

DAILY TRUST



Thursday, January 7, 2021
Jumadal-Ula 23, 1442 AH

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N200
Vol. 52, No. 9

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2,451 DAYS SINCE CHIBOK
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KEEP DONATING TO THE
DAILYTRUST IDPs RELIEF FUND

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GTB – 0175835101 UBA – 1019182505
Jaiz – 0001706242

NIGERIA COVID-19
CASE UPDATE

6
JAN

NEW CASES
1,664

TOTAL CASES
94,369

DISCHARGED
77,299

DEATH
1,324

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inviting bandits
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■ Trump supporters clash with police and security forces as people try to storm the Capital Building in Washington D.C. yesterday



■ Supporters of US President Donald Trump protest in Los Angeles, California, yesterday



■ Supporters listen as US President Donald Trump speaks on The Ellipse outside of the White House in Washington, DC.

Photo: AFP

Chaos in DC as Trump supporters invade Capitol

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WEATHER

ABUJA PARTLY CLOUDY 37 MAX 22 MIN	KANO SUNNY 33 MAX 14 MIN
SOKOTO SUNNY 34 MAX 17 MIN	IBADAN PARTLY CLOUDY 38 MAX 22 MIN
KADUNA SUNNY 35 MAX 17 MIN	MAIDUGURI SUNNY 34 MAX 15 MIN
ENUGU PARTLY CLOUDY 38 MAX 22 MIN	P/HARCOURT PARTLY CLOUDY 29 MAX 18 MIN
JOS PARTLY CLOUDY 31 MAX 14 MIN	
LAGOS PARTLY CLOUDY 34 MAX 24 MIN	

(Temperature in centigrade)

Basic protective measures against coronavirus (COVID-19)

 Wash your hands frequently with soap and water	 Maintain social distancing	 Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth
 Practice respiratory hygiene	 If you have fever, cough and difficulty breathing, seek medical care early	 Stay informed and follow advice given by your healthcare provider

NCDC toll free numbers | Call 080097000010 | SMS 0809555577 | Whatsapp 07087110839

AFRICAN SAYINGS >>

It is what you have given birth to that redeems you

(South Sudan)

Source: BBC collection of listeners' proverbs

FOOD FOR THOUGHT >>

"Move out of your comfort zone. You can only grow if you are willing to feel awkward and uncomfortable when you try something new"

- Brian Tracy

PHOTO OF THE DAY >>

■ Men perform the traditional Horo dance in the icy waters of the Tundzha River as part of Epiphany day celebrations Kalofer, Bulgaria yesterday

Photo: AFP/Getty Images

PRAYERS TIMES

CITIES	FAJR	DHUHR	ASR	MAGHRIB	ISHA
ABUJA	5:35	12:42	3:56	6:24	7:29
ENUGU	5:37	12:40	3:54	6:19	7:24
KADUNA	5:34	12:41	3:55	6:22	7:27
KANO	5:29	12:36	3:50	6:18	7:23
KATSINA	5:31	12:42	3:56	6:26	7:31
LAGOS	5:52	12:58	4:12	6:37	7:42
MAIDUGURI	5:12	12:19	3:33	6:00	7:05
P/HARCOURT	5:48	12:50	4:04	6:24	7:29
SOKOTO	5:42	12:50	4:04	6:32	7:37

SOURCE: Society for the propagation of Islam, Kaduna

STOCK INDEX AS AT WEDNESDAY 6, 2021

GAINERS	NEM	BOCGAS	JAPPAULGOLD	LINKASSURE	REGALINS
OPEN	2.15	11.50	0.81	0.59	0.24
CLOSE	0.19	1.00	0.07	0.05	0.02
CHANGE	9.69	9.52	9.46	9.26	9.09
LOSERS	SOVRENINS	ETERNA	DEAPCAP	ROYALEX	FTNCOCOA
OPEN	0.22	5.28	0.23	0.24	0.60
CLOSE	-0.02	-0.47	-0.02	-0.02	-0.05
CHANGE	-8.33	-8.17	-8.00	-7.69	-7.69

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Village heads inviting bandits—Niger gov

By Muideen Olaniyi

Niger State Governor Abubakar Sani Bello says some village heads have been arrested for inviting and harbouring bandits in the state.

He said this in yesterday while fielding questions from State House reporters after meeting with President Muhammadu Buhari at the Presidential Villa, Abuja, on the rising insecurity and infrastructural decay in the state.

"In fact, we've arrested some village heads. Now, if a whole village head invites bandits or harbours bandits, then where are we headed to? The village head is supposed to secure the village," he said.

He said his administration would be ruthless with any

village head found wanting in this regard "because there's no way we can make progress if the traditional institution at the lowest level becomes part of it and I had discussions with the emirs, first class emirs to dethrone or strip any village head of his appointment once being caught."

He ruled out negotiation with bandits, saying "they have never been honest in their talks".

He said he stopped the option of negotiation with the criminals for their failure to keep to any agreement entered into with them, adding that he had once reluctantly negotiated with the bandits which ended without producing any positive result.

"In any case, the bandits are mostly Fulanis that have no one to control them even their

parents cannot control them. We call them bandits but these are common criminals, they are armed robbers. I don't see how someone who is used to robbing at gunpoint or killing, will say let's go to negotiation table, I'll drop my arms, I'll just move on with my life without asking for some kind of support as an alternative to their activities. I tried it once reluctantly it never worked, so, I don't think...unless I see some evidence of sincerity, but I'm really not in such negotiations," he added.

Bello said the state was experiencing influx of bandits from neighbouring states and through the Benin Republic border despite the efforts of security agencies.

He expressed worry that the bandits had now focused their attention on Bobi grazing

reserve with huge investments and 5,000 square kilometers national park to perpetrate their atrocities which assumed another dimension with the burning of farmlands and animals.

On the possible causes of the banditry activities, said: "I always tell our security agents when they make an arrest to study the minds of the bandits and to ask why. But in one particular case, we arrested bandits that are foreigners as far as Sudan and Mali and they came on motor cycles. They're being recruited through social media, through Facebook in some cases and because they confessed to this."

The governor, who said the government had burnt the camps of bandits demanding ransom for farming thereby posing threat to food security,

however, added that "we're not out of the woods yet" as they came out in pocket to kill innocent people.

He said Buhari pledged more support to the state on security matters "so that either the shortest possible time, we will address the security situation."

"We've also used some of our resources to order some drones but then again even when you order drones you need support of the Federal Government because you'll be required to get end user certificates, the documentation takes a long process. Our drone has been ready for almost three months now, we're not able to bring it because of documentation issues. So, these are the kind of interventions we seek support."

FCT High Court gets acting Chief Judge

By John Chuks Azu

The Chief Justice of Nigeria, Justice Tanko Muhammad, yesterday swore in Justice Salisu Garba as the acting Chief Judge of the FCT High Court.

The CJN charged Justice Garba that his new oath is a covenant with the Almighty God, which requires that he redouble his efforts.

"If, for instance, you were working 14 hours per day before, you have to double it to meet up with the demands of your new office. I have long known you as an astute and dexterous judicial officer, so I have no doubt that you will rise up to the occasion and give a sterling account of yourself at the end of your stewardship.

"The times that we are in, are quite perilous, so we must gird our loins to give our best in every task given to us with a view to moving our nation forward. We must not rest on oars if we are truly desirous of attaining new heights and conquering seemingly difficult situations."

Justice Garba, who is the second most senior judge of the court, was appointed following the retirement of Justice Ishaq Bello as substantive Chief Judge of the court on Tuesday, January 5 after clocking the age of 65.

Justice Garba hails from Malumfashi Local Government Area of Katsina State. He was called to the Bar in 1984, and practiced Law between 1985 and 1989.

He joined the FCT High Court as a magistrate in 1989, and was later appointed the Chief Registrar of the court in 1997, before becoming a judge of the court in 1999.

■ President Muhammadu Buhari receives the Governor of Niger State Abubakar Sani Bello at State House Abuja yesterday.



I sold 6,000 dead poultry meat to Borno residents for 5 years, says suspect

A 33-year-old suspect, Hassan Ebere, has revealed how he sold 6,000 dead poultry to residents of Maiduguri for five years so as to raise money for his livelihood since he lost his father.

Ebere made the revelation while speaking with the News Agency of Nigeria after being paraded by the Borno Command of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps on Wednesday.

"I usually go to the Ngadabul river, behind Borno Radio Television complex, to pick the carcasses of poultry that are thrown away from poultry farms.

"So every week, I pick at least ten or

even more than that, then process it and take it to sell to unsuspecting customers.

"My market base are usually Baga fish market, where I sell some of them as bush meat, Monday market, suya joints and some selected restaurants within the metropolis.

"The products usually go for N700, N800. But if it had spent some days, I take them to local beer parlours at the back of Ngomari ward and sell them for N250," he said.

Ebere said he was pushed by the devil to engage in such nefarious activities, and begged for forgiveness.

Borno Commandant of the NSCDC, Abdullahi Ibrahim, said that the suspect was arrested, while processing the meat behind BRTV complex on Jan. 2, 2021.

Ibrahim said that the command got intelligence reports about the nefarious acts before swinging into action to apprehend him, adding that the arrest of the suspect had stopped what had been a serious health hazard to the people.

On his part, State Coordinator of NAFDAC, Nasiru Mato, said the implication of such an act was in the threat it posed to public safety. (NAN)

NIN: No mass disconnection of telephone subscribers—NCC

By Zakariyya Adaramola

The Nigerian Communications Commission says there will not be mass disconnection of telecom subscribers as a result of the ongoing linkage of National Identity Numbers (NINs) records to SIM registration.

NCC, in a statement last night, said the clarification was necessary to allay the

fears of subscribers and the general public.

The commission's spokesperson, Ikechukwu Adinde, who signed the statement said: "A recent survey conducted in Nigeria has shown that on average, there are now approximately 4 to 5 SIMs to every human subscriber. This explains the basis of allowing the linkage of up to 7 SIMs to 1 unique NIN in the recently launched

Federal Government Portal".

Thus, he said, if there were 43 million Nigerians with NINs, this could account for about 172 million SIMs already linked to NINs.

According to him, the current exercise of linking NINs to SIM(s) is for the common good of all Nigerians, as it has far reaching benefits.

"Apart from enhancing our general safety, this will

help in such vital exercises like national budgeting, policy planning, social intervention programmes and many more", he said.

The Minister of Communication and Digital Economy, Isa Ali Pantami, had assured that the Federal Government would continue to review the exercise in the light of experiences to ensure its smooth implementation.

COVID-19 bites harder as more Nigerians die



■ Lagos State COVID-19 treatment center

From **Abiodun Alade, Christiana T. Alabi & Risikat Ramoni, Lagos**

Nigeria has recorded a total of 5,125 new cases of COVID-19 and 30 deaths within the first five days of 2021, an indication that the second wave of the virus is on the rise.

More worrisome is the fact that the 5,125 new cases are higher than the total infections recorded in the country in the first 75 days of the virus.

From February 27 to May 11, 2020, Nigeria recorded a total of 4,641 cases. The average daily death from the virus within the period was three as against the average of six daily recorded within the first five days of this year.

Lagos, the epicentre of the virus in Nigeria, has continued to record more cases and deaths as the state governor and medical experts cautioned residents to adhere to safety protocols to stop further spread and possible imposition of another lockdown.

The University of Lagos (UNILAG), yesterday, lost another prominent professor, Duro Ajeyalemi, to the dreaded COVID-19 virus.

It was gathered that Professor Ajeyalemi died at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital (LUTH) isolation centre.

The late Professor of Education retired at the age of 70 from the university last November. He was a former dean of the university's Faculty of Education and also the pioneer Registrar of the Joint Universities Preliminary Examination Board (JUPEB).

Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Development Services at UNILAG, Professor Folasade Oguniola confirmed Ajeyalemi's death to our reporter on the phone; saying the news of his death came as a shock to the university.

On whether he died from COVID-19, she said, "I understand that the great scholar died of COVID-19 but I do not have a confirmation of that."

The University had on Sunday lost its former Vice-Chancellor, Professor Oyewusi Ibidapo-Obe, who died at the age of 72.

Sources close to the deceased confirmed that he died from COVID-19 complications.

It was gathered that the two professors attended same wedding party at Ikoyi, where Professor Obe was the chairman of the occasion.

"Apparently, the two contracted the virus at the party. I learnt there are two other professors at the party that are currently on ICU," our source claimed.

Deputy gov loses brother

The Lagos State Deputy Governor, Obafemi Hamzat, yesterday, mourned the death of his younger brother, Dr Haroun Hamzat, who passed on at the age of 37.

The medical expert lost the battle to coronavirus complications despite fighting frantically to survive the deadly respiratory disease, it was learnt.

Haroun, before his death, was a medical officer at one of the Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCs) in Orile-Agege

Local Council Development Area (LCDA).

The deputy governor, who said that Haroun's death was painful and devastating for his family, warned that the killer disease "is no respecter of person, name or status."

Hamzat, who also lost his father in 2019, noted that since no one can escape the brutal strike of death, the entire family had submitted to the will of Almighty, whom he said, gives and takes.

"There is an urgent need for us as people to be conscious of the volatility of COVID-19," he said.

Second wave ravaging our land - LUTH CMD

The Chief Medical Director (CMD) of LUTH, Prof. Chris Bode, yesterday, said COVID-19 second wave was in "Our land and claiming many lives."

Bode, who made the assertion at a news conference in Lagos, said: "The resurgence of COVID-19, through the newly mutated form, is ravaging our land, claiming many lives."

"Unlike what we witnessed in the first wave, this one is even more easily transmitted and deadlier too. It is, therefore, imperative for everyone, first and foremost, accept that COVID-19 pandemic is not over, and we must prepare to confront it all over again."

"What we see on the streets, worship centres and social interactions, parties and daily activities call for concern. In a period when the 'enemy' has doubled back and is attacking us ferociously, we seem to be

celebrating a false victory and denying the danger is still around us," he said.

The chief medical director, however, advised the public to shelve all forms of social engagement for now, including parties, churches, mosques and meetings.

"Wash your hands frequently and before you touch the face, eyes and mouth. Wear face mask obligatory (most important), maintain a social distance of at least six feet away from others where you must be with anyone," he said.

Commenting, the Chairman, Medical Advisory Committee (CMAC), Prof. Wasiu Adeyemo, said everyone thought that the pandemic was over.

Adeyemo said that there were periods in November that the hospital had zero admittance in its wards. "We planned to move to a smaller place, which we actually did, but had to come back to our 120 beds facilities; we never shut down the centre."

"We did not only witness increased numbers, but the severity also increased. Before now, we were not talking about vaccine, but about myths that COVID-19 was not real," he said.

Also, Dr Iorhen Akase, Head, Infectious Disease Unit, said that the hospital observed increased mild cases in the first wave, pointing out that the second wave was severe.

Obey safety protocols to avoid another lockdown - Sanwo-Olu

Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu has also expressed

concern over the high cases of coronavirus recorded in the state.

Sanwo-Olu in a statement, yesterday, urged residents to observe measures put in place to curb the spread of the virus, noting that the state government was doing everything possible to avoid another lockdown.

Sanwo-Olu, who recently recovered from the virus, was reacting to the recent report by the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control, NCDC that showed that Lagos recorded 712 out of the total 1,354 new cases of COVID-19 confirmed in Nigeria on Tuesday.

"There is an urgent need for us to be more circumspect in the way we live, interact and socialise with our friends and family. Many people are ignoring #COVID19 warnings and guidelines, thereby exposing themselves and others to the virus."

"Lagos scarily recorded its highest number of infections in one day (712). We have already recorded a frightening spike in infection cases. This spike brings positive cases to a total of 32,720 in Lagos alone."

"This second wave comes with severe symptoms, and the higher number of positive cases we detect, the higher number of casualties we are bound to record. We do not want this, but for this to be avoided, we must be intentional and cautious."

"We also do not want to go into another lockdown. It is important that you wear your masks, avoid crowded areas, wash or sanitise your hands regularly, and practice social distancing," he said.

Labour kicks as Kano cuts salaries

From Clement A. Oloyede & Ibrahim Musa Giginyu (Kano)

Civil servants in Kano State said yesterday that they had been left confused following unexplained slashes in their November and December salaries.

Some civil servants said they were left with less than the old minimum wage of N18, 000. Officials of the state government denied reverting to the old minimum wage, insisting that there were only deductions because of the prevailing recession in the country occasioned by COVID-19.

The federal government had in 2020 increased the minimum wage to N30, 000 and some states followed suit by adopting the increment based on the grade level of their workers.

A cross-section of civil servants in Kano described the “slash” as unfair, saying the Governor Abdullahi Umar Ganduje-led administration shouldn't have deducted money from their November and December salaries at a period when it released N2.3billion for the conduct of local government elections scheduled for January 16.

This is even as many of them have continued to raise questions on what the government is doing with the several monies it is getting from different sources including federal allocation, internally generated revenue and grants from donor agencies.

Daily Trust reports that Kano State is not the only state in the country to have tampered with workers' salaries in recent times.

Most recently, the Niger State Government had declared that it could no longer pay 100 per cent salary while Gombe State stopped the payment of the N30,000 minimum wage since March 2020, both citing the effect of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's economy.

Salihu Tanko Yakasai, the Special Adviser on Media to Kano State governor, said yesterday that “the state government has reverted to the initial minimum pay due to recession. What we are getting now as a government has reduced, and we can't afford to pay the N30, 000 minimum wage.”

Efforts to get clarification from the Head of Service, Binta Ahmed proved abortive as calls to her number were not connecting while a text message sent to her was marked delivered but not responded to as at press time. A *Daily Trust* reporter also went to her office at the Audu Bako Secretariat and was told she had not been to the office all through the day (Wednesday).

However, speaking with *Daily Trust*, the state Commissioner for Information, Malam Muhammad Garba said it was not really a case of reverting to



■ Beneficiaries of the Federal Government Extended Special Public Works Programme in Kaduna

the 18,000 minimum wage but that of reduction because of the current economic situation in the country.

It was gathered that these deductions affected the 55,505 mainstream civil servants in the state as of December 31, 2020. This figure includes all state Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) including tertiary institutions but excluding Maitama Sule University and Kano State University of Science and Technology, Wudil. The decision, it was gathered, also affected all political appointees of Governor Ganduje.

Some of us got less than N18, 000 - Civil servants

All the civil servants that spoke with *Daily Trust* pleaded not to be named. One of them with the state's Teacher's Service Board said they noticed the deduction from their salaries in November 2020, and it was also repeated in December without any explanation to that effect.

He said while it was rumoured that the state government had reverted to N18, 000 minimum wage, what was deducted in December from his salary was more than the increase accrued in the N30, 000 minimum wage increment, meaning what he got was even below the N18, 000 minimum wage. He said he discovered he was not the only one that suffered this fate.

Another source in one of the state's ministries said the unannounced deduction from workers' monthly salary has demoralised the entire civil servants in the state, adding that he did not blame the government but the labour union that decided to keep mum on the issue.

“Monies were deducted from our salaries during the first wave of COVID-19 throughout the lockdown period, that we understood; but with this deduction, I blame the labour union for keeping quiet on the development. We do not know who to rely on,” he lamented.

A female civil servant also told one of our reporters that the civil service sector has been under what she called ‘Gatarin Ganduje’ (Ganduje's axe).

According to her, at present, no civil servant in the state

know the exact amount of money he will receive at the end of the month as salary and as such cannot effectively plan.

Decision illegal

When contacted, the Chairman of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) in the state, Comrade Kabiru Ado said it is the Joint Negotiation Council (JNC) that is vested with negotiation at the state level and not the NLC “but NLC is only a witness in the negotiation”.

According to him, “We have not received any official communication from the government to revert to old wage as circulated by some media outlets. So, we will stand by the signed agreement of N30, 600 entered since December 2019.”

The Chairman of Joint Negotiation Council (JNC) of the organised labour in Kano State, Comrade Hashim Saleh, told *Daily Trust* that the organised labour was not carried along and even when it reached out to the government in December to stop the deductions, government disregarded them.

“In November 2020, they just went ahead without our knowledge and consent. They just deducted the money, which is contrary to the agreement of the signed salary structure in accordance with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Convention. They did this without following due process,” he said.

He said the provision of the ILO Convention is that if there is a problem with the income of the government, the government has to summon a meeting with the representatives of the workers “to sit down and bring all the books of the financial expenditure and income” so the representatives of the workers will understand that there is truly a problem with the income.

According to him, “After making a series of investigations, we (the JNC) wrote a letter to the government to stop the deduction and refund the already deducted money. We cited an authority to back this demand up. We sent the letter through the Office of the Head of Service to

the governor. We copied all the relevant stakeholders.

“The government invited us in December. Myself, the chairman NLC, the chairman TUC and all stakeholders, even those not under the JNC and TUC were also in the meeting. They (government) told us they have financial problems and we told them there is no such thing as a financial problem so far.

“During our negotiation, the income shared by the federal government was less than N600 billion but in November 2020, FG shared over N600 billion. So, we did not agree with the position that there is no money.

“Even during the COVID-19 lockdown, we were the ones that agreed that all civil servants should contribute 10% of their salaries because there was lockdown, but in this case, there is no lockdown at all. Even the government is generating revenue from different businesses including PAYE. So, we were not satisfied with their position that the government does not have money. And we also did not agree to any deduction in December salaries.

“We told them we will go and further discuss with other colleagues but before we got home, we discovered that they (government) started paying local government staff salaries with deductions. So, the following day, we wrote to them again and expressed our dissatisfactions but they continued with their deductions,” he added.

He said at the meeting, which was chaired by the Head of Service, it was the commissioner for local government that told them that the money the LGs are generating from the federation accounts was not enough to pay the employees of the LGs and State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB).

“Kano State Government (at the meeting) actually never disclosed that they do not have money but only the commissioner for local government was the one that continued saying there is no money. The commissioner for finance, commissioner for special duties, ALGON chairman and the head of service did not say anything,”

he added. On the next step to be taken by the organised labour, Comrade Sale said they (organised labour) will be meeting next week and after the meeting, their position will be made public.

“At the moment, we are doing underground works to ensure that we compel the government to return to the normal payment of salaries in the state because what they are doing is illegal,” he added.

Why we deducted from workers' salaries

The Commissioner for Information, Malam Muhammad Garba told *Daily Trust* that: “It is not that we have reverted but what the state government did was that you know, we entered into recession and the allocation from the federal government has gone down drastically and coupled with the COVID-19, the internally generated revenue has also come down.

“So, we found it very difficult to accommodate the N30, 000 minimum wage. Therefore, instead of us not to pay salaries, the government decided to do some reduction from the workers' salaries.

“It is a deduction actually, not that government has reverted to N18, 000 minimum wage. Some (workers), based on the deductions, will reflect N18,000 and some will reflect N19,000 but there are ways and manner according to the grade level, that is how the ministry for finance and that of local government actually did for November and December salaries.”

He assured that by the time the country gets out of recession, “and we see improvement in the revenue, which the government is making a lot of efforts, I want to assure you that we have already signed agreement with the labour on N30, 000 minimum wage, so there is no way we can completely revert back and say we are paying N18, 000. That is the truth of the matter.”

On why the civil servants were not informed of the decision to deduct their salaries, the commissioner said he is not sure if the labour union has been contacted.

“I am sure such a decision is something that should be done with labour union but if eventually that has not been done, I am sure the government will find a way of talking to the labour and I am sure the labour will understand with the government.”

He added that “there are many states that are not even paying salaries now. Some states said it openly that they can only pay half salary but in Kano, the governor said ‘we have to pay salaries. The only thing we have to do is to make some deductions from the salaries’, which I believe the civil servants should understand.”

Labour kicks as Kano cuts salaries

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Civil servants in Kano State said yesterday that they had been left confused following unexplained slashes in their November and December salaries.

Some civil servants said they were left with less than the old minimum wage of N18, 000. Officials of the state government denied reverting to the old minimum wage, insisting that there were only deductions because of the prevailing recession in the country occasioned by COVID-19.

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Most recently, the Niger State Government had declared that it could no longer pay 100 per cent salary while Gombe State stopped the payment of the N30,000 minimum wage since March 2020, both citing the effect of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's economy.

Salihu Tanko Yakasai, the Special Adviser on Media to Kano State governor, said yesterday that “the state government has reverted to the initial minimum pay due to recession. What we are getting now as a government has reduced, and we can't afford to pay the N30, 000 minimum wage.”

Efforts to get clarification from the Head of Service, Binta Ahmed proved abortive as calls to her number were not connecting while a text message sent to her was marked delivered but not responded to as at press time. A *Daily Trust* reporter also went to her office at the Audu Bako Secretariat and was told she had not been to the office all through the day (Wednesday).

However, speaking with *Daily Trust*, the state Commissioner for Information, Malam Muhammad Garba said it was not really a case of reverting to



■ Beneficiaries of the Federal Government Extended Special Public Works Programme in Kaduna

the 18,000 minimum wage but that of reduction because of the current economic situation in the country.

It was gathered that these deductions affected the 55,505 mainstream civil servants in the state as of December 31, 2020. This figure includes all state Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) including tertiary institutions but excluding Maitama Sule University and Kano State University of Science and Technology, Wudil. The decision, it was gathered, also affected all political appointees of Governor Ganduje.

Some of us got less than N18, 000 - Civil servants

All the civil servants that spoke with *Daily Trust* pleaded not to be named. One of them with the state's Teacher's Service Board said they noticed the deduction from their salaries in November 2020, and it was also repeated in December without any explanation to that effect.

He said while it was rumoured that the state government had reverted to N18, 000 minimum wage, what was deducted in December from his salary was more than the increase accrued in the N30, 000 minimum wage increment, meaning what he got was even below the N18, 000 minimum wage. He said he discovered he was not the only one that suffered this fate.

Another source in one of the state's ministries said the unannounced deduction from workers' monthly salary has demoralised the entire civil servants in the state, adding that he did not blame the government but the labour union that decided to keep mum on the issue.

“Monies were deducted from our salaries during the first wave of COVID-19 throughout the lockdown period, that we understood; but with this deduction, I blame the labour union for keeping quiet on the development. We do not know who to rely on,” he lamented.

A female civil servant also told one of our reporters that the civil service sector has been under what she called ‘Gatarin Ganduje’ (Ganduje's axe).

According to her, at present, no civil servant in the state

know the exact amount of money he will receive at the end of the month as salary and as such cannot effectively plan.

Decision illegal

When contacted, the Chairman of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) in the state, Comrade Kabiru Ado said it is the Joint Negotiation Council (JNC) that is vested with negotiation at the state level and not the NLC “but NLC is only a witness in the negotiation”.

According to him, “We have not received any official communication from the government to revert to old wage as circulated by some media outlets. So, we will stand by the signed agreement of N30, 600 entered since December 2019.”

The Chairman of Joint Negotiation Council (JNC) of the organised labour in Kano State, Comrade Hashim Saleh, told *Daily Trust* that the organised labour was not carried along and even when it reached out to the government in December to stop the deductions, government disregarded them.

“In November 2020, they just went ahead without our knowledge and consent. They just deducted the money, which is contrary to the agreement of the signed salary structure in accordance with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Convention. They did this without following due process,” he said.

He said the provision of the ILO Convention is that if there is a problem with the income of the government, the government has to summon a meeting with the representatives of the workers “to sit down and bring all the books of the financial expenditure and income” so the representatives of the workers will understand that there is truly a problem with the income.

According to him, “After making a series of investigations, we (the JNC) wrote a letter to the government to stop the deduction and refund the already deducted money. We cited an authority to back this demand up. We sent the letter through the Office of the Head of Service to

the governor. We copied all the relevant stakeholders.

“The government invited us in December. Myself, the chairman NLC, the chairman TUC and all stakeholders, even those not under the JNC and TUC were also in the meeting. They (government) told us they have financial problems and we told them there is no such thing as a financial problem so far.

“During our negotiation, the income shared by the federal government was less than N600 billion but in November 2020, FG shared over N600 billion. So, we did not agree with the position that there is no money.

“Even during the COVID-19 lockdown, we were the ones that agreed that all civil servants should contribute 10% of their salaries because there was lockdown, but in this case, there is no lockdown at all. Even the government is generating revenue from different businesses including PAYE. So, we were not satisfied with their position that the government does not have money. And we also did not agree to any deduction in December salaries.

“We told them we will go and further discuss with other colleagues but before we got home, we discovered that they (government) started paying local government staff salaries with deductions. So, the following day, we wrote to them again and expressed our dissatisfactions but they continued with their deductions,” he added.

He said at the meeting, which was chaired by the Head of Service, it was the commissioner for local government that told them that the money the LGs are generating from the federation accounts was not enough to pay the employees of the LGs and State Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB).

“Kano State Government (at the meeting) actually never disclosed that they do not have money but only the commissioner for local government was the one that continued saying there is no money. The commissioner for finance, commissioner for special duties, ALGON chairman and the head of service did not say anything,”

he added. On the next step to be taken by the organised labour, Comrade Sale said they (organised labour) will be meeting next week and after the meeting, their position will be made public.

“At the moment, we are doing underground works to ensure that we compel the government to return to the normal payment of salaries in the state because what they are doing is illegal,” he added.

Why we deducted from workers' salaries

The Commissioner for Information, Malam Muhammad Garba told *Daily Trust* that: “It is not that we have reverted but what the state government did was that you know, we entered into recession and the allocation from the federal government has gone down drastically and coupled with the COVID-19, the internally generated revenue has also come down.

“So, we found it very difficult to accommodate the N30, 000 minimum wage. Therefore, instead of us not to pay salaries, the government decided to do some reduction from the workers' salaries.

“It is a deduction actually, not that government has reverted to N18, 000 minimum wage. Some (workers), based on the deductions, will reflect N18,000 and some will reflect N19,000 but there are ways and manner according to the grade level, that is how the ministry for finance and that of local government actually did for November and December salaries.”

He assured that by the time the country gets out of recession, “and we see improvement in the revenue, which the government is making a lot of efforts, I want to assure you that we have already signed agreement with the labour on N30, 000 minimum wage, so there is no way we can completely revert back and say we are paying N18, 000. That is the truth of the matter.”

On why the civil servants were not informed of the decision to deduct their salaries, the commissioner said he is not sure if the labour union has been contacted.

“I am sure such a decision is something that should be done with labour union but if eventually that has not been done, I am sure the government will find a way of talking to the labour and I am sure the labour will understand with the government.”

He added that “there are many states that are not even paying salaries now. Some states said it openly that they can only pay half salary but in Kano, the governor said ‘we have to pay salaries. The only thing we have to do is to make some deductions from the salaries’, which I believe the civil servants should understand.”

COVID-19 bites harder as more Nigerians die



■ Lagos State COVID-19 treatment center

From Abiodun Alade, Christiana T. Alabi & Risikat Ramoni, Lagos

Nigeria has recorded a total of 5,125 new cases of COVID-19 and 30 deaths within the first five days of 2021, an indication that the second wave of the virus is on the rise.

More worrisome is the fact that the 5,125 new cases are higher than the total infections recorded in the country in the first 75 days of the virus.

From February 27 to May 11, 2020, Nigeria recorded a total of 4,641 cases. The average daily death from the virus within the period was three as against the average of six daily recorded within the first five days of this year.

Lagos, the epicentre of the virus in Nigeria, has continued to record more cases and deaths as the state governor and medical experts cautioned residents to adhere to safety protocols to stop further spread and possible imposition of another lockdown.

The University of Lagos (UNILAG), yesterday, lost another prominent professor, Duro Ajeyalemi, to the dreaded COVID-19 virus.

It was gathered that Professor Ajeyalemi died at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital (LUTH) isolation centre.

The late Professor of Education retired at the age of 70 from the university last November. He was a former dean of the university's Faculty of Education and also the pioneer Registrar of the Joint Universities Preliminary Examination Board (JUPEB).

Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Development Services at UNILAG, Professor Folasade Oguniola confirmed Ajeyalemi's death to our reporter on the phone; saying the news of his death came as a shock to the university.

On whether he died from COVID-19, she said, "I understand that the great scholar died of COVID-19 but I do not have a confirmation of that."

The University had on Sunday lost its former Vice-Chancellor, Professor Oyewusi Ibidapo-Obe, who died at the age of 72.

Sources close to the deceased confirmed that he died from COVID-19 complications.

It was gathered that the two professors attended same wedding party at Ikoyi, where Professor Obe was the chairman of the occasion.

"Apparently, the two contracted the virus at the party. I learnt there are two other professors at the party that are currently on ICU," our source claimed.

Deputy gov loses brother

The Lagos State Deputy Governor, Obafemi Hamzat, yesterday, mourned the death of his younger brother, Dr Haroun Hamzat, who passed on at the age of 37.

The medical expert lost the battle to coronavirus complications despite fighting frantically to survive the deadly respiratory disease, it was learnt.

Haroun, before his death, was a medical officer at one of the Primary Healthcare Centres (PHCs) in Orile-Agege

Local Council Development Area (LCDA).

The deputy governor, who said that Haroun's death was painful and devastating for his family, warned that the killer disease "is no respecter of person, name or status."

Hamzat, who also lost his father in 2019, noted that since no one can escape the brutal strike of death, the entire family had submitted to the will of Almighty, whom he said, gives and takes.

"There is an urgent need for us as people to be conscious of the volatility of COVID-19," he said.

Second wave ravaging our land - LUTH CMD

The Chief Medical Director (CMD) of LUTH, Prof. Chris Bode, yesterday, said COVID-19 second wave was in "Our land and claiming many lives."

Bode, who made the assertion at a news conference in Lagos, said: "The resurgence of COVID-19, through the newly mutated form, is ravaging our land, claiming many lives."

"Unlike what we witnessed in the first wave, this one is even more easily transmitted and deadlier too. It is, therefore, imperative for everyone, first and foremost, accept that COVID-19 pandemic is not over, and we must prepare to confront it all over again."

"What we see on the streets, worship centres and social interactions, parties and daily activities call for concern. In a period when the 'enemy' has doubled back and is attacking us ferociously, we seem to be

celebrating a false victory and denying the danger is still around us," he said.

The chief medical director, however, advised the public to shelve all forms of social engagement for now, including parties, churches, mosques and meetings.

"Wash your hands frequently and before you touch the face, eyes and mouth. Wear face mask obligatory (most important), maintain a social distance of at least six feet away from others where you must be with anyone," he said.

Commenting, the Chairman, Medical Advisory Committee (CMAC), Prof. Wasiu Adeyemo, said everyone thought that the pandemic was over.

Adeyemo said that there were periods in November that the hospital had zero admittance in its wards. "We planned to move to a smaller place, which we actually did, but had to come back to our 120 beds facilities; we never shut down the centre."

"We did not only witness increased numbers, but the severity also increased. Before now, we were not talking about vaccine, but about myths that COVID-19 was not real," he said.

Also, Dr Iorhen Akase, Head, Infectious Disease Unit, said that the hospital observed increased mild cases in the first wave, pointing out that the second wave was severe.

Obey safety protocols to avoid another lockdown - Sanwo-Olu

Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu has also expressed

concern over the high cases of coronavirus recorded in the state.

Sanwo-Olu in a statement, yesterday, urged residents to observe measures put in place to curb the spread of the virus, noting that the state government was doing everything possible to avoid another lockdown.

Sanwo-Olu, who recently recovered from the virus, was reacting to the recent report by the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control, NCDC that showed that Lagos recorded 712 out of the total 1,354 new cases of COVID-19 confirmed in Nigeria on Tuesday.

"There is an urgent need for us to be more circumspect in the way we live, interact and socialise with our friends and family. Many people are ignoring #COVID19 warnings and guidelines, thereby exposing themselves and others to the virus."

"Lagos scarily recorded its highest number of infections in one day (712). We have already recorded a frightening spike in infection cases. This spike brings positive cases to a total of 32,720 in Lagos alone."

"This second wave comes with severe symptoms, and the higher number of positive cases we detect, the higher number of casualties we are bound to record. We do not want this, but for this to be avoided, we must be intentional and cautious."

"We also do not want to go into another lockdown. It is important that you wear your masks, avoid crowded areas, wash or sanitise your hands regularly, and practice social distancing," he said.

Police find 3-month-old stolen baby in Ondo – CP

The Ondo State Police Command says it has found a three-month-old baby reportedly stolen from her mother's shop in Ondo town on January 2.

The Commissioner of Police in the state, Mr Salami Bolaji, disclosed this in a statement issued on

Thursday in Akure by the command's Spokesman, ASP Tee-Leo Ikoro.

Bolaji alleged that the baby was stolen by one Temitope Adeniyi, a seamstress trainee under the baby's mother.

The police boss stated that the command went into an aggressive manhunt to

ensure the stolen toddler was found in good time and unhurt.

He stated: "There is a limit to how much any criminal can operate in Ondo state and get away with it.

"As the news of the incident spread, we immediately ordered our men to unravel

the mystery behind the disappearance of the little baby.

"It could only bring pain and mystery to whoever thinks he can carry out criminal acts here and get away with it as far as I command the policing and security architecture of this state."

He lauded the prompt intervention of his men in getting the baby back to her parents unhurt.

Bolaji stated that he had devised strategies to nip crime in the bud, saying that residents of the state "should expect absolute swift in the policing of the state".

Aero Contractors MD, Ado Sanusi, resigns

From Abdullateef Aliyu, Lagos

Foremost aviator, Captain Ado Sanusi has quit as the Managing Director of Aero Contractors, Nigeria's oldest surviving domestic airline, it was learnt yesterday.

Capt. Sanusi stepped down after the expiration of his tenure at the airline.

Sanusi was appointed the MD in February 2017 after it was taken over by the Assets Management Corporation of Nigeria (AMCON).

It was learnt that his tenure, according to the contract with the AMCON, actually elapsed six months ago but it was extended till the end of December, 2020.

The former MD, however, formally left the organization on

December 29, 2020 after he helped to stabilize the organization and even revive the moribund Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) wing of the airline.

The resuscitation of Aero MRO helped the airline in bringing some of its aircraft back to service as Sanusi took over when the airline had just one serviceable aircraft.

Daily Trust learnt that Capt. Abdullahi Mahmood, the Chief Pilot of Arik Air, another airline under AMCON's receivership, has taken over from Sanusi.

Spokesman of the corporation, Mr. Jude Nwazor confirmed the development in a chat with our correspondent last night.

He described the change of guard as "a re-strategising process."

He also confirmed the speculation that AMCON might deploy Sanusi to another entity under its aviation portfolio, saying, "I am not sure we are done with Capt. Ado Sanusi as you know that we still have many entities under our aviation portfolio."

"What happened was just change of guards. He has done four years. There are not many people in Nigeria with experience like Capt. Sanusi. He is not somebody you just dump anyhow. Somebody like that is very valuable," he said.

Capt. Sanusi also told Daily Trust that he has left the airline after the expiration of his tenure. However, he expressed optimism that the airline would continue to wax stronger.

2nd wave: Edo conducts 3,201 COVID-19 tests

The Edo government says it has so far conducted a total of 3,201 COVID-19 tests since the state started tracking the second wave of the pandemic on Dec. 1, 2020.

The State Incident Manager on COVID-19, Dr Andrew Obi, disclosed this in a statement in Benin on Wednesday.

Obi said that a total of 242 cases confirmed positive during the test.

"Since we started tracking the second wave of the coronavirus outbreak in Edo from Dec. 1, 2020, we have conducted a total of 3,201 COVID-19 tests.

"These include the laboratories at the University of Benin Teaching Hospital (UBTH), Irrua Specialist Teaching Hospital (ISTH), Edo Specialist Hospital and a private health facility, Lily

Hospital.

"As at Jan. 6, we have recorded 119 active COVID-19 cases and 10 recoveries. We also have eight new cases reported from the PCR molecular laboratory at UBTH," he said.

Obi said that the state government had reactivated isolation and treatment facilities across the state for management of COVID-19 cases.

He stated that said that learning from checking the spread of the first wave of the pandemic had proved beneficial in stemming the tide of the second wave.

Obi, however, cautioned residents of the state to abide by the precautionary health and safety guidelines set by the government to curb the spread of the virus. (NAN)

Enugu schools resume January 18

From Tony Adibe, Enugu

Enugu State Government has announced January 18, 2021, as resumption date for all schools in the state.

The state Commissioner for Education, Prof. Uche Eze, in a statement, advised all schools in the state to ensure compliance with the NCDC guidelines for

the containment of coronavirus disease.

The state government has also suspended the annual prayer session organised for civil servants to commence work for the New Year.

JNI tackles Kukah over Christmas message

From Maryam Ahmadu-Suka, Kaduna

The Jama'atu Nasril Islam (JNI) has urged the Catholic Bishop of Sokoto Diocese, Reverend Matthew Hassan Kukah, not to take Muslims' kindness for timidity or foolishness.

JNI was reacting to Kukah's Christmas message.

A statement yesterday by JNI Secretary-General, Dr. Khalid Abubakar Aliyu, said Kukah's message was an attack on Islam and Muslims in Nigeria.

"One cannot but agree that it was a calculated attempt to insult Islam which is typical of him. His veiled insinuation that Muslims have a pool of violence to draw from is disgusting, disheartening, as well as condemnable," he said.

He said Christmas homilies should come with messages of hope, unity, mercy, forgiveness of the Supreme Being and resilience through prayers, especially in this trying time.

He noted that the

Bishop's message was however a clear deviation from well-established norm across the globe.

"In spite of the liberality, congeniality and the camaraderie extended to Bishop Kukah in Sokoto and all over the Muslim north, he throws all sense of decorum and common sense to the wind and fired invective salvos on the Muslims and Islam without any justification.

"By this and his several similar inane attacks against Islam and the Muslims, the Bishop has lost the friendship and the hospitality of the entire Muslim populace. How can the Muslims ever trust a man who smiles at their faces in the day and hold dagger against them in the night? How can the Muslims continue to be hospitable to the one who proves to be ingrate many times over? How can the Muslims be comfortable in associating with a bitterly vindictive person disguised in the garb of religious clergy?"

"Muslims in Nigeria cannot be charged and be held responsible or accountable for the actions or inactions of Government just because it is headed by a Muslim. The Bishop cannot pretend to be attacking President Buhari and end up punching Islam and the Muslims. We will never accept to be used as punching bag of the vindictive Bishop," he said.

"To this end, we call on all Muslims to continue to remain calm in the face of these provocations in order to deny conflict entrepreneurs disguised as clergies the avenue to market their stock.

"Muslims are enjoined to continuously uphold the teachings of Islam, especially in regards to accommodativeness, conviviality and hospitality. Let's continue to relate well with our peace loving Christian neighbors and colleagues regardless of the vituperations of some misguided elements among them," JNI said.

In tomorrow's

AMINIYA





2021: Matsaloli uku da ka iya ci gaba da kawo tarnaki ga Najeriya

Shigowa sabuwar shekara kan zo da sababbin abubuwa da dama, ciki har da wadansu da suka faro tun bara da ake tunanin za su cigaba da faruwa a bana.

Hakan ya sa Aminiya ta waiwayi wasu muhimman abubuwa guda uku da za su iya cigaba da yi wa kasar tarnaki a bana.

Yadda kwalliya ke 'hana amare' yin Sallah ranar biki

Kasancewar ana samun sabon salo a yanayin kwalliyar zamani ba kamar na da ba, Aminiya ta yi rahoto na musamman kan yanayin kwalliyar na zamani da salonsa da kuma yadda ba a so ruwa na taƙa shi.

'Wadanda suka yi garkuwa da ni Fillancin Nijar da Chadi suke yi'

Aminiya ta zanta da wani dan kasuwa da aka yi garkuwa da shi, inda ya bayyana yadda aka dauke shi, da yadda ya kasance a cikin daji da kuma yadda aka karbo shi.

Ko Arewa24 sun nemi in dawo Kwana Casa'in ba zan dawo ba – Safara'u

Aminiya ta zanta da jarumar shirin Kwana Casa'in Safiya Yusuf, wadda aka fi sani da Safara'u, inda ta bayyana dalilin da ya sa aka daina ganinta a shirin da sauransu.



■ WHO Personnel at Port of Entry at the Murtala Mohammed Airport

COVID-19: FG to impose travel ban on defaulting VIPs

National Coordinator, Presidential Task Force on COVID-19, Sani Aliyu, yesterday said the government would impose a travel ban on Very Important Personalities and government officials who flouted travel protocols.

Aliyu, in a video posted via twitter by the Ministry of Information and Culture, said: "We want to change people's behaviour. We've shown that we're going to do it. We've done it and we'll continue to do it every week until things change."

"It is not like we want to punish

people but if you continue to put our country at risk, we will take action. Next week, we'll publish another 100, subsequent weeks, we'll continue to publish until we see an improvement in terms of the compliance."

"So, whether you're a VIP, whether you're a government official, whether you're in a leadership position, if you do not follow the travel protocols, there'll be repercussions."

"We do not publish names because the essence of doing the entire exercise is to force people to comply with our protocols."

...WHO urges countries to shun vaccine nationalism

The World Health Organisation (WHO) says it is in countries self-interest to shun vaccine nationalism and work toward equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, noting that people must come first over short-term profits.

WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus, said this at the first COVID-19 news conference for the year at the WHO headquarters in Geneva.

Vaccine nationalism is when a country manages to secure doses of vaccines for its own citizens and prioritises its own domestic markets before they are made available in other countries.

This is done through pre-purchase agreements between a government and a vaccine manufacturer.

In series of tweets posted on the UN health agency twitter account @WHO, Ghebreyesus also urged all governments to be committed to

equitable distribution of the vaccine.

"I urge all governments to work together and live up to their commitments to equitable distribution globally and all pharmaceutical groups to boost supply as quickly as possible and to fully participate in COVAX," he said.

According to him, vaccination of health workers against COVID-19 and those at high risk of serious disease is the fastest way to stabilise health systems.

"Vaccinating health workers and those at high risk of serious disease is the fastest way to stabilise health systems, ensure all essential health services are up and running and that a truly global economic recovery can take place."

"We owe it morally to health workers everywhere who have been fighting this pandemic around the clock for the best part of a year to vaccinate them all as soon as possible." (NAN)

Lafarge extends National Essay competition entry deadline to Jan.15

By Faruk Shuaibu

Lafarge Africa Plc yesterday said it had extended the registration deadline for its National Essay Competition in Nigeria to January 15 in order to give more interested children the opportunity to participate.

Its Country Chief Executive Officer, Khaled El-Dokani, in a statement, said this followed calls by parents and guardians of pupils in public schools requesting for more time to allow

their children and wards to partake in the competition.

The competition, themed "Building the Nigeria of My Dreams", targets pupils only in public schools and will feature the junior category for pupils aged 7-10 years in primary schools and the intermediate category, for pupils aged 11-14 in public junior secondary schools.

El-Dokani encouraged the eligible pupils, who are within the specified age bracket and in public schools to visit www.learnwithlafarge.com

and take the opportunity to further develop their literacy skills.

Lafarge Africa boss said, "Participants stand a chance to win cash prizes of 1.5m in the Diamond category; N1m and N750,000 in the Gold and Silver categories respectively as well as other exciting educational consolation prizes."

The portal, which opened for entries on December 4, 2020 will now close January 15, 2021 while shortlisting of successful entries will hold on 28th February.

Chaos in DC as Trump supporters invade Capitol

Angry supporters of President Donald Trump stormed the U.S. Capitol on Wednesday in a chaotic protest aimed at thwarting a peaceful transfer of power, forcing lawmakers to be rushed from the building and interrupting challenges to Joe Biden's Electoral College victory. Trump issued a restrained call for peace but did not call on his supporters to leave.

Authorities have declared curfew as reports say one female protester was shot by the police.

The deliberations to certify the electoral votes were still in their early stages when they were overcome by raucous demonstrations outside, as protesters who clashed with police entered the building, shouting and waving Trump and American flags. They abruptly interrupted the proceedings in an out-of-control scene that

featured eerie official warnings directing people to duck under their seats for cover and put on gas masks.

With the crowds showing no signs of abating, Trump tweeted, "Please support our Capitol Police and Law Enforcement. They are truly on the side of our Country. Stay peaceful!"

Senators were being evacuated. Some House lawmakers tweeted they were sheltering in place in their offices.

Demonstrators fought with Capitol Police and then forced their way into the building, not long after a huge rally near the White House during which Trump egged them on to march to Capitol Hill.

Lawmakers had convened for an extraordinary joint session to confirm the Electoral College results.

Though fellow Republicans were behind the challenge

to Biden's 306-232 Electoral College victory, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell sought to lower tensions and argued against it. He warned the country "cannot keep drifting apart into two separate tribes" with "separate facts."

McConnell declared, "The voters, the courts and the states all have spoken."

But other Republicans, including House GOP leaders among Trump's allies were acting out the pleas of supporters at his huge Wednesday rally up Pennsylvania Avenue outside the White House to "fight for Trump."

"We have to fix this," said Rep. Steve Scalise of Louisiana, the GOP whip.

The last-gasp effort is all but certain to fail, defeated by bipartisan majorities in Congress prepared to accept the November results. Biden is to be inaugurated Jan. 20.



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Troops destroy 197 bandits' hideouts, neutralise 220 – DHQ

The troops of Operation Sahel Sanity have destroyed 197 bandits' hideouts, neutralised 220, arrested 892 suspects and recovered a large cache of arms in North West in the second half of 2020, Defence Headquarters said yesterday.

The Acting Director, Defence Media Operations, Brig.-Gen. Bernard Onyeuko, said this at a news conference held at the Army Special Super Camp 4 in Faskari, Katsina, on

Wednesday.

Onyeuko said the operations were carried out from July 1 to December 31, 2020.

He disclosed that 73 AK47 rifles, one GPMG and 194 Dane guns as well as 5,032 rounds of 7.62mm Special ammunition, 568 rounds of 7.62 mm NATO ammunition and 156 live cartridges were recovered by the troops.

According to him, 197 bandits' camps and hideouts including the notorious

Dangote Triangle and several bandits' logistics bases were destroyed by troops during the period.

"Also, 335 suspected bandits, 326 illegal miners, 147 bandits' informants and collaborators, 14 bandits' arms suppliers, 24 rustled cattle marketers and 46 bandits' logistics suppliers were arrested.

"Similarly, a total of 7,761 cows, 1,867 sheep/rams and four Camels were recovered and given back to the owners

by troops within the period.

"It is also heart-warming to note that a total of 642 kidnapped victims were rescued by the valiant troops, and these include the rescued 344 students of Government Science Secondary School Kankara.

"Also within the period, the gallant troops successfully foiled 165 bandits' attacks and 81 kidnap attempts," he said.

According to him, the gallant troops within the

period under review carried out a series of clearance operations, ambushes, farm and other aggressive confidence-building patrols within Sokoto, Katsina, Kebbi, Kaduna, Niger and Zamfara States.

The spokesperson, however, said that two officers and four soldiers paid the supreme price in the cause of defending the country during the period under review. (NAN)

NTI begins training of teachers nationwide

From Mohammed I. Yaba, Kaduna

The National Teachers' Institute (NTI), Kaduna has commenced the training of 925 teachers nationwide in its 2020 edition of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) capacity building workshops.

A statement by the institute's SDGs Desk Officer and Director Field Operations and Students' Services, Israel Akinola Durodola, said 25 Primary and Junior Secondary school teachers in each state and the FCT would be trained between Monday, January 4 and Friday, January 8, 2021.

The training, which is expected to be interactive and learner-centred among the participants and their

facilitators would focus on four thematic areas that include: effective classroom management; ICT; language communication skills and basic classroom teaching methods.

The statement further said that under the SDGs project, the Institute has so far trained 14,230 teachers between 2016 and 2019.

It stated that between 2006 and 2015, the institute had trained a total of 754,296 teachers under the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which was later succeeded by the SDGs.

NTI said it has already deployed 204 of its staff as Centre Managers and Support Staff to all the 37 centres nationwide.



■ From left: Deputy Speaker, Oyo State House of Assembly, Abiodun Fadeyi; Representative of GOC, 2 Division, Nigerian Army, Brig.-Gen. Thomas Ogunsugba; Oyo State Deputy Governor, Mr Rauf Olaniyan; Chairman, Nigerian Legion, Oyo State Chapter, Deacon Michael Fajimi; and Secretary to Oyo State Government, Mrs Olubamiwo Adeosun, at the launch of Appeal Week Emblem as part of activities marking the 2021 Armed Forces Remembrance Day celebration in Ibadan yesterday. Photo: NAN

Sex organ removal: Bauchi LG boss orders demolition of criminal hideout

From Hassan Ibrahim, Bauchi

Chairman of Jama'are Local Government Council in Bauchi State, Samaila Jarma, has ordered the immediate demolition of Gidan Zana, a notorious hideout of criminals and other bad elements in the area.

He gave the order following the removal of a 6-year-old girl's sex organ in Jama'are.

The chairman also ordered the immediate arrest of any herbalist found to be involved in rituals for people particularly the jobless youths.

Jarma, who disclosed this to newsmen in Bauchi, said that the move was to checkmate the rampant cases of criminal activities in the area, including money rituals.

He said the council has given security operatives in the area the marching order to arrest and prosecute anyone linked to any criminal activity in the area especially issues of violence against vulnerable people for rituals.

Meanwhile, Jarma has dismissed media announcements soliciting financial assistance for the

treatment of the six-year-old girl.

"For the avoidance of doubt, the State Governor, Bala Mohammed has taken responsibility for the medical bills. The government has already deposited the sum of N1 million for the commencement of her treatment.

"More money will be released on demand by the team of medical professionals working on her. As a council, we have supplied food items and other needs to the family, which will be done continuously," he said.

Why we revoked 500 private schools' licences – Zamfara govt

From Shehu Umar, Gusau

Zamfara State Government said it revoked the operational licenses of about 500 private schools in the state to bring sanity to the subsector.

The state Commissioner for Education, Dr Ibrahim Abdullahi Gusau, in an interview with Daily Trust yesterday, said the state government did not have the record of all private schools operating in the state.

"We have no actual data on the number of private schools and we felt that one way to regulate them is to revoke all their licenses so that we issue

fresh ones to most deserving schools," he said.

Gusau said the state Ministry of Education had no operational guidelines for private schools, and for the meantime, the government would domesticate the guidelines issued by the Federal Ministry of Education.

"Private schools are part of the team for the progress of education in the state. The sector is too important to be ignored and we will do all within our powers to bring sanity and some semblance of probity and accountability into the system," he added.

Boko Haram fighters attack Geidam

Suspected members of Boko Haram yesterday launched attack in Geidam, the headquarters of Geidam LGA, 200 kilometers away from Damaturu, the state capital.

Sources said gun battle between dozens of terrorists and military operatives raged up

till 9pm as residents scammed for safety.

It was not clear at press time how many people were killed or the damage inflicted on the town. Boko Haram fighters had attacked Geidam many times in the last 11 years, destroying public buildings and other

symbols of authority.

"sometimes they steal foodstuff from markets," resident Aliyu Mohammed said.

The State police Public Relation Officer, Abdulkarim Dungus, told pressman that there was a security breach in Geidam.

SON charges hospitals on standards

By Vincent A. Yusuf

The Director General, Standard Organisation of Nigeria, Malam Farouk Salim has urged health facilities nationwide to maintain the standard in their efforts to save lives especially during this COVID pandemic.

The DG was speaking while presenting Nisa Premier Hospital, Abuja the international ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System Certification for standard healthcare delivery in Nigeria.

Represented by Engineer Felix Nyado, he urged the hospital to ensure that the

system remains effective and sustainable in order to reap the benefit of ISO approach to quality management system.

He said: "The system having been certified has been placed on annual surveillance audit to ensure continuing suitability and the effectiveness of the quality

management system. In the cause of the audit exercises, where non-conformances are observed and are effectively resolved within the specified time frame, the system will retain the certificate.

"However the certificate will be withdrawn if the structure in place for certification breaks down and necessary corrective action

are not taken on observed non-conformances."

The chairman of the hospital's board and former Minister of National Planning, Dr Shamsuddeen Usman, said the certification marks another development in the progress the hospital was making in terms of healthcare delivery system in the country.



PUBLIC NOTICE

FILING OF EMPLOYER'S ANNUAL DECLARATION AND CERTIFICATE (Form H1 & Form G)

Section 81 (2) of Personal Income Tax Act (PITA) 2011(as amended), requires every employer to file Annual Declaration and Certificate (Form H1) to FCT-IRS of all emoluments paid to its employees resident in the FCT for the year ended 31st December, 2020 not later than 31st January, 2021 using the prescribed Form H1.

The employer's Annual Declaration and Certificate shall include the following documents:

- 1. Hard and Soft copies of Forms H1& G; and**
- 2. Details of a nominated contact person designated to liaise with FCT-IRS on Personal Income Tax Matters as follows:**
 - i. Name;**
 - ii. Telephone Number(s); and**
 - iii. e-Mail Address.**

Section 81 (3), PITA stipulates a **PENALTY** of ₦500,000 on any employer who contravenes the provisions by not filing the annual returns of all emoluments paid to its employees in the preceding year (2020) by **31st January, 2021**.

Copies of Form H1 & Form G can be obtained from any of the FCT-IRS Tax Offices or downloaded from the website www.fctirs.gov.ng.

Please find below the formats of the two forms:

Form H1

EMPLOYER'S ANNUAL DECLARATION AND CERTIFICATE (FORM H1)

ORGANIZATION/EMPLOYER: _____ EMPLOYER TIN: _____
ADDRESS: _____

TAX YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 20

S/No	FCT-IRS Staff TIN	Staff Names	Details of Earnings (Basic Sal & Allowances)			Details of Deductions			Details of Reliefs				Remarks	
			Earnings in Previous Employment	Earnings in Current Employment	Total Earnings for the Year	Net Tax Deducted in Previous Year	Net Tax Deducted in Current Year	Total Net Tax Deducted for the Year	Pension	NHP	Life Assurance	Other Statutory Deductions		

Form G

EMPLOYERS REMITTANCE FORM

ORGANIZATION/EMPLOYER: _____
ADDRESS: _____
EMPLOYER TIN: _____

TAX YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 20

Month	Date of Remittance	Tax Type 1 (PAYE)	Tax Type 2 (WHT)	Channel of Remittance	Channel Ref. No.	Total Amount of Tax Remitted	For Official Use
January							
February							
March							
April							

For further enquiries, contact any of the following FCT-IRS Tax Offices:

LOCATION	ADDRESS
ASOKORO	No. 70, Yakubu Gowon Crescent (AYA), Asokoro Abuja.
CENTRAL AREA	Yobe Investment House, 2 nd Floor, Ralph Shondeinde Street, Central Area, Abuja.
GARKI (AREA 11)	No. 12 Port Harcourt Crescent, Gimbiya Street, Area 11, Garki, Abuja.
GARKI (HEADQUARTERS)	No. 3, Abriba Close, off Yola Street, Garki, Abuja.
GWAGWALADA	Plot 613, Paiko Road after University of Abuja, Gwagwalada Abuja.
KARU	No. 30, Eggon Crescent, off Biron Road, Karu Site FCT, Abuja.
KAURA	No. 8, FCT-IRS Drive, off Oladipo Diya way, Behind NNPC Filling Station, Kaura District, Abuja.
KUBWA	Plot No. L219 Cadastral Zone 111, No. 5 Gabriel Oyibode Street Kubwa Extension, F01, Kubwa Abuja
LUGBE	No. 220, 1 st Avenue, Federal Housing Authority (FHA) opposite FHA Mortgage Bank, Lugbe, Abuja
MAITAMA	No. 61B, Usuma Street, off Gana Street, Maitama Abuja.
MDA	No. 5, Danbata Close, off Yola Street, Area 7 Garki, Abuja.
UTAKO	No. 35, A.E Ekukinam Street, Opp. ABC Transport, Utako, Abuja.
WUSE (ZONE 6)	No. 26 Sudan Street, Wuse Zone 6, Abuja.
WUSE II	No. 2 Bukana Close, off Aminu Kano Crescent, Wuse II, Abuja.

SIGNED
Abdullahi O. Attah
Executive Chairman

Abia councillor dies in road accident 2 weeks after election

From Linus Effiong, Umuahia

The councillor representing Umuaku ward (2) in Umuahia Local Government Area of Abia State, Onyekachi Agu Charles, on Monday, died in a road accident.

Charles, who was recently elected as a councillor on the platform of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), lost his life when the vehicle he boarded from Enugu State was involved in an accident.

The late councillor was sworn-in by Abia State Governor, Okezie Ikpeazu, on December 22 together with other elected officials.

The Chairman of Umuahia LGA, Ifeanyi Madu, who confirmed the incident to newsmen, described Charles' death as unfortunate and shocking.

Hard drugs vending: 53 teenagers nabbed in Kano

From Sani Ibrahim Paki, Kano

The Kano State Hisbah Board has arrested 53 teenagers for allegedly selling hard drugs and other intoxicants in the city.

The suspects, mostly teenagers, were arrested on Tuesday night at Lamido Crescent in Nassarawa Local Government Area of the state.

Malam Lawal Ibrahim Fagge, the board's Public Relations Officer, who disclosed this in a statement yesterday, said they were arrested after an intelligence report on their involvement in the immoral activity in the area.

"The suspects comprise of 27 males and 26 females, all of whom are between the ages of 17 and 19.

"Our men went there around 10:00 pm and arrested 53 suspects," Fagge said.

According to him, immoral acts are prohibited under the Sharia Law operating in the state.

He said the Commander-General of the board, Harun Ibn-Sina, has warned youths in the state to desist from wayward lifestyles and be patriotic citizens.

'Western nations more sympathetic to Borno than Arabs'

From Misbahu Bashir, Maiduguri

Western nations have shown more concerns about the plights of Borno State during the insurgency than the rich Arab nations, whose people share the similarity of religion and culture with the majority of Borno citizens, Governor Babagana Umara Zulum has said.

Zulum stated this on Tuesday in Maiduguri when he received the Palestinian Ambassador to Nigeria, Saleh Fheied Saleh.

A statement by the governor's spokesman, Malam Isa Gusau, quoted Zulum as saying "I am a practical person. I work with the realities I see on ground. In the face of our challenges over

the years, we have received humanitarian support from the UK and other parts of Europe, the United States, Canada, from Japan and a host of others, who have demonstrated concern and have made efforts to support our traumatised citizens in many ways especially on food, medicals and livelihoods.

"However, that level of concern never came from Arab countries with whom millions of Borno people share similarity in religion and culture. We even have indigenous Shuwa Arabs in Borno and this shows how our histories are tied.

"We have made several efforts, written and visited embassies of Arab countries, especially those that are rich and not dealing

with crises, but obviously the majority of the Arabs do not care about our situation, neither do they support us. The Arabs have not shown concern to us. Your visit, however, has renewed our hope especially and we are very grateful for your visit."

The statement said the ambassador explained that his country planned to support the state in select areas.

The Ambassador also said many Nigerians are currently residing in Palestine, particularly Borno indigenes, some of whom have diligently served the government and people of Palestine.

He cited that among Borno people in Palestine, a lady called Fatima Barnawi was once a minister and a police chief.



■ Civil Defence Officers posted to NIMC Headquarters malhandling a Punch photojournalist, Obasa Olatunji, in Abuja yesterday

Insurgents burn over 30 buildings in Borno village

From Olatunji Omirin, Maiduguri

Over 30 buildings were burnt down and farm products destroyed when suspected Boko Haram insurgents attacked Wamdeo village in Askira/Uba Local Government Area of Borno State on Tuesday night, residents said.

The attack on Wamdeo village started around 6:30 pm and lasted for about two hours.

The residents, who spoke to *Daily Trust*, expressed anger over the level of atrocities wrecked by the attackers.

Some of the buildings torched by the insurgents after looting them included shops at the market square, residences and places of worship.

Daily Trust reported that hundreds of civilians fled into bushes for safety as a result of sporadic

shooting by the attackers.

A hunter, who is also a resident of the community, Steve Mamza, disclosed that they returned Wednesday morning to count their losses.

"We thank God Almighty that no life was lost but as for our properties, more than 30 buildings were burnt down last night by Boko Haram.

"They have destroyed all what our people have laboured for. We don't know why they always attack us; all our harvests have been destroyed. It is sad," Mamza lamented.

A military source claimed that some of the attackers were killed in Chul village after leaving Wamdeo village.

The source added that the military, with air supports, descended on the fleeing insurgents last night.

Policeman killed in bandit attack on Niger communities

From Romoke W. Ahmad, Minna

A policeman has been killed and one resident wounded when armed bandits attacked Chukuba in Shiroro Local Government Area of Niger state.

A community source, who pleaded anonymity for security reasons told *Daily Trust* in a telephone interview that the incident, which occurred yesterday, left many villagers in tension.

Chairman of the Local Government, Suleiman Dauda Chukuba, confirmed the incident to newsmen in Minna via a teleconference.

He appealed to both the state and federal governments to come to their aid.

Also, armed bandits attacked Rigo village in Rafi Local Government Area of the state yesterday and abducted five persons.

When contacted, the police spokesman in the state, ASP Wasiu Abiodun promised to get back to our correspondent. He did not do so at the time of filing this report.

The state governor, Abubakar Sani Bello, had, during a visit to Bobi Grazing Reserve on Monday at Mariga, assured the people of his administration readiness to flush out bandits operating in the state.

Benue: 200 suspected cultists prosecuted in 2020 - CP

From Hope Abah Emmanuel, Makurdi

The Commissioner of Police in Benue State, Mukaddas Garba, has said his command arrested and prosecuted at least 200 suspected cultists in the state last year.

Garba disclosed this yesterday in a chat with newsmen in Makurdi.

"In 2020, we prosecuted not less than 200 cultists. We also recovered weapons, charms and registers, which they used to initiate themselves," he said.

The police commissioner called on parents to monitor their children and ensure that they are not idle, warning that anyone found wanting would be punished according to the state's anti-cultism law.

Edo escaped inmate arrested in Ogun

From Peter Moses, Abeokuta

Police in Ogun State have arrested one Obehi Frank Ogbeh, who escaped from the White House prison yard in Edo State during the #EndSARS protest.

It was gathered that the inmate was arrested following the receipt of intelligence by police officers at Agbado divisional headquarters, Ifo Local Government Area of the state.

The locals reportedly told police that a middle-aged man was seen around Angulis area of Agbado, with a "suspicious look and conduct".

The police spokesman, Abimbola Oyeyemi told newsmen in Abeokuta yesterday that following receipt of the information, the DPO Agbado division, CSP Kehinde Kuranga, detailed his detectives to the area where the man was apprehended.

"He was properly interrogated and confessed to the detectives that he was an inmate of White House prison in Edo State and that he was set free by hoodlums who attacked the prison yard during the #EndSARS protest.

"He further confessed that he relocated to the Agbado area in order to avoid being re-arrested," Oyeyemi said.

Oyeyemi said the Commissioner of Police, Edward Ajogun has ordered that the suspect be transferred to the State Criminal Investigation and Intelligence Department for further profiling.



YOBE STATE GOVERNMENT

MINISTRY OF WORKS

FROM THE TABLE OF THE HON. COMMISSIONER, YOBE STATE MINISTRY OF WORKS

2020 A YEAR OF ACCOMPLISHMENT: YOBE IS MOVING, BUNI IS WORKING

For us at the Yobe state Ministry of Works, the outgone year 2020, had been a year of engagements and actualization in projects execution across the state. That, in spite of the paucity of funds arising from the global economic recession caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, we had remained busy overseeing construction of roads across the state.

The Governor Mai Mala Buni administration in fulfilment of its campaign promises to the people, extended the construction of roads to every part of the state, opening up more communities and making them accessible for delivery of goods and services. This has no doubt increased the volume of business activities in the benefitting communities and stimulating economic growth.

The four township roads awarded for construction in Buni Yadi the Headquarters of Gujba local government council, Babbangida the headquarters of Tarmuwa local government council, Jajimaji the headquarters of Karasuwa local government council and Damagum the headquarters of Fune local government council, awarded in 2019 were all completed, commissioned and put to use in 2020.

Similarly, the Malam-Matari phase one and two road projects in Damaturu were awarded, executed and put to use in the same year 2020.

The repairs of roads in Damaturu, Nguru, Potiskum, Jajimaji and Katarko/Goniri among others have made the roads more motorable and conducive for transportation of goods and services in the communities.

It is quite pleasing that the third quarter of the year, also witnessed the award of contracts for the construction of Nguru-Balanguwa and Damagum-Gubana inter town roads. Work on the roads have gone far and nearing completion.

Similarly, the last quarter of the year saw the harvest of awards of more road contracts by the Buni administration. The state government awarded contracts for the construction of township roads and drainages in Damaturu, Potiskum, Nguru, Geidam and Gashua. These projects are currently ongoing with great prospects of early completion.

At every point of the flag-off ceremony for the construction of the road projects, Governor Mai Mala Buni made himself emphatically clear that the projects are the commitments of his administration to provide

basic infrastructure to improve the lives of the people of Yobe state.

Despite his confidence in the ministry, Governor Buni had consistently admonished the ministry to ensure strict supervision of the projects for the contractors to comply with the contractual agreements and for government to have value for its money. This is a trust that we had religiously protected in the course of our duties throughout the year.

I am proud to say with every sense of fulfilment that the ministry had executed its assignments and responsibilities without interference and, with all sense of professionalism to give the state the best and to support the developmental efforts of the Mai Mala Buni administration.

Now, as we roll into the year 2021, the ministry is ever prepared to continue with its mandate of ensuring that all projects under construction are executed with utmost adherence to contractual agreements to ensure quality work that would stand the test of time and for the maximum benefit of our dear state.

Your Excellency we thank you for investing your trust in us and for giving us the opportunity to be part of your team.



Engr. Umar Wakil, Hon. Comm for Works, Yobe state.



Geidam township road under construction



Rehabilitation of NGIBI BRIDGE, Teteba Road, Gulani LGA



Gov. Mai Mala Buni flagging off the construction of Potiskum township road



Completed Buni Yadi township road



Damagum-Gubana Rd under construction



Babbangida Road completed and commissioned



Completed Malam-Matari Road in Damaturu



Culverts being constructed on the Nguru-Balanguwa road

PROJECTS EXECUTED

S/N	Description	Year of Award	Year of Completion	Remarks
15	Repairs of Potholes and Eroded Roads within Damaturu.	2020	2020	100% Completed
16	Construction of Box Culvert along Damaturu – Gashu'a Road.	2019	2019	100% Completed
17	Reconstruction of Nguru Irrigation Scheme Site (Phase I)	2020	2020	100% Completed
18	Construction of concrete Drainages & Laying of Interlocks, at Ministry of Finance, H/Q., Damaturu.	2020	2020	100% Completed
19	Rehab. of some T/ship Roads in Gashu'a & Potiskum Towns.	2020	2020	100% Completed
20	Rehabilitation of Katarko – Goniri Road.	2020	2020	100% Completed
21	Rehab. of Damaged areas & potholes along Jaji Maji, Karasuwa, LGA.	2020	2020	100% Completed
22	Rehab. and reconstruction of Siminti – Godowoli Bridges and Damaged areas of the road.	2020	2020	100% Completed
23	Repairs of flooded sections & potholes along Damaturu Ring Road.	2020	2020	100% Completed
In addition to the new projects initiated, the Executive Governor as Government of continuity made payments of all the ongoing inherited projects like:				
24	Construction of 25.5Km Dual Carriage way from Damaturu – Kalallawa Road.	2019	-	Ongoing
25	Construction of 4.5Km Dual Carriage way from Abattoir junction – New Bye pass Roundabout on Potiskum Road, Damaturu.	2019	2020	100% Completed
26	Construction of 18Km Road with 3 span Bridge from Danchuwa – Garin Abba – Garin Bingel.	2019	-	Ongoing
27	All the Roads and Drainages project in the three (3) General Hospitals of Geidam, Gashu'a and Potiskum Towns.	2019	2020	100% Completed
1	Construction of 4Km Road and 8Km Concrete Drain at Buni Yadi the Headquarters of Gujba Local Government Area	2019	2020	100% Completed
2	Construction of 1.6Km Road and 3.2Km Concrete Drain at Damagum the Headquarters of Fune Local Government Area.	2019	2020	100% Completed
3	Construction of 1.5Km Road and 3.0Km Concrete Drain at Babban Gida, the Headquarters of Tarmuwa Local Government Area.	2019	2020	100% Completed
4	Construction of 2.3Km Road and 4.6Km Concrete Drainage at Jajimaji the Headquarters of Karasuwa Local Government Area.	2019	2020	100% Completed
5	Construction of 1.0Km Roads and 2.0Km Concrete Drains at Mallum Mattari, Damaturu (Phase I).	2020	2020	100% Completed
6	Constr. of 16Km Road from Nguru - Balanguwa.	2020	-	Ongoing
7	Constr. of 12Km Road from Damagum - Gubana.	2020	-	Ongoing
8	Construction of 2.6Km & 5.2Km Township Roads and Drainages at Potiskum, Town.	2020	-	Ongoing
9	Construction of 3.2Km & 6.4Km Township Roads & Drainages at Nguru Town.	2020	-	Ongoing
10	Construction of 2.0Km Roads and 4.0Km Concrete Drainages at Geidam Town.	2020	-	Ongoing
11	Construction of 5.3km Road from Potiskum Dual carriage way linking Gujba Road dual carriage way.	2020	-	Ongoing
12	Construction of Road linking Mallum Mattari - Gujba Dual Carriage Road (Phase II).	2020	2020	100% Completed
13	Construction of 2.0Km & 4.0km Roads and Concrete Drainages, at Gashu'a Town.	2020	-	Ongoing



THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF NIGERIA (ICAN)
&
THE ASSOCIATION OF ACCOUNTANCY BODIES IN WEST AFRICA (ABWA)



PRESENT

MARCH 2021 ACCOUNTING TECHNICIANS SCHEME (WEST AFRICA) EXAMINATIONS

The Accounting Technicians Scheme, West Africa (ATSWA) examinations will hold in member countries on 16 & 17 March 2021 under the Council of The Association of Accountancy Bodies in West Africa (ABWA). The examinations will be held in the following centres in Nigeria: Aba, Abakaliki, Abeokuta, Abuja, Ado-Ekiti, Akure, Alimosho, Amuwo-Odofin, Auchi, Awka, Benin-City, Calabar, Enugu, Ibadan, Ikeja, Ikorodu, Ilesha, Ilisan, Ilorin, Jalingo, Jos, Kaduna, Kano, LASU-OJO, Lokoja, Makurdi, Malet, Minna, Mowe, Ogbomoso, Okija, Omu-Aran, Onitsha, Osogbo, Otta, Owerri, Oye-Ekiti, Port-Harcourt, Umuahia, Uyo, Victoria-Island, Warri and Yenagoa.

The Institute reserves the right to transfer any candidate from his or her chosen centre to another centre if the need arises.

EXAMINATION REGISTRATION

The registration PORTAL for the MARCH 2021 diet of ATSWA Examinations will open from Thursday, December 24, 2020 to Thursday, March 11, 2021.

MODE OF REGISTRATION FOR ATSWA EXAMINATIONS

Candidates are required to register online for March 2021 diet examinations at the ICAN website www.icanportal.org/ats/examinations.

Kindly note that registration for the examination is restricted to registered students of the Institute, that is, those that have been given registration numbers.

The Study Texts are available for collection FREE by candidates at any ICAN District Offices and Liaison Offices in the respective centres outside Lagos while those for Lagos centre will collect theirs at 82, Murtala Muhammed Way, Ebute-Metta, Lagos on presentation of a hardcopy of the evidence of payment.

Candidates should download SEPTEMBER 2020 diet's INSIGHT from the Institute's website, www.icanig.org. Also STUDY TEXTS may be downloaded from the Institute's website under 'STUDENTS' icon.

DIRECTIVES FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION

- BEFORE PAYMENT:** Check and Print out your Examination/Financial Status at the Institute's ATS students portal: www.icanportal.org/ats before effecting payment through **Paydirect, Verve/Master ATM Card;**

- METHODS OF PAYMENT FOR EXAMINATION FEES**

- PayDirect:** pay directly into ICAN e-Collection Account at any **Commercial bank** in Nigeria.

Obtain your payment Receipt and thereafter:

- Proceed with your application for the exam at ICAN website: www.icanportal.org/ats/paymasters/paydirectindex
- Enter your Deposit Slip Number on the payment receipt
- Enter your receipt number
- Click on the SUBMIT button to generate eVoucher containing 12 digits and 6 digits PIN and Serial Number respectively required for your online registration
- Proceed to the web address on the e-voucher i.e. www.icanportal.org/ats/examinations to register for the examination.

- Naira ATM Card:** Pay online using your Naira ATM Visa, Verve or Mastercard by selecting the relevant payment type following the steps enumerated below:

Go to <https://icanportal.org/ats> LOGIN BY:

- Entering your registration number and password to view your Examination and Financial Status if you have previously set up your account.
- If you have not set up your account, click on "New Student Registration" to create a "Password".
- Click pay ICAN and select 'WebPay' and click on "New Payment".

- ON-LINE REGISTRATION:**

- Requirements:**

- Scan a copy (JPEG format, 20kb maximum file size) of your **passport photograph** (white background) for the online registration before commencement of online examination registration.
- Scan a copy of your signature. (JPEG format, 20kb maximum file size)

- Procedures:**

- Complete the Online form at ICAN website: <https://icanportal.org/ats> and click on **submit**.
- Print the following after clicking on **submit**:
 - Completed online examination form;
 - Examination Time table, centres and their addresses;
 - Examination offences and disciplinary measures;
 - Examination warning to all candidates

Note that (iii) and (iv) above should be thoroughly understood and applied as appropriate.

- Visit the website three days after online submission of the examination**

form to confirm your enrolment.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

- Registration for March 2021 ATSWA Examinations closes on Thursday, March 11, 2021
- NO REFUND WILL BE MADE ONCE EXAMINATION FEE IS PAID.
- Candidates may not have access to the examination website after Thursday, March 11, 2021 afternoon.
- Deferment of March 2021 examinations application will not be entertained.
- Candidates who have applied for EXEMPTION from any level of the examination are advised to confirm that their applications are successful before making payment for the examinations.
- Candidates are not permitted to apply for EXEMPTION and EXAMINATION at the same time.
- Application for change of examination centres will not be processed after 12noon on Thursday, March 11, 2021
- Candidates are to ensure the accuracy of the information on their forms. The passport photographs must be the true semblance of the applicants and must be of white background.
- The signature on the registration form must be the personal signature of the candidates.
- Any discrepancy discovered on the signature when compared with signature on the attendance sheets, dockets and answer booklets at the examination hall or marking centre will be taken as a breach of the examination rule. This shall attract appropriate disciplinary action which would be communicated to the affected candidates in due course.
- Candidates are advised to download the ATS Insights, Study Texts, Examination Time Table, Dockets and other instructions from the ICAN website, www.icanig.org
- Candidates must come to the examination hall with the downloaded docket to locate their desks.
- Candidates are warned in their own interest not to bring MOBILE PHONES into the Examination Hall, as anyone caught violating this instruction will be stopped from continuing with the examination and the paper will be CANCELLED

Candidates may seek assistance by contacting the ICAN Help Desk through the following telephone numbers and e-mail addresses: 01-2912745, 01-2912821 (IT HELP DESK), 09053847512-4 (Reception), 09053847528 (ATSWA Direct Line), 08037146126, 08034928859, 08157578995 and 08062599572 phd@ican.org.ng or atsexam@ican.org.ng

MARCH 2021 DIET ATSWA EXAMINATIONS FEES (Exclusive of Bank Charges of N 300.00)

LEVELS	AMOUNT (₦)			
	4 PAPERS	3 PAPERS	2 PAPERS	1 PAPER
PART I	24,300	21,100	17,900	14,700
PART II	26,450	22,900	19,350	15,800
PART III	29,700	25,550	21,350	17,200

ATSWA EXAMINATIONS TIME TABLE FOR MARCH 2021 DIET

DAY/DATE	TIME	PART I	PART II	PART III
TUESDAY 16/03/20 21	9.30a.m. - 12.30 p.m.	Basic Accounting Processes & Systems	P & P of Financial Accounting	Principles of Auditing
	2p.m.-5p.m.	Business Law	Information Technology	Management
WEDNESDAY 17/03/20 21	9.30a.m. - 12.30 p.m.	Economics	Public Sector Accounting	Cost Accounting
	2p.m.-5p.m.	Communication Skills	Quantitative Analysis	Preparing Tax Computation & Returns

For further enquiries: please write or contact:

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Nigeria (Annexe)
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Happy Birthday

NLC PIONEER PRESIDENT & FORMER GENERAL SECRETARY, OATUU

The Nigeria Labour Congress Celebrates the NLC Pioneer President
and former General Secretary of Organization of African Trade Union Unity.



Comrade Hassan Adebayo Sunmonu, OON, Ordre de Mérite (Bourkina Faso), Hon. Doctorate (ABU, MAITECH)

as he clocks the milestone Age of



The entire Nigerian Working Class Celebrates the Iconic Contributions of
Comrade Hassan Sunmonu to Advancing the Cause of the Nigerian and
African trade union movement.

Signed:

Comrade Ayuba Wabba, mni
President

STRAIGHT FROM THE SHOULDER

Bulama **Bukarti**bulamabukarti@gmail.com

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More guns on the street won't make Nigeria safer

Modern societies are based on one founding principle: that the purpose of the social contract is to prevent anarchy. It is predicated on the idea that individuals have consented, explicitly or tacitly, to surrender some of their rights and freedoms to the authority of a government. In exchange, the government will protect the lives and property of every individual, enforce contractual obligations and protect the society against external threats. The point is to prevent the Hobbesian state of nature in which man is lawless and unrestrained and thus life becomes "poor, nasty, brutish, and short".

This is the notion upon which Nigeria was built. To achieve social order, our constitution and laws regulated our behaviour by defining crimes such as murder, assault and theft as well as civil wrongs like breach of contract, and provided sanctions for them. Our laws charged the government with the responsibility of enforcing those laws and regulations. To ensure smooth sailing in a country with diverse peoples with multiple, often conflicting interests, the constitution made one fundamental provision: it concentrated the legitimate use of physical force and of securing us in the federal government by placing the control of the military, the police, intelligence agencies and all paramilitary bodies under the president.

Today, the social contract is so weak that its very fulcrum is under a serious threat. It started with a call for the decentralisation of the police so that each state would be allowed to set up and control its law enforcement. The implication of this is that governors will acquire the power to import weapons and determine who can carry firearms – in a hostile environment like ours, it is hard to envision a policing system in which firearms do not play a part.

When efforts do to this at the national level through constitutional amendment failed, the six South-Western states took what can at best be described as an extra-constitutional means and unilaterally formed the security outfit called Operation Amotekun. The federal government initially declared Amotekun illegal before essentially backtracking by saying it would work with them. Today, Amotekun personnel are carrying arms, going on patrols in cities and arresting alleged offenders without any legal backing or sufficient training. Little surprise that, in the last three weeks alone, Amotekun is reported to have shot and killed four people in different incidents including a student of the University of Ibadan and a police officer.

With the escalating violence in the North West, an even more dangerous idea started to develop. It is the proposal to allow community members carry lethal weapons to defend themselves. This suggestion has since garnered support from traditional rulers, politicians and others. It further escalated last weekend when 50 villages in Katsina State protested by blocking the highway for five hours and then gave government a four-day ultimatum to confront the bandits that are killing, kidnapping, robbing and raping them or they would arm themselves in self-defence.

The argument that, since the government has failed to protect people, they should be allowed to defend themselves may sound

logical. But it is extremely dangerous. Not only does it transfer responsibility to the victims, but it is also a sure road to complete anarchy. It puts innocent lives at the risk of mob action and invites retaliation and counterretaliation. Considering the ethnic dimension the crisis in the North West is increasingly taking, it could lead to inter-communal violence on a scale not seen before.

Furthermore, communities are simply incapable of protecting themselves against well-armed, very experienced criminal groups. The AK47-series rifle which is commonly used by the criminal groups costs about \$1,200, or over N600,000. This, in the poverty capital of the world, is unaffordable to even the above average citizen. The overwhelming majority of the rural Nigerians who bear the brunt of the violence earn less than \$500 a year. We've already seen an example of what the situation could be like last Sunday when criminals launched a retaliatory attack on Kaya in Kaduna State killing 19 people.

What is more, the evidence shows that more guns do not stop crime. In fact, they increase bloodshed. Take the United States for example. It is one of the three countries where citizens have a constitutional right to bear arms, the other two being Mexico and Guatemala. By one 2018 estimate, private American citizens own 393 million guns, with around 40 per cent of households owning at least one. That's to say there are more guns in the United States than there are human beings. Just like many Nigerians carry multiple mobile phones, so do some Americans own firearms.

Going by the logic of the proponents of self-help, the US should be the safest place in the world. But the reverse is the case. In 2020 alone, over 43,000 Americans died of gun violence, with about 24,000 being suicide and the rest being homicide. And this staggering number is in fact a reduction from 2016 – 2018 when over 55,000 died every year. This puts the US at the top of the list of developed countries with the worst gun violence. No other country comes even close, partly because those countries don't allow citizens to bear arms.

This above figures show that the number of Americans dying of gun violence each year is more than the total number of Nigerians that died in the 10 years of the Boko Haram crisis and five times more than the total fatalities of the criminal groups in the North West. If guns in the hands of citizens lead to 40,000 deaths in a country with strong security and law enforcement like America, what could happen in Nigeria? In Northern Nigeria, in addition to our endemic poverty, over 70 per cent of our youths lack education and employment. A majority of the educated are unemployed or insufficiently paid. Even without multiple ethnic differences and historical grievances, a right to bear arms in the name of self-defence would be a recipe for monumental disaster.

A far better solution to the security crisis would be for President Buhari to do his job. More and more northerners have started speaking up recently, but we need to do more to make it clear to an insensitive government that this situation is unacceptable. All of us have got to play our role in securing our country, but jungle justice will plunge us into the state of nature where our lives will be poorer, nastier, more brutish and shorter.

LINE OF SIGHT

Abubakar **Adam Ibrahim**abubakaradam@dailytrust.com

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Of hate and viral videos: The Ebonyi Fulani eviction that didn't happen

As Nigerians rested during the weekend, a video surfaced on social media in which a man claiming to be an indigene of Ebonyi State said they were evicting Fulani from the state. In this video, we see a Fulani settlement with huts decommissioned and property strewn about, some being loaded onto a waiting truck. We see some Fulani people, looking up from packing to cast bewildered glances at the camera.

But most importantly, we hear the voice of this man, this narrator, claiming they had sacked the Fulani from Ebonyi, destroyed their houses and are ready to escort them out because they no longer want herdsmen in their state.

Naturally, the video created a lot of excitement on social media and the hate in the voice of that narrator was amplified by the hate in the tweets that celebrated and sanctioned the move and encouraged similar actions in other places. It was also matched by the hate in the tweeted response to it.

Fortunately, Ebonyi State governor, David Umahi, has denied the occurrence of such hate crime in his state and insisted that the Fulani were free to go about their business as usual, (hopefully keeping their herds out of poor farmers' farms). One would have dismissed this claim, especially coming from someone rumoured to be nursing presidential ambition, but for the corroboration by the police, Miyetti Allah and the Coalition of Northern Groups.

So it would seem that we have narrowly escaped an incendiary situation that could have resulted in crises and deaths, all on account of a viral video from someone whose face or name no one knows. Yet.

Governor Umahi has ordered the police to find and (to use the words my fellow journalists love using so much) unmask the person behind the video. While the identity of the narrator is unclear, what is clear is that it was meant to instigate further violence and to promote hate for a group that is already receiving so much hate.

The amplification of this hate by those who supported the video on social media and called for the replication of the same is symptomatic of the hate pandemic we are smack in the middle of. This, for me, is an area of interest.

The question of why we hate has always fascinated social scientists and researchers for long and perhaps to understand this better, I recommend the six-part documentary 'Why We Hate' produced by the inimitable Steven Spielberg and featuring brilliant intellectuals like Jelani Cobb and Emile Bruneau, among others.

As evidenced by this viral video and reactions to it, there is a lot of hate for the Fulani, as there is for most other tribes in Nigeria to be honest. But of late, the Fulani have been on the receiving end of fear and loathing. State-sponsored militias like Amotekun and the rogue IPOB-affiliated militia being trained to fight "herdsmen" in the South East have been created to contain and evict them.

To be fair, the fear is not without reason. The once romanticised ideas of the Fulani, depicted in the works of Cyprian Ekwensi—fascinating herdsmen and beguiling milkmaids—for instance, has faded and for many, is only a distant memory. The Fulani whom one met in the wilderness and shared *Fura da nono* with or a drink of water seemed to have gone extinct and in their place, the idea of the herdsmen as savage mass murderers, kidnappers and destroyers of

crops has risen.

While it is clear that the criminal activities of some Fulani—and there have been a lot of these—cannot be fixed by the criminal dislodgement of a few and most likely innocent ones. It would help to understand how these people, who have, for centuries, been a peaceful, fascinating group, morphed into the monsters they are being made out to be, or have become. What drove them to the criminality and savagery with which that tribe has become associated?

Often, a group of people undergo collective trauma that results in a drastic change in social behaviour. The civil war and its attendant issues, for instance, played a significant role in the rise of armed robbery and criminality among the Igbo and continues today to nurture the hatred that group feels for other groups, especially people from the North. I remember during my service year in the Southeast being accosted, alongside my friends, by an enraged Igbo trader. The trigger, apparently, was that we were freely speaking Hausa in the street, among ourselves, and this seemed to offend him deeply.

He only calmed down and allowed himself to be dragged away by his kinsmen when he realised we were "government pikins" and have a far better grasp of English than his unfinished primary school education equipped him with.

Some collection traumas are large and explosive, like the civil war, others, like global warming and population explosion that affect the Fulani and their way of life happen quietly, mostly unnoticed.

But this is not exclusive to the Fulani. Every social group in this country is nursing one collective trauma or the other. These traumas, borne out of social injustice, neglect, exploitation and displacements have enabled the widespread criminality we witness today and has advanced the rise of ethnic militias that are quick to attack, kill and pillage the next tribe or group. And we do have a lot of tribes, a succession of governments that have exacerbated ethnic fault lines and hence lots and lots of conflicts.

The rise of ethnic militias, such as the ones advocating for the eviction of one tribe or the other from certain spaces boils down to one thing—the absence of a national integration policy.

For too long, the Nigerian state has enabled the segregation of people, put in place policies, like the use of indigene certificates, which have served to deepen these divides. Even the federal character policy has not evolved to create a level playing ground, where candidates for government positions compete on an equal footing. It serves only to hold places based largely on geography than merit. Like most policies, it has failed to evolve and has become stagnant and unresponsive to changing times, sadly, like the cherished lifestyle of the migrant Fulani. And perhaps like the National Youth Service Corps as well.

A comprehensive national integration policy such as is in place in countries like Norway, Singapore and others should systematically break ethnic barriers that have kept Nigerians at each other's throats for decades, and build a cohesive society that pushes in one direction rather than against each other.

The British brought this country together in 1914. If we are going to live together and in peace, we must be deliberate about it. And the sooner we do that, the better.

Letter to the Editor

e-mail letters@dailytrust.com text 08131800030

CARTOON by AKILA JIBRIN



PIB: The icing on the cake?

The Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB), about to start coursing through the National Assembly processes for enactment into law, has to be the Mother of All Legislations (MOAL) in Nigeria's history. Seventeen years in drafting, this tome of a bill purposes "to provide Legal, Governance, Regulatory and Fiscal Framework for the Nigeria Petroleum Industry, the development of Host Communities." The product of this long endeavour, demonstrably important to the industry and the economy, politics and society, has clearly found favour with critical stakeholders, the international oil companies (IOCs) and, more particularly, the Host Communities. It's the provisions it makes for the latter group and their ripple effect that is the focus of the observations here-under.

Chapter III of the bill sets out the framework for a new relationship between oil companies and the Host Communities. It replaces the countless Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), routinely executed between the two sides but whose implementation Host Communities almost always fault.

The foundation of this new relationship is the incorporation by the oil companies of a Host Community Development Trust for every community in which they

operate. The Settlers, as they are identified by law, shall annually fund the Trusts to the tune of 2.5 percent of their actual operating expenditure in the immediate preceding calendar year in each area of operation. A slew of other provisions specifies administrative/management structures for, as well as the objectives of the Trusts. The latter are the exact same duties imposed by the Constitution on government - federal, state or local. In the oil-producing areas of the country, therefore, a new tier of government will soon be grafted to the three specified in the Constitution.

This represents the concretisation of previous efforts to cater to the needs of the people of the Niger Delta, from the time of the First Republic with its Niger Development Board (NDDB) to the present. There was never a lack of goodwill or intention towards that end; when the Petroleum Industry Bill becomes law a new chapter, a new approach will have been initiated. Host Communities will have been "carried along". An interesting clause in the section under review is that a Host Community will pay from its Trust for any wilful damage to oil infrastructure in its domain. This should hopefully stop the vandalism visited on oil facilities

and obviate the need for pipeline security contracts.

With the advent of this new dispensation, the Host Communities Development Trusts, whose remit mirrors theirs, it is legitimate to question the status and relevance of institutions like the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) and the Ministry of Niger Delta Affairs and the Presidential Amnesty Programme (PAP) in the affairs of the region. When in full flow, fund accretion to the Host Communities Development Trusts, in the aggregate, may well come to surpass budgetary allocations to the aforementioned agencies.

With this devolution of financial resources to the grassroots, even the constitutionally-mandated derivation principle may become subject to scrutiny, the intermediary role of state governments having been largely eroded.

The big nod given by this provision to host communities of the petroleum industry will undoubtedly spawn similar demands from communities in like situation. Communities home to other minerals or hosting key plant/infrastructure will soon demand similar treatment. The politics of resource allocation will continue to fray the fabric of national unity.

MT Usman

The atrocities of kidnappers in Nigeria

There is no doubt that one of the biggest menaces facing Nigeria as a nation is kidnapping. It is threatening the peace of the country and heightens fear in the minds of citizens as no one knows who is the next victim. Despite the efforts put in place by government, traditional rulers, patriotic citizens and NGOs, the menace keeps growing.

In the past, most reports of kidnapping were traced to militants in the Niger Delta region, but recently, bandits and gunmen have taken over as several reports of people being kidnapped come in from villages particularly in Zamfara, Kaduna and Katsina states. According to the Nigerian Police Force, 685 kidnappings occurred nationwide in the first quarter of 2020, an average of seven per day.

The causes of kidnapping can be traced to the high rate of illiteracy among the masses, particularly in Northern Nigeria which has a high rate of children roaming the streets without functional education and other necessities of life. This situation has made it easy for some unscrupulous elements to gain the advantage of these children or use them to get their way.

Poverty is also another major reason for this menace because, due to the high cost of living, many people cannot afford three square meals daily, which makes many people resort to crime. In addition, the high level of unemployment, particularly among youths, has made many to resort to criminal acts and other vices. The failure of the government to put effective machinery in place to protect the lives and properties of its citizens is clearly obvious because, if the government had done the needful, things wouldn't have been as bad as they are now.

This menace can only be addressed if the government and stakeholders involved do the needful, because kidnapping thrives in an environment that condones crime; where criminal opportunism and impunity prevail over and above deterrence. Therefore, the government, in collaboration with traditional rulers and others, should embark on mass sensitisation especially in the rural areas on the need to be patriotic and shun any form of negative attitude. Also, employment opportunities as well as skill acquisition programmes should be organised by all levels of government in order to reduce the high rate of unemployment specifically among youths.

Poverty alleviation programmes should be designed to assist the masses. Lastly, the defence sector should be adequately funded and supervised by the government to ensure that they are discharging their duties as assigned. As the saying goes, "United we stand and divided we fall". We need to work hand-in-hand, irrespective of tribe, religion and region, and see ourselves as Nigerians only.

Therefore, each and every citizen has a role to play in ensuring peaceful coexistence in Nigeria as a nation by doing the rightful thing, such as giving vital information to the police or other security agencies, helping others, engaging in community services, etc. That will be our saving grace.

Hajara Abdullahi, Department of Mass Communication, Bayero University Kano.

Text us on 08131800030 & 08112661608



Re: Empowering northern women

Northern women are having a bad time. Hunger and abuse have become their norm. Most of the empowerment programmes designed for them are cosmetic and are hardly executed. Their impact is minimal. Governments and development partners need to do more to liberate these women from chains of poverty.

Bishir Dauda, Katsina - 08165270***

Hike in electricity tariff

The recurring hike in electricity tariff makes life difficult, particularly for the poor. NERC has become a toothless bulldog. Electricity is part of human survival

and making it unaffordable would amount to the neglect of the responsibility of the government. NERC should be scrapped because they have no role to play in delivering democratic dividends.

Abdulkadir Mamman - 08035890***

Condolence to Emir of Daura

I wish to commiserate with the Emir of Daura, Alhaji Umar Faruk, his family and the entire emirate over the death of Alhaji Abdullahi Umar Maitaro and two others. May Allah grant them eternal rest.

Adamu Suleiman Katsina - 08038823***

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Safety of health workers under COVID-19

Last week Friday, Chairman of the Nigeria Medical Association (NMA), Federal Capital Territory (FCT) chapter, Dr Enema Amodu, announced that at least 20 Nigerian doctors have died from complications arising from coronavirus. This is aside from the number of nurses and other health workers who have died from the virus.

Dr Amodu said that the COVID-19 death toll among the medical personnel includes consultants, professors and resident doctors. He painfully noted that the figures keep increasing daily.

Stating that healthcare workers are often at risk of exposure to infections because they are the First Responders to patients, Amodu said: "For those of us in the health sector, we have lost quite a number of colleagues. Across the country, we have lost not less than 20 doctors in the last one week."

And the situation is aggravated by the fact that although health workers have been advised to use full Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) before attending to patients, many have no access to them. Because of this, over 1,000 health workers have tested positive for COVID-19 in Nigeria.

As of June 2, Minister of Health, Dr Osagie Ehanire, said that "at least" 812 health workers have tested positive for COVID-19. And as of July, the World Health Organisation (WHO) said that over 10,000 health workers in 40 African countries have been infected with COVID-19 virus.

The situation is aggravated by the ongoing second wave of the pandemic ravaging the world. And it is scary for the health workers as many Nigerians see non-adherence to non-pharmaceutical measures put in place to curtail the spread of the virus as normal.

The citizens have all gone back to the old ways of doing things except when they are visiting COVID-19 protocol mandatory government establishments and public institutions like banks.

The federal government has already attributed the outbreak of the second wave of the pandemic in Nigeria to the constant breaching of government-enforced COVID-19 safety and testing protocols by passengers travelling in and out of the country.

To help curtail the spread, the federal government has ordered the immediate closure of bars, nightclubs and restaurants across the country while limiting the attendance at weddings, conferences or other public gatherings to 50 persons per event.

As the first step to protecting the nation's health workers, the government should start a new enlightenment programme to ensure that patients do not hide their past medical conditions to health workers.

In addition, patients must reveal their medical history and travels and enforce all COVID-19 protocols including wearing of facemasks and practising social distancing as a lifestyle.

And as Nigeria is set to receive at least 100,000 doses of the Pfizer and BioNTech approved COVID-19 vaccines by the end of this month, priority should be given to the front line health workers as they play strategic leadership roles as First Responders to even the most susceptible to the virus especially the elderly and those with co-morbidities.

With the further free delivery of 42 million doses of the vaccines in the second phase through the COVAX facility, an initiative run by the vaccine alliance, GAVI, to ensure equitable access to a COVID vaccine, health workers should also be given priority.

On Tuesday, the federal government added to the need for urgent protection of health workers as it raised alarm at the rising cases of the virus among medical personnel.

Calling for vigilance among Nigerians, Secretary to the Government of the Federation (SGF), Mr Boss Mustapha, pledged the government's escalation of vigilance and implementation of risk communication among the citizens and the creation of community awareness in order to reduce the share of COVID-19 doubters among the population.

In addition, the installation of more testing and protective equipment and supplies should be intensified. Most importantly, there should be full implementation of all measures that would help stem the spread of the virus.

Also, the full protective kitting of all health workers would give them the confidence to execute their duties diligently, without fear of infections.



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AHMED SHEKARAU: General Manager, Business & Strategy

Buhari and the wailers

By Engr Abubakar A.Fari

To say Buhari has enemies and super hardcore ones is an understatement of the century. In the construction of highways, one meets hard core rock buried or above the earth surface, which only dynamite will do the job. In bank lending scenarios, super hardcore debtors, will not pay their loans even if they have the means, till you employ some thugs. Even Buhari does not know the extent and the diversity of his enemies. The problem started when he took over in 1984 after the ouster of Shagari's administration. The Southern press did not allow the democratic government of Shagari peace and the benefit of the doubt to spread the dividends of democracy for whatever it was purely out of tribal jingoism.

The hardcore Yoruba elements who see themselves as those who "crammed" or appear to have crammed all the books the *Oyibo* colonialists brought to Nigeria are yet to get their bearings in the world development index to make Nigeria great. If any, they have not freed themselves from "eating from the treasury" so acquisition of presidency by all means is not one they stand idle by. The Igbo with the "Biafra" confusion also have no courage to go their own way, lock themselves up like the Chinese and bout it out with the likes of Trump's America first dogma. That they have not come to terms that lack of electric power in Nigeria is our single biggest problem. Rather, the elite beat about the bush talking restructuring and remove Buhari seems to me that these Ph.D holders are mere Ph.D nonsense holders.

The root cause of the anti-Buhari could be traced to 1984-85 when he presided as the head of the military administration. His reign was such that he closed his eyes and dealt with the corruption cases that hit hard on the so-called Nigerian men of "timber and calibre" or who paraded themselves as "men of iron and steel". Those hardcore "untouchables" were thrown into the prisons, they never believed that would happen. As if they are not destined to rest in more frightening destinations, which are the graves. Despite Nigerians attend burials to humble them, yet like the hard-hearted Prophet Noah, people who preached to them for 950 years but instead they became more astray till the deluge swept them from the earth in an overwhelming food. That Buhari humbled the arrogant Nigerians to dust by sending them to prison that they never expected has made uncountable leaking with the ulcer wound that will not heal. They have not learnt their lessons as if they will not die and be buried in the graves.

They control the press and the electronic and print media and

are unrepentant hyenas with protruding eyes on the public treasury that must be emptied by them. Tell me even Prophets were accused as liars, incompetent, that they were nothing but human like their people, mad and all out to make themselves superior to others. Which of the Prophets had it easy with the ruling class, if you read the Scriptures? Among the Muslims those who cannot read the *Fatiha* and who call Umar a Prophet! Among the Christians many just go to church to dance like in the discothèque. Yours sincerely does not consider Buhari as an infallible but if you ask me why did they attempt to poison him few months into his administration if they love Nigeria as they would want us to believe.

Why did they not poison Obasanjo, IBB, Abdussalami and Jonathan? Were these the role models in governance that have made any meaningful impact on the growth and development of this country despite the huge amount of resources endowed it? The paradox remains that those poisoned or an attempt to poison

The root cause of the anti-Buhari could be traced to 1984-85 when he presided as the head of the military administration. His reign was such that he closed his eyes and dealt with the corruption cases that hit hard on the so-called Nigerian men of "timber and calibre"

them are the best in delivery of good governance and the spread of social justice and tranquility. I have heard taxi drivers from the south in Abuja say that the poisoned Yar'adua's governance "was the best Nigerians have witnessed".

NADECO confirmed that the administration of Abacha was 100 times better than that of Obasanjo. It is on record that Obasanjo crippled Ajaokuta Steel complex and caused the deliberate frustration of electric power generation in his days. There was nothing like budget discipline. Yours sincerely learnt that in the first year in office, Obasanjo would appear to have spent four times over his budget. The "Ghana must go" dogma to corrupt the National Assembly was open and clear. The north with agriculture and the food basket of the nation had its potential and heritage deterred in agricultural development to pave way for the so-called phantom cassava to dominate but which did not meet international standards.

Our so-called northern elders'

main living interest remains to be invited "to come and eat" for Obasanjo told them "they had lost their dividend". If they dared talk as he carelessly and rudely does against any leader he would not hesitate to imprison them as Abacha did him. The "Northern Elders Forum" are cowards or compromise on the northern interests whenever a Southerner is a President. They keep mum when he exhibited open injustice against the north like sheep. While on the other hand, the southerner contrives aggressive challenges and make false and fake news against a northern leader in their dailies and in public and northern elders remain aloof. Even third rate southerners will make stupid comments bordering on disrespect on their persons. They even get columns in our dailies to write as they wish which they will not allow in their own. Daily Trust is chief in this strange or puzzling actions.

With Jonathan, it was a disaster. His Petroleum Minister Diezzani that he could not control, believed the oil wells belonged to her and not to Nigerians and that she would die as the permanent Nigerian oil minister to do as she wished. The Indian Ambassador to Nigeria complained that the oil was a buyer's market when Jonathan's administration went to use third parties to sell Nigeria's crude. US billions of dollars got missing and for Nigerians no deal. Jonathan never went to Maiduguri till it was time for campaign despite the Boko Haram murderous outings.

The theft of security vote and double standards was the in-thing in the minority government of Jonathan. The over 300 ethnic tribes welcomed as a vehicle to exhibit disorder and injustice in governance against the Muslims. The deliberate bombing in Kaduna during the Yakowa days and the military siege designed by Ihejirika the Chief of Army Staff with occasional arrogant statements on record that the cruel and naïve so-called Northern elders have too soon forgotten is an unforgivable position, which only reminds us that Aminu Kano labelled them as *shashashu* or foolish people with lack of vision.

They are like vultures who as long as they are invited "to come and eat", the Always In Government (AIG) with a complex *kowa inna ta aura babane*. In other words whoever mama gets married to is their father. The so-called "western education" they possess lack of moral value other than a secular vision, which even to the West has left them with no other than the socially engineered moral decay good for no one. That the West has degenerated to legalise same-sex marriages is a road to the oblivion and calamities like coronavirus or COVID 19 are just the beginning till they are humbled to dust with all the phantom "development".

Eng Fari writes from Kaduna (mofari@hotmail.com)



**THE HIGH POWERED COMMITTEE ON
REFORM OF SANGAYA
SYSTEM OF EDUCATION IN BORNO STATE**

Borno State Ministry of Education, Musa Usman
Secretariat Maiduguri

ANNOUNCEMENT

REQUEST FOR WRITTEN SUBMISSION (VIEWS, OPINIONS AND SUGGESTIONS)

The High-Powered Committee on Reform of Tsagaya Education in Borno State, constituted by the Executive Governor of Borno State, Professor Babagana Umara Zulum mni FNSE under the Chairmanship of Khalifa Aliyu Ahmad Abulfathi will through its Sub-Committee on Public hearing headed by Professor Abdulkarim Ishaq proposed to hold a public Hearing at the Multipurpose Hall of the Government House Maiduguri.

Therefore, interested members of the public (within and outside the state) are invited to make written submission (views, opinions and suggestions) from 1 st to 15th January, 2021 to the Secretary of the Sub-Committee Barrister Abdulsalam Mohammed of Borno Radio Television (BRTV) Maiduguri or Professor Abdulkarim Ishaq, Department of Continuing Education, University of Maiduguri and Alhaji Ali Kaka Secretary of the Main Committee/Permanent Secretary, Borno State Ministry of Education.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS:

08036301452, 08055635900
08035837228, 08023617577
08036237691, 07081872955

Submissions can also be sent via
HPCRTEBS@GMAIL.COM

ALHAJI ALI KAKA
PERMANENT SECRETARY
BORNO STATE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
SECRETARY MAIN COMMITTEE

PUBLIC NOTICE



FEDERAL MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT

PUBLIC DISPLAY EXERCISE ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE PROPOSED LIQUIFIED PETROLEUM GAS STORAGE FACILITY PROJECT AT IFIE- KPORO, WARRI SOUTH, DELTA STATE.

In accordance with the provisions of the environmental impact assessment (EIA) act CAP E12 LFN 2004, which makes it mandatory for proponents of all new major development activities to carry out environmental impact assessment (EIA) of lieu proposed projects, the federal ministry of environment hereby announces twenty-one working days public display for the draft EIA report submitted by Shafa Energy Limited. The display is to enable the public to make input that shall facilitate informed decisions on the project's EIA by the Ministry.

BRIEF PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Shafa Energy Limited intends to build a Liquefied Petroleum Gas Storage Facility. The land size of the facility is 34000m² ; the size of the depot storage is 11,000M³ and it is to house two cylindrical tanks with capacity of 5,500M³.The project is to be located at Ifie-kporo, Warri South, Delta State.

THE DISPLAY CENTRES ARE;

1. Warri south local government headquarters
2. Delta state ministry of environment Asaba
3. Federal Ministry of Environment office, Asaba
4. Federal Ministry of Environment, Environment House, FCT, Abuja
5. www.ead.gov.ng (to upload and send your comments)

DURATION OF DISPLAY

Date: 7th January 2021- 7th February 2021

Time: 8 am to 4pm. Daily

All comments received should be forwarded to the Hon. Minister, Federal Ministry of Environment Headquarters, Mabushi, Abuja-F.C.T

BUSINESS

CBN EXCHANGE RATES

	US DOLLAR	Pound STERLING	EURO	YUAN/ RENMINBI	RIYAL	CFA
Buying	379	508.54	462.11	57.97	101.004	0.688
Central NGN	379.5	509.21	462.72	58.04	101.138	0.698
Selling NGN	380	509.88	463.33	58.12	101.271	0.708

COMMODITIES PRICE (Jan. 3, 2021)

CRUDE OIL BRENT	\$51.29
GOLD	\$1,873.90
SILVER	\$25.76
NATURAL GAS	\$2.61

BUREAU DE CHANGE RATES

	Dollar	Euro	Pound S.
BUYING	N460	N568	N621
SELLING	N475	N580	N632

By Simon E. Sunday, Olayemi John-Mensah (Abuja), Eugene Agha, Risikat Ramoni (Lagos), Magaji I. Hunkuyi (Jalingo), Hope A. Emmanuel (Makurdi), Ibraheem H. Muhammad (Lafia) & Hameed Oyegebade (Osogbo)

Consumers groan over high electricity tariff



Customers of the 11 Distribution Companies (DisCos) and consumers of electricity have expressed outrage over the significant rise in their tariff rate, above the N4 maximum stated by the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC).

NERC, which approved the tariff for the DisCos, said on Tuesday that the hike was between N2 and N4, but a cross section of consumers who had recharged their meters recently, insisted the increase was above N4.

A twitter user, Richard Daniel under Port Harcourt DisCo, said he often gets 153.9 units when he recharges his meter with N5000 worth of token. However, that has reduced to 88 units now, when he vended last week, indicating 42 per cent increase.

Shamsudeen Ibrahim, a resident in Abuja under Abuja DisCo, said previously, N10,000 vending got him 386 units as of November but he only got N197 units recently.

"That is about a 49 per cent increase. We are just being deceived that the increment is not more than N4."

John Okon said he had expected 38 units for vending of N1,000 but got 19 units instead, showing a 50 per cent increase.

Another customer, who also spent N10,000 and had expected 380 units said he was shocked to get less than that. "Just less than

two weeks ago, the unit after the increment for N10,000 was 120 units, which is around 68 per cent hike."

Mr. Precious Abu, a barber shop owner in Kuje area of FCT said he used to get about 118 units for N3000 before the previous increase but it has dropped.

Mrs. Bolanle Ojo in the same area operating a cold room store, lamented the hike. "Before, I bought N1,000 and I got 38 units but now I get 19 units. It is not good for our business, I must confess."

In Makurdi, the Benue State capital, Gown Joel, said previously, he was getting 63 units for N2,000 under Jos DisCo, but on Wednesday when he recharged his meter, he got 57 units for N3000, signifying a drop to 38 units for N2,000.

Tor Acka, a resident, along Gboko road in the state, said he

got 35 units for N2000 on Monday as against the 65 units he got in the previous months.

In Lafia, Nasarawa State, a consumer said his usual 114.48 unit of token of N3,000 has dropped to 67 units.

In Osogbo, Osun State, Mr Opeyemi Bello, a civil servant lamented the hike. "The unit I got is half of the previous ones. Last year, with N1,000, I received 36 units but this January, the N1,000 electricity is just 15 units."

Albert Uba, publisher of Crime World Magazine in Lagos bought N5000 worth of electricity tokens but got less than what he got previously.

Another Lagos resident, Ibrahim Basirat, said with N5,000, she gets 213 units but that she recharged N2,500 on her meter on Tuesday and got 99.9kWh units. She said 13.2 units went off due to the increase.

In Taraba State, Mallam Yakubu Musa said consumers under the estimated billing will bear the wrath of the new hike. He said artisans like welders, barbers, and millers would be affected the most as their businesses have declined this season, and may force them to close shop.

Bulus Galadima said almost 95 per cent of electricity consumers in the state do not have meters and are compelled to pay bills under the estimated billing, which he said was exploitative under Yola DisCo.

President, Nigeria Consumer Protection Network (NCPN), Mr Kunle Olubiyo, a consumer rights activist in Abuja, said: "It has been on tariff increase and how to sustain crazy bills with no service improvement, no customer-centric culture or core values."

"The electricity market structure does not provide consumers and all classes of end users the rights to alternatives or choices."

Olubiyo noted that the huge salaries and allowances of NERC commissioners do not justify their efforts in regulating the power sector, adding that, "customers are bearing the cost of inefficiencies."

However NERC has urged customers to file complaints of increment. "Any customer that has been impacted by any rate increases beyond the above provision of the tariff order (between N2 and N4) should report to the Commission."

Stock market rebounds with N36bn gain

From Sunday Michael Ogwu, Lagos

Following the previous day's loss, the stock market posted a positive performance in yesterday's trade, gaining 17 basis points (bps) to settle at 40,465.15 points.

The positive performance was driven by appreciation in Zenith (+2 per cent), UBA (+2.4%) and INTBREW (+2.5%).

As a result, market capitalisation advanced by 36.1 billion to settle at 21.2 trillion while the year to date return improved to 0.5% and activity level decreased as volume and value traded fell 46.4% and 57.3% to 249.5 million units and 2.2bn respectively.

The most traded stocks by volume were Access (21.9m units), Mansard (13.3m units) and UBA (13.2m units) while Guaranty (342m), Zenith (310.4m) and Stanbic (306.2m) topped by value.

Performance across sectors was bullish as 4 of 6 indices under review gained save the AFR-ICT and Industrial Goods indices which closed flat.

Customs generates N1.562tr, to deploy 7 scanners

By Simon Echowofun Sunday

The Nigeria Customs Service (NCS) said it generated N1.562 trillion in the year 2020 which exceeded the target of N1.381tr by at least N181 billion.

According to a statement issued by the Public Relations Officer, Deputy Comptroller Joseph Attah, the last year's revenue generation is higher by N22bn than the N1.342bn the Service generated in 2019, despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

NCS also said within the next six

months, there will be seven functional scanners for screening of goods at the country's entry points.

Explaining further, Customs said among the seven scanners, the Federal Ministry of Finance has purchased three while the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has committed to purchasing four scanners and to establish the control centre for monitoring all scanning sites.

"This means that within the next six months, NCS will have about seven functional scanners to be mounted at strategic entry points even before the full

deployment of e-Customs components which will lead to the deployment of 135 modern scanners," he explained.

The Comptroller-General of Customs (CGC), Col, Hameed Ibrahim Ali (Rtd), said the Service revenue generation profile has improved due to the ongoing reforms. Ali noted that before the commencement of the border drill which saw a closure of the land borders from August 20, 2019, revenue generation was between N4bn and N5bn but that NCS now generates between N5bn and N9bn

daily.

While preventing entry of items that could compromise security, economy and the wellbeing of Nigerians, NCS said it seized 4,304 items with a duty paid value of N28.3bn. They include arms, ammunition, illicit drugs, used clothing, vegetable oil, frozen poultry and foreign rice, among others.

He called on Nigerian business people to support Customs as the borders open to the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement for the cross border activities.

NIGERIAN RAILWAY CORPORATION ABUJA – KADUNA TRAIN SERVICE (AKTS) TIME TABLE

SUNDAYS – TUESDAYS and THURSDAYS - SATURDAYS										WEDNESDAYS (ONLY)																	
From ABUJA	DEPARTURE				ARRIVAL				From KADUNA	DEPARTURE				ARRIVAL													
	AK 1	AK 3	AK 5	AK 7	AK 1	AK 3	AK 5	AK 7		KA 2	KA 4	KA 6	KA 8	KA 2	KA 4	KA 6	KA 8										
IDU	07:00	09:50	14:20	18:00	-	-	-	-	RIGASA	06:40	10:35	14:00	18:00	-	-	-	-	From ABUJA	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	From KADUNA	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL				
KUBUWA	07:17	10:07	14:41	18:15	07:14	10:02	14:36	18:16	KUBUWA	08:31	13:04	16:03	20:07	08:28	12:59	15:58	20:04	IDU	07:00	18:00	-	-	RIGASA	06:40	18:00	-	-
RIGASA	-	-	-	-	09:15	12:01	17:00	20:02	IDU	-	-	-	-	08:43	13:20	16:16	20:20	KUBUWA	07:17	18:15	07:14	18:12	KUBUWA	18:31	20:07	08:28	20:00
																		RIGASA	-	-	09:15	20:20	IDU	-	-	08:34	20:20

NEWS



■ From left: Marketing Director, West Africa and Francophone sub-Saharan Africa, Mastercard, Yosola Atere; overall winner at the Mastercard Restaurant Week Campaign/General Manager, Talindo Steak House, Mark Schuster; and founder/CEO, Lost in Lagos, Tannaz Bahnam, while announcing winners of the Treasure Hunt Contest in Lagos recently.

75% air accidents caused by human errors – AIB-N

From Abdulateef Aliyu, Lagos

The Accident Investigation Bureau (AIB-N) has observed that 75 per cent of air accidents are caused by human factors.

The bureau said it is planning a conference in partnership with the League of Airport and Aviation Correspondents (LAAC) to create more sensitisation on this.

The commissioner, AIB-N, Engr. Akin Olateru, told newsmen that the human factors included inadequate training for technical personnel, poor facilities, fatigue and poor communication between the cockpit and the control tower, amongst others.

Olateru said: "After an analysis of the several accident reports we have released since 2017, it has become apparent that about 75 per cent of these accidents and incidents have resulted from human factors."

The conference will hold physically and virtually on January 15, 2021, in Lagos with the theme 'Preventing Human Factors in Accident Occurrences.'

About 300 industry stakeholders such as airline operators, airport operators, investigators, safety inspectors, pilots, engineers and Air Traffic Controllers (ATC) are expected to participate.

The Secretary, LAAC Conference Planning Committee, Mr. Albinus Chiedu, said the conference was important in order to improve safety in Nigeria's aviation industry.

Recession may change interest rates – Analyst

From Sunday Michael Ogwu, Lagos

A senior research analyst at FXTM, Lukman Otunuga, has said the economic recession is likely to trigger changes in the benchmark interest rates in 2021 to support recovery.

Otunuga, in his 2021 forecast, argued that monetary policymakers will probably be concerned about the misalignment of interest rates in the fixed income markets, further supporting the argument for one or multiple rate cuts in 2021.

He said the introduction of the Central Bank of Nigeria's Special Bill as an alternative investment vehicle may absorb a proportion of the liquidity in the system and stabilize the interest rate environment, at least in the short term.

Year 2020 will be remembered for its extraordinary uncertainty, explosive market volatility, unprecedented events, supply chain upheavals and a worldwide wave of monetary policy easing.

"The outlook for the full-year GDP growth is 1.1 per cent compared to an estimated minus 4.1 per cent."

Efforts have been made to harmonise exchange rates, introduce a market-based pricing mechanism for gasoline, adjust electricity tariffs to reflect the costs and reduce non-essential expenditures.

Otunuga said: "While there may still be short-term pain ahead, there is still time to enact a series of potentially politically unpopular reforms in line with the World Bank's recommendations."

Agric-based SMEs to get 6 years tax holiday

From Sunday Michael Ogwu, Lagos

West Africa Tax leader and member of PwC Global Board for Leadership Development, Mr Taiwo Oyedele, has revealed that Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and other small companies in agricultural production may be granted pioneer status for almost six years.

This disclosure was made in a tweet shared by the tax expert who played a major role as a member of the Inter-

Ministerial Committee that drafted the 2020 Finance Act.

The Pioneer Status Incentive (PSI) is one of the available tax incentives in Nigeria aimed at attracting investment into critical sectors of the Nigerian economy.

It was included in the key reforms of the new Finance Act 2020 to incentivize qualifying entities.

Qualifying entities would be granted an income tax holiday of up to six years: four years first, and two years

more.

Pioneer companies may enjoy other benefits including an exemption from withholding tax on dividends paid out of business profits.

According to Mr Oyedele, small businesses and companies engaged in primary agricultural production in the pioneer industry such as crop, livestock, forestry and fisheries may be granted pioneer status for four years and an additional two years - making a total of six years.

'Budding enterprises to expand with AfCFTA'

From Abdulateef Aliyu, Lagos

The take-off of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) offers African entrepreneurs the opportunity to tap into a \$2.5 trillion global market, the Association of African Start-ups (TAAS) has said.

President of TAAS Just Ibe stated this in Lagos during the launch of the TAAS Learning Hub aimed at equipping

African entrepreneurs with the requisite skills and knowledge to take their businesses to the next level. The group also said it will empower 5,000 entrepreneurs this year to unleash a generation of small and medium business owners who, it said, are the drivers of any economy.

Ibe said TAAS has put in place a system and structures to ensure African entrepreneurs maximize the

benefits of the AfCFTA to transform the economy of the African continent.

"So this is a wake-up call to any entrepreneur who is seated in our corner and said, 'I am just a small business owner, I am just a start-up'.

"I challenge you because Africa is waiting for you to take a step because if you don't take a step, you stay where you are. We are where we are because so many of us have to a very

large extent been minding our businesses."

The CEO of TAAS, Omayemi Sage, disclosed that 5000 entrepreneurs would be trained over a period of one year, saying any nation desirous of developing must raise a generation of entrepreneurs.

"And we are saying that there is indeed a lot to be done in this continent. We should step out of our comfort zone," she said.

Onyema heads Nigerian Exchange Group

From Sunday Michael Ogwu, Lagos

Oscar Onyema has been appointed as the new Group Chief Executive Officer (GCEO), Nigerian Exchange Group Plc, as Temi Popoola and Tinuade Awe emerged CEOs of Nigerian Exchange Limited and NGX Regulation Limited.

The appointments, which are in line with the demutualisation plan of the exchange, are still subject to the approval of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

The Nigerian Exchange Group Plc (NGX Group) was created through the demutualisation plan, a holding company.

The group will have three operating subsidiaries - Nigerian Exchange Limited (NGX), the operating exchange; NGX Regulation Limited (NGX REGCO), the independent regulatory arm; and NGX Real Estate Limited (NGX RELCO), the real estate company.

All the entities have been duly registered at the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC).

Local ship owners seek access to N2.3tr fund

From Eugene Agha, Lagos

Indigenous ship owners have urged the federal government to include them in the list of those to benefit from the N2.3 trillion Survival Fund.

The indigenous ship owners insist that the continuous neglect of the sector by the government was impacting negatively on the maritime sector which is presently grossly dominated by foreign liners.

The Survival Fund is being handled by the Vice President, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, as a component of the Economic Sustainability Plans (ESP).

The Survival Fund was developed as a stimulus package to boost local production and prevent businesses from collapsing.

It is also meant to provide liquidity across various sectors of the economy, particularly for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

Speaking with our correspondent on the Survival Fund, Capt. Deji Abegunde, who is a ship owner appealed to the federal government to extend the benefit to local ship owners, noting that the sector is currently dominated by foreign liners.

Abegunde said the indigenous ship owners are not getting support from the government, rather their businesses are being witch-hunted.

C/River gets \$20.4m for transparency project

From Eyo Charles, Calabar

The World Bank has given \$20.4 million to Cross River State as one of the three states that scored the highest in the implementation of the States' Fiscal Transparency Accountability and Sustainability (SFTAS) project.

The other two are Kwara and Sokoto States. SFTAS is a World Bank funded competitive programme of the federal government which rewards states for achieving indicators for improved fiscal transparency, accountability and sustainability.

The bank said the state scored almost 100 per cent for all fiscal, transparency and accountability indicators of the SFTAS audit in 2020.

According to a report released by the federal ministry of finance, budget and national planning which supervises the project, the state earned the score after a detailed annual performance assessment of all 36 Nigerian states under SFTAS programme.

According to the report, Kwara achieved a grant prize of \$16.9m while Sokoto received a \$22m grant for the SFTAS programme.

NEWS

Local firms eye N15.5tr with marginal oil field bids

From Simon Echowofun Sunday (Abuja) & Sunday Michael Ogwu (Lagos)

● No bidding for 18 years – Report

An array of indigenous oil and gas firms are striving to clinch their cut of an estimated N15.5 trillion yield for 57 marginal oil fields in the ongoing bid process.

Daily Trust reports that the federal government through the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR) recently launched its first marginal field bid round in 18 years, and had shortlisted 161 firms already for the next and final stage of the bid.

The 57 fields are spread across onshore areas, swamps and shallow waters across oil producing areas.

Experts estimate a total resource on offer of around 800 one thousand and one million barrels (mmbbl) oil and 4.5 trillion cubic feet (tcf) of gas.

The 25 largest oilfields have the potential to unlock \$9.4bn of investment over the first five years and generate over \$38 billion (N15.5 at N410/\$1) in revenue over the life of the fields.

A marginal field as a discovered resource that has been left undeveloped for over 10 years; only a few have been appraised. Majority of the fields were previously held by Shell, ExxonMobil, Chevron and Total.

However, the 2020

bid round attracted significant attention with over 600 companies registering to participate.

According to the Head of Public Affairs at DPR, Mr Paul Osu, the firms were selected from the over 600 companies which applied for pre-qualification.

“The current status is that 161 successful companies have been shortlisted to advance to the next and final stage of the process,” Osu said.

He said the bid rounds began on June 1, adding that the DPR had put measures in place to ensure that the awardees would be credible investors with technical and financial capability.

Osu said Nigeria last conducted marginal field bid rounds in 2003, with 16 of the fields now contributing two per cent to the national oil and gas reserves, while bringing development to their host communities in the Niger Delta.

On the commercial viability of these oilfields, Wood Mackenzie, a foreign consultancy firm assembled a team of regional upstream experts and valuation analysts for an in-depth economic assessment of them.

According to Dr. Simon Anderson, Director, Performance Improvement, sub-Saharan Africa while assessing the report said:

“We used our judgement, based on over 20 years of experience covering upstream projects in Nigeria, to identify the most likely scenarios for field development and hydrocarbon evacuation.

“We estimate that 42 fields have positive post-tax NPVs, with the highest valuation of over \$150m and an average valuation of \$31.5m (using a 10% discount rate). However, post-tax NPV is not the only investment criteria.”

Wood Mackenzie also did a survey on the industry’s perspectives of the 2020 bid round. The firm asked Exploration and Production Companies (E&Ps) and other investors which criteria are being used to support their investment decisions on Nigeria’s marginal fields.

The most important criteria, as revealed in the survey are: reserves upside, investment requirements, and rate of return.

“Over two-thirds of respondents revealed that their organisation expects a rate of return of over 15%; our analysis shows that 37 fields fit the bill.

“Furthermore, almost a third of respondents expect returns above 20%; only 29 fields exceed these higher expectations,” Anderson noted.

The firm believes that with the initial investment, 22 fields

have over 20% returns requiring \$200 million before the first oil and gas, it noted.

The upstream oil sector in Nigeria since the discovery of oil in the 1950s has been dominated by international oil companies. However, some experts have said this Marginal Fields Programme (MFP) will boost local content just like Norway and Brazil enabled by the Nigerian Oil and Gas Industry Content Development Act 2010 (the Local Content Act).

One of them and Executive Director, Cynthian Consulting Limited, Adeboye Fajemisin, said local participation will lead to more jobs creation for Nigerians.

Fajemisin who is also the Managing Director of AEF Energy Services, maintained that there was a huge and direct link between local value creation and the economy.

“The effect of local participation is enormous on the Nigerian Economy. Increased local participation in the Oil and Gas industry would create more jobs for Nigerians, reduce capital flight which in turn reduces the pressure on Nigeria’s forex revenue and creates an entire value chain that is robust enough to attract investments.”

Kano generates N60m from stock market

From Clement A. Oloyede, Kano

The Managing Director of Kano State Investment and Property Limited (KSIP) said it has revealed that the company made as much as N60 million in profits from trading in the stock market in 2020 despite the impact of COVID-19 on the economy.

Its Managing Director / Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Jibrilla Mohammed, who revealed this yesterday at the company’s award ceremony for its staff, said KSIP, a development finance company wholly owned by the government of

Kano State, is the only company trading within its premises and this assisted in the success it recorded.

Mohammed revealed that when he took over in 2016, there was less than N20m in its account, which was obtained from sales of shares and note enough for three months salaries. He however raised it to N250m from sales of the state’s properties in Abuja and in Kano.

He said four abandoned Kano state properties in Kaduna were also recovered and sold and the money was invested into building 360 units of houses in Gurjiya which have all been sold out.

FG releases N11.818bn for pension payment

By Francis Arinze Iloani

The Federal Government has released N11.82 billion for the payment of accrued pension rights for retirees of Treasury Funded Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) under the Contributory Pension Scheme (CPS).

The sum of N11.818 billion has been released by the Federal Government for payment of accrued rights.

This was disclosed in a statement released Wednesday by the Head of Corporate Communications of the National Pension Commission (PenCom), Mr Peter Aghahowa.

The statement indicated that accrued

rights represent benefits for employees of Treasury Funded MDAs who worked up to June 2004, when the Pension Reform Act was introduced.

“The Commission appreciates the effort of the Federal Government at ensuring that the accrued rights arrears are cleared,” the statement added.

Recall that in August, 2020, the Federal Government released N14.92 billion for the payment of accrued rights for retirees under the CPS.

PenCom had revealed then that the amount released would be used to cover four months arrears of accrued rights of Federal Government retirees.

Nigerians to pay for national ID renewal, corrections – NIMC

By Simon Echowofun Sunday

Nigerians will pay N15,000 to correct their dates of birth for their National Identity Number (NIN) card records on the database of the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC).

The NIMC Regional Coordinator, Mrs Funmi Opesanwo, revealed this on Wednesday in Lagos saying, NIN holders will pay N5,000 as

processing fee for card renewal or card replacement, and N500 for modifying their addresses.

She also noted that while NIN enrollment is free, all other services attract varied rates. Daily Trust reports that this has been the case with the NIN correction process.

A Nigerian passport holder, Sunday Eche In 2019, said he was asked by the Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS) to go to the NIMC

office to correct his name for the issuance of the new international passport.

“AT NIMC, I was told that the correction of DOB attracts N15,000, while others have various sums,” he had noted.

Mrs Opesanwo said the revenue is paid to the Treasury Single Account of the Federal Government and that it was part of the commission’s revenue generation process.

FCMB appoints Edun acting MD, Nuru on leave

From Sunday Michael Ogwu, Lagos

The management of the First City Monument Bank Limited (FCMB) has appointed Yemisi Edun as acting Managing Director while the MD, Adam Nuru proceeds on leave.

In a statement on its Twitter yesterday, the bank said: “In line with normal corporate practice, Mrs Yemisi Edun is acting as the Managing Director of FCMB in the interim period while Mr Adam

Nuru is on leave. She has not been appointed as the substantive Managing Director.”

Nuru is said to have fathered two children with a married female staff, and had left for leave while the investigation into the allegation is on by the board.

The social media was awash recently following alleged extra-marital affairs involving Nuru, and a former employee known as Moyo Thomas, part of which allegedly led to the death of the latter’s husband,

Tunde Thomas.

The FCMB Group Head of Corporate Affairs, Diran Olojo, in an initial response informed stakeholders and the general public that it is currently conducting a review of what transpired, to ascertain if there are violations of code of ethics or mere allegations.

The Management in an earlier statement on Tuesday said, Nuru’s leave was voluntary. “This will guarantee the sanctity of the review process.”



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Happy Birthday



My Dear General,

Let me congratulate you on the occasion of your birthday. You have been a father, a very disciplined leader and a true Nigerian patriot in the over 40 years since I have known you.

It is my prayer that Almighty God continues to reward you with abundant blessings, his divine protection and long life. You have positively touched very many lives over the preceding decades. May you continue to touch a lot more lives in the years and decades to come.

God Bless You Sir.

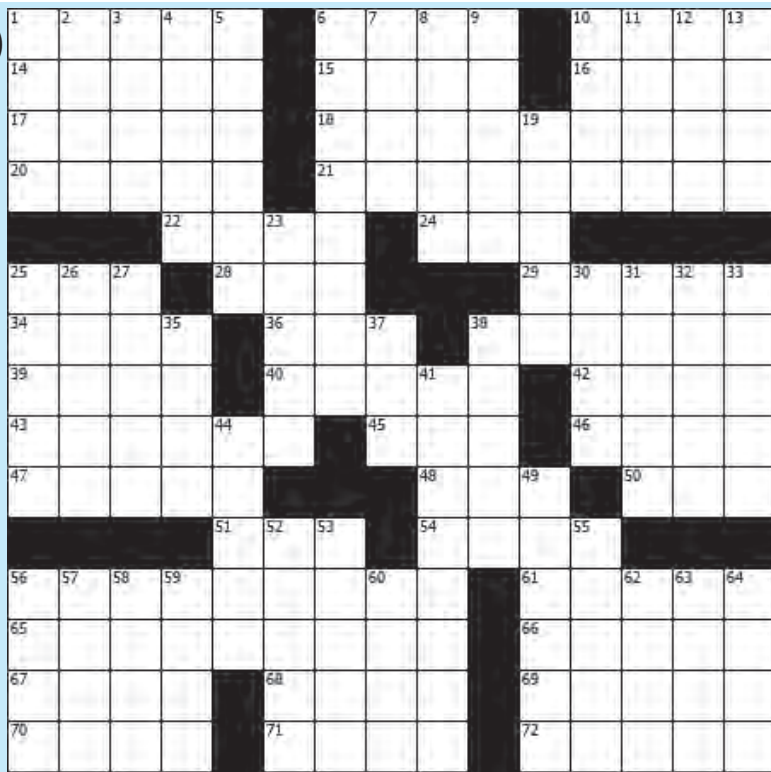
Lt. General
Mohammed Inuwa
WUSHISHI (rtd) CFR, GCON

Signed:

Dr Emmanuel I U Ojei

(174)

EASY CROSSWORD >>



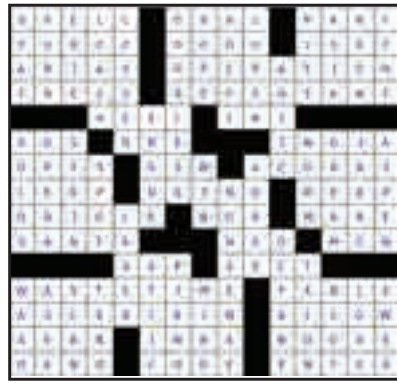
Across

- 1. Hex
- 6. Of the mouth
- 10. Gasp
- 14. Blender setting
- 15. Flightless bird
- 16. Psychic's phrase (2 wds.)
- 17. Opera highlights
- 18. Surgical procedure
- 20. Curl
- 21. Apologetic
- 22. Foot part
- 24. Blasting letters
- 25. Rescue me!
- 28. SSW's opp.
- 29. Delhi's country
- 34. Picks
- 36. Wind dir.
- 38. Oak nuts
- 39. Jump
- 40. Utilizing
- 42. Gather crops
- 43. Baltimore athlete
- 45. And not
- 46. Lion's hair
- 47. Mr. Claus
- 48. "The Matrix" hero
- 50. Grown boys
- 51. Plant juice
- 54. Faction
- 56. Goof off (2 wds.)
- 61. Postpone
- 65. Determine for sure
- 66. Let
- 67. Penn or Connery
- 68. Country lodgings
- 69. Rope loop
- 70. Lend a ____
- 71. Area ____
- 72. Go onstage
- 8. Highly skilled
- 9. Actress Sophia ____
- 10. Actor Brad ____
- 11. India's continent
- 12. City light
- 13. Portable shelter
- 19. Prank
- 23. Come afterward
- 25. Sings alone
- 26. "Carmen," e.g.
- 27. Laundry problem
- 30. Standard
- 31. Nighttime vision
- 32. Silly
- 33. Poplar type
- 35. Blemish
- 37. Prevail
- 38. See eye to eye
- 41. Hogwash
- 44. Intense beam
- 49. Gasoline classification
- 52. Storage room
- 53. Baby grand, e.g.
- 55. Vulture's claw
- 56. Cleanse
- 57. On a cruise
- 58. Glance at
- 59. Look after
- 60. "A Beautiful ____"
- 62. Ink spot
- 63. Be defeated
- 64. Water pitcher

Down

- 1. Minor quarrel
- 2. Feline sound
- 3. Great Lake
- 4. Dog's tether
- 5. Decrease
- 6. Without a scent
- 7. Heavy cord

SOLUTION TO CROSSWORD (173)



SUDOKU >>

How to play: The number 1 through 9 will appear once only in each row, column, and 3 x 3 zone. There are 9 such zones in each sudoku grid. There is only one correct Solution to each sudoku.

Good luck!

174

Solution to Sudoku 173

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

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

SNAPSHOT >>

Malaysian team turns pineapple waste into disposable drone parts



Malaysian researchers have developed a method to transform the fibre found in normally discarded pineapple leaves to make a strong material that can be used to build the frames for unmanned aircraft, or drones. The project, headed by Professor Mohamed Thariq Hameed Sultan at Malaysia's Putra University, has been trying to find sustainable uses for pineapple waste generated by farmers in Hulu Langat, an area about 65 km (40 miles) from Kuala Lumpur. "We are transforming the leaf of the pineapple into a fibre that can be used for aerospace application, basically inventing a drone," he told Reuters at a workshop. Mohamed Thariq said drones made out of the bio-composite material had a higher strength-to-weight ratio than those made from synthetic fibres, and were also cheaper, lighter and easier to dispose of. If the drone was damaged, the frame could be buried in the ground and would degrade within two weeks, he said. The prototype drones have been able to fly to a height of about 1,000 metres (3,280 ft) and stay in the air for about 20 minutes, he added. Ultimately, the research team hopes to create a larger drone to accommodate bigger payloads, including imagery sensors, for agricultural purposes and aerial inspections. "Our role here is to help the industry, the farmers, to increase their yield and make their jobs much easier," said William Robert Alvisse of the Malaysian Unmanned Drones Activist Society, a non-governmental group helping to design the drone and advising on the project. Before the project launched in 2017, pineapple stems were discarded after the once-in-a-year harvest period, but farmers hope the drones project will encourage more innovation to find uses for the waste and boost incomes. "With the health issue, the economy problem due to COVID-19, the society is desperate and there is no alternative to increase income," said pineapple farmer Irwan Ismail.

By Ebrahim Harris

- Reuters

SIGN LANGUAGE >>

Don't wake anybody up if you're exiting the motel during a fire



- boredpanda.com



EDUCATION

How schools, govt should tackle disparity in school calendar

By Chidimma C. Okeke

There is no arguing the fact that education is one of the major casualties of the COVID-19 pandemic.

After schools were closed for months, in Nigeria and across the world, keeping millions of learners at home without physical learning and halting other academic activities, Nigeria had to reopen schools later to ensure that students completed the 2020 academic calendar.

The resumption of schools in the country, however, saw some of the states running different terms: some resumed to do the third term and others first term. However, all the terms were run within a short period, thus leaving much to be desired in syllabus coverage.

With the second wave of COVID-19, uncertainty has hit the educational system with states giving different dates for resumption of basic education. This is in addition to the fact that the school calendar may again be shortened.

Students are said to have resumed in states which include

Akwa Ibom, Rivers and Sokoto on Monday, while Abia, Oyo and Delta are to resume on January 11.

For Kano, Kogi, Rivers, Sokoto, Lagos, Plateau, and Niger states, resumption has been announced for January 18, while states like Kaduna and others are yet to announce resumption date.

However, observers in the education sector and other stakeholders say the dates may not be feasible if there is another lockdown nationwide as is currently happening in Europe.

Meanwhile, experts have said the disparity in schools calendar across the states will further affect negatively the already worrisome education standard in the country.

An educationist, Mr Michael Ojonugwa Sule, said already the standard of education, especially at the basic level, is in a sorry state and with the impact of COVID-19, it will further decline in quality thereby badly impacting knowledge.

He said: "Federal and state governments need to meet to address the differences in the academic calendar. They cannot

be allowed to do what they like while the students suffer. Already, the children have been denied ample learning time and shortening the time they should be in school will further affect the learning outcomes."

He noted that there is, therefore, the need to create more time for the students, even if it means staying extra time after the close of school and engaging private teachers to help them meet up with what they cannot get from the short period at school.

For Olasunkanmi Opeifa, the implication of disparity in schools' resumption for students and education is that while some students would have enough time in school to prepare for external examinations, others may not owing to late resumption, and "of course exams scheduled by the external examining body normally at the conclusion of classes and other preparations."

He said: "To tackle this disparity and the implication it portends for students on one hand and our educational system on the other, schools should try

to work on students' psychology so they don't get panicky."

The educationist further said schools should go digital and encourage their students to visit sites on the different social media platforms to stay stimulated on their academic work.

"Subject teachers should also embrace technology in making sure they are able to effectively cover sufficient grounds that would place students at an advantage. Where students have no access to technology, teachers should be prepared to sacrifice more time for productive extra classes," he said.

According to him, the scheme and lesson plans should also be comprehensive enough to cover every aspect of assessment and evaluation that students could work with on their own.

"The government should also be visibly supportive of teachers both in the public and private sectors in the area of extra motivation, considering the peculiar circumstances.

'After all is said and done, I believe strongly that this state of affairs is poised to bring out the

best innovative practices in our teachers, and consequently our students," he added.

The CEO of Voyage International School, Abuja, Yussuff Oriyomi, on his part, said the disparity in calendars will definitely lower the quality of education from incomplete coverage of subjects.

He, however, suggested that to address the issue, government should reduce the number of holidays going forward and cancel an academic session/term as may be required

Oriyomi advised that Saturdays should be added to school days for the next one session to cover more lessons and also integrate online learning to make up for missed periods.

In his reaction, the Director of Press at the Federal Ministry of Education, Ben Bem Goong, said the minister, Malam Adamu Adamu, will make a definite pronouncement on the disparity in school calendar at the ministerial briefing next week. He said the address will resolve all issues relating to the disparity.

NUT directs teachers to shun pension scheme enrollment in Edo

From Usman A Bello, Benin

The Edo State chapter of the Nigeria Union of Teachers (NUT) has directed its members to shun enrollment into the state government's contributory pension scheme.

Daily Trust reports that the directive is coming ahead of the January 18 resumption date by public and private primary and post-primary schools for a second term for the 2021 academic session.

A statement signed by the union's Assistant General Secretary, Moni Mike Modesty Itua, said the directive would remain in force until the union directed

otherwise.

According to him, the decision of public schools not to enrol into the contributory pension scheme was as a result of the resolution of the State Wing Executive Council (SWEC) of the union at its last meeting held on December 29, 2020.

The union had on December 29 issued a 21-day strike notice to the state government over alleged failure to meet its demands bothering on poor conditions of service and non-payment of outstanding financial entitlements among others.

"Following the resolutions of the State Wing Executive Council (SWEC) of the

union at its last meeting held on the 29th of December, 2020, especially on the issue of Contributory Pension Scheme for Primary School Teachers in Edo State, I have been directed to inform all SWEC members, school heads and primary schools teachers in the state not to fill any document having to do with contributory pension scheme until the union directs otherwise," the statement read.

He said the directive became inevitable as the two issues regarding the scheme raised by the union as per the CPS had not received government's positive response.



■ Nigerian Bottling Company (NBC) Limited donated a newly built block of classrooms to LEA Primary School in Karon Magiji, Abuja, recently

Why Fed Poly Nekede digitalized teaching - Rector

From Tony Adibe, Enugu

The Federal Polytechnic, Nekede, Imo State has braced up for full implementation of ICT and digital technologies as a compulsory component of its curriculum and teaching/learning processes.

The rector of the polytechnic, Engr. Michael Arimanwa, who made this known in an interview with *Daily Trust*, emphasised that digital learning has come to play a vital role in education

and should be integrated into the classroom.

He restated that no institution with a clear mission and vision can afford to toy with the teaching and learning of ICT these days as the world is currently in the ICT age.

Engr. Arimanwa expressed the determination of his administration to ensure that appropriate Information/Communication Technologies (ICT) and other meaningful modern tools that enhance quality teaching and learning are

adopted by the school.

He recalled that in February 2020, the institution had, as part of its Smart Campus Initiative, held an audience with the Chief Executive of Zinox Computers, Chief Leo Stan Ekeh at the 1000-capacity auditorium on the campus.

"We are eventually training every staff, but for now we are focusing on the academic staff. We also have training for non-academic staff to effectively digitalize the school for more

viable ICT," he said, adding that the essence was to ensure "an up-to-date, properly trained, qualified, high performing team."

The rector further explained that given the dynamic way classrooms are changing worldwide, "digital teaching and learning is replacing traditional educational methods more and more."

Daily Trust gathered that in line with the ongoing digital transformation in the school, new e-learning approaches have been adopted to ensure effectiveness not only in teaching and learning but in examination

coordination.

According to Arimanwa, his overall goal is to enable students to find and use online resources and identify what they need to learn in addition to their proper application of the information on the problem at hand.

"This would provide for both staff and students a wide educational base, better contexts, more engaging activities and greater sense of perspective than traditional educational methods, thereby increasing one's efficiency and productivity," the rector said.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

Nine tenths of education is encouragement - Anatole France



YOUR GUIDE TO SUCCESSFUL FARMING
GOLDEN HARVEST

**DAILY TRUST
COMMODITY INDEX**

Commodity	Kano (Dawanau mkt)	Funtua Mkt, Katsina	Bwari (Abuja)	Idah, Kaduna	Wadata market Markurdi, Benue
Maize (100kg)	N17,000	N14,000	N17,000	N16,500	100kg of Maize - N20,000
Beans (100kg)	N32,000	N22,000	N23,500	N22,000	100kg of small Beans - N27,000
Sorghum (100kg)	N17,000	N12,000	N15,000	N15,500	100kg of Soghurm - N22,000
Rice (100kg)	N48,500	N40,000	N48,000	N44,000	50kg of Local rice - N48,000
Millet (100kg)	N17,500	N16,500	N16,500	N15,500	100kg of Millet - N25,000
Wheat (100kg)	N31,000	N35,000	--	--	--
Tomatoes (B/basket)	N8,000	N3,500	N6,500	N5,500	Big Basket of tomatoes - N8,000

Quote

"Without seeds, which are the basis of production, food insecurity flood gates are swung open, making access to planting materials crucial for farmers"

-Seeds of Gold Magazine

What is your take on our stories?

Send us your views, comments as well as contributions to agric@dailytrust.com or SMS: 08131800030

Why beans yield is declining

By Vincent A. Yusuf (Abuja),
Magaji Isa Hunkuyi (Jalingo) &
Ibrahim Musa Giginyu (Kano)

...Prices may stay high till next harvest

This time last year, a 50kg bag of cowpea (beans) at Auta-Balefi Beans Market along the Abuja-Keffi highway cost between N6,000 and N9,000 depending on the quality and variety the buyer wanted.

This year, however, the situation is different. The price of the same quantity now goes for between N19,000 and N25,000 depending on the variety and quality of the beans.

Daily Trust gathered at the market that despite the hike in price, certain varieties - like the brown and the milk coloured beans - are in short supply and the little available is in high demand.

About 10 truckloads of beans leave the market weekly, according to sources, but the quantum now in the market is just a fraction of what was harvested last year.

Even the bean chaff used for livestock feed, which was sold at N1000 now goes for between N3000 and N4000 per 100kg bag.

Most of the farmers who supply beans to the market are those who fled insurgency from Borno and Adamawa states.

Mr Samson Bulam, a farmer, told this reporter that the 2020 harvest was low compared to that of 2019.

"In 2019, we had a good harvest and everywhere there was beans. Then, we were even begging people to come and buy. I remember selling the 50kg bag at N5000 because I needed money to solve an urgent matter. But last year (2020), harvest was very low because the rains suddenly stopped so the beans could not do well," he added.

Another farmer, Joseph Bitrus, told Daily Trust at the market that the early cessation of rain and the apparent lack of morning dew resulted in the poor yield



■ Beans at the Auta-Balefi Beans Market along Abuja-Keffi highway, on Monday

and even the poor quality of what was harvested from most farms.

"When the rains suddenly stopped, even by 6 am as you go to the farm, there was no dew or moisture in the atmosphere to wet the soil. Everywhere suddenly became dry," he said.

But one farmer, who simply addressed himself as Mr Albert seems to like the situation. His reason was that the little harvested in 2020 attract more value than the plenty harvested in 2019.

"I like it," he said. "In 2019, I harvested 11 bags, sold them at N7,000 each and I made N77,000. I rented the farm at N15,000. If you add other costs, like fertilizer, herbicides and pesticides, my effort was like a waste. But this year, I got only six bags and that can give me about N150,000. I can even get N200,000 if I leave it for a while," he explained.

In Taraba State, our correspondent reports that poor harvest and high

demand have pushed the price of beans up in the state.

It was gathered that there was poor harvest as a result of the change in the rain pattern in the state during the last season, which resulted in poor beans harvest.

It was also learnt that many crops on many farms dried off as a result of the sudden cessation of rainfall in many parts of the state.

A farmer, Alhaji Chindo Makurna, told our reporter that farmers did not witness bumper harvest due to short period of rainfall across the state.

According to him, farmers who harvested no fewer than 50 bags of beans in previous years, could only harvest between 5 and 20 bags because their crops did not mature as rainfall stopped early last year.

It was gathered that few weeks after harvest, a 50kg bag of white beans was sold at N15,000 due to scarcity.

Daily Trust gathered that

the price of the commodity has continued to increase as more buyers trooped to the state to make bulk purchases.

Middlemen, mostly from the Southern part of the country arrive in Mutum Biyu, Iware and Maihula grains markets, in their numbers, and make bulk purchases of the commodity on weekly basis.

It was further gathered that the activities of middlemen are responsible for the increase in the price of beans which is now sold at N25,000 per 100kg bag.

Taraba State, it is gathered, is one of the major producers of white and red beans with about 14 local government areas producing the commodity in commercial quantity.

A similar scenario is playing out in Kano State, with a spike in the price of beans which is attributed by some grains merchants to massive hoarding by merchants and big companies.

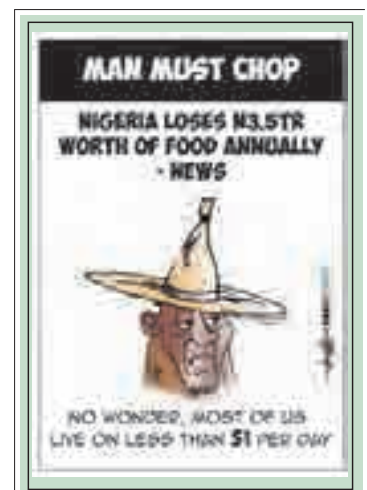
According to a merchant at Dawanau International Grains Market, Alhaji Usman Bello, many merchants and companies are currently mopping up beans and other commodities at the market, thereby creating scarcity and hike in the price of beans.

A visit to the market showed that a 100kg of small pod beans sold at N26,000 last week is now sold at N32,000, with indicators showing that the hike in price will be continuous as demand in the commodity is increasing due to scarcity.

Another merchant in the market, Alhaji Nasiru Mamman, told our reporter that the hike in beans price is attributed to the setbacks due to unhealthy preservation methods and as such its market value has dwindled in the last three years.

He added that many beans farmers have abandoned its cultivation while others reduced the size of land they cultivate hence the scarcity and hike in its price.

He further revealed that in view of the poor preservation problem, the Nigerian Stored Products Research Institute (NSPRI) was at the market to educate us on the appropriate handling of pesticides to save lives and restore international confidence in Nigerian grains.





ABUJA ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION PLC

SERVICE REFLECTIVE TARIFF RATE ADJUSTMENT

Dear Esteemed Customers,

Following the approval of the December 2020 Minor Review of MYTO – 2020 by the industry regulator, we would like to inform our esteemed customers of a slight adjustment to our tariffs by an average of N2.30/kWh and a maximum of 5% increase to the current tariffs, reflecting the partial impact of inflation and changes in foreign exchange rates, effective January 1st 2021.

The rate adjustment is in compliance with the provisions of the Electric Power Sector Reform Act ("EPRSA") and the procedure for Electricity Tariff review.

The meter tokens purchased by our prepaid customers will immediately reflect the new tariff rates while the January 2021 bills which will be issued to our post-paid customers in February 2021, shall equally reflect the adjusted service reflective tariff.

We thank you for your understanding and continued support. AED Plc remains committed to improving service to our customers in line with the service reflective tariff structure.

**Signed,
Management,
Abuja Electricity Distribution Plc.**



CITY NEWS

Contacts
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citynews@dailytrust.com



■ Vehicle inspection officers on duty in Abuja

VIO arrests 50 dispatch riders over route violations

By Terkula Igidi

The Directorate of Road Traffic Services (DRTS) of the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA), has arrested over 50 dispatch riders for riding against one-way and beating traffic lights within the city centre.

The Director (DRTS), otherwise known as VIO, Alhaji Wadata Bodinga, made this known while briefing newsmen yesterday in Abuja.

Bodinga warned that the conduct and activities of dispatch riders in the city would no longer be acceptable by the Federal Capital Territory Administration and the motoring public.

He revealed that the directorate had received a lot of complaints about the conduct of some dispatch riders within the city and we have seen it too.

“We are here to display the dispatch riders that we arrested for either riding against one-way in the city or beating the traffic lights.

“As you may observe that

the number of dispatch riders has increased within the city, probably because of the COVID-19 pandemic that is ravaging not only Abuja or Nigeria but the whole world.

“Because of their door-to-door services (dispatch riders), which can actually ease people that are staying at home to be able to deliver some of their needs.

“But equally, you can agree with me that their activities and conduct on the road is no longer acceptable. We have received a lot of complaints about their conduct and we have seen it too.

“Just between Tuesday and today Wednesday, over 50 motorcycles and dispatch riders have been arrested for various offences.

“Because majorly they are the major culprit of this beating of traffic and riding on one-way in the city, which is not acceptable because they are trading with their own safety and the safety of other road users,” Bodinga said.

He said that the directorate had directed all the people arrested for following one-way and those

beating traffic to go for emotional evaluation at the recognised hospital in the FCT.

The director said that the enforcement was a continuous one, adding that all the Area Commands are detailed to ensure that traffic rules and regulations must be respected in the city.

“This is Abuja and even where the traffic lights are not working our men and officers of the Nigeria Police Force are there to ensure sanity.

“People should be seen to at least obey the traffic lights in the territory and sadly, that is not the case when it come to this dispatched riders as you can see the results of the operation.”

Bodinga disclosed that majority of them did not register with the authority as dispatch riders.

“Because they are dispatch riders, we expect that these motorcycles should be owned by cooperate organisations but from the record we have we realised that most of them are just owned by individuals who just decided to put the box and start operation.”

1 dead, 3 injured as elevator crashed in Cocoa House, Ibadan

From Jeremiah Oke, Ibadan

A technician working on one of the elevators of the Cocoa House, a property of Odu'a Investment was reportedly killed when the elevator crashed on Wednesday morning.

Head, Corporate Affairs of the Investment, Victor Ayetoro who confirmed the incident to Daily Trust in Ibadan on Wednesday said while working on the lift, it suffered a mechanical failure.

He said; “around 11am this morning, the lift installation team from our contractor handling the lift and who were working on dismantling the old lift in readiness for a new lift instalment, while working on the lift suffered a mechanical failure. The said failure resulted in the lift car dropping and crashing into the basement pit.

“Unfortunately, one of the technicians in the team did not survive the incident.

“Three other technicians suffered minor injuries and have been taken to the hospital for check up/ treatment.

The head office of the company has been informed and their representatives have arrived to take charge of the situation while the police have also been informed.”

Earlier, our correspondent learnt that the elevator was recently repaired and has been over worked before it crashed.

QUICK READ

Abuja

FCTA tasks community leaders on peaceful coexistence

By Terkula Igidi

The Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) urged community leaders in the six area councils to promote peaceful co-existence in their domains.

FCT Area Councils Services Secretariat (ACSS) said the FCTA has made enormous commitment to achieve the level of peace being enjoyed in the territory and would not allow individuals or groups to breach it.

Acting Secretary of ACSS, Mrs. Omolola Olanipekun, who made the call during a media briefing, also warned all contenders of chieftaincy stools to follow recommended guidelines to ensure that public peace was sustained.

Olanipekun noted that grassroot development cannot be achieved in an atmosphere of conflict and social disharmony.

She further disclosed that the Secretariat has been involved in Chieftaincy stools dispute resolution in several communities, with the aim of ensuring security for all residents.

Lagos mobile court fines 65 persons N20,000 each

From Eugene Agha, Lagos

A Lagos Mobile court, has placed a N20,000 fine on 65 persons arrested for breaching the state government curfew order.

The state government had in 2020 placed a 12 midnight to 4 am curfew order to prevent the spread of COVID-19 pandemic. It gave the directive after it lifted the restriction of movement order given in the wake of the outbreak of the pandemic in Nigeria.

The court slammed the N20,000 fine on the accused after they all pleaded guilty to a one count charge levelled against them by the chairman of the state Taskforce, Shola Jejeloye.

Jejeloye said all 75 persons were brought before the mobile court on Tuesday.

NMA partners Zamfara govt to fight quackery

The Zamfara State Chapter of the Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) is partnering with the state Ministry of Health in the fight against quackery in the profession.

The State NMA Chairman, Dr Mannir Bature, disclosed this in a statement in Gusau on Wednesday.

Bature said: “The Nigerian Medical Association (NMA) Zamfara State Chapter is deeply alarmed by the magnitude of medical quackery in Zamfara State.

“This has caused a lot of avoidable deaths and disability to innocent citizens who fell victim of the criminality.

“The illegality continues to thrive in the state owing to the failure of the relevant authorities to prosecute medical quacks and non-regulation and proliferation of illegal hospitals and clinics in the state.”

He further said that the investigation conducted by NMA reveals that some doctors are lacking in basic medical knowledge and skills expected of a medical doctor and all efforts to get their relevant certificate for scrutiny proved abortive.

“Alarmed by this growing danger NMA Zamfara has made adequate plans to partner with relevant stakeholders including the State ministry of health, other health professional associations and security agencies in the state to ensure effective monitoring and regulation of all health facilities in the state. (NAN)



CRIME

Contacts
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Why I killed my stepson – Pregnant housewife

From Hameed Oyegbade, Osogbo

A 24-year-old pregnant housewife in Ede, Osun State, Mariam Musa, has confessed that she killed her stepson, Rokeeb, to gain the attention of her husband.

She said her husband was giving too much attention to the 3-year-old boy and not

showing much love to her and her daughter.

Speaking to Daily Trust, Mariam, who is the first wife of her husband, said since her husband married his second wife, all attention had shifted from her to the new wife and her son.

She explained that she had been enduring the situation

for some time but that the devil eventually pushed her to poison the boy to regain the attention of the man.

She confessed to having mixed a liquid pesticide with a beverage which she gave to the boy to drink.

It was learnt that the boy started having stomach upset and later became

unconscious. He was rushed to the Muslim Hospital, Ede but he died while receiving treatment.

Rokeeb's mother reported at the 'B' Division Police Station in Ede that Mariam had poisoned her son.

The Commissioner of Police in the state, Wale Olokode, described the action of the

woman as cruel and barbaric.

He said the pesticide bottle with the remaining liquid content and empty beverage bottle used by the suspect to poison the deceased were recovered as exhibits.

Olokode said the suspect would be arraigned in court after the completion of investigation.



■ Suspected kidnappers being paraded in Rivers State recently

Police nab 8 suspects for alleged kidnapping, rape in Gombe

The Police Command in Gombe State, on Wednesday, said its personnel have apprehended four suspected kidnappers and four suspected rapists in the state.

Maikudi Shehu, the Commissioner of Police, disclosed this while briefing journalists in Gombe on recent arrests in the state.

Shehu stated that there had been an upsurge in kidnapping in Gombe South, while rape had become a trending case in the state.

He attributed the prevalence of kidnapping in Gombe

South to its geographical features, saying the area has lots of rocks where kidnappers hide their victims.

"We have been having an upsurge in kidnapping from the axis, around Pindiga, Billiri and Filiya; people have been taken and various amounts of money have been collected in ransom.

"An incident happened the day before yesterday where a particular man was abducted from his home by seven persons and led into the bush, and in the process they got to a rock and decided to rest," said Shehu. (NAN)

Libel case against ex-Benue speaker stalled over ill-health

From Hope Abah Emmanuel, Makurdi

The trial of a former speaker of the Benue State House of Assembly, Terkimbi Ikyange, was on Wednesday stalled in a Makurdi High Court due to his ill-health.

Ikyange was taken to court by Governor Samuel Ortom for his alleged false comments in a press conference of Monday, July 30, 2018, at which he was said to have accused the governor of deducting N50 million monthly

from each of the 23 local government areas of the state amounting to N33 billion.

At the previous court sitting, Ortom had closed his case against the former speaker whose trial was expected to commence on Wednesday.

Ikyange was, however, absent in court.

When the case came up for Ikyange to enter his defence, his counsel, Sunday Akor, informed the court that his client was not

present due to ill-health and apologised for his absence.

The defence counsel, therefore, asked for another date to enable his client to open his defence.

Meanwhile, the counsel to Governor Ortom, Samuel Irabor, did not object to the plea for another date.

The trial judge, Justice Augustine Ityonyiman, adjourned the case to February 5, 2021, for Ikyange to enter his defence.

Gunmen kidnap councillor's wives, 3 others in Abuja

By Abubakar Sadiq Isah

Armed men have abducted the two wives of the councillor representing Gwako ward in Gwagwalada Area Council, Federal Capital Territory (FCT).

The councillor, Idris Mohammed, lives in Kpakuru village of the council, where his two wives, younger sister and two brothers were abducted.

A resident who preferred anonymity said the incident happened around 12:08 am on Monday when gunmen invaded the councillor's house in the village.

He said the gunmen destroyed the gate shooting sporadically, before entering and whisking away their victims from the house.

He said the councillor, who was in his bedroom escaped through another door when he realised that the attackers were kidnappers.

"When he realised that the attackers were kidnappers, he managed to escape through an exit door but they abducted his two wives, younger sister and his two younger brothers that were in the house," the resident said.

According to him, the family

established contact with the kidnappers on Tuesday morning and that they were demanding N200 million ransom.

"But they were able to bring down the ransom to N15 million after intensive negotiation," he added.

He disclosed that one of the councillor's wives was heavily pregnant when she was abducted.

The spokesperson of the FCT police command, ASP Maryam Yusuf, was yet to pick calls or reply to a text message sent to her phone to confirm the incident before filing this report.

Woman, 24, arrested for allegedly faking her own kidnap

A 24-year-old woman, Medinat Ibrahim was on Wednesday paraded by Police Command in Kwara for allegedly conspiring with two others to arrange her kidnap to collect ransom from her family.

Briefing journalists at police Command Headquarters, Ilorin, CP Mohammed Bagega said on Jan. 2 information was received from one Nurudeen Solagberu that one Medinat Ibrahim of Olude Oke-Fomo area of Ilorin was kidnapped by unknown persons.

Bagega said the command received the information at some minutes past 5pm via its emergency telephone lines.

According to him, on the strength of the information, the complainant was directed to make a formal report at Oloje Police Division that has

jurisdiction over the area.

"Preliminary investigation revealed a conspiracy, so I directed the newly constituted state anti-kidnapping to take over the investigation.

"It was however revealed in the course of investigation that the said Medinat Ibrahim conspired with one Amudalat Wahab, her sister to arrange for her kidnap.

"A GTBank account No. 0116404467 belonging to one Hamed Lekan was used to cash the ransom of N250, 000 paid by the father of the suspect.

"The suspect later confessed that she needed money for something, hence she devised the fake kidnap.

"All the suspects have been arrested, exhibit recovered and case under investigation," said the CP. (NAN)

NASARAWA SPOTLIGHT

| Co-created content

LG Poll: Engineer Sule wants only Competent hands to be Elected Chairmen

Ahead of local government election in Nasarawa state Governor, Abdullahi Sule has again urged the people to elect only competent individuals who would provide the necessary leadership at the local government level.

Engineer Sule, who hosted members of the Mada South Unity Forum, on Friday in Lafia said he would prefer to see the people elect chairmen who have the experience and capacity to exploit and harness resources found in each of the councils, rather than depending on monthly subvention just to pay salaries.

The governor stressed that his administration will be transparent and fair in the conduct of the forthcoming council

election, the Governor however appealed to the people to ensure that the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC), field only competent candidates that will assist the administration by exploiting and harnessing abundant natural and human resources at the councils.

"I plan and pray - I am going to be fair and I am going to be transparent in the forthcoming local government elections," he stated.

According to the Governor, Akwanga has the potential to be great, adding that what Akwanga needs now is to get someone who would take a critical look at her potentials, harness and such for the progress of the people.

He lamented that even though Akwanga used to be the administrative head of the old Akwanga Division, with Wamba and Nassarawa Eggon under this administrative unit, it's regrettable that Akwanga is still battling to pay monthly salary of workers.

On the request by the forum for a slot among those jostling for the position of permanent secretary in the state civil service, the Governor explained that his administration decided that all those aspiring to become permanent secretaries must sit for a qualifying test.

Engineer Sule said the decision was arrived at out of the desire to introduce sanity into the state civil service and to ensure that only competent hands are allowed to become

permanent secretaries.

He however added that he is not unmindful of political undercurrents but that his administration will ensure that justice is done to every part of the state.

Earlier in their separate submissions, Hon. Samuel Tsebe, member representing Akwanga South at the State Assembly, Yusuf Loko, a retired custom comptroller who is the president Mada-South Unity Forum, spoke on issues affecting the area.

The courtesy call had in attendance; Akwanga Local Government Area Chairman, Hon. Samuel Meshi, Special Adviser to the Governor on Sports and Youth Development, Hon. Yakubu Kwanta, among other top political appointees of the Governor.

Federal government launches cash grants to 2,600 rural women in Nasarawa state

2,600 Rural Women drawn from 5 LGAs in Nasarawa State are to benefit from a federal government Cash Grant. The grant is to cushion the hardship occasioned by Covid-19 pandemic.

Minister for State Science & Technology, Barr. Mohammed Hassan Abdullahi who represented the Hon. Minister of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management & Social Development flagged-off the distribution Wednesday in Lafia.

The women are drawn from Awe, Lafia, Wamba, Kokona and Nasarawa local government areas.

The Minister assures of more federal government interventions in the nearest future.

Nasarawa State Deputy Governor, Dr. Emmanuel Agbadu Akabe who represented governor Abdullahi A. Sule thanked Mr. President for the initiative and promised to complement Federal Government's effort in empowering rural women.



■ Governor Abdullahi A. Sule exchanging pleasantries with Minister of State, Science and Technology, Barr. Hassan Abdullahi who represented the Minister of Humanitarian Affairs, Disaster Management and Social Development, Hajiya Sadiya Umar Farouq during the presentation of cash grants to 2,600 rural women in Nasarawa State.



■ The Minister of State, Science and Technology, Barr Hassan Abdullahi presenting cash to one of the beneficiaries at the event.

Govt. to consider LG spread in appointment of new Permanent Secretaries- Engineer Sule

Nasarawa State Governor, Engineer Abdullahi Sule, has assured that even though his administration will first consider merit in the appointment of new permanent secretaries, his administration will consider geographical spread in carrying out the exercise.

Engineer Sule made this known while hosting his Special Advisers who came to show appreciation to him for appointing two of their colleagues, at the Government House, on Tuesday.

Engineer Sule explained that his administration has identified competent directors across each of the 13 local

government areas, stressing that local government spread will be considered when the time comes to appoint new permanent secretaries.

"As a manager of resources and people, that I have done for close to 30 years now, I am quite aware that we should be able to do the best we can to have proper representation, fairness in carrying out our assignment," he stated.

Engineer Sule noted that the situation of the state requires commitment and dedication because the administration has a lot to do in 2021 and is therefore seeking the support of all and sundry.

The Governor prayed to God for

guidance, in order for his administration to be able to do better than it did in the past, especially in the areas of sustainable peace and guaranteed security in the state and the country at large.

Engineer Sule expressed gratitude to the Special Advisers for their commitment and performance at various levels, adding that his administration was indeed lucky to have identified them right from inception.

He added that the selection of the two special advisers for elevation was strictly based on merit.

In her opening remarks, leader of the delegation, Hon. (Dr.) Hajara Danyaro,

Special Adviser to the Governor on Education, said they were at the Government House to show appreciation to the Governor for elevating two of their members to higher positions.

The Special Advisers used the opportunity to commend the Governor for the giant strides so far recorded in the state, particularly in the areas of security and infrastructural development.

Those elevated are Hon. (Dr.) John Mamman who is now the Chairman, State Caretaker Committee of the APC and Hon. (Dr.) Dominic Bako, Director General, Nasarawa State Bureau for Public Procurement.

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- KAZING: I**, formerly known as **MARKUS AYUBA** now wish to be known and addressed as **MARKUS KAZING AYUBA**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **CHRISTOPHER DANLAMI JOSEPH**, now wish to be known and addressed as **CHRISTOPHER JOSEPH**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MUSA: I, formerly known as **MOSES BENARD**, my date of birth was wrongly captured as **30/01/1986**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MUSA BENARD**, my correct date of birth is **11/11/1992**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

IBRAHIM: I, formerly known as **ODUKA IBRAHIM ABUBAKAR**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR IBRAHIM**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

KWAGHGA: I formerly known as **MISS PHOEBE MNENA KWAGHGA** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS PHOEBE MNENA AONDOAKURA**. All other documents remain valid. Benue State University Makurdi, NYSC, Stanbic IBTC, First Bank, APIN and the general public to take note.

OZIGI: I, formerly known as **AHMED DANGANA**, my date of birth was wrongly captured as **02/04/1988** now wish to be known and addressed as **AHMED OZIGI DANGANA**, my correct date of birth is **02/04/1994**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

COMFORT: I, formerly known as **COMFORT OCHIANYA AMEDE**, now wish to be known and addressed as **COMFORT OCHIANYA ABABAH**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

SIMON: I, formerly known as **SIMON REJOICE DAFIYEL**, my date of birth was wrongly captured as **01/01/1991**, now wish to be known and addressed as **DAVYAS REJOICE SIMON**, my correct date of birth is **23/02/1999**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

AGNES: I, formerly known as **OKORE AGNES**, my date of birth was wrongly captured as **1/9/1992**, now wish to be known and addressed as **OKORE AGNES CLEMENT**, my correct date of birth is **1/9/1997**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

JIMOH: I, formerly known as **OLADAYO JIMOH** and **AJANI JIMOH**, now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDULFATAH OLADAYO JIMOH**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

NURA: I, formerly known as **UMAR NURA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **UMAR NURA MUHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

BELLO: I, formerly known as **MUSA BELLO**, my date of birth was wrongly captured as **10/01/1992**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MUSA BELLO HAHE**, my correct date of birth is **21/01/1990**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

UDEH: I, formerly known as **EDINAH EBISI NONYELUM**, now wish to be known and addressed as **UDEH EDNA NONYELUM**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

ISAIHAH: I, formerly known as **SAMSON ISAIHAH LUCKY**, now wish to be known and addressed as **SAMSON ISAIHAH**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

WARIBUGO: I, formerly known as **MISS ELIZABETH EBAMUGHA AYAMAOWEI**, now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS ELIZABETH EBAMUGHA WARIBUGO**. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

FRANCISCA: I, formerly known as **ODUNUKAN OLANREWaju FRANCISCA** now wish to be known and addressed as **OJO OLANREWaju FRANCISCA**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

AUWAL: I Formerly known and addressed as **MUHAMMED AUWAL**, wish to be known and addressed as **MOHAMMED AUWAL SALEH**. All former documents remain valid, Banks and general public please take note.

MARY: I Formerly known, called and addressed as **AWOYINFA DAMILOLA**, now wish to be known, called and addressed as **IYANDA DAMILOLA MARY**. All former documents remain valid. General public and authorities concern should please take note.

JOSEPH: I formerly known as **JAMILA YUSUF MIMI YUSUF**, now wish to be called and addressed as **MIMIDOO JOSEPH**. All former documents remain valid. General Public and authorities concern should please take note.

I FORMERLY KNOWN AS **MANSUR DAHIRU USMAN** NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN AND ADDRESSED AS **MANSUR DAHIRU** AND MY CORRECT DATE OF BIRTH IS **05/08/1995 (5TH AUGUST 1995)**. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. ALL BANKS AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

I formerly known and addressed as **NASARA ABDULLAH** now wish to be known and address as **RIBARIGIMA**. All former documents remain valid. The general public NIMC should take note, please

I formerly known and addressed as **NWOSU OGEDMI** now wish to be known and address as **GADA SUNDAY**. All former documents remain valid. The general public and First Bank Nig. Plc should take note, please.

WAKILI: I formally known and addressed as **WAKIL MAMMAN** and also wrongly captured on my Bank name and BVN respectively. Now wish to be known and addressed as **WAKIL MAMMAN MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concern and the general public should take note.

I, FALMATA MOHAMMED do solemnly and sincerely declare and state as follows: that the name **FALMATA MOHAMMED** and **FALMATA MUHAMMAD**, are referred to me, as I used to answer either of the names. Now I wish to be known and called **FALMATA MUHAMMAD**. All former documents remain valid. All Banks, all authority concerned and General public to Note

ADAMU: I, formerly called **SANI ADAMU**, now wish to be called **ADAMU S. MOHAMMED**. All documents remained valid. General public to take note.

OCHOLI: I formerly known and called **ATTA PAULINA**, now wish to be known and called **OHOLI PAULINA**, former documents remain valid, Union Bank Plc, NIMS and the general public to take note.

ABDULLAHI: I formerly known as **RALIYA HARUNA** now wish to be known and addressed as **RALIYA ABDULLAHI DOB9/1/1967** All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and the general public should please take note.

BELLO: I formerly known as **MOHD BELLO AND SALISU MOHD BELLO** now wish to be known and addressed as **MOHAMMED SALISU BELLO DOB1/1/1988**. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and the general public should please take note.

USMAN: I, formerly known and addressed as **MAIMUNA ABUBAKAR WALAMA** now wish to be known and addressed as **MAIMUNA USMAN**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

BAKORI: I, formerly known and addressed as **AHMED SHEHU IMAM** now wish to be known and addressed as **AHMED SHEHU BAKORI**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

KEBIRU: I, formerly known and addressed as **IBRAHIM AKWU** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMED KEBIRU** with date of birth **06/05/2001**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

ALHASSAN: I, formerly known and addressed as **IBRAHIM DANJUMA** now wish to be known and addressed as **ALHASSAN SENUSI** with date of birth **15/9/1999**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

MONDAY: I, formerly known and addressed as **IBRAHIM OKPANACHI** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMED MONDAY** with date of birth **12/2/2001**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

HARUNA: I, formerly known and addressed as **JOHN ADEJOH** now wish to be known and addressed as **JOHN HARUNA** with date of birth **12/2/2002**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

JOHNSON: I, formerly known and addressed as **ADEBO JOY** now wish to be known and addressed as **JULIET KEJURUOJO JOHNSON**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

EZE: I, formerly known and addressed as **UMOCHE AUGUSTINE** now wish to be known and addressed as **JAMES EZE**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

BELLO: I, formerly known and addressed as **BELLO A. HALI** now wish to be known and addressed as **BELLO ALHAJI HALI**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

HAKA: I, formerly known and addressed as **IDRIS OSMAN GAYA** now wish to be known and addressed as **IDRIS USMAN HAKA**, Correct date of birth is **17/12/1995** not **17/12/1990**. All former documents remain valid. NIMC and First Bank and the general public to take note.

SABO: I, formerly known and addressed as **PRINCESS SUNDAY IKANYI** now wish to be known and addressed as **PRINCESS SABO**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

MITCHELL: I, formerly known and addressed as **ENWEZU MITCHELL** now wish to be known and addressed as **LORD MITCHELL**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

ITUEN: I, formerly known and addressed as **MISS DOROTHY JOHN EDET** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS DOROTHY EMMANUEL ITUEN**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

MARY: I formerly known and addressed as **MISS MARY ITEBIMIE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS EHIIDAMHE MARY**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

IBHADE: I formerly known and addressed as **MISS JOHN OHIMAI FAVOUR IBHADE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS UWAIFO FAVOUR IBHADE**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

JULIET: I formerly known and addressed as **JULIET AKHIMIEMONA EJEMHEN**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS JULIET AIGBIREMONLEN**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

EMMANUEL: I formerly known and addressed as **ABUDU OARE**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **EMMANUEL IYANGA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

ZINALIA: I formerly known and addressed as **OYEBANJU COMFORT LIANETU**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **SALI LIANETU ZINALIA**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

NUHU: I formerly known and addressed as **JIKAN-SARKI HOSEA NAAUTA**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **NAAUTA HOSEA NUHU**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

DEBA: I formerly known as **IBRAHIM ADAMU NJOKORI** now wish to be known and addressed as **IBRAHIM AZ DEBA DOB17/8/1954 NOT16/8/1955** All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and the general public should please take note.

AHMED: I This is to confirm that **AHMED MUHAMMED AGBOODIN, MOHAMMED AMMED, AHMED MOHAMMED and MOHAMMED AHMED**. Refer to me and same person. Now wish to be known as **AHMED OMOZUAFO MOHAMMED**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

AGWULONU: I formerly known and addressed as **TONY JOEL** now wish to be known and addressed as **AGWULONU JOEL CHATERCHI**. All former documents remain valid. Authority concerned and general public to take note.

CHANGE OF NAME: I, formerly known and addressed as **EDEH UCHE STANLEY**. Now wish to be known and addressed as **EDEH COLLINS CHIADIKAOBI**. All former documents remain valid, banks and general public take note

CORRECTION OF NAMES: I My name was mistakenly captured as **AMOS AJIBOLA PETER** but the correct name is **AMOS AJIBOLA PETERS**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

MUSTAPHA: I, formerly known and addressed as **ABDUSSAMAD SABIU** now wish to be known and addressed as **ABDUSSAMAD SABIU MUSTAPHA**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

ALIYU: I, formerly known and addressed as **HAUWAWU DEWA UMARU** now wish to be known and addressed as **HAUWAWU ALIYU**. All former documents remain valid. General public to take note.

OGBE: I, formerly known and addressed as **OJOBO-ONUH**, wish to be known and addressed as **OJOBO VINCENT OGBE**. All former documents remain valid, General public and authorities concern should please take note.

MADAKI: I formerly known as **MADAKI SHATU** now wish to be known and addressed as **SHATU ALHAJI MADAKI**. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and the general public should please take note.

ADAMU: I formerly known as **JESSICA ADAMU IBRAHIM** now wish to be known and addressed as **JESSICA ADAMU**. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and the general public should please take note.

MUHAMMED: I formerly known as **RAKIYA MUHAMMAD** now wish to be known and addressed as **RAKIYA MUHAMMED DOB27/2/1971 NOT19/MAY/1971** All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and the general public should please take note.

BADAMASI: I formerly known as **ADAMU BADAMASI** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUHAMMAD ADAMU BADAMASI DOB4/5/1990** All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and the general public should please take note.

INNOCK: I formerly known as **EZEH ODINAKA** now wish to be known and addressed as **EZEH ODINAKA INNOCK**. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and the general public should please take note.

IDRIS: I formerly known as **MOHAMMED MUSA IDRIS** now wish to be known and addressed as **MUSA IDRIS DOB21/5/1970** All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and the general public should please take note.

CORRECTION OF DATE OF BIRTH: I, **SHEHU ASHIRU** My Date of Birth was wrongly captured in my Driven License as **05/12/1980** the Correct Date of birth is **24/06/1979**. All my documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and General public to note

ALIYU: I Formerly known and address as **YAHAYA ALIYU KILGORI**. Now wish to be known and address as **YAHAYA ALIYU**. All former documents remain valid general public should take note.

I formerly called as **BUHARI BELLO HADIZA BUHARI BELLO**, now wish to be known and called **HADIZA ALI BUHARI**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

MARYAM: I was formerly known as **MARYAM ALIYU** now wish to be known and address as **MARYAM YAU IDRIS** and all documents remain valid. Authorities Concerned and the general public should please take note.

USMAN: I was formerly known and addressed as **USMAN MUSA** That I now wish to be known and addressed as **USMAN MUSA SAIDU** all documents bearing former names remain valid and the general public should please take note.

SARAH: I was formerly known and addressed as **SARAH REUBEN** That I now wish to be known and addressed as **SARAYA LAWRENCE** all documents bearing former names remain valid and the general public should please take note.

IBRAHIM: I was formerly known and addressed as **IBRAHIM ABUBAKAR** That I now wish to be known and addressed as **ALHAJI IBRAHIM ABUBAKAR** all documents bearing former names remain valid and the general public should please take note.

CORRECTION OF DATE OF BIRTH: I, **TUKUR MUHAMMAD** MY CORRECT DATE OF BIRTH IS **7th APRIL 1977 NOT 15th APRIL 1977** AS IT APPEARS IN MY DEGREE TRANSCRIPT ISSUED TO ME BY **USMANU DANFODIO UNIVERSITY SOKOTO** general public should please take note.

USMAN: I was formerly known and addressed as **USMAN ABUBAKAR KANKIA** That I now wish to be known and addressed as **USMAN ABUBAKAR** all documents bearing former names remain valid and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as **KABIR HAUWA RABIU** now wish to be known as **NABAGE HAUWA KABIRU**. All former documents remain valid. General public to note

I formerly known as **ABUBAKAR SADIQ RUKAYYA**, now wish to be known and addressed as **SADIQ RUKAYYA**. All former documents remain valid. General public please take note

SUMAYYA: I Formerly known and address as **SURAYYA YUSUF**. Now wish to be known and address as **SUMAYYA YUSUF**. All former documents remain valid general public should take note.

MALAMI: I Formerly known and address as **ABUBAKAR SANI**. Now wish to be known and address as **ABUBAKAR MALAMI**. All former documents remain valid general public should take note.

BECKY: I Formerly known and address as **REBECCA IGO AGAMA**. Now wish to be known and address as **BECKY SALEH UMAR**. All former documents remain valid general public should take note.

PUBLIC NOTICE: > WRONG NAME CAPTURED ON NYSC EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE NO: 00207927 DATED 5th/11/2013 IS SHA'AWAYAU YUSUF. THE CORRECT NAME IS SHA'AYAU YUSUF. ALL OTHER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

MDOO: I, FORMERLY KNOWN AND CALLED ORSHIO SILAS MDOO NOW WISH TO BE KNOWN, CALLED AND ADDRESSED AS MDOO ORNGU. ALL FORMER DOCUMENTS REMAIN VALID. GENERAL PUBLIC AND OTHER AUTHORITIES CONCERNED SHOULD PLEASE TAKE NOTE.

I, formerly known as **MUSA BELLO** with the date of birth as 2nd MARCH 1989, now wish to be known and addressed as **KASIMU ABDULLAHI** with the actual date of birth as 24th MAY 1999. All former documents remain valid authority concern and general public take note.

JOY: I, formerly known as **OSEGHALE JOY OSAMUDIAMEN** now wish to be known and addressed as **MRS ADEOGUN JOY OSAMUDIAMEN**. All former documents remain valid. General public take note.

MICHEAL: I, formerly known as **MICHEAL OLAOYE**, now wish to be called and addressed as **MICHEAL OLOWO-OYE KAYODE**. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities concerned and the general public should take note.

I, RAYMOND IBRAHIM WETLE, My date of birth was wrongly captured as 21st December, 1987 instead of 21st December, 1992, henceforth, my correct date of birth is 21st December, 1992. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concern and general public should take note.

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RACHEAL: I formerly known as RACHEAL SHADE THOMAS, now wish to be known as FALADE RACHEAL. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

MUHAMMADU: I, formerly known and addressed as MOHAMMED JADA ADAMU, now wish to be called and addressed as MUHAMMADU JAURO JADA, correct DOB is 31-12-1960. All former documents remain valid constituted, authorities and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as MICAH NAMIJI LAMAH Now wish to be called and addressed as MICAH LAMAH. All former documents remain valid AUTHORITY CONCERN SHOULD TAKE NOTE PLEASE

I formerly known as SANI AUDU USMAN now wish to be called and addressed as SANI AUDU. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

MOHAMMED: I formerly known as ADAMU ADAMU now wish to be called and addressed as ABUBAKAR MOHAMMED. All former documents remain valid authority concern and general public to take note.

ABDULKAREEM: I formerly known as ABDULKARIM AHMAD GWARZO now wish to be called and addressed as ABDULKAREEM AHMED all former documents remain valid. my date of birth was wrongly captured as 14/5/1985 the correct date of birth is 14/5/1992 Any authority concern and general public should please take note.

PRIANNA: I formerly known as NANRE PRIANNA ZWALNAN, now wish to be known as NANRE PRIANNA ISAAC ODOH. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

MAUREEN: I, formerly known and addressed as MAUREEN GABRIEL, now wish to be called and addressed as MAUREEN MAURICE, correct DOB is 23/01/1990. All former documents remain valid, constituted authorities and the general public should please take note.

I Formally known and addressed as: SAADU AHMADU. now wish to be call; SA'AD AHMADU. Bank of Agric. all authority concern and the general public should please

I formerly known as MARYAM ABDULLAHI MUHAMMED now wish to be called and addressed as MARYAM ABDULLAHI. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

MUKTAR, I formerly known as MUKTAR USMAN now wish to be called and addressed as MUKTAR AUWAL. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

FATIMA: I formerly known as FATIMA OPALEKE now wish to be called and addressed as FATIMA FUNMILAYO OPALEKE all former documents remain valid. Any authority concern and general public should please take note.

MARGARET: I formerly known as ABAI JIBRIN MARGARET, now wish to be known as ABAI MARGARET KALURU. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

ABDULRAKIM: I, formerly known and addressed as ABDULKARIM SULEIMAN, now wish to be called and addressed as ABDULRAKIM SULAIMAN. All former documents remain valid constituted authorities and the general public should please take note.

ABDULLAHI: I formerly known as JIBRIL YUNUSA now wish to be called and addressed as USAINI ABDULLAHI SAID. All former documents remain valid authority concern and general public to note.

AMINA, I formerly known as AMINA JOHN now wish to be called and addressed as AMINA ANDREW. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

MUHAMMAD, I formerly known as MUHAMMED MUHAMMED MAKKI DOB=17/2/1971 now wish to be called and addressed as MUHAMMAD MUHAMMAD MAKKI DOB=17/2/1970. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

AISHA: I, formerly known as AISHA LADAN, now wish to be known and addressed as AISHA ABDULKADIR LADAN. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

NANPYAL: I formerly known as YARLING NANPYAL, now wish to be known as YARLING NANPYAL VONGMAM. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

MUSTAPHA: I formerly known as BINTU MOHAMMED LAWAN, now wish to be known and addressed as BINTU MUHAMMAD MUSTAPHA. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

MUHAMMAD: I Muhammad Suleiman G. Now wish to be call and address as Muhammad Suleiman Gachi All former documents remained valid. General public to take note!

BASHIR, I formerly known as BASHIR YA'U ABUBAKAR now wish to be called and addressed as BASHIR YA'U MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

ALHASSAN I formerly known as RABU JIBRIN now wish to be called and addressed as RABU ALHASSAN. All former documents remain valid authority concern and general public to note.

SHEHU: I, formerly known as USMAN YAHAYA now wish to be known and called SHEHU YAHAYA. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

TSENYEN: I formerly known as TSENYEN KATYEN, now wish to be known as EVA TSENYEN KATYEN. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

MUSTAPHA: I formerly known as MUSTAPHA MOHAMMED LAWAN, now wish to be known and addressed as MUSTAPHA MUHAMMAD MUSTAPHA. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

I formerly known as MUSA CHIGARI MUSA now wish to be called and addressed as MUSA CHIGARI SAGAGI. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

MUKHTAR, I formerly known as YUNUSA HASHIM MUKHTAR now wish to be called and addressed as MUKHTAR YUNUSA HASHIM. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

MUSA : I formerly known DAIRU MUSA now wish to be called as DAHIRU MUSA BAKO general public should please take note.

RAMATU: I, formerly known as AISHATU DALHATU, now wish to be known and addressed as RAMATU TIJJANI. All former documents remain valid. The general public any authority concerned to please take note.

DYELMUN: I formerly known as DAGWER, DORATHY O. MICHAEL, now wish to be known as DAGWER, DYELMUN MICHAEL. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

ALI: I formerly known as MOHAMMED ALI WALAMA, now wish to be known and addressed as MOHAMMED .M. ALI. All former documents remain valid. min of edu. Borno State and general public should please take note.

I formerly known as MARYAM ALI WADA now wish to be called and addressed as MARYAM AL'AMIN ABDULLAH. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

SUNUSI, I formerly known as SUNUSI MUKTARI ABUBAKAR now wish to be called and addressed as SUNUSI MUKTARI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

ABDALLAH: I formerly known as ABDULLAHI ALASAN ABDULLAHI now wish to be called and addressed as ABDALLAH ALASSAN ABDULLAH. All former documents remain valid authority concern and general public to note.

HABIBU: I, formerly known as HABIBU ABDU, now wish to be known and called HABIBU ABDULLAHI. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

I, GOLEN, HABILA YOHANNA, I am the bonafide owner of National Identity Management System Slip issued to me by NIMC, I wish to change the name "GOLEN HABILA HABILA" captured on the aforesaid National Identity Management System Slip to read GOLEN HABILA YOHANNA. All former documents remain valid. NIMC and general public should take note.

REUBEN: I formerly known as BABA NDIRIZA REUBEN, now wish to be known and addressed as REUBEN NDIRIZA RESCUE. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I formerly known as YAHAYA MUHAMMAD now wish to be called and addressed as YAHAYA MUHD ZAKAR. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

RABU, I formerly known as RABU UBA now wish to be called and addressed as RABU ADANI MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

YAHAYA : I formerly known as RAMLAT HABIB YAHAYA now wish to be called and addressed as RAMLAT KABIR YAHAYA. All former documents remain valid. authority concern and general public to take note.

JIBRIN: I, formerly known as JIBRIN .Y. KEBIRU, now wish to be known and called JIBRIN KEBIRU. All former documents remain valid. The general public and authority concerned to please take note.

ANISET: My name was wrongly captured on my BVN as REUBEN, ANISET TABITHA and on my Voter's card as REUBEN, ANISED AGAYE instead of REUBEN, ANISSET AGAYE, henceforth I wish to be known and addressed as REUBEN, ANISSET AGAYE. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

MUSTAPHA: I formerly known as ALHAJI MODU MUSTAPHA, now wish to be known and addressed as MUSTAPHA ALHAJI MODU. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I formerly known as JIBRIN ADAMU now wish to be called and addressed as JIBRIN ADO. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

MOHAMMED, I formerly known as ALHAJI JATAU now wish to be called and addressed as MOHAMMED ADAMU. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

UMAR I formerly known as GARBA ALI now wish to be called as SUNUSI UMAR BANGO. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concern and the general public should please take note.

ZIRA: I, formerly known as PAUL ZIRA, now wish to be known and called ZIRA PAUL. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

I, formerly known as MISS. ALICE ONOJA, now wish to be known and addressed as MRS. ALICE PETER. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note.

JUGUDUM: I formerly known as KURBE JUGUDUM BUKAR, now wish to be known and addressed as KURBE JUGUDUM. All former documents remain valid, general public should please take note

I formerly known as JIBRIN MAGAJI now wish to be called and addressed as JIBRIN MAGAJI KATANGA 02-02-1990. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

SADIKU, I formerly known as AUDU IBRAHIM now wish to be called and addressed as SADIKU IBRAHIM. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

MUHAMMADU: I formerly known as IBRAHIM UMAR now wish to be called and addressed as MUHAMMADU ADAMU USMAN. All former documents remain valid authority concern and general public to note.

ADAMU: I have been bearing AJILLOW ADAMU KELLY. Since birth that I now wish to be known and called. NEHEMIAH ADAMU. My correct date of birth is 1-1-1970 and not 19-6-1970 UNION bank Please take note. All former documents remain valid.

MARY: I formerly known as LAWANI MARY EFFIONG, now wish to be known as LAWANI MARY OSIMA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concern and general public should take note

AISHATU: I, formerly known and addressed as SANI AISHATU ABUBAKAR, now wish to be called and addressed as ABUBAKAR AISHATU GARBA. All former documents remain valid, constituted authorities and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as MUHAMMAD ABDULMAJID now wish to be called and addressed as ABDULMAJID MUHAMMAD DANMAKWAYO. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

UMAR, I formerly known as UBALÉ YUSUF now wish to be called and addressed as UMAR UBALÉ YUSUF. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

MUHAMMAD : I formerly known as USMAN ABUBAKAR now wish to be called and address as UMAR MUHAMMAD GIDADO All former documents remain valid authority concern general public to take note.

ZAUDU: I, formerly known and addressed as ZAYD SALIHU now wish to be called and addressed as ZAUDU SALIHU SHUAYB all former documents remain valid all Authorities concern should please take note

FAITH: I formerly known as OKONKOJO WY ANULIKA, now wish to be known as ELIOBA FAITH ANULIKA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concern and general public should take note.

UMARU: I, formerly known and addressed as ALHAJI MUHAMMADU BAPPAJI, now wish to be called and addressed as UMARU MAGAJI. All former documents remain valid, constituted authorities and the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as Agobie Benard now wish to be called and addressed as Agobie Hope Benard. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

JAZULI, I formerly known as MUHAMMAD JAZULI now wish to be called and addressed as JAZULI AHMAD. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

ABDULLAHI : I formerly known as ALIYU BADAMASI now wish to be called and addressed as BADAMASI ALIYU ABDULLAHI. All former documents remain valid authority concern and general public to take note.

DATE OF BIRTH I, WINIFRED AYUBA of No.6B Agric Qtrs Barnawa Kaduna wish to inform the general public and all relevant authorities concerned that my Date of birth is 01-02-1982 and NOT 02-01-1982 as it was wrongly captured in part of my documents.

SALEH: I formerly known as ABUBAKAR SALEH, now wish to be known as ABUBAKAR SALEH USMAN. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concern and general public should take note.

LAWAL, I formerly known as LAWAN AHMAD MUHAMMAD now wish to be called and addressed as LAWAL AHMAD MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

SALAMATU, I formerly known as SALAMATU UMAR now wish to be called and addressed as SALAMATU GARBA. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

AHMAD, I formerly known as AHMED NURATU BELLO now wish to be called and addressed as AHMAD NURATU BELLO. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

RADIYA: I, formerly known as RADIYA YUNUSA SULEIMAN now wish to be called and addressed as RADIYA YUNUSA SULEIMAN. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

SARKI: I formerly known as SARKI MARYAM OZIOHU ASUN now wish to be called as SARKI MERCY OZIOHU ASUN all former documents remain valid general public all authority concern should please take note

HAUWA: I formerly known as HAUWA MUHAMMED, now wish to be known as HAUWA IBRAHIM. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concern and general public should take note.

BILYA, I formerly known as BILYA SANI now wish to be called and addressed as BILYA SANI ABUBAKAR. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as Bala Ismail now wish to be called and addressed as SAAD ISMAIL BALA. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

MRS HANNATU, I formerly known as HANNATU DANIEL ATABANI now wish to be called and addressed as MRS HANNATU AUDU ZOAKAH. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

KEPHAS: I Formerly known as KEMSKEPHAS KEMSHAKAT Now wish to be called and addressed as KEPHAS DACHOL KEMSHAKAT my correct DOB is 22/12/1980 All former documents remain valid ACCESS BANK PLC and Others BANK Authority concern and the General public to please take note

OLUTOMINIYI: I, formerly known as JACOBS FUNMILAYO KEHINDE, now wish to be known and called OLUTOMINIYI FUNMILAYO KEHINDE. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority concerned to please take note.

EVELYN: I formerly known as ADOO MSURSHIMA EVELYN, now wish to be known as KYAGHBASHI MSURSHIMA EVELYN. All former documents remain valid, the general public should take note

HAFSAT, I formerly known as HAFSAT BARAU now wish to be called and addressed as HAFSAT ADAMU. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as Saleh Hassan Yahay, Hassan Yahaya Sani, Hassan Sali, Yahaya Hassan Sale now wish to be called and addressed as HASSAN YAHAYA SALEH. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

BASHIR, I formerly known as BASHIR TUKUR now wish to be called and addressed as BASHIR M TUKUR. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

SHEHU: I, formerly known as SHEHI FATIMA ABDULLAHI, now wish to be known and called SHEHU FATIMA ABDULLAHI. All former documents remain valid. The general public and any authority considered to please take note.

ADEGBUYI: I, formerly known and addressed as Mrs ADELANI BOLANLE SHERIFAT. Now wish to be known and addressed as ADEGBUYI BOLANLE SHERIFAT. All former documents remain valid Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

MOHAMMED: I formerly known as MOHAMMED BAKARI MILDIA, now wish to be known as MOHAMMED BAKARI. All former documents remain valid, the general public should take note

ABBA, I formerly known as BABANGIDA MOHD now wish to be called and addressed as ABBA HUDU MUHAMMAD. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as ABBA HABIBU now wish to be called and addressed as MUSA HABIBU .DOB 27/7/2000. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

IBRAHIM, I formerly known as IBRAHIM A . SHARFADI now wish to be called and addressed as IBRAHIM ABDULLAHI SHARFADI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

ROSE: I formerly known as ROSE YAKOWA-OKOH now wish to be called and addressed as ROSE YAKOWA all former documents remain valid. Any authority concern and general public should please take note.

ADEBOWALE: I, formerly known and addressed as OLASUPO CHRISTHANNAH. Now wish to be known and addressed as ADEBOWALE AZEEZAT MOTUNRAYO. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

LYDIA: I formerly known as DAKOGOL LYDIA EZEKIEL, now wish to be known as SALE, LYDIA. All former documents remain valid. All Authorities and general public should take note.

UMAR, I formerly known as UMAR SULEIMAN now wish to be called and addressed as UMAR SULEIMAN ABUBAKAR. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as HAUWA MUHAMMAD now wish to be called and addressed as HAUWAW AMINU. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

YUSUF, I formerly known as YUSUF MUSA KALLAMU now wish to be called and addressed as YUSUF ALI. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

DANIEL: I formerly known as DANIVAN OLA JOHN now wish to be called and addressed as DANIEL OLAYEMI JOHN all former documents remain valid. Any authority concern and general public should please take note.

ABDULAZEEZ: I, formerly known and addressed as OGAR TINA OJEGBA. Now wish to be known and addressed as ABDULAZEEZ TINA OJEGBA. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

MUSTAPHA: I formerly known as ABUBAKAR MOHAMMED LAWAN, now wish to be known and addressed as ABUBAKAR MUHAMMAD MUSTAPHA. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

I formally known as IDRIS MUHAMMAD BASHIR now to be known as IDRIS BASHIRU. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as ABDULLAHI GARBA NAKADAW now wish to be called and addressed as ABDULLAHI GARBA. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

GRACE, I formerly known as Grace ISAAC now wish to be called and addressed as GRACE ISAAC MICHAEL. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

AWANI: I formerly known as SAMUEL S.B AWANI now wish to be called and addressed as AWANI SAMUEL SUNDAY all former documents remain valid. Any authority concern and general public should please take note.

OGUNRUKU: I, formerly known and addressed as Mrs AYODEJI MERCY ITUNU. Now wish to be known and addressed as Miss OGUNRUKU MERCY ITUNU. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

BAKO: I, formerly known and addressed as YAKUBU IRMIYA, now wish to be called and addressed as YAKUBU ELISHA BAKO. All former documents remain valid, constituted authorities and the general public should please take note.

RUTH, I formerly known as RUTH T. TONGLE now wish to be called and addressed as RUTH TANKO TONGLE. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and members of the general public should please take note.

I formerly known as ADAMU SHEHU KILLA now wish to be called and addressed as ADADMU SHEHU. All former documents remain valid Authority concern and general public to note

MOHAMMED: I formerly known as NAFISA MOHAMMED BELLO now wish to be called as NAFISA DANLADI BELLO general public should please take note.

SALE: I formerly known as SALIHU AHMED ADAM now wish to be called and addressed as SALE USMAN ADAM all former documents remain valid. Any authority concern and general public should please take note.

ESEOGHENENE: I, formerly known and addressed as OBAJERE EMMANUEL OROGHENEMEJEVWE. Now wish to be known and addressed as ESEOGHENENE EMMANUEL OROGHENEMEJEVWE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

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ABDULWAHAB: I, formerly known and addressed as WAHABI OLUWATOBLOBA KHALLILU-LAI. Now wish to be known and addressed as ABDULWAHAB OLUWATOBLOBA KHALLILU-LAI. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

JIMOH: I formerly known and addressed as OKUNATO ODUNAYO GBENGA. Now wish to be known and addressed as JIMOH MORUFU ADEGBENGA. All former documents remain valid. General public to please take note.

ADEBOWALE: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss AYINDE SULIAT. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs ADEBOWALE SULIAT. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

AISHA: I formally known as AISHA LAWAL MUHAMMAD now wish to be known and addressed as AISHA MIKAIL MUHAMMAD all former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

DANIEL: I formally known as LUZAR DOGARA, now wish to be known and addressed as LUZAR DANIEL, D.O.B/10/10/1988. All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

NWOKEDI: I, formerly known as MISS. DURUIKE VICTORIA NKECHINYERE. That I now wish to be known as MRS. NWOKEDI VICTORIA NKECHINYERE. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

ADEBIMPE: I, formerly known and addressed as JULIUS BABATUNDE. Now wish to be known and addressed as ADEBIMPE BABATUNDE DAYO. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

UKAHA: I formerly known and addressed as MISS AJIBADE ODUNAYO ABIMBOLA. Now wish to be known and addressed as MRS UKAHA ODUNAYO ABIMBOLA. Due to change in marital status. All former documents remain valid. General public to please take note.

BAMISEBI: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss BUSARI FAUSAT OLABISI. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs BAMISEBI FAUSAT OLABISI. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

USMAN: I formerly known as ISHAK USMAN Now wish to be called and addressed as ISYAKU USMAN. OLD DOB 22/02/1980 NEW DOB 22/02/1987. All former document remain valid. Authority concern and general public to take note

SARKI: I formally known as ABUBAKAR IBRAHIM, now wish to be known and addressed as GARBA IBRAHIM SARKI, All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

CHUKS: I, formerly known as CHUKS CHRISTIAN OJUGBO. That I now wish to be known as CHUKS CHRISTIAN MELVIN. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

ALUFUO: I formerly known and addressed as OSUORJI PATRICIA CHINYERE, now to be known and addressed as ALUFUO PARICIA CHYERE. All former documents remain valid, Authority Concerned and General public should take note.

AKINDE: I, formerly known and addressed as AKINDE WASIU ABOLAJI. Now wish to be known and addressed as AKINDE RAFIU ABOLAJI. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

OYEDELE: I, formerly known and addressed as OYEDELE RAFIU KASHIMAWO. Now wish to be known and addressed as OYEDELE SAMUEL OLUWAGBEMIGA. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

BASIRU: I formerly known and addressed as BASHAR ALHAJI BUDA now wish to be known and addressed as BASIRU ALHAJI BUDA. All former documents remain valid authorities concerned and general public should take note.

UOEGBALA: I formally known as DUEBUBE UDEAGALA, now wish to be known and addressed as OLUEBUBEHILDA UOEGBALA, D.O.B/19/05/1996, All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

DOBA: I, formerly known as DOBA KELVIN LETONY. That I now wish to be known as DOBA LETONUBARI GOODNEWS. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

GRACE: I, formerly known and addressed as UOHI GRACE EFFIONG. Now wish to be known and addressed as GRACE JOSEPH UOHI. That I was born on 26th day of March, 1966. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

AJAYI: I, formerly known and addressed as FAKANKUN OMOBOLA TOLLUOPE. Now wish to be known and addressed as AJAYI OMOBOLA TOLLUOPE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

DALYOP: I, formerly known as DALYOP RICHARD DADON now wish to be known and addressed as DALYOP RICHARD YOHANNA. All former document remain valid, public to take note.

DALHATU: I formerly known and addressed as ASHAHABU DALHATU ABUBAKAR now wish to be called and addressed as ASHAHABU DALHATU. All former document remain valid. Authorities concerned and the general public should take note please.

NONSO: I formally known as ASEGWU VICTOR NONSO, now wish to be known and addressed as HEART VICTOR NONSO. All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

JOKPEYIBO: I, formerly known as MISS. JACK KAINE SEKITA. That I now wish to be known as MRS. JOKPEYIBO KAINE SEKITA. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

HAMEED: I, formerly known and addressed as AHMED OWOLABI ALIU. Now wish to be known and addressed as HAMEED OWOLABI ALIU. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

YESINU: I, formerly known and addressed as NUDEGBESI LAMIDI AHMED. Now wish to be known and addressed as YESINU AHMED LAMIDI. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

ANWAR: I formerly known as MUHAMMED ANWARU. Now wish to be called and addressed as MUHAMMAD ANWAR. All former document remain valid. With DOB FROM 01/01/1999 TO 16/05/1993 Authority concern and general public to take note.

ALI: I formerly known as ALI ALKALI. Now wish to be known and addressed as ALI ALKALI ALI. All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

TARFA: I formally known as MURNA ABU DODO, now wish to be known and addressed as MURNA ABUDODO TARFA, All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

UDO: I, formerly known as MISS. UDO, MARY JACOB now wish to be known, called and addressed as MRS. ENYENIHI, MARY EMMANUEL. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

OGAH: I, formerly known and addressed as SULE ONYIOHINOYI HELEN. Now wish to be known and addressed as OGAH ONYIOHINOYI HELEN. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

OSEIWE: I, formerly known and addressed as OSUNRINDE YETUNDE BOLANLE. Now wish to be known and addressed as OSEIWE YETUNDE BOLANLE. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

USMAN: I formerly known as USMAN BUKAR ABBA now wish to be known as USMAN ABUBAKAR ABBA. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

RABI: I formerly known as RABI USMAN. now wish to be known and addressed as RABI BELLO. All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

ZAKARI: I formerly known and addressed as MOHAMMED ADAMU SHEHU now wish to be known and addressed as IDRISSA YAKUBU ZAKARI All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

STEPHEN: That I was formerly known as ANGELA CHINASA NWADIKE. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as ANGELA CHINASA STEPHEN. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

AKINWUNMI: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss OMISAKIN MOYINOLUWA OYEDOLAPO. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs AKINWUNMI MOYINOLUWA OYEDOLAPO. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

AKANBI: I, formerly known and addressed as ADESINA ALANI. Now wish to be known and addressed as AKANBI TAOREED ADESINA. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

I, HAMISU S. MUHAMMAD do solemnly declare that: the names HAMISU S. MUHAMMAD and HAMISU MOHAMMED SULEIMAN are referred to me, as I used to answer either of the names. Now I wish to be known and called HAMISU S. MUHAMMAD with 27th JAN.1986 as D.O.B. All former documents remain valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

HADIZA: I formerly known as HADIZA AHMED. now wish to be known and addressed as HADIZA AHMADU. All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

HUSSAINA: I formerly known as AGATA FUNGA now wish to be known as HUSSAINA USMAN TAFISU. All former document remain valid. General public should please take note.

TUKUR: That I was formerly known as MANNIRU TOUR. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as MANIRU TUKUR. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

ADEJOKE: I, formerly known and addressed as ADEJOKE ODUWOLE. Now wish to be known and addressed as ADEJOKE ODUWOLE-CHIDI. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

ADDITION OF NAME: That on my documents, my name appears as SEJROMI OYEYEMISI KUYINU. That I wish to add LLOYD to my name. That heretofore, I wish to be known and addressed as SEJROMI OYEYEMISI LLOYD KUYINU. All former documents remain valid. General public and Authorities concerned should please take note.

SHATUWA: I formerly known as AISHA IBRAHIM GARBA now wish to be known and called SHATUWA MOHAMMED. All former documents remained valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

I, UMAR AHMED do solemnly declare that: the names UMAR AHMED and UMAR AHMAD PIDA are referred to me, as I used to answer either of the names. Now I wish to be known and called UMAR AHMED. All former documents remained valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

ALI: I formerly known as ALI ABDULLAHI now wish to be known as ALI ALHAJI ABDULLAHI. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

OKU: That I was formerly known as EVANSON EVELYN PLEASANT. Now wish to be known and addressed as EVANSON EVELYN OKU. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

ADDITION OF NAME ODUWOLE: I, formerly known and addressed as ODUWOLE WUROLA. Now wish to be known and addressed as ODUWOLE WUROLA MAGRETH. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

CORRECTION/OMISSION OF NAME: That on my WSSCE, May/June 2008 with Exam No. 4293001012 and NEDCO, June/July 2008 with Exam No. 80452098F, my name was shortened and written as ADEYEMO ADEDOLOPO KEMI instead of ADEYEMO ADEDOLOPO. FADEKEMI. On all my documents of Ladokun Akolona University of Technology, Ogbosho, my name appears as ADEYEMO ADEDOLOPO instead of ADEYEMO ADEDOLOPO FADEKEMI. My middle name FADEKEMI was omitted. That my correct name is ADEYEMO ADEDOLOPO FADEKEMI. General public take note.

I, AUWALU DANYARO do solemnly declare that: the names AUWALU DANYARO and AUWALU DANYARO UMARU are referred to me, as I used to answer either of the names. Now I wish to be known and called AUWALU DANYARO. All former documents remained valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

HUSSAINI: I formerly known as USSAINI ADAMU, now wish to be known and addressed as HUSSAINI ADAMU BAFFA. All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

MAINA: I, formerly known as BABA MAINA FANNAMI now wish to be known and called MAINA LAWAN. All former documents remained valid. Authorities concerned and public to note.

EMEKA: That I was formerly known as ORJI JOSEPH ROMEO. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as ORJI JOSEPH EMEKA. All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

ADETUNJI: I, formerly known and addressed as OLORUNJU WALIYAT OMOLOLA. Now wish to be known and addressed as ADETUNJI WALIYAT OMOLOLA. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

KENJINU: I, formerly known and addressed as OJO AYOMIDE DEBORAH. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs. KENJINU AYOMIDE DEBORAH. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

FATIMA: I formerly known and addressed as HADIZA ABDULMUMINI ADAMU now wish to be known and addressed as FATIMA ABDULMUMINI ADAMU. All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

JAMES: I formerly known as PRECIOUS JAMES, now wish to be known and addressed as PROMISE JAMES. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

ISAH: I formally known as ISAH BALARABE YUSUF, now wish to be known and addressed as ISAH BALARABE ISAH. Date of Birth, 05/08/1995, All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

OKEREKE: That I was formerly known as MISS. JOY OLERIME OGBODU. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as MRS. JOY OLERIME OKEREKE. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

ANTHONY: I, formerly known and addressed as SHEBA WADAUNU EMMANUEL. Now wish to be known and addressed as ANTHONY QUEEN SHEBA. That I was born on 2nd day of February, 1993 not 2nd day of February, 1998. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

OSUNWUSI: I formerly known and addressed as Akinyele Mary Omowunmi. Now wish to be known and addressed as Osunwusi Akinyele Mary. All former documents remain valid. General public kindly take note.

IBRAHIM: I formerly known and addressed as IBRAHIM BUKASHARIM, now wish to be known and addressed as IBRAHIM BUKAR. All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

JOHN: I formerly known as PATRICIA JOHN ILIYA, now wish to be known and addressed as PATRICIA JOHN. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note

DANIEL: I formerly known as MUSA DANIEL now wish to be known and addressed as DANIEL MUSA BWALA. All former documents remain valid. General Public should please take note.

POPEN: That I was formerly known as MONDAY PROMISE KADIBABARI. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as MONDAY POPEN KADIBABARI. All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

MOHAMMED: I, formerly known and addressed as MUSA MOHAMMED. Now wish to be known and addressed as MOHAMMED SALISU. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

SAM: I formerly known and addressed as ALUYA CHRISTIANA OMOAFEBE. Now wish to be known and addressed as SAM CHRISTIANA OMOAFEBE. All former documents remain valid. General public kindly take note.

SALEH: I formerly known and addressed as YUSUF ADAMU now wish to be known and addressed as YUSUF ADAMU SALEH. All former documents remain valid. DOB 16/01/1991 to 05/05/1998 All concern and authority General public should please take note.

GONI: I formerly known as GONI AHMED BUKAR, now wish to be known and addressed as GONI AHMED GONI BUKAR. All former documents remain valid. general public should please take note

USMAN: I formally known as HINDATU HARUNA, now wish to be known and addressed as HINDATU USMAN, D.O.B/27/JULY/1996, All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

IBEH: BLESSING CHINONSO. That my name was wrongly written on my Birth Certificate as IBEH BLESSING CHUKWUNOSO instead of IBEH BLESSING CHINONSO. My correct name is IBEH BLESSING CHINONSO. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

GANIYU: I, Formerly known and addressed as ABDULGANIYY OPEYEMI ABDULQUADR. Now wish to be known called and addressed as GANIYU QUADRI OPEYEMI. All former documents remain valid, Bank Authority and general public should take note

ADEYEMI: I formerly known and addressed as AJANAKU SHOLANKE KEMISOLA. Now wish to be known and addressed as ADEYEMI ADELANKE KEMISOLA. All former documents remain valid. General public kindly take note.

SHINGE: I formerly known and addressed as ABUBAKAR HAMED JOJI now wish to be known and addressed as ABUBAKAR AHMED SHINGE. All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

YUSUF: I formerly known as ABDULLAHI SHANI YUSUF, now wish to be known and addressed as ABDULLAHI YUSUF. All former documents remain valid. general public should please take note

That I was formally known as ALHAJI JIBO GODOWOLI now wish to be called and address as JIBRIN ADAMU and general public to take note

AWUSE: That I was formerly known as ERLIM JOHNKENNEDY FRANK. Now wish to be known and addressed as AWUSE JOHNKENNEDY. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

AZEZ: I, Formerly known and addressed as ADESKAN SAHEED OLALEKAN. Now wish to be known called and addressed as AZEEZ SAHEED OLALEKAN. All former documents remain valid, Bank Authority and general public should take note

OKEUGO: I formerly known and addressed as OMOVIEYE OLUCHI BRIDGET. Now wish to be known and addressed as OKEUGO OLUCHI BRIDGET. All former documents remain valid, General public kindly take note.

YAHAYA: I formerly known and addressed as HARUNA BELLO YAHAYA now wish to be known and addressed as AYUBA BELLO YAHAYA. All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

ALI: I formerly known as MUSA ALI, now wish to be known and addressed as MUSTAPHA ALI. All former documents remain valid. general public should please take note

SHUAIBU: I formerly known and addressed as SHAYIBU SAIDU. Now I wish to be known and address as SHUAIBU SAIDU all former documents remain valid general public should please take note.

MIDIM: That I was formerly known as ANDREW ROTSHAK PIUS. Now wish to be known and addressed as ANDREW ROTSHAK MIDIM. All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

ADEYEMI: I, Formerly known and addressed as YIWUSA LATIFAT AJOKE. Now wish to be known called and addressed as ADEYEMI LATIFAT AJOKE. All former documents remain valid, Bank Authority and general public should take note

YINUSA: I formerly known and addressed as TEMITAYO CHRISTIANA AKINOLA. Now wish to be known and addressed as TEMITAYO AKINOLA YINUSA. All former documents remain valid. General public kindly take note.

KALLI: I formerly known and addressed as FANNAMI BAKURA, now wish to be known and addressed as KALLI BASHIR. All former documents remain valid. All concern and authority General public should please take note.

USMAN: I, formerly known as IBRAHIM S. MELE now wish to be known and addressed as USMAN MAMMAN. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

MUSA: I formerly known as MUSA IBRAHIM now wish to be known as MUSA IBRAHIM DANKO. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

ENO-OBONG: That I was formerly known as JIMMY MARY GIFT. Now wish to be known and addressed as JIMMY MARY ENO-OBONG. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

ABDULHAMMED: I, Formerly known and addressed as AKINKUNMI ABDULHAMMED ABDULMAJEED. Now wish to be known called and addressed as ABDULHAMMED ABDULMAJEED AKINKUNMI. All former documents remain valid, Bank Authority and general public should take note

OWOSEN: I formerly known and addressed as GAFAR TAWA BOLA. Now wish to be known and addressed as OWOSENI TAWA BOLA. All former documents remain valid, General public kindly take note.

ADAMA: I formerly known as ADAMA ABUBAKAR, now wish to be known as ADAMA ABUBAKAR YA'U. All former document remain valid. With from DOB 01/02/1991 to 30/12/1996, General public should take note.

MILSA: I, formerly known as FESTA AJIS BAHAUSSHE now wish to be known and addressed as MILSA AJIS BAHAUSSHE (MRS). All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

BUKAR: I formerly known as BUKAR SALEH now wish to be known as BUKAR ALHAJI SALEH. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

AMADI: That I was formerly known as IBIWARI NGOYE. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as AMADI SYLVIA AHURUELE. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

MUHAMMED: I, Formerly known and addressed as SOLIU SULAIMAN MUHAMMED. Now wish to be known called and addressed as MUHAMMED SULEMAN. That my correct date of birth is 5th day of February 1985. All former documents remain valid, Bank Authority and general public should take note

CORRECTION OF NAME: That my name was wrongly written on my BVN and my Bank Accounts as MODUPE ABIJAH HENRY instead of HENRY DUPE ABIJAH which appears on my National Identity Card. That my correct name is HENRY DUPE ABIJAH. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

MODU: I formerly known as MODU ABU IMMAMMALIK AND ABUBAKAR MODU CHABBAL, now wish to be known and addressed as MODU ABUBAKAR MDL ABU IMMAMMALIK. All former documents remain valid General public should please take note

UMAR: I Formerly known as UMAR ADAMU with DOB 03/03/1991 now wish to be known and addressed as UMAR BABAGANA. All former documents remain valid. with DOB 01/03/2000. General public should please take note

ABDULLAHI: I formerly known as ABDULLAHI GALADIMA now wish to be known as ABDULLAHI MUHAMMAD GALADIMA. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

MONDAY: That I was formerly known as ORIKE ABRAHAM CHUKWUEMEKA. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as MONDAY ABRAHAM CHUKWUEMEKA. All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MUSA: I, formerly known and addressed as MUSA AKASE NEV. Now wish to be known and addressed as MUSA AKASE NEV SIMON. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

BADA: I, formerly known and addressed as Miss TAIWO CELESTINA OLUWABUSAYO. Now wish to be known and addressed as Mrs BADA CELESTINA OLUWABUSAYO. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

FATIMA: I formerly known as YAGANA UMAR now wish to be known as FATIMA GONI UMAR. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

HARUNA: I formally known as MOSES DAVID, now wish to be known and addressed as DARABO HARUNA, All former documents remain valid, Authorities concerned and general public should please take note.

MARTINS: That I was formerly known as MISS. AKINLEYIMU BECKY MODUPE. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as MRS. MARTINS BECKY. All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

PEPPE: That I was formally known as MISS. MURPHY JOYCE INEMESIT. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as MRS. PEPPE JOYCE IYOWUNA. All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

TAFU: I, formerly known and addressed as MUSTAPHA RAUFU ITOPA. Now wish to be known and addressed as TAFU RAUF BABATUNDE ENITAN. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and general public please take note.

SAANU: I, formerly known and addressed as SHANUSI KAZEEM ISHOLA. Now wish to be known and addressed as SAANU QUAZEEM ISHOLA. All former documents remain valid. Authority Concerned and General public please take note.

MUKTAR: I formerly known as LAMIDO TANKO now wish to be known as MUKTAR SULEIMAN. All former document remain valid. General public should take note.

BECKY: I formally known as RABECAH DASHIT TONGA now wish to be known and address as BECKY AKILA MANJI. All former documents remain valid and general public should take note

SAMUEL: I, formerly known as ELUWA NNAMDI CHIBUIKEM. That I now wish to be known as SAMUEL NNAMDI CHIBUIKEM. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. The general public should please take note.

NYEKWE: That I was formally known as MISS. OYIBODE MIRIAM ELOHO, now wish to be known, called and addressed as MRS. NYEKWE MIRIAM ELOHO. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.



THE JIGAWA STATE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

BLOCK B Q2, NEW SECRETARIAT COMPLEX, DUTSE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION AND TENDERING TO FEED STUDENTS AND PUPILS IN BOARDING PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

The Jigawa State Government represented by Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Dutse, wishes to invite interested and reputable contractors with relevant experience and requisite expertise to apply for the prequalification and subsequent tendering for feeding in boarding schools across the state using framework contracts, for a period of one academic session.

1. SCOPE OF SUPPLY:

Supply of various quantities of food stuff in good condition as may be required at various intervals (usually weekly) to the 52 boarding schools in Jigawa State, for the daily feeding/students details of the supply (including the description of load are contained in the bidding documents available for collection as indicated at paragraph 4 below. The supply should be carried out under framework contracts; which entails that an agreement shall be entered into with any successful bidder to supply various quantities of specified food stuff for agreed prices once the food stuff are required by schools at various times within the year.

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENT

All interested competent and reliable contractors are invited to submit the following documents

- i. Certificate of Contract Registration with Jigawa State Government;
- ii. Evidence of Payment of Taxes clearance for last 3 years;
- iii. Certificate of Registration with Cooperate Affairs Commission (in case of firm);
- iv. Evidence of similar contract such as in Hospital, Prison Yards etc, for minimum of two (2) years;
- v. Evidence of Financial capacity to carry out the contract; minimum of annual turnover of two Million Naira Defending on Enrolment of School.
- vi. Certified true copy of memorandum and article of association.
- vii. Company audited account for last one year.
- viii. Evidence of financial capacity and

banking support
ix. Company average annual turnover of not less than N2M

x. The financial bid should contain a bid security of not less than 2% of the quoted bid

xi. The bid validity period should be 90 days from the deadline of the bid submission date

xii. That the company have fulfilled all obligations to pay taxes ,pensions and social security contribution

xiii. Technical qualification and experience of key personnel.

xiv. VAT registration and evidence of past remittance.

xv. A sworn affidavit certified as follows:

- a) That the document submitted are genuine and correct.
- b) That none of the directors/partner of the company has been convicted by any court of law.
- c) That none of the officers of the procuring entity is former or present director of the company.

COLLECTION OF TENDER DOCUMENT

Interested bidders are to collect the Tender documents from the office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education Science and Technology Dutse, Jigawa State from the date of publication of this advert and between the hours of 9:00AM and 5:00PM

SUBMISSION OF PRE-QUALIFICATION DOCUMENT:

All documents should be signed and submitted in sealed envelope and addressed to:-

The Honourable Commissioner, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
Block B:Q2 1st Floor,
New Secretariat Complex, Dutse,
Jigawa State.

Date of Submission

Not later than six (6) weeks from the date of this publication. However, the general public is to note that, the Ministry reserved the right to choose among the best.

1.THE AFFECTED SCHOOLS HAVE BEEN DIVIDED INTO 40 LOTS AS FOLLOWS:

S/N	LOTS	SCHOOL	CURRENT NO OF STUDENTS	TOTAL
1	LOT 1	GGASS BABURA	2,250	2,250
2	LOT 2	G.C BIRNIN/KUDU	2,547	2,547
3	LOT 3	GSTC BIRNIN/KUDU	450	450
4	LOT 4	GGASS BIRNIWA	2,732	2,732
5	LOT 5	GUSCS DUTSE	3,362	3,362
6	LOT 6	SAIS FATARA DUTSE	1,013	1,013
7	LOT 7	GGSS GARKI	2,908	2,908
8	LOT 8	SSS LAITAI GUMEL	996	996
9	LOT 9	GGUSS GWARAM	2,662	2,662
10	LOT 10	GUSS BASIRKA	1,365	1,365
11	LOT 11	GUSS FANTAI HADEJIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF HADEJIA	2815	3,169
12	LOT 12	GSTC HADEJIA	2106	2106
13	LOT 13	SAIS HADEJIA	1,368	1,368
14	LOT 14	GGSS JAHUN	968	968
15	LOT 15	GSS AUJARA	1,833	1,833
16	LOT 16	SSS KAFIN HAUSA	954	954
17	LOT 17	GGASS KAIGAMA	2,210	2,210
18	LOT 18	GGUSS KAZAURE	1,318	1,318
19	LOT 19	GUSS MALAM MADORI	2,510	2,510
20	LOT 20	GUSS MAIGATARI	2,861	2,861
21	LOT 21	GUSS RINGIM	4,306	4,306
22	LOT 22	GUSS RONI SANGAYA SCH GWIWA	1,646	1,816
23	LOT 23	GGSS RONI	1,613	1,613
24	LOT 24	GGSS SULE TANKARKAR TSANGAYA SCH SULE TANKARKAR	1,770	1,830
25	LOT 25	GGASS DANZOMO	2,304	2,304
26	LOT 26	GGSS TAURA	1,029	1,029
27	LOT 27	GSTC KARKARNA	528	528
28	LOT 28	GJSSS GURTI	570	570
29	LOT 29	JSSS KARKARNA	667	667
30	LOT 30	JSSS ALIARA	852	852
31	LOT 31	GJSSS MIGA	882	882
32	LOT 32	MBPS/JSS GUMEL TSANGAYA MAI'ADUWA SCH	985	1045
33	LOT 33	MBPS/JSS BULANGU	715	715
34	LOT 34	MBPS/JSS GURI TSANGAYA TURABU TSANGAYA BIRNIWA SCHOOL	550	650
35	LOT 35	MBPS/JSS RINGIM	625	625
36	LOT 36	GSTC RINGIM	466	466
37	LOT 37	SSS KANYA BABBA	114	580
38	LOT 38	GGUSS MALAM MADORI	2,075	2,075
39	LOT 39	MBPS/JSS KUDAI TSANGAYA SCHOOL GANTSA	797	1,099
40	LOT 40	MBPS/JSS KILA JIGAWA ACADEMY FOR THE GIFTED, BAMAINA STATE SCHOOL FOR INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY KAZAURE	1,491	1,783
			292	625

GENERAL INFORMATION:

1. Supplies will be food stuff condiments and other materials for a period of one month.
2. All items are to be supplied based on food order received from the school
3. All food items must be supplied to the respective schools at least three days to the commencement of feeding period except for perishables which will be supplied according to need of the schools
4. Failure of the contractor to supply adequate food items could lead to termination of the contract
5. Proximity to the school will be an added advantage
6. Payment would be made monthly after supplies
7. Submission of pre-qualification is neither commitment nor an obligation to award the contract to any agent. Sealed envelopes will be received at the planning Department of Ministry of Education, Science and Technology at 11:00am on Thursday, 18th February 2021 Bid opening should follow immediately after the submission deadline at the Ministry's Conference Hall. The representatives of the bidders and the general public are invited to witness the public opening of the bid.
8. Bids submitted after the deadline for submission will be returned unopened.
9. Only the financial bids of successful pre-qualified bidders will be opened, while those for the unsuccessful bidders will be returned unopened.
10. Invitation for pre-qualification should not be construed as a

11. All costs will be borne by the bidders as the Jigawa State (Ministry of Education) will not be held responsible for any cost or expenses incurred by any interested party that is in connection with any response to this invitation.
12. Alternative bid will not be accepted.
13. Bidders with the same subsidiary relationship are not allowed to partake in the same lot.
14. Due diligence would be followed as all documents submitted would be verified, past executed works and contractors offices may be visited. Discrepancies found would disqualify the contractor.
15. Jigawa State Ministry of Education reserves the right to annul the procurement process at any time without incurring any liability.
16. All enquiries are to be directed to the Director PRS Jigawa State Ministry of Education, Science and Technology Dutse. At Block B, Q2 New Secretariat Complex, Dutse, Jigawa State.

*Note that where ever the date of bid opening fall within public holiday, it will take place in the next working day

Signed
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

INNOCENT: That I was formerly known as CHINYERE OBUOHA. Now wish to be known, called and addressed as **MRS. CHINYERE INNOCENT**. All former documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

OKO - I, formerly known as BARCLAYS JAJA OKO. That I now wish to be known as **OKO JAJA BARCLAYS CHEKIR**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **FATIMA ABUBAKAR** Now wish to be known and addressed as **FATIMA ABUBAKAR ARMIYAU WITH D.O.B 29121997** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MUBARACK SULEIMAN** Now wish to be known and addressed as **SULEIMAN MUBARAK** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MRS. EZINNE : I, formerly known as **MISS. EZINNE GOODNESS ANYANWU**. Now wish to be known as **MRS. EZINNE GOODNESS HAMILTON**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

OKEN : I, formerly known and addressed as, **JOY CHINYERE OHAKWU**, now wish to be known and addressed as, **JOY IKECHUKWU OKEN**. All former documents remain valid. General public should take note.

I, formerly known as **RABI SHEHU DANGE** Now wish to be known and addressed as **RABI ARMIYAU WITH D.O.B 681983** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **KABIRU MALAM ZAKARI** Now wish to be known and addressed as **BELLO MUHAMMED** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

CHIZOBA : I, formerly known as **CHIZOBA STEPHANI NJOKU-JOHN**. Now wish to be known as **CHIZOBA STEPHANI NJOKU-NWAJAEI**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **UMARU SHEHU** Now wish to be known and addressed as **UMARU UMBU AMBURSA** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MUTAKA UMAR WITH D.O.B 01011992** Now wish to be known and addressed as **MUTAKA UMAR WITH D.O.B 01011996** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **SADIQ DANANGO** Now wish to be known and addressed as **ABUBAKAR MUHAMMED** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

MRS. MARVELLOUS : I, formerly known as **MISS. MARVELLOUS UZOAMAKA ODIGBO**. Now wish to be known as **MRS. MARVELLOUS UZOAMAKA DAVID**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

Imrana Abubakar, wants to add Yabo to my names, want to be called, known and addressed as Imrana Abubakar Yabo, All former document remain valid Polaris Bank Nig plc and general public should take note.

I, formerly known as **JIKAN SHEHU MUDASSIRU WITH D.O.B 01011990** Now wish to be known and addressed as **MUDASSIRU MUHAMMAD WITH D.O.B 01011995** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

REQUIREMENT FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Women: Marriage Certificate or Court Affidavit;
Men: Court Affidavit

MRS. UCHECHKWU : I, formerly known as **MISS. THOMAS, MARY JACOB**. Now wish to be known as **MRS. UCHECHKWU, MARY MAXWELL**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note

I, formerly known as **ALI MUHAMMAD AMBURSA** Now wish to be known and addressed as **ALIYU MUHAMMAD AMBURSA** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

UBAKEDE - I, formerly known as **NWACHUKWU JOY ONYINYECHI**. That I now wish to be known as **UBAKEDE ONYINYECHI JOY**. All documents bearing my former name remain valid. General public should please take note.

I, formerly known as **MUKTAR YUSUF** Now wish to be known and addressed as **MUNTARI YUSUF** All former documents remain valid. General public should please take note.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
This is to inform the general public of the loss of Original OP. No. 002605 Plot No. 642, situated at Tudun Yola Quarters TP/KAS/215C, bearing the name of **RAHAMA RUFA'I**, of Tudun Yola Quarters.
All effort made to trace the original OP. No. 002605 proved abortive. Members of the General Public to note. If found kindly return to the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
The general public is hereby notified that the original Certificate of Occupancy Number PL21134 belonging to late Engr. Okpadile Akubude Innocent of No 5 Rock Haven Jos Plateau State has been declared missing. All efforts to trace the said documents proved abortive. If found kindly return to or contact the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
This is to inform the general public of the loss of the following documents: (i) ORIGINAL RIGHT OF OCCUPANCY IN RESPECT OF AT PLOT 93, CADASTRAL ZONE A5 MAITAMA, ABUJA, (ii) ORIGINAL AGIS RECERTIFICATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT DATED 03/22/05 (iii) OLD CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY (AS STAMPED BY AGIS) WITH NO FCT/ABU/OD 222 and (iv) RECEIPT OF PAYMENT FOR CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY, All issued in the name of MR. SAMUEL BAMIDELE FALEGAN, and acquired by FINLAY INTERNATIONAL LIMITED through a deed of assignment. All efforts made to trace the document have proved abortive. If found please to Finlay international limited, 9 kade Street, off Aminu Kano Crescent, Wuse 2, Abuja-FCT.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
This is to inform the general public of the loss of Original Certificate of Occupancy Plot No. 5 File No. LKN/RES/RC/81/225, situated at Yandutse Road, Nassarawa Local Government, bearing the name of **ALHAJI GARBA NAUTAN A. HAMZA**, of No. 19/21 Kofo Abayomi Arenne, Apapa, Logos.
All effort made to trace the original Certificate of Occupancy proved abortive. Members of the General Public to note. If found kindly return to the nearest police station.

LOSS OF DOCUMENT
This is to inform the general public of the loss of Original Letter of Grant Plot No. 4 File No. RES/2002/4225, situated at Tukuntawa Quarters SIT/2002/362, bearing the name of **YAKUDIMA SANI ALASAN**, of Tukuntawa Quarters.
All effort made to trace the original Letter of Grant proved abortive. Members of the General Public to note. If found kindly return to the nearest police station.

LEGAL NOTICE
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE FEDERAL CAPITAL TERRITORY, ABUJA
Whereas the person/persons whose name is set out in the first column hereunder died intestate on the date and place in the said column. And whereas the person(s) whose name and address is set out in the second column hereunder claimed the relationship of the said deceased and has applied to above named court for the grant letters of administration of the personal property. Notice is hereby given that the said letters of administration be granted to such person(s) unless "NOTICE TO PROHIBIT" the grant thereof is filed in the probate registry of the above named court within twenty one (21) days from the date of publication.
SCHEDULE
ANTHONY ESSIER EKANEM WHO DIED ON THE 18TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2020 WHO WAS WORKING UNDER THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, TRADE & INVESTMENT.
MRS. MABEL ANTHONY ESSIER AND GINA ANTHONY ESSIER (A.K.A) ESSIER GINA OF FLAT 24, BLOCK 4, KAFANCHAN CLOSE AREA 2, GARKI ABUJA.
WIDOW AND DAUGHTER;
DATED AT ABUJA THIS 6TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2021
SIGNED:
MUHAMMAD MUSTAPHA ADAMU
CHIEF REGISTRAR



SERVICE REFLECTIVE TARIFF RATE ADJUSTMENT

Dear Esteemed Customer,

Following the approval of the December 2020 Minor Review of MYTO – 2020 by the industry regulator, we would like to inform our esteemed customers of a slight adjustment to our tariffs reflecting the partial impact of inflation and changes in foreign exchange rates effective January 1st, 2021. On average, there is an increase of N2.41/Kwh, which represent 5%. The adjustment only affects customers on Bands A, B and C while Bands D and E remain frozen.

TARIFF BAND	TARIFF CLASS	HOURS OF SUPPLY	TARIFF COST (N/KWh)
Life-Line	R1		N4.00
BAND A	NON-MD	20 hours and above	N56.31
	MD 1		N61.54
	MD 2		N66.42
BAND B	NON-MD	16 hours and above (but less than 20 hours)	N54.11
	MD 1		N58.92
	MD 2		N61.48
BAND C	NON-MD	12 hours and above (but less than 16 hours)	N50.10
	MD 1		N51.25
	MD 2		N53.81
BAND D**	NON-MD	8 hours and above (but less than 12 hours)	N28.37
	MD 1		N39.88
	MD 2		N39.88
BAND E**	NON-MD	4 hours and above (but less than 8 hours)	N28.37
	MD 1		N39.88
	MD 2		N39.88

**Band D and E temporarily frozen

The rate adjustment is in compliance with the provisions of the Electric Power Sector Reform Act ("EPRSA") and the procedure for Electricity Tariff review.

The meter tokens purchased by our prepaid customers will immediately reflect the new tariff rates while the January 2021 bills which will be issued to our post-paid customers in February 2021, shall equally reflect the adjusted service reflective tariff.

We thank you for your understanding and continued support.

Signed,

Management.



INSIDE POLITICS

PoliQuote

The APC and the Buhari's administration would always live a life of lies and nothing can stop them from doing that until they are voted out in 2023 election - Kola Ologbondiyan

Edo gov'ship: Court voids Ize-Iyamu's running mate's candidacy

From Usman A. Bello, Benin

The Edo State High Court has nullified the candidacy of the All Progressives Congress (APC) deputy governorship candidate, Audu Ganiyu Abudu, in the September 19 governorship election.

Justice Courage Ogbebor delivered the judgment in a suit filed by Kadiri Oshoakhemhe No: B/358/20 against the APC deputy governorship candidate and two others.

The court held that the APC deputy governorship aspirant, Ganiyu Abudu, presented false information to the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) in his Form EC9 to enable him to contest the September 19, 2020 governorship election in Edo State.

The plaintiff had argued that the defendant presented false information to INEC in the form EC9 affidavit in support of personal particulars



■ Pastor Osagie Ize-Iyamu submitted to the commission for the purpose of contesting election into the office of deputy governor for Edo State.

The plaintiff prayed the court to annul the candidacy of Osagie Ize-Iyamu as the APC candidate for governor on account of running with an unqualified candidate for deputy governor.

In his ruling, Justice Ogbebor held that the APC deputy governorship candidate presented false information to INEC in his Form EC9 and nullified his candidacy.

Meanwhile, the APC governorship candidate, Pastor Osagie Ize-Iyamu, has described the judgement as "unfortunate and utterly wrong".

"I have already instructed my counsel to appeal against the judgement.

"I am convinced that the Court of Appeal will dispassionately consider the facts presented before the court and arrive at a just decision in accordance with the law," he said.

He urged the party's supporters to remain calm and law-abiding as justice will surely prevail in the matter "to the glory of our God".

Buhari meets APC caretaker chair, Kogi gov

By Muideen Olaniyi & Saawua Terzungwe

President Muhammadu Buhari, yesterday, received Governor Yahaya Bello of Kogi State at the State House, Abuja.

Buhari held a closed-door meeting with the governor in the company of Governor Mai Mala Buni of Yobe State and Chairman of the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) Caretaker/Extraordinary Convention Planning Committee.

Both Governor Bello and APC caretaker chairman declined to entertain questions from journalists after the meeting.

Daily Trust learnt that the president might have used the meeting to advise the governor of Kogi State and APC leader on issues concerning the party and the country.

Last week, the campaign posters of the Kogi State governor surfaced on some major roads in Kano ahead of the 2023 presidential election.

Daily Trust observed that some of the inscriptions on the posters said among others, 'Yahaya Bello for generational change', 'We are calling on Governor Bello to contest the presidential election come 2023'.

While the governor has not declared intention to run for the presidency in 2023, still giant billboards in strategic locations in Kogi State are urging him to run for president in 2023.

Recently, the Kogi State House of Assembly, at its plenary, passed a resolution calling on the governor to run for president.

Besides the resolution by the state lawmakers, the governor's foot soldiers and loyalists, including commissioners and special advisers in his cabinet, have all been drumming support for his (Bello's) presidency in 2023 through various social and traditional media platforms.

According to them, it is now the turn of the North Central geopolitical zone to produce the next president.

Meanwhile, a Northern group, Patriots for Growth and Development Initiatives (PGDI) has joined the league of groups and individuals rallying support for Governor Bello to succeed President Muhammadu Buhari in 2023.

Addressing newsmen yesterday in Abuja, the national coordinator of the group, Isaac Salami, said the decision to support Governor Bello for 2023 presidency was because of his foresight and strength of character.

Kano LG polls: 6 candidates fail drug test

From Sani Ibrahim Paki, Kano

The Kano State Independent Electoral Commission (KANSIEC) yesterday announced the disqualification of six candidates over their failure to pass its drug test ahead of the January 16 local government elections in the state.

Daily Trust reports that

KANSIEC said it introduced compulsory drug tests for all candidates vying for chairmanship and councillorship positions in the forthcoming local government elections as a result of the prevalence of drug abuse in the state.

Chairman of the commission, Professor Garba Ibrahim Sheka, who confirmed this while

speaking to Daily Trust on his commission's preparations for the elections, also said they detected six drug addicts among the candidates.

The KANSIEC chairman also explained that the compulsory test was introduced to make sure none of the newly elected leaders would be addicted to drugs in order to reduce drug abuse in the state.

Prof. Sheka said the policy would serve as a deterrent to the politically ambitious youths currently engaged in drug abuse.

However, sources in the National Drugs Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) said 20 candidates, not six as claimed by KANSIEC, had so far been confirmed as drug abusers.

The coming election is expected to produce 44 chairmen and 484 councillors.

2023: Nigerians want PDP back in power – Wike

From Victor Edozie, Port Harcourt

Governor Nyesom Wike of Rivers State says Nigerians are earnestly waiting for the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) to take over power at the federal level in order to enshrine good governance.

Governor Wike said this at the inauguration of the 11.53km Agbonchai-Afam road, connecting Eleme and Oyiabo LGAs performed yesterday by the former Senate Majority leader, Senator Mohammed Ali Ndume.

The governor said Nigerians had increased their yearnings for

good governance, improved economy and developmental projects that PDP had continued to provide in states under its control.

He said the hope of Nigeria depended on the PDP, and urged Senator Ndume and the APC to respect the wishes of Nigerians who are determined to return the PDP to power in 2023 to provide dividends of democracy.

Senator Ndume, who inaugurated the 11.53km Eleme-Afam road, said he felt truly humbled to perform the task and be part of what Governor Wike was doing in his state.

Osoba backs zoning of 2023 presidency to South

By Muideen Olaniyi

A former governor of Ogun State, Chief Olusegun Osoba, has backed the zoning of the presidency by the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) to Southern Nigeria after President Muhammadu Buhari's second tenure.

Osoba, who featured on Arise Television breakfast show on Tuesday, said zoning was considered during the formation of APC but was not put in the party constitution so that it would not contradict the provisions of the Nigerian Constitution.

He said the choice of the party's presidential candidate from the North and national chairman from the South justified the position of APC at the merger talks on 'zoning'.

Osoba, who said his ally, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu, has the right to contest the 2023 presidential election, said nobody from the South-East geo-

political zone had met him to seek support.

He said: "Part of the understanding in the case of rotation is a conventional understanding that the presidency will move between the North and the South. That was the reason why we now allowed the chairman (of the party to come from the South).

"I don't want to use the word zoning because we definitely did not put zoning. We know it may go in conflict with the Nigerian constitution, which says anyone who is a Nigerian, who has read up to school certificate, can contest and at the age of 35, I think can contest for the presidency of the country.

"But there was a clear gentlemanly understanding that the Northern part of the country will produce the president when we did the merger in 2013 and the chairman of the party will then come from the South," he said.



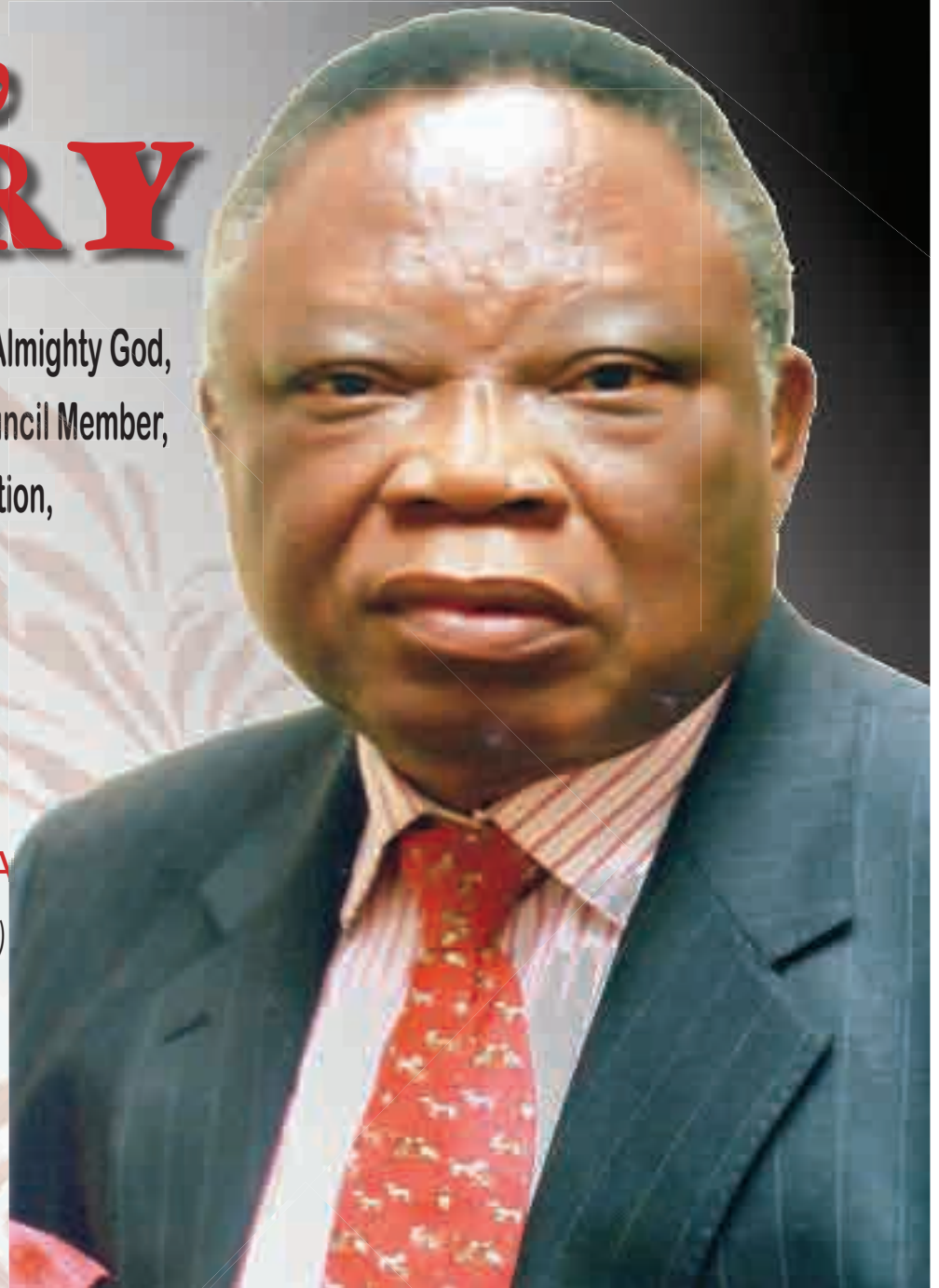
THE NIGERIAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Call To GLORY

With heavy hearts but total submission to the will of Almighty God,
we commiserate with the family of our Executive Council Member,
a true professional, man of integrity, dedication,
enterprise and benevolence

Arc. (DR.) PHILIP Z.
IYORTYER, FNIA

B.Sc, M.Sc Arch (ABU), M.Arch (McGill), D.Sc (UMMKar)



(1949-2020)

Burial Arrangements announced by the family are as follows:

Abuja

Candlelight Evening / Night of Tributes

Date: Tuesday, 5th January, 2021

Venue: 5, Nelson Mandela Street, Asokoro
(opp. Funtaj School), Abuja

Time: 6pm – 8pm

Zoom ID: 849 9925 2804, Passcode: 585531

Wake Keep

Date: Friday, 8th January, 2021

Venue: Mbakaange High School Compound
Uganden Rd., Vandeikya, Benue State

Time: 7pm till dawn

Service of Songs

Date: Wednesday, 6th January, 2021

Venue: NKST Church, Plot 1075,
Shehu Musa Yar'adua Way,
Mabushi, Abuja, FCT

Time: 6pm – 8pm

Burial Rites

Date: Saturday, 9th January, 2021

Venue: Iyortyer Ikir Place / Virtual Viewing
Opp. Mbakaange High School
Vandeikya, Benue State

Time: 9am – 12 noon

Zoom ID: 826 6339 5542, Passcode: 271996

May his gentle soul rest in perfect peace.
Signed: Arc Moradeke Okunrinboye, FNIA
Honorary General Secretary

BUSINESS

36

NIGERIA STOCK EXCHANGE MARKET CAP ▶ N21,158,422TR (0.17%) ↓ ALL SHARE INDEX ▶ 40,465.15POINTS (0.17%) ↓ MARKET TURNOVER ▶ 249,545,128BN SHARES

Wednesday, January 6, 2021



NSE GENERAL INDEX

COMPANY NAME	MARKET(NM)	PRICE	CHANGE	TRADES	VOLUME
1 ACCESS BANK PLC	312,797.99	8.80	-0.57	247	21,896,249
2 UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA PLC	294,115.02	8.60	2.38	221	13,228,121
3 ZENITH BANK PLC	788,051.99	25.10	2.03	383	12,531,411
BANKING				851	47,655,810
4 FBN HOLDINGS PLC	260,240.87	7.25	0.69	206	12,185,114
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS				206	12,185,114
FINANCIAL SERVICES				1,057	59,840,924
ICT					
5 MTN NIGERIA COMMUNICATIONS PLC	3,362,565.56	165.20	-	77	66,439
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES				77	66,439
ICT				77	66,439
INDUSTRIAL GOODS					
6 DANGOTE CEMENT PLC	4,173,220.26	244.90	-	136	567,171
7 LAFARGE AFRICA PLC	360,814.62	22.40	-0.45	125	2,351,756
BUILDING MATERIALS				261	2,918,927
INDUSTRIAL GOODS				261	2,918,927
OIL AND GAS					
8 SEPLAT PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT COMPANY PLC	241,262.27	410.00	-	23	42,672
EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION				23	42,672
OIL AND GAS				23	42,672
9 CHELLARAMS PLC	1,814.54	2.51	-	0	0
DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIES				0	0
CONGLOMERATES				0	0
CONSUMER GOODS					
10 MONICHOOLS PLC	166.62	0.51	-	1	1,000
FOOD PRODUCTS				1	1,000
CONSUMER GOODS				1	1,000
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
11 LIVINGTRUST MORTGAGE BANK PLC	3,000.00	0.60	-	0	0
MORTGAGE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES				0	0
FINANCIAL SERVICES				0	0
SERVICES					
12 THE INITIATES PLC	462.79	0.52	-	1	1,000
WASTE MANAGEMENT				1	1,000
SERVICES				1	1,000
GROWTH BOARD TOTALS				2	2,000
13 FTN COCOA PROCESSORS PLC	1,320.00	0.60	-7.69	80	5,340,098
14 OKOMU OIL PALM PLC	85,851.90	90.00	-	23	13,802
15 PRESKO PLC	70,950.00	70.95	-1.34	23	587,445
CRUP PRODUCTION				126	5,941,345
16 ELLAH LAKES PLC	8,500.00	4.25	-	0	0
FISHING/HUNTING/TRAPPING				0	0
17 LIVESTOCK FEEDS PLC	4,500.00	1.50	-0.66	40	2,610,701
LIVESTOCK/ANIMAL SPECIALTIES				40	2,610,701
AGRICULTURE				166	8,552,046
CONGLOMERATES					
18 JOHN HOLT PLC	198.47	0.51	-	8	1,180
19 S C O A NIG PLC	1,903.99	2.93	-	7	1,640
20 TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATION OF NIGERIA PLC	38,615.59	0.95	-1.04	134	12,787,862
21 U A C N PLC	20,457.21	7.10	-	66	1,972,842
DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIES				215	14,763,324
CONGLOMERATES				215	14,763,324
CONSTRUCTION/REAL ESTATE					
22 ARBICO PLC	152.96	1.03	-	0	0
BUILDING CONSTRUCTION				0	0
23 JULIUS BERGER NIG. PLC	27,799.20	17.55	-	41	479,542
24 ROADS NIG PLC	165.00	6.60	-	0	0
INFRASTRUCTURE/HEAVY CONSTRUCTION				41	479,542
25 UNION PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY PLC	15,590.37	0.84	5.00	66	1,065,485
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT				16	1,065,485
CONSTRUCTION/REAL ESTATE				57	1,545,027
26 DN TYRE & RUBBER PLC	954.53	0.20	-	0	0
AUTOMOBILES/AUTO PARTS				0	0
27 CHAMPION BREW. PLC	6,655.07	0.85	-	12	206,332
28 GOLDEN GUINEA BREW. PLC	829.98	0.81	-	0	0
29 GUINNESS NIG PLC	40,303.04	18.40	-	65	464,319
30 INTERNATIONAL BREWERIES PLC	179,975.86	6.70	2.45	62	1,127,482
31 NIGERIAN BREW. PLC	447,826.51	56.00	-	52	489,577
BEVERAGES - BREWERS/DISTILLERS				191	2,206,810
32 DANGOTE SUGAR REFINERY PLC	222,287.87	18.30	-	97	1,134,550
33 FLOUR MILLS NIG. PLC	110,710.25	27.00	3.45	62	930,695
34 HONEYWELL FLOUR MILL PLC	9,516.24	1.20	-6.25	81	3,190,866
35 MULTI-TREX INTEGRATED FOODS PLC	1,340.10	0.36	-	0	0
36 N NIG. FLOUR MILLS PLC	1,201.07	6.74	-	5	9,813
37 NASCON ALLIED INDUSTRIES PLC	38,416.86	14.50	-	29	207,972
38 UNION DICON SALT PLC	2,993.06	10.95	-	0	0
FOOD PRODUCTS				274	5,473,896
39 CADBURY NIGERIA PLC	16,903.82	9.00	-	31	75,330
40 NESTLE NIGERIA PLC	1,192,947.66	1,505.00	-	49	58,164
FOOD PRODUCTS - DIVERSIFIED				80	133,494
41 NIGERIAN ENAMELWARE PLC	1,680.31	22.10	-	0	0
42 VITAFOAM NIG PLC	11,257.60	9.00	2.86	94	2,709,630
HOUSEHOLD DURABLES				94	2,709,630
43 P Z CUSSONS NIGERIA PLC	20,447.96	5.15	-2.83	37	373,218
44 UNILEVER NIGERIA PLC	79,855.58	13.90	-	47	305,702
PERSONAL/HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS				84	678,920
CONSUMER GOODS				723	11,202,750
FINANCIAL SERVICES					
45 ECOBANK TRANSNATIONAL INCORPORATED	119,272.08	6.50	-	86	3,577,406
46 FIDELITY BANK PLC	74,465.23	2.57	-0.39	104	10,059,640
47 GUARANTY TRUST BANK PLC	956,513.32	32.50	-0.15	246	10,490,537
48 JAZZ BANK PLC	20,330.33	0.69	2.99	20	491,016
49 STERLING BANK PLC	59,020.36	2.05	-	1,236	8,814,707
50 UNION BANK NIG. PLC	155,796.03	5.35	-	61	1,126,551
51 UNITY BANK PLC	8,182.54	0.70	2.94	8	518,150
52 WEMA BANK PLC	27,387.87	0.71	-1.39	45	2,400,888
BANKING				1,806	37,478,895
53 AFRICAN ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC	4,117.00	0.20	-	0	0
54 AICO INSURANCE PLC	22,947.32	1.11	-6.72	66	3,369,344
55 AXAMANSARD INSURANCE PLC	44,640.00	1.24	7.83	94	13,263,197
56 CONSOLIDATED HALLMARK INSURANCE PLC	3,425.44	0.32	-	5	109,000
57 CORNERSTONE INSURANCE PLC	11,444.83	0.63	-	10	550,000
58 CORONATION INSURANCE PLC	9,836.59	0.41	5.13	26	1,375,414
59 GOLDLINK INSURANCE PLC	909.99	0.20	-	0	0
60 GUINEA INSURANCE PLC	1,228.90	0.20	-	2	2,000
61 INTERNATIONAL ENERGY INSURANCE PLC	487.95	0.38	-	0	0
62 LASACO ASSURANCE PLC	2,782.90	0.38	-2.63	27	2,607,384
63 LINKAGE ASSURANCE PLC	5,900.00	0.59	9.26	5	418,142
64 MUTUAL BENEFITS ASSURANCE PLC	3,016.64	0.27	-3.57	25	3,499,125
65 NEM INSURANCE PLC	21,570.85	2.15	9.69	26	4,338,624
66 NIGER INSURANCE PLC	1,547.90	0.20	-	6	646,450
67 PRESTIGE ASSURANCE PLC	6,096.18	0.46	-	5	432,261
68 REGENCY ASSURANCE PLC	1,600.50	0.24	9.09	22	5,747,765
69 SOVEREIGN TRUST INSURANCE PLC	2,500.18	0.22	-8.33	17	4,142,025
70 STACO INSURANCE PLC	4,483.72	0.48	-	0	0
71 STANDARD ALLIANCE INSURANCE PLC	2,582.21	0.20	-	0	0
72 SUNU ASSURANCE NIGERIA PLC	2,800.00	1.00	-	3	18,600
73 UNIC DIVERSIFIED HOLDINGS PLC	516.46	0.20	-	0	0
74 UNIVERSAL INSURANCE PLC	3,200.00	0.20	-	0	0
75 VERITAS CAPITAL ASSURANCE PLC	2,773.33	0.20	-	0	0
INSURANCE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES				339	40,519,331
76 NPF MICROFINANCE BANK PLC	3,887.28	1.70	-	10	139,019
MICRO-FINANCE BANKS				10	139,019
77 ABBEY MORTGAGE BANK PLC	6,784.62	1.05	-	0	0
78 ASD SAVINGS AND LOANS PLC	7,370.87	0.50	-	0	0
79 INFINITY TRUST MORTGAGE BANK PLC	5,671.82	1.36	-	0	0
80 RESORT SAVINGS & LOANS PLC	2,265.95	0.20	-	0	0
81 UNION HOMES SAVINGS AND LOANS PLC	2,949.22	3.02	-	0	0
MORTGAGE CARRIERS, BROKERS AND SERVICES				0	0
82 AFRICA PRUDENTIAL PLC	13,300.00	6.65	-1.48	62	1,014,721
83 CUSTODIAN INVESTMENT PLC	34,408.91	5.85	-	16	1,552,659
84 DEAP CAPITAL MANAGEMENT & TRUST PLC	345.00	0.23	-8.00	1	1,000,000
85 FOMB GROUP PLC	59,804.19	3.02	0.33	67	1,751,479
86 ROYAL EXCHANGE PLC	1,234.89	0.24	-7.69	18	2,235,162
87 STANBIC IBTC HOLDINGS PLC	488,663.89	44.00	-	26	6,960,009
88 UNITED CAPITAL PLC	29,880.00	4.9W8	1.63	167	5,359,572

COMMODITIES PRICE

CRUDE OIL (BRENT)
\$50.87

NATURAL GAS
\$2.63

COPPER
\$7,764.50

GOLD
\$1,877.59

SILVER
\$25.77

SUGAR
\$0.15

COCOA
\$1,710.0

LIVE CATTLE
\$1.12

COTTON
\$0.76

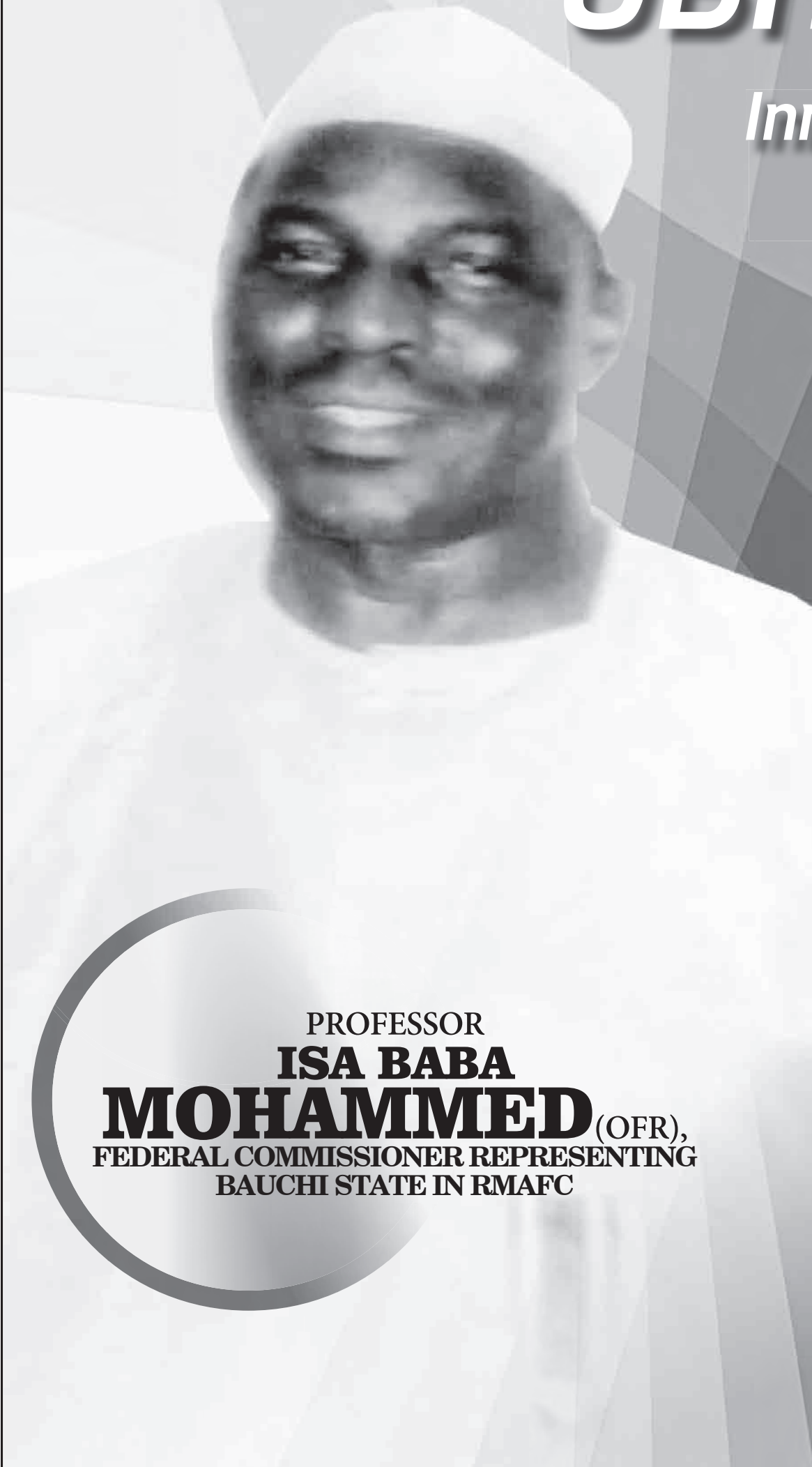
OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS	357	19,873,602
FINANCIAL SERVICES	2,512	98,010,847
HEALTHCARE		
85 EKOCORP PLC	2,991.61	6.00
90 UNION DIAGNOSTIC & CLINICAL SERVICES PLC	1,101.47	0.31
HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS		
91 MORISON INDUSTRIES PLC	484.69	0.49
MEDICAL SUPPLIES		
92 EVANS MEDICAL PLC	366.17	0.50
93 FIDSON HEALTHCARE PLC	9,805.89	4.70
94 GLAXO SMITHKLINE CONSUMER NIG. PLC	8,371.14	7.00
95 MAY & BAKER NIGERIA PLC	5,538.00	3.21
96 NEIMETH INTERNATIONAL PHARMACEUTICALS PLC	3,893.27	2.05
97 NIGERIA GERMAN CHEMICALS PLC	556.71	3.62
98 PHARMA DEKO PLC	325.23	1.50
PHARMACEUTICALS		
HEALTHCARE	156	4,575,349
ICT	176	10,776,551
99 COURTEVILLE BUSINESS SOLUTIONS PLC	816.96	0.23
COMPUTER BASED SYSTEMS		
100 OMAITEK VENTURES PLC	588.36	0.20
COMPUTERS AND PERIPHERALS		
101 CWIG PLC	6,413.06	2.54
102 NCR (NIGERIA) PLC	211.68	1.96
103 TRIPLE GEE AND COMPANY PLC	326.67	0.66
IT SERVICES		
104 CHAMS PLC	1,127.05	0.24
105 E-TRANZACT INTERNATIONAL PLC	9,786.00	2.33
PROCESSING SYSTEMS		
106 AIRTEL AFRICA PLC	3,201,193.45	851.80
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES		
ICT	63	5,128,331
INDUSTRIAL GOODS		
107 BERGER PAINTS PLC	2,130.20	7.35
108 BUJA CEMENT PLC	2,709,148.32	80.00
109 BUP PLC	14,000.00	20.00
110 MEYER PLC		



REVENUE MOBILISATION ALLOCATION AND FISCAL COMMISSION (RMAFC)

OBITUARY

*Innalillahi Waina
ilaihir Rajiun*



PROFESSOR
**ISA BABA
MOHAMMED** (OFR),
FEDERAL COMMISSIONER REPRESENTING
BAUCHI STATE IN RMAFC

With heavy heart but total submission to the will of Allah, the Management, Members and Staff of Revenue Mobilisation Allocation and Fiscal Commission (RMAFC) commensurate with the President, Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria President Muhammadu Buhari, His Excellency, Senator Bala Mohammed, Governor of Bauchi State and the good people of Bauchi State on the passing to glory of Professor Isa Baba Mohammed (OFR), Federal Commissioner representing Bauchi State in RMAFC.

The sad event occurred on the 28th Of December 2020. Aged 78.

We pray Allah SWT to forgive his shortcomings and grant him Jannatul Firdaus. Amen.

Signed. *Management.*

22 die in Kogi road crashes

From Adama John, Lokoja

Fourteen persons have died in an auto crash along Lokoja-Obajana road in Kogi State.

The accident, which occurred yesterday, involved a commercial bus and articulated truck conveying cement from Obajana.

Similarly, the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC) has confirmed the death of eight persons in another motor accident in Kogi.

The casualty figure brings to 22, the number of people that lost their lives in road accidents in the state on Wednesday.

A statement from the state commissioner for Information and Communication, Kingsley Fanwo, said the state government sympathised with

the families of the victims.

He said men of the Federal Road Safety Corps have been alerted and bodies of the deceased have been evacuated from the scene of the accident.

Fanwo said, "The governor, government and people of Kogi State express deep sympathy over the demise of 14 passengers of a bus involved in a ghastly accident at Old Akpata, along Lokoja-Obajana Road today.

"It is indeed, a sad occurrence and a shame that we lost such promising souls in such a pathetic circumstance.

"As a government, we will strengthen our road safety measures to ensure that avoidable loss of lives is averted."

He called on the FRSC to intensify its surveillance along the roads and ensure that road users obey traffic laws and that only roadworthy vehicles ply the roads.

The state Sector Commander, Mr Solomon Aghure, told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Lokoja that the second crash occurred on Kabba-Ayere road at about 11:30 p.m.

He said that the accident involved a truck and a Toyota Hiace passenger bus with registration number Bauchi MSA 942 XA.

Aghure said that 25 people, comprising 22 men, two women and a female child were involved in the second accident, saying that eight of the men lost their lives instantly.

The sector commander said that 17 persons injured were taken to General Hospital, Kabba for treatment while corpses deposited in the morgue.

He blamed the accident on speed limit violation and dangerous driving.

Sokoto, World Bank flag off drainage project in flood-prone areas

From Abubakar Auwal, Sokoto

Governor Aminu Waziri Tambuwal of Sokoto state has flagged off a multi-billion Naira drainage project at the flood-prone Maberu area in Sokoto South Local Government Area of Sokoto State.

Daily Trust reported that the project was assisted by the World Bank.

Speaking, Tambuwal said that the sum of N1 billion was paid by the state as part of its commitment to the remediation of the intra-city Maberu Storm Water Management Project (MSWMP).

"I have engaged in series of consultations with the relevant stakeholders to enable the project get to its current level.

"The work might have seemed long in coming but the procedures for the project are very cumbersome, elaborate and time consuming, as they have to conform to international best practices," Tambuwal said.

Farmer bags 1-yr imprisonment for killing cow in Ondo

From Bola Ojuola, Akure

A 25-year-old farmer, Ojo Michael, has been sentenced to one year imprisonment by an Akure magistrate court for killing a cow belonging to one Abubakar Kareem.

Michael was arraigned for allegedly using a Dane gun to kill the cow, valued at N130,000, and then took it away.

Police prosecutor, Sergeant Olusola Omolade told the court that the defendant committed the offence on December 20, 2020, at about 11 am at Yakubu camp in Ayede-Ogbese, Ondo state.

The offence, according to the prosecutor, contravened section 290(9), 450 and 516 of the criminal code cap 37 Volume 1, Laws of Ondo State, 2006.

The defendant pleaded guilty to the offence when the charge was read to him.

He confessed that he killed the cow after it destroyed his farm, according to the defendant's statement to the police.

The prosecutor prayed the court to remand the defendant at the Olokuta Custodial Centre in Akure.

In her judgment, Magistrate B.O Ojo sentenced the defendant to one-year imprisonment with the option of N50,000 fine.

She also ordered the payment of N130,000 for the cow.



■ The former President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria, Pharm. Ahmed I Yakasai commissioning the second phase of the secretariat of the Pharmaceutical Society of Nigeria (PSN) Kano State Branch, with him are other members of the society recently

Gas explosion rocks Rivers community

From Victor Edozie, Port Harcourt

A gas explosion has rocked Oduoha Community in Emohua Local Government Area of Rivers State.

Our reporter learnt that the explosion occurred on Tuesday from a ruptured gas pipeline that runs through the community to a terminal in Bonny and had a heavy impact on the environment.

It was gathered that two separate gas pipes operated by Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG) and Nigeria Agip Oil Company, runs on the same line where the incident happened, making it difficult to ascertain who the operator of the affected line was at press time.

However, as at 12 pm, the vibration and leakage was still raging, causing

panic in the community.

The Paramount Ruler of Oduoha, Chief Ferdinand Ogbuehi, said many residents have already fled for safety.

He said: "From 4 am till now the people have been living in fear. The vibration has sent many packing. We are not at rest at all. We have not seen this type of thing before. We want the government to come and see what is happening.

"We have announced to the people that nobody should go there. We don't want a fire outbreak from that place to destroy our community. We want the government to come. We are afraid of going closer to the place."

The Community Development Committee Chairman of Oduoha, Sir Napoleon Ewule noted that the

community has contacted the two companies, whose facilities were on the line.

He said: "About 4:12 am, we heard an explosion. We were thinking that an aeroplane has crashed in our community.

"I called on the youths and we went there to see what happened. As we got there we noticed the explosion. The effect is much. We came back and told our people to avoid the area. We called on the NLNG to find out what is happening.

"We have two pipelines there one for Agip and another for NLNG. When they come for inspection we will know who owns the one that exploded."

Our reporter could not NLNG for comment as of press time.

Boko Haram attacks Geidam, carts away food items

By Ibrahim Baba Saleh, Damaturu

Gunmen suspected to be Boko Haram fighters yesterday attacked Geidam town in Yobe State.

A resident, who does not want his name in print, told our reporter that the insurgents stormed the town in the evening when traders at Wednesday Market were about closing business.

He said the assailants moved towards the market's direction shooting sporadically in the air,

while residents ran into nearby houses for safety.

"They broke into many shops and carted away food items.

"We heard rumour of their coming, which led traders outside Geidam town to leave the market earlier.

"The shooting is subsided at the moment. Many believed that the insurgents have accomplished their mission."

The police spokesman in the state, Dungus Abdulkarim, confirmed the incident, but did not provide details.

Block makers threaten strike over cement price hike

From Abubakar Auwal, Sokoto

Block manufacturers in Sokoto State have threatened to embark on a seven-day warning strike over increment in the price of cement.

Addressing a press conference yesterday in Sokoto, the state chairman, Association of Block Manufacturers of Nigeria, Alhaji Kabiru Rumbukawa, said the strike would commence on Monday, January 11.

According to him, the decision was taken to press home their demand for the reverse to the old price.

"Before we were buying a bag of cement at N2,400 and it is N3,700 now, which is

unacceptable," he said.

He noted that "We have written the state government and other relevant authorities for them to intervene in the matter, but to no avail.

"As such we have decided to close all our factories for seven days. And if our demand is not met within these seven days, we will embark on an indefinite strike," he added.

He maintained that the decision, though painful, was taken in the interest of the general public, as they don't want to increase the price of blocks in the state.

"So we are appealing to the state government to intervene in the matter," he said.



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■ Pep Guardiola

Man City confirm more coronavirus cases

Manchester City confirmed three more cases of coronavirus on Wednesday, with goalkeeper Scott Carson, teenage midfielder Cole Palmer and a member of staff testing positive.

City were without six other players for their Premier League victory at

Chelsea on Sunday following positive tests.

“Manchester City FC can confirm that Scott Carson, Cole Palmer and one member of staff have tested positive for COVID-19,” the club said in a statement.

“Both personnel will now observe a period of self-isolation in accordance with Premier League and UK government

protocol on quarantine.”

With first-choice goalkeeper Ederson one of the other players already isolating, Carson's positive test leaves City short of options for Wednesday's League Cup semi-final against Manchester United.

Zack Steffen is set to play again after featuring at Chelsea.

Ferran Torres, Tommy Doyle and Eric Garcia are the other

players also currently isolating while Kyle Walker and Gabriel Jesus, who tested positive on Christmas Day, have now completed their quarantine period.

The Premier League said on Tuesday that 40 players and staff had tested positive for COVID-19 in the latest rounds of testing -- more than double the previous record.

Enyimba lose N253m as Champions League dreams collapse



■ Action between Enyimba and Al-Merrikh during the first leg of the CAF Champions League group stage in Sudan

By Olusola 'Jide @jide_olusola

Two-time Champions League winner, Enyimba International have failed to redeem their image in African football following their failure to overturn a 3-0 deficit suffered at Al-Merrikh Stadium in Omdurman.

The Aba Warriors who needed to score four unreplied goals could only manage a 2-1 win at home to crash out of the CAF Champions League 4-2 on aggregate.

This failure has cost the

eight-time Nigerian league champions a handsome payoff of \$550,000 (about 253 million Naira) and have now been demoted to the CAF Confederation Cup playoff round.

Saif Terry, who fired a hat-trick in the first game in Sudan, opened scoring in Aba after just seven minutes when he punished slack defending by the home team.

The goal made the task for the People's Elephant more difficult as they then needed five more goals to qualify.

Star striker, Victor Mbaoma, who missed the game in

Sudan due to injury, levelled proceedings with a simple tap in six minutes later to raise hopes of qualifying.

Four minutes into the second half, Enyimba took the lead for the first time in the encounter from the penalty spot, Mbaoma slotting home after Kadiri had been tripped in the box.

Mbaoma's second goal further raised the hopes of the Nigerian side to stage a comeback and win the tie but for the resolute defending of the Sudanese.

Meanwhile, Nigeria's other club side in the

Confederation Cup, Rivers United await further communication from CAF about the rescheduling of their second leg, first leg tie with Bloemfontein Celtic.

The tie, which was scheduled for yesterday in Port Harcourt was called off after Nigerian health authorities, Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) declined to issue the South Africans with waivers from COVID-19 protocols.

Rivers United lead 2-0 from the first leg and will progress to the next stage if they avoid defeat.

Buhari congratulates ex-Super Eagles coach, Christian Chukwu at 70

By Muideen Olaniyi

President Muhammadu Buhari has congratulated former coach of the Super Eagles, Christian Chukwu, on his 70th birthday.

President Buhari, in a statement issued yesterday by his spokesman, Femi Adesina, joined sports lovers, family and friends to celebrate the skillful footballer who captained the national team to lift its first African Nations Cup title in 1980.

The President, who also felicitated with the multi-talented and disciplined player on the auspicious period of turning a septuagenarian, said his contributions to the development of sports in Nigeria will always attract attention, particularly making the country proud by providing technical leadership for other national teams like those of Lebanon and Kenya.

Buhari lauded the efforts of the former Captain of Rangers International, Enugu, in strengthening the local league, which has over the years been the major feeder of the national team, and produced players that have featured in some of the best teams and championships in the world.

The President prayed for improved health, strength and longer life for the former Super Eagles captain.

Anako takes over as perm sec

By Olusola 'Jide @jide_olusola

Engr Nebeolisa Anako has officially taken over as the new Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Youth and Sports Development.

Anako on Wednesday took over after his predecessor, Gabriel Aduda who was redeployed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs handed over to him in a brief ceremony in Abuja.

Anako while speaking during the

ceremony, which held at the Federal Secretariat pledged to continue with reforms to reposition the ministry while calling on the management and staff of the ministry to embrace change and innovations in order to take the ministry to the next level.

“The only thing permanent in life is change, if you don't change you become a dinosaur and you are forgotten by times.

“Change and innovations are things

to be embraced, positive change and innovations are the hallmarks of a successful society,” he said.

Earlier, the out-going Permanent Secretary, Gabriel Aduda urged staff to give his successor all the support to succeed.

He said a lot of innovations like the “Adopt an athlete/pitch” policy, stimulus funds for the youth had been put in place that can be consolidated on.

Anako who was born on Aug. 5, 1964, at Enugwu-Ukwu in Anambra State was deployed from the Ministry of Information and Culture.

He has a Bachelor's of Engineering (B.Eng. Hons.) Degree in Civil Engineering (1986) from the Anambra State University of Technology, Enugu. Also, he has a Master of Science (M.Sc.) Degree (1989) in Construction Management from the Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria.



2020: A year like no other (II)

In the month of June, amidst the lockdown, the spotlight shone on Kano again. This time, news of an increased number of mysterious deaths was being reported. I remember a day when five prominent people made up of professors, politicians and elder statesmen, died in AKTH. People were said to be dying in droves and a team of epidemiologists was immediately set up to probe the cause of their death. Today, we know from their report that at least half of those deaths were due to COVID-19.

By August, the FG began to relax some of the lockdown regulations and life started returning to normal. Ministries, offices and recreational centres began opening up one by one. A minority of Nigerians still continued to wear their facemasks and observe social distancing while the vast majority returned to status quo: throwing weddings, parties and political gatherings at random. The WHO warned of a possible second wave emerging after the relax of the lockdown - but did we hear? No. All over the world people rushed to their favourite restaurants and travelled to see their loved ones, throwing caution to the wind. Sometimes we washed our hands, sometimes we didn't. We are still yet to adapt to the 'new normal'.

Yet again in August, Hollywood lost celebrity actor, Chadwick Boseman 'the black panther' and I was thrown into grief once more. His death came as a shock as many did not know he was battling colon cancer while he entertained us on screen. I spent the next few days re-watching his movies, trying to see if I could pick out any clue on his face. I saw none, other than the fact that he had lost weight. Human beings are a resilient specie.

In September, when the government announced the re-opening of schools around the country, nobody was happier than I was. I had grown weary of all the numerous Zoom classes and had virtually given up all attempts at home schooling. The kids were bored stiff and I was too tired, so I allowed them to watch cartoons all day long. Hats off to teachers - una be the real MVPs! By the time my five-year-old daughter returned to school, she could not remember how to write the letter 'F'. Hian!

October began with the death of a professor of medicine and the former CMD of AKTH, Dr Abdulhamid Dutse. And once more the hospital community

was thrown into mourning as a giant iroko had fallen. But even as we grieved, news of protests in Lagos reached us. We all watched in shock as the #EndSARS protests unfolded across various Nigerian states. Thousands of youths, took to the street to protest against police brutality and unfair treatment. What started initially as peaceful protests with various celebrities lending their voices, soon spiralled out of control. Out of nowhere, a warehouse in Lagos was discovered, stocked with food items which were meant to be shared as a palliative to the masses as a result of the lockdown. All hell broke loose and we watched in horror as people turned into hoodlums overnight. The warehouses were broken into, free for all to grab. Pandemonium broke, state after state, as more people discovered where their state government had hidden the palliatives meant for them. Numerous shops and BRT buses were burnt in Lagos, prisons were broken into and many lives and properties lost across Nigeria. Then, the Lekki shooting happened. And once more, Nigerian hailers and wailers went into debate. Did it or did it not happen? The famous DJ switch video was analysed and scrutinised by many online 'forensic criminologists' that I got tired of scrolling my Facebook timeline. I have, therefore, decided to wait for Lagos State government's official verdict. And as we know, the jury is still out on that matter.

The aftermath of this catastrophe was felt everywhere in Nigeria and by November the first sign was obvious: The price of onions skyrocketed!! Onions are primarily produced in Northern Nigeria and transported to the South. By the time some of the trucks conveying onions were attacked and vandalised, a scarcity of this seemingly ordinary vegetable was created. Truth be told, onion farmers were said to have had a bad year with most of their produce being attacked by pests, but because we are Nigerians and conspiracy is our middle name, I shall stick to the theory that it was caused by the #EndSARS protests. Gradually, the scarcity spread to all parts of Nigeria such that a sack of onions cost up to N80,000! Onions *fa!* Suddenly our wealth status was determined by how much onions we put in our soup!

It was in November, still, that we watched the US elections with bated breath. Again, some Nigerians argued what our concern was with the elections

in US. I laugh in Fulfulde! Do you not know that whoever emerges the POTUS can make decisions that will affect us all in this country? Do you know how many programmes the US government has invested in Nigeria? How many jobs it has created? How many lives it has saved through the PEPFAR and Clinton Foundation alone?

Sorry, I digress. I remember watching a video of a party thrown in Lagos when Biden won the election. The participants of the gathering, danced to a rendition of 'Bolanle pepper them' titled 'Biden pepper Trump oh'. You simply cannot take away Lagosians' spirit of party!

In the last week of November, the killings in Zabarmari, near Koshebe, a rural village in Borno, happened. At least 110 farm labourers were tied up by Boko Haram militants and their throats slit. The cruelty and manner in which these farmers were killed still gives me goosebumps. Ordinary peasant farmers trying to eke out a living. What does this country want us to do? And yet, someone had the audacity to come out and say the farmers did not get military clearance. Clearance kill you there!

By the time December came, we were all weary and we hoped and prayed at least for some sanity in our land. But like the saying goes: 'Man proposes and God disposes.' Nigeria was officially declared to be in recession and \$1 was being exchanged for almost N500. Thoughts of buying a new phone vanished from my head and I made a mental note to treat my faithful Samsung phone better.

By mid-December it seemed the rate of kidnappings and banditry had escalated so much so that over 300 schoolboys were abducted from a school in Kankara village of Katsina. These terrorists waited until the president was in Daura, before delivering the final blow. Again, Boko Haram took credit for the abduction and waited for the government to play ball. And play ball they did, because after the initial *gra-gra* of denying the abduction even happened, security agents swung into action, government paid ransom, and the boys were "rescued". Three *gbosas* for Nigeria!!!

The end of the year has brought with it a second wave of COVID-19 as promised. Everywhere you turn, people are testing positive and the isolation centres are filled up. The US has reported death rates of over 330,000 and has quite frankly announced a collapse of the public health system. A mutant variant of the coronavirus that is deadlier and more contagious has been discovered in Europe and it looks like we will have tough times ahead.

However, it was not all gloom and doom, as Pfizers' approved vaccine was successfully administered to the first set of people in December. Other pharmaceutical giants like Astrazeneca are also in the race to create a vaccine. What remains now is for the conspiracy theorists to finish their sermon while we wait for Nigeria to procure the vaccine.

Nevertheless, in all of this turmoil, we are grateful to have survived 2020. May we never encounter such chaos in our lives again, ameen.

Welcome 2021!

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Beckham seals exclusive deal with Panini America



■ David Beckham

Global soccer icon David Beckham has agreed to an exclusive autograph and memorabilia deal with leading sports and entertainment collectables company Panini America.

In addition, the former Manchester United, Real Madrid and Los Angeles Galaxy midfielder will become a global brand ambassador for the company.

As part of the agreement, autographed Beckham trading cards and memorabilia will be made exclusively available in Panini America trading card products and through Panini Authentic, the memorabilia division of Panini America.

Kyrgios out of Australian ATP Cup team



■ Nick Kyrgios

Nick Kyrgios has paid the price for a year of inaction over COVID-19 concerns after he was ruled out of Australia's team for next month's ATP Cup after his world ranking slipped to number 46 following an 11-month absence from the ATP Tour.

The 25-year-old last played a competitive match at Acapulco in February after deciding to remain at home in Australia when the circuit resumed in Europe and North America after a hiatus.