors was estimated at \$40 million.

One of the conditions of the agreement is advance payment of 16 percent of the contract sum while the balance of 84 percent will be amortised over the period of ten years at interest rate of 2 percent per annum.

Our investigation revealed that for over 40 years, Nigeria has only 30, 000 tractors and only about 15, 000 of them are operational.

## Customs rakes in N236m from rice importation

From Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos

THE Nigerian Customs Service, Seme Border said it generated the sum of N236 million in February this year from rice legally imported into the country.

Public Relations Manager of Customs Seme Border, Ernest Olottu disclosed to Daily Trust yesterday that his men also confiscated 49 trailer loads of rice, textile materials and assorted goods intended to be smuggled into the country. He said it is not true that smugglers connive with Customs men to bring goods through the back doors into the country.

He also faulted the claims of the Rice Importers and Distributors Association of Nigeria [RIDAN] that the Seme border is one of the notorious routes of smuggled rice and assorted goods, saying their utterance is a campaign of calumny. "It is not true that rice is being smuggled into Nigeria through Seme border. If we have been opening the border to the smugglers, we would not have recorded this unprecedented achievement."





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# MTN Foundation empowers the physically challenged with mobility aids and appliances

**M**TN is committed to empowering and enriching the lives of Nigerians, especially those with challenges. The organization strives to assist the underprivileged to realize and harness their potential. It is in keeping with this mission that the Foundation in 2009 embarked on the

Disability Support Project (DSP).

The DSP is designed to empower the physically challenged with various aids and appliances so that they can lead independent and useful lives.

In the first phase of the project, wheel chairs, crutches, hearing aids, Braille machines, among other equipment were distributed to beneficiaries in 11 states and the FCT.

The pictures below tell the story.



Mr. Cajetan Duru, (Left) Member, Anglo Nigerian Welfare Association for the Blind (ANWAB) receiving a Braille machine from Hon. Abike Dabiri, Chairman, House Committee on Nigerians in Diaspora, supported by (R-L) Mr. Dennis Okoro, Director, MTNF, Mrs. Aishatu Sadauki, Director, MTNF and Mr. Akinwale Goodluck, Corporate Services Executive, MTN in Lagos.



L-R Prince Demola Adeniji-Adele, Commissioner for Youth, Sports and Social Development Lagos State, Mr. Akinwale Goodluck and Ms. Nonny Ugboma, Executive Secretary, MTNF presenting a wheelchair to Mr. Tajudeen Alabi in Lagos.



L-R Hajia Salanotu Suleiman, Minister of Women Affairs and Social Development and Mrs. Aishatu Sadauki presenting a wheelchair donated by MTNF to Hajia Mairo Hassan in Abuja.



R-L, Hon. Abike Dabiri, Chairman, House Committee on Nigerians in Diaspora, Ms. Mercy William, recipient of a Braille wristwatch and Mr. Akinwale Goodluck at the presentation in Lagos.



R-L Mr. Agboola Olagunsoye, former Director, Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development and Mr. Akinwale Goodluck, presenting a wheelchair to Master Chinonso Esomchi while his mother Mrs. Florence Esomchi (l) looks on in Abuja



Mr. Peter Obi, Governor, Anambra State (l) presenting a Braille machine to students of St. John of God Secondary School, Awka while (L-R behind) Dr. Pascal Dozie, Chairman, MTN, Ms. Nonny Ugboma, Mr. Wale Goodluck and Mr. Dennis Okoro look on in Awka, Anambra State.



Mrs. Dowgo Esther, (left) Chairman of Vandikya LGA and Representative of Benue State Governor's wife (Left) with some of the beneficiaries in Benue.



Mrs Awu Bridget Agbor, (left) Perma. Sec. Cross River State Ministry of Social Welfare and Community Development, representing the Governor, Mr. Cosmas I. B. Okoli, OON, Founder/CEO, Mobility Aid and Appliances Research and Development Centre (MAARDEC) (2nd from right) with some of the beneficiaries in Cross River State



Quimmother V.N. Irechukwu Hon Commissioner for Women Affairs and Social Dev. Delta State, representing the Delta State Governor, (2nd Left), Emmanuel Audu, Audiologist (right), fixing hearing aids on one of the beneficiaries in Delta state.



Elder Prof. Chigozie N. Ogbu OFR Deputy Governor Ebonyi State, representing the Governor (with Microphone) presenting a wheel chair to a beneficiary in Ebonyi State while others look on.



L-R. Mallam Hassan Usman, Vice Principal, Government Girls College, Kebbi making a presentation to one of the beneficiaries in Kebbi State.



L-R. Prof. Ohuremi Alabi, Director, ICP, presenting a Braille machine to Dr. Ademokoya, HOD, Special Education, University of Ibadan, Oyo State.



L-R. Ysaro Fwenchi of MTN making a presentation to a beneficiary in Taraba State.



Haja Saratu Mamu Aliyo Shinkafi, wife of Zamfara State governor (2nd Right) talking to one of the beneficiaries on tricycle with others looking on.

## Business/Telecoms

## Investment in Nigeria telecoms hits \$18bn

Stories by Yunus Abdulhamid

UK based telecoms researchers Pyramid Research has said \$18 billion was invested in Nigeria's telecommunications industry in the past 10 years.

It has also projected over 100 percent increase in the total GSM subscriber base of Nigeria by 2014, in five years time.

At the public presentation of the book, "The Impact of Mobile Service in Nigeria," in Abuja, the Managing Director of the Pyramid Research Gabriela Baez said the study showed exponential increase to 73 million subscribers as at December 2009 from 420,000 landlines in 2001.

This makes Nigeria the second largest mobile service market in Africa. There are an estimated 4.5 billion mobile subscribers globally. This is expected to hit 6 billion in the next years.

The study took three months and was commissioned by the Nigeria Communications Commission (NCC). The study

was encoded in a book form and was formally presented by the minister of State for Information and Communications, Alhaji Ikra Aliyu Bilbis.

The study also revealed that capital investment in the country's telecoms sector hit \$18 billion in the last decade, and mobile telephony took \$16 billion of it representing over 85 percent. The industry contributes not less than four percent to the economy's GDP whereas in some other selected Africa countries like South Africa and Ghana, the average is between 2 and 7 percent.

60 percent of the 1, 500 end users of mobile services respondents agreed they have benefitted positively especially economically from the advent of GSM in the country, Gabriela said.

She noted that significant milestone have been achieved in the migration to the 3G technology by network operators, saying "in the next three years, 55 percent of mobile phones

will be in 3G. This would pave way for more sophisticated and faster applications.

Minister of state for Communications, Alhaji Bilbis commended the research and said it would serve as a reference point for government to plan ahead for the envisaged development in the sector.

He said since December the figure of subscriber had raised to 76 million and that the Nigerian telecommunications policy was being reviewed for improved services in the sector.

Executive Vice Chairman of the NCC, Engr. Ernest Ndukwe attributed the growth recorded to the deregulation in the industry and hard work of the management and staff of the commission as well as industry stakeholders.

Ndukwe who retires next month after attaining the mandatory 60 years of age and 10 years in the saddle said a study in the UK recently linked the improvement of GDP to the number of mobile phone users.

## ICT in Africa: Stakeholders want barriers removed

STAKEHOLDERS in West Africa sub region yesterday in Abuja called for the elimination of border barriers to entrench seamless Information Communication Technology (ICT) for improved economic development.

Speaking at the opening of a two-day ECOWAS stakeholders workshop on the NEPAD ICT broadband Infrastructure network, Ghana's Deputy Minister of Communications Geodeon Quarcoo said it was a historical imperative for ICT to be entrenched in Africa for the benefit of today and future generations.

He said today's struggle is another phase of liberation in continuation of Africa's foremost political freedom fighters.

Nigeria's Minister of state for Information and Communications, Alhaji Ikra Bilbis said there was urgent need to connect all Africa countries to the rest

of the world through broadband fibre-optic submarine cables. He decried the high cost of satellite systems which many African countries depend on to have international links.

"Our challenges are linked; our solutions must be as well. No one doubts the challenges before us. We must confront them together each day and every day, Bilbis said before declaring the workshop open.

The network intends to link all 54 African countries thus providing abundant bandwidth, easier connectivity at reduced costs.

ICT penetration in Africa is said to be at 10% concentrated in urban areas while rural dwellers that constitute about 70% of the population remain underserved.

Chief Executive of the Nigeria Communications

Commission Engr. Ernest Ndukwe said Africa was static in terms of development due to artificial barriers of states to refuse cross border integration ICT.

He said Africa need to be seen as one market and get connected to have an intra-Africa communication for the next phase of communication.

Ndukwe said, "Broadband connectivity should be taken by Africa government as national priority. Subsidies might be needed along the line as can even be seen in developed nations giving stimulus packages."

The workshop is expected to consider the Kigali protocol of policy and regulatory frame work in operation for Eastern and Southern Africa for adjustment and application in ECOWAS sub region. It was developed by the New Partnership for Africa Development (NEPAD)'s e-commission.



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Succeeding Together

## Business

# Donkey business flourishes in Gombe

DONKEY owners in Mallamsidi town of Gombe State are making brisk business as NYSC members undergoing an orientation programme scramble to ride on the back of the animals at a fee.

The 2010 Batch 'A' corps members are undergoing a three-week orientation programme, preparatory to their posting to various places of primary assignment, at Government Secondary School, Mallamsidi.

A News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) correspondent, who visited the camp on Sunday, reports that corps members, mostly from the southern part of Nigeria, are fascinated by the sight of donkeys and are eager to ride on them.

While some said they had not seen the animals before, others said that although they had seen them, they had not had the opportunity of riding on them.

Miss Joy Okeke, a corps member from Anambra, said she was elated by the opportunity of riding on a donkey.

"I have heard of donkeys and seen the pictures but for the first time I am not only seeing the animal live but also riding on it. I will have a snapshot and take it home," she said.

Okeke said the NYSC was very vital as it provided opportunities for the youth, among which was exposure to other cultures.

"The experience is very fascinating. Here I am, an Igbo girl



The donkey is a reliable beast of burden

from Anambra, not only seeing a donkey in the north but also having a jolly ride on it," she said.

Malam Adamu Husaini, one of the donkey owners, told NAN that he and his colleagues had been enjoying a business boom with the animals.

"We charge N20 for those who just climb the animal for snap-

shots and N50 for whoever wants the donkey to move around with him or her.

"I make at least N500 daily and that is big money for a poor man like me. My children and I run shifts here. We will certainly miss this opportunity whenever the corps members leave," he stated. (NAN).

## "Green" palm oil output may double as prices rise

PALM oil output that does not cut down forests and harm wildlife may double to 3 million tonnes by the end of this year as benchmark Malaysian prices steadily rise, an industry official said on Monday.

The bulk of it will come from Malaysia as big planters come closer to ensuring their estates, mills and processors comply with commitments set by the industry-driven Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil.

The grouping's secretary general Vengeta Rao said planters like Sime Darby, IOI Corp and Kuala Lumpur Kepong will have a comprehensive supply chain for green palm oil within two years and higher prices encourage this.

"I would estimate that to-date production of 1.5 million tonnes of certified green palm oil will double at the end of this year," Rao said at the Reuters Food and Agriculture Summit.

"Higher palm oil prices will encourage companies to be more sustainable and as more supply comes in, the green palm oil's premium goes down, encouraging more consumers to go green."

Malaysia's crude palm oil is the best performing vegetable oil so

far this year on expectations that a recovery in the global economy will boost demand. The vegetable oil is used in products ranging from soap and margarines to biofuels.

Green palm oil's premiums now stand at \$10 over current cash price of \$780 a tonne free-on-board (FOB), from \$50 at end 2008.

Planters have complained that the lower premiums will not encourage the production of sustainably produced palm oil -- a point Rao does not agree with. "If the offtake rises and we have seen that happening with the last two months, it goes a long way in reducing the industry's carbon footprint and shedding the negative publicity," he said.

"And it's a contrast from what happened during the financial crisis when European consumers stayed away from certified green palm oil. There is more money and people are less likely to be price conscious or cut costs in the case of companies."

Green groups have said expansion of oil palm estates to feed growing food and fuel demand fuels rainforest destruction in top producers Indonesia and Malaysia and speeds up climate change as powerful greenhouse gases get released.

But planters say that oil palm estates can act as a carbon sink and that a major CO2 savings can come from capturing methane, a powerful gas emitted during processing.

This contention has caused rifts with the RSPO, which groups planters, consumer goods firms and some environmentalists like WWF.

It became worse after Anglo-Dutch food giant Unilever suspended contracts with Indonesia's SMART TBK (SMART) and stopped trading with Duta Palma over concerns that the two were felling rainforests to expand oil palm acreage.

The move has spurred Indonesian planters to question the effectiveness of RSPO, formed in 2004 to form an ethical certification system that includes commitments to preserve rainforests and protect indigenous communities.

"We cannot question the commercial decisions of our members but we have asked them for clarification on this matter (of Unilever, SMART and Duta Palma)," Rao said.

"I don't think this will affect the good work we have been doing so far. In fact, there is a greater degree of openness." REUTERS.

## OPEC to urge compliance, keep output target steady

OPEC ministers due to arrive in Vienna for their meeting today say there is no need to change output targets with oil prices above their preferred range, but soft demand is prompting calls to curb overproduction.

"In my opinion, I don't think we are going to see any change, even though inventories are high," Qatar's Oil Minister Abdullah al-Attiyah told Reuters by telephone on Monday.

"The oil price and fluctuation is one of the many reasons that would lead to a rollover in supply targets."

Benchmark U.S. crude futures were trading \$80-90 yesterday, a fraction above the \$70-80 range that OPEC's top producer Saudi Arabia has named as a fair price for both producers and consumers of oil.

OPEC last agreed to cut output in December 2008, slashing a record 4.2 million barrels per day (bpd) from production to 28.48 million bpd as the world reeled into recession.

In the past year, rising prices and a hesitant global recovery have encouraged OPEC members to add supply to the market, however.

In February, OPEC delivered just 53 per cent of pledged output curbs of 4.2 million barrels per day that it agreed in late 2008, down from 81 percent a year ago.

High inventories showed there was no shortage of crude in the market, Attiyah said, and OPEC will discuss adherence to existing supply curbs.

"We need very strong compliance," he said. "If we say rollover, it means with existing targets."

Forecasts from OPEC as well as the International Energy Agency (IEA) and the U.S. government all suggest demand has been better than expected and could continue to rise this year.

"If you take the average forecast for OPEC demand, you're looking at 29.2 million bpd, which is in line with production. That's an indication that things will be the same until the end of the year," one OPEC delegate said.

"I personally think that because of demand revisions upwards, there is a need for every drop of oil being supplied," he said.

OPEC will have to watch the market closely as oil demand grows in Asia, but is still slow elsewhere.

Developed countries have shown little appetite for more oil as their economies emerge from recession, leaving oil producers to fight for market share in developing giant China. (Reuters/NAN).

## Eko PHCN installs 140 transformers

From Mohammed Shosanya, Lagos

THE Eko Distribution Zone of the Power Holding Company of Nigeria said it has installed 140 distribution transformers in the last one month to boost power supply in the zone. Chief Executive Officer of the Zone, Engineer Ayo Obilomo, who disclosed this in Lagos yesterday, also said in the next three months about 349 transformers would be installed. According to him, his zone would do everything possible to ensure its customers get satisfied with its services. Speaking on the incidence of high electricity billing, Obilomo said his zone has put in place certain measures to correct the anomaly. He said the zone has installed good billing system as well as decentralized billing centres in some of its districts like Lagos Island, Orile, Apapa and etc. Besides, the Eko PHCN boss said that his zone is set to commission an ultra modern customer centres in Lagos through which various customers complaints would be addressed.

## NDE graduates 130 trainees in Kano

From Ruqayyah Yusuf Aliyu, Kano

THE Kano office of National Directorate of Employment (NDE) will by the end of this month graduate 130 persons trained in different skills, Kano State Coordinator of the directorate, Engr. Yakubu Umar Mani has said. Mani said the training was part of measures by the federal government to improve the economy by training youths and prepare them for setting up micro business enterprises. He said the package is within the framework of the government's stimulus package. He said this during an interview with Daily Trust in his office yesterday. He said the training was part of the directorate's effort in addressing poverty and unemployment in the country as well as an attempt to make the youths self-reliant. The Coordinator further said the trainees were trained in different special skills after which they will each be resettled with a loan in forms of equipment and cash depending on the type of trade they have been trained on. He said the resettlement loan was aimed at enabling them set up their individual businesses and be self-reliant.



## THE FEDERAL POLYTECHNIC IDAH

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08058415615  
08053384203

Our Ref:

Date:

### STAFF VACANCY

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for appointment into the following vacant position in the FEDERAL POLYTECHNIC IDAH:

#### 1. Director of physical planning

The Director of physical planning is responsible to the Rector for the physical development, master plan evaluation, and implementation of the polytechnic, assessment implementation of capital projects, preparation of estimates and returns on projects to Government and other funding agencies for grants and performance of any other duties assigned by the Rector.

#### Qualification

Candidate should have at least 15 years of post qualification experience in planning, design, execution and management of physical facilities, most of which should preferable be in higher institution of learning. Possession of higher relevant qualification will be an advantage.

Salary: CONTISS 15

#### Conditions of Service

Condition of service for the position is as applicable in other Federal Polytechnics.

#### METHOD OF APPLICATION

Interested applicant should forward 20 copies of their typewriting application and curriculum vitae (including relevant credentials) and addressed to the Registrar, The Federal Polytechnic, P.M.B. 1037, Idah, Kogi State, not later than 6 weeks from the date of publication of this advertisement.

In addition, applicant are required to request their three referees to forward report on them under confidential cover to reach the Registrar before the closing date.

Note: that those who applied for this position earlier and are still interested in it are advisable to submit fresh applications.

Only candidates who are short listed for interview will be communicated.

**J. Elaigwu**  
REGISTRAR

## Business/Aviation

# 'FAAN not sacking workers'

Stories from Nahimah  
Ajikanle Nurudeen, Lagos

THE management of the Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) has allayed the fears of its workers as to the possible job loses over the speculation of scrapping its Commercial Department as a result of the commissioning of Maevis Nigeria Limited, to review the commercial operations of the Authority with a view to making it more profitable and transparent. The General Manager, Public Affairs of FAAN Mr. Akin Olukunle said in a statement in Lagos that the management of FAAN has reassured its workforce that no worker would be laid off.

He confirmed that there is a directive from the Ministry of Aviation asking Maevis to expand its duties to the auditing of concessionaires and especially those without formal agreements including air-



BABATUDE Omotoba, Minister of Aviation

lines, banks, fuel marketers, fuel tankers and others and come up with a blue print as to how to maximize revenue generation for the Authority.

Olukunle said: "It is true that the Federal Government, through the Federal Ministry of Aviation

has commissioned Messrs Maevis Limited to review the commercial operation of the Authority with a mind to making them more profitable and transparent, knowing that the company has the requisite expertise and technology to do so".

## Late pilot's daughter urges FG on safety

THE daughter of the pilot of ill-fated Beechcraft 1900D operated Wings Aviation Services late captain Augustine Ebgedi has called on the Federal Government to improve on the country's emergency responses as well as ensuring that the Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA) gives accurate information to pilot flying within the nation's airspace as any misinformation may lead to disaster.

According to Miss Tamara Egbedi in an interview with Daily Trust, her misfortune was fuelled by lack of competent air traffic controllers at the Obudu Cattle Range where her father was flying to, couple with lack of quick emergency response.

She stated that even though the ill-fate had been predestined, but people were surely instrumental by their actions.

Tamara said: "This is not to apportion blame but something must be done to avoid a reoccurrence. NAMA should make sure that they give right information to pilots."

She added: "Federal Government must do something on our responses to emergency situations, our emergency must be quick and prompt, you know all these go a long way to save lives and even properties."

## 'How to grow air cargo'

THE International Air Transport Association (IATA) has called for air cargo value chain to drive efficiencies and improve competitiveness by supporting IATA e-freight system.

The global apex air transport group also called for a renewed focus on quality through Cargo 2000, effective and cost efficient approach to security with IATA's Secure Freight program.

The Director General and CEO of IATA, Giovanni Bisignani, in a message to 750 industry experts attending the association World Cargo Symposium being held in

Vancouver, Canada said, "We are starting to see some signs of optimism on the horizon. But we cannot rebuild on the old foundations. This recession has changed global business. To remain competitive, air cargo must improve its quality and reduce its costs."

According to him, the global recession continues to challenge the global air cargo industry as cargo revenues were down by one quarter in 2009 compared to the previous year describing period as the most precipitous drop ever. However, the end of

2009 and the beginning of 2010 saw a strong upturn in cargo volumes to a level 28% higher than the low point seen in late 2008, according to the new IATA Cargo E-Chartbook release.

Comparing the figures, IATA's CEO said this is still 3-4% below the early 2008 peak level with new signs of yield increases on specific routes and regions as Asian markets bouncing the strongest.

Bisignani explained that in 2009, the wide-body fleet saw utilization fall by 7% and the freighter fleet specifically down by 160 aircraft.

# Business/Finance

## Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE) Tuesday, March 16, 2010

COMPANY Name	No of Deals	Quot. (N)	Quantity Traded	Value of Shares (N)
<b>2ND-TIER SECURITIES</b>				
ANINO INTERNATIONAL PLC	4	0.21	9,670,077	2,030,716.17
CAPITAL OIL PLC	6	0.50	106,625	53,312.50
SECTORTOTALS	10		9,776,702	2,084,028.67
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>				
FTN COCOA PROCESSORS PLC	12	0.90	913,500	843,030.00
LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC	18	0.80	717,491	572,773.90
OKTIPUPA OIL PALM PLC	1	6.53	1,500	9,315.00
PRESKO PLC	29	5.06	2,158,338	10,943,551.01
SECTORTOTALS	60		3,790,829	12,368,669.91
<b>AIR SERVICES</b>				
AIRLINE SERV.& LOGISTICS PLC	35	9.95	3,428,080	34,185,500.00
NIGERIAN AVIATION HANDLING COY. PLC	114	9.10	2,068,824	18,661,416.95
SECTORTOTALS	149		5,561,904	28,579,972.95
<b>AUTOMOBILE &amp; TYRE</b>				
DNTYRE & RUBBER PLC	1	0.50	100,000	50,000.00
R.T. BRISCOE (NIGERIA) PLC	27	5.76	134,441	800,692.24
SECTORTOTALS	28		234,441	850,692.24
<b>BANKING</b>				
ACCESS BANK PLC	263	9.99	24,504,508	244,810,885.46
AFRIBANK NIGERIA PLC	177	2.50	7,864,139	20,876,801.43
DIAMOND BANK PLC	157	9.30	36,464,407	340,398,458.00
ECOBANK NIGERIA PLC	128	6.85	4,298,588	29,213,628.84
FIRST CITY MONUMENT BANK PLC	65	9.45	1,867,529	17,363,414.90
FIDELITY BANK PLC	354	3.33	30,275,181	99,726,897.12
FIRST BANK OF NIGERIA PLC	1,056	15.50	33,473,016	517,133,274.83
FINBANK PLC	85	0.77	7,694,783	5,881,883.90
GTBANK PLC	491	19.10	9,942,048	188,955,228.31
STANBIC IBTC BANK PLC	68	9.07	1,933,939	17,470,536.36
INTERCONTINENTAL BANK PLC	91	2.19	3,494,029	7,806,928.68
OCEANIC BANK INTERNATIONAL PLC	248	2.28	14,578,443	33,904,475.28
BANK PHB PLC	177	1.95	11,504,356	23,111,269.90
SKYE BANK PLC	278	8.00	20,893,228	168,875,199.43
SPRING BANK PLC	25	1.07	4,858,424	5,190,363.68
STERLING BANK PLC	95	2.00	16,421,444	32,627,392.81
UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA PLC	220	13.82	26,377,417	368,890,303.06
UNION BANK OF NIGERIA PLC	202	6.50	4,628,079	30,003,054.62
UNITY BANK PLC	43	1.16	5,896,567	6,822,902.72
WEMA BANK PLC	81	1.20	6,256,507	7,591,258.51
ZENITH BANK PLC	458	17.71	55,583,976	979,568,036.99
SECTORTOTALS	4,762		328,910,608	3,146,272,194.83
<b>BUILDING MATERIALS</b>				
ASHAKA CEMENT PLC	100	18.85	1,821,134	33,554,991.15
BENUE CEMENT COMPANY PLC	40	64.78	900,883	58,209,019.02
CEMENT CO. OF NORTHERN NIG. PLC	49	17.87	1,398,540	24,679,015.99
LAFARGE WAPCO PLC	63	34.00	544,769	18,577,901.88
SECTORTOTALS	252		4,665,326	135,020,928.04
<b>CHEMICAL &amp; PAINTS</b>				
BERGER PAINTS NIGERIA PLC	1	4.26	3,600	16,092.00
CHEMICAL & ALLIED PRODUCTS PLC	6	28.26	14,861	420,001.40
DN MEYER PLC	3	3.24	19,751	66,515.85
NIGERIAN-GERMAN CHEMICALS PLC	1	15.04	500	7,145.00
PREMIER PAINTS PLC	1	13.40	100	1,273.00
SECTORTOTALS	12		38,812	511,027.25
<b>COMMERCIAL SERVICES</b>				
AFROMEDIA PLC	1	0.51	24,500	12,495.00
COURTVILLE INVESTMENTS PLC	2	0.50	8,000	4,000.00
NATIONAL SPORTS LOTTERY PLC	1	3.40	31,000,000	105,400,000.00
RED STAR EXPRESS PLC	11	2.70	304,471	818,106.70
SECTORTOTALS	15		31,336,971	106,234,601.70
<b>COMPUTER &amp; OFFICE EQUIPMENT</b>				
OMATEK VENTURES PLC	26	0.52	2,018,481	1,039,606.62
THOMAS WYATT PLC	1	1.75	3,000	5,010.00
SECTORTOTALS	27		2,021,481	1,044,616.62
<b>CONGLOMERATES</b>				
A. G. LEVENTIS (NIGERIA) PLC	13	3.00	410,932	1,232,618.80
PZ CUSSENS NIGERIA PLC	60	28.00	1,093,549	30,609,651.40
TRANSNATIONAL CORP. OF NIG. PLC	44	0.52	6,871,499	3,696,507.38
UAC OF NIGERIA PLC	100	45.60	3,766,143	171,847,912.23
UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC	109	26.23	1,267,838	33,415,043.61
SECTORTOTALS	326		13,409,961	240,801,733.42
<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>				
COSTAIN (WA) PLC	45	5.30	827,354	4,353,370.50
JULIUS BERGER NIGERIA PLC	29	28.90	254,328	7,046,846.88
MULTIVERSE RESOURCES PLC	3	0.50	1,141,400	570,700.00
SECTORTOTALS	77		2,223,082	11,970,917.38
<b>ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY</b>				
CUTIX PLC	2	2.97	2,001	5,942.85
NIGERIAN WIRE & CABLE PLC	1	0.68	1,000	710.00
SECTORTOTALS	3		3,001	6,652.85
<b>FOOD/BEVERAGES &amp; TOBACCO</b>				
7-UP BOTTLING CO. PLC	7	30.60	3,593	115,443.09
BIG TREAT PLC	11	0.81	318,000	260,980.00
CADBURY NIGERIA PLC	108	19.30	4,483,309	85,407,737.28
DANGOTE FLOUR MILLS PLC	257	16.10	5,690,848	91,478,973.75
DANGOTE SUGAR REFINERY PLC	124	17.00	4,192,133	69,704,691.51
FLOUR MILLS NIGERIA PLC	84	50.72	779,843	39,232,116.91
HONEYWELL FLOUR MILL PLC	24	8.99	323,005	2,904,539.35
NATIONAL SALT COY. NIG. PLC	92	6.81	4,700,594	31,437,289.43
NIGERIAN BOTTLING COY. PLC	21	26.50	111,147	2,936,951.33
NESTLE NIGERIA PLC	59	270.00	106,390	29,920,260.88
NORTHERN NIG. FLOUR MILLS PLC	18	24.15	31,201	784,392.85
TANTALIZERS PLC	11	0.90	297,200	268,630.00

UTC NIGERIA PLC	7	0.72	31,348	23,173.44
SECTORTOTALS	823		21,068,611	354,475,179.82
<b>HEALTHCARE</b>				
EVANS MEDICAL PLC	15	1.07	176,309	181,711.12
FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC	52	2.60	2,588,929	6,649,965.23
GLAXOSMITHKLINE CONSUMER NIG. PLC	13	29.97	959,994	28,771,771.11
MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC	16	5.05	551,609	2,790,023.70
NEIMETH INTERNATIONAL PHARM. PLC	16	1.37	62,067	82,774.58
UNION DIAGNOSTIC & CLINICAL SERV. PLC	29	0.65	2,252,355	1,409,286.27
SECTORTOTALS	141		6,591,263	39,885,532.01
<b>HOTEL &amp; TOURISM</b>				
CAPITAL HOTEL PLC	8	3.52	415,801	1,463,020.00
IKEJA HOTEL PLC	19	1.43	325,000	470,386.00
SECTORTOTALS	27		740,801	1,933,406.00
<b>IND. DOMESTIC PRODUCTS</b>				
B.O.C GASES NIGERIA PLC	3	10.37	51,000	502,860.00
FIRST ALUMINIUM NIGERIA PLC	6	0.52	302,693	157,047.42
VITAFOAM NIGERIA PLC	53	5.10	2,947,240	15,258,207.90
VONO PRODUCTS PLC	5	0.60	51,000	29,250.00
SECTORTOTALS	67		3,351,933	15,947,365.32
<b>INFORMATION &amp; COMM. TECH.</b>				
CHAMS PLC	35	0.73	2,462,934	1,779,803.72
IHS NIGERIA PLC	2	4.23	1,100	4,422.00
MASSTELECOM INNOVATION NIG. PLC	1	0.50	14,250	7,125.00
STARCOMMS PLC	40	2.02	6,071,400	12,702,435.00
SECTORTOTALS	78		8,549,684	14,493,785.72
<b>INSURANCE</b>				
AFRICAN ALLIANCE INSUR. PLC	1	0.50	10,000	5,000.00
AIICO INSURANCE PLC	118	1.05	4,884,882	5,203,841.35
CONTINENTAL REINSUR. PLC	10	0.95	841,700	803,987.00
CORNERSTONE INSUR. CO. PLC	14	0.52	3,776,150	1,960,336.50
CUSTODIAN & ALLIED INSUR. PLC	108	3.49	20,392,421	69,840,796.43
GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	27	0.55	2,422,366	1,369,893.30
GUARANTY TRUST ASSUR. PLC	48	2.46	12,523,876	30,365,652.21
GUINEA INSURANCE PLC	4	0.50	80,000	40,000.00
CONSOLIDATED HALLMARK INSUR. PLC	3	0.50	18,000	9,000.00
INTERNATIONAL ENERGY INSUR. CY. PLC	55	0.53	11,263,771	5,866,513.07
LASACO ASSURANCE PLC	56	0.50	10,796,197	5,520,185.80
LAW UNION & ROCK INSUR. PLC	14	0.50	3,968,660	1,985,590.00
LINKAGE ASSURANCE PLC	4	0.50	60,446,846	30,223,423.00
MUTUAL BENEFITS ASSUR. PLC	4	0.64	138,494	88,636.16
N.E.M. INSURANCE CO. (NIG.) PLC	30	0.52	1,995,182	1,053,654.64
NIGER INSURANCE CO. PLC	8	0.72	136,800	99,261.00
PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC	9	2.70	1,472,260	4,110,874.72
REGENCY ALLIANCE INSURANCE COY. PLC	1	0.50	70,000	35,000.00
SOVEREIGN TRUST INSUR. PLC	13	0.50	411,000	205,500.00
STACO INSURANCE PLC	3	0.67	2,508,000	1,680,360.00
STANDARD ALLIANCE INSUR. PLC	16	0.50	1,943,200	971,600.00
UNIC INSURANCE PLC	7	0.73	248,542	181,855.66
UNITY CAPITAL ASSUR. PLC	5	0.73	995,500	726,715.00
UNIVERSAL INSURANCE COY. PLC	4	0.50	43,800	21,900.00
INTERCONTINENTAL WAPIC INSUR. PLC	19	0.83	1,178,200	987,386.64
SECTORTOTALS	581		142,565,851	163,356,962.48
<b>LEASING</b>				
C&I LEASING PLC	55	3.00	7,163,332	21,483,938.35
SECTORTOTALS	55		7,163,332	21,483,938.35
<b>MARITIME</b>				
JAPPAUL OIL & MARITIME SERV. PLC	151	1.21	12,743,899	15,956,238.37
SECTORTOTALS	151		12,743,899	15,956,238.37
<b>MEDIA</b>				
DAAR COMMUNICATIONS PLC	34	0.77	857,600	659,182.00
SECTORTOTALS	34		857,600	659,182.00
<b>MORTGAGE COMPANIES</b>				
ABBAY BUILDING SOCIETY PLC	1	1.61	500	765.00
ASO SAVINGS & LOAN PLC	11	0.66	2,082,300	1,326,982.00
RESORT SAVINGS & LOANS PLC	6	0.50	1,232,500	616,250.00
UNION HOMES SAVINGS & LOANS PLC	55	0.89	4,017,140	3,587,496.82
SECTORTOTALS	73		7,332,840	5,531,493.82
<b>OTHER FINANCIAL INST.</b>				
CRUSADER NIGERIA PLC	13	0.94	708,846	663,884.34
NIGERIAN ENERGY SECTOR FUND	1	552.20	50	26,229.50
ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC	10	0.59	151,572	89,617.28
SECTORTOTALS	24		860,468	779,731.12
<b>PACKAGING</b>				
NIGERIAN BAG MANUFACTURING COY. PLC	186	2.65	1,930,528	5,076,851.43
BETA GLASS CO. PLC	17	12.35	431,022	5,241,751.62
SECTORTOTALS	203		2,361,550	10,318,603.05
<b>PETROLEUM (MARKETING)</b>				
AFRICAN PETROLEUM PLC	104	44.50	580,411	25,933,831.89
BECO PETROLEUM PRODUCT PLC	2	1.99	6,500	12,350.00
MRS OIL NIGERIA PLC	6	69.79	3,964	279,505.44
CONOIL PLC	33	40.00	76,927	3,211,283.65
ETERNA OIL & GAS PLC	58	7.00	789,508	5,526,069.73
MOBIL OIL NIGERIA PLC	21	102.53	37,332	3,708,286.30
OANDO PLC	315	78.01	1,297,486	101,044,255.41
TOTAL NIGERIA PLC	19	149.62	209,399	31,330,278.38
SECTORTOTALS	558		2,999,924	171,045,860.80
<b>PRINTING &amp; PUBLISHING</b>				
LONGMAN NIGERIA PLC	1	0.75	1,000	750.00
UNIVERSITY PRESS PLC	30	6.18	631,620	3,789,011.42
SECTORTOTALS	31		632,620	3,881,811.42
<b>REAL ESTATE</b>				
UACN PROPERTY DEVE. CO. PLC	21	21.00	3,189,863	65,401,395.87
SECTORTOTALS	21		3,189,863	65,401,395.87
OVERALL TOTALS	8,795		631,486,910	4,654,102,552.64

Who is a Floor Broker  
An exchange member who is paid a fee for executing orders for Clearing Members or their customers. A Floor Broker executing orders must be licensed by the exchange he is working on.

Google

### GAINERS

TOTAL	7.12
BCC	3.08
FLOURMILL	2.41
GLAXOSMITH	



# NASARAWA STATE UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION BOARD, LAFIA



## INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) COUNTRY: NIGERIA

**PROJECT: UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION PROJECT, 2007**

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF GOODS: CONSTRUCTION OF CLASSROOMS AND VIP TOILETS**

**VIP TOILETS**

**BID ISSUE DATE: 17<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2010**

**IFB NO: IFB/SUBEB/NCB/001/2010**

**LAST DATE OF BID SUBMISSION: 31<sup>st</sup> MARCH, 2010**

1. The Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria through the intervention of UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION COMMISSION in conjunction with NASARAWA STATE GOVERNMENT has made available funds to Nasarawa State Universal Basic Education Board in the State and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the Contract for *Construction of Classrooms and VIP Toilets*.
2. The Nasarawa State UBE Board now invites sealed bids from Registered Contractors with the Board for:

### CONSTRUCTION OF CLASSROOMS AND VIP TOILETS

#### A. EARLY CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION (ECCDE)

S/N	Lot	Description	Project Location	LGEA
1	1	Construction of a block of 2 classrooms with office	Pilot Nasarawa Eggon Nursery	Nasarawa Eggon
2	2	Construction of a block of 2 classrooms with office	Garaku Central Nursery School	Kokona
3	3	Construction of a block of 2 classrooms with office	Obi Central Nursery School	Obi
4	4	Construction of a block of 2 classrooms with office	SUM Kagbu Nursery	Nasarawa Eggon
5	5	Construction of a block of 2 classrooms with office	Apawu Nursery School	Nasarawa
6	6	Construction of a block of 2 classrooms with office	Shabu LEA Nursery School	Lafia
7	7	Construction of a block of 2 classrooms with office	Adogi Nursery School	Lafia
8	8	Construction of a block of 2 classrooms with office	Giza Central Nursery School	Keana

#### B. PRIMARY SCHOOLS

S/N	Lot	Description	School	LGEA
1	9	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Sisimbaki	Wamba
2	10	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Arum Tumara	Wamba
3	11	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Akaleku Sidi	Obi
4	12	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Ayero	Nasarawa
5	13	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Azuba	Lafia
6	14	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Tunga Nupawa	Lafia
7	15	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Kondoro BK	Kokona
8	16	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Quranic Doma	Doma
9	17	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Apringbo	Doma
10	18	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Wakama Tudu	Nasarawa Eggon
11	19	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Angwan Chiyawa	Nasarawa Eggon
12	20	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Taitara Yakuwa	Karu
13	21	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Angwan Jarume	Kokona
14	22	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Yelwa Toto	Toto
15	23	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Ebbe	Nasarawa
16	24	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Sele	Nasarawa
17	25	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Agbala	Keana
18	26	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Azara East	Awe
19	27	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Agyaregu Koro	Obi
20	28	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Dadin Kowa Doma	Doma
21	29	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Iponu	Doma
22	30	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Takpa	Kokona
23	31	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Gidan Waya	Nasarawa Eggon
24	32	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Igga	Nasarawa Eggon

25	33	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Ancha	Akwanga
26	34	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Ningo	Akwanga
27	35	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Moroa	Kokona
28	36	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Shamage	Nasarawa
29	37	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Rafin Fita	Nasarawa
30	38	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Loko Gama	Toto
31	39	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Tudun Wada	Karu
32	40	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Angwan Wayo	Kokona
33	41	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Agewu	Obi
34	42	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Kefin Moyi	Awe
35	43	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Kwarra Central	Wamba
36	44	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Akabba	Obi
37	45	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Massanga	Wamba
38	46	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Wude Kurmi	Wamba
39	47	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Akuni	Lafia
40	48	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	SUM Akuya	Lafia
41	49	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Tudun Adabu	Obi
42	50	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Obi South	Obi
43	51	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Kube	Karu
44	52	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Company-Karu	Karu
45	53	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Ruwan Bakka	Doma
46	54	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Agbeshi South	Doma
47	55	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Pilot Nasarawa Eggon	Nasarawa Eggon
48	56	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	LEA Kagbu	Nasarawa Eggon
49	57	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Gidan Bawa	Nasarawa
50	58	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	RCM Trans. Udege	Nasarawa
51	59	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Madala	Kokona
52	60	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Karmo Gangi	Toto
53	61	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Salamu	Keffi
54	62	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Gauta	Keffi
55	63	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Gidan Dogo	Keana
56	64	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Ombi II	Lafia
57	65	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Ampena	Awe
58	66	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Oluwa	Doma
59	67	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Galle (Tewa)	Nasarawa Eggon
60	68	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Gidan Ajo	Keana
61	69	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Angbazo	Nasarawa Eggon
62	70	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Rafin Ganye	Lafia
63	71	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Jangwa	Obi
64	72	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Oshugu	Nasarawa
65	73	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Amawa	Lafia
66	74	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Kunkio	Lafia
67	75	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Tudu Uku	Toto
68	76	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Nunku	Akwanga
69	77	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Abuni	Awe
70	78	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Doma North	Doma

71	79	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Abu-agori	Lafia
72	80	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Kari	Karu
<b>C. TOILETS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS</b>				
S/N	Lot	Description	Location	LGEA
1	81	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Siumbaki, Arum Tumara & Akalaku Sidi	Wamba and Obi
2	82	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Ayero, Azube and Tunga Nupawa	Toto, Lafia and Awe
3	83	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Kondoro BK, Qur'anic Doma and Apringbo	Kokona and Doma
4	84	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Wakama Tudu, Angwan Chiyawa and Gwanlede	Nasarawa Eggon and Nasarawa
5	85	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Angwan Januma, Yehwa and Ebbe	Kokona, Toto and Nasarawa
6	86	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Sele, Agbala and Azara East	Nasarawa, Keana and Awe
7	87	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Agyaragu Koro, Dadin Kowa and Iponu	Lafia and Doma
8	88	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Takpa, Gidan Waya and Igga	Lafia and Nasarawa Eggon
9	89	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Ningo, Moroa and Shanage	Akwanga and Nasarawa
10	90	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Rafin Fita, Loko Goma and Tudun Wada	Nasarawa and Karu
11	91	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Angwan Wayo, Agewu and Keffi Moyi	Karu, Obi and Awe
12	92	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Kwara central, Akaba and Massenge	Wamba and Obi
13	93	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Wude Kurmi, Akuni and SUM Akuya	Wamba and Lafia
14	94	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Tudun Azabu, Obi South and Ruwan Baka	Obi and Doma
15	95	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Company-Karu, Kube and Kari	Karu and Doma
16	96	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Pilot Nasarawa Eggon, LEA kagbu and Gidan Bawa	Nasarawa Eggon and Nasarawa
17	97	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	RCM Trans, Udege, Madalla and karmo Gangi	Nasarawa and Toto
18	98	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Salamu, Gauta and Tudun Uku	Keffi and Toto
19	99	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Ombi II, Ampana and Okuwa	Lafia, Awe and Doma
20	100	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Galle, Gidan Ajo and Agbazo	Nasarawa Eggon and Keana
21	101	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Rafin Ganye, Jangwa and Oshugu	Lafia and Awe
22	102	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Amawa, Kurikio and Gidan Dogo	Obi, Lafia and Keana
23	103	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Nunku, Abuni and Doma North	Akwanga, Awe and Doma
24	104	Construction of 4 blocks of 2 units (2 blocks in each school)	Abu-agori and Agbashi South	Lafia and Doma
<b>D. GOVERNMENT JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS</b>				
S/N	Lot	Description	School	LGEA
1	105	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Ombi	Lafia
2	106	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Takalafiya	Karu
3	107	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Mada Station	Nasarawa Eggon
4	108	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Kurudu	Nasarawa
5	109	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Nakuse	Toto
6	110	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Akwanga Central	Akwanga
7	111	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Dedde Central	Obi
8	115	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Keana Central	Keana
9	113	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Buku	Akwanga
10	114	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Agyaragu Koro	Lafia
11	115	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Doma West	Doma
12	116	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Ashangwa	Lafia
13	117	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Koko	Kokona
14	118	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Obi Central	Obi
15	119	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Amaku	Nasarawa
16	120	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Masaka	Karu
17	121	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Kokona	Kokona
18	122	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Alogani North	Nasarawa Eggon
19	123	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Dogon Dutse	Nasarawa
20	124	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Gadabuke Central	Toto
21	125	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Arugadu	Nasarawa Eggon
22	126	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	SDA Arum Tumara	Wamba
23	127	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Tidde	Nasarawa Eggon
24	128	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Kyakale	Obi
25	129	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Agwade	Obi
26	130	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Gunduma	Karu
27	131	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Gittata	Karu
28	132	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Kana	Nasarawa
29	133	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Sabon Gida	Kokona
30	134	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Ambana	Lafia
31	135	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Keffin Wambai	Lafia
32	136	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Ara Central	Nasarawa
33	137	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Kagbu LEA (JSS)	Nasarawa Eggon
34	138	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Adogi	Lafia
35	139	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	RCM Gudi	Akwanga

36	140	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Akwanga South	Akwanga
37	141	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Adudu Central	Obi
38	142	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Doma East	Doma
39	143	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Sakka	Karu
40	144	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Bagaji	Karu
41	145	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Yeiwa Bassa	Nasarawa
42	146	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Mararaba Udege	Nasarawa
43	147	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Angwan Zaria	Akwanga
44	148	Construction of a block of 3 classrooms with office	Anikya	Lafia
<b>E. TOILETS FOR JUNIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS</b>				
S/N	Lot	Description	School	LGEA
1	149	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units, (2 blocks in each School)	Ombi, Takalafiya and Mada Station	Lafia, Karu and Nasarawa Eggon
2	150	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units, (2 blocks in each School)	Kurudu, Nakuse and Akwanga Central	Nasarawa and Akwanga
3	151	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units, (2 blocks in each School)	Dedde Central, Keana Central and Buku	Obi, Keana and Akwanga
4	152	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units, (2 blocks in each School)	Agyaragu Koro, Doma West and Ashangwa	Lafia and Doma
5	153	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units, (2 blocks in each School)	Koko, Obi Central and Amaku	Kokona, Obi and Nasarawa
6	154	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units, (2 blocks in each School)	Masaka, Kokona and Alogani North	Karu, Kokona and Nasarawa Eggon
7	155	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units, (2 blocks in each School)	Dogon Dutse, Gadabuke Central and Arugbadu	Nasarawa, Toto and Nasarawa Eggon
8	156	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units, (2 blocks in each School)	SDA Arum Tumara, Tidde and Kyakale	Wamba and Obi
9	157	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units, (2 blocks in each School)	Agwade, Gunduma and Gittata	Obi and Karu
10	158	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units, (2 blocks in each School)	Kana, Sabon Gida and Ambana	Nasarawa and Lafia
11	159	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units, (2 blocks in each School)	Keffin Wambai, Ara Central and Kagbu LEA	Lafia, Nasarawa and Nasarawa Eggon
12	160	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units, (2 blocks in each School)	Adogi, RCM Gudi and Akwanga South	Lafia and Akwanga
13	161	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units, (2 blocks in each School)	Adudu Central, Doma East and Sakka	Obi, Doma and Karu
14	162	Construction of 6 blocks of 2 units, (2 blocks in each School)	Bagaji, Yeiwa Bassa and Mararaba Udege	Karu, Nasarawa
15	163	Construction of 4 blocks of 2 units, (2 blocks in each School)	Angwan Zaria and Anikya	Akwanga and Lafia

**3. PRE-QUALIFICATION**

The bids must contain the following:

- (i) Evidence of registration with Nasarawa State SUBEB as contractor(s)
- ii) Evidence of Incorporation/Registration of Business name.
- iii) Current Tax Clearance
- iv) Veritable evidence of similar procurement experience, if any.

**Bidders may bid for any one or 2 lots and discounts offered for the award of combined lots will be considered in bid evaluation.**

- 4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below between the hours of 9.00am - 4.00pm (Mondays - Thursday) and 9.00am - 1.00pm (Fridays):
- 5. A complete set of bidding documents in English Language may be purchased by interested Bidders upon payment of **non-refundable fee of Five Thousand Naira only (N 5,000.00), payable at First Bank of Nigeria Plc, Lafia Branch (Account Number 388204000066) which will be receipted at the Board Headquarters.** The Bidding Document will be collected by hand.
- 6. Bids must be dropped into the Bidding Box at the Premises of the **Nasarawa State UBE Board on or before 10.00am on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2010 Late Bids will be Reject**
- 7. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders or Bidders' representatives who choose to attend: **Time: 10.00am prompt Date: 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2010 Venue: IBRAHIM ABACHA YOUTH CENTRE, SHENDAM ROAD, LAFIA**

**NOTE: Bidding is open to ONLY REGISTERED CONTRACTORS with the Board**

PROCUREMENT OFFICER,  
STATE UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION BOARD  
SHENDAM ROAD, PMB 050 LAFIA  
TEL: 08061549814

# DIGEST

## Ironing? Women are far better at it than men (and at winning arguments)

IT'S a rather sexist thing to suggest, but maybe women really should do all the ironing.

Their superiority at this particular chore has been confirmed - and so too has the fact that they are better than men at threading needles and making a bed from scratch.

They are among the tasks carried out during a series of three-minute trials by groups of men and women. Most men will not be surprised to learn that the study also showed that women are better at winning an argument.

However, they will be reassured that the trials appeared to confirm their superiority in certain jobs traditionally regarded as masculine, such as changing a wheel or rewiring a plug. Surprisingly, men also come out as being better at changing nappies.

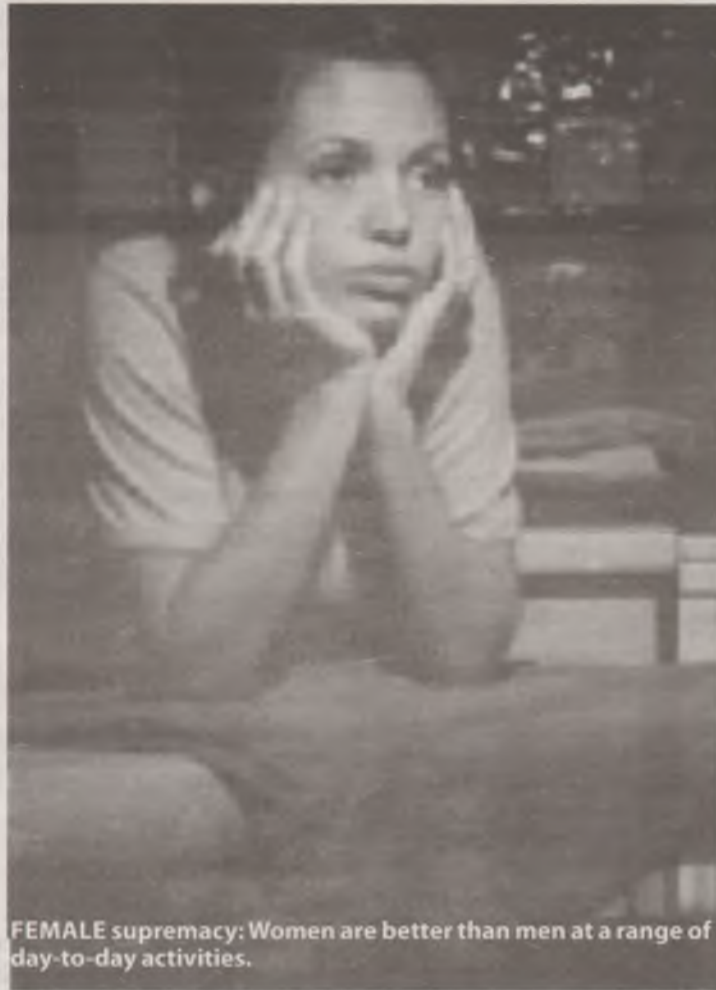
The study was carried out by research analysts MindLab International and featured more than 1,200 adults.

It found clear divisions in what men and women could complete in just three minutes from a selection of various tasks. Women could iron two shirts far more adeptly in the time limit.

Overall they excelled in those jobs which needed speedy hand-to-eye co-ordination and verbal reasoning, such as threading six needles or winning an argument with logic.

Men, in contrast, did better at those jobs which needed what researchers call spatial awareness, such as map reading, understanding self-assembly instructions and putting up a tent.

Women are better where they have to focus their entire attention on the job in hand while men



**FEMALE** supremacy: Women are better than men at a range of day-to-day activities.

are better when they can do something quickly and where it does not have to be 100 per cent accurate.

This also has something to do with men's competitiveness, said the researchers, because they want to complete their tasks as quickly as possible. Women were more concerned with being thorough.

The volunteers were also sur-

veyed on what they thought they could accomplish in three minutes. Women were more confident about some tasks - 82 per cent felt they could compose and send a text by mobile in three minutes compares to 69 per cent. However, 63 per cent of both men and women thought they were quicker than their partner in making a

### WHERE WOMEN EXCELLED...

- 1 Arrange a GP appointment
- 2 Persuade a traffic warden not to give them a ticket
- 3 Iron two shirts/blouses
- 4 Make up a bed
- 5 Thread six needles
- 6 Win an argument
- 7 Persuade a shopkeeper to give them a discount
- 8 Write a shopping list
- 9 Dress a child for school
- 10 Mop a kitchen floor

meal.

The research was carried out for Gaviscon, the heartburn and indigestion treatment. Its advertising claims it is effective in three minutes.

Stefan Gaa, Gaviscon marketing director, said: 'We commissioned the research as we were very aware of the importance of time

when developing the Gaviscon range.

'The findings are certainly very revealing when it comes to exactly what it is that men and women excel at.

'The one thing which rings true is that we believe we are very accomplished at getting a lot done in just three minutes.'

## Parents of twins 'more likely to divorce'



A set of twins

FAMILIES with twins are more likely to split up with financial distress playing a major role in break-ups, a study has found.

Research revealed that 28 per cent of parents of twins or triplets separated or divorced, compared with 24 per cent of other families.

The study, entitled "The Effects of Twins and Multiple Births Families and Their Living Standards", showed that financial pressures were among the most common reasons given for the breakdown of families.

The report, supported by the Twin and Multiple Births Association (TAMBA), found that families with multiple births were more likely to report a drop in their income level following

the birth of their children.

They were twice as likely as families of "singletons" to report "quite difficult" financial stress, and also more likely to be in arrears on bill payments and to have used up all of their savings.

It also found that twins and triplets experienced higher levels of material deprivation as parents struggled to pay for "key child-related items" including holidays, school uniforms, birthday parties and leisure equipment such as bicycles.

The study's author, Steve McKay, Professor of Social Research in Birmingham University's School of Social Policy, said: "The report found that twins and triplets are more likely to be born

to married and older couples, who are in paid employment.

"These factors should provide some degree of 'protection' against low incomes and deprivation, so it is deeply concerning that twins or triplets are experiencing greater levels of material deprivation than singletons, and that their families are at greater risk of separation and divorce.

"There is a noticeable difference in the statistics when it comes to separation and divorce - this is not just by chance."

The report analysed the data sets of The Millennium Cohort Study and the annual Family Resources Survey, the Government's key source of statistics on poverty and low income.

Sign Language



What electric shock is nice?

Photo location: Shenzhen Airport, China, by Mavjot Singh

Culled from telegraph.co.uk

EASY CROSSWORDS

12

**ACROSS**

1. Cardiac  
4. Hills falls  
11. Fake game pet  
15. Ballet skirt  
19. Bakery buy  
21. More wicked  
21. Soccer target  
22. Blame  
23. Disney deer  
24. Correct (text)  
25. Sea eagle  
26. Ore source  
27. In time past  
28. Protective canvas  
30. Complete  
32. Honey like  
32. Fitzgerald  
33. James  
36. Hollywood's Bandersnatch  
37. Six minus four  
38. Deluge

40. 1960s protest: hyph. wd.  
42. Wandered  
45. Emulate Perry Como  
46. Groovy: slang  
48. Chauffeur's uniform  
50. Cut (a lawn)  
52. Fishing barb  
53. Rub painfully  
54. Clear liquors  
55. Harassed  
56. Country motel  
57. "Not yet!"  
58. Pined (for)  
60. Stage (a play): 2 wds.  
61. Fashion advisors  
63. Low-heeled shoes  
64. Most docile  
65. Deeds

66. Grocery offerings  
67. 90-Down larva  
68. Canteen cousins  
71. Glass sherd  
72. Bogart classic: 2 wds.  
76. Takos fire  
77. Some hair  
78. Shuttle organization  
79. Reporter's question  
80. Tensile  
81. See 19-Across  
92. Vigilant  
94. 104 Across hair  
85. Over there  
86. Strung instruments  
88. False stories  
89. Animal skins  
90. Reno's state

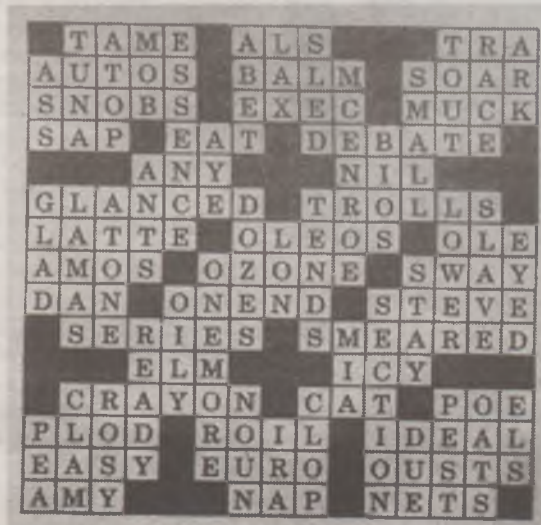
92. Coveted prize  
94. — blind  
95. Knob position  
96. In case  
97. Bacon fat  
98. Santiago native  
102. Weed ren-over  
103. Rajah's wife  
104. Female sheep  
107. Lary (abundant)  
108. Bear's lair  
110. Army division  
111. Striped beast  
115. Skillful  
116. Incessantly  
117. Untied  
118. Planetary path  
119. Prying  
120. Colored fabric  
121. Ms. Merman  
122. Finch homes

**DOWN**

11. Ancient  
12. Neither's pal  
13. Treats (89-Across)  
14. Ballot casters  
15. Tribal drum: hyph. wd.  
16. Single condo  
17. Catchy air  
18. Employed  
29. Tally (up)  
31. Mr. Diamond  
33. Out  
34. Eccentric individual: slang  
35. Daring (from: 2 wds)  
36. Cain's rival  
38. Back's opposite  
39. See 34-Down  
41. Late evenings  
42. Tear asunder  
43. Ham it up  
44. Extinct birds  
45. Greek letters  
46. Small SUVs  
47. Granola bits  
48. Competes (with: 1)  
51. Departed  
52. Hair's  
55. Latin dance  
57. Candle cards  
58. Healing plants  
59. Ringed guys  
60. Yachtman: Abdnal  
62. Things in there

Solution to Easy Crosswords

11



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.

108

				5			6	3
		4	3				9	
6	5				7			1
		6		4				8
			7			1		3
4							2	7
5			7					1 2
		4				8	6	
1	8			6				

Solution to Sudoku 107

7	2	5	4	3	6	9	8	1
6	8	9	7	5	1	4	3	2
1	3	4	2	9	8	6	5	7
4	6	8	3	1	9	2	7	5
5	9	2	6	8	7	1	4	3
3	1	7	5	2	4	8	9	6
8	5	3	9	6	2	7	1	4
2	4	1	8	7	3	5	6	9
9	7	6	1	4	5	3	2	8

## News Extra

## 'Don't abandon us and do clone yourself'

... The hysterical messages left by fans after PM was attacked

**H**ysterical and tearful messages from Italians imploring Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi to persevere after being attacked last year fill a new book that hits stores just as campaigning for regional elections steps up.

Published by the Mondadori company that Berlusconi owns, 'Love always wins over envy and hatred' collates some of the 50,000 messages of support that poured in after a mentally unstable man smashed a small statue into the premier's face at a rally in December, breaking his teeth and nose.

Berlusconi, who has been embroiled in sex scandals and a fight with the judiciary, saw his popularity rise just after the attack. But corruption scandals and bungling over ballot lists for regional polls have prompted a slide in ratings recently.

**T**he messages from across Italy to as far away as Vietnam run the gamut from defiant - 'Show them you're indestructible!' - to desperate and sentimental - 'We beg you, don't abandon us and do clone yourself if you can' - to verging on hysteria.

'On seeing you covered in blood, my wife grabbed her hair and sobbed as she yelled 'My Madonna, save Silvio!' wrote Carlo F.

'Prime Minister, we're at the edge of a precipice: only you can



SILVIO Berlusconi has dedicated the book of sentimental messages to 'The Italy that knows how to love'



BERLUSCONI saw his popularity soar after his nose and teeth were broken in the attack at a rally in December



save us and guarantee a future to our grandchildren. We have prayed for you and will continue to do so every day.'

In another, 'Grandma Norina' called on Berlusconi's deceased mother for help: 'Your mamma in the heavens will protect you and give you the strength and serenity to continue your job.'

Others wrote to say they wept, that 'I'm hurt like as if my father had been hit' and 'Without you I'd leave Italy.'

With the book out in stores just as Berlusconi tries to rally voters ahead of the March 28-29 vote, the left-leaning newspaper *La Repubblica* dismissed it as an election gimmick and mockingly dubbed it 'Silvio Ceausescu's little white book'.

It needs to be strongly said that this book at its heart becomes an election flyer, pure propaganda on glossy paper, Francesco Merlo wrote in the daily.

In a foreword to the book, Berlusconi said the solidarity show made up for all the 'slander, offences, false accusations' he had faced over the year and that the book was borne out of his desire to give the messages some recognition.

'Just think that in the first two days after the attack I received over 50,000 messages via the Internet, hundreds of faxes and flower bouquets,' Berlusconi wrote.

'All the leaders of friendly countries telephoned me. And there was a continuous pilgrimage, first in hospital and then at (family home) Arcore.'

A centrefold with statistics on various government projects and texts of two speeches by 73-year-old Berlusconi complete the book, dedicated to 'The Italy that knows how to love.'

A youthful-looking Berlusconi appears on the cover, smiling.

## All the president's emails

In a unique experiment in democratic transparency, Barack Obama - a BlackBerry owner, and the first American president to use email while in office - has agreed to copy G2 in on his otherwise highly confidential electronic communications. Each week, we present a selection from recent days.

To: David Axelrod < davidaxelrod@barackobama.com >

Subject: Re: Re: Postponing Asia/Australia trip for final push on healthcare reform

Thanks for your revised schedule. Just to be clear - we're putting off a meeting with the Indonesian president on co-operation against terrorism in order to hold a public rally in St Louis called Affordable Healthcare: Really Actually Not A Socialist Plot To Destroy Amer-

ica, and delaying nuclear non-proliferation talks in Australia so I can have a series of meetings with egomaniacal "centrist" Democrats to persuade them that free kidney dialysis is unlikely, on balance, to lead to the immediate wholesale abandonment of the US constitution? Sounds fine. I mean, it wasn't what I dreamed of when I decided to run for president, I guess. Kind of embarrassing to have to tell all that to the foreign



heads of state, when you think about it, but - yeah. OK.

BHO

To: Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of Indonesia < president@presidenri.go.id >

Subject: Postponing my trip  
Hey, SBY: Just wanted to let you know that, unfortunately, I'm

going to have to postpone my trip to Asia and Australia for a few days. I'm afraid I've come down with a bit of a cold - seems to be going round at the moment! Also, we've got the builders in, so everything's a bit hectic. So, anyway, those are the only reasons really! Sorry about that, and I look forward to seeing you in a few days!

Warmly, Barack

To: VPOTUS < joe.biden@whitehouse.gov >

Subject: Shower antics

Joe, you know how we're denying this claim by Eric Massa that Rahm once confronted him in the House and Senate gym shower room, while they were both naked, and jabbed him in the chest and yelled at him because he wasn't going to vote in favour of my budget? I just wanted to check that Gibbs can go ahead and officially deny this follow-up rumour I'm hearing, about how you like to head over there and snap towels at congressmen's backsides? That kind of horseplay would obviously be COMPLETELY unacceptable, so I'm assuming there's no chance that it's - wait, wait. What am I saying? Of course it is. Ah, jeez. Look, don't worry about replying to this email.

BHO

## News Extra

# Bananas could be key to stopping spread of AIDS, say scientists

**B**ananas may hold the key to powerful new treatments that protect against the AIDS virus.

In laboratory tests, scientists found that a banana ingredient called BanLec was as potent as two existing anti-HIV drugs.

They believe cheap therapies based on BanLec have the poten-

“Even modest success could potentially save millions of lives around the world

tial to save millions of lives.

The ingredient is a lectin, a naturally occurring chemical in plants that fights infection.

Researchers in the U.S. found that the lectin found in bananas can inhibit HIV infection by



BANLEC found in bananas is as potent as existing anti-HIV drugs

blocking the virus's entry into the body. BanLec acts on the protein 'envelope' that encloses HIV's genetic material.

Lead author Michael Swanson, from the University of Michigan, said: 'The problem with some HIV drugs is that the virus can mutate and become resistant, but that's much harder to do in the presence of lectins.

'Lectins can bind to the sugars found on different spots of the HIV-1 envelope, and presumably it will take multiple mutations for the virus to get around them.'

The research is reported in the *Journal of Biological Chemistry*.

BanLec was as effective in the laboratory as two anti-HIV drugs now in use, T-20 and maraviroc, the scientists found.

Mr Swanson is developing a process to alter BanLec and make it suitable for human patients.

The researchers believe it could be used alone or in conjunction with other anti-HIV drugs.

Even modest success could potentially save millions of lives around the world, they claim.

Currently new HIV infections are outstripping the rate at

which new patients receive anti-HIV drugs by 2.5 to one, say the authors.

Professor David Marvovits, from the University of Michigan Medical School, said: 'HIV is still rampant in the US and the explosion in poorer countries continues to be a bad problem because of tremendous human suffering and the cost of treating it.'

## Good news for bald men at last: Hair loss 'almost halves the risk of prostate cancer'



THE master of the International Bald Headed Association Henri Braye (left) gets a kiss from a new member Antoine Corapi, deputy mayor of the city of Fontainebleau, South of Paris, during the bald-headed convention. New members coming from all parts of the world pledge to their elders to do nothing to have their hair grow again.

It's one thing men under 30 don't want to see in the mirror - the glint of an emerging

bald patch.

But research suggests those who, like Prince William, are fac-

ing a future with less hair should stop fretting at that retreating hairline. Men who start going bald at a young age are up to 45 per cent less likely to fall victim to prostate cancer later in life, scientists have found.

Although half of all men suffer significant hair loss by the age of 50, an American team has linked the high levels of testosterone in those who go bald earlier to a lower risk of tumours.

The scientists studied 2,000 men aged between 40 and 47, half of whom had suffered prostate cancer. They compared the rate of tumours in those who remembered their hair thinning by the age of 30 with those who did not suffer hair loss.

Men who had started to develop bald spots on the top of their heads as well as receding hairlines had the least risk of cancer.

Hair loss is a source of concern for many young men, with surveys

showing nearly half think going bald makes them feel old and less attractive while three out of four have self-esteem problems.

The positive findings published in the journal *Cancer Epidemiology* will be controversial because previous smaller studies have suggested hair loss increases the risk of cancer. Most baldness is caused when hair follicles, the tiny sacs in the scalp from which hair grows, become exposed to too much dihydrotestosterone, or DHT.

This is a chemical produced by the male hormone testosterone. If there is too much DHT circulating in the blood, the follicles shrink, so the hair becomes thinner and grows for less time than normal. Experts believe men with high levels of testosterone are more likely to lose their hair, especially if baldness already runs in the family.

Those diagnosed with prostate cancer are often given drugs

to reduce testosterone levels because the hormone can accelerate the growth of some tumours once they develop. But the latest research suggests being exposed to high levels of testosterone from a young age might actually help to protect against the disease.

'At first, the findings were surprising,' said Professor Jonathan Wright, an expert in prostate cancer at the University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle. 'But we found that early onset baldness was associated with a 29 per cent to 45 per cent reduction in their relative risk of prostate cancer.'

Dr Helen Rippon, head of research management at The Prostate Cancer Charity, said: 'If these results are correct, they could be useful in providing us with a greater understanding of how testosterone behaves in the body and how it can affect different tissues.'

*An*  
**APPOINTMENT**

Well Deserved!!!



Sir, your recent appointment and confirmation by His Excellency, the Executive Governor of Yobe State, Alhaji Ibrahim Gaidam FNCA, CPA as the Head of Service (HOS) of Yobe State is surely not unconnected with your records of meticulous services, dedication, hard-work, honesty and transparency as well trained civil servant. Moreover, your accommodating nature, patience and openness has greatly contributed in endearing you to all and sundry especially the civil servants in the state. May this appointment increase your sterling qualities while dealing with both civil servants and the general public to achieve all your goals and endeavours in life and throughout your tenure in office and beyond. Finally, on behalf of all members of the extended family, I pray to Almighty Allah to guide and protect you. Once again, Congrats! ALLAH YAYI JAGORA, AMIN.

**Alhaji Dauda Yahaya mni,**  
 Head of Service, Yobe State

*Signed*  
**Ishaku Sani Daya**

For the family



# PROPERTY

property@dailytrust.com

HOTLINE: 07041632079

## Lokoja int'l market for commissioning

From Isiaka Wakili, Lokoja

ACTING President Goodluck Jonathan will Thursday commission the newly constructed international market in Lokoja, the Kogi State capital.

Governor Ibrahim Idris, who inspected the market yesterday, said its commissioning would facilitate the rapid socio-economic transformation of the

state, noting that necessary facilities had been put in place to enhance business transaction in the market.

Idris noted that the proposed commissioning would serve as the fulfillment of his promise to relocate the Felele market along Lokoja-Okene road to the new market in order to forestall a future occurrence of the ghastly road crash along the route.

Other projects scheduled for commissioning

include the State Specialist Hospital, the State Ultra-Modern Stadium, Lokoja Greater Water Works and the dualisation of Lokoja-Ganaja road.

In another development, the governor commended the acting president for releasing a total sum of N650 million for the completion of the Ajaokuta Steel Complex and the Itakpe Iron Ore Mining Company.

### Nigerian tenants to hold innovation forum

By Nasir Imam

THE National Union of Tenants of Nigeria is to organise a Networking Event on Urban Innovation by the union at the upcoming World Urban Forum Holden in Rio de Janeiro, 22nd - 26th March 2010.

A statement from C. W. Enwefah, Secretary-General of the Union, said the event, being entitled - Bridging the Urban Divide and the Challenge of Forced Evictions, aims to bring together people with diverse knowledge and experiences from various parts of the world to share their ideas for a better understanding of the challenging issue of urban disparity and how best these challenges can be approached - taking housing right protection into view.

The event, which holds on 24th March 2010 at 2PM in Room W3-6 of WUF5 venue, is expected to produce an outcome that proffers solution to the challenge of attaining equal right to cities in the urban transition effort - with reference to freedom against forced evictions. Kindly find attached a brochure setting out full details of the event.

### Kano, MDGs' office spend N835m on Wudil water

From Halima Musa, Kano

THE Kano State government says it expended N835 million in collaboration with Millennium Development Goals' office for the expansion of the Wudil regional water supply scheme and new pipeline to Gaya under the conditional grant scheme.

State governor Mallam Ibrahim Shekarau stated this while commissioning the completed water project in Wudil. He was represented by his deputy Engineer Abdul-lahi Tijjani Muhammed Gwarzo at the occasion.

He said the expansion of the Wudil water project was occasioned by increased water demand in the region, "it should be noted that water demand in the region has increased substantially that a lot more has to be done to improve the supply. The SLGP, ministry of water resources and the water board came up with a proposal for the second phase of the supply improvement which was packaged under the 2007 Conditional Grant Scheme," he said.

Shekarau further stated that the Wudil Regional Scheme was experiencing low voltage and could not be operated with power supply from the national grid, saying the generators were used to power the plant. "Government had to supply additional generators to ensure continuous operation."



THE NYSC Headquarters Complex, Maitama, Abuja

### COREN commissions new Abuja headquarters

By Mustapha Suleiman

THE Council for the Regulation of Engineering in Nigeria, COREN, yesterday officially commissioned its new head office located at Addis Abbaba Crescent, Wuse, Zone 4, Abuja.

The building was commissioned by the Minister of Works, Housing and Urban Development Dr. Hassan Muhammad Lawal who described the two storey building as a befitting status for a government regulatory body like COREN while congratulating COREN Management for realizing such dream.

Lawal noted that the crucial importance of the Engineering profession to the development of any

nation cannot be overemphasised, adding that no nation can develop its infrastructure without a well structured, nurtured and committed engineering profession.

"I have confirmed this conviction beyond mere rhetoric since I became the Minister of Works, a Ministry that utilizes the services of engineering personnel more than any other in the country," Lawal said.

Earlier in his welcome address COREN's President Engineer Habu Gumel said the commissioning of the edifice is an epoch making as it has been operating all along in various building not befitting its status as the only government regulatory body for engineering profession.

Engr. Gumel reiterated the Council's efforts in maintaining professionalism of engineering which according to him will help curb the menace of quacks and reduce failures of engineering infrastructures and also guarantee value for money in engineering projects.

He mentioned the establishment of Engineering Regulation Monitoring (ERM) Programme across Nigeria as one of its major achievements, saying "under the programme, a team of senior engineering personnel visit engineering establishments to monitor and enforce compliance with the provisions of COREN law by all practitioners in Nigeria."

### PTDF revokes contracts in Kaduna College

By Hamisu Muhammad

THE Executive Secretary, Petroleum Technology Development Fund (PTDF), Engr. Muttaqha Rabe Darma, has ordered the revocation and termination of two contract lots in the on-going physical upgrade and redevelopment of the National College of Petroleum Studies, Kaduna due to poor performance.

The PTDF has also directed the issuance of a stop work order on some contractors whose performances were considered to be

below standard and were weeks behind the completion periods.

The N14.5 billion project commenced in June 2009 with a 12 month target set for the completion of most of the components of the project.

Nine months into the project, although there is evidence of massive construction at the 90 hectre expanse of land, almost all the contractors are 8 to 14 weeks behind schedule. There are others whose contract periods had expired without reaching a reasonable stage of completion. This prompted the

meeting between the contractors and consultants involved with the project and the Executive Secretary of PTDF. The fund said in a statement on Friday.

The project Manager, Architect Mohamed Dewu confessed to the Executive Secretary "We have disappointed you because almost all contracts are behind schedule" He mentioned specifically the contracts for the construction of clinic, administrative block, internal road network and drainages as the most problematic areas whose contractors have not lived up to expectation.

The chief Executives of the contracting firms were given the opportunity at the meeting to explain why they have delayed the execution of the projects and the poor quality of work observed in some of the Lots.

The revoked contracts lot includes college clinic whose contract period expired 4 weeks ago and the contract for the construction of the internal road network and drainages. The period for the execution of the contract expired last month with only 30% work done.

## Property

## EYE ON ABUJA

WITH Umar Shuaibu  
umarshuaibu1@yahoo.com



## The ineffective FCT Land Use and Allocation Committee (ii)

With an LUAC in place, for an application to be made and the offer of statutory right of occupancy issued in a week, one need not be told that normal procedure must have been abused or bypassed. A fortnight ago we made the statement that when the head is rotten the whole body also becomes affected. We have in mind the phenomenon of abuse of due process in land allocation from the FCT minister's office, vis-à-vis the ongoing probe in the AGIS to check fraud on the collected land charges by the lower cadre staff. The initiative to probe is really commendable; however, we must be reminded that no amounts of probe can curb misdeeds from the lower officers if the higher officers refuse to show good examples.

By comparing the dates of applications on the acknowledgement letters and the actual dates of allocation on the letters of offer it shall be apparent that, the date of applications for KB 60493 and KB 60495 are all 6th August 2009, and by 14th August only 8 days later they were allocated plot nos. 512 in Katampe and 1281 in Jahi Districts respectively. These are at the expense of other thousands of applications unattended to for more than 20 years and cases of double or triple allocations that ownerships are in conflicts and have for years been waiting the availability of substitutes.

There are laid down procedure which applications must undergo prior to the actual allocation. They include acknowledging the application, choice of the suitable land to accommodate the application, recommendation of the LUAC and the ministerial approval before the land department should issue the letter conveying plot allocation. The inclusion of the heads of the relevant departments of the FCTA in the LUAC membership also attests that the procedures prior to the ministerial approval

are not limited to a single department. What we know with certainty is that there has never been any allocation that originates from the FCTA whether now or in the past without ministerial approval. If such allocations are done with the impression that they have also been recommended by the LUAC irrespective of these hurdles, the obvious explanation is that there could be tinkering with the recommendations of the LUAC by replacements with others.

Our position is further strengthened by the recent appointment of two of the Minister's Special Assistants, Sam Kargbo and Samaila Salihu Bui to membership of the LUAC, wherein the FCT Minister Senator Muhammad Adamu Aliero categorically stated that henceforth he intends to consider names for ministerial approvals for land allocations that are accompanied by endorsements directly made by him through the chief of staff and recommendations from the LUAC in form of memo. The implication of this directive is that the minister can directly send names only for the committee to endorse irrespective of their procedures for recommendation. If it happens as such it means the activity of the LUAC is of no use, inconsequential and only useful to the office of the minister as a conduit pipe. Hence the skewed allocations grossly in favour of applicants from the minister's home state of Kebbi. The situation has worsened to the extent that for fear of discovery of lopsidedness in the allocations indigeneships of other states are forged to hide the actual state of the allottees. If such could be speculated or known by most property agents hovering around the AGIS, in addition to what we have presented above, it calls for investigation, because this dimension is a serious crime never witnessed before the advent of this administration.

It is important to stress

that Special Assistants are political appointees whose tenures ends with that of the chief executive that appoints them. Going back memory lane, we could remember that Malam Nasiru el-Rufa'i was once forced to abandon Miss Aisha Kolo one of such SAs he gave so much privileges even more than his directors. The appointment of his SAs as members of the LUAC and the type of order Senator Aliero issued as prerequisite for his consideration of any recommendation from the LUAC is unprecedented and never issued by any FCT minister in the past.

Apart from defending the interest of the minister by virtue of the list he directly sends to the committee for endorsement, they are not representing any department of the authority because the directors of the relevant departments are already there, and not any professional body because the representatives are already there. Rather than applications to come from bottom to top it drops from the minister's office to the committee. With his SAs within the committee to ensure the protection of his interest, the committee's recommendations are thus going to be devoid of objectivity, since their work is no longer that of assessing the suitability of the land use in line with the master plan, checking duplication to prevent multiple allocations on one plot, or ensuring equity in the allocations.

Thus, not on merit or any professional judgment by virtue of which the various directors that represent their departments and the representatives of professional bodies in the built environment in the LUAC shall any applicant be considered for allocation of plot in Abuja, unless his name falls among the list to be sent to the committee from the minister. The minister could then pick those he wishes to approve and reject those he doesn't.

To be continued

## FCT Urban, Regional Tribunal inaugurated

By Nasir Imam

THE FCT Urban and Regional Tribunal was yesterday inaugurated in Abuja by the Chief Justice of the FCT High Court, Lawal Hassan Gunmi.

At the occasion, the Chief Justice said that of the more than 30 cases involving FCT Administration (FCTA) brought before the high court, rulings on more than half of the cases are against the FCTA.

The tribunal shall hear matters that relate to contravention of the Nigerian Urban and Regional Planning Act 1992 and these include developers and

Development Control Department.

Others include illegal erections and slums, disputes relating to amount of compensation payable to a developer, illegal conversion of land use as well as other violations in respect of revocation of development permits.

Members of the tribunal include Ibrahim Dauda Suleiman, chairman, Arc. Zubairu Ahmed, Barrister Aliyu Musa, Engr. Aminu Ibrahim, and Salihu Ahmed, secretary.

The tribunal is located at No 11, Kabale street, Zone 3, Wuse District, Abuja.



WOMEN Environmental Programme (WEP) Executive Director, Ms Priscilla Achakpa, addressing participants at a one-day summit on the Abuja Master Plan held yesterday.

## WEP, FCTA, residents parley on Abuja Master Plan

By Mustapha Suleiman

A one-day summit on Abuja master plan titled "promoting community participation in sustainable settlement development in the FCT" organised by Women Environmental Programme (WEP) I with support from Misereor was held yesterday in Abuja.

The summit, according to Priscillian Achakpa, WEP Executive Director, is to bring government to the general public on what Abuja Master Plan is, and to inform the public on their roles and responsibilities towards the implementation of the Abuja Master Plan.

She said: "WEP in her efforts in promoting community participation in sustainable development have over the year's implemented projects that are community driven ensuring that active participation of local populations in urban governance, in identifying common problems and fashioning out mutually agreed solutions to these problems and seeking for ways of improving the living conditions and quality of life of the citizens. In order to promote sustainable development there is the need for citizens to participate in the economy, policy and social development of the society. In our quest to engage government in

what is called and development people centred oriented planning, but we are faced with the challenge of government stating that CSOs has not being doing enough to create awareness to the public on the Abuja Master Plan and its implementation which necessitated this forum."

She lamented that the Abuja Master Plan is not readily available for the general public to see and study so as to tow in line with its implementation.

"If you go to the relevant departments in the FCDA, they will keep posting you from one department to the other and at the end you will not be issued the Master Plan. It is been closely guarded which is not ideal enough. This Master Plan has to circulate round, people need to be well informed about it so that when planning to build or settle they will know where to be," she said.

The summit was attended by senior representatives of FCTA, ministry of Works, Housing and Urban Development, relevant agencies, NGOs, residents and community leaders in the FCT. Several paper presentations were made to enhance the FCT Administration relationship with resident on issues bothering on housing, settlement, relocation and demolition as the case may be.

# Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilaihi Raji'un

His Royal Highness,  
**Alhaji (Dr.)**  
**Aliyu**  
**Mustapha**

The Lamido of Adamawa,  
President, Adamawa Traditional Council

On behalf of my humble self, the Government and Good People of Bauchi State, I commiserate with the Government and People of Adamawa State and indeed all Nigerians over the death of **His Royal Highness, The Lamido of Adamawa, President, Adamawa Traditional Council, Alhaji (Dr) Aliyu Mustapha**, which sad event occurred on **Saturday, March 13, 2010**.

The death of the respected traditional ruler and custodian of culture is not only a great loss to Adamawa State but is a huge loss to the Nigerian Nation.

I am indeed deeply touched by the passing away of this great Elder Statesman of impeccable character who contributed immensely to the unity, peace and development Nigeria.

We fervently pray to the Almighty Allah to grant his gentle soul eternal rest and give the family the fortitude to bear the irreparable loss.

May his soul rest in perfect peace, amin.



Signed:

**Malam (Dr) Isa Yuguda,**  
**Matawallen Bauchi,**

**Executive Governor of Bauchi State**





FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA  
FEDERAL MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT COLLEGE, MINNA  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION POST BASIC  
(STEP-B) PROJECT

**INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)**

PROCUREMENT OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS, TEXT BOOKS,  
CHEMICALS, SCIENCE AND ICT EQUIPMENT  
CREDIT NO. 4304  
DATE OF ISSUE: 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2010

1. This invitation for Bid follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in Development Business, issue No. 591 of 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2007.

2. The Federal Republic of Nigeria has received a credit from the International Development Association 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 Instructional Materials, Text Books, Chemicals, Science and ICT equipment. Contract No. FGCMN/STEPB/NCB/GDS/01/10.

3. The Science and Technology Education Post Basic (STEP-B) Project, Federal Government College, Minna, now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for:-

LOT NO	Description	Bid Security	Validity Period	Qty	Delivery Period	Delivery Location
1	Procurement of instructional Material/electronic Smart boards and Science/Technical Text Books	3%	90 Days	Various	60 Days	FGC, Minna
2	Procurement of Chemicals and Science equipment	3%	90 Days	Various	60 Days	FGC, Minna
3	Procurement Office/ICT equipment	3%	90 Days	Various	60 Days	FGC, Minna

4. Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding 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 Guideline:

5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from: Science and Technology Education Post Basic (STEP) project office FGC, Minna and inspect the Bidding documents at the given address below from 8:00hrs - 14:00hrs Mondays to Fridays Daily.

6. 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 Ten Thousand Naira (N10,000.00) only. The payment will be *Bank Draft in favor of Science and Technology Education Post Basic (STEP-B) Project*, FGC, Minna. The documents will be collected by hand.

7. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before 12:00hrs, Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2010. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security of *Three percent (3%)* of Bid price in Naira or its equivalent in a freely convertible currency. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives, who choose to attend at the address below at 12:00hrs, Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2010.

8. Bidders may bid for one or more complete lots as award will be based on individual lot. Any bid submitted for incomplete lots will be declared non-responsive.

The address referred to above is:

The Project Manager,  
STEP-B  
Federal Government College,  
P.M.B. 103,  
Minna, Niger State,  
Nigeria.

Telephone: 08023505871

E-mail address: stepbnigerfgc@yahoo.com.



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**POLICY ON PUBLICATION OF  
ADVERTORIALS, PETITIONS AND  
RELATED MATERIALS**

Media Trust Limited, publishers of Daily Trust, Weekly Trust, Sunday Trust and Aminiya newspapers take very seriously its responsibility to the public to publish all points of view, including those we do not share. We think this is the function of an independent, liberal newspaper dedicated to the pursuit of the common good. We are also conscious of the fact that it is a shortsighted business policy for a newspaper to shut out a particular point of view for its own reason or due to pressure from powerful institutions and advertisers.



But we are also aware that professional agitators can use the pages on newspapers to malign governments, companies and individuals on spurious grounds.

Caught between our desire to give voice to the concerns of the voiceless and to protect public officers and institutions from unfair and demoralizing attacks, we have been forced to develop a more stringent policy for the placement of advertorials, petitions and other related materials in the pages of our newspapers.

**The new policy is depicted hereunder**

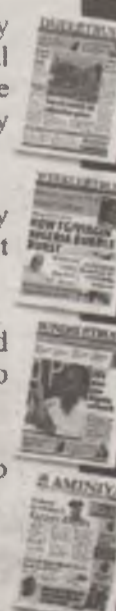
1. The writer(s) of such advertorials must not be anonymous but people who can stand by what they say, with their full names and address.
2. If there is any accusation against any person or organization, such writer(s) must substantiate the claims with evidence which can stand before a Court of Law. For example, if they claim that a contract was inflated, they must show Media Trust, relevant documents to back this up.
3. The placement must be fully paid for, before it is carried.
4. The author(s) should be prepared to accept corrections or alterations made by us but the corrected version would be shown to the author(s), before publishing.
5. The publishers have the right to reject any piece considered to be libelous, containing assertions without supporting facts and figures to prove the authenticity of such claims.
6. In the alternative, we are prepared to enter into an indemnity agreement with those who place such advertorial which will put the onus of proof squarely on them.
7. Media Trust employees that collect such materials have been instructed to contact the Advert Manager, who will also consult further with the relevant superior officers to analyze the piece before placement is made.
8. If the publishers of Daily Trust, Weekly Trust, Sunday Trust and Aminiya newspapers reject any material regarded as unprintable based on the above consideration, they will not enter into any correspondence with the author(s).

Finally, we wish to assure our readers that we will not shy away from publishing fair and balanced criticisms of any government or individuals, which is in the nature of free exchange of ideas.

This, we will continue to do in our free opinion columns and with advertorials where some readers feel strongly enough to pay for them.

We thank you for your support and assure you that we will do our best to keep your trust.

Signed:  
MANAGEMENT



## CITY NEWS



HOTLINES: 0803-3493-462 & 0703-8927-513  
email: citynews@dailytrust.com

# Drama as couple reconcile after divorce

By Romoke W. Ahmad

A mild drama took place last Wednesday at an Abuja Upper Area Court when a divorced couple told the court that they have reconciled and wanted their marriage restored.

The court had earlier dissolved their 20 years marriage the previous day based on the husband, Mr Oladipo Dosumu's petition that he can no longer tolerate his

wife's stubbornness.

The man had told the court that his wife, Ronke Dosumu, is a stubborn person, who does not listen to his instructions, while he is a peaceful person.

"For the sake of peace and tranquillity, I want the court to grant me divorce so that I can be free from her troubles," the husband pleaded.

The wife in her reaction said she still loves her husband and

would not assent to the divorce.

She appealed with the judges and people inside the court to plead with her husband on her behalf so that they can resolve the issue amicably.

The husband insisted on the separation and said he has called their three children, who are in the university to inform them of his intention to divorce their mother.

The man promised to rent an apartment for his wife and give

her substantial amount of money to start a business.

After listening to both parties, Judge Issa Alhaji Yahaya granted the divorce but the following day, the woman reappeared in court saying she wants to institute another case against her husband for wanting to dump her after staying with him for a long time and giving him three children.

Our reporter learnt that the court registrar called the woman's

husband, who promised to come to court as he finds it difficult to sleep because of fear that his ex-wife might have hurt herself.

When the husband came to court, he pleaded with his ex-wife and told her that he cannot live without her.

The court then interceded and reconciled the couple, while they celebrated their reunion inside the court's premises by entertaining court officials.

## 'I stole battery to free my brother from police'

By Hussein Yahaya & Ibraheem A. Fatai

A 22-year-old auto mechanic, Amaechi Uzor, Monday told an Abuja magistrate court that he stole his master's car battery in order to free his brother from police net.

He further revealed that his brother was arrested and detained by the police sometimes ago for not being able to produce a battery someone entrusted in his care.

"I went to the place where the car was parked at about 10 pm and stole the battery with the intention of giving it to the person that made them arrest my brother," the accused narrated.

He said after giving out the stolen battery, his brother was set free by the police, adding that luck ran against him when his master found out that his battery was missing and got him arrested.

Prosecutor Isiaku Adamu told the court that on March 6, one Friday Ashaka of Lugbe village, Abuja, reported to the police that the man who works under him stole his car battery valued at N10,000.

He said the accused committed an offence punishable under Section 288 of the Penal Code Law.

The accused pleaded guilty when the one count charge was read to him and the prosecutor asked the court to try him summarily under Sections 157 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

In his ruling, Chief Magistrate Ademuyiwa Oyiyo convicted the accused and sentenced him to six months imprisonment or to pay N10,000 as fine.



AN accident scene along tipper garage-AYA expressway, Abuja, where a pedestrian's leg was cut off yesterday.

## Police arrest co-op society operators over fraud

By Misbahu Bashir

PRINCIPAL Officers of seven cooperative business groups in Abuja have been arrested by the police for allegedly duping their members of over N214 million.

This was disclosed recently by the FCT Police Commissioner, Mr John Haruna, who said few of the leaders of the cooperative group are being prosecuted, while the rest are undergoing investigations.

The police boss said the cooperative groups were not registered by government and advised the

public to ascertain their legitimacy before doing business with them.

Our reporter learnt that some of the cooperatives being investigated are Koltron Nigeria Limited, whose leader, Abraham Kolo was allegedly to have duped one Etuk S. Enam and 24 others of N17.41 million.

He alleged that Ayodele Komolafe of Proforte Limited defrauded one Fatorisa O.A. and 40 others of N91 million, while Deji Afolayam of Co-operative Emeritus Multipurpose Society was said to have allegedly converted

the sum of N8,279,885 belonging to the members of the group to himself.

"Washington Gbenga Payne of Digstar Investment allegedly defrauded members, mainly civil servants of the sum of N9.5 million and Sylvanus O. Enonche, also allegedly duped members of his co-op group of N90 million and has been handed over to the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission," he added.

Haruna also disclosed that the police have since found out that Trim Multipurpose Society in Wuse as well as Mpape is fake.

## Fake police officers jailed four months

By Usman A. Bello

TWO fake police officers, Moses Chris and James Magum were on Monday sentenced to four months imprisonment each by an Abuja Upper Area Court for impersonation.

Police prosecutor, Muhammed Garba, informed the court that on March 8, the accused persons were caught by a police team arresting drivers of unpainted cabs at Garki.

He said the accused

persons told the cab drivers that they were police officers and extorted money from them.

"During police investigations, the accused persons confessed to the crime and said they have been doing it for a long time," the prosecutor said.

The accused persons pleaded guilty to the charges and begged for leniency.

Judge Umar Kagarko sentenced them to four months imprisonment or to pay N4,000 as fine.

# DRTS cautions drivers over zebra lines

By Ogechi Ohalee

THE FCT Director of the Directorate of Road Traffic Services (DRTS), retired Major Adamu S. Argungu yesterday said there is the need for all law enforcement agencies to step up the enforcement of road traffic rules and regulations.

He said any motorist caught disobeying road traffic rules

should be brought to book in order to serve as a deterrent to others.

"There is every need to bring sanity to our society as it relates to the usage of roads through the obedience of all road traffic rules and regulations at all times," he stated.

He listed zebra lines or crossings as one of the traffic signs which is being abused, adding

that motorists are expected to stop for pedestrians that are on the zebra lines.

The director said it is informative for pedestrians to look out for zebra lines on the roads as well as cross the road through the zebra crossway.

He complained that some drivers usually park on pedestrians walkways illegally or park on top of such lines thereby blocking

pedestrians from the crossway.

This according to the director has compelled some pedestrians to cross roads wrongly and dangerously, thereby exposing them to avoidable risks, adding that such careless driving attitudes have led to several hit and run cases.

When asked about the robotic e-enforcement introduced in the FCT, the director explained that if a driver is coming into Abuja from

another state, it is at the discretion of VIO officials to capture the driver's data on transit to reduce friction between road traffic officials and drivers.

"But in a situation where the driver on transit is having a fake driver's license, he will be persecuted here in FCT and the essence of the electronic -enforcement is to detect the false and real drivers licenses," he said.



A Bauer company staff lecturing Abuja journalists on Solar Energy over the weekend.

## FCT Corps members immunised against meningitis

By Mustapha Suleiman

BATCH 'A' corps members deployed to the FCT and camped at the FCT NYSC Kubwa Orientation Camp were on Monday immunised against meningitis.

The immunisation exercise, according to the NYSC FCT Coordinator, Obong Paul Ata is to prevent the outbreak of the epidemic that is common during the heat period.

He cited the outbreak of meningitis in some northern states, saying the exercise is in partnership with the Federal Ministry of Health.

Earlier, the Minister of Health, Professor Kayode Osotimehin flagged off the immunization exercise and said the move is to prevent the outbreak of the disease in NYSC camps.

Our reporter witnessed the immunization administered to corps members, who were made to register their names before inoculation against the deadly disease.

A corps members, Francisca Amos commended the NYSC/Federal Ministry of Health for bringing the immunization to their doorstep, adding that the intense heat in the camp coupled with their population could lead to the outbreak of the disease.

## FCT to host Christian teachers' conference

By Abubakar Yakubu

ABOUT 8,000 Christian teachers will on Saturday converge at the Baptist Convention Centre, along Kubwa-Suleja expressway for a Christian teachers' strategy conference.

This was disclosed by Elder John Ujata, chairman of the FCT Christian Teacher's, who stated that the

event which is facilitated by the FCT Fellowship of Christian Students and Deeper Christian Life Ministry would have Pastor W.F. Kumuyi as guest speaker.

He said the conference is aimed at stirring up and to strengthen the teacher's awareness of his role, expected quality and competence in applying professional prowess and godly principles in handling students.

Speaking Earlier, State Overseer of Deeper Life Bible Church FCT, Pastor Raufu A. Hassan, said the conference is designed for teachers in both public and private schools in the FCT, adding that delegates will also be expected from the North East, North Central and North West geo-political zones.

He said there is the need to

organise such a meeting in order to get the teachers back to the primitive diligence and visionary commitment that they were known for in the past, so that the society can be better.

The pastor described Pastor Kumuyi as a bundle of experience to impart teachers with vision and compassion needed to make them moulders of future leaders.

## Security guard charged with negligence

By Usman A. Bello

THE police have arraigned a 25-year-old security guard before an Abuja magistrate court for alleged negligence, an offence contrary to Section 196 of the

Penal Code Law.

Prosecutor Adamu Abdul-lahi stated in court that one Ugo-chukwu of 10 Tamale Street, Wuse Zone 3, reported to the police that on March 9, she discovered that her Tiger generator valued at N30,000

was stolen from her compound.

The prosecutor stated further that when the complainant confronted the accused, who she employed as her guard, he could give account of it.

When the charge was read to the

accused, he pleaded not guilty and requested for bail.

Magistrate Fatima U. Murktar granted the accused bail in the sum of N50,000 with a surety in like sum and adjourned the case to March 17 for hearing.

## Tinubu: On justice and integrity I stand

**M**y attention has been drawn to a six-page advertorial, run in various newspapers, including the *Daily Sun* of 12 March 2010, which contains a petition against Hon. Justice Ayo Salami, President of the Court of Appeal. Where the advertorial concerns me is one of the sworn affidavits featured in the publication, by Senator Umaru Dahiru, Chairman of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, in which he mentioned my name. On Senator Dahiru's sworn affidavit, as featured in that advertorial, I have the following to say:

- That I knew Senator Umaru Dahiru through Senator Abu Ibrahim, a very close friend of long standing. Ever since I met Senator Dahiru about eight months ago, we have not met socially more than twice.
- First, it is false that I invited Justice Ayo Salami to my house in Abuja because there was no cause for me to do so; and there has never been any reason for me to do so. So, it is blatant falsehood, Senator Dahiru's claim that I discussed the Sokoto case with the Honourable Justice and he told me that the case would be reviewed and awarded in favour of the Democratic People's Party's candidate. This is plain fiction.
- However, as admitted by Senator Dahiru (see Paragraph 14 of his affidavit), he took the initiative of approaching me in Abuja, to intervene on his behalf, with Justice Ayo Salami, over the Sokoto gubernatorial appeal case before the Court of Appeal. Senator Abu Ibrahim, through whom I first met Senator Dahiru, was a witness on that occasion, when Senator Dahiru told me he had approached Justice Salami in company of some other people, but that Justice Salami flatly refused to interfere in any matter before the Court of Appeal. He therefore said he was counting on my goodwill because he believed Justice Salami was my friend, since we both came from Lagos.
- But immediately Senator Dahiru broached his mission, I told him point blank that I had never before and will never discuss such matters with Justice Salami. I told him I did not intend to start

such a practice now. I added that, even if I wanted to intervene, I did not think that the Salami I knew would change his mind, once it was made up, especially as it bordered on ethical conduct concerning a case before his court. All these can be confirmed from Senator Abu Ibrahim who, by the grace of God, is still alive and well.

- Senator Dahiru's claim that I pleaded with him to facilitate Justice Salami's confirmation must be seen as the cheap blackmail that it is. As far as I know, Justice Salami was the only candidate for confirmation. As far as I know too, the senator and his committee had a constitutional responsibility to perform in that screening. Is the distinguished senator then saying that he did the Honourable Justice a favour so that he could influence him in future to mis-carry justice?
- I feel constrained to insert this advertorial because I strongly believe that facts must be stated, if only for the records. Besides, it is highly immoral for a politician who is also a lawyer, to cast aspersion on the integrity of a high calibre judicial officer for narrow political interests.
- Let me re-emphasise that all my life I have believed in the sanctity and integrity of the judicial process. As Governor of Lagos State, I took bold and proactive steps to uphold the dignity and autonomy of the judiciary, an institution that I believe is the bedrock of democracy; and one to which I always took recourse, to protect the interest of Lagos State. It is certainly too late in the day for me to change this firm and unshakable belief in the sanctity of the judicial process.



**BOLA AHMED TINUBU,**  
Asiwaju of Lagos.

## Inside Politics

# 'Katsina south least developed due to politics'

MALAM Ali Garba is a senior lecturer in strategy at the Bayero University Kano. He was also Special Adviser to former Governor of Ekiti State Ayo Fayose on Planning and Strategy. The Katsina born lecturer recently indicated interest to run for the senatorial seat of Katsina South. What are his chances in the emerging political equation in Katsina?

From Hisham Habib Kano

**WHAT prompted you into joining politics?**  
Essentially politics is about leadership and about serving the people; it is about advancing the interest of the society and bringing benefits to the society and this why I am involved.

**There is the general belief that politicians are deceitful people who come with lively promises, but turn down people when in office, how would you differ from these?**

It is unfortunate that such wrong perception exist. Politics is about leadership as I always say you don't deceive people you want to lead. We allow others to take charge while we sit on the fence for too long complaining and doing nothing about it. Politics is about service and action but if your perception of politics is about making profit or reaping personal benefits, you are bound to deceive people. When benefits come to you, take them to your house, but when your perception is about leadership, then you will think in terms of service to the people.

**Why did you join the PDP?**  
I joined PDP for

two reasons; first, it is the most widely accepted party in the country. Its structures are all over the country. The second reason is that in my area (Katsina) has suffered a brand of bitter opposition politics which has brought no positive change no development in the area. We have remained the most unemployed and the least developed in spite of the abundance of human resources in the area. I want to move us away from bitter politics into the realms of what is generally accepted as the best direction. This is why I joined the PDP.

**As an expert in strategic planning, how do you hope to bring your experience to bear if you eventually succeed?**

Yes, I have theoretical experience as well as some practical knowledge in both private and public sectors. Strategic planning is about envisioning the future; working on the present and knowing what to do to get to the future. My experience tells me that we need development; the vision for our society is to achieve development comparative to other nations, and in our context, we have the resources but they are poorly managed. We also have systems that are poorly implemented; we have the brains needed but poorly used. Every-

thing is poorly done. You know I came face to face with this in Ekiti where I got to know that the difference between success and lack of it is in the doing. If we don't succeed it is because we are not doing what we said we would do.

**The in thing in Nigerian politics is the godfather syndrome, who are those behind you?**

The People's Democratic Party is behind me; the people of my zone are behind me and above all, God is behind all of us. The idea of godfather stems from nepotism and we have seen how bad it has manifested itself in our society. It comes in different guise. For example, we have seen moneybags coming to sponsor candidates. But if I may ask, who was the godfather of the Gombe State governor when he came out to contest in 2003.

I don't know his godfather. He is one person who has done a good job. Again, the former governor of Katsina (Umaru Yar'adua), who is the president, had godfathers but did not win election (in 1992). But when he lost them, he won the election. So there are people who will support us because they share our vision, but that is not to say they are our godfathers.

**As a former adviser in a state other than yours, what experience did you**



MALAM Ali Garba

**get and how will it propel you to the future?**

I am the first northerner to serve in the cabinet of a southern state. Indeed it is an honour to me. There were so many challenges which, however, we worked assiduously to meet. One thing I noticed is that when you are outside the system, you assume so

many things absolutely wrong. So many interests came into clash and we faced so many challenges in Ekiti State. These challenges are from powerful stakeholders who were not necessarily godfathers; also it is difficult balancing the short term and long term measures. But then you have to be focused and steadfast.

## 2011: Legislators vows to stop Gov Daniel from imposing candidates

From Kehinde Akinyemi, Abeokuta

FIFTEEN members of the Ogun State House of Assembly (G15) have threatened to stop Governor Gbenga Daniel from imposing candidates for whatever position in 2011.

The threat came shortly after the governor presented 10 aspirants of the ruling Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) at a recent rally at Isara in Remo North local government area of the state.

All the aspirants had been similarly paraded before party supporters at some previous rallies, a development the G15 described as an affront to the leaders of the party who worked for the emergence of the governor in 2003 and 2007.

A member of the group, Adebayo Olusola Pelumi, representing Remo North state constituency, said that just as the leaders, which included the former President Olusegun Obasanjo, Chief Sule Onabiyi, Sen. Jubril Martins-Kuye, among others, worked for the emergence of the governor, "so also, will it be for his successor in 2011."

"The governor is just making mockery of the aspirants by parading them at rallies," the lawmaker said.

Speaking further, he said: "If that is how it was done before he (Daniel) became the party's candidate in 2003, I doubt if he would have emerged. He should stop deceiving the people,

without these leaders his so called aspirants are only wasting their time."

Olusola stressed that the G 15 have resolved "not to be an ingrate like the governor. We are going to wait for the leaders to come out with acceptable format that will continue to give the PDP overwhelming victory at the polls in the state.

Nobody will say the contributions of the likes of Baba (Obasanjo), Baba Adinni (Onabiyi), and JMK (Martins-Kuye) is nothing and will not be reckon with. In 2003 and 2007 these people spend their money and resources to stand by the governor, so, is the governor saying these leaders are dead politically or that they are no longer in PDP?"

## 'Makarfi/Sambo reconciliation is okay but...'

From Ibraheem Musa, Kaduna

### RECONCILIATION

between Governor Namadi Sambo and his predecessor Senator Ahmed Makarfi is a welcome development but the duo should not allow hangers on to derail the process by promoting selfish agenda, Mr Bulus Kajang, a facilitator of the governor's re-election in southern Kaduna has suggested.

Speaking to newsmen in Kaduna, the facilitator said that some members of the Makarfi camp are already positioning themselves to cash in on the reconciliation efforts. He revealed that some are already saying that this is their time to become relevant again because they have been sidelined in the

politics of Kaduna in the last three years.

Recently, the National Reconciliation Committee of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) led by Senator Ike Nwachukwu came to Kaduna and met with both the Makarfi and Sambo camps after which the governor and his predecessor embraced each other in public. A committee was set up to harmonise contentious issues on both sides and it was given two weeks to complete its assignment.

Kajang said that his group has met with all the 25 chiefdoms and emirates in southern Kaduna in a bid to secure a second term for Governor Sambo. He said that within over two years, the Sambo administration has constructed a lot of

feeder roads in southern Kaduna and completed abandoned projects in the area. "For the first time, a project of N600 million, the Madakiya road, was given to an indigene of southern Kaduna and that is the highest project that has ever been located in southern Kaduna", he added.

According to him, the facilitators have met with the governor over the Kafanchan campus of Kaduna State University and it will soon take off. They advised that the Kafanchan campus should take off from the temporary site of the College of Education. Kajang said that there is a consensus in PDP that no one from southern Kaduna will contest against Sambo in 2011.

# Inside Politics

## Obi takes oath for second term today

From Beatrice Onuchukwu, Awka

ANAMBRA State governor, Mr. Peter Obi, will be sworn in for a second term in office today. The ceremony is to take place at the Alex Ekwueme Square, Awka.

Hurdles for the swearing in were cleared Monday when the Election Petition Tribunal dismissed a petition by the Hope Democratic Party (HDP) counsel, Mike Okoye, seeking to stop the Chief Judge of the State, Justice P.A.C. Obidigwe, from performing

the inauguration. Ahead of the swearing in, an inaugural lecture was held at the Women Development Centre, Awka with dignitaries from Nigeria and abroad in attendance.

Also to be sworn in is Obi's deputy, Emeka Sibudu, who replaces Dame Virgy Etiaba earlier dropped by Obi in the run up to the governorship election.

Obi hails from Anambra Central Senatorial Zone while Sibudu is from Orumba South in Anambra South Senatorial zone.

## Tribunal opens hearing against Senator Bagudu

From Isma'il Adebayo, Birnin Kebbi

THE Elections petition tribunal sitting in Birnin Kebbi yesterday began hearing into the petition brought before it by the Democratic Peoples Party (DPP) candidate Aliyu Muhammad Sambo challenging the eligibility of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) candidate Alhaji Abubakar Atiku Bagudu to participate in the Kebbi Central Senatorial bye-election held on the 19th December last year. The DPP candidate is seeking the tribunal to quash the election on the ground that Alhaji Bagudu is not fit to offer himself for the election based on his alleged conviction for offences involving dishonesty, fraud, and money laundering in Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America, Luxembourg, Isle of Jersey, Lichtenstein and Nigeria. In the petition, the DPP Candidate averred that the first respondent Alhaji Bagudu in January, 1998, opened a bank account number 615223 with

Banque du Gottardo in Geneva using a phony name, Medina, in which the sum of 5,790,885 USD was deposited between February, 6 and Marcy, 1998. The petitioner also alleged that the PDP candidate was arrested on 22nd of May, 2003 in Houston based on an extradition warrant requested by Britain from the Isle of Jersey and he was detained for six months at an American Prison by Magistrate Calvin Botley where he paid a bond of 500,000 USD on condition that he would transfer the said sum and return to Nigeria to face charges. It was noted in the certified copy of the petition before the tribunal that Alhaji Bagudu admitted before magistrate George Zechinn in Geneva Switzerland that funds earmarked as security votes were diverted by the late General Sani Abacha to his son Ibrahim Muhammed who later gave it to him for safe keeping. Therefore, it said that in substitution of punishment for the respondent, a fine was imposed on him by a competent court in Nigeria and

abroad and he entered into a plea bargain with the Federal Government of Nigeria and returned various sums of money amounting to over seven hundred million Dollars (700,000,000.00 USD). The petitioner also pleaded that the 285,528 votes recorded as valid votes by the first respondent in the 19th of December 2009 election be regarded as void, the candidate having been disqualified from contesting the election on the platform of PDP. Counsel to Sambo Barrister Isaac Ekpan from James Ocholi Chambers urged the tribunal to grant the motion as it was supported by four paragraph affidavit and a memorandum of appearance. Meanwhile counsel to Bagudu, Kanu Agabi (SAN) and that of INEC, Barrister Ahmed Muhammed, said they have no objection to the motion but prayed the tribunal for extension of time to file their reply to the petition

Hearing was however adjourned to 19th March by the chairman of the tribunal Hon. Justice E.N. Kpojime.

## Ogbulafor dismisses corruption allegations

By Muiddeen Olaniyi

NATIONAL Chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) Prince Vincent Ogbulafor has dismissed all corruption allegations leveled against him by a group known as 'PDP Integrity Forum' in a published advertorials.

Ogbulafor who spoke through his Special Assistant on Media and Public Affairs Edmons Chijioko Adindu said the ICPC investigation against him were based on 'an unsubstantiated allegation' at the heat of the campaigns for election into the office of Governor of Abia State in 2007.

He said the averment by an official of ICPC to the effect that the probe is on-going as published in the Leadership and The Nation Newspapers of March 1, 2010, did not translate to a proof of culpability.

He said the agenda of those who raised the allegations against

him in 2007 to stop him from the governorship election was the same because of the efforts to use the said publication as their evidence of his misdeed.

He also said the reference to his leadership as 'weak' is erroneous and misleading; saying the National Working Committee's belief in the

tenets of democracy had been misinterpreted as weakness.

Ogbulafor's aide also dismissed the notion that Ogbulafor was not booted out of office midstream when he was the party's scribe saying he resigned from office to contest the Abia governorship election.

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This is to cordially invite the  
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# The ASCENSION of a GENERAL

Under the Distinguished Chairmanship of

His Excellency,  
**GEN. IBRAHIM BADAMASI BABANGIDA, GCFR**  
(Former President of Fed. Rep. of Nigeria)

Date: Saturday 20th March, 2010

Time: 11:00a.m. Prompt

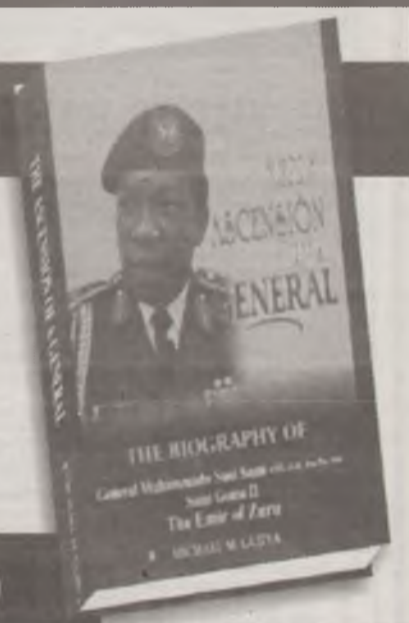
Venue: Shehu Musa Yar'Adua Centre, Central Area, Abuja.

R.S.V.P.

08034739162, 07057447454, 08080941744, (Author)  
08033345792 (Chairman, CPC) 08037036373, Chairman, LOC, Abuja)

**M. M. GUJIYA (Author)**

1. Chairman - General Ibrahim Babangida
2. Hosts - Excellency - Governor Sokoto State, Aliyu Magatakarda Wamako  
Excellency - Governor Niger State, Chief Servant Babangida Aliyu  
Excellency - Governor Kwara State, Bukola Saraki  
Excellency - Kebbi State, Sa'idu Nasamu Dakin-Gari
3. Chief Launcher - Alhaji Dahiru Mangal
4. Special Guest of Honour - Sen. David Mark (Senate president)
5. Mother of the Day - Minister of Woman Affairs, Hajiya Salamatu Suleman
6. Book Reviewer - Professor MK Abubakar, Kebbi State University
7. Royal Father of the Day - Alhaji Iliyasu Bashar, Emir of Gwandu
8. Guest speaker - Ex. Sule Bello, Ahmadu Bello University
9. Special Guest - Ex. Gov. Bauchi State, Mallam Isa Yuguda
10. Special Guest - Ex. Gov. Gombe State, Alhaji Danjuma Goje
- a. Alhaji Muhammad Yayale Ahamad SGF
- b. All Senators
- c. All Members of the House of Reps.
11. Co-launchers
  - a. All State Governors
  - b. Ministers
  - c. Perm Secretaries
  - d. All Head of Parastatals



# TRUST CLASSIFIED

## CIVIL SOCIETY FOR THE ERADICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS IN NIGERIA

The general public is hereby notified that the above named organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for registration under part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

### THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. Prof. John Idoko
2. Prof. Dennis Ityavyar
3. Dr. Fatai Bello
4. Anthonia Oladapo
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8. Dr. Oni Idigbe
9. Dr. Daiyabu Muhammad
10. Steve Bande

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To create a platform through which CSOS can effectively advocate for comprehensive TB services in Nigeria.
2. To contribute to reducing the TB burden in Nigeria
3. To further strengthen political commitment, increase awareness and support from all agencies and organization involved in TB control in Nigeria.

Any objection to this registration should be forwarded to the Registrar - General, Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja within 28 days of this publication.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### DAHIRATUL MUHAMMADIAH ALTUJANIYAL ISLAMIC OF NIGERIA

Notice is hereby given to the general public that the above named organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990. THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. SHEIKH ABDHAKEM RAJI
2. USTAZ ABDHAKEM ZUBAIR
3. MALLAM ZUBAIR JIMOH
4. MALLAM LAWAL MUMEEEN
5. MALLAM MOGAJI ABUBAKAR
6. MALLAM ABDUSALAM WAHEED
7. USTAZ QAMARDEEN RAJI
8. MALLAM SHUAIB TAOFEK
9. BUSHARI IBRAHIM
10. MALLAM HAMMED SHUAIB

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- a. To promote Islamic religion within and outside Nigeria.
- b. To promote Unity, mutual understanding, educational and spiritual welfare to all members.
- c. To promote love and peaceful co-existence among Muslims.

Any objections to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this application.

SIGNED:  
TRUSTEES

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### THE WORD FOR THE WORLD CHRISTIAN CENTRE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that the above-named organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission Abuja for registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act No. 1 of 1990. The Trustees are:

1. PASTOR JAMES OLUSESAN AYEGBUSI - GENERAL OVERSEER
2. MR. CHARLES LABAYO BABARIMSA - MEMBER
3. MRS. CHRISTIANAH JOKE ADEDOKUN - MEMBER
4. DEACONESS MARGARET OLUFUNMILAYO AYEGBUSI - SECRETARY
5. MR. ADEBAYO AJENKOKO - MEMBER
6. RUTH ODUNAYO AYEGBUSI - MEMBER
7. MRS. REBECCA MODUPE ALO - MEMBER
8. MRS. MARIAM OHIMAI - MEMBER

### Aims and Objectives

- (a) To preach the undiluted word of God Worldwide
- (b) To propagate the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ for the salvation of souls into God's Kingdom.
- (c) To teach Believers in the Bible-based Christian life.
- (d) Organising crusades, revival and all manner of evangelism and mission outreaches.
- (e) To cooperate and associate with other organizations having similar objectives.
- (f) To preach the faithfulness and love of God to human king.

Any objections to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 420, Tigris Crescent, Off Aguiyi Ironsi, Maitama, Abuja within 28 days of this application.

Signed  
PASTOR JAMES OLUSESAN AYEGBUSI - GENERAL OVERSEER

## AMINU KANO CENTRE FOR LEADERSHIP & DEVELOPMENT

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 (CAMA) No. 1 of 1990.

### The Trustees are:

1. Aih. Sanusi Ado Bayero - (Hakimin Gwale)
2. Prof. Jerry Gana
3. Aih. M.K. Ahmed - (Sarkin Yakin Lokoja)
4. Aih. Hassan Giwa
5. Ibrahim A. Waiyo

### Aims and Objectives:

1. To promote teachings, ideals, philosophies, principles and virtues of good leadership of the Late Mallam Aminu Kano
2. To create and develop a viable platform that will promote a participatory governance at all levels of government to ensure the consolidations of democratic rule in Nigeria
3. To better create public understanding in the application of dialog and tolerance as the tools towards conflict resolution and management, etc.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission plot 420 Tigris Crescent off Aguiyi Ironsi Street P.M.B 198 Maitama, Abuja, within 28 (twenty-eight) days from the date of this publication.

Signed:  
Y.M. Dalhat, Esq

## LOSE OF DOCUMENT

This is inform the general public that the original right of occupancy in respect of BA/6916 on plot Nos13/16.8 (Ar) situated at maikano area bauchi bearing the name HARUNA YUSUF MECHANEK is missing sometime in DEC.2009. that all efforts made to trace the missing document proved abortive if found please contact ministry of land and survey bauchi and the general public to take note.

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

THIS IS TO INFORM THE GENERAL PUBLIC OF THE ORIGINAL CERTIFICATE OF CUSTOMARY RIGHT OF OCCUPANCY OF PLOT NO.339 CADASTRAL A07, WUSE II WITH FILE NO. 229 ISSUED BY AGIS BEARING THE NAME JIM ISHAYA BAKUT IS DECLARED MISSING. ALL EFFORTS MADE TO TRACE THE MISSING DOCUMENT PROVED ABORTIVE IF FOUND, PLEASE CONTACT FCDA, AGIS OR THE NEAREST POLICE STATION.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that the landed property i.e

1. Dadi Goma Farm located along B/Kebbi-Kalgo road, Kalgo local government area Kebbi State with Cet of occupancy No. N.W.776.
2. Dadi Goma Farm located at Gwamba in Bagudo local government area of Kebbi State.

Both farms located in Kebbi State Nigeria belong to Late Alhaji Yahaya Shantali.

The Property is not for LEASE or SALE. Prospective Buyers, Corporate Bodies, Banks & other Financial Institutions BEWARE.

SIGNED  
HON. HAFIZ SHANTALI  
NO.1 SARKIN SHANU RD.,  
BIRNIN KEBBI, KEBBI STATE.  
(FOR LATE YAHAYA SHANTALI FAMILY)

## CENTRE FOR LAW AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

The general public is hereby notified that the above named organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja for registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

### The Trustees are:

1. Barrister Isaac Ugochukwu Onuegbu
2. Dr. Benedict Ezeaguba
3. Mr. Christian Ezeaguba
4. Mrs. Franca Ezeaguba
5. Mrs. Christy Okoye

### Aims and Objectives:

1. To promote and foster development of law.
2. To promote and foster capacity building
3. To organize seminars, workshops, and public enlightenment
4. To promote skill acquisition and self development.
5. To support and promote law and capacity development in all its ramifications.

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 (twenty-eight) of the date of publication.

Signed: Ugochukwu Onuegbu Esq  
3, Demurin Street Katu, Lagos.  
08033279489

## MADONNA CHARITY FOUNDATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named foundation has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja for registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act 1990.

### The Trustees are:

1. Linusmary Nnabuife
2. Rev. FR Gabriel Feyisetan
3. Patricia Ugo Nnabuife

### Aims and Objectives:

1. To propagate the gospel of christ through Bible study and charity
2. To reach out and alleviate or solve any charity oriented problem nationally and internationally.
3. To have any structure pursuant to the achievement and /or enhancement of the goal of charity.

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 (twenty-eight) of the date of publication.

Signed: Barr. Titilayo Akeju  
Nnabuife & Co.  
7b, Nsu-Afariogun Str. Ajao Estate, Isoko

## LAFIYA JARI SUPPORT INITIATIVE

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Association has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC) for registration under part 'c' of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

### THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. DR. USMAN MAIDUGU - DAN IYAN HADEJIA
2. ALH. YUSUF ABDULRAHAMAN - IMAM OF HADEJIA
3. DR. ABBAS YAU - CMD HADEJIA GEN. HOSPITAL

### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

1. To serve as an instrument of identifying persons who have Health problems especially those with HIV/AIDS and TB.
2. To provide support and care to people living with HIV/AIDS including those with TB.

Any objection to this 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 this publication.

SIGNED; SECRETARY

## CHANGE OF NAME

I, formerly known as ENDERLINE NNEKA EGUEJIOFOR, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS NNEKA ENDERLINE ECHETABU. All former documents remain valid. FCDA and general public to take note.

I, formerly known as MISS MARY LUKA henceforth wish to be address as MRS. GIFT JACOB AKERIGBA. All former documents remain valid. General public and School of Biblical studies, Jos take note.

I, MISS OLOTU MARCIA KAIYE now wish to be called MRS. MARCIA MORAYO IHEKAIKE. All former documents remain valid. General public to note.

I formerly MISS LAMI YAKUBU, now wish to be called as MRS LAMI GENTLEMAN DOGARA. all former document remains valid GANJUWA L.G.A. PHC DEPT STAFF. General public should take note.

I formerly MISS OLADEJO ABIOLA MARYAM, now I wish to be called as MRS OLANIYAN ABIOLA MARYAM, all former documents remain valid N.Y.S.C and general public should take note.

I, formerly known as OKESOLA JULIUS OLAUJI, now wish to be addressed as ONYEBUCHI FREDRICK ADIONYE. All former documents remain valid. General public to note.

I, formerly known as MISS NANA BOSE YAKUBU, now wish to be addressed as MRS NANA ROSEMARY ACHOLO. All relevant documents remain valid. General public to note.

I formerly MISS ROSELINE UJU MAKELO now wish to be called MRS ROSELINE UJU MGBAKOGU. All former documents remain valid. NYSC, Anambra State University Uli and General Public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS MARIAM MODUPE LAWAL now MRS. MARIAM MODUPE LAWAL. University of Ibadan & NYSC and general public take note.

I, formerly known as MARYAM MAMMAN MOHAMMED now wish to be called as MRS. MARYAM SULEIMAN. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I formerly Known as ONUKWE NWANNEKA CHIBUZO now wish to be called MRS. MMONWUBA NWANNEKA CHIBUZO. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and General public to note.

I formerly known as BOSSE KAYODE wish to be known as MRS. BOSSE AKINWUMI MARTIN'S. General public to take note.

I known as EZEKIEL SUNDAY wished to be known as EZEKIEL EMMANUEL SUNDAY. First Bank and general public to note.

I formerly known as MISS BLESSING PAUL now wish to be called MRS. BLESSING ADAJI. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and general public take note.

I formerly called HAJARA SULAIMAN GALADIMA now wish to be called HAJARA HARUNA M. SARKI. All documents remained valid. Unimaid, NYSC and the general public to note.

I formerly called MISS AISHATU KABIR. Now wish to be known and called as MRS AISHITU SALISU CHINDO. Former documents remain valid. NYSC and the general public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS ASMA'U ABUBAKAR, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS. ASMA'U ABUBAKAR. All former document remain valid. National Youth Service Corps, NYSC and general public to note.

I formerly known as FATIMA BASHIR BELLO, now wish to be called MRS FATIMA SULEIMAN BELLO. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and General Public take note.

I formerly MISS ELOHOR AMREYUAWHO now wish to be MRS ELOHOR SHARON MFREKE GEORGE. All former documents remain valid. General Public take note.

I formerly known as MISS SARAH MARKUS now wish to be known as MRS SARAH ANJILI. All former document remain valid, WACE and general public take note.

Formerly known as MISS SAMPLE ALABO MIEBAKA, now wish to be known as MRS OPI WISDOM MIEBAKA. All former document remain valid, university of science and technology, NYSC and general public take note.

I formerly known as BENSON HARUNA, now wish to be called BENSON HARUNA MABRAMA. All former document remain valid, university of Maiduguri and general public take note.

Former known as ABBA SATOMI now wish to be called BABA GANA AUDU. All former document remain valid, and general public take note.

I formerly MISS LADI JOSEPH, now MRS LADI HAMIDU GADZAMA. All former document remain valid, general public take note.

I formerly known as MUHAMMED RIKATU now wish to be MRS MASHAUDI RIZKAT MOHAMMED. Former documents remain valid Auch Polytechnic, NYSC and general public take note.

I, formally known as MISS SHITTU ASIA ROMOKE now wish to be known and addressed as MRS AYINDE SHITTU ASIA. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I, formerly known as SUNDAY ELOM OGE, wish to be called SUNDAY IDENYI OGEY. All former documents remain valid. The Presidency, University of Abuja and general public to take note.

I, formerly known as MISS MARGARET EKAEM UDO, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS TREASURE KRISTEN AMOS. All former documents remain valid. Abak Local Government Council and general public take note.

## TRUST CLASSIFIED

## CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION

The general public is hereby notified that the above named Organization has applied to the Corporate Affairs Commission for Registration under Part "C" of the Companies and Allied Matters Act of 1990.

## THE TRUSTEES ARE:

1. CHIEF ONOGHO JOSEPH ERMARHAGHEN JP.
2. PROF MRS ROSE AZIZA
3. DR. KEHINDE OKUN OMO
4. MRS. OGHENERO DIKE ESQ
5. DR. BENSON UNWAKATA
6. DR. BERNARD AGBOMIYERI KSM
6. MR. JOHNSON ONOGHO

## THE AIM AND OBJECTIVE ARE:

1. To educate and create awareness on environmental degradation, pollution, global warming and climate change.
2. To carry out campaign against deforestation, desertification and reforestation.
3. To emphasize the importance of biodiversity conservation.
4. Create awareness and prevention of HIV/AIDS, Malaria and tuberculosis.

Any objection to the registration should be forwarded to the Registrar-General, Corporate Affairs Commission, Plot 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: EUGENE UWANDI ESQ.  
(Solicitor).

## OMES SPECIAL CHILDREN DEVELOPMENTAL CENTRE

This is to inform the general public that the above named Centre 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. Nwonsa Victoria Omenebere
2. Mr. Joseph Igba Olie
3. Mr. Adeleke Philip Owoade
4. Mr. Macaulay Anthony Somide
5. Mr. Adeniyi Solomon Olayemi

## Aims and objectives:

1. To help in developing the mental ability of the disabled person.
2. To empower persons with special needs through education and vocation/technical training.
3. To maximize the abilities and potentials of persons with special needs.
4. To expose the abilities in the disability of persons with special needs through public awareness campaign.
5. To place person with special needs in gainful employment after skill acquisition.

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:  
Nwonsa Victoria Omenebere  
(President)

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of Original Copy of Late Kasimu Usman's Provisional Right of Occupancy in respect of Plot No. 37, Old Kutunku Compensation Layout issued by Gwagwalada Area. The said document is declared missing while on transit and all efforts made to trace it proved abortive. If found, please contact the nearest police station. All relevant authorities to note please.

Signed:  
Awalu Kasimu  
07033024365, 08056183431

## CHANGE OF NAME

This is to notify the general public of the change of name ZHAN INSURANCE BROKERS LIMITED to ICONS INSURANCE BROKERS LIMITED. All former documents remain valid. NAICOM, NCRIB, Insurance Institutions and general public should please take note.

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to notify the general public of the loss of original land document with plot no. 676 Duboyi District, Abuja with file no. OY2054/OS/10308 belonging to Prof Bolanle Awe. All efforts to trace the missing documents proved abortive. If found please contact the Police Station, AGIS note

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public of the loss of original copy of Acknowledgement receipt of duly completed application forms for land with Old Ref: MFCT/LA/91/IM2086 updated to EB60174 dated 27/08/91 belonging to Mrs. Beatrice N. Ajanwachukwu. All efforts made to trace it proved abortive. If found please return to the nearest police station. FCDA please note.

## FARMLAND FOR SALE

A farmland of 50.757 Hectares or 125.42 Acres situated at Bukuru Village in Chikun District, Chikun Local Government Area Kujama, Kaduna state is for sale.

Interested buyer should please contact Mr. P. Aneke at the address indicated below:

No. 6A, Kabala Close, Gobarau Road, U/Rimi G.R.A Kaduna.

Or call: 08035868671.

PRICE:- N 9 million - Negotiable

Signed:  
ABDULKADIR ATTA

## LOSS OF DOCUMENT

This is to inform the general public that the original Certificate of Occupancy NO /C of O LKN/CON/RES/82/181 Situated at No 7 katsina road in Fagge Local Government of Kano State belonging to Ibrahim Abubakar Mohammed of No 118 of Hotooro Qtrs Yargada Line Ltd, Sold to him by Alhaji Sani Musa is declared Missing, all effort to trace it prove abortive. Kano state Ministry of Land and physical planning should take note.

## LOSS OF DOCUMENTS

This is to notify the general public of the loss of Land Acknowledgement. In respect of file no IM 20424 belonging to Mrs Blessing Anuli Nwagbo. All effort to trace the document's proved abortive. If found contact any nearest police station. AGIS, FCT, FCDA please note.

## AUCTION! AUCTION!! AUCTION!!!

This is to inform the general public that there will be public auction sales of unserviceable vehicles in Federal Ministry of Education at F.ST.C. Ohanso, F.G.C. Wukari, F.I.S. Enugu. Correction of omission on the publication of March 5, 2010 on the public auction Owerri.

Date is 18<sup>th</sup> of March, 2010.  
Time is 10.00 am.

SIGNED.  
Benneth E. Okeh  
08134178838

## CAPSTONE LIFE 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. Rev. Emma Peace Awom
2. Christiana Ashefor
3. Sylvester Zamije Ashefor
4. Wilfred Chikelue Anozie

## Aims and objectives:

1. To care for orphans and vulnerable children in the society.
2. To fight and prevent the spread of HIV and AIDS.
3. To join in the campaign for the total eradication of malaria.

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:  
Favour O. Nduaguibe  
08030906933  
(Solicitor)

ASSETS MULTIPLIERS AND GROWTH CONCEPTS LIMITED  
OLUMUYIWA BASIRU & CO. (CHARTERED  
ACCOUNTANTS)

We wish to notify all our esteemed customers and clients that our Company/and Firm is currently facing some hiccups which was triggered by the recession in the capital market. We therefore crave your indulgence to give us a little more time to recover our assets and investments in order to be able to get back to full operations and pay all your entitlements.

We apologize for the inconveniences we must have caused you.

Signed:  
Olumuyiwa Bashiru  
Managing Director

I, formerly known as SYLVANUS AUGUSTA NENNE, now wish to be addressed as MRS. EZE AUGUSTA OBIAGAERI. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

I, formerly known and addressed as MISS IJEOMA BLESSING UKPAI, wishes to be addressed as MRS IJEOMA BLESSING OKO. General public take note.

I, formerly ONYEOMA, HANNA CHINWE, now wish to be called MRS UCHECHUKWU, HANNA CHINWE. All former documents remain valid. Ebonyi State University, NYSC and general public take note.

I, formerly known as CORNELIA ADAOBI OKOLIE, now wish to be known as CORNELIA ADAOBI ANOSIKE. All former documents remain valid. MTEL Abuja and general public to take note.

I, formerly known as MISS MAUREEN ANENE OSUZOKA, now wish to be called MRS. MAUREEN ANENE OGWUGHARA. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS ADDI BILIKISU OHUNENE, now wish to be known as MRS MUSTAPHA BILIKISU OHUNENE. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and the general public take note.

I, formerly MISS DINATU MICHAEL, now MRS. DINATU JOB ALAMBA. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and general public take note please.

I, formerly known as MISS TABITHA MAIDODO, now wish to be known as MRS. TABITHA HABIBA LEO. All former documents remain valid. F.M.W.A & S.D. and general public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS FRANCISCA CHIOMA OTUIBE, now to be called FAVOUR CHIOMA ONUIGBO. All former documents remain valid. NYSC and public take note.

I, formerly known as OKAFOR NONSO CHUKWU ROSE, now wish to be known as OBIKA CHINONSO ROSE MERY. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS LARAI BULUS JAZOM, wish to be henceforth known as MRS LARAI USMAN ANTO. All former documents remain valid. General public to note.

I, formerly OYINLOLA TOLULOPE OKE, changes to OYINLOLA TOLULOPE ADEGUN. All former documents remain valid. Public take note.

I, ELIZABETH UFYENTIRIMAMA ARENTA, wish to be called and addressed as ELIZABETH DAVID AKAWU. All former documents remain valid. NSUK and general public should take note.

I, formerly known as DR. IJEOMA CHIKA OPARA, now wish to be known and addressed as DR. (MRS) IJEOMA CHIKA CHIBUOGWU. All former documents remain valid. University of Abuja and general public to note.

I, formerly known as MISS SALAWU OMOBOLA GANIYAT, now wish to be called MRS. YUSUFF OMOBOLA GANIYAT. Authority concerned and general public should take note.

I, formerly THERESA AMAKA NNOROM wish to be known as THERESA AMAKA ECHENDU. All former documents remain valid. University of Nigeria, Nsukka, NYSC, NIIT and general public to take note.

I, formerly known as MISS ROSEMARY AWOJO OGEDEGBE now wish to be addressed as MRS ROSEMARY EJEJURU. All former documents remain valid. Oceanic Bank take note.

I, formerly known as CHRISTY O.J. JONAH now wish to be known as TESSY C. JEROME ABAH. NSCDC take note

I, formerly known as MARYAM AMAZOZE ANGULU now wish to be known as MRS MARYAM LAA'ZARUS ADI. All former documents remain valid

I, formerly known as SUNDAY ELOM OGE now wish to be known as SUNDAY IDENYI OGEY. All former documents remain valid. The Presidency, University of Abuja and general public to take note.

I, formerly MISS ELIZABETH CALEB now to be addressed as MRS ELIZABETH KWA'LA IDAH. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as OCHALA UNEKWU, now wish to be addressed as ODIBA UNEKWU. All former documents remain valid. Kogi State University, the general public take note.

I, formerly known as AZIZAT OLAIDE RAHMEN, now wish to be known as AZIZAT OLAIDE WAKILI. All former documents remain valid. General public to note.

I, formerly known as MISS MARYAM KIDAJI, now wish to be addressed as MRS MARYAM MUHAMMED ABUBAKAR. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

I, formerly known as MISS EMEM NTA OKON now wish to be called MRS EMEM JOSEPH MUSA. All former documents remain valid. general public note.

## SPORT

**Obaseki  
faces  
probe**  
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# Allow Lagerback to sink or swim –Galadima

By Ibraheem A. Fatai

ERSTWHILE Chairman of the NFA, Alhaji Ibrahim Galadima, has called on Nigerians to stop dictating to the Super Eagles coach, Lars Lagerback, on players

to include or drop from his team to South Africa.

Speaking to Trustsports in an interview yesterday, Galadima said Nigerians should allow the Swede to take whoever he thinks is good for the team to South

Africa, saying doing so will make the new coach take the blame or praises for his action at the end of the Mundial.

According to him, Lagerback should be allowed to take vital decisions like the one relating to

selection of players, adding that Nigerians should learn how to trust a coach after employing him based on his level of competence and mastery of the game.

"A situation whereby some Nigerians call on Lagerback to

drop some players based on the fact that they are bench warmers in their clubs is wrong. The man has been employed because his employers think he is technically and tactically competent to handle the team. If that is the case, then the issue of who is to represent Nigeria in South Africa should rest squarely on the Swede.

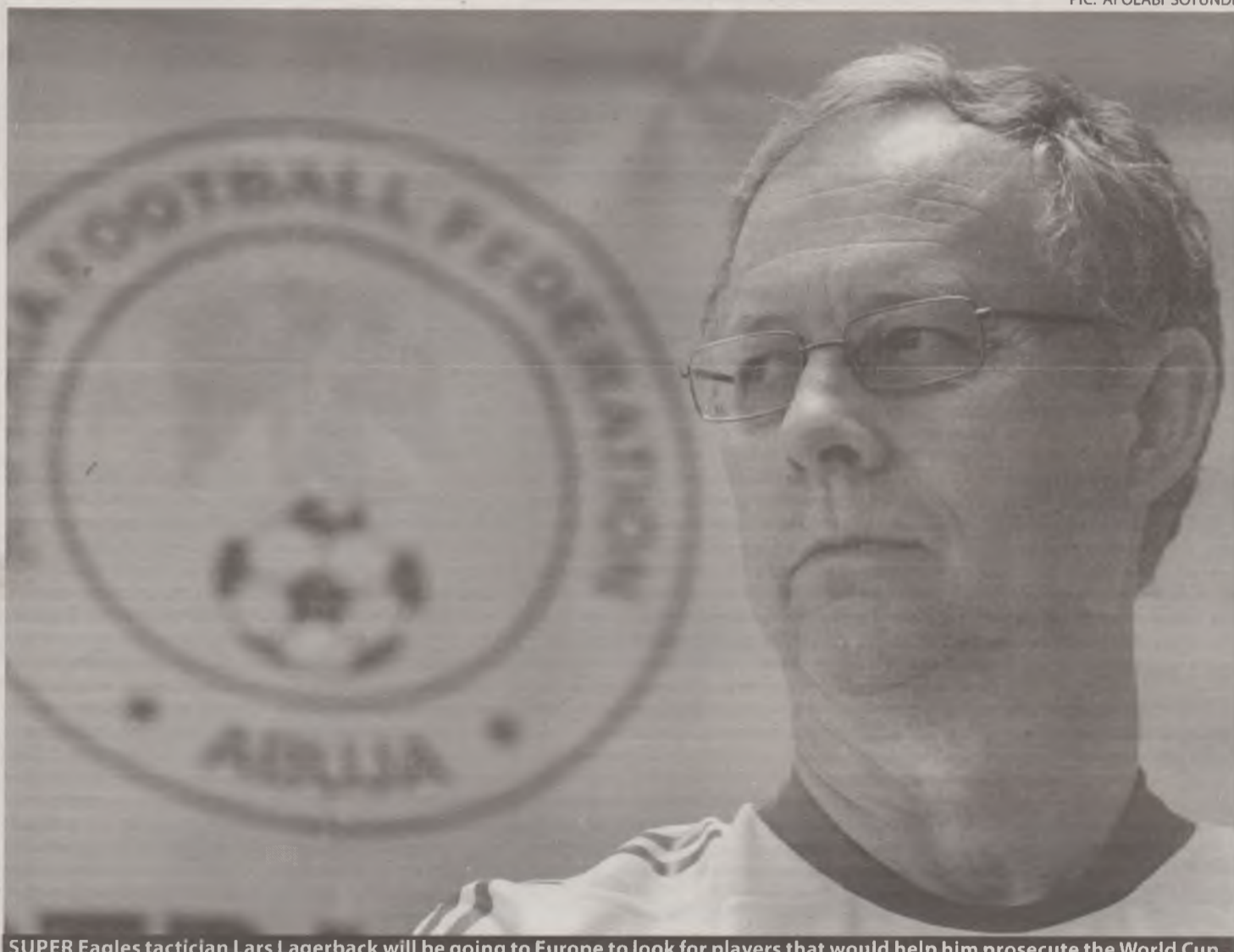
"It is completely the responsibility of the coach to go round looking for good players that can help him prosecute his assignment. If he is allowed to do that without any interference, he will be able to take responsibility for whatever result the team brings home at the end of the day.

"Some of the players that we might think are not good enough to represent Nigeria in our own estimation, may be good in the estimation of the coach. That is why we should allow him to pick players that he thinks can help him deliver the goods," Galadima reasoned.

He, however, saw nothing wrong in suggesting some names of good Nigerian players scattered across the globe to the coach for consideration, saying such will go a long way to help the coach, who does not have enough time to comb everywhere for good players, succeed.

"We should have confidence in the man we have employed to take our team to South Africa. That does not mean that we cannot suggest some names of good players to him. But going to the extent of saying one player is a bench warmer and should not have a place in the team to South Africa is unacceptable and tantamount to lack of confidence in the Swede," the Kano-born football administrator said.

PICTURE: AFOLABI SOTUNDE



SUPER Eagles tactician Lars Lagerback will be going to Europe to look for players that would help him prosecute the World Cup.

## Adepoju: Nigeria still has good local players

By Orkula Shaagee

FORMER Super Eagles midfielder, Mutiu Adepoju, yesterday played down the 2-0 deficit suffered by Eagles Team B against Mena of Niger in an African Nations Championship qualifier last Saturday, saying Nigeria still parade good players on the local scene.

Adepoju, who started playing for the senior national foot-

ball team as a local player with Julius Berger of Lagos, also said the Eagles will turn the table against their visitors when they clash in Kano next week.

He believes that the team's woeful showing in Niamey was as a result of lack of cohesion occasioned by late preparation, adding that if the team blends it would become one of the forces to reckon with in the Championship.

Besides, the 3SC of Ibadan General Manager urged people not to write off the team considering that any team playing away has the disadvantage of playing against eleven players on the pitch and thousands of soccer fans in the stands.

"We should be patient with this team, we should not write them off based on this result. They played away and we all know that a home team always

have the advantage of enjoying huge support from the fans, and this could be one of the reasons.

"Nigeria can still boast of good players on the local scene, but the team has just been assembled and the players need enough time to blend into a strong side to face the rest of Africa," Adepoju stated.

On whether the coaches also share the blame for the

failure of the country to raise a strong home-based team to vie for honours in the continent, Adepoju popularly known as Headmaster said he believes in the ability of the coaches to deliver.

"I don't think the coaches are the problem, they are doing their best and like I said earlier, they need little time to turn the boys into a winning team", he said.

# Agassi apologises for mocking Sampras

## 'I was out of line'

ANDRE Agassi admitted he was "out of line" and apologised for poking fun at Pete Sampras during a charity match on Monday.

Agassi and Sampras were wearing microphones during the match, and the crowd at Indian Wells Tennis Garden in Califor-

nia could hear an exchange that started lighthearted but turned nasty.

for being stingy. In his book, Agassi criticised Sampras for being a poor tipper. Sampras responded with a high, hard serve that forced Agassi, who was partnering Rafael Nadal, to duck. Both Agassi and Sampras were smiling, but neither showed up at the post-match news conference.

"It was out of line," Agassi told ESPN.com.

"It was inappropriate. We were all having fun. I was trying to be comedic. I went for it and it fell flat. [Sampras] didn't really roll with it. I've texted Pete to ask him if I can apologise in person."

"The joke fell flat and I'm sorry," he added.

"My hope was that the night was still enjoyable."

Nadal was asked about Sampras and Agassi after his Monday night match.

"Everybody told me after the match what's happened, but during the match, you know how fast Americans speak, and I am Spanish. I didn't understand nothing," he said.

A capacity crowd of 16,100



RAFAEL Nadal, Andre Agassi, Roger Federer, and Pete Sampras at the Hit for Haiti Charity tennis event recently.

filled the stadium for the Hit for Haiti fundraising exhibition.

The event helped raise \$1m (£660,000) to aid relief efforts in

the earthquake-ravaged island nation.

**You know how fast Americans speak, and I am Spanish. I didn't understand nothing**

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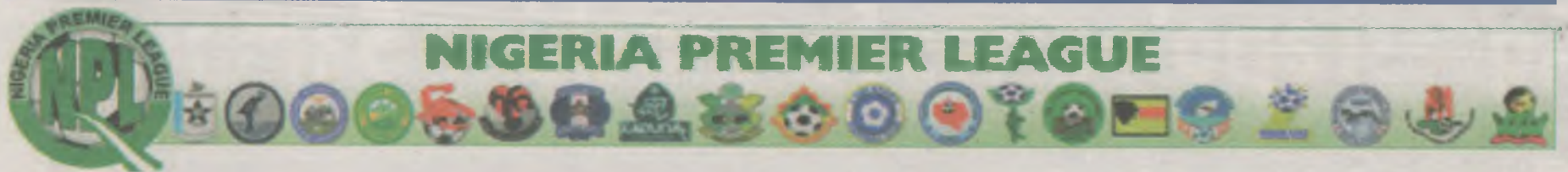
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## Congress dissolves NPL board

THE Congress of the Nigeria Premier League (NPL), has dissolved the football body's board and mandated the secretariat to take charge of organising the league.

The congress unanimously took the decision to terminate the board's tenure at its meeting which ended in Abuja on Monday night.

The NPL manages the Nigerian Premier League, called the Globacom Premier league in which 20 clubs are currently playing.

The board was elected into office for a four-year tenure on March 15, 2006.

A new board was expected to be inaugurated on March 16 for another four years.

However, an election scheduled for March 3 and March 4 and later postponed to March 10 and March 11 could not hold because of a court injunction stopping it.

The congress has taken this new position after three options were presented before it.

Malam Alhassan Yakmut, NPL Executive Secretary, confirmed the board's dissolution after the meeting.

"The congress has taken this new position after three options were presented before it.

"One was for a tenure elongation that would have kept the board till whenever the elections are held but it was rejected.

"The second choice was for an interim board to run the affairs of the league but this was also rejected when it was put to vote.

"The third was for the secretariat to run the affairs of the league and after a tie of 9-9 when it was put to vote, it was later accepted," he said.

Yakmut said the secretariat would immediately swing into action to ensure it did not fail in the assignment.

"There are no problems about the secretariat managing the league. It is a matter of the congress having confidence in it and we will not fail in this regard," he said.

Yakmut, who is also the secretary of NPL Electoral Committee, said the election would take place as soon as the pending court order is vacated.

The congress was attended by 18 of the 20-member clubs with Heartland FC of Owerri and Zamfara United FC of Gusau absent.

# Two horse race in NPL

By Ismaila Lere

IT'S slowly but surely becoming a two horse race at the top of the Nigeria Premier League this season.

Powerhouse Enyimba FC and former champions Kano Pillars have built a solid lead at the summit as the battle for the championship crest gathers steam.

Enyimba beat third-placed Kwara United 2-0 for an excited

club boss Felix Anyansi-Agwu to declare the Aba outfit are on course to claiming their sixth Nigeria Premier League title.

Enyimba, league kings in 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005 and 2007, stayed on top with 44 points from 23 matches, while Kwara remain in third position on 39 points.

Former youth international midfielder Daddy Bazuaye set the tone for this crucial home win after nine minutes before Atanda

Sakibu made the game safe for the 'people's elephant' in the 80th minute.

Kwara striker Ukeyima Akombo saw red in the 75th minute for a second booking after he tried to retaliate a foul against him.

"With this win, I believe we are set to reclaim our league crown," said Anyansi-Agwu.

"It was a good game as well as a good result, even though we

would have hoped for an even better result. But you can't expect too much against a good team like Kwara."

Kwara coach, Justin Tenger, admitted the better team on the day won.

"Enyimba played well and deserved their victory. However, we remain in the race to play on the continent next year," said Tenger.

Second-placed Kano Pillars kept up the pressure on leaders Enyimba after they came from behind to beat struggling Sharks 2-1.

It was a keenly contested match with even Pillars coach, Salisu Yusuf, saying victory could have gone either way.

Pillars have thus recorded 42 points from 23 matches, while Sharks are back at the basement of the table with 25 points.

Gomó Onduku fired Sharks in front after eight minutes through a powerful blaster from 30 metres, before league hotshot Ahmed Musa combined with Solomon Okpako to draw the home team level on 26 minutes.

Musa then netted his 14th goal of the season through a 90th minute penalty after goal-bound Gambo Mohammed was brought down inside the box.

Warri Wolves displaced Enugu Rangers in fourth spot after they beat visiting Gombe United 1-0 as Rangers lost 2-0 at Niger Tornadoes. Both teams are tied on 38 points with Warri Wolves enjoying a better goal difference.

In other results, Dolphins beat Zamfara United 2-1, Shooting Stars held Wikki to a goalless draw in Bauchi, Sunshine Stars pipped Ocean Boys 1-0, Kaduna United were 2-0 winners over Lobi and Bayelsa United defeated Ranch Bees 3-1.



DADDY Bazuaye set the tone for Enyimba's 2-0 win over Kwara United.

BIG LEAGUE ROUNDUP

## Okardi, three others banned | Zamfara Utd loses player

FOUR Lobi Stars players have been banned for one year each for attacking a referee on Feb. 28, according to Alex Umoru, the Media Officer of the Nigeria Premier League (NPL).

Umoru said in Abuja that the four players were also fined N200,000 each.

He said the punishment was imposed by the Disciplinary Committee of the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) for the attack on referee Kolawole Akinwale from Oyo State.

The week 21 league game was played on Feb. 28 at the Aper Aku Stadium, Makurdi.

"The players, who are being punished for attacking referee Kolawole Akinwale of Oyo State, are Hingir Son, George John, Blessing Okardi and Umar Zango.

"The punishment was as a result

of their attack on the referee after their 0-1 home loss to Enyimba International FC of Aba in a week 21 match on Feb. 28 at the Aper Aku Stadium in Makurdi," he said.

The match in question was played behind closed doors and that the NPL had earlier placed the affected players on indefinite suspension.

Umoru said Lobi Stars would continue to play their home games behind closed doors until the N1 million fine earlier imposed on the Makurdi side was paid.

Lobi Stars were earlier ordered to play their home matches behind closed doors after their fans attacked match officials in their week 11 game against Heartland FC of Owerri. The game, played on January 10, ended 1-1.

BARELY 24 hours after Endurance Idahor and Alili Galadima were buried in Benin and Kano respectively, Zamfara United player Kayode Irekperu died on Sunday night in Gusau.

Irekperu, 23, died in his sleep at his club's camp while some of his team mates were away to Port Harcourt for a League fixture.

Zamfara United General Manager Shehu Gusau said that the player had visited the Federal Medical Centre earlier in the day where he was treated for malaria but died soon after.

"He came back from church on Sunday morning and complained that he was not feeling well.

"Our team doctor had trav-

elled to Port Harcourt with the rest of the team, so he went to the Federal Medical Centre, where he was seen and given a prescription for malaria.

"He came back, took his medication and lay down, but never woke up," Gusau said. "I had never even met him before as he has not played any game for us."

Irekperu, according to Gusau is half brother to former Super Eagles goalkeeper Ike Shorunmu.

"I didn't even know until Ike called me as they were making arrangements for his burial."

Irekperu was taken to Lagos on Monday morning and buried later that day according to Islamic rites.

# Obaseki faces probe

OYUIKI Obaseki's tenure as chairman of the Nigeria Premier League expired on Monday night, and following the official dissolution of his executive committee, NPL sources said a far-reaching probe of his tenure will be carried out in the coming days.

Obaseki and his board members battled long and hard at a meeting that lasted way past midnight to secure an extension of their tenure, pending the election of a new executive committee, but met steely resistance

from the management of the secretariat, led by Executive Secretary Alhassan Yakmut.

In the end, they were forced to back down and will now face an investigation into their management of the body's finances.

Allegations of financial impropriety have been whispered in the corridors of the NPL, and extensively reported by a national daily, but no steps had been taken by the NPL to investigate the charges.

A top member of the NPL secretariat however said that all

expenses will now be audited.

"An instruction will be sent to the bank this morning to furnish us with all documents signed by Obaseki during his time, as he was the only one who approved all expenses.

"We will also look into the allegations of N50 million retainership for a lawyer, and how the broadcast rights were awarded to Total Promotions rather than directly to the broadcaster."

Additionally, the NPL would also stop paying the rent for Obaseki's house in Abuja when

it runs out this year, and the salaries of his domestic staff, including driver, cook and others.

However, Executive Secretary Alhassan yakmut said that will not be the case, at least for now.

"The secretariat is not in a position to carry out any audit of the past board's finances, especially as it is not the end of year.

"All we can do is run the league until a new executive committee is appointed. If they decide that there is a need to carry out such an audit, it is entirely up to them."

# Okoro, Azeez get Flying Eagles call-up

HEAD Coach John Obuh has listed 21 players to appear in the camp of the national U-20 men's team, Flying Eagles, as he kick-starts the preparations for next year's African Youth Champion-

**Nigeria will play the winner of the preliminary fixture Togo/Guinea in the first round of the qualifying race**

ship.

The qualifying series for the final competition, slated for Libya, will begin in August, and Obuh to camp the same set of players with whom he won the silver medal at the FIFA U-17 World Cup Nigeria 2009.

Goalkeepers Paul Danjuma, John Felagha and Amos Izuchukwu top the list, with defend-

ers Fortune Chukwudi, Aliyu Mohammed Goyi, Aigbe Oliha, Jacom Mgbam and Kenneth Omeruo also called.

Others are midfielders George White Agwuocha, Abdul Ajagun, Ramon Azeez, Olaitan Otubanjo, Eddy Onazi, Deji Joel and Obinna Okoro, as well as strikers Terry Envoh, Stanley Okoro, Sani Emmanuel, Omo Ojabu, Olanrewaju Kayode and Edafe Egbedi.

Nigeria will play the winner of the preliminary fixture Togo/Guinea in the first round of the qualifying race, with the first leg scheduled for Nigeria in the third week of July.

Coach Obuh said yesterday: "I want these players to start reporting in Abuja by the morning of Wednesday, 17th March. Anyone who fails to show up will be forfeiting his opportunity of making the team."

NFF Assistant General Secretary (Technical), Coach James Peters added: "All the players are expected in camp. Whoever fails to show up will be kissing goodbye to national team football, and we're very serious about this."



STANLEY Okoro is among those invited to the Flying Eagles camp in preparations for the African junior championships.

# Lifters ready for Egypt

AHEAD of the Youth Olympics weightlifting qualifiers in Egypt, Nigeria Weightlifting Federation technical director, retired Navy Captain Babatunde Adedimeji says they are ready to travel.

Adedimeji said in an interview with brilafm.net that the lifters are prepared in the best way, but said they will have to await NSC dope tests before traveling out.

"We are supposed to leave by Friday. The camp is still on and we are going to Egypt with our youth team.

"The only thing is the doping that will be carried out by the National Sports Commission on the lifters.

"We hope they will carry out the doping early this week. If they do that, we'll be ready to go," the erstwhile naval officer stated.

# Lagerback visits Nigerian stars in Europe

NIGERIA coach, Lars Lagerback, has embarked on a tour of Europe, where he will meet up with the country's top stars ahead of the World Cup in June, officials have disclosed.

"Lagerback has returned to Europe, where he will visit our players in Europe in view of the World Cup in South Africa," said the secretary-general of the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF), Bolaji Ojo-Oba.

"I plan to speak to as many players as possible in Europe because my target is to ensure that the best players play for the Super Eagles at the World Cup," said Lagerback.

The former Sweden World Cup coach is expected to visit recuperating striker Ikechukwu Uche as well as Obinna Nsofor of Malaga in Spain. He will also get in touch with Nigerian players in Italy and England.

Officials informed that Lagerback's first game in charge of Nigeria will be in the middle of April, when the Super Eagles travel to Pyongyang for a friendly against another World Cup-bound team, North Korea.



LAGERBACK

# Adeyemi-Wilson cool on indoors outing

FOLLOWING the IAAF World Indoor Championship in Doha, Qatar, ex-president of the Athletic Federation of Nigeria, Engineer Oluyomi Adeyemi-Wilson has reviewed the form of Nigeria's three athletes.

He noted during a telephone interview with brilafm.net from Doha that Peter Emelieze and

Ogho-Oghene Egwero were laudable in the 60 meters semi finals, but agreed that Blessing Okagbare, who won the female 60 meters and long jump at the US indoors, also last weekend, could have made a huge difference.

"Nothing went wrong for Nigeria in Doha, because two of them were in the semi-finals.

Those that ran in the final did not run what the two of them ran in the semi final.

"The other boy was even left at the block. But, seeing any Nigerian in the semi final at that level is good. When 6.48 seconds is used in winning, we know what we're talking about.

"At the same time, a Nigerian

won in the United States on the same weekend, and everyone is wondering why she could not go to Doha.

"She could not go because the competition was on the same day, but we should remember that in Angola she only got to the semi final," the track and field guru submitted.

## THE WEDNESDAY COLUMN

Mohammed Haruna

ndajika@yahoo.com

## Re-Genocide on the Plateau: The way out

Last week's column on the last round of what seems to have become routine massacres on the Plateau elicited a torrent of mobile phone texts - 215 in all from readers of *The Nation* - and a few emails. As usual many of them were downright abusive. Several, however, were civil and provided food for thought on how to deal with the issue. Below are a few of those reactions, some of them edited for grammar, punctuation and space.

Sir,

I would like to start by saying that I never miss an opportunity to read you on the back page of the *Nation Daily* on Wednesdays. I have found most of your contributions to be professional and balanced. Sometimes though, I perceive a certain slant when issues have to do with religion and ethnicity. By this I mean that your bias tends towards protecting things Islamic/Hausa/Fulani. I cannot say that I blame you entirely, because I find that most human beings will be more favourably disposed towards their own.

With regards to the Genocide on the Plateau, I would like to share a few things. You seemed to be somewhat displeased with the banner headlines that followed the counter genocide in Jos last Sunday. You were not too pleased that in January, when it appeared that Muslims were on the receiving end of an attack by "rampaging youth", the media appeared not to give too much publicity to that particular event. This, you posited, was as a result of the media being "instinctively hostile" to Muslims. The question we should really be asking ourselves is ....why does this appear to be so?

From my little knowledge of religious upheavals in Nigeria, it does seem to me that a greater percentage of them have been initiated by Muslims. Unfortunately, I do not have at my finger tips all the dates and instances when this has occurred. Nobody from the Muslim side has ever really refuted these allegations effectively. I do not know all the tenets of Islam, but I am dead certain that tolerance is one of the pillars. Mohammed, with all due respect, can you say in general that we have seen a particularly tolerant Islamic community in Nigeria? I must qualify that by saying Northern Nigeria. It appears that the Muslims of Northern extraction seem to get along better with non Muslims when they are outside the North. This of course is my personal opinion. I suggest that the media and people at large have become weary and impatient with the way and manner Muslims have conducted themselves in this country.

I perceive that you do not really like the terms "settlers" and "indigenes". Quite frankly, neither do I but unfortunately, we as a country have operated a blighted or flawed federalism and this is an issue that we had all better start to deal with. Who is a settler? When does a settler cease to be a settler? We are all witnesses to the Ife/Modakeke conflicts. They have their roots in this same issue and both groups are from the same ethnic group. Here I may tend to agree with you that the Jos crisis is not totally about religion. They have roots in resources (economic), sadly because the protagonists can be divided into two broad camps i.e. Muslim and Christian, religion has been thrust to the fore and it will be extremely difficult for anyone to convince otherwise.

Sadly, the Jos issue as with most conflicts in this country has never been professionally dealt with. In conflict studies, there is something called a conflict tree. What most people see of the tree is the foliage. However, there is a trunk which supports that foliage and there are roots from which the trunk has sprung forth. In order to understand the essence of that tree, the roots must be unearthed. In the Jos conflict, we must get to the roots or real issues and stop dealing with the manifestations. The conflicts have their roots in history and surely we cannot discard our history. This however, is what we have done as Nigerians. We have, for reasons best known to us avoided the real issues. Attempting to wish them away as it were. You know what happens? The issues just mutate and manifest in a different way. So what may have been an issue between pastoralists and farmers possibly over land, has become largely, an ethno-religious matter. The panels and the probes will yield nothing until we begin to professionally analyze, interpret and where necessary, map out the conflict. It goes beyond panels consisting of retired and serving generals, retired/serving jurists and other "eminent" Nigerians to bodies manned by proven academics.....histori-

ans, sociologists, conflict managers, psychologists and the like.

Mediation teams manned by trained personnel will provide an avenue for all the aggrieved to have their say. The beauty of this is that the solutions as to how these incessant conflicts can be stopped will come from the people themselves. There is a vast difference between what the government thinks that the people need for peaceful coexistence, and what the people must have. We must act fast on the Plateau, for already; the Early Warning Signs of another reprisal are in the offing.

Mazino Obaro Ikime,

Ibadan.

Sir,

I have read with pains your many articles on Jos and your religious sentiments expressed therein. I am pained not because I practice a different faith from yours but because I share the same profession with you and I expect I should consider you a senior colleague. But your dispositions on all issues have denied you of such honour and respect.

You have lost your steam as a good journalist. No wonder you have become the errand boy of the likes of the discredited IBB and co.

Let me remind you that the hatred you have demonstrated against Jang and his people have fallen short of an objective journalist and your commentary on the pages of newspapers has only exposed you to hatred because you should know the dysfunctional effect of the media if I may remind you again.

Please have a second thought on what you write.

Steven Kwande.

Sir,

For the first time ever since I have been reading your column, I didn't feel like wringing your neck. Then it occurred to me the attackers were not Hausas but Fulanis. In any case well done for saying the truth.

Ola James,

Lagos.

Sir,

Your article has truly hit the nail right on the head. The problem on the Plateau is simply FAILURE OF GOVERNANCE. Jang is arrogant, know-it-all, but very incompetent and a curse on Plateau. Three years into his government he has not commissioned any old or new project that is even the size of a pin, other than being at "war" with every other Plateau man and other ethnic groups. In Pankshin he only inspected on-going LGA road project and not commissioned anything!! Even those of us his kinsmen, the Beroms, walk the street of Plateau with our heads down and in shame for his non-performance and promoting ethnicity, vindictiveness, etc, at the expense of our future generation. He is good riddance to bad rubbish and we pray he goes soon for a lasting peace.

Fom Dung-Gwom,

Jos.

Sir,

I would want to commend you for calling the killing of the Beroms last Sunday Genocide. That is exactly what it is! While the January 17 crisis saw people of all faiths and tribes killed, this was targeted at a particular race. I also agree that the crisis in Jos is political and economic than religious.

You made mention of how Jos was peaceful before now, so what went wrong? The creation of Jos North, which the Hausa/Fulani have claimed was created for them, is the root cause of the crises that have rocked Jos. I also agree that the solution lies more with the leaders and the structure of our federation. We need to revisit the residual issues of our land. We need state police to enforce state laws and allow states control their resources and collect their VAT or Sales Tax. Then we can hold the governors who are the chief security officers of their states responsible for any breakdown of law and order.

H. Pam,

Jos.

Sir,

Going by the way you single out Governor Jang as the perpetrator of the Jos crisis makes me believe you Hausa/Fulani would prefer a lily-livered coward who will be cowed up and surrender to your expansionist tendencies. Jang is God-sent to the good people of Plateau and no amount of evil plan can change that.

Dave, Warri.

## SPORTS REPORT



TIGER Woods has been seen practising with his coach, Hank Haney

## Woods returns to golf next month

Tiger Woods said Tuesday he will return to golf next month at the Masters, ending a four-month hiatus brought on by a sex scandal that shattered his image as the gold standard in sports.

where I won my first major and I view this tournament with great respect." Woods said in a statement. "After a long and necessary time away from the game, I feel like I'm ready to start my season at Augusta."

The Masters begins April 8.

"The Masters is



SAMUEL Eto'o celebrates after scoring the winner

## Chelsea ousted by Eto'o sucker punch

Mourinho yesterday made a winning return to Stamford Bridge as Inter Milan knocked Chelsea out of the Champions League.

The Italians outplayed the home side and were rewarded when Samuel Eto'o latched onto a chipped pass from the superb Wesley Sneijder and fired home. Nicolas Anelka missed Chelsea's best chance with a scuffed close-range shot.

But the Italians were a constant threat with Diego Milito and Thiago Motta wasting chances before Didier Drogba was shown red for a clash with Motta.

In the other Round of 16 game played yesterday, Russia's CSKA Moscow overcame Spanish side Sevilla go through to the quarter finals with a 2-1 victory on the night and 3-2 on aggregate.

