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**ABUJA TRUST**  
**MFCT director explains "missing hospital equipment"**  
 Page 21

**RAMADAN TIMING FOR ABUJA**  
 Magrib - 6:10 p.m  
 Alfijir - 5:18 a.m  
 For other places see details on Page 18

**SUJUD FOUNDATION**  
**HIV/AIDS THERAPY**  
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President Olusegun Obasanjo (middle) chatting with the National President of NCWS, Hon. (Dr.) Bolere Elizabeth Ketebu-Nwokeasor (r) the Minister of Women Affairs, Hajija Aishatu Ismail (l) and other members of the society during their visit to the president at the weekend  
 Pix: Kennedy Egbonodje

**Kadpoly suspends principal officers**

The Governing Council of Kaduna Polytechnic has directed the immediate suspension of the institution's Registrar, Bursar and Works Director, pending the outcome of investigations on series of allegations levelled against them, the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports.  
 Confirming the actions, the council's Chairman, Prof. Dahiru Yahaya, stated that the three principal officers were suspended pending the outcome of investigations on "serious allegations levelled against each of them, which the council deemed necessary to verify."  
 According to the chairman, the registrar is

being accused by the institution's academic staff union of failure to implement council's decisions.  
 The investigating committee, headed by a former rector of the institution, Malam Yusuf Aboki, has four weeks to submit its findings.  
 The other officers are being investigated following complaints and petitions from staff of the works department.  
 Meanwhile, a former staff of the institution, Alhaji Mohammed Tudunwada, has called on the Federal Government to dissolve the governing council immediately for alleged tyranny on its employees.

Mohammed, who voluntarily retired from the services of the institution three years ago, alleged that the governing council had  
 Contd. on Pg 2



Prof. Borisade, Education Minister

**Abuja tops in AIDS spread**

The result of the 2001 HIV/Syphilis seroprevalence and sexually transmitted diseases sentinel survey has revealed that HIV/AIDS is spreading in the Federal Capital Territory at an alarming rate.  
 The area now has a prevalence of 10.2 per cent.  
 Minister of State for Health, Dr. (Mrs.) Amina Ndalolo, who briefed the press at the weekend to mark the World AIDS Day, said "from a very low level of infection early in the epidemic, today Abuja is

**By Ikenna Emeka Okpani**  
 recording a very high prevalence of 10.2 per cent which is unacceptable for our Federal Capital Territory."  
 According to the result of the survey, Nyanya, one of the satellite towns in the FCT, recorded the highest prevalence rate of 14.3 per cent while Garki recorded 11 per cent. Gwagwalada recorded the least with 5.3 per cent prevalence.

The national coordinator of the National AIDS and STD Control Programme of the Ministry of Health, Dr. Sani Gwarzo, said the development was not unconnected with increased level of prostitution in the city.  
 According to him, shortage of accommodation and the increasing influx of people to the city have

exposed people to behaviours with high-risk infection with HIV. Popular among such developments, he said is the phenomenon of Abuja marriage or marriage of convenience, which is widespread in the territory.  
 "We think that it is in Abuja because of the huge number of people who are coming into the city without

enough social amenities like houses for people. This is

responsible for an odd mix of  
 Contd. on Pg 2


**Waku escapes attack**

**Chairman, Senate Committee on Insurance, Senator J.K.N. Waku, escaped death at the weekend when masked gunmen stormed his home in Abuja.**  
 According to reports, the men forced their way into the Senators' No. 13, Road 131 Gwarimpa II estate, asking for him.  
 Wearing face masks apparently to avoid identification, the men, armed with rifles and pistols, forced a security guard on duty to conduct them on a guided search of the compound.  
 The suspected assassins were unconvinced by the explanations of the guard, Mr. Orver Atime, who told them that Senator Waku had travelled to Benue State in

**By Reuben Yunana**  
 company of his wife. They proceeded to search every nook and cranny of the house.  
 Contd. on Pg 2



Chief J.K.N. Waku



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## NEWS

# Katsina, Niger announce budgets

Governor Umaru Musa Yar'Adua of Katsina State has presented a budget proposal of N16,809,261,380.00 for the 2002 fiscal year to the Katsina State House of Assembly.

Presenting the budget proposal on Friday, the governor informed the House that the main thrust of the 2002 budget was the completion of ongoing projects for which sufficient funds have been provided to ensure timely completion.

He said that the completion of those projects will serve as a springboard for a speedy and sustainable development of the state.

The proposal, according to him, is made up of recurrent expenditure of N6,860,181,035.00 derived from an expected recurrent revenue of N10,119,093,380.00 and capital expenditure of N9,949,080,330.00 derived from expected capital receipts of N9,949,080,330.00.

According to him, the 2002 recurrent revenue estimate represents a decrease of 17 per cent (N2,124,512,940.00) when compared with the 2001 target of N12,243,606,320.00 while the proposed capital receipts for 2002 fiscal year shows a drop of three per cent (N273,343,565.00) in comparison to last year's figure of N10,223,423,895.00.

The recurrent revenue comprises of N1,879,093,380.00 or 19%

From Hassan A. Karofi, Abdul Labaran, in Katsina and Kaseem Sule, in Minna

internally generated resources and N8,240,000,000.00 as statutory grants from the Federal Government while the capital receipts will be made up of N3,258,912,330.00 as transfer from recurrent budget surplus; N1,640,168,000.00 as FGN contributions; N50,000,000.00 as draw down

on external loan and N5,000,000,000.00 as opening balance.

The proposed sectoral allocations showed that the economic sector has the lion's share with an allocation of N4,593,628,330.00 followed by regional development sector with N3,732,000,000.00; social service sector, N917,152,000.00; administration sector N.5 billion; internal debt

servicing N.1 billion, legislature N56,300,000.00 and N50,000,000.00 as contribution to state and local government joint accounts.

Similarly, in the proposed recurrent expenditure, the sum of N4,184,118,780.00 was allocated for personnel costs while overhead costs and consolidated revenue fund charges have N1,794,497,015.00 and N881,565,240.00 earmarked for them respectively.

While urging members of the House of Assembly to expedite action and ensure the speedy passage of the 2002 Appropriation Bill, the Katsina State governor expressed the belief that the passage of the bill "will reposition the state and strengthen its infrastructural base and capacity to provide a firm and solid foundation for rapid economic development of the state."

In his response, the Speaker of the Katsina State House of Assembly, Alhaji Sani Sa'idu Fago, assured that members will do their best to discharge their obligations with all seriousness and ensure that the budget is passed in good time, "in the spirit of teamwork," commending the governor for "the foresight, discipline and sincerity of purpose" behind the budget proposals.

Meanwhile, the Niger State Governor, Engineer Abdulkadir Abdullahi Kure, has presented a N27 billion budget proposal to the State House of Assembly for the year 2002.

The proposed budget only gave highlights of the intended programmes to be executed during the period.

Presenting the budget, Engineer Kure said that next year's programmes are anchored on four cardinal areas, namely; peace, secu-



Gov Yar'Adua

ity, food and poverty alleviation as well as expansion of internally generated revenue base on completion of ongoing projects.

He said the state government in recognition of paucity of funds has chosen the very areas due to their significance to the people's welfare and overall development.

He announced a budget proposal of N6,893,690,630 to the social sector followed by the economic sector with N4,612,324,613 in the next year budget. According to him, the regional develop-



Gov Kure

ment and general administration have been allocated N3,458,933,217.00 and N1,558,537,938.00 respectively.

Governor Kure said that his administration based the next year estimates on projection from the statutory allocation, internally generated revenue and value added tax to see him through.

He further explained that the personnel emoluments was projected at N3,877,042,805 while allowances is allocated N1,621,285,393.

## Ajiyan Kazaure faults Sharia judge

The Ajiyan Kazaure, Abba Yahaya, has faulted the Sharia court judge that sentenced him to 40 strokes of the cane for eloping with a housewife, Fa'iza Bala Yusuf.

Speaking through his spokesman, Galadiman Zagi, Mahmuda Lawan, the Ajiyan Kazaure said the judge did not give him sufficient time to defend himself, saying all the love letters presented as evidence at the hearing were actually letters exchanged between him and Fa'iza during their secondary school days.

He denied ever camping Fa'iza even though she was his lover before she was forcefully married to another man. The spokesman said the girl came to condole the Ajiyan over the death of his father when her mother pounced on him, accusing him of eloping with her daughter for two days.

Mahmuda said that he and the Ajiyan were arrested

From Musa Umar Kazaure, in Kano

and detained for over 30 days without trial before they were arraigned before the Kazaure Sharia court judge, who hastily sentenced them along with the girl to 40 strokes of the cane. He also said that each of them was ordered to pay a fine of N5,000 in addition to the canning.

Daily Trust learnt that the two so-called traditional title holders, the Ajiyan and the Galadima Zagi, Abba Yahaya and Mahmuda Lawan respectively, are not genuine title holders, they are using mock titles acquired since early childhood in the palace of the Emir of Kazaure, but are not real traditional titles bestowed on them by the emir. The Kazaure Emirate has no such titles as Ajiyan and Galadima in its traditional hierarchical structure, palace sources told Daily Trust in Kazaure.

## AIDS Contd from Pg 1

people leading to all sorts of bad practices," Dr. Gwarzo said.

While giving details of the AIDS survey, Gwarzo said an estimated 3.47 million people are living with the HIV/AIDS virus in the country. He said Nigeria's prevalence rate has been put at 5.8, a percentage he described as very high.

From the survey result, zone E or North Central geopolitical zone recorded the highest prevalence rate of 8.4%. Benue State topped with 13.5%, the highest in the whole country. Ighu, a town in Benue State, Dr. Gwarzo said recorded the highest prevalence rate of 15% in the zone.

Nasarawa recorded 8.1% prevalence rate, Niger 4.5%, Plateau 8.5%, Kogi 5.7% and Kwara 4.3, the least for the zone.

According to Dr. Gwarzo, the survey shows that South-East zone recorded a total of 5.8%; South West, 4.0%; North West, 3.3%; North East, 5.4% and South-South zone, 7.7%.

Meanwhile, the Federal Ministry of Health is to commence the administration of Anti Retro-Viral drugs in

18 tertiary institutions on December 10.

Dr. Ndalolo, who revealed this, said a limited number of patients will be enrolled for the treatment in the first three months in order to allow the implementers acquire enough skills in handling the drugs.

"It is expected that thereafter, the scheme will be scaled up gradually to 100 centers and to cover a total of 10,000 adults in the first year," she said.

It is estimated that 40 million people in the world have been infected with the disease, 28.1 million of which are in sub-Saharan Africa. According to global summaries released by the UNAID at the occasion, a total of five million new infections were witnessed in the year 2001.

Out of this number, 4.3 million were adults with 1.8 million representing women while the number of infection for children less than 15 years stood at 800,000.

The summaries also revealed that a total of 3 million people died of HIV/AIDS this year in the world. The number represents 2.4

million adults, 1.1 million of which are women and 580,000 children under 15 years.

Stakeholders have been reacting to the result of the AIDS survey. The United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) is launching what it calls Massive Awareness Raising Campaign (MARC) on HIV/AIDS. The Senior Project Officer on AIDS Campaign Programme of the fund, Mr. Cyrilla Bwakira said the move is aimed at enlightening people more on HIV/AIDS.

"Only a campaign unprecedented in its reach and effectiveness in getting life-saving messages to the generality of Nigerians can change the situation," she said.

Also reacting to the figure, the Project Director of Journalists Against AIDS (JAAIDS), a Lagos-based NGO, Mr. Omololu Falobi, told NAN that the figure should be seen as "tip of the iceberg."

He said given the weakness of the country's intervening activities, it was expected that the figure would be much higher.

## Waku

Contd from Pg 1

Narrating the incident to journalists, Senator Waku, who represents Benue North-West senatorial district, insisted that the men were hired assassins sent to eliminate him as the attackers left without stealing anything or hurting anyone when they did not find him at home.

According to him, the alleged assassination attempt may not be unconnected with his critical stand against government over "the recent pogrom and genocide against the Tiv

people by the Nigerian Army."

Waku maintained that he was not ready to jettison the cause of his tribesmen who desire to live like other Nigerians because of any intimidation or threat to his life.

"I will be the happiest man if I die for the cause of my people," he said.

He said he has petitioned the FCT Police Command requesting for police protection.

In his petition with reference No. NASS/CIAM/NPF/2001/ASSA, Waku pleaded with the FCT police commissioner to save him from the hands of assassins.

When Daily Trust called at the Life Camp Police station, the DPO in charge, Superintendent of Police Jajere, was not available to confirm if such a case had been lodged at the station.

However, a senior police officer at the station who pleaded anonymity confirmed that the Senator had reported the case directly to the FCT police commissioner.

It will be recalled that in April last year, Waku escaped death when hoodlums trailed him to Otukpo, Benue State, where he was attacked.

The Senator, who was on an official journey, had his car with registration No. NASS 58 smashed and battered while he escaped unhurt.

## Kadpoly Contd from Pg 1

since its inception about 19 months ago, dissolved the institution's management committee, contrary to the rules governing the existence of polytechnics.

"The council, without recourse to the provisions of the public service rules, placed the heads of registry, works and establishment directorates on suspension.

"The council's Chairman, Prof. Dahiru Yahaya, is the one heading the polytechnic's Disciplinary and Appeals Committee (DAC). How do you expect justice in a situation where an accuser is the judge in his own case?" he asked.

He alleged that Yahaya had used his position as the head of the DAC to reinstate about three staffers of the institution relieved of their jobs because of various disciplinary cases ranging

from acquiring higher qualifications without clearance to proven cases of sexual harassment against female students.

Responding to the allegations earlier, Yahaya mentioned that all his actions were based on the provisions of the Federal Polytechnic Acts, which was amended in 1993.

He mentioned that he was not unaware of some grudges being nursed by some members of staff of the institution and assured that he and other members of the council were appointed to serve everybody.

"Kaduna Polytechnic, is the third largest institution in the country after Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria and the University of Nigeria, Nsukka. We will do our best to make it uphold that status," Yahaya added.

NEWS

# 43bn dollar food programme takes off

By Musa Badamasi

The Federal Government has commenced the implementation of its Special Programme for Food Security (SPFS) on which it is spending the sum of 43 billion U.S. dollars nationwide over a period of five years.

The Director of the Project Coordinating Unit (PCU), Dr. Salisu Ahmed Ingawa of the Federal

Ministry of Agriculture, disclosed this to *Daily Trust* in an exclusive interview at the weekend.

Dr. Ingawa, who is also the project's national coordinator, said the SPFS is a highly specialised programme expected to run for a period of five years.

He said the programme has been strategised in such a way that there would be three sites located in each state of the federation, which translated to one site per Senatorial District, and Abuja, the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), will have one site.

"Under the programme, we shall find out what is the potential of each area, what is the market rate availability, and then we shall provide intensive extension support to ensure that there is no scarcity of whatever produce produced from each site," he explained.

According to him, this

approach would ensure that all constraints are removed in order to empower people in their respective areas.

The project, which is Federal Government's effort on tackling food insecurity problem, would be assisted by the Rome-based Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), which would provide technical support for effective and successful implementation of the programme.

Dr. Ingawa further disclosed that 3.45 million U.S. dollars has been released to the FAO for the take off of the technicalities requirement management.

He confirmed to *Daily Trust* that FAO had moved into action, saying that already blocks of building have been earmarked for the project in the FAO Resident Representative office to be fully devoted to the SPFS.

He also said that the Federal Government had approved N1.97 billion for the Project Coordinating Unit

(PCU) this year for the programme, out of which only N1 billion was received so far, adding that "we are expecting the balance before the end of the year."

Dr. Ingawa hinted that the first set of trainers' training for the SPFS programme would be coming up in January 2002.

## Nigerian wins world's best inventions award

A 37-year-old Nigerian, Mohammed Bah Abba, has won the prestigious 'Rolex Award for Enterprise' for fabricating a local alternative to electric refrigerator.

According to a report in the current edition of *TIME* Magazine, Abba developed what is called the Pot-in-Pot Preservation Cooling System by placing a small earth ware pot inside a larger one, while filling the space in between with moist sand.

The new cooling system preserves eggplants for 27 days, instead of the usual three, while tomatoes and peppers last for up to three weeks inside the system.

The local technology also preserves other food items such as fruits and soft drinks.

## Kwatalo's exit won't affect Jigawa APP - Yusuf Ali

The All Peoples Party (APP) National Chairman, Alhaji Yusuf Ali, has declared that the decamping of former Deputy Governor of Jigawa

From Musa Umar Kazaure, Kano

State, Alhaji Ibrahim Kwatalo, will not hinder the party from winning Jigawa State again, come 2003.

Alhaji Ali, who was reacting to Kwatalo's resignation as Deputy Governor to Alhaji Ibrahim Saminu Turaki and his subsequent withdrawal from APP, said Alhaji Kwatalo's actions did not take APP by surprise as the party had documented evidence of his secret meetings with PDP stalwarts who are working against the progress of Jigawa State and its people.

While maintaining that APP's doors are still open to the former deputy governor, should he changed his mind, the APP boss assured Nigerians that no individual can destroy APP's chances at the polls, come 2003, either by resigning from the party or resigning his position in an APP government.

"By the grace of God, no individual will leave APP and think his leaving will weaken APP in the area he operates; nobody will succeed in doing that to APP," he reiterated, stressing that "the wind of change blowing across the Nigerian political arena would soon bring a dramatic change that would see APP forming the next government in the country."

The APP national chairman said the last military administration of General Abdulsalami Abubakar was not fair to APP in the 1999 elections because his party was virtually "barred" from winning that election. He said that now that the playing ground is level, APP will show the world that it is the party of the people.

On President Obasanjo's 2003 budget proposal submitted recently to the National Assembly, Alhaji Ali flayed it as "unrealistic and insensitive to the plight of Nigerians." He argued that the Federal Government's allocation of N3.87 billion to the agricultural sector and N14 billion to the National Identity card project only confirm what APP has been telling Nigerian all along "that the PDP-led government of Obasanjo has no direction, has no plans, and no feelings for Nigerians."

"We have, therefore, instructed all APP members of the National Assembly to insist on knowing what happened to 2001 budget; how it was implemented, where is the money spent before deliberating on the 2002 budget," he stated. He further expressed the optimism that other PDP members of the Assembly would be patriotic enough to also demand for explanation on how the 2001 budget was implemented.

By Ahmed Shekarau

According to the report, when the inner pot is filled with fruits, vegetables or soft drinks, a wet cloth is used to cover the items inside the pot.

As the water in the sand evaporates through the surface of the outer pot, it carries the heat, thereby drawing it away from the inner pot for the items to remain cool and preserved.

Mallam Abba who hails from Borno State is said to have started using part of the \$75,000 award he won to produce many of the Pot-in-Pot Preservation Cooling System to make it available throughout the country.

He has since sold about 12,000 of the local cooling system.



Dr. Salisu A. Ingawa.

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■ Caterpillar Mechanical Supervisors	2	
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Note: Only short listed applicants will be invited for interview. Also applicants should ensure that their contact address are easy to locate. Telephone numbers should be stated where available.

## NEWS

# Prisons service needs N1.7b to pay salary arrears

The Nigeria Prisons Service (NPS) requires about N1.7 billion to pay outstanding salary arrears of its workers, the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) reports.

NAN learnt that officers and men of the service were placed on half pay from July, 2000 and August, 2001, following a shortfall in the salary subvention remitted to the NPS by the federal ministry of finance.

NAN also gathered that the service, which received N452 million as its monthly wage bill, had the subvention slashed to N363 million last year after the federal government concluded its audit of federal workers nationwide.

The development, NAN gathered, prompted the management of the service to withhold the payment of housing, transportation, meal and utility allowances of its personnel across the country.

The NPS Controller-General, Alhaji Ibrahim Jarma, who confirmed the amount needed to offset the arrears, said that the management was awaiting the finance ministry to remit the balance to enable the workers receive their full pay.

He described the plight of his officers and men as pathetic and worrisome, saying "they are in a bad

shape, the non-payment of their full salaries has affected their morale."

He, therefore, appealed to the federal ministry of finance to, as a matter of urgency, release the money required for the payment to save the workers from untold hardship.

"In fact, some of them have even started threatening us to pay them or else they will react negatively," he added.

The prison chief, however, commended the workers for their perseverance, and said that the federal ministry of internal affairs had already taken up the matter with the finance ministry for prompt release of the arrears.

According to him "we have received assurances



Ibrahim Jarma, Prison Boss.

that the money will soon come, so I am also pleading with my-officers and other warders nationwide to exercise patience, as everything possible is being done to get the balance of the salaries paid."

He further told NAN that the NPS management was committed to early settlement of the outstanding payments to enhance productivity among the staff. Jarma also told NAN

that a special welfare package have been arranged for the prisons officials next year, including the provision of residential quarters, transport facilities and conducive working environment for all staff nationwide.

NAN reports that the prison service has a workforce of N25,000 nationwide and a total of 149 prisons in different locations in the country.

## ...revokes contract for new prison

The Controller-General of Nigeria Prisons Service (NPS), Alhaji Ibrahim Jarma, has revoked the contract for a new medium security prison in Funtua, Katsina State, following the inability of the contractor to complete the work on schedule.

Jarma, who inspected work on the prison at the weekend, said that "the NPS decided to terminate the contract due to non-performance and nonchalant attitude of the contractor handling the project, more than 20 years after it was awarded."

He said that he was not impressed by the performance of the contractor, adding: "I am definitely disappointed, the contractor has not performed

to our expectations, so we are cancelling the contract and we will also blacklist the company."

He said that he was not happy with the behaviour of the contractor, who he said pleaded in April that the work would be completed on schedule, but failed to do so, in spite of the payments already made to the company to facilitate completion of the project as well as a housing project.

According to the Controller-General, "we are currently taking the necessary legal steps to terminate and also recover money so far paid to the contractor for failing to honour the contractual agreement."

"The failure to complete the prison is causing unnecessary delay to the

A collision between the aircraft of Vice President Atiku Abubakar and a plane chartered by Senate Services Committee was yesterday averted in Lagos.

The Vice-President's plane escaped being hit by a BAC 1-11 aircraft belonging to Albarka Airline, chartered by the Senate Services Committee, and carrying dignitaries, including the Aviation Minister, Mrs. Kema Chikwe.

The incident, which occurred at the presidential wing of Murtala Mohammed Airport, Lagos, created a commotion as the officials of the ruling Peoples Democratic Party, the Vice President's crew and protocol officials were

## Atiku's plane escapes collision

From Shakirat Abdulmajeed, in Lagos.

thrown into confusion.

The BAC 1-11 aircraft belonging to the Albarka Airline with registration number SN BBe was chartered by the Senate Services Committee at N1 million to bring supporters of Senate President Anyim Pius Anyim to Lagos for his official reception by the Igbo community in Lagos.

Trouble started when an aircraft engineer, Adebowale



Vice-President Atiku Abubakar Arogundade, tried to effect the reparking of the aircraft, which was already parked by the pilot close to the vice president's FALCON aircraft, brought the left wing of the aircraft less than a metre close to the vice president's and caused a stir.

The crew members of both aircrafts scampered for safety as others moved to stop the aircraft wing by trying to push the wing upwards to rise above the presidential jet's nose.

The Albarka's aircraft had 47 passengers on board, which included the Minister of Aviation, the Political Adviser to President Olusegun Obasanjo, Chukwuemeka Ezeife, Senator Arthur Nzeribe and the Chairman, Senate Committee on Local Government, Senator Tunde Ogbeha, among others.

The aircraft engineer was arrested on the orders of the vice-president's aid-camp. He was, however, released after after interrogation.

However, a special assistant to the Senate President, Mr. Terwase Orbunde, who chartered the aircraft, said he did not hear the pilot passed the instruction to Arogundade.

The confusion generated a halt to the reparking effort until a push back equipment was brought from Skypower Aviation Handling Company (SAHCOH) to push the chartered aircraft back and enable it park properly.

Aviation experts, however, observed that the development which is against ICAO regulation portends dangerous signal for the nation embattled aviation industry.

## NITEL to roll out additional N46,000 GSM lines before Jan 2002

NITEL will roll out additional 46,000 GSM lines by the end of January 2002, Chairman of the company's management board, Dr. Martins Igbokwe, said at the weekend in Abuja.

Igbokwe told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) that "hopefully by the middle of December, we should have rolled out up to 20,000 lines in Abuja and running it parallel.

"We hope to put in another 20,000 lines or 30,000 lines in Lagos,



Bello Mohammed, Communications Minister.

Enugu, Kaduna, Kano and Port-Harcourt between the end of this year and end of January, 2002," he said.

He said that Abuja would get additional 16,000 lines, a figure that would push up its total number of lines from 4,000 lines to 20,000 lines, while the other 30,000 GSM lines would be sold out to users in Lagos, Port-Harcourt, Enugu, Kaduna and Kano.

Igbokwe expressed satisfaction on the efficiency of NITEL GSM lines since they started functioning six weeks ago, saying that it was gratifying that the company which did not have the experience and finances to operate GSM lines when the licence was acquired could achieve such feat within a short period.

He further said that NITEL was able to roll out GSM lines because government took over the 185 million U.S. dollars loan it obtained to make-up the 285 million dollars used to pay for the operating licence.

According to him, the action "left us with the fluidity to roll out the GSM

and to embark on an expansion programme of trunks and to provide interconnectivity for other operators."

Igbokwe also said that NITEL needed such fluidity to be able to shore up its value since the company lacked the necessary financial muzzle to fully carry out its operations.

He said that the poor financial status was caused by several years of "mismanagement, corruption, ineptitude and low staff moral" when profits went into private pockets while nothing was ploughed back into rehabilitation or maintenance of the network.

On the sale of government's 51 per cent equity to Investors International of London, he said that the action proved the resolve of the present administration to provide the best telecommunication services to Nigerians.

He said that privatisation was the vogue all over the world, adding that the success recorded in the sale of the shares and the

transparent nature of the transactions, marked a milestone in the history of telecommunications in Nigeria.

## Kano gets N26m laboratory equipment

The Federal Government has donated about N26 million worth of equipment to the Kano State government to enable it establish a standard laboratory for the state.

The State Commissioner for Environment, Alhaji Ibrahim Dan Azumi Gwarzo, who announced this during an inspection visit to some industrial estates in the state, said the laboratory would become operational in the first quarters of next year.

He expressed optimism that the laboratory would afford the state the opportunity of carrying-out test, research and analysis without depending on secondary sources.

Alhaji Ibrahim expressed the need for industrial estates to establish primary treatment plants in order to ensure that the effluent discharges are within tolerable limits.

From Jamilah Nuhu Musu, in Kano

"This has become necessary in view of the recent cholera outbreak in the state and neighbouring Jigawa," he said.

The commissioner stated that the state government has finalised efforts towards establishing a secondary treatment plant and that the Netherlands government has promised to assist by donating 125,000 Deutsche Mark to the project.

Responding, the Quality Control Manager of Dangote General Textile Products Limited, Malam Mikai O. Sanni, said his company undertakes periodic tests and analysis, from recognised standard laboratories at the Federal Institute of Industrial Research (FIIR), Lagos.

Other industries visited included Gaskiya Textile, Gashash Spinners, and Mario Jose Enterprises Limited.

# News Focus

## The budget non-implementation controversy

**P**enultimate Thursday, November 22, 2001, the House of Representatives suspended debate on the 2002 budget, demanding for explanations from the Finance Minister, Mallam Adamu Ciroma, on the dismal performance of the Federal Government in implementing the 2000 and 2001 budgets.

Prior to that, the Senate had summoned the Finance Minister to a special session over the same issue.

Both the Upper and Lower Houses of the National Assembly expressed dismay over the present administration's performance in implementing previous budgets, describing the performance as "below average."

The Senate first raised the issue on Thursday, November 6, 2001, two days preceding the submission of the 2002 proposals to a joint session of the assembly by President Olusegun Obasanjo.

The Upper House adopted the reports of its five standing committees which monitored the implementation of the year 2001 main and supplementary budgets. According to the reports, the budgets were characterised by "poor implementation and non-release of appropriated funds by the Ministry of Finance," among others.

The reports further revealed that less than 50 per cent of the entire 2001 budget has so far been implemented, and that up to this moment, only the first and second quarter budgetary allocations were released to various ministries, parastatals and agencies for implementation work.

During the first appearance of the Minister of Finance before the Senate, senators asked him to explain, among others, why the ministry released only N47 billion to the Ministry of Works and Housing as against its N94 billion main and supplementary budgets allocations, and why the executive arm spent about N51 billion on defence, as against the N20.5 billion approved for the Defence Ministry in the year 2001 budget.

Also, the senators demanded to know what happened to unspent funds from the 1999 and 2000 appropriation acts, and whether such funds were rolled over into the current year.

Investigations carried out by *Daily Trust* on the implementation of budgets by the present administration show that the implementation is anything but encouraging.

For instance, *Daily Trust* gathered that the third and

By Ahmed Shekarau,  
Business Editor

fourth quarter allocations provided for in the 1999 budget by the military administration that handed over power to the present administration were not released throughout that year. It was difficult, however, to prove whether such funds were rolled over into the year 2000 appropriation act.

On the 2000 appropriation act, a source in the Federal Ministry of Finance, who pleaded anonymity, confirmed to *Daily Trust* that the first quarter allocation to various ministries and parastatals was released in March of the same year.

Then in July, our source further revealed, some "key ministries" such as education, power and steel, works and housing, health, transport and solid minerals, were given part of their second quarter allocation. Even here, the funds were said to be "aggregated" and given to the nine selected ministries. Some parastatals of these key ministries, for instance, those under education, did not receive their allocations from the 2000 budget until February 2001.

But the question many have been tempted to ask, including members of the National Assembly, is why does the Ministry of Finance and other ministries hold back budgetary allocations without releasing them?

What usually happens, an insider in a parastatal of one of the ministries told *Daily Trust*, is that "some powerful interests in the ministries lodge huge part of these funds in certain accounts that would generate interests to be cornered into private uses, at the expense of the ministries and projects they are meant for."

Contacted by *Daily Trust* to comment over the issue, the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriation, Senator Udoma Udo Udoma, said: "I cannot confirm whether such funds are lodged in private accounts as you suggest."

Senator Udoma told *Daily Trust* in an interview last week that: "We have discovered in many cases that even where funds are released by the Ministry of Finance to some ministries, they deposit them in certain accounts and leave them for very long periods without putting them to use in projects they are meant for. Just take the example of the NEPA case which we are still investigating" the N2 billion funds appropriated to it in the 2000 budget.



President Obasanjo

With respect to the year 2001 budget, *Daily Trust* reliably gathered that up to the end of August this year, some parastatals of some ministries got only one quota of their budgetary allocations.

This situation apparently strangulates operations of some of the federal ministries, parastatals and agencies, thereby leaving them with nothing to show the Nigerian public as dividends of democracy.

Also, *Daily Trust* gathered that the Ministry of Finance may have been constrained by the presence of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank officials in the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN), forcing it to delay release of funds to various ministries and parastatals.

The IMF and World Bank officials have early in the life of the present administration posted some of their officials to monitor operations of the CBN through a medium term programme.

The medium term programme was instituted to ensure that the present administration is prudent in its management of funds, so that the two financial institutions would eventually lobby for debt rescheduling for Nigeria from its external creditors.

The continued presence of officials of the two institutions in the CBN, therefore, is a strong indication that they contribute to the Ministry of Finance's decision to delay release of funds into the economy.

Besides, *Daily Trust* also gathered from a dependable source in the Ministry of National Planning that since the inception of the present civilian administration, the nation's yearly budgets are not made to synchronise with

the country's Rolling Plans when it comes to budget implementation.

Senator Udo Udoma stated that this is one of the issues the senate will look into.

During his second appearance before the Senate on Thursday, November 22, 2001, Mallam Adamu Ciroma, claimed that of the total capital allocation N624 billion for 2001, the sum of N391.503 billion was so far released to various ministries and federal establishments.

He also stated that of the total recurrent expenditure of N495.56 billion provided for in 2001 budget, N241.873 billion was released, while domestic debt service gulped N141.49 billion and the railway parastatals extension received N3.45 billion, bringing the total released on recurrent expenditure to N495.56 billion.

Ciroma concluded by telling the senate that most to the ministries, especially ten of them regarded by the Executive as "priority ministries", received capital releases amounting to about 80 per cent of their allocations. The ten "priority" ministries are made up of those that were regarded as "key" ministries last year.

But the senators were quick to counter most of these figures presented by the Finance Minister. For instance, Senator Ibrahim Kuta, categorically lashed at the minister during the special session.

Kuta said: "The maximum actually released to ministries is only about 50 per cent. The releases you are giving us here are not true because as I am talking to you now the ministries are waiting to receive their third quarter allocations."



Mallam Adamu Ciroma, Finance Minister

This situation has made some of the National Assembly members to suggest certain tough measures of dealing with the executive arm of government.

For instance, Senator Udo Udoma told *Daily Trust* that while he may not want to preempt the action to be taken by the senate, "I'll assure you that we'll do everything possible to ensure that the Executive sits up while implementing subsequent budgets."

The Chairman of the House of Representatives Committee on Industries, Rep. Hamisu Shira, is, however, suggesting tougher measures, which may include cuts in budgetary proposals to various ministries.

Apparently piqued by the implementation of 30 per cent of the N2 billion appropriated for the Ministry of Industry in the year 2001 budget, Rep. Shira stated that the ministry may have its budgetary allocation for 2002 reduced by 70 per cent. He said: "If they (ministry) could make do with only 30 per cent of the amount allocated to them this year, then they can also make do with the same amount next year."

Non-implementation of the budget, according to National Assembly members, is a serious offence amounting to violation of the constitution and may lead to impeachment of the President. According to Rep. Jibrin Barau, Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriation, "the budget is a law and failure to implement it to the letter would seem to amount to a disrespect of the law."

Reacting to this position, however, President Obasanjo declared that nobody can impeach him over non-implementation of budgets, hinging his position on the argu-

ment that budgets are proposals made, based on targeted revenue to be generated, something which may not necessarily be achieved.

But the president's argument, according to some of the members, is faulty because the country has exceeded its targeted revenue with billions of naira. According to Rep. Barau, "it is not as if we lack the money to implement this (budget)."

What is disturbing to the National Assembly, like many Nigerians, is why should a civilian administration negate an issue so fundamental to the overall development of the nation as budget implementation?

It has been observed that ever since the present administration came into office, it takes it about three months to release even the recurrent vote after usual budget announcements. In the periods of holding on to these funds, salaries are not paid, thereby making survival very difficult for common men in the country.

Again, it has been observed that even when the government decides to release capital votes, it channels it through the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) from where contractors and long service providers are paid. By this, the capital vote is not made available in any form to the domestic economy and, therefore, no measure is taken to stop rising domestic interest rates.

And by the time these capital votes are eventually released, the import dependency situation of nation creeps in. Thus, about 70 per cent of the funds escape abroad, thereby leaving the national economy in poor state.

## Opinion

## Shari'a in the eyes of Gumi

By Danlami Baban Takko

In his lifetime, sheik Abubakar Mahmud Gumi was an epitome of simplicity, courage, integrity and above all religious devotion. However Malam's greatest shortcoming was that he was not a forceful personality in the mould of Umar the great caliph among others.

An example of the late sheik's simplicity was in the manner of his dressing and his accessibility to all and sundry. Speaking of his dress and his accessibility the two of which were interrelated, he said, "It was in the Sudan that I learnt to appreciate simple and functional clothes, as against very conspicuous and expensive ones... I have always strived to wear clothes that, although decent, would never discourage a prospective student from approaching me, because he is scared by their flamboyance."

In the middle of 1950's, sheik Gumi exhibited a kind of courage equalled only by the kind exhibited by Governor Ahmed Sani in declaring the Shari'a fifty years after. As a young, ordinary teacher in Maru (present day Sokoto State), the late sheik felt highly disturbed when the then Sultan of Sokoto delivered his Sallah message and extolled the virtues of the British king under whose flag "we live in peace and justice," without wasting time, the young Gumi wrote a letter to the sultan and expressed his disappointment and total rejection of such views. To add salt to injury, the young Gumi as a teacher in the same village vehemently stood up to the notorious innovative practices of performing *Tayamma* instead of proper ablution before prayer. His radical approach to such religious issues forced the entire emirs of the Northern Region to sit in Kaduna with the British colonial masters. The subject matter was what to do with Gumi.

As a man of integrity, the late Malam was always too eager to protect his good name. As the Grand Khadi of the then Northern region, a case involving his former teacher was brought before him. When the teacher sought to influence the late sheik into delivering judgement in his favour, he threatened to arrest the teacher. Likewise, immediately after the coup, which killed the Sardauna, General Ironsi wanted to send the late Sheik Gumi and others on a goodwill mission to some Islamic countries. He invited Gumi to Lagos for discussion on the issue, "...but even before he finished speaking, I knew that I was not going". This is because according to the late sheik "... I had to think of my self-esteem".

On his threat to have his former teacher arrested for trying to influence his judgement, the late Gumi based his actions on the following words "for not only in this particular case, but on all occasions I never entertained fears about my own loyalty to the truth".

The late Gumi's commitment and devotion to religious activities knew no bounds. As he himself put it "He (Sardauna) was aware that we had different backgrounds and ambitions in life; he was a politician whereas I had made religion my career".

General Muhammadu Buhari in his tribute to the late Sheikh on his death way back in 1992, observed that "Nobody had done a lot towards the propagation of Islam since the demise of Sheikh Usman Dan Fodio, than the late Sheikh Abubakar Gumi". The late Sheikh himself observed that "Identifying me with the religion quite early in life was, indeed, a moral and social check".

He was instrumental to the formation of "Jama'a" while the late Dr. Abubakar Imam thought it was better to complete the name with an adjective, which was "Nasril- Islam". In 1978, the late Sheikh Samaila Idris approached him to disclose their decision to set up the "Izalatul Bidi'a" (dispensing with innovations), but the late Sheikh thought it wise to complete it by stating an objective "Wa Ikama-tus sunnah" (the upholding of the tradition).

Malam was a great teacher indeed and he regarded teaching as the surest way to self-improvement. He would rather die than stop teaching; as he himself once told a delegation of Jama'atul Nasril Islam.

When the late Sir Ahmadu Bello initiated the setting up of the World Muslim League in 1962 and was elected Vice-President, he asked the late Gumi to represent him in the Constitutional Council, the governing body. When representation was stopped through a change in the constitution a couple of years ago, Gumi was made a member in his own right. He had been on the Constitutional Council until his death.

Among the various awards which the late Sheikh received for his meritorious service to Islam was the President Nasser Award by the Egyptian government, National Honour of Commander of the Order of the Federal Republic (CFR), honorary doctorate degrees (Honorary LLD) from the universities of Ibadan and Ahmadu Bello, certificate of the International Who is Who of intellectuals, Cambridge, England and a host of others. Of significance among these awards however, was the King Faisal International Award given to him for his contributions in the fields of Arabic literature and Islamic studies in 1987.

In the citation read on why the late Sheikh was being honoured, part of it reads: "The selection committee of King Faisal International prize for service to Islam unanimously selected His Excellency, Sheikh Abubakar Mahmud Gumi, from Nigeria as winner of the King Faisal International Prize in the service of Islam for 1407 Hijra (1987): citing the outstanding endeavours that he has made inside and outside his country in the fields of preaching, teaching, education, Islamic jurisprudence and *fatwa*."

Commenting on the Award, the then head of state, President Ibrahim Babangida said among others "... knowledge and the application of knowledge to life, as you exemplify, is, therefore, the only basis of belief and action in everyday Islamic existence".

This is what Shari'a is all about.

Danlami is a staff of Daily Trust, Abuja

## Anthony Ani's vindication

By Idang Alibi

There is an aspect of media practise in our country that even a practitioner like this writer has to complain about. When anyone, especially if he is a well-known public figure, is accused of any wrongdoing, banner headlines usually proclaim his guilt. Woe betide the accused if the allegation against him borders on sex, fraud or the misappropriation of huge sums of money. The media will descend on him and denounce him in terms more foul than fair. Many public officers who have dared to offer their service to the nation, some of them very meritoriously, have suffered this savage fate.

But if at a later date, the person involved is cleared of the accusation, the story is often buried in obscure corners in inside pages of newspapers and magazines. This, of course, has to do with the journalism dictum that bad news makes good news.

Such has been fate of Chief Ani. Some three years ago, the Abubakar Abdulsalami administration, for motives which are still not clear, accused Chief Anthony Ani and Alhaji Bashir Dalhatu, Abacha's Ministers for Finance and Power and Steel respectively, of misappropriating \$2.5 billion on the repurchase of the government's debt in Ajaokuta Steel Project.

As a result of this allegation, Chief Ani and Dalhatu were quite often on the cover pages of news magazines and on the front pages of the leading

newspapers in the country. They were portrayed as thieves. Although both ex-ministers were accused, the target was clearly Chief Ani. The then Chief Press Secretary to, Abdulsalami, Mallam Mohammed Haruna who is not known for indecency, for once, chose to use gutter language by describing Ani as a liar.

Ani stridently denied the charge of wrongdoing, saying that he ought rather to be praised because through the deal, he saved Nigeria \$1.2 billion. Nobody appeared ready to believe him.

Last year, a committee of the National Assembly headed by the irrepressible Senator Idris Kuta held a public hearing on the Ajaokuta Steel debt repurchase and its conclusion validated Ani's claim. The committee said that contrary to the impression created, there was no scam of any kind in the Ajaokuta debt buy-back.

Not many newspapers and magazines gave prominence to this exculpation of Ani.

While investigation into this matter was going on, the Federal Government sought and got a court order freezing the bank accounts of Chief Ani. A few days ago, a London High Court ordered the unfreezing of Ani's accounts, apparently because the man had committed no wrong.

The newspapers and magazines which had given a saturation coverage to the allegation against Ani now carried the story of his vindication in some

inconspicuous places in their publications. This is unfair. Fairness demands that Ani's vindication ought to have been given the kind of prominence which was accorded the accusation against him.

Very few of us, including media practitioners, appear to appreciate the terrible damage that is done to the person of anyone who is rightly or wrongly accused of wrongdoing. Assassination of a person's character is even worse than the actual killing of the person. You are worse than a leper, denied of the company of decent men.

A terrible injustice has been done Ani. In defreezing his accounts, no cost was awarded to him by the London High Court. Besides, the news media which had lent weight to the accusation against Ani have not done much to restore his good name.

Let us please note this irony. It was Chief Ani, using his technocratic expertise, who built our foreign reserves to seven billion dollars. It was Abdulsalami Abubakar who, as Head of State for only nine months, reduced that reserves to about four billion dollars. Yet, it was Abdulsalami who portrayed himself as a hero while Ani was seen as a villain. Thanks to revelation at the Oputa Panel we now know the kind of saint Abdulsalami really is.

The ruling of the London High Court has no doubt cleared Ani of the odium in which he has been held over the debt deal. This development has come as a huge relief to numerous

friends, relatives, acquaintances and professional colleagues of Ani who were greatly distressed by the grave accusation levelled against him.

It has restored the confidence and admiration which those associates have in Ani as a decent, honest and patriotic Nigerian.

If ours were a place where there is a culture of decency and fair play, somebody will come out boldly to tell Ani "sorry" for the terrible harm inflicted on his character and career. Only God, it seems, would heal Ani of the psychological wound dealt him.

While God will do his own bit, Ani's professional body ICAN which he once served as a president, should take up the challenge of rehabilitating Ani's image and by extension, that of ICAN itself which was also soiled in the process.

Nothing that has happened to Ani should discourage anyone with talents from offering such gifts towards the development of the fatherland. It is clear that one of the occupational hazards of being a public officer in a setting such as ours is susceptibility to unfair and unkind, allegations of wrongdoing.

Such things do happen. Chief Ani must take all what happened in his stride. As a Christian, he should forgive all those who sought to destroy his good name. He should even thank his God that he did not die before his vindication. Some never enjoy this favour.

Mr. Alibi, a former member of the Daily Times Editorial Board lives in Abuja.

## Osuntokun's report on (AD) governors

By Bamidele Adeladun

One is constrained to issue a rejoinder to the above subject matter published in the Comet of November 1<sup>st</sup> 2001 for two important reasons, the first of which is the respect, which the columnist has garnered along with his colleagues of the Comet. The second which flows from the first is the danger that Osuntokun's warped presentation would be taken as an honest, truthful and correct assessment of the governors of the Southwest.

It is clear in respect of Ondo State with which one is very familiar that Osuntokun did not do his homework sufficiently. His one paragraph assessment of Governor Adefarati is not only phantom, but also very shallow. The same goes for his views about the other governors without reference to their respective incomes.

The most amazing of Chief Osuntokun's reasons for giving Governor Adefarati a pass mark include the construction of a brand new university in Akoko, regardless of the politics of its location, which hardly portrays Adefarati as an objective or fair-minded governor - qualities that had been the hallmark of virtually all preceding Yoruba leaders, particularly Chiefs Obafemi Awolowo and Ajasin who respectively did not locate the Obafemi Awolowo University, the then Ife University and old Ondo State University in their native areas. The case of Akungba with inadequate infrastructure, including suitable land and accommodation left much to be desired. Members of Adefarati's cabinet have taken a cue from him with his commissioner for finance, Mr. Segun Ojo creating an Okada Village (of Igbinedion fame) out of his Emure-Ile village, which is less than half of one ward in the eleven wards that make up Owo local government. The state has, at the last count invested over N100,000,000 (one hundred million naira) in Emure-Ile alone. In addition, a housing estate is being proposed to be located also at Emure-Ile, even as it is obvious that there is no local demand for it to the exclusion of the rest of Owo local government and to the detriment of Ondo State.

By the same token, one is worried that Chief Osuntokun can also choose to score Adefarati high on the brand new stadium and state house which he falsely claims are both already under construction. Given the proclaimed antecedents of Chief Adefarati, which include Chief Obafemi Awolowo who resided in his Oke-Ado residence throughout his tenure as premier and Chief Ajasin who lived in the two-bedroom colonial residence of the DO in his four-year sojourn as governor, there can be no justification for a new 'political' government house. Perhaps, Chief Osuntokun does not know that Ondo State has a modernised state house with enough rooms which include three sitting rooms, a banquet hall, hair dressing salon for the first lady (ladies) etc courtesy of the defunct Bode George administration. What justification can there be for building a new government house and discarding the elegant presidential lodge other than a visionless administration with too much money than it can reasonably spend?

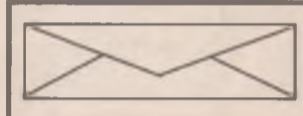
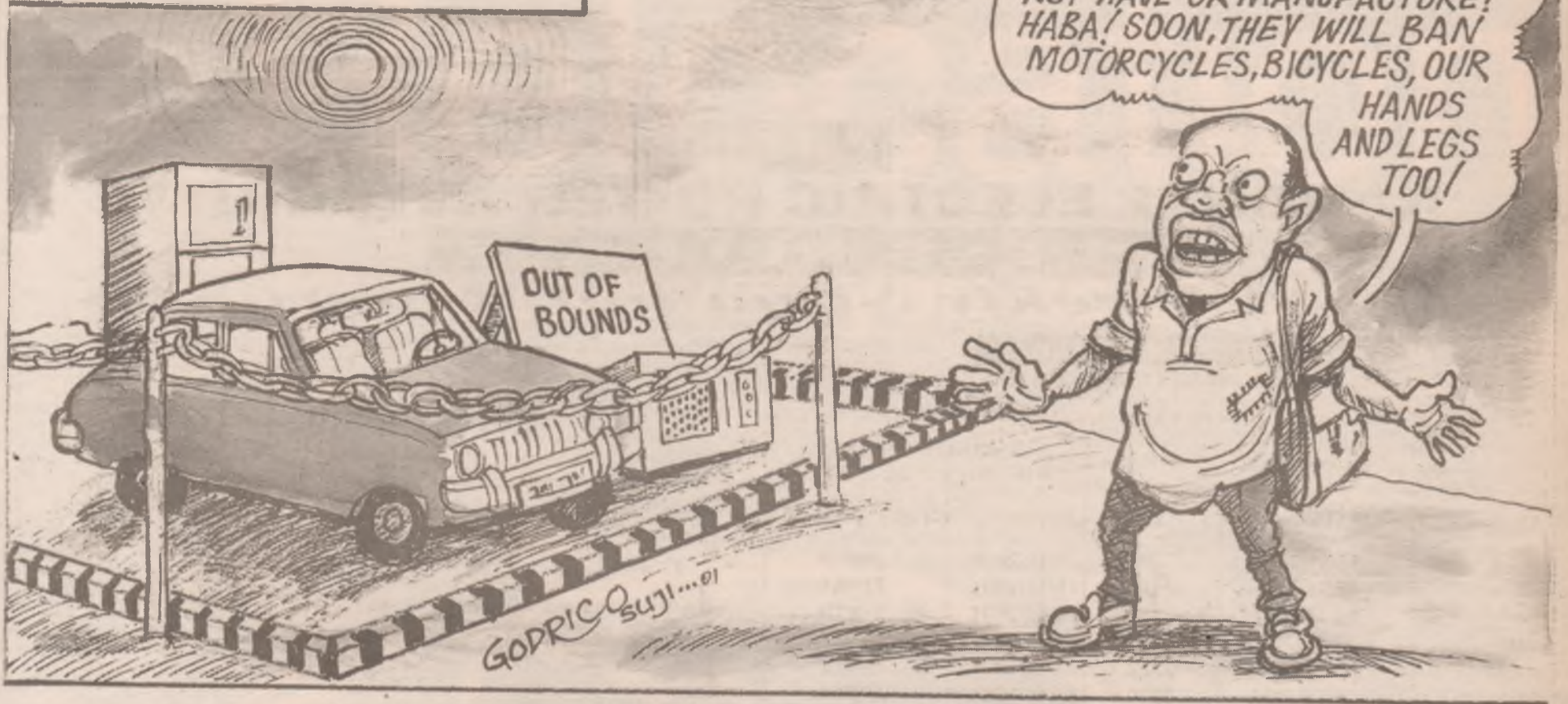
Chief Osuntokun also commends Adefarati's wasteful proposal to build a new stadium in Akure without finding out how effectively the existing small ones are utilised. Thank God, that under Adefarati and without his utopian stadium, Ondo State government-sponsored Sunshine Stars has advanced to league division one. The existing stadium has necessary facilities calling for improvement and has a hostel complex for athletes adjoining it. Even as Adefarati has gone abroad to procure architects and contractors for his dream stadium, he is already creating an ultra-modern Adefarati sports village for the Sunshine Stars elsewhere in Akure. Chief Osuntokun, as much as anyone knows that football in the civilised world is a private affair and the trend is to commercialise or outrightly privatise sports arena, in Ondo State with over 95 percent civil service white-collar employees, how can a stadium be sustained? Are we going to continue to buy footballers and athletes from outside the state, which on its own cannot generate indigenous sportsmen owing to lack of urban-based employment opportunities? One is forced to believe that Chief Osuntokun sources his information from press handouts of Ondo State governor's office and/or the Ondo State Radio-vision Corporation, which has for all intents and purposes taken after the defunct Chukwumerije's Radio Biafra! Otherwise, how can he assess southwest governors without reference to the income accruing to the various governments? Governor Adefarati now receives monthly what all his predecessors put together received annually and we are unable to see the developmental value of these receipts.

However, it is pertinent to draw attention to the phenomenal proliferation of banks in the Ondo State capital, which now number over 24, with a total of 28 branches. The banks have come into residence to help Governor Adefarati and his colourless cabinet to launder or manage funds which are being fixed from bank to bank at unpublished and unpublicised interest rates. Ondo State funds give banks juicy assets at the expense of the rapid physical and economic growth of the state. Even at that, Ondo State government cheques are being marked disgracefully for representation.

Finally, before the foisting of Adefarati on the unwilling, but good people of Ondo State for another four years of lethargic, clay-footed and unproductive governance, I humbly invite Chief Osuntokun to come and undertake an unguided independent tour of the state to see things for himself. Chief Osuntokun will thereafter be sufficiently well informed to write objectively in the manner of *The Comet* and so avoid goofing as he did the other time when two weeks after he advised Governor Lam Adesina to go and learn how to keep the state capital clean from him, Governor Adefarati himself pointedly told the state waste management board that Akure was one of the dirtiest state capitals in the country. With old men like Adefarati in contra-distinction from Ajasin, Ondo State should rather make do with younger and intellectually gifted politicians whose generation have more at stake and are available in abundance.

Chief Adeladun was a commissioner in the old Ondo State.

**BAN ON TOKUNBO CARS, FRIDGEDAIRES, AIRCONDITIONERS...**



**YOUR LETTERS**

**Kudos Udusok authorities**

As you are aware, the degrees of this university are awarded by the senate on the basis of satisfactory academic performance and good character. It is, therefore, essential to ensure that only students who are ready to meet these criteria are allowed to progress.

This is part of a circular from the office of the vice chancellor of Usman Danfodiyo University, Sokoto (UDUS) which he himself signed. The circular - which I saw while on a visit to Sokoto recently - is drawing the attention of the university community on the growing acts of indecency and general indiscipline by students in lecture rooms, libraries, laboratories etc. It also reminds heads of departments/units and lecturers alike to enforce discipline amongst students.

I write to say kudos to the university authorities in Sokoto for rising up to the

challenge posed by the corrupt and permissive way of life that is today the hallmark of most of our tertiary institutions, and especially for reminding the society on that statement of vital importance that is always repeated during convocation in every university in this country. In fact in the universities' order of proceedings during convocations, the statement reads "... They (convocating students) have been found worthy (of the degree) in both character and learning" (emphasis mine). Unfortunately however, as the secretary to the federal government of Nigeria, Chief Ufot Ekaette recently declared during a university convocation in his home state (Akwa Ibom), our universities now graduate students with little learning and questionable character. This statement is painfully correct, and the only way to meaningfully move forward

on a sustainable basis is to tackle the problem of indiscipline at both academic and social levels on our campuses. Parents, teachers and those in authority must work individually and collectively to correct this dismal situation or else the whole society will pay dearly for their inaction and ultimately they will individually be answerable to Allah (the most high) for shirking their

responsibilities.

Conclusively I sincerely hope the authority of UDUS would seriously follow up and see that steps are genuinely taken to right these wrongs, so that the fine circular they have on notice boards will not be only a formality. May Allah (SWT) help them and all of us in commanding and doing what is right and preventing and desisting from what is wrong, amen.

**Sani Mu'azu Makarfi**  
AC 6, Jaji Road,  
Malali, Kaduna.

**Re: Rev. Kukah is right but...**

The rejoinder is on the counter reaction by Yunus Ahmadu made in *Weekly Trust* October 26 - November 1, 2001. Certainly the impression given by Reverend Kuka that Northern cities such as Kano cannot do without the Igbo youth (*Weekly Trust* 6 -12

July, 2001) was absolutely a total fabrication, biased and unfair.

The reverend knew that a typical Hausa-Fulani Muslim is hard working. It is on record that the Hausa Muslims of Kano engaged in business even before the advent of British colonial rule. Kano is also known throughout the country as a centre of commerce and it will remain the only centre of commerce even without the persistence of Igbos in this country. And certainly it is because of the hard work of a Hausa-Fulani Muslim that is why the innocent of them have been suffering of persecution, jealousy, hatred and persistent attacks.

My advice to Rev. Kukah is that his defence of his brothers in religion (Christianity) will perhaps perpetuate a crisis and hinder the peaceful existence in this country.

**Alh. (Isah) Adamu Abubakar**  
Sabon Garin Yaya  
Taura Local Government,  
Jigawa State.

**Re: 911: The greatest hoax of all**

Please editor, allow me space in your popular newspaper to thank Malama Aisha Umar Yusuf about the very interesting and

**Dr. Chikwe, a shining example for women**

In more recent history, some notable women leaders have been struggling to tread in areas dominated by men. The concentration of political and economic power in the hands of men continued to give them the historical leverage of dominating

convincing article on the September 11, 2001 attack on America.

In fact, when I finished reading the Tuesday Column

the womenfolk in all spheres of life.

To my mind, one notable woman out of the thousands of enterprising women with distinguished chieftains is Dr. Kema Chikwe, the former minister of transport and now the flashy minister of aviation. Her striking beauty can indeed not be ignored.

She is proving to be a good manager of men and resources. Chikwe adds meaning and great value when studying women in politics in Nigeria.

There is no doubt that Dr. Chikwe's eloquent records of performance and popularity is causing Governor Udenwa and Rochas Okorochoa sleepless nights in the Imo State gubernatorial battle. Truly, with Dr. Chikwe in the race there is every cause for alarm by her opponents. It is now left for the womenfolk and men of honour to rally round her. For no palm is bid enough to cover the sun, and she is very likely to be the first woman governor in Nigeria. No doubt Dr Chikwe is a shining example to many Nigerian women:

**Ibrahim Hamman Degri**  
Nafada Local Government  
Secretariat,  
Nafada, Gombe State.

**Re - Alhaji Wamakko 's giant stride**

The deputy governor of Sokoto State, Alhaji Aliyu Magatakarda Wamakko has described the piece of Mr. Malik Ohis in Abuja-based tabloid *Abuja Today* on page 17 of its October 3<sup>rd</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>, 2001 edition with the above caption as a misconception.

The Garkuwan Sokoto, Alhaji Attahiru Dalhatu Bafarawa the governor of Sokoto State is a distinguished personality who needs no introduction. His exemplary leadership style and foresight has gained him recognition.

The true perspective is that the governor recognises

and encourages teamwork and in each instance gives his deputy an opportunity to contribute in his own way and also give him what befits the office of the deputy governor.

Alhaji Wamakko really enjoys tremendous goodwill of his governor. Their relationship is most cordial. It is however way out of touch with reality on the ground to say that Alhaji Wamakko is the brain behind Bafarawa's success story.

Truly also, the deputy governor of Sokoto State has always supported his governor's noble ideas but again to say he is behind the

governor's "laudable achievements" is putting the cart before the horse.

The governor's laudable achievements are primarily his and then ours. Everything should be brought in its right perspective and the truth should not be distorted.

Alhaji Aliyu Wamakko is not in charge of Sokoto State or local government committees, by Alhaji Bafarawa is. The deputy governor only enjoys the power delegated to him by his governor. So what is unto a deputy governor is what Alhaji Wamakko is.

**Abubakar Muhammad**  
Director Press Affairs,  
Deputy Governor's Office,  
Sokoto.

**Re-State involuntary euthanasia**

I read with deep sorrow the pathetic story of Miss Sherifat Abdulrahman now languishing in Central Prison, Kaduna, in *Daily Trust*, Thursday August 16, 2001.

I disagree with Shehu Sani's hypothesis on the prison authorities as well as the state for not releasing the convict simply because she is now tested AIDS positive. I expect Shehu Sani to assist the convict by contacting the Sujud Foundation in Kano for the treatment of the convict rather than pressing for her release which will be very disastrous to the public.

What needs to be done is to assist in mobilising public-spirited individuals to help foot the bill which is N50,000 for the complete therapy as advertised in the front page of *Daily Trust* of the same date.

**Ayuba M. Saidu,**  
P. O. Box 2448,  
Sokoto.



**NEPA**

**NATIONAL ELECTRIC POWER AUTHORITY**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**NEPA Weekly Situation Report (35)**

**OUR BULLETIN FOR WEEK NO.35:  
(18/11/2001 TO 24/11/2001)**

**1. PEAK DAILY GENERATION FOR THE PREVIOUS AND CURRENT WEEKS**

PREVIOUS WEEK (11/11/2001 TO 17/11/2001)			CURRENT WEEK (18/11/2001 TO 24/11/2001)	
DAY	DATE	GEN(MW)	DATE	GEN(MW)
Sunday	11/11/2001	2409.7	18/11/2001	2000.5
Monday	12/11/2001	2416.0	19/11/2001	2260.1
Tuesday	13/11/2001	2236.7	20/11/2001	2383.9
Wednesday	14/11/2001	2199.4	21/11/2001	2389.7
Thursday	15/11/2001	2222.7	22/11/2001	2550.1
Friday	16/11/2001	2226.9	23/11/2001	2550.9
Saturday	17/11/2001	2205.1	24/11/2001	2422.0

**2. PROJECTED AVERAGE PEAK GENERATION FOR THE PREVIOUS AND CURRENT WEEKS**

PREVIOUS WEEK (ACTUAL) (18/11/2001 TO 24/11/2001)	CURRENT WEEK (FORECAST) (25/11/2001 TO 01/12/2001)
<b>2365.3MW</b>	<b>2800MW</b>

**3. PEAK WEEKLY GENERATION FROM EACH POWER STATION IN THE PREVIOUS AND CURRENT WEEKS**

STATION	PREVIOUS WEEK (ACTUAL) (18/11/2001 TO 24/11/2001)	CURRENT WEEK (FORECAST) (24/11/2001 TO 01/12/2001)
KAINJI	165MW	168MW
JEBBA	184MW	188MW
SHIRORO	603MW	600MW
EGBIN	1056MW	1060MW
SAPELE ST	70MW	130MW
SAPELE GT	50MW	50MW
AFAM	70MW	70MW
DELTA	292MW	300 MW
IJORA	10MW	16MW
CALABAR	2MW	2MW
ENRON	190.9MW	220MW
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2692.9MW</b>	<b>2804MW</b>

**4. PROJECTED AVERAGE DAILY GENERATION FROM EACH POWER STATION IN THE PREVIOUS AND CURRENT WEEKS**

STATION	PREVIOUS WEEK (ACTUAL) (11/11/2001 TO 17/11/2001)	CURRENT WEEK (FORECAST) (18/11/2001 TO 24/11/2001)
KAINJI	90MW	168MW
JEBBA	180MW	188MW
SHIRORO	598MW	600MW
EGBIN	1023MW	1060MW
SAPELE ST	67MW	130MW
SAPELE GT	48MW	50MW
AFAM	69MW	70MW
DELTA	290MW	300MW
IJORA	NIL	16MW
CALABAR	NIL	2MW
ENRON	185.9MW	220MW
<b>AVERAGE TOTAL</b>	<b>2550.9MW</b>	<b>2804MW</b>

**5. AVERAGE ESTIMATED DAILY NATIONAL DEMAND FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 2001 - 3500MW**

**REMARKS**

Two machines from Ebin Power Station were out of service for preventive maintenance hence the reduction in generation output and forecast.

**ENERGY SAVING**

**BELOW ARE SOME USEFUL TIPS ON HOW YOU CAN SAVE ENERGY, BY:**

Ensuring for example that when they are in use your refrigerator or freezer is not overfilled. They operate more efficiently and economically only when filled to capacity.

- Making sure that the air conditioner or heater is not set to run colder than necessary. A room is only heated or cooled as fast as the manufacturer's instructions state.

Take your time when using your oven. For instance, cooking, try to use it for a full capacity as much as possible. If you have three dishes to be cooked, do not fill the oven with two dishes and cook the third separately to cook all

three (For example, the mean of 325, 350 and 375 degrees temperature is 350 degrees)

- Making sure you do not use oversized water heaters. The oversized water heater wastes energy heating unneeded water. It should in fact be avoided to reduce your initial cost.
- Switching off all appliances not in use. Especially, when you are not home, remember to switch off your water heater, air-conditioners, television sets or indeed all lights you do not need before dark.
- Switching off security lights.
- Switching off street lights during the day.
- Ensuring that when cooking with the electric cooker you use pots or pans that match the ring sizes.
- Using energy saving bulbs.
- Ensuring that you do not fill the electric kettle just to make a cup of tea. Use just enough water to cover the ring. Hot water kettles come in different sizes, you may choose the one to meet your needs.

Next, we serve you the power demand and energy consumption of some domestic appliances:

APPLIANCE	TYPE	RATING	POWER DEMAND IN KILOWATT (KW)	RATED CURRENT IN AMPERES (AMPS)	NO. OF HRS. TO CONSUME ONE UNIT OF ELECTRICITY (i.e. 1 KWH)
Water heater	50 litre	1200watt	1.2	5.2	0.8
	100litre	2500watt	2.5	11	0.4
Cooker (4 plate)	Small	600watt	6.0	26	0.2
	Regular	800watt	8.0	34	1.2
	Large	1050watt	10.5	45	0.1
Single plate Cooker	Portable	1800watt	1.8	7.7	0.6
Fan	Table	0.08HP	0.06	0.25	1.7
	Standing	0.1HP	0.7	0.3	1.4
	Ceiling	0.3HP	0.2	0.9	4.5
Air Conditioner	Small	1.5HP	1.1	4.7	1
	Medium	2HP	1.5	6.5	0.7
Refrigerator	Small	0.2HP	0.15	0.6	7
	Medium	0.25HP	0.19	0.8	5
	Large	0.3HP	0.22	0.9	4.5
Television (Black & White)		200watt	0.2	0.9	5
Television (Colour)		300 watt	0.3	1.3	3

- 1000watt = 1 Kilowatt (1KW)
- 1 HP = 0.746 Kilowatt
- 1KWH = One unit of electricity = 1KW x 1 HR. i.e. 1 Kilowatt used for 1 hour.

Finally, we appeal to all our esteemed customers and all good Nigerians to endeavour to report faults promptly wherever and whenever they occur. There are faults sections and complaints centres in all our 56 district offices spread across the country. Only such prompt reports can enable us attend to faults promptly to make life a lot easier for you.

*We thank you for your understanding and patience.*

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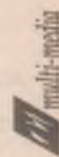
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# TRUST INTERNATIONAL

AFRICA &amp; THE MIDDLE EAST

## US won't attack us, says Yemen

Yemeni President, Ali Abdullah Saleh, said in remarks published yesterday, that he was sure the United States would not extend its anti-terrorism military campaign to his country.

Saleh told the Arabic daily *Asharq al-Awsat* newspaper in an interview that such threats were fabrications of some foreign and Arabic press, adding that he had not even discussed the issue with

US officials during a visit to Washington last week.

"This has only been mentioned by western press and not by American leaders," Saleh told the London-based newspaper during a state visit to Paris. "We are not supposed to respond to such false reports."

The United States launched on October 7 military strikes against

Afghanistan to hunt Saudi-born militant, Osama bin Laden, Washington's prime suspect in the September 11 suicide attacks on US cities which killed more than 3,500 people.

Speculation that the United States would strike Yemen mounted last week after Britain said that military action against bin Laden might be extended to targets in other, unspecified, countries where his al Qaeda network has found sanctuary.

## ... Tribesmen move German hostage to new hideout

Yemeni tribesmen who kidnapped a German last week have fled their hideout but Yemeni troops are now surrounding their new location, a government official said yesterday.

The official told *Reuters* that the kidnapers, believed to be from the Bin Dhibian tribe, had moved to a rough mountainous area 170 km (100 miles) east of the capital, Sanaa and that military forces had condoned off the area.

"The Yemeni authorities have confirmed that they will use military force to end this

kidnapping," he added.

Armed tribesmen abducted the 50-year-old German man, who works for the Mercedes Benz dealership in Yemen, from downtown Sanaa on Thursday, just hours after President Ali Abdullah Saleh had started a state visit to Germany.

On Friday, an official said the kidnapers were believed to be hiding in an area about 40 km east of the capital.

The German Embassy in Sanaa would not identify the captive or comment on the kidnapping.

## Independent nominees win by-election in Iran

Independent nominees are the only winners of a heavy row between the two main political factions in Iran, according to media reports yesterday.

Iranians cast their votes on Friday in a parliamentary by-election in the northern province of Golestan in favour of independent nominees at the expense of both reformists and conservatives, *Entekhab* reported.

A dispute erupted last

The US is working on a secret plan to overthrow Iraqi President, Saddam Hussein, according to the British newspaper *The Observer*. The report said US President, George Bush had ordered the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the armed forces leadership to present him with a plan which would include the bombing of military targets and support from opposition groups in northern and southern Iraq.

The deployment of US

## US plans to oust Saddam



President Saddam Hussein

ground troops would not be ruled out. The newspaper said that such a campaign would lead to the collapse of the international anti-terrorism coalition. European governments, including Britain, opposed an attack on Iraq, *The Observer* said.

The paper predicted that Bush would use a probable refusal by Baghdad to let UN arm inspectors into the country as justification for beginning a campaign against Iraq within a few months.

Meanwhile, the British newspaper *Sunday Telegraph* reported that the US had sought British support in preparations for an attack on military targets in Somalia as part of the "next phase" of the global campaign against Osama bin Laden and the al-Qaeda terrorist network. Yemen and Sudan were also included in Bush's military campaign plans, the paper said.

*The Sunday Telegraph* report said high-ranking Britain military officials had returned from a visit to the US with the task of working out a strategy for an attack on Somalia.

week in Iran between reformists and conservatives after the pro-reform parliament proposed a bill to limit the power of the hard-line legislature oversight Council of Guardians (GC).

While reformers decided to boycott the election by presenting no candidates, the voters did not vote for the extremists of either side and chose independent figures, to solve their economic problems

regardless of any political argument, the Teheran daily *Entekhab* reported yesterday.

The proposed bill had called for restriction the power of the GC to disqualify candidates in legislative elections. The issue turned into a tug-of-war last week.

The quarrel was left to the Expediency Council - headed by former President, Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani - for final arbitration, but the GC vetoed the controversial bill after a four-hour extraordinary session on Tuesday.



## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT WORKSHOP ON PRIVATIZATION JOS- PLATEAU STATE



**Venue:** Hill Station Hotel, Jos.  
**Date:** Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2001.  
**Time:** 10:00 a.m Prompt.

**Special Guest of Honour:** Chief Joshua Dariye  
Executive Governor, Plateau State

**Chairman:** Lt. Gen. J.T. Useni, mni GCON  
(Sardauna of Plateau & Nassarawa)

**Speakers:** Ambassador (Dr.) Yahaya Kwande, Air Commodore Bernard N. Banfa, Managing Director,  
Chairman NICON INSURANCE PLC, 19A, Utan Lane, Rock Haven, Jos. Plateau State Investment and Property, Dev. Co. Ltd.

**Distinguished Guests and Participants:** Honourable Speaker & Members of the State Legislature, Honourable Commissioners, Honourable Chairmen of Local Governments, Traditional Rulers, Religious Leaders, Members of the organised Private Sectors, Non-governmental organisations, Women Leaders (NCWS), Labour Leaders (NLC), Youth Leaders, Chief Executive of the State Parastals etc.

All invitees and special guests to the Workshop on Privatisation scheduled for Plateau State are hereby reminded that the programme will start by 9.00 a.m. prompt.

Meanwhile, the general public is invited to witness a Road-Show/Carnival on the benefits of privatisation within the city centre of Jos on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2001 at 10.00 a.m. prompt.

Announcer,  
Media Trust Limited

TRUST INTERNATIONAL

World Report



Participants in a World AIDS Day 2001 observance at the National AIDS Memorial Grove in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park bow their heads during a moment of silence for the more than 500,000 people in the United States and 22 million worldwide who have lost their lives due to AIDS in the 20 years since the disease was discovered.

WHO ready to stop HIV/AIDS

The World Health Organisation has said the world is now ready to stop the HIV/AIDS epidemic in its tracks, just as experts warn that a severe shortage of condoms worldwide is fuelling a rapid increase in infection.

In a statement to mark World Aids Day, WHO head, Gro Harlem Brundtland, said the fight against Aids would be a long one.

But, although money and access to drugs had been lacking, she said, the last year had seen world leaders declaring their determination to act.

"The world is now ready to turn back the epidemic learning from those who have blazed a trail, scaling up best practice and confronting AIDS systematically," she said.

The statement came as

the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS said that in order to reduce HIV transmission rates significantly, up to 24 billion condoms should be made a year - three times the current estimated number produced.

Over the past year five million people became newly infected with HIV, bringing the total number of people with the virus to 40 million worldwide.

In some parts of Africa so many people are HIV-positive that average life expectancy is less than 40 years.

Despite this, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS - UNAIDS - said only 3% of Africa's sexually active population uses condoms.

Many governments and

social marketing agencies buy condoms in bulk and hand them out for free, but UN aide said studies across several countries show that although young people are aware of HIV, most do not know that it can be caught through having unprotected sex.

US praises British special forces

US Defence Secretary, Donald Rumsfeld has praised the role of British special forces in Afghanistan.

In an article for the *News of the World*, Mr. Rumsfeld described British troops as among the best in the world and thanked the UK for its valuable support.

He praised Britain's "unhesitating and invaluable" contribution to the war against terrorism - a conflict which, he warned, was still far from over.

Mr. Rumsfeld's comments emerged as the crew of a hi-tech RAF spotter plane returned on Saturday from duty in Afghanistan, saying their mission had made a difference to the war.

In the newspaper article, Mr. Rumsfeld said: "American special forces are on the ground, helping the coalition, serving alongside the British special forces - some of the toughest, smartest troops in the world."

But he said that despite the progress in Afghanistan,

Russian plane crash claims 18

Up to 18 people were feared dead yesterday after a cargo aircraft crashed in Russia's Siberia region following an on board fire, news agencies reported, quoting Emergencies Ministry officials.

The 11-76 transporter came down near the city of Okhotsk the Khabarovsk

UN presents draft agreement on Afghanistan

The United Nations has presented a draft agreement on the immediate future of Afghanistan to the four groups of Afghan delegates who are meeting near the German city of Bonn.

Lakhdar Brahimi asked the delegates to consider the proposals on forming an interim cabinet and come back with any amendments.

The development came after the idea of simultaneously agreeing an interim parliament was abandoned as being too complicated.

A UN spokesman at the conference centre told BBC diplomatic correspondent that Mr. Brahimi's proposals had come after exhaustive discussions aimed at reconciling the positions of the factions.

Diplomats in touch with the negotiations expect the head of the executive to be a Pashtun from Afghanistan's largest ethnic group.

the global war against terror was still in its early stages.

"The terrorist networks that threaten us operate in dozens of different countries, and terrorist threats against both of our nations' citizens and interests continue.

"Meeting the challenges ahead will require sacrifice, determination and perseverance."

The two-man crew of the RAF Canberra PR9 flew back to RAF Marham base in Norfolk after locating targets for military action against the Taliban.

The pilot and navigator said they were pleased to return home and knew their missions had made a difference to the war effort.

Navigator, Colin, aged 46, said Marham's No 39 Squadron has been flying two sorties a day, with each sortie lasting more than four hours.

region, shortly after the captain told air traffic control he was making an emergency landing due to an on board fire.

The plane disappeared from radio screens shortly afterwards, officials said they had spotted wreckage from the aircraft and that there was little chance of saving anyone.

ODD WORLD Letters for Sale

More than 30 letters written by J.D. Salinger, the reclusive author of the classic novel "The Catcher in the Rye," to his daughter will be put up for sale next month, auction house Sotheby's said Thursday.

Margaret Salinger, the author's only daughter, plans to sell the letters in a single lot that could fetch between \$250,000 and \$350,000 at the auction, which comes about 2-1/2 years after the last batch of letters written by the author sold.

Salinger has not written for publication since 1965 and has gone to court on several occasions to keep details about his life from becoming public, making the letters one of the few chances literary collectors or academics have had to examine his private life.

Sometimes written with the charm of his most famous characters and other times with the distance of a man removed from his family and the public, the 32 letters chronicle a tumultuous relationship between father and daughter, said Marsha Malinowski, a senior vice president at Sotheby's.

"These are personal letters, but they have so much literary value," she said, describing them as the "greatest collection of Salinger letters ever to come up for auction."

The 43 pages of correspondence, including notes written on hotel stationery and postcards from New York and London, begin in 1958 when Margaret was 2 years old. In the letters, Salinger shows paternal concern over how his daughter is faring at boarding school, updates her on his travel schedule, discusses the death of his father and touches on his interest in homeopathic medicine.

French vet, animal group fight over puppy

A French veterinarian and an animal protection group locked horns on Wednesday over whether he fed a live puppy to a big, hungry snake.

The vet, contacted by *Reuters*, said the charge was "totally crazy" and he had, in fact, given the serpent a dead rat, as was normal practice at his clinic in a southern Paris suburb.

The National Society for the Defense of Animals said it was taking legal action against the clinic based on written testimony from a witness at the feeding time.

Andree Valadier, president of the animal protection group, alleged a child had also watched in horror as the reptile began devouring the puppy, and said other witnesses heard the dog whining until the vet's assistant extracted it from the snake's jaws and removed it from view.

"It was a dead rat. We told the child it was a dead rat. I asked an apprentice to take it out because of the child's reaction," the vet said.

Dwarf sues to overturn tossing ban

A radio broadcaster known as "Dave the Dwarf" has sued to overturn Florida's ban on "dwarf tossing," saying he should be allowed to decide for himself whether to participate in the barroom contests.

"Dwarf tossing" is a contest in which dwarfs don harnesses and allow bar patrons to hurl them through the air onto mattresses.

Florida banned it in 1989 amid intense lobbying from the advocacy group Little People of America, which said the contests were demeaning and encouraged people to treat dwarfs as objects. Bars that allow the contests can be stripped of their liquor licenses.

Insurance scam turns horror tale

An Italian man is accused of killing his cousin with a chainsaw in a \$460,000 (about N59,800,000) insurance scam that went horribly wrong.

Justice sources said on Friday the body of 23-year-old Andreas Plack was discovered on Wednesday in a pool of blood in his home town in the far north of Italy.

They said his 29-year old cousin, Christian Kleon, insisted the death was an accident.

The sources said Kleon said that Plack wanted to cash in on a generous insurance policy and had persuaded him to cut open his leg with a chainsaw. To make it look like a crime, Kleon then fled the scene and threw the chainsaw into a nearby river.

Plack, a part-time bouncer who wanted to become a private detective, was a first aid expert and the pair believed he would be able to stem the bleeding before calling for help.

But the cut was too deep and when he phoned for an ambulance his voice was so distorted by pain operators could not understand where he was.

Twenty die in fresh Kashmir violence

Twenty people including 14 militants have been killed and 42 wounded in fresh separatist violence in India's revolt-racked Jammu and Kashmir state, security officials said on Saturday.

At least 42 people were wounded on Saturday when suspected separatist guerrillas lobbed a grenade into a crowded market place at Bandipur, 37 miles north of Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir.

"Militants lobbed a grenade at a police patrol in a crowded marketplace in Bandipur. The grenade missed the target and exploded on the road wounding 42 people including three policemen," a police spokesman told *Reuters*.

No group has yet claimed responsibility.

Later on Saturday an Indian army unit shot dead six rebels in a fierce gun battle in Kupwara district northwest

of Srinagar, an army spokeswoman said.

In another incident on Friday evening, six members of a village protection group were killed by suspected Muslim rebels near the district of Udampur, 41 miles east of Jammu, the state's winter capital.

Elsewhere, Indian security forces shot dead eight guerrillas in separate gun battles across the restive region.

India which controls 45 percent of Kashmir blames Pakistan for the violence and accuses it of training and arming separatists. Islamabad, which denies the charge but says it gives them moral and diplomatic support, rules over third of the territory.

Indian paramilitary forces said on Saturday they have geared up across the disputed border to prevent militants waiting in Pakistani Kashmir to infiltrate.



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Econet Shop P/Harcourt: 171, Aba Road, Port-Harcourt. Tel: 8022228088, 8022226017.	Technocell Ltd: Virgo Block, Eleganza Plaza, 1, Commercial Road, Apapa. Tel: 090505659, 8022900701.	Econet Shop Abuja: Suite 7, AP Filling Station Opposite NICON HILTON Hotel, Abuja. Tel: 8022226006	Nextage Comm: Oyinloja Shopping Complex, 4th Avenue Festac Town.	Level 2 Investments Ltd: Lafayette Plaza Sanusi Fafunwa. Tel: 8022900745.
Swap Associates: 7 Oyin Jolayemi Street, Victoria Island. Tel: 802312082934.	World Connect: 17, Ahmed Onibudo Street Victoria Island. Tel: 8023135323.	Sola Badmus & Co: Water Front Plaza, Plot 0 First Avenue, Festac. Tel: 8022233931	Jossy Nig Ltd: 235, Herbeth Macaulay Street, Yaba. Tel: 8022237173.	Sequra Group: 18B, Cooper Road, Ikoyi. Tel: 08023145647.

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# BUSINESS DAY

## CBN warns banks against insider-related credits

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has revealed that its investigation with Nigeria Deposit Insurance Corporation (NDIC) shows that banks involved in insider-related credit facilities are on the rise, even as many of such loans have been classified as either doubtful or lost.

It has, therefore, threatened to suspend or sack Managing Directors/Chief Executive Officers or other officials of banks found wanting in the area of granting unsecured loans beyond the stipulated calling by CBN.

CBN's Director of Banking Supervision, O. I. Imala, who disclosed this in a statement, warned that it is was such insider-related loans that were responsible

From Bright Ewulu, in Lagos

for the bank distress witnessed in the early 1990s.

According to the statement, this is necessary "in order to stem the incidence of uncollectible delinquent loans arising from the unsecured credit facilities granted to directors and key shareholders of the banks, and the attendant negative impact on the financial health of such banks.

Imala directed all banks to henceforth, before granting any advance, loan or credit facility to a director or shareholder ensure that a blank shares transfer form must be signed by the director concerned transferring his shareholding to the bank concerned.

It stated that for banks with non-performing insider funds, a restriction will be imposed on the bank's further lending activities until a substantial part of the non-performing facilities have been recovered from the affected director(s).

The new directive, is not only for directors of banks, according to the statement. Compliance officer of any bank that submits falsified returns will be sanctioned. This sanction, it said, will include outright removal or suspension.

Also, the statement stated that henceforth, directors who have non-performing credits are disqualified from dividend payments, saying that before taking credits, banks must obtain from the directors a

written note duly signed by him allowing the bank to use dividends due to him to defray any delinquent facility obtained by him and/or his related interests.

The statement warned

### ...clarifies position on banks' board membership

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has further clarified its circular issued last December barring public office holders from directorship of banks, saying that such officers representing government are allowed to serve in the stated capacity.

With this clarification by the apex bank public officers of the three tiers of government, federal state, and local governments, in boards of banks and other

also that banks that fail to tender their quarterly OBR 1650 returns on insider related credits granted to its directors and key shareholders would be penalised by the apex bank.

According to it, "in this regards, the provision of section 25 (3) of BOFID, for a fine of N25,000 for each day for which the returns submission is delayed, will be applied."

financial institutions officially will be exempted when CBN's hammer falls on their colleagues.

The CBN made this known in a statement signed by D. I. Imala, Director of Banking Supervision, saying its position is that appointment of public officers by the three tiers of government to represent their interests in boards of banks is considered an extension of their official duties.

It would be recalled that the issuance of the circular by the CBN, generated alot of controversies.

Some public officers who fell the policy was not in their favour have even threatened to challenged the matter in court as they contend that being in public

service has nothing to do with their membership of boards of financial institutions.

According to Imala, his clarification stemmed from the inquiries that the apex bank has been receiving on the circular.

He affirmed, therefore, that the provision of the circular does not apply to such public officers and individuals who are appointed to serve as part time board members in government parastatals and who are not entitled to salaries.

Recently, the CBN Governor, Dr. Joseph Sanusi maintained that the new policy is in overall interest of the Nigerian nation. He stated that it would help to maintain sanity in the financial system.



Joseph Sanusi, CBN Governor.

## Gombe budgets N18bn

The Gombe State government has proposed to spend N18.2 billion for the fiscal year 2002, which is about N4.5 billion above the N13.4 billion budgeted for this year.

Presenting the budget on the floor of the State Assembly, Governor Abubakar Habu Hashidu of the state said the budget is made up of a recurrent expenditure of N6,803,847,437.14 and capital expenditure of

From Abdullahi Dutse, in Gombe

N11,406,454,702.00.

The budget, which, is tagged "budget of fulfilment" showed that the education accorded top priority in the sectoral analysis with an allocation of N673 million.

This is followed by health, with N545,300,000, while rural development and agricultural sectors have allocations of N368.2 million and N240 million respectively.

Other allocations contained in the budget include information and sports with N85 million, housing N135 million, sewage and drainage and erosion control would also gulp N205 million, while general administration, poverty alleviation and the state assembly would get N2.4 billion, N250 million and N454 million respectively.

Governor Hashidu explained that the budget will be characterised by the completion of all on-going projects and the gearing up of internal revenue generation to reduce over dependence on statutory allocation and improve the viability of Gombe as a state.

He pledged that his administration would sustain transparency and accountability in the conduct of government business and fiscal discipline in public spending in order to maximise benefits accruing to the state from its resources.

Alhaji Abubakar Hashidu however called on members of the legislature to

be mindful of governments purse during their deliberations on the proposed appropriation bill and ensure a practically applicable document.

## Two bank staff arraigned over fraud

Two former staff of the Peoples-Community Bank, Terminus branch, Jos, have been arraigned before the Grade One Area Court, Nasarawa Gwong, Jos, for defrauding the bank of the sum of N698,300.04.

While the first accused, Heleen Yilse was charged with the theft of about N241,300, the second accused person, Cecelia Samson was equally charged for the theft of N457,000 respectively.

According to the police first information report (FIR), one Mrs. Olawuyi Yemisi had on October 18, 2001 at Nasarawa Police Station reported that one of her staff, Heleen Yilse had stolen the sum of N244,300 from the bank.

She said that the accused took the money without the knowledge of the bank authority after forging the management's signature contrary to section 288 of the panel code.

The police first

From Buhari Bello, in Jos

information report further added that on October 4, 2001, at about 13 hours, one Adekunle Oguntade had reported to the same police station that the second accused person, Cecilia Samson allegedly stole the sum of N457,000 from the bank.

According to the police, the sum of N248,860 was recovered from Cecilia Samson of Hawolshe village.



Adamu Ciroma, Finance Minister



## CBN RATIONALISED STAFF REVIEW COMMITTEE

### PRESS RELEASE

THIS IS TO INFORM ALL CBN RATIONALISED STAFF WHO HAD INDICATED KANO AS THEIR CENTRE, THAT THE RATIONAALISED STAFF REVIEW COMMITTEE WILL COMMENCE HEARING AT KANO ON TEUSDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2001. VENUE OF THE HEARINGS IS THE KANO BRANCH OF THE CBN. HEARINGS TO COMMENCE AT 9.00 A.M. EACH DAY

SIGNED  
Y.M. SANUSI  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR  
SECRETARY TO THE COMMITTEE

# BUSINESS DAY

## NUR urges NASS to revoke N50bn railway contract

The Nigeria Union of Railwaymen (NUR) has urged members of the National Assembly to revoke the N50 billion pact between Nigeria and a China-based company, China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC), without further delay.

The union threatened a protest match, should the assembly fail to act promptly.

In a letter to the Chairman, Senate Committee on Construction Corporation Rehabilitation and Revitalising the Nigeria Railways, the union expressed dismay that CCECC was still asking for a balance of N4 billion after being paid N40 billion without any contract

From Samson Ojo, in Lagos

agreement signed. The letter, signed by the union's Acting Secretary General, Comrade J. T. Gadzama, alleged that the



Ojo Maduekwe, Transport Minister.

track rehabilitation carried out by the firm was shoddy and maintenance was poorly carried out.

While arguing that the CCECC request of the balance of N4 billion be stopped, the NUR further stated that "out of 50 locomotives expected to be supplied by the company, only 45 are so far supplied

and out of the 45, hardly do we have up to 10 in serviceable condition."

Among other reasons, the union explained that out of 100 guards van expected to be supplied by the China-based company only two have so far been supplied.

The letter argued that the bilateral pact was reached without the consent of any

railway representative. While the leadership and supervision of the past was placed under the ministry at transport.

The union explained that based on this ground this clearly shows that it was only a pact and no contract agreement as reached between both countries.

The NUR therefore

called upon the transport committee chairman to call for a re-assessment of the job, investigate the workability of the locomotive and also to find out if the expected goal is achieved and what were the activities carried out vide the objectives, project and programme of the pact to achieve the desired goal.

## ...as NRC management averts proposed strike

Workers of the Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) suspended a strike slated to begin on Thursday after he management began partial payment of their salary arrears for four months.

"The exercise started Thursday with payment of

two months arrears of salaries of junior staff in all the seven districts nationwide and that of senior staff will commence immediately after," Mr. David Ndakotsu, Assistant Director, Public Relations, told newsmen at the weekend.

Ndakotsu explained that

the management was able to raise funds internally to pay the arrears, stressing that "nobody is interested in denying anybody their entitlements." The corporation needs N190 million monthly to pay salaries.

Some of the staffers thronged the railway branch of Union Bank of Nigeria Plc to collect their salaries.

In a related development the management of the corporation on Friday began screening its pensioners preparatory to the payment of their pension arrears for three of the outstanding 15 months.

Many of the pensioners turned out for he exercise which took place at he Lagos division of the corporation.

Commenting on the development, Ndakotsu said that following the verification exercise to determine the corporation's pensioners, the federal government released N500 million to clear some of the arrears.

According to him, the pensioners will be paid the three months arrears at the end of the exercise, while modalities have been put in place to ensure that they are screened and paid at locations close to where they reside.

## Kano to curb industrial pollution

Kano State government has signed an agreement with secondary treatment plants for industries in the state to curb environmental pollution.

The commissioner for Environment, Alhaji Ibrahim Dan'Azumi Gwarzo, who disclosed this to newsmen during an inspection visit to some industries in the state, said the government would also dredge, the Jakara stream.

Alhaji Dan'Azumi stated that the visit is to ensure that industries operating in the state are strictly adhering to environmental guide lines, especially the establishment of a primary treatment plant.

He said that this has become necessary in view of the health problems emanating from indiscriminate discharge of polluted water into the main stream.

The commissioner observed that the cholera outbreak in the state is devastating, hence the need for industries to have a primary treatment plant to ensure that the water discharged can be relatively safe.

Adding that "even if the water is not hundred per cent safe the chemical reaction and the level of toxicity should be lessened."

According to him, farmers use the water for irrigation purposes while animals also drink it. Government is therefore concerned about the health hazards that this could cause.

He commended the management of Mario Jose Enterprises Limited, a Tannery, Coca Cola Nigeria Bottling Co. Plc and Fan for providing employment for the people in the area.

The commissioner who

From Jamilah Nuhu Musa, in Kano

disclosed that about 10 million naira has been collected as polluter pay charges expressed dismay

## \*Establishes secondary treatment plant

that most industries have not been paying regularly.

Meanwhile the Fan Milk Industry has been given two

month within which to operationalise its primary terminate plant or face closer of the company.



## THE PRESIDENCY

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6. Local Govt. Chairmen and elected Councillors
7. Other stakeholders.

Your views might make the difference. Attendance is mandatory.

# BUSINESS DAY

## Nigerian Stock Dealings (NSE) Price List as at Friday (30/11/2001)

COMPANY	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	CHANGE	DEALS	VOLUME	VALUE
7UP	4.91	4.92	0.01	17	139,037	683,967.04
AFRIBANK	8.70	8.56	0.14	37	643,317	5,495,561.18
AFROIL	0.26	0.26	0.00	2	11,600	3,016.00
AGIP	35.28	36.66	1.38	37	219,994	8,029,459.72
AGLEVENT	1.20	1.20	0.00	7	120,000	144,000.00
AIICO	2.93	2.93	0.00	4	21,000	61,530.00
ALUMACO	0.85	0.84	0.01	2	1,353,487	1,136,929.08
AMICABLE	0.70	0.67	0.03	3	5,000	3,350.00
AP	19.34	19.34	0.00	23	85,730	1,658,018.20
ASHAKACEM	26.25	25.49	0.76	21	43,880	1,098,523.56
AVONCROWN	0.87	0.87	0.00	1	2,343	2,038.41
BATA	0.36	0.37	0.01	2	820	303.40
BERGER	2.63	2.52	0.11	9	21,392	54,255.34
C&ILEASING	1.36	1.30	0.06	4	96,616	126,109.00
CADBURY	33.98	35.66	1.68	114	869,558	29,657,336.08
CAP	3.26	3.28	0.02	5	3,882	12,715.32
CAALBETO	8.10	8.10	0.00	1	800	6,480.00
CCNN	3.07	3.07	0.00	1	100	307.00
CFAO	3.00	3.05	0.05	11	198,642	598,311.25
CHARTERED	4.35	4.35	0.00	9	34,168,166	148,631,522.10
CMB	0.96	0.96	0.00	4	31,000	29,760.00
COOPBANK	1.91	1.91	0.00	7	17,200	32,852.00
CORNERST	1.60	1.60	0.00	7	62,281	99,649.60
COSTAIN	0.86	0.86	0.00	2	742	638.12
CRUSADER	2.70	2.70	0.00	2	3,606	9,736.20
DNMEYER	10.95	10.50	0.45	3	5,646	61,533.00
DTIMES	0.62	0.62	0.00	1	148	91.76
DUNLOP	3.60	3.50	0.10	19	110,300	390,080.00
EKOBANK	2.49	2.48	0.01	23	867,620	2,089,731.80
ETERNAOIL	1.37	1.35	0.02	8	56,866	77,876.42
FIRSTALUM	1.73	1.73	0.00	4	54,000	93,420.00
FIRSTBANK	24.00	25.20	1.20	230	1,844,646	44,941,554,554.93
FLOURMIL	15.30	15.99	0.69	44	163,674	2,559,299.07
FSB	8.50	8.16	0.34	27	296,127	2,431,617.12
GCAPPA	4.56	4.58	0.02	3	11,760	55,825.80
GROMMAC	0.44	0.46	0.02	1	5,000	2,300.00
GUARANTY	6.55	6.55	0.00	52	336,810	2,214,572.90
GUINNESS	34.45	34.04	0.41	23	42,554	1,449,154.64
HALLBANK	4.10	4.30	0.20	1	100	430.00
IGL	5.50	5.50	0.00	18	15,444	84,942.00
IMB	1.13	1.18	0.05	10	40,120	46,516.60
INCAR	1.52	1.45	0.07	1	5,000	7,250.00
INLANDBANK	1.45	1.45	0.00	6	50,750	71,081.25
INTRAMOTOR	0.57	0.57	0.00	1	8,250	4,702.00
JBERGER	52.06	52.06	0.00	1	200	10,412.00
JOHNHOLT	2.38	2.30	0.08	1	600	1,380.00
LAWUNION	1.60	1.60	0.00	4	14,600	23,360.00
LENNARDS	0.29	0.29	0.00	1	400	116.00
LEVIBROS	27.30	27.10	0.20	57	177,396	4,835,322.00
LIONBANK	1.35	1.35	0.00	4	5,833	7,874.55
LIVESTOCK	3.45	3.45	0.00	5	12,000	41,400.00
LONGMAN	5.32	5.32	0.00	2	3,000	15,960.00
MANNYBANK	1.38	1.38	0.00	1	3,000	4,140.00
MAY&BAKER	2.60	2.66	0.06	2	2,000	5,852.00
MOBIL	65.00	64.00	1.00	19	9,901	638,693.60
NAL	3.90	3.85	0.05	28	308,450	1,171,399.48
NB	10	35.03	1.07	40	144,534	5,104,568.00
NBC	27.50	27.50	0.40	54	121,724	3,292,325.02
NCR	2.07	2.07	0.00	1	200	414.00
NESTLE	62.50	60.95	1.55	12	18,331	1,119,181.35
NIG-GERMAN	3.00	3.00	0.00	2	2,900	8,700.00
NIGERCHEM	0.54	0.54	0.00	2	1,200	648.00
NIWICABLE	2.17	2.17	0.00	9	29,260	63,494.20
NNFM	9.50	9.50	0.00	1	150	1,425.00
NOLCHEM	30.00	29.00	1.00	22	7,750	227,311.17
OKITIPUPA	0.69	0.68	0.01	1	1,000	680.00
OKOMUOIL	9.45	9.5	0.00	2	160	1,512.00
OWENABANK	2.30	2.30	0.00	11	437,015	1,029,935.35
PREMBREW	1.09	1.13	0.04	1	7,000	7,710.00
PRESTIGE	2.28	2.22	0.06	5	48,125	99,297.00
PZ	10.76	10.77	0.01	47	292,450	3,189,796.58
ROADS	1.08	1.03	0.05	1	1	1.03
ROYALEX	4.78	4.78	0.23	4	8,752	43,847.52
RTBRISCOE	3.90	3.90	0.00	21	1,250	4,875.00
SAVANNA	1.11	1.06	0.05	20	262,401	282,583.37
SCOA	2.79	2.78	0.01	3	903,466	2,511,635.49
SKBEECHAM	1.85	1.94	0.09	6	49,795	96,495.20
STUDPRESS	1.50	1.50	0.00	2	17,400	26,460.00
TEXACO	65.00	65.00	0.00	16	9,012	579,790.00
TOTAL	65.60	65.00	0.60	22	11,506	749,791.00
TRADEBANK	1.25	1.25	0.00	2	2,450	3,062.50
TRIPLEG	1.08	1.08	0.00	3	27,728	29,946.24
TROPICPET	0.29	0.29	0.00	1	200	58.00
UAC-PROP	4.50	4.50	0.00	17	37,738	168,271.00
UACN	3.51	3.51	0.00	59	246,048	876,549.18
UBA	11.89	11.99	0.10	68	380,583	4,482,498.60
UBN	24.91	24.91	0.00	44	450,093	11,211,816.63
UNIC	1.75	1.83	0.08	15	88,352	161,684.6
UNIDONDCON	20.73	20.73	0.00	13	17,700	350,614.55
UNIPETROL	53.00	54.00	1.00	27	18,238	967,375.00
UNTL	4.00	4.00	0.00	4	34,451	137,724.00
UPL	3.28	3.28	0.00	4	24,116	79,500.48
UTB	3.21	3.14	0.07	12	254,035	813,789.95
VITAFOAM	0.99	0.99	0.00	5	304,710	301,662.90
VONO	4.40	4.20	0.20	37	235,345	1,006,141.05
WAGLASS	1.57	1.64	0.07	2	510	801.40
WAPCO	0.42	0.42	0.00	2	3,000	1,260.00
WAPIC	24.00	22.80	1.20	28	101,662	2,329,137.32
WEMABANK	2.00	2.01	0.01	2	6,738	13,536.00
WTN	3.64	3.66	0.02	51	498,772	1,833,521.27
TOTAL	1.44	1.40	0.04	1	2,370	3,318.00
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>1,634</b>	<b>47,683,029</b>	<b>304,139,202.53</b>

## Nigerian Stock Dealings (NSE) Gainers/Losers as at Friday (30/11/2001)

Gainers			
COMPANY	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	CHANGE
CADBURY	33.98	35.66	1.68
AGIP	35.28	36.66	1.38
FIRSTABANK	24.00	25.20	1.20
UNIPETROL	3.00	54.00	1.00
FLOURMILL	15.30	15.99	0.69
NBC	27.10	27.50	0.40
ROYALEX	4.78	5.01	0.23
HALLBANK	4.10	4.30	0.20
UBA	11.89	11.99	0.10
SKBEECHAM	1.85	1.94	0.09
UNIC	1.75	1.83	0.08
VONO	1.57	1.64	0.07
MAY&BAKER	2.60	2.66	0.06
IMB	1.13	1.18	0.05
CFAO	3.00	3.05	0.05
PREMBREW	1.09	1.13	0.04
GROMMAC	0.44	0.46	0.02
CAP	3.26	3.28	0.02
WEMABANK	3.64	3.66	0.02
GCAPPA	4.56	4.58	0.02
WAPIC	2.00	2.01	0.01
7UP	4.91	4.92	0.01
PZ	10.75	10.77	0.01
BATA	0.36	0.37	0.01

Losers			
COMPANY	OPENING PRICE	CLOSING PRICE	CHANGE
NESTLE	62.50	60.95	1.55
WAPCO	24.00	22.80	1.20
NB	36.10	35.03	1.07
MOBIL	65.00	64.00	1.00
NOLCHEM	30.00	29.00	1.00
ASHAKACEM	26.25	25.49	0.76
DNMEYER	10.95	10.50	0.45
GUINNESS	34.45	34.04	0.41
FSB	8.50	8.16	0.34
VITAFOAM	4.40	4.20	0.20
AFRIBANK	8.70	8.56	0.14
BERGER	2.63	2.52	0.11
DUNLOP	3.60	3.50	0.10
JOHNHOLT	2.38	2.30	0.08
INCAR	1.52	1.45	0.07
UTB	3.21	3.14	0.07
PRSTIGE	2.28	2.22	0.06
C&ILEASING	1.36	1.30	0.06
NAL	3.90	3.85	0.05
SAVANNA	1.11	1.06	0.05
ROADS	1.08	1.03	0.05
WTN	1.44	1.40	0.04
AMICABLE	0.70	0.67	0.03
ETERNAOIL	1.37	1.35	0.02
OKITIPUPA	0.69	0.68	0.01

### Summary of Transactions

	OPENING	CLOSING	% AGE CHANGE	
MKT. CAP	661,608,669,560.94	660,661,448,113.82	-0.14	
INDEX	11,185.58	11,169.57	-0.14	
DEALS	VOLUME	VOLUME	No. OF COMPANIES	
	1,634	47,683,029	304,139,202.53	101

Source: NSE, Abuja Area Office

## Cadbury led gainers at NSE on Friday

Trading reports collected from Abuja Area Office of the Nigerian Stock Exchange indicated that a total of 47.68 million shares valued at N304.14 million in 1,634 deals were traded on the floors of the Nigerian Stock Exchange.

There were no transactions in the Industrial Loans/Preference Stocks sector and the Federal Government Development stocks sector.

### Price Movement:

The Nigerian Stock Exchange All-Share Index closed yesterday at 11,169.57 a decrease of 0.14 percent. The index opened at 11,185.58, while the market capitalisation closed at N660.66 billion, a decrease of 0.14 percent, it opened at N661.61 billion.

The bears led on the floor with a total of 25 companies losing and 24 companies gaining in their share prices.

Gains were recorded in the Food/Beverages & Tobacco, Petroleum Marketing, Banking, Chemical and Paint, Healthcare, Insurance, Industrial/Domestic Products, Conglomerates, Breweries Agriculture, Construction and the Footwear sub sectors.

Cadbury Plc led the price gainers, as it appreciated by 168 kobo to close the day at N35.66 per share, followed by Agip Plc, which appreciated by 138 kobo to close at N36.66 per share.

Other price gainers include Firstbank (120 kobo); Unipetrol (100 kobo); Flourmill (69 kobo); NBC (40 kobo); Royalex (23 kobo); Hallbank 20 kobo); UBA (10 kobo); SKBeecham (9 kobo); Unic (8 kobo); Vono (7 kobo); May&Baker (6 kobo); IMB and CFAO (5 kobo).

Losses were recorded in the Food/Beverages & Tobacco, Building Materials, Breweries, Petroleum Marketing, Chemical & paints, Banking, Industrial/Domestic Products, Automobile & Tyre, Conglomerates, Insurance, Managed Funds, Construction, Computer & Office Equipment and eh Agriculture sub sectors.

Nestle Plc led the price losers, dropping by 155 kobo to close at N60.95 per share, followed by WAPCO which lost 120 kobo to close at N22.80 per share.

Other price losers include NB (107 kobo); Mobil and Nochem (100 kobo apiece); Ashakacem (76 kobo); (60 kobo); DN Meyer (45 kobo); Guinness (41 kobo); FSB (34 kobo); Vitafoam (20 kobo); Africbank (14 kobo); Berger (11 kobo); Dunlop (10 kobo); Johnholt (8 kobo); Incar and UTB (7 kobo apiece).

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- **2nd draw-3rd January 2002.**
- **3rd draw-17th January, 2002.**
- **4th draw-1st February, 2002.**

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NEWS

# Gombe creates 210 new districts

Governor Abubakar Habu Hashidu of Gombe State has approved the creation of 210 new districts in the state, with Gombe Emirate and Kaltungo Chiefdom having the highest number of 24



Gov. Abubakar Hashidu

**From Abdullahi Dutse, in Gombe**

Similarly, the governor has approved the reconstitution of emirate and traditional councils with two permanent and three part-time members for the 15 emirates and chiefdoms in the state.

A statement from the office of the Secretary to the State Government and signed by the Permanent Secretary, Political and Special Services, Dr. Babayo Ardo, indicated that Dukku and Funa-Kaye emirates have 20 and 19 districts respectively, Tangale and Waja chiefdoms have 18 and 16 districts respectively, while Jara emirate and Daduja chiefdom have the least districts with six apiece.

# Unity schools committee seeks more time

The committee set up by the Federal Government to investigate the admission irregularities into Unity Schools has revealed that over 3,079 candidates had discrepancies in their admissions even as it has sought for more time to complete its work.

**By Ikenna Emeka Okpani**

He warned that "the ministry would deal ruthlessly with anyone found to have been involved in the admission irregularities in line with this administrations' policy of transparency."

Presenting the interim report of the committee to the Minister of Education, Prof. Babalola Borisade, in Abuja, the chairman of the committee and chief executive of National Examination Council, Prof. Dibu Ojerinde, disclosed that some candidates were admitted with other candidates' numbers, leaving out the actual candidates that merited the admissions.

He categorised them as "circumstantial candidates", adding that "the committee has categorised candidates into eligible, non-eligible and circumstantially eligible candidates."

According to Prof. Ojerinde, some of the candidates whose examinations numbers were used to admit wrong candidates have not been informed, adding that the committee was yet to decide on what to do with such candidates.

He revealed that out of 73 schools involved, only seven were cleared of any irregularities.

Prof Borisade gave more time to the committee to round-off its work and regretted that those involved in the irregularities were those who should have prevented the occurrence of

The statement added, however, that the creation of new districts and the reconstitution of emirates and traditional councils do not include Tula, as that would be announced at a later date.

It would be recalled that last year, Governor Hashidu approved the creation and upgrading of 15 emirates and chiefdoms in the state.

Already, the Chief of Kaltungo, the emirs of Dukku, Deba, Pindiga, Yamaltu and Jara have been given their staffs of office in their respective domains by the state governor.

# Justice Ministry appeals against court ruling on Faseun, Adams

The Federal Ministry of Justice has appealed against the ruling of a Federal High Court, Lagos, presided over by Justice Dan Abutu discharging the factional leaders of the Oodua Peoples Congress (OPC), Dr. Fredrick Fasheun and Ganiyu Adams.

Ganiyu Adams, Dr. Fasheun and nine others were charged before Justice Abutu on allegations of being members of an illegal organisation, possession of arms without licence and

The Sharia Court of Appeal in Sokoto has ordered for the stay of execution on the death sentence passed on the Sokoto adulteress, Malama Safiya Husseini of Tungartudu village of Gwadabawa local government area by the Upper Sharia Court.

The Court of Appeal, headed by the state Acting Grand Khadi, Muhammed Bello Silame, and three other Khadis, made up of Muhammadu Bello Rabah, Abdulkadir Saidu Tamuwal and Mainasara Aliyu Sifawa, after reviewing the case, ordered the stay of execution until the determination of Safiya's appeal.

Speaking to the press at

**From Bangboye Adelanwa, in Lagos**

While ruling on a motion on notice filed by lawyers to the accused challenging the jurisdiction of the Federal High Court to try such offences, Justice Dan Abutu on November 15<sup>th</sup> 2001, held that the Federal High Court has no jurisdiction to entertain counts 2-7 of the charge No. FHC/L/246/2001 preferred by the Federal Government against the accused persons.

In the appeal filed by Mrs J.I. Iornumbe, a Principal Legal Officer in the Justice Ministry, the appellant submitted that the judge erred in law when he ruled that the State High Court was the appropriate court to try the case and went ahead to discharge the accused persons instead of transferring the case forthwith to the court of competent jurisdiction.

# Selfish interests characterise our democracy - lawmaker

**From Abdul Laro, in Ilorin**

He advised the political class to be conscious of public good instead of their personal benefits "as the task of national rebirth entails selfless, committed and patriotic service to the fatherland."

Speaking with newsmen at the House after that day's sitting, Hon. Bagudu cautioned that the controversy generated by the Electoral Bill was capable of derailing the nascent democracy.

With the bill now in the law court, the lawmaker hoped that the judiciary, as an impartial arbiter, "would be able to give the correct interpretation on the controversial issue which has virtually torn the national and state assemblies apart."

Alhaji Bagudu frowned at the creation of state electoral commissions saying it was not in the country's interest to have multiple electoral bodies. "The time is not

# Romania opens consulate in Port Harcourt

**From Wisdom Patrick, in Port Harcourt**

The Romanian government has opened a Consulate in Port Harcourt, the Rivers State capital with former Nigerian Ambassador to Equatorial Guinea, Retired Admiral Festus Porbeni, as the Honorary Consul.

Announcing this in Port Harcourt during a courtesy call on Governor Peter Odili, the Romanian Ambassador to Nigeria, Dr. Gheorghe Dumitru, said the opening of the Romanian Consulate in Port Harcourt was in recognition of the position of the state as a major player in Nigeria's economy.

He noted that the

economic contribution of the state to the nation in the hydro-carbon industry, entrepreneurial development and overall growth of the state has made "Rivers State a must for every diplomat in Nigeria to want to identify with."

Dr. Dumitru observed that Nigeria has a great future and described the bi-literal relationship existing between Romania and Nigeria as cordial and commended President Obasanjo for the recently held joint economic summit between Nigeria and Romania in Abuja.

# Stoning of adulteress: Court orders stay of execution

**From Abdulsalami Abdulfatai, in Sokoto**

uphold a sentence until an appeal was heard. He said the judgement of the Upper Sharia Court Gwadabawa was therefore, put on hold pending the outcome of the appeal before the court.

He said the judgement of the Upper Sharia Court Gwadabawa was therefore, put on hold pending the outcome of the appeal before the court.

## Ramadan 18 1422H (Mon 3 Dec, 2001)

P.M. Ishai	P.M. Magrib	P.M. Asar	P.M. Zuhur	A.M. Fatar-rana	A.M. Alfijir
7.00,	6.06,	3.29	12.24,	6.33,	5.19

The above represents the earliest times of the daily obligatory prayer for Kaduna. Below are the times variations in-respect of named towns. Zuhur variations can serve for Asar prayer while those in respect of Magrib could do well for Ishai.

TOWNS	المغرب Magrib Minutes	الظهور Zuhur Minutes	الانقراض Alfijir Minutes
Aba	+9	0	-9
Abakaliki	+10	+3	-4
Abeokuta	+23	+17	+11
Abuja	+4	+1	-1
Akure	+14	+9	+4
Argungu	+7	+11	+15
Ankpa	+4	-1	-6
Auchi	+11	+5	-1
Azare	-13	-11	-9
Bama	-27	-25	-23
Bauchi	-9	-9	-9
Benin	+15	+8	+1
Bichi	-6	-3	0
Bida	+9	+6	+4
Birnin Kebbi	+10	+13	+16
Biu	-19	-19	-19
Calabar	+6	-3	-12
Damaturu	-21	-18	-16
Daura	-8	-4	0
Dutse	-10	-7	-5
Enugu	+7	0	-7
Funtua	-1	+1	+2
Gombe	-15	-15	-15
Gumi	+6	+9	+11
Gusau	-1	+2	+4
Gwadabawa	+4	+9	+13
Hadejia	-13	-10	-7
ibadart	+19	+14	+9
Ife	+17	+12	+7
Ilorin	+15	+12	+9
Jalingo	-13	-16	-18
Jere	+1	-1	-2
Jos	-5	-6	-7
Kafanchan	-1	-3	-5
Kalama	+15	+13	+12
Kafin Maiyaki	-6	-3	-1
Kano	-7	-4	-2
Katsina	-4	0	+4
Kontogora	+8	+8	+8
Lafiya	-2	-5	-8
Lagos	+23	+16	+9
Lokoja	+7	+3	-1
Maiduguri	-26	-23	-21
Makurdi	+1	-4	-9
Minna	+6	+4	+2
Misau	-15	-13	-12
Mubi	-24	-24	-24
Nguru	-16	-12	-8
Okene	+10	+5	0
Ogbomoso	+17	+13	+9
Onitsha	+11	+3	-5
Oyo	+18	+14	+10
Port Harcourt	+11	+2	-7
Potiskum	-17	-15	-13
Segamu	+21	+15	+9
Saki	+19	+16	+13
Sokoto	+5	+9	+13
Umuahia	+8	0	-9
Wukari	-5	-9	-13
Wurno	+3	+8	+12
Warri	+16	+7	-2
Yola	-18	-20	-22
Zaria	-2	-1	0
Cotonou - Benin	+27	+20	+13
Ndjamena - Chad	-33	-30	-28
Niamey - Niger	+16	+21	+25
Zinder - Niger	-12	-6	-1
Yaounde - Cameroun	-5	-16	-26

NEWS

**Briefs Lagos**

Former Vice-President of United States of America, Mr. Albert Gore arrived the country at the weekend saying he is delighted to be in Nigeria

The former U.S number two man was in the country to deliver a key note address at the Annual Emmanuel Anyiam-Osigwe Foundation on a lecture entitled "Women As the salt of the Earth- An Improved Understanding of Womanhood."

**Abuja**

The National Assembly is to put in place constitutional arrangements which will enhance and guarantee the continued co-existence of the country as an indivisible and multi-ethnic democracy.

The Senate President, Senator Pius Anyim, made this indication at a lecture entitled "The Multi-Ethnic Nationalities of Nigeria and the Problem of Governance organised by the National Institute for Cultural Orientation (NICO) at the National Assembly complex at the weekend.

**Calabar**

Atam people in Cross River State have criticised the government of the State over the neglect of the area in its spread of developmental projects.

In a statement made available to *Daily Trust* after the Atam Congress in Abuja, the organisation said the people decided to form the congress to articulate their position on matters of common interest.

"This is a step towards re-uniting our people to enable us take our rightful place in the political and economic scheme of things in our state. The statement was signed by Barrister Tanko Ashang, Acting Secretary and one Chris Agara.

**Lokoja**

The Kogi State Capital was awake last week with a scorching news of the men of the underworld moving their nefarious activities to the Barracks of zone 8 police headquarters where they had a field day carting away property and money from the men and officers residing in the barracks.

The report on the attack on the zone 8 police Barracks came on the heels of Kogi State police command parading some hoodlums which they claimed were involved in robbery in parts of the state.

The report further shows that the robbery incident brought to fore the siege on Lokoja town which has brought fear and near pandemonium to people occupying government quarters forming vigilante group toward off the attack by the gangsters

**Governor Kachalla denies death of protesters**

Governor Mala Kachalla of Borno State has denied reports that some Borno State workers were killed two weeks ago by armed policemen during the workers strike.

The governor, who was a guest at Kaduna State Council of the Nigeria Union of



Gov. Kachalla

Journalists, told newsmen that the reports he received were that some of the demonstrators had tried to disarm the policemen deployed to maintain law and order during the protest.

"But I want to assure you that nobody was killed. Everybody is alive and those injured are receiving treatment in various hospitals."

He described the strike as

From Ibrahim Dan Halilu, in Kaduna

"unfortunate," pointing out that "though workers are free to demand improvement of their welfare, I believe such matters are better pursued through dialogue rather than confrontation."

Reviewing the achievements of his administration in the last 30 months, Governor Kachalla stated that regardless of what the detractors of his government, might say, "we have done a lot in the areas of education, healthcare, agriculture and rural development."

He disclosed that the state government has improved the enrolment figure of the state's primary schools, just as it has reboarded 36 post-primary schools in its effort to raise the standard of education and students performance.

Governor Kachalla further said the state government has released N200 million for the purchase of raw materials for the revived fertilizer blending plant which was dormant for years, even as farmers in the state were supplied with adequate fertilizer in the last farming season at a subsidized price of N500 per bag.

Still on agricultural development, the governor revealed that the almost empty

fleet of the state's tractor hiring service was boosted with 130 new tractors since he assumed office.

Responding to questions on the unending water scarcity in Maiduguri metropolis, the governor explained that contract for the water treatment plant has been awarded to a German company, which, when completed, would provide 80 per cent of the water needs of the people in the metropolis.

**Funds hinder take-off of adult literacy scheme**

The adult literacy aspect of the Universal Basic Education Programme (UBE) may not take-off in Cross River immediately as funds have been identified as a hinderance.

*Daily Trust* gathered that inadequate funds are delaying the decentralisation and effective take-off of tutorial courses.

A spokesman at the States Primary Education Board, Mr. Emmanuel E. Okon, stated at the weekend, that the fund-raising exercise planned by the different stakeholders in the project was foiled "by poor planning and indifference."

According to him, "some local government councils which are also stakeholders

The nurses strike, which was to begin today, has been converted to "conventional duty" until further notice following the intervention of Nigerian Nurses Elder's Forum led by Mrs. Titi Ajanaku, Special Assistant to President on Women Affairs.

Briefing the press in Abuja over the weekend, the National President of the National Association of Nigeria Nurses and Midwives, Chief Pat Enemobolu Eze, explained that conventional duty, "means that you are not to engage in any form of shift duty

**Elders intervene in nurses strike**

This, he said, would continue until government implements the payment of 60% of basic salary as shift duty allowance to nurses.

He stated, however, that nurses and midwives in all government hospitals where July 2001 salaries have not been paid have been directed to embark on full scale strikes.

The affected hospitals include: Usman Dan Fodio University Teaching Hospital (UDUTH), Sokoto; all hospitals owned by Kano State government and others.

Apart from the intervention of elders who pleaded to speak with President Obasanjo, Chief Eze explained that the conventional duty option was chosen in view of the vulnerability of people to accidents during Christmas and Ramadan festivities.

"The decision to commence conventional duty and not total industrial action is borne out of responsibility, maturity, empathy and our commitment to save lives during this Christmas/Ramadan period, which is highly vulnerable to fatal accidents," he said.

Furthermore, he stated that nurses and midwives in Jigawa and Kano States where there have been reported outbreaks of cholera are exempted from the conventional duty.

"Normal shift duty continues there till the situation is brought under control," Eze said.

The Federal Ministry of Health had signed an agreement with the nurses on July 27, 2001, terms of which the association claims government has reneged on.

From Bassey Ita, in Calabar

in the scheme, promised fabulous amounts for the take-off of the scheme but have not redeemed their pledges."

He maintained that the National Teachers Institute (NTI) has been contacted to begin fresher courses for teachers who will be drafted for the scheme once funding improves.

Additionally, students who spoke to *Daily Trust* in the Odupakpani Centre of Tutorial Classes identified the N2,000 to N2,500 charged as fees and course materials cost as another factor militating against the success of the scheme.



Prof. Borisade

**Global 2000 treats 4m river blindness patients**

Global 2000, an arm of the Jimmy Carter Foundation for Peace, Poverty Eradication and Disease Control, has treated over 4.2 million people suffering from river blindness in nine states of the federation since January this year.

The affected states, which are considered to have the highest cases of river blindness otherwise known as Onchocerciasis, are Plateau, Nasarawa, Imo, Anambra, Abia, Enugu, Ebonyi, Edo and Delta.

The Country Representative of Global 2000, Dr. Emmanuel Miri,

By Ahmad Shekarau Just back from Jos

who disclosed this in Jos said the foundation targets to treat another 400,000 river blindness patients before the end of this year.

Dr. Miri, told newsmen who were on facility visits to the Debt Conversion Programme (DCP) beneficiary companies, that the Global 2000 had treated about 4.5 million river blindness cases.

He said his organisation, which goes from village to village administering drugs in the affected areas, gets substantial part of its funds through the Debt Conversion Programme of the Federal Government.

So far, he said, the foundation has accessed about N99 million through the DCP between 1989 last year.

Dr. Miri commended the DCP, saying "that has assisted

us to do some of the programmes we are involved in Nigeria."

The DCP is an arrangement between a creditor and a debtor nation to exchange eligible foreign debt instruments at a discount into the debtor country's local currency for the execution of some specified programmes on the debtor nation.

**UBE co-ordinator hails Oyo SPEB**

National Co-ordinator of the Universal Basic Education (UBE) programmes, Professor Gidado Tahir, has described Oyo State government's attempt at uplifting primary education with the Child-Friendly Schools Initiative (CFSI) as "a programme worthy of emulation."

Prof. Tahir, who spoke with journalists in Ibadan shortly after his team's assessment tour of primary schools in the state, said he was satisfied with the level of primary school education in Oyo State.

The UBE co-ordinate said, "I have visited a number of states, I have seen a number of developments and the process of doing things here

From Yinka Oladoyinbo, in Ibadan

is methodical."

The child school friendly initiative is a programme which was introduced by the Oyo SPEB early this year in an attempt to make primary schools attractive and friendly to the pupils; It includes the provision of good classrooms, toilet facilities, potable water as well as health facilities in the school.

While hailing the CFSI, Prof. Tahir stressed: "I am satisfied with the innovative ideas, particularly the child-friendly school initiative introduced by the state SPEB, this is a new thing that is not very common."

Tahir, however, said with

the level of work done on the implementation of the UBE across the country, the programme would improve the standard of primary education and thereby, lay a solid foundation for the educational development of Nigeria.

Earlier, the Chairman of Oyo SPEB, Dr. Suleiman Adediran, had reiterated that the child-friendly school initiative was introduced to make the learning environment conducive to academic activities.

Dr. Adediran, however, enjoined state governments to earmark enough money for State Primary Education Boards to enable them meet their financial demands and contribute to the educational development of the country.

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Shinkafi, Zamfara State.

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# INSIDE POLITICS

## Gemade criticises PDP congresses

Chief Barnabas Gemade, the immediate past national chairman of the PDP has said that there were lots of problems with the last ward and local government congresses of the party nationwide.

Gemade told newsmen in Otuokpo at the weekend, that "as incumbent national chairman at the time, I knew that there were a lot of problems and disagreements within the party."

"I knew that there was a lot of work to be done to make sure that the congresses, especially at local council levels and above were reasonable because a lot of people were confused."

He declared: "You cannot believe that those congresses were the best."

Similarly, Mr. Ame Udo, chairman Apa local council on behalf of all the local government chairmen in Benue State at the ceremony to mark Gemade's home coming, complained that the

PDP congresses in Benue State were unacceptable to them and must be resisted.

A party elder from Benue South, Mr. Simon Adole representing zone "B", apart from asking for the Idoma's to be allowed to produce the next governor of the state, also asked for a re-run of the

party congresses in the state.

Another feature of the ceremony was the strong presence of APP led by Mr. Paul Unongo, who was cheered and described as the next governor of the state.

Gemade, however, would not comment on his relationship with the state governor, Chief George Akume, but preferred to say "I am his subject, I am home, he is my host."

## Awoniyi, Ume-Ezeoke, others may snub PDP

Moves by the Audu Ogbeh led People's Democratic Party to recall its members expelled when Engineer Barnabas Gemade held sway as party chairman might

By Reuben Yunana

be heading for the rocks.

Already, the United Nigeria Democratic Party (UNDP), where the expelled PDP chieftains have since found a new home, is mapping out strategies and reaching out for new members in anticipation of registration by the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC).

Indications are that former PDP board of trustees members like Sunday Awoniyi, Don Etiebet, Edwin Ume Ezeoke and Bamanga

## Gombe lawmakers cry out for phones

The Gombe State House of Assembly has made a passionate appeal to Governor Abubakar Habu Hashidu to provide it with telephone facilities for effective discharge of its functions.

Alhaji Usman Bayero, speaker of the State Assembly, who made the appeal while receiving the state's 2002

From Abdullahi Dutse, in Gombe  
Appropriation Bill from Governor Hashidu, said lack of communication facilities in the House of Assembly since its inception over two years ago has constrained the efficiency of the legislature.

He pointed out that the inability of the executive to provide the Assembly with tele-

phone services for the past two years, has hampered the optimum performance of the legislators, but warned that it would not allow the situation to continue beyond this year.

The speaker said the House expected that the issue would have been addressed in the budget proposal by Governor Hashidu,

adding however, that if it had not, then, the legislature will include it in the approved bill.

Speaking on the relationship between the legislature and the executive arms, Alhaji Bayero commended the state government for its policies and programmes over the last two years, which he said has positively transformed the state.



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TAO 502/S.672/1/128

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8A Udi Street,  
Off Aso Drive,  
Maitama - Abuja**

*All applications must be received on or before  
Wednesday 5th of December, 2001*

**INTERVIEW DATE: Thursday, 6th December, 2001**

**TIME: 9:00am**

**VENUE: 8A Udi Street, Off Aso Drive,  
Maitama - Abuja**



Audu Ogbeh

Tukur as well as national officers; Marshall Harry, Emmanuel Ibeshi and Gbenga Olawepo kicked out of the party by Gemade earlier in the year might not be well disposed to returning.

Already, the UNDP has set up an interim contact and mobilisation committee with Chief Don Etiebet as chairman.

Other members of the committee are: Alhaji Isa Mohammed, Chief Clement Akpangbo, Alhaji Abdullahi Ma'aji, Senator Albert Legogie, Alhaji Sa'idu Barda, Alhaji Oladunmi Ayandipo and Alhaji Asheikh Jarma

A letter addressed to the committee chairman, signed by UNDP protem chairman, Alhaji Saleh Jambo charged members to discuss and negotiate with new and interested persons and associates willing to join the party.

Alhaji Jambo urged members to ensure the support of Nigerians in order to build a formidable united party.

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Edited by Kevin Ebele Adinnu

# MFCT director explains “missing hospital equipment”

The Director of Health in the Ministry of Federal Capital Territory (MFCT), Dr. Moses Ayo, has refuted allegations that equipment worth over N20 million is missing at the newly completed Asokoro General Hospital.

Dr. Ayo told *Abuja Trust* in a chat at the office of MFCT Permanent Secretary, Dr. Babangida Aliyu, that the items of equipment were removed for overstay in containers.

These categories of equipment, he said, were no longer useful to the hospital.

He said that the equipment in question were in containers for over six years beyond the manufacturers’

By Emmanuel Ande

specifications.

The director further stressed that the movement of some furniture and other equipment in Garki General Hospital to Asokoro General Hospital was in compliance with the intention of government to close down Garki General Hospital which he described as a mere consulting clinic.

Early last week, some officials of Garki General Hospital alleged that medical equipment has been secretly removed from the hospital to replace some they alleged are missing at Asokoro General Hospital.

The officials mostly medical doctors who pleaded anonymity for fear of reprisal

told *Abuja Trust* that most of the equipment that were being taken to Asokoro General Hospital were no more medically useful because of their over age and the pressure mounted on them.

The medical officers blamed the situation on lack of proper supervision on the side of government and appointing people in positions that need patriotic minded citizens.

When our reporter visited Garki General Hospital, some vehicles belonging to the ministry of FCT were seen loading furniture and other equipment to move them to Asokoro General Hospital.

It would be recalled that in April this year, the

Minister of FCT, Engr. Muhammed Abba-Gana, visited the Asokoro General Hospital and promised to commission it in May this

year but up till now the hospital is yet to be commissioned.

*Abuja Trust* learnt that the Asokoro General

Hospital would gradually start operations this month as Garki Hospital is going to be closed down for its poor condition.



FCT Minister, Engr. Muhammed Abba-Gana, reclining in one of the medical beds during an exhibition by private investors in Abuja ... recently.

## AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FCT



### WELCOME MR. PRESIDENT

MR. B.S. OBAMIRO, the Programme Manager on behalf of Management and Staff of FCT AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME welcomes the Executive President, Federal Republic of Nigeria Chief Olusegun Obasanjo (GCON) to the Federal Capital Territory on the first and historic visit to the Territory.



Chief Olusegun Obasanjo  
President Federal Republic of Nigeria



Alhaji Muhammad Abba Gana  
Hon. Minister of F.C.T

We also wish our Honourable Minister, entire staff and people of FCT a successful hosting of Mr President  
FCT - ADP - Helping farmers to provide for the teeming population of Federal Capital Territory

SIGNED  
B.S. OBAMIRO,  
Programme Manager

# Abuja Trust

## News

### Obasanjo begins tour of FCT

The Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Engr. Muhammed Abba-Gana will receive President Olusegun Obasanjo at the gate of the Presidential Villa this morning as the president begins a two-day tour of the

territory. The FCT Minister has called on the residents of the territory to turn out en masse to give the president a befitting welcome at the Old Parade ground.

The tour which will last two days will take the

president to the six area councils in the FCT where he will inspect projects.

In Bwari Area Council, President Obasanjo will inspect the controversial Jibi resettlement estate as well as visit the Nigerian Law School at Bwari.

The President will also inspect the road construction project going on in Kubwa and the Lower Usuma Dam.

In Abuja Municipal Area Council, President Obasanjo will visit Dei-Dei Building Material Market, Abuja

Stadium, Asokoro and Maitama hospital among other projects.

In Gwagwalada Area Council, the President is billed to visit Gwagwalada Specialist Hospital and other

projects.

While in Kuje Area Council, President Obasanjo will visit Kuje International Market as well as commission projects.



The Children and Youths Community Development Group of the National Youths Service Corps (NYSC) donated a water tank to Karu Children's Home... recently. In this pic, the coordinator of the group, Mr. Kelechi Orji receives a handshake from an official of the Home while corps members applaud.

### Task Force re-evacuates traders from Berger junction

By Hammeed M. Bello

The task force on environmental protection, Saturday, carried out another evacuation of traders operating illegally at the Berger junction, Utako District, Abuja.

The task force, which comprised heavily armed policemen and men of the Abuja Environmental Protection Board (AEPB) took positions on the junction at about 10.00 am, forcing the traders to take to their heels, carting their wares along.

Subsequently, planks, tables and other makeshift stalls and stands used by the traders for displaying their wares were burnt to ashes.

The operation which lasted for about four hours left the area in smoke and a resultant stampede as the task force, in a spirited effort to cleanse the area of all illegal trading, went to the traders hideout, seizing their tables and stalls and burning them down.

The evacuation exercise also involved a bulldozer that pulled down solid structures and dilapidated vehicles used by some traders as marketing stands.

Just as the evacuation exercise was going on, hoodlums who capitalised on the predicament of the traders were busy carting away their wares and goods that were hidden under trees and grass, to avoid being taken away by the task force.

Speaking on the reason for the evacuation, one of the

AEPB men who did not want his name in print told *Abuja Trust* that the area has been designated for an amusement park and the continuous operation of the traders would defeat that aim.

It could be recalled that late in October, following a series of warning to the roadside traders, a task force had embarked on a similar evacuation of traders which resulted in violent protest by the traders.

Some of the traders who spoke with *Abuja Trust* said though their activities were wrong, however that everyone had come to Abuja to find a means of livelihood.

Although they acknowledged receipt of warnings urging them vacate the area, no alternative arrangement was made to relocate them, they argued.

Determined to quell the protest, the policemen fired gunshots occasionally into the air to scare away the angry hawkers, an action that did not characterise Saturday's operation.



Alhaji Kabir Sa'id, Environment Minister.

### Commonwealth scholarship interview

### Candidates complain of requirements

Candidates who attended the commonwealth scholarship interview in Abuja last week have complained of alleged arbitrary high standard set.

The complaint of the candidates at the interview which held between Monday, November 26 and Friday, November 30 at the Dayspring Hotel in Wuse Zone 6 was that a minimum of second-class upper division class of first degree was required for a candidate to be eligible for the interview.

Those who came for the interview but did not meet the standard either because they did not get the information on hand or such information

By Hammeed M. Bello

did not exist were left in pains.

One of the aggrieved candidates, Ali Bukar Ahmad who had already secured admission in an institution in London for a Ph.D. course narrated his experience to *Abuja Trust*.

Said he: "I was short-listed in *Punch* newspapers on 22<sup>nd</sup> of November that I should come for an interview at Dayspring Hotel for Commonwealth Scholarship. Nobody told me because I don't have second class upper in my first degree I was not eligible for interview until I entered the hall."

Bukar, who suspected that the interview was schemed to favour a section of the society against another appealed to the Federal Scholarship Board for transparency, even as he suspected that the interview was a formality. He feared that favoured candidates might have been awarded the scholarship before hand.

Another candidate, Adewuyi Adekunle Philips from Oyo State who commented on the interview said, "I knew of some people who had second class lower in first degree but at Masters

level they finished with excellent grades. I don't think they should emphasise on second class upper."

Ajayi Franklin, a candidate who studied physiology at master's level told *Abuja Trust* that he did not notice any irregularity in the exercise.

Franklin revealed that the standard is however not indicated in the form issued to the candidates by the Scholarship Board. The only thing that was in the form, according to him was, "if you have 2/1 in your first degree, or you have a first degree with a masters degree and since I have a masters degree I think I am qualified. But they are now saying you have to have 2/1."

According to Franklin, the standard may have been set, "possibly because there are too many students" to be interviewed for the scholarship and the standard may reduce the number to a manageable size.

Another candidate who pleaded anonymity said the standard is not fair because there are people with professional qualification who can perform better than those with excellent result. Such people, he said, should be given opportunity if they

can prove their competence.


On whether or nor the quota system would be adopted, the source said, "The interview is organised by the Commonwealth, quota might not be their criteria."

The organisers of the interview who were contacted for their comment on the complaints declined speaking on the basis of lack of authority.

Although the secretary of the Scholarship Board was not readily available to comment on the complaint, a staff of the Board who did not want his names in print said all necessary information was provided on the form issued before the selection process.



Abalola Borisade, an official.



**UNIVERSITY OF ABUJA**  
**ABUJA**

**Postponement of Resumption Date**

This is to notify all returning students of the University of Abuja that the resumption date for the 2001/2002 session earlier scheduled for Friday, November 30, 2001 has been postponed.

A new date will be announced later. The University Management regrets the inconvenience to parents and students.

Signed  
**S.S. SULE**  
Registrar

# Abuja Trust

## Job opportunities in Abuja

### Vacancies

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates as ESTATE ASSISTANTS.

**Qualification:**

- n OND (Estate Management)
- n Knowledge of Abuja and its environs
- n Must have had 2 years cognate experience
- n Good organisational ability

Interested candidates with relevant experience and clear records willing to work with a newly established property company should apply in person within 7 days to:

The Principal Consultant  
 Nationwide Properties Company  
 Suite 60, Post Office Shopping Complex  
 Area 10, Garki  
 Abuja  
 (: 09-2346876

### Vacancies

A vacancy exists in a Business Centre/Internet Café for a computer literate person experience in the following:

- n Corel Draw and Desktop publishing
- n Graphic Design and Internet usage.

Apply in person at:  
 "The Cyber Zone"  
 BEC7, Banex Plaza Extension  
 Aminu Kano Way  
 Wuse II  
 Abuja

### Vacancies

1. **Technical Sales Executives**  
 Applicants must possess Trade Certificate in Refrigeration or OND/HND Mechanical Engineering with minimum of 3 years experience in marketing of cooling products.
2. **Secretary**  
 Applicants must possess OND/HND in Secretarial Studies with 3 years experience in related field.  
 He/She must be computer literate, articulate and versed in office management.

Apply to:  
 The Advertiser  
 P.O. Box 8060  
 Wuse  
 Abuja

### Vacancies

Responsible and suitable candidates should apply for the following vacancies in a fast growing hotel industry within the city.

1. Drivers
2. Secretary (Male)
3. Security

**Qualification:**

- (1) a. Current Professional Drivers Licence "Class E"  
 b. 5 - 10 years experience
- (2) OND - Secretarial Studies 60 W.P.M. Computer literate (added advantage)
- (3) Experienced security man - retired military/paramilitary officer will be an added advantage.

Apply in candidate's own hand writing to:

The General Manager  
 Optima Hotel  
 Plot 2005, Owo Close  
 Area 10, Garki  
 Abuja  
 Not later than November 30, 2001

### Vacancies for Quantity Surveyor

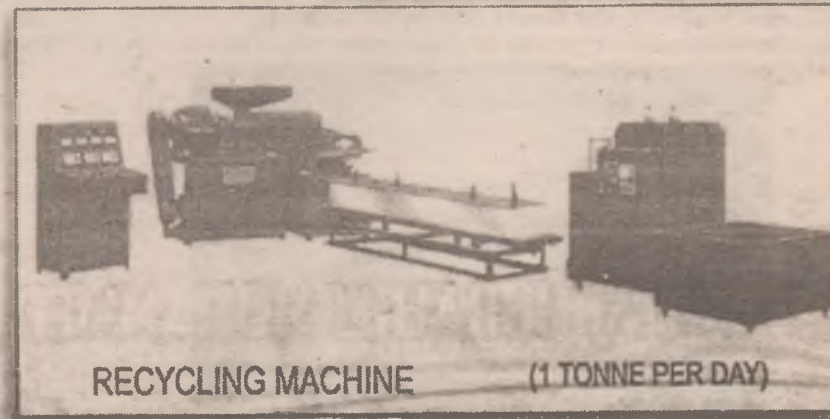
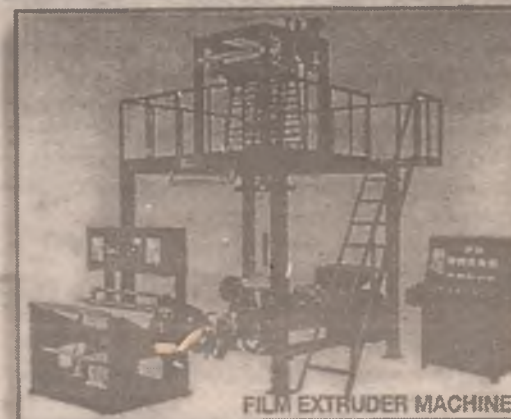
Qualified candidates with minimum of OND or HND certificate with not less than one year of post qualification experience should apply within one week in person to:-

ABUMET (NIG.) LTD.  
 Idu Industrial Area 1B  
 Off Kado Life Camp,  
 Abuja

Ability to speak Hausa fluently will be an advantage.

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 yukim@alpha.linkserve.com

# GWAGWALADA SPECIALIST HOSPITAL ABUJA-F.C.T WELCOME MR. PRESIDENT



**CHIEF OLUSEGUN OBASANJO**  
*President Fed. Rep. of Nig.*



**PROF. A.B.C. NWOSU**  
*Hon. Minister of Health*

The Board Management and staff of Gwagwalada Specialist Hospital heartily welcome His Excellency, the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Chief Olusegun Obasanjo to Gwagwalada Specialist Hospital on 4th December 2001.

Gwagwalada Specialist Hospital was commissioned 1992 by the former President General Ibrahim B. Babangida. It was later converted into a Federal Specialist Hospital in 1993 after the official taking over from the Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA) by the Federal Ministry of Health.

(2) The 350- Bed Hospital was designed and built to render tertiary health service to the teeming population of the Federal Capital Territory and neighbouring states.

(3) The Hospital has become the centre of referrals from all the hospitals/clinics in the Federal Capital Territory and neighbouring states.

(4) It has 25 Consultants/Specialist Doctors from all over the country. 63 Resident Doctors and 35 House Officers and 345 Nurses.

(5) The Clinical Department includes:

**1. INTERNAL MEDICINE:**

Offers medical care in Basic Cardiology. Electrocardiographic (EGG) assessments. Chest medicine. Gastroenterology/Venoreology. Renomedicine. e.t.c. and a Haemodialysis centre.

**2. SURGERY:**

It has various range of surgical procedures, including invasive diagnostic techniques like Cystoscopy, Gastro intestinal endoscopy, Bronchoscopy and Radio-graphic contrast studies are available

**3. OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY :**

Handles all Gynaecological and Obstetrics investigations and management.

**4. PAEDIATRICS:**

Operates Emergency paediatric Unit (EPU), specialised clinics like Sickle Cell Clinic, Nutritional Clinics. The Special Baby Care receives premature and sick new born for intensive care.

**5. OPHTHALMOLOGY :**

Handles most eye diseases that can be investigated and treated accordingly.

**6. EAR-NOSE-THROAT:**

Clinical and Surgery cases on the Ear, Nose and Throat are carried out there.

**7. RADIOLOGY :**

All basic X-ray investigations are carried out there, fluoroscope examinations with contrast studies for basic intestinal studies. Gynaecology, Urology and Sinuses and Ultrasound are done. We have recently acquired colour dopler.

**8. ANAESTHESIOLOGY /INTENSIVE CARE:**

It has large Intensive Care Unit, where critically ill patients are given high technology based close attention by medical and nursing experts.

**9. DENTAL SURGERY:**

Handles management of the diseases of the mouth (especially teeth) and jaw.

**10. LABORATORY:**

Has a well equipped clinical laboratory complex that can do all essential laboratory investigations including Hormonal Asses, Histopathological process, pap smears, blood analysis and other special tests like HIV screening. GSH is one of the centres selected by FG for National accelerate HIV trial.

**11. PHARMACY :**

The hospital also runs twenty four hours pharmaceutical services which deals with the procurement, storage and distribution of all medicinal and surgical projects.

**12. PHYSIOTHERAPY :**

The Department has facilities for physical therapy. electrotherapy and a modern Gymnasium for physical exercise even for those with weight problems. Other services include cryotherapy and ultrasound therapy.

**13. CLINICAL PHSIOTHERAPY SERVICES :**

It handles diagnosis. assessments and specialised psycho-analytic investigations. Therapies/for depression. anxiety. drug substance abuse are offered etc.

**14. MEDICAL LIBRARY:**

The hospital has also developed a medical library with wide range of medical textbooks and in particular current issues of local, international journals on medical science are also available on regular basis.

**15. Computerised Medical Health Record Information Services .**

Mr. President. we are committed to provide. affordable health care services to all in the FCT and beyond.



**ALH. ABUBAKAR MAGAJI**  
*Chairman Board of Management*



**DR. NANDUL DURFA**  
*Medical Director/CEO*

**DR. NANDUL DURFA**  
*MEDICAL DIRECTOR/CHIEF EXECUTIVE.*

# FEDERAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (TECH) P.M.B. 60, GOMBE GOMBE STATE

## INVITATION TO TENDER

Tenders are hereby invited from reputable and competent Contractors for the construction of proposed additional classrooms and staff offices.

### 1. PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR TENDERS

Prospective tenders must possess and submit the following documents:-

- Certificate of the Company's Incorporation
- Evidence of registration with the Federal Ministry of works and Housing (FMW&H) and the college
- Evidence of VAT registration
- Receipt payment of non-refundable tender fee of N15,000.00
- Company's profile and evidence of previous experience(s) in handling similar job(s).

### 2. TENDER DOCUMENTS

Tender documents are obtainable from the office of the Director of Works and Services on the presentation of a Bursary receipt for the payment of N15,000.00 only non-refundable tender fee in Bank Draft.

### 3. SUBMISSION OF TENDERS

All completed tenders should be submitted along with pre-qualification documents in sealed envelope marked at the left hand corner "Tender for the construction of proposed additional classrooms and staff officers and addressed to:

The Registrar

Federal College of Education (Technical),  
P.M.B. 60, Gombe,  
Gombe State

Completed tenders should reach the above address by mid December, 2001 from the date of this publication.

All those sending in tenders should note that the College is not bound to accept the lowest tender and will not allow variation.

Signed:  
ADAMU, S.Y.  
(DEPUTY REGISTRAR)  
FOR: REGISTRAR

## FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA FEDERAL MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES

### UPPER NIGER RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, KM 5, MINNA-ZUNGERU RD. P.M.B. 68, MINNA



## INVITATION TO TENDER

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Federal Government, through the Upper Niger River Basin Development Authority is desirous of constructing the Gidan-Waya earth dam and water supply project at Gidan-Waya in the southern senatorial district of Kaduna State. The project is intended to provide potable water to the communities of Gidan-Waya and environs. Tenders are hereby invited from reputable and competent Civil Engineering contractors for the execution of the project.

### 2.0 PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR TENDERS

Prospective bidders are expected to provide the following information and details, among others.

- Evidence of Incorporation;
- Evidence of Registration with the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing in the appropriate category.
- Evidence of Registration with the Upper Niger River Basin Development Authority.
- Receipt of non-refundable deposit of N100,000.00 paid in certified bank cheque, to the Upper Niger River Basin Development Authority.
- Current Tax Clearance Certificate and VAT Registration Certificate;
- Evidence of Experience in similar jobs in Nigeria or elsewhere in the world;
- List of Technical Staff including Curriculum Vitae of the key Personnel and Equipment returns;
- Cash flow projections, and other financial data.

### 3.0 TENDER DOCUMENTS

Tender documents are obtainable from the office of the Executive Director (operations) on the presentation of the receipt of payment of the non-refundable fee of N100,000.00 only in bank draft.

### 4.0 SUBMISSION OF TENDERS

4.1 Completed Tenders should be submitted along with the pre-qualification documents in sealed envelope, clearly marked: "TENDER FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF PROPOSED GIDAN-WAYA EARTH DAM & WATER SUPPLY PROJECT IN THE SOUTHERN SENATORIAL DISTRICT OF KADUNA STATE".

4.2 The Tenders are to be addressed to:

The Managing Director  
Upper Niger River Basin Development Authority,  
Km5, Minna-Zungeru Road,  
P.M.B. 68,  
Minna.

4.3 All completed Tenders are to reach the above address not later than 4.00 p.m. Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2001

### NOTE

Please, note that the Authority is not bound to accept the lowest or any particular tender.

Signed  
ENGR. SUNDAY EZEKIEL  
Executive Director (Operations)  
For: Managing Director.



## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### Presents

## 1ST PARLIAMENTARY DIALOGUE ON POVERTY ERADICATION IN NIGERIA.

Date: 10th and 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2001

Venue: Merit House, Aguiyi Ironsi Street, Maitama Abuja (By National Universities Commission).

### Introduction

In pursuit of its legislative oversight function, the *House of Representatives* through its *Committee on Poverty Alleviation and Community Development* is organising the *1<sup>st</sup> Parliamentary Dialogue on Poverty Eradication in Nigeria*.

The proposed Dialogue involving a cross-section of *stakeholders* at all levels of government, *civil society* and the *Private sector* is intended as a framework for strengthening social dialogue and mass participation in the design and implementation of poverty reduction strategies and programme.

### Objectives

\*To contribute to a better understanding of the causes and processes of poverty thus assisting in the design of holistic, systematic, operational and sustainable Poverty reduction strategies.

\*To provide a learning experience for stakeholders through exchange of information at both National and International level.

\*To provide major policy options and directions in human development and poverty reduction based on the concrete socio-economic, cultural and political realities of Nigeria.

### Target Audience:

Members of National Assembly, State Houses of Assembly, Leaders of Local Government Legislative Arm, Federal and State Governments' Poverty Eradication Agencies, State and LGA Coordinators of NAPEP, International Agencies and NGO's

**DAY ONE: MONDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2001**

### OPENING CEREMONY

#### Special Guests of Honour

-His Excellency, *Alhaji Atiku Abubakar (GCON) Vice-President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.*

-*Senator Anyim Pius, Ayim- Senate president.*

#### Opening Remarks

Hon. Abayomi Sheba

Chairman, House Committee on -Poverty Alleviation & Community Development

#### Welcome Address

Alhaji Umar Ghali Na'abba

Hon. Speaker, House of Representatives

#### Keynote Paper

Alhaji Adamu Waziri Maina

National Coordinator, NAPEP

Dr. Abdullahi Aliyu

Permanent Secretary, National Poverty Eradication Programme (NAPEP)

### PRESENTATIONS

**Paper 1** Poverty and Development: A Conceptual Framework - UNDP Expert.

**Paper 2** Globalization, Regionalisation and Poverty Eradication in Africa: Lessons for Nigeria- **Professor Lai Olurode**, Head, Department of Sociology, University of Lagos.

#### Session Chairman:

**Dr. Haruna M.A. Bawa-Wase**

**DAY TWO - Tuesday, 11th December, 2001**

### Presentations

**Paper 3:** Review of Past and Current Poverty Reduction Strategies and Programmes in Nigeria- **Chief Economic Adviser to the President and CEO, National Planning Commission.**

**Paper 4:** Legislating for Poverty Eradication in Nigeria: Lessons from Developing Countries -**World Bank Expert.**

#### Session Chairman:

**Professor Ajakaiye**

Director-General, NISER, Ibadan

### NOMINATIONS:

Delegates are required to pay a registration fee of N25,000 (*Twenty-five Thousand Naira only*) payable at the *venue of the Dialogue*.

Hon. Gabriel Oiboh

Chairman, Planning

Committee.

Hon. Abayomi Sheba

Chairman, House of Representatives

Committee on Poverty Alleviation  
& Community Development.



# I.T. WORLD



## 10 universities get geographic information equipment

Educational and capacity building packages code-named Geographic Information Systems (GIS) have been donated to ten Nigerian universities.

The donation worth N10 million was made last week by the chief executive of Joint Computer Company Ltd, Chief Olatunji Odegbami on behalf of Environmental Systems Research Institute of Redland, California, USA.

The benefiting universities are University of

By Ikenna Emeka Okpani

Ibadan, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, University of Port Harcourt and Federal University of Technology, Bauchi.

Others are University of Jos, University of Lagos, University of Ilorin, Bayero University Kano, and Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka.

Speaking at the occasion, the Minister of Education, Professor Babalola Borishade commended the company's

initiative and emphasised the need for corporate



Babalola Borishade, Education Minister

organisations and individuals to contribute to the development of education.

He called on university authorities to create the enabling environment to attract greater assistance from the private sector instead of depending solely on government.

A statement from the ministry of education signed by Mr. O.E. Bassey, its chief press secretary, said the objective of the donation is to promote the development of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in Nigerian universities.

Such systems, it stated, have been applied to make informed decisions in diverse sectors such as environment, telecommunications, industry, power, oil, administration, agriculture and military.

## You and your computer

By Hassan Idris

### How to arrange computer windows

The reason for creating windows on your computer screen is to interface with little pictures and dialog boxes. Again, you can use windows to organise information and operating commands.

Therefore, you can make a window any size you so wish and arrange your data to let you have several programmes going on at once. For example, you can use the mouse pointer to drag, by placing it on the window's title bar which is the coloured bar along the top that displays the name of the windows contents, then drag it to any other area.

The following are short cuts to change the size of a window:

**Minimising:** This reduces the size of an open window to a small icon at the bottom in order to save space.

**Maximising:** This will expand the window to full screen size to allow work on files, for example, with the program manager.

**Restoring:** It enables you to make the window returns to its size before maximising it.

**Closing:** To close a window means to put it away or just to remove all its contents from the screen.

**You can now move and size your window**

If you need to move a window, click its title bar and then drag it with mouse pointer to the direction you want. You will also see a blue shadow outline which follows the window to the position you place it. Then, release the mouse button immediately.

If you need to resize a window's height, or width, just click and hold the mouse pointer, always over the side, top or bottom border lines of the window outward or inward as well, depending on the size you want, or until it turns to a double-headed arrow. You can continue to drag inward or outward to the size you want.

In order to resize a window height or width, you need to click and hold the mouse pointer, until you

ensure it turns into a double-headed arrow. So drag its border either outward or inward to the size you want. It also shows a shadow outline.

**How to minimise, maximise and restore windows**

You can find that the minimise icon is a downward pointing triangle or arrow at the top right end of a windows title bar. Click it to minimise the window in program manager or any application.

In order to maximise a window, look beside the minimise icon; you will see the maximise icon pointing upward click it. That will make your window wider.

If you need to restore your window that was minimised, just click the "Restore icon" which are two triangle icons under the maximise icon at the top right corner of the screen. It will return to its earlier size.

In order to "close" windows completely, move the mouse pointer to the control-menu box at the left and end of the windows and click it twice. Alternatively, press Ctrl + F4" to close a particular document window or program group. You can press ALT+ F4" to automatically close an application window using the keyboard.

**How to tile and cascade windows**

To arrange your windows side by side, you need to click the "window" menu and click "Tile." Or, you can press shift + F4" on your keyboard.

The windows will be resized and be arranged altogether on one screen for you to see them with their contents.

If you need to "Cascade" windows, that is overlap of them, now click the "windows" menu and click "Cascade" alternatively, press shift + F5" on the keyboard.

Your windows will be resized and the system will arrange all the opened windows so that they may overlap each other on the screen but only the last window's contents will be seen at the top.

## Mathematics is bedrock of petroleum exploration — Experts

Professional scientists have explained the uses of sciences in national development, stating that it has technological benefits in petroleum exploration, space science and technology.

Presenting a paper on physics as the bedrock of petroleum exploration/exploitation at the "Second National Mathematical Science Summit in Physics" last week, in Abuja, Professor Mosto K. Onuoha stated that in Nigeria, oil still remains the main-stay of the economy, contributing well over 90 per cent of foreign exchange.

Professor, Onuoha

Stories by Hassan Idris

projected the trend of oil production in Nigeria with historical background from 1958 to 2010, using technology as the driving force for successful exploration activities.

He noted that less than 500 million barrels per day (mb/d) was produced and by 2010, over 4,500 mb/p would be achieved using certain products of the seismic industry which he said, retained the cutting edge as the leading instrument including physics which constitutes the bedrock of the seismic business.

He said "seismic

technology is today continuing to play a leading role in the production of oil and gas finding development costs," adding that Advanced Geophysical Technology such as pre-stack depth migration (PSDM) has begun to impact on deep water drilling and exploration.

He said that natural gas production, utilisation and quantity flared between 1960-1995 was over 30,000 million cubic metres while deep water exploration success rates was 1,500 ft of water between 1991-2000 in Nigeria.

He explained further that 2D, 3D, 4D and 3D/3C seismic technologies including elastic

invasion ranging from 1965 to 1986 are to be fully in use in the next 15 years, that is, 2020 to 2030 as peak periods.

Also speaking at the summit, Professor P.N. Okeke who presented a paper on "The Role of Space Science and Technology in National Development," stated that space technology activity has recently moved from its role as a prime vehicle for displaying ideological and military supremacy.

He noted that this could be applied to direct benefit of many aspects of societal development needs, with essential components of the information age.

## ICB prepares staff for online banking

As part of efforts to prepare its staff for full transactions through online banking, Intercity Bank (ICB) has embarked on an intensive training programme for its staff on online banking information services.

The Abuja Branch Manager of ICB, Alhaji Nura Bamalli told *IT world* last week that the bank organised a five week computerised banking information services

training for all the staff working in its branch in Abuja.

Alhaji Bamalli noted that the training has been a vital element in ICB's delivery of high quality banking services, and that it was a guide for staff on all aspects of operations for them to continue understanding and improving their organisations IT infrastructure.

He said the training was

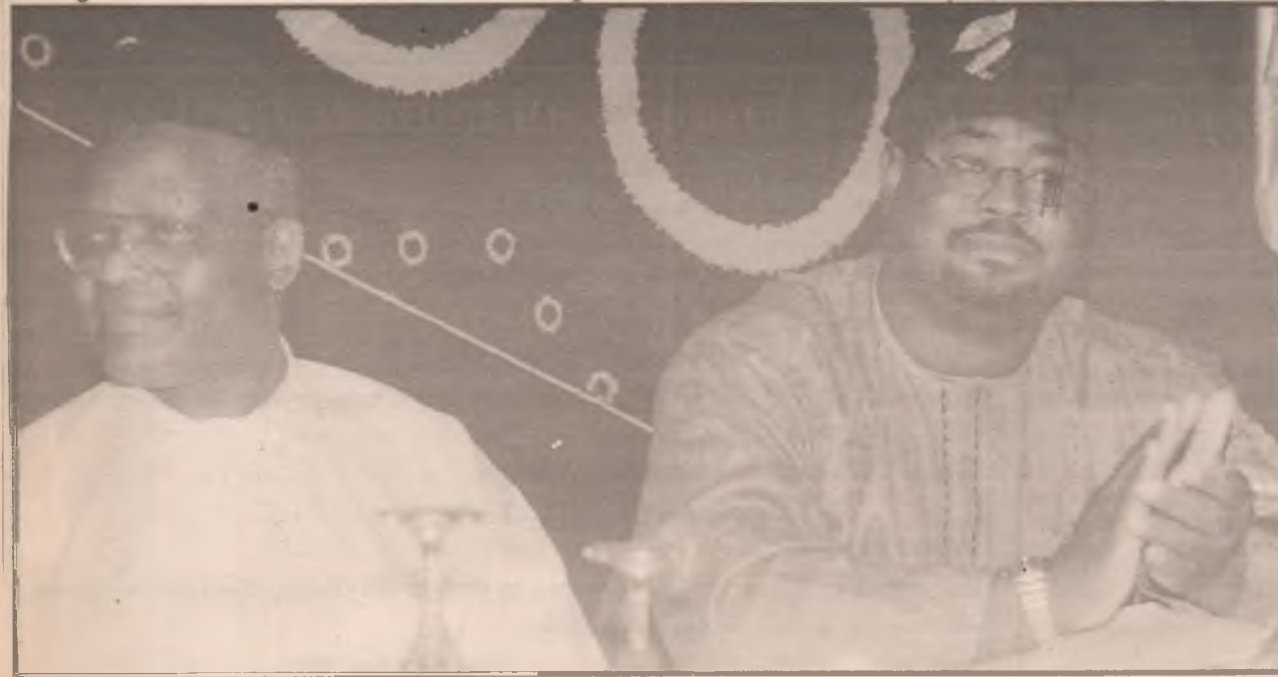
conceived by the present management of ICB, which also initiated information and communication technology (ICT) continuous learning as part of its operations in the bank's 're-engineering' programmes.

He disclosed that the training commenced two weeks ago, and it holds only on Saturdays and Sundays in order not to affect its daily

banking operations.

Alhaji Bamalli said that even in ICB's mission statement, computerisation and training was emphasised, especially as banking was becoming more IT-oriented."

He listed the benefits of the ICT training to include customer satisfaction through IT services, increasing productivity and reduced cost in developing procedures and practices.



The Education Tax Fund (ETF), in collaboration with School Net Nigeria, a network of computer vendors recently organised a workshop on how to network all schools in the country. (L-R), Dr Wawa Ngenge, Chairman of the Panel of discussants at the School Net Nigeria workshop, recently in Abuja, while Alhaji Ahmed Tijjani, Special Adviser to the President on Information and Technology looks on.



## Virus thriving on computer-user laziness, Australian techs say

As the latest computer virus 'Bad Trans' continue to wreak havoc worldwide, Australian technicians have pointed the finger at complacent users and the use of Hotmail for almost monthly outbreaks of new worms, a news report said Friday.

Bad Trans has infected at least 1,000 Australian computers and reached the number one spot on the top global virus hit parade late Thursday, the Sydney Morning Herald Daily reported.

Described by software vendors as a rapidly spreading security risk, Bad Trans "sniffs" for and steals passwords on infected computers.

It also launches a "key logging" programme that records every keystroke made by the unwitting typist, and e-mails it off to one of 17 destinations with a record of the time, date and user name.

"It has increased dramatically in the last two days," said Robert Mead, a spokesman for the Australian Computer Emergency Response Team operated by the University of Queensland.

The upsurge in Bad Trans infections, particularly among small businesses, comes despite a cure for the virus being available since it was discovered last week.

A spokesman for software company Trend Micros, Andrew Gordon,

said: "Even though we are being hit almost once a month by these viruses, people aren't being vigilant in updating software."

Gordon advised clients to set anti-virus software to automatically update itself on the hour.

"Home Internet users may only power up their PC once a week, so a lot of people are ignoring the prompts that come up from the computer to update," he said.

Major corporations are also being infected from within, as staff use popular web-based e-mail programs such as Hotmail, which bypasses regular security software, said Gordon. Bad Trans infects computers even if users do not double click to open the e-mail.

## MTN out with another promotion

MTN Nigeria Communications Limited has launched another nationwide campaign designed to increase public awareness of its products.

The campaign, which began last Wednesday involves decorating motor vehicles, motorcycles and bicycles in sight with MTN stickers in Lagos, Abuja, Port Harcourt and Kaduna where MTN is currently offering its services.

MTN said in a statement at the weekend that on the

third and final week of the three-week campaign, there would be a special sales promotion during which members of the public would have the opportunity to win various prizes, including MTN phones, Starter Packs and free Alitalia return tickets to various destinations in Europe.

MTN's sponsorship and promotions manager, Mr. Tunji Adeyinka, described the new promotion as the first phase in an on-going bold



Adrian Wood, MTN's CEO and unique programme to ensure that every Nigerian became aware of MTN as "the GSM network of choice."

## Study highlights continuous internet growth

A new study, released last Thursday, found that 72.3 per cent of Americans are online, up from 67 per cent last year, and the average user is logged on 9.8 hours per week, a slight increase from last year.

The Internet Report from the University of California-Los Angeles, also

indicated that U.S. consumers are very satisfied with their Net experience - rating the Internet as a 4 on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being "completely satisfied."

Conducted by UCLA Centre for Communication Policy, the long-term study of about 2,000 wired and unwired Americans is significant for its broad scope and its longitudinal nature. This year's report is the second annual instalment of the Internet project launched last year.

According to the study, the time the Internet users spend online comes from television. "The only social activity in American households that suffers significantly as a result of Internet use is time spent watching television" said the report.

Non-Internet users had

the highest average television viewing time, 10 hours per week. The most veteran Internet users, those with more than five years online, watched the least television, 6.7 hours per week.

The most popular Internet uses are e-mail and instant messaging. Web browsing, shopping, finding entertainment information, and reading news.

While shopping ranks high on the list, the consumers are growing more cautious about actually completing a purchase Internet.

Slightly more than half of Internet users made purchases online in 2000; that number dropped to 48.9 percent in 2001, according to the study. Security remains a major concern to internet users.



President Bush



## THE ECONOMICS INSTITUTE

(A Resource Centre for Economic & Business Studies)

Presents:

### The Annual Public Sector Management Programme:

#### PUBLIC SECTOR BUDGETING:

#### APPRAISAL TECHNIQUES AND IMPLEMENTATION

#### GROUP A: (STATE HOUSES OF ASSEMBLY)

##### PARTICIPANTS:

1. Chairman and members, House Committee on Appropriations.
2. Chairmen and members, House Committee on Public Accounts.
3. Principal Officers of the State House of Assembly.

##### DATE:

Tuesday 4th - Thursday 6th December 2001.

##### VENUE:

Fed. Ministry of Environment Auditorium, Opp. Raw Materials Council, Aguiyi - Ironsi, St. Maitama, Abuja.

#### GROUP B: (LEGISLATIVE HOUSES OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS)

##### PARTICIPANTS:

1. Speaker /Deputy Speaker / Majority and Minority leaders /All members of the legislative Arm of the Local Government council (i. e. All elected councillors).
2. Principal Officers of the local Government Council.

##### DATE:

Tuesday 11th - Thursday 13th December 2001.

##### VENUE:

Fed. Ministry of Environment Auditorium, Opp. Raw Materials Council, Aguiyi - Ironsi, St. Maitama, Abuja.

##### GUEST OF HONOUR

1. Senator Udoma Udo Udoma  
Chairman, Senate Committee on Appropriations.  
National Assembly, Abuja

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National Assembly, Abuja.

##### WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES:

To develop the theoretical skills and analytical techniques needed to appraise Public Sector Budgets, and strategies to ensure full and comprehensive implementation by the executive branch.

##### FEE PER PARTICIPANT:

As previously advised, payable in cash to Bankers at workshop venue.

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The Executive Governor  
of Kano State



**Engr. Masur Ahmed ( FNSE)**  
Hon. Commissioner for Works, Housing & Transport  
Kano State



**Engr. E. O. Edem**  
Executive Chairman

**May Almighty Allah grant the Governor  
and the Honourable Commissioner  
more fruitful years to serve  
the state and the Nation.**

# APPRECIATION

The Organising Committee on the Merit Award on Good Governance conferred on His Excellency, Alhaji Abubakar Habu Hashidu (*Matawallen Dukku*) the First Executive Governor of Gombe State, on November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2001, wishes to express its appreciation and sincere gratitude to all those who either attended the occasion in person, or sent representatives at the Nigerian National Merit Award House, Maitama, Abuja.

2. In particular, the Committee's special thanks go to the following personalities:

- i) General (Dr.) Yakubu Gowon, GCFR
  - ii) General Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida, GCFR
  - iii) Alhaji Yusuf Garba Ali (National Chairman All Peoples Party)
  - iv) Dr. Muhammad Haliru Bello (Minister of Communication)
  - v) The Chief Imam of Abuja Central Mosque
  - vi) Brigadier General Halilu Akilu
  - vii) Alhaji Usman Faruk (Jarman Gombe)
  - viii) General Alwali Kazir
  - ix) Alhaji Umar Mutallab, MON
  - x) Alhaji Mustapha Aminu
  - xi) Alhaji Isiaku Umar Tofa
  - xii) Senator Saidu Umar Kumo
  - xiii) Senator Magaji Abdullahi
  - xiv) Brigadier General Abu Ali
  - xv) Group Captain J.I. Orji (rtd)
  - xvi) Col. Muhammad Mana (rtd)
  - xvii) Alhaji Umar Musa Abubakar (Permanent Secretary, Federal Ministry of Culture and Tourism)
  - xviii) Alhaji Adamu Aliyu mni (Walin Katagum)
  - xix) Ambassador Babaji Umar Misau
  - xx) Alhaji Bappah Haruna Disina (Hon. Speaker, Bauchi State House of Assembly)
  - xxi) Alhaji Isiaka Jibrin (Magajin Malam of Bauchi)
  - xxii) Alhaji Alhassan Muhammad Fawu (Director, Office of the Head of the Civil Service of the Federation)
  - xxiii) Alhaji Suleiman D. Kassim, mni Npom (Director, Federal Ministry of Finance)
  - xxiv) Alhaji Magaji Mu'azu, mni (Ubandoman Gombe)
  - xxv) His Royal Highness, Alhaji Shehu Usman Abubakar, CON (Emir of Gombe)
  - xxvi) His Royal Highness, Alhaji Saleh Muhammad (Mai of Kaltungo)
  - xxvii) His Royal Highness, Alhaji Abdulkadir El-Rasheed (Emir of Dukku)
  - xxviii) His Royal Highness, Col. Abubakar Waziri Mahdi (rtd) (Emir of Deba)
  - xxix) His Royal Highness, Alhaji Muhammad Baba Ahmad, mni (Emir of Akko)
3. The Committee equally extends its appreciation to those who attended the event but whose names, for reason of adequacy of space, are not included herein. May the Almighty Allah reward them all abundantly, Amen.

Signed  
**DR. HABU DAHIRU**  
 CHAIRMAN



# NNPC NATIONAL QUIZ COMPETITION

The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation is organising a National Quiz Competition covering all states of the federation and FCT, from **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September to Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2001.**

## AREAS OF THE QUIZ COMPETITION

- I) Science subjects**
- \* Biology
  - \* Physics
  - \* English Language
  - \* Chemistry
  - \* Mathematics
- II) NNPC**
- \* Historical Evolution
  - \* Products and Services
  - \* Pipeline Vandalisation (Causes and Solutions) etc.
  - \* Subsidiaries and their activities
  - \* Products Distribution

## OBJECTIVES

- To Popularize and encourage the study of science amongst students
- Through the questions and answer on the sciences, assist students in their SSCE, GCE, NECO, JAMB and international qualifying exams.
- Through the questions and answers on the NNPC, enlighten students and the general public on the Corporation activities.
- As the programme will be well publicised nationally, to ensure that students and citizens nation wide benefit from the science quiz and know more about NNPC, respectively.
- Through the keen competitions, promote and encourage the competitive spirit amongst students.

## PARTICIPANTS

Science students in Senior Secondary School classes.

## FORMAT & FIXTURES

For the purpose of the competition, the country has been divided into four zones, (A B C D), with nine states in each zone except zone B which has 10 because of the F.C.T.

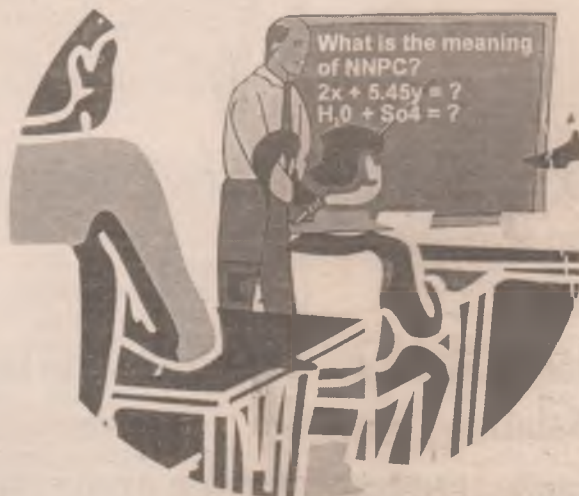
### Competitions will take place at four levels viz:

- \* Intra State competition to choose State representatives:
- \* Knock out competitions to choose states that proceed to zonal finals.
- \* Zonal finals to choose the State representing each zone.
- \* Grand finale in Abuja between the winners of the zonal finals.

### THE DETAILED FIXTURES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

#### ZONE A

STATES	DATES FOR INTRA-STATE COMPETITION	DATES FOR INTER STATE COMPETITION	ZONAL QUARTER FINALS SEMI FINALS & FINAL DATES
1. KEBBI STATE	25/9/2001	3/12/2001	AT MAIDUGURI DATE 6TH - 7TH DEC. 2001 ZONE A KNOCK-OUTS BETWEEN
2. SOKOTO STATE	26/9/2001		
3. ZAMFARA STATE	27/9/2001		
4. KATSINA STATE	28/9/2001	4/12/2001	3 SETS OF 3 STATES HOLD IN MAIDUGURI TO DETERMINE THE 3RD, 2ND AND 1ST PLACED POSITIONS IN THE ZONE
5. KANO STATE	29/9/2001		
6. JIGAWA STATE	2/10/2001		
7. YOBE STATE	3/10/2001	5/12/2001	
8. BORNO STATE	4/10/2001		
9. GOMBE STATE	5/10/2001		



#### ZONE C

STATES	DATES FOR INTRA-STATE COMPETITION	DATES FOR INTER STATE COMPETITION	ZONAL QUARTER FINALS SEMI FINALS & FINAL DATES
20. EDO STATE	22/10/2001	19/11/2001	AT BENIN CITY DATE 22nd -23rd NOV. 2001 ZONE C KNOCK-OUTS BETWEEN
21. ONDO STATE	23/10/2001		
22. DELTA STATE	24/10/2001		
23. RIVERS STATE	25/10/2001	20/11/2001	3 SETS OF 3 STATES HOLD IN BENIN CITY TO DETERMINE THE 3RD, 2ND AND 1ST PLACED POSITIONS IN THE ZONE
24. BAYELSA STATE	26/10/2001		
25. IMO STATE	27/10/2001		
26. ABIA STATE	29/10/2001	21/11/2001	
27. AKWA IBOM STATE	30/10/2001		
28. CROSS RIVER STATE	31/10/2001		

#### ZONE B

STATES	DATES FOR INTRA-STATE COMPETITION	DATES FOR INTER STATE COMPETITION	ZONAL QUARTER FINALS SEMI FINALS & FINAL DATES
10. ADAMAWA STATE	8/10/2001	10/12/2001	AT LAFIA DATE 13TH - 14TH DEC. 2001 ZONE B KNOCK-OUTS BETWEEN
11. TARABA STATE	9/10/2001		
12. BAUCHI STATE	10/10/2001		
13. EBONYI STATE	11/10/2001	11/12/2001	3 SETS OF 3 STATES HOLD IN LAFIA TO DETERMINE THE 3RD, 2ND AND 1ST PLACED POSITIONS IN THE ZONE
14. ENUGU STATE	12/10/2001		
15. ANAMBRA STATE	13/10/2001		
16. PLATEAU STATE	15/10/2001	12/12/2001	
17. NASARAWA STATE	16/10/2001		
18. BENUE STATE	17/10/2001		
19. ABUJA (FCT)	18/10/2001		



#### ZONE D

STATES	DATES FOR INTRA-STATE COMPETITION	DATES FOR INTER STATE COMPETITION	ZONAL QUARTER FINALS SEMI FINALS & FINAL DATES
29. LAGOS STATE	2/11/2001	26/11/2001	AT KADUNA DATE 29TH-30TH NOV. 2001 ZONE D KNOCK-OUTS BETWEEN
30. OYO STATE	3/11/2001		
31. OGUN STATE	5/11/2001		
32. EKITI STATE	6/11/2001	27/11/2001	3 SETS OF 3 STATES HOLD IN KADUNA TO DETERMINE THE 3RD, 2ND AND 1ST PLACED POSITIONS IN THE ZONE
33. OSUN STATE	7/11/2001		
34. KWARA STATE	8/11/2001		
35. KOGI STATE	9/11/2001	28/11/2001	
36. NIGER STATE	10/11/2001		
37. KADUNA STATE	12/11/2001		

## FINALS:

### ABUJA

- \* Winner in Zone A Meets Winner in Zone B Date 17<sup>th</sup> DEC., 2001
- \* Winner in Zone C Meets Winner in Zone D Date 18<sup>th</sup> DEC., 2001

## DATE:

17<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2001

- \* Loser's Final For 4<sup>th</sup> And 3<sup>rd</sup> Positions Date 19<sup>th</sup> DEC, 2001
- \* Grand Finale For 2<sup>nd</sup> And 1<sup>st</sup> Positions Date 20<sup>th</sup> DEC, 2001

Closing /Prize Giving Ceremony for the Competition Holds On 20<sup>th</sup> Dec, 2001

TIME: 3:00PM.

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SPORTS

# Tough draw for African teams

Africa's five representatives at the 2002 World Cup finals have an extremely tough task ahead of them.

World Cup debutants Senegal have a baptism of fire ahead of them with the honour of opening the World Cup Finals against the defending champions, France in Seoul on May 3.

The Senegalese Lions can draw some comfort from the fact that the majority of their squad play for French clubs.

However, that's a sword that cuts both ways, and the French will be very familiar with most of the squad's strengths and weaknesses.

These two have never met in a full international although France were invited to play Senegal in Dakar in the early 90's.

They sent a second string team which was seen at the time as a bit of a snub, even though they beat their hosts 3-1.

Denmark and Uruguay make up a group which emphasises the need for the Lions to prepare thoroughly for a rough ride.

Cameroon's German coach, Winfried Schaeffer, will have a head start in preparing the Indomitable Lions for their fifth World Cup appearance.

The reigning African champions will play Germany, Saudi Arabia, and take on the Republic of Ireland in their opening fixture.

Recent plans to play Germany in a friendly early next year will now almost certainly be laid to rest.

Cameroon have the best World Cup record of Africa's five representatives, and are the only team from the continent to have reached the quarter-finals, at Italia '90.

Nigeria have an extremely difficult task ahead at their third World Cup appearance. Argentina, Sweden and England are their opponents.

The Nigerians reached

the second round at USA '94, and only missed out on a quarter-final place in extra-time against Italy.

In the first round of those finals, they were beaten 2-1 by Argentina.

The Super Eagles also played England and Sweden in friendly internationals in 1994.

At Wembley stadium Nigeria lost 1-0 against England, which was the first game in charge for their current coach Shaibu Amodu.

In Stockholm, they were beaten 3-1, a match in which Arsenal's Nwankwo Kanu made his international debut.

At France '98, the Super Eagles opened their tournament with an impressive 3-2 victory against Spain in their opening fixture and defeating Bulgaria to qualify for the second round.

Their 4-1 defeat at the hands of Denmark prevented the team from going further.

South Africa's second World Cup appearance promises to be another challenging affair, drawn against Spain, Slovenia and Paraguay.

Two of South Africa's squad have extensive experience of Spanish football.

Benni McCarthy currently plays for Celta Vigo, and Quinton Fortune spent many years at Atletico Madrid, but has now been put on the transfer list by Manchester United.

Tunisia have the easiest draw of the African teams, drawn against co-hosts Japan, Belgium and Russia.

This will be their third World Cup appearance.

They disappointed at France '98, losing 2-nil against England and 1-0 against Colombia, ending their campaign with a 1-1 draw against Romania.

At the 1978 finals in Argentina the North Africans lost 3-1 against Mexico, were defeated 1-nil by Poland, and held the then West Germany to a goalless draw to earn a first round exit.



Super Eagles' handlers: The trio on whose shoulders rest the onerous task of beating Argentina, England and Sweden to secure second ticket for Nigeria in the 2002 World Cup. From right, Joe Erico, Amodu Shuaibu and Stephen Keshi. Pix: Ono Oba

# Eriksson, Amodu envisage tough battle

By Patrick Andrew

Coaches Sven-Goran Eriksson and Shuaibu Amodu, are unanimous that they have difficult matches ahead of them in the 2002 World Cup preliminary which begins on May 31, next

year. Drawn in group G which has been tagged the "group of death", England and Nigeria are to confront Argentina

and Sweden in battle for the second round tickets.

Eriksson admitted after the draw on Saturday in Putan, South Korea, that the English squad was pitted against the best from South America and Africa. He was no less excited about Sweden which England has not beaten in 33 years.

"It's a tough job facing the very best from South America and Africa. We certainly would need to step up efforts for a place in the second round," Eriksson said, noting that he looks forward to filing out England against his home land-Sweden.

In a similar swift reaction, Super Eagles chief coach, Shuaibu Amodu, admitted that the Eagles are in a group of death but expressed the hope and confidence that the African team would advance to the next round after the preliminary matches.

"We are going to face three tough opponents, but we are very good team too. We have come to qualify

from the first round, not just for the ceremonies. It will be tough but we are confident," Amodu said, noting that the Eagles have what it takes to impress in the mundial.

The Eagles would open the game against Argentina on June 2, meet Sweden five days later and play England on June 12.

The clash with Argentina will be second in eight years. In 1994, Argentina came from behind to beat Nigeria 2-1 but Nigeria qualified to the next round and could have advanced to the quarter-finals but for brief moments of carelessness which enabled Italy to draw level barely 60 seconds from the termination of proceedings. The Italians eventually escaped with 2-1 win.

The Africa soccer powerhouse has met England only once in a friendly games losing narrowly 1-0 in a match even the English press acknowledged the technical depth, skill and brilliance of the Eagles.

# Big task ahead - Amun

The former chief coach of the Super Eagles, Fanny Amun, has de-



Oneya, NFA boss

scribed Eagles 2002 World Cup group F matches as an onerous task that would require more than raw talents, superficial preparation and commitment.

Coach Amun, who reacted to the World Cup draws that pitted the Eagles along side Argentina, England and Sweden in a group tagged "group of death" observed that it would required total and reserved preparation to properly gear up for the matches against their opponents.

"The group is a difficult one. Argentina will be the team to beat at the World Cup but the draw just tell us we have a lot of work ahead. We cannot afford to adopt the usual fire brigade approach to preparation," Amun said adding that all involved must be assisted to carry out their assigned roles with minimum distraction.

Corroborating Amun, Ipswich star and Nigeria's jewel, George Finidi, acknowledged that the group was tough for Nigeria but said that Eagles was equal to the task.

"We have an experienced and determined bunch of players and we are ready to work hard to win the trophy for the country in its third attempts at the mundial.

"For most of us it would be the last chance to show our capability and we are ready to shame all those who have written us off," he said, adding that they have capable and experienced players who are eager to show the world that football originated from Africa.

# Beckham raring to go

England skipper, David Beckham, said he can not wait to compete against Argentina, Nigeria and Sweden at next year's World Cup.

"As a footballer you always want to test yourself against the best and there is no question that this is a highly competitive group," said Beckham.

"They are three very different teams with very different styles."

England begin their campaign in Group F against Eriksson's fellow countrymen Sweden before facing tournament favourites Argentina and Nigeria.

It is the match against Argentina that really stands out on June 7.

The South Americans knocked England out of France 98 at the second round stage on penalties and have been impressive in qualifying, recording 13 wins in 18

games.

For Beckham the defeat in St Etienne was the lowest point in his career as he was sent off for lashing out at Diego Simeone.

The opportunity to make amends is not lost on the Manchester United star.

"Personally I can't wait for June 7 - it's a great chance to lay the ghost of France 98," said Beckham.

England coach, Sven-Goran Eriksson, was aware of the extent of the task that lies ahead but remained upbeat.

"It will be interesting and difficult but everything is possible. If we play good football we can beat anyone.

"Argentina are one of the best teams in the world today - but today is December 1 and we will see in June.

"I know we have not beaten Sweden in 33 years, so maybe now it is time.

"It is always an amazing game when you play such a

good team as Argentina, especially with the history of the World Cup games between the two countries, but I am not afraid - we are looking forward to it," he said.

England were held to a 1-1 draw by Sweden in a friendly at Old Trafford in October and have not beaten the 1994 semi-finalists for 33 years.

Football Association chief executive, Adam Crozier, acknowledged the difficult nature of the task but was confident the team would rise to the challenge.

"It's without doubt the toughest group in the tournament. But we are a team that responds to playing against the best," Crozier said.

"It's very exciting for the players, the coaches and the fans.

"It's not been a lucky draw, but the luck will come in June," added Eriksson.



England captain, David Beckham, is keen to "lay the ghost" of France 98.

World Cup groups pairing			
<b>Group A</b> France Senegal Uruguay Denmark	<b>Group B</b> Spain Slovenia Paraguay South Africa	<b>Group C</b> Brazil Turkey China Costa Rica	<b>Group D</b> South Korea Poland USA Portugal
<b>Group E</b> Germany Ireland Saudi Arabia Cameroon	<b>Group F</b> Argentina Nigeria England Sweden	<b>Group G</b> Italy Ecuador Croatia Mexico	<b>Group H</b> Japan Belgium Russia Tunisia



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## EDITORIAL

### Who needs new LGs?

The Kaduna State government recently conducted a referendum on the creation of new local government councils thereby heightening the already volatile debate on the constitutionality of the exercise. Before then, several other state governments had unveiled similar plans towards the creation of new local councils in their own area of jurisdiction.

Indeed, the state governments are clearly bent on discharging the responsibility rested on them by the constitution regarding the creation of new local governments. But a cursory look at the constitution put paid to their claim.

Even though Section 7(1) of the 1999 constitution clearly gives the state governments the responsibility to create local governments, Section 8(3) of the same constitution makes the procedure very tedious and cumbersome.

According to the section, the creation of local government areas must follow the following procedure: "A request supported by at least two third majority members representing the area demanding the creation of a new local government area in each of the following: the House of Assembly in respect of the area and the local government council in respect of the area is received by the House of Assembly. A proposal for the creation of the local government area is thereafter approved in a referendum by at least a majority of the people of the area where the demand for the local government council originated. The result of the referendum is then approved by a simple majority of members of each local government council in a majority of all local government councils in the state. The result of the referendum is approved by the majority of members of the House of Assembly".

However, even if the State Assembly ratifies and approves the creation of new local government areas, final approval will have to come from the National Assembly.

The fourth schedule of the constitution clearly shows the composition of the state and local governments in Nigeria at 776 local government councils and 36 states. It will, therefore require the National Assembly to pass a bill in order to alter the number and composition of the local governments.

The rate at which state governments are unfolding proposals for creation of new local government councils is becoming more and more disturbing. It is even more worrisome when viewed from the angle that nearly all states have proposed new local government councils twice as much as the ones already in existence. Also quite worrisome is the fact that the federal government had declared that it would not give additional grants to any state that creates new councils apart from the existing ones.

And apparently local government staff all over the country are currently on strike due to the under-funding of the third tier. The councils owe their workers about N8.3 billion as accumulated salaries and allowances as a consequence of the zero allocation suffered by the councils as a result of deduction of primary school teachers' salaries by state and federal governments.

From the foregoing, *Daily Trust* would like to caution the governors that the creation of new local government at this point in time is outrightly irrational and unconstitutional. And beyond that, the creation of these local councils will disrupt the federal arrangement and dislocate the structure of the state as well as constitute a drain on the country's thin resources.

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## MONDAY COLUMN

# Why Obasanjo is failing (2)

By Sam Nda-Isaiah

Last week, while addressing a conference of chairmen and chief executives of teaching hospitals at the State House Abuja, the president took a swipe at those who had accused him of breaching the 2001 Appropriation Bill. "Nobody can impeach me," the President said, "for not spending money that was not available". In other words, money was not available to run the Nigerian state during the year.

Now, that should worry Nigerians. But the politic thing would have been for the president to give us details of this very grave statement. I think the National Assembly should insist on a complete breakdown of what the nation earned this fiscal year. Because, if it is true that there wasn't enough money to run the country this year, then we should not have been spending on trifling programmes like the almost N40 billion on a needless Abuja stadium or the purchase of several aircraft not only for the President but also other principal officers of the state. The president should also have spared the nation his embarrassingly too many trips abroad which of-course would have contributed to drain the nation's exchequer. The president should have also explained why he needed a fantastic supplementary budget if the primary and main one could not be serviced.

Since Obasanjo assumed power, the nation had spent well over one trillion naira. With this kind of amount, some impact should be felt. On roads alone, the government has spent over N200 billion. With that amount we should be seeing better road network across the country. But most of our roads remain death traps with potholes sometimes deep enough to swallow small cars. Most of the good roads we see today were those constructed by previous administrations. Nobody has explained why over 300 road projects initiated under this administration are in limbo and almost in a state of abandonment. If the contractors are to blame, then how many of these contracts have been revoked? The nation needs to know why some of these contracts have not been revoked in spite of this obvious fact of non-performance. We will need to know why the government's hands seem tied and disabled on this matter.

It was disquieting hearing the president implying that the country was run on a shoestring. It may be true that nobody can impeach him. But that would be for some other reasons outside the job description of those empowered to do so when it becomes necessary, but not as it is now, on account of the very serious infraction of the Appropriation Bill. What happened to all the "extras" made from the unanticipated rise in the international price of crude oil? The budget was anchored on \$18/barrel and there was never a time it went below \$26 and for some time it hovered close to \$40. Also, what happened to the several billions made at the department of customs and excise which, again, was above what was expected? What of the other areas of incremental earnings? The several hundreds of millions of dollars from, say, the successful auctioning of GSM licences. How much was recovered from the Abacha family, Gwarzo and several others who pillaged the economy and helped themselves to the public weal? Nobody has told us this as if it is not our business. I am not by any means suggesting that our President was lying but I am only worried that if it is true that there weren't enough funds to run the country this year, then the competence of those in charge of husbanding the nation's resources should be called to question. But I say all these in parenthesis. This week, I intend to dwell on my concluding treatise on the reasons the president is failing.

A very material reason to note why the president is failing is his proverbial lack of political savvy. About a week ago, in reacting to ASUU's belligerence, he said ASUU members were irresponsible. No skilled politician would say that. It is still a puzzle why the president should blackball a restless politician like Abubakar Rimi. Rimi as a politician might have his liabilities and peccadilloes but he is decidedly dangerous as a foe. It is precisely for these reasons that he must not be left in the lurch. A politician of his peculiarities should be kept "inside" under close watch. That reminds me of what Prime Minister Tony Blair of Britain said recently in response to a question on why he gave cabinet appointment to a certain bellicose member of his Labour Party. His only response was "It is better to have such a guy inside pissing out than keeping him out pissing in". It sometimes pays to be a wildcat, it would seem.

On this score, both President Ibrahim Babangida and the late General Sani Abacha fared better. Abacha for instance, brought all the key politicians like Adamu Ciroma, Iyorchia Ayu, Sule Lamido, Solomon Lar, Jerry Gana, Abubakar Rimi, Babagana Kingibe etc. who would have constituted a problem to him into his first cabinet. He only dispensed of them when it became clear that his government had acquired the level of stability it needed. IBB was even more adroit. He ensured that meddlesome persons like the late Tai Solarin, Wole Soyinka and their kind were not left idle. Former President Bill Clinton of the United States, also adept at such political profundities never left political wildcats untended. That was why someone like Jesse Jackson, though not exactly his friend was kept engaged throughout his tenure. I think the president should ask for a write-up from these leaders on this matter since some of them are still his friends. They would be glad to oblige.

As well, Obasanjo, elected under the banner of PDP is not a party man. He probably doesn't understand the concept of political parties. He sees the political party only as a vehicle for actualising personal ambitions. He does not even know that it is in his own best interests to have a strong political party. The truth is that all the crises in the PDP are traceable to the president's inappropriate meddling with the party. He has been responsible for all the factionalisation that the party has suffered. He started this by his infamous attempt to foist an unpopular Senate President on the Senate at inception. He opposed his own party, by entering into alliance with other "enemy" parties using the awesome machinery of state to defeat the PDP's choice. With that single wrong move, he destroyed the PDP as a party. Since then things have never been the same. That was the source and beginning of all the instability that the party is now facing. It bothers one because the PDP is the ruling party and whatever affects the party vicariously impacts on the entire nation.

During the Second Republic, the NPN, for all its shortcomings was a political party, both in soul and form. This was so, principally because

Alhaji Shehu Shagari, the president, appreciated the value of party suzerainty. He subordinated himself to the party when it came to party issues and deferred to the party executives on party matters. Shagari recently told us that in those days, he used to tour the nation with his National Chairman. But our president does not operate this way. During the recently concluded party convention, he warned his party executives to keep off his government and concern themselves with party matters only as if he got there as an independent candidate.

The President is also quick and unnecessarily eager to renege on political IOUs. He forgets easily where he is coming from. In fact, the greatest victims of his coming to power are those who played major roles in ensuring his ascension to power or what some people have dubbed "transformation from prison to presidency". Let us start from the very beginning. The first casualty of his coming to power was General Abdulsalami Abubakar, the man who unfettered him from the shackles of gaol and granted him state pardon to boot, to obliterate the opprobrium and consequences of his imprisonment. Without this pardon, the president would have been prohibited from contesting because the constitution debars ex-convicts from contesting. But Obasanjo's first act in office after swearing in was to abrogate and render nugatory, all appointments, contracts and indeed all actions carried out by General Abdulsalami from January that year. That technically scrimped the general's tenure to 6 months (i.e. June 9th - December 31<sup>st</sup> 1999).

But in doing this, the new president forgot to annul his own election, since that was a major programme that took place that period. A convenient oversight one may say. In the process, he also cancelled the national honours given to some people on the ground that General Abdulsalami should not have granted national honours to people still serving in his government. But he himself has come round to award such honours to his fans still serving in government including such choice titles like the Grand Commander of the Order of the Niger (GCON). He distributed the honours like biscuits and groundnuts to such lackeys like the Vice President, Senate President, (with no track record) IG of Police (who has failed in his national assignment of curbing crimes and banditry) and several other serving officers in his good books, which of course effectively excluded the Speaker of the House of Representatives. It would seem that very serious matters of governance are being reduced to personal issues.

General Abdulsalami was by no means his only victim. He was only his first. Several others like Solomon Lar, Sunday Awoniyi, Don Etiebet, Chuba Okadigbo, Phillip Asiodu, Patrick Dele Cole, Iyorchia Ayu and a host of others were to follow. Dr. Ayu's case was particularly poignant. Ayu was the engine that powered the president's campaign to victory. With that, he was rewarded with the post of Minister of Industries. Along the way, something personal went terribly wrong with their relationship. Ayu was on a hospital bed recuperating from a debilitating illness when he heard from the media that he had been relieved of his appointment. The President was so eager to hit a "comrade" that he couldn't wait for the minister to get out of hospital. That's too cold-blooded a treatment to mete out to someone who has played the kind of role Ayu played in his life.

Obversely, it is people like Chief Bola Ige who did everything to put spanners in the works of his presidential campaign that have not only been "invited to come and eat" but in fact calling the shots in the administration. The aggregate effect of these is a net loss of goodwill and sympathy from a large section of his immediate political constituency.

The president has failed with distinction in stemming the rising scourge of armed robbery, banditry, ethnic and religious thuggery and other similar forms of brigandage. It is not difficult to see why he is failing here. Is it not amazing that in spite of the enormity of this problem across the country, no culprit of significance has been brought to trial? What has happened to all the armed robbers that have been arrested? How many of them have been executed? How many kingpins and sponsors were arrested during the Kano,

Kaduna, Jos, Tiv/Jukun and several other flashpoints across the country? Eyen Ganiyu

Adams that was recently apprehended and accused of multiple murder, release of armed robbers and other odiously heinous crimes is now a freeman and back to the business he understands best - killing and maiming innocent people. Until patrons and sponsors of these crimes are arrested and kept away from decent society, we will continue to live in fright and under conditions of trepidation. Nothing meaningful can be achieved this way.

Last but not least, the president has a surprising lack of patience to listen to people. The gift of the fine art of listening is still desideratum and remains one of the rare qualities of leadership. After Obasanjo's victory and swearing in, he started to feel invisible and developed little incentive to listen to talents and advice from outside his brain trust. He gets irascible when confronted with views contrary to the ones he holds. But one cannot be self-conceited and expect to succeed in a complex milieu like Nigeria; even if, it must be conceded, one has the impressive fund of knowledge of our president.

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