

SANWO-OLU MAY ADD MORE NAMES TO LAGOS CABINET LIST



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Sanwo-olu may add more names to Lagos Cabinet List

There were indications that Lagos State Governor Olusola Sanwo-olu may send more names of commissioner-nominees to the Lagos State House of Assembly in response to the reactions of various groups to the cabinet list.

Echonews learnt that the governor's think tank is putting heads together on how to prevent the agitations from heating up the polity.

Since the list of nominees to be in the second cabinet of the Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu was released to the public, there has been brouhaha in various local governments whose leaders believe were not well represented in the list.

On Friday, July 28, the governor sent the list of his proposed cabinet members to the Lagos State House of Assembly for ratification.

In the list, 30 percent of the commissioner-nominees are women, while others are youths, technocrats, and politicians.

Some members of the governor's cabinet during his first term in office made the list, while several others were dropped.

Among the former cabinet members who made the list are former Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Mr. Gbenga Omotoso; his Budget and Economic Planning counterpart, Mr. Sam Egube; ex-Commissioner for Health, Prof. Akin Abayomi; ex-Special Adviser to the Governor on Works and Infrastructure, Aramide Adeyoye; and his Education counterpart, Tokunbo Wahab.

However, the list was not accepted by some lawmakers, local governments, and religious bodies who claimed that they were not given a fair share in the government.

There has been agitation

that the list be reversed and that the governor should make sure there is an even distribution of nominees in his cabinet.

As reported, the list first hit the rock at the House of Assembly as the Members of the House of Assembly expressed their dissatisfaction over the commissioner nominees sent to them for ratification, claiming that there was no even distribution in the list.

The lawmakers, who spoke during plenary said the list did not reflect their expectations and those of their constituencies.

The Clerk of the Assembly, Mr. Olalekan Onafeko, who read the letter of the governor accompanying the list of nominees, read out the names of the 39 nominees as sent by the governor to the House.

Reacting to the governor's letter, the lawmakers lamented the exclusion of some local governments and constituencies from the list.

While some urged the governor to take another look at the list, others urged that the nominees' local government areas should be attached to the list.

Raising a 'Matter of Urgent Public Importance', the lawmaker representing Ikorodu II constituency, Hon. Aro Abiodun, told his colleagues that despite contributing to the success of the All Progressives Congress in the last election, Ikorodu got one slot in the list.

The Deputy Majority Leader of the House, Ademola Kasunmu, lamented the absence of any nominee from Ikeja.

His colleague, Nureni Akinsanya from Mushin, noted that the list did not come with the local government areas of the nominees. He also pointed out that the APC had technocrats who were not considered for the



Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu

nomination.

His position was supported by Kehinde Joseph (Alimosho II), who noted that loyalists and party members deserved to be nominated as much as technocrats.

Joseph added that those who sacrificed their ambitions for the party or lost during the last election could also be nominated as commissioners and special advisers as they could still serve the people in other capacities.

Reacting to the matter, Femi Saheed said, as a former secretary of the APC in Lagos, he was aware that the party had technocrats who could be nominated.

"The House must thoroughly look at the nominees to make sure they are worthy of the nomination," Saheed added.

While the Deputy Chief Whip, David Setonji, lamented that Badagry was not represented in the nomination, Ladi Ajomale observed that the list was heavily one-sided in terms of religious consideration.



, Tokunbo Wahab.



Mr. Sam Egube

Sanwo-olu may add more names to Lagos Cabinet List

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Setonji added, "It seems like we have not learned our lesson. In one of the wards in my constituency, it was hard (during the election), but in the end, we proved ourselves, and here is the list, and not a single name from my LGA (was included)."

Adewale Temitope in his submission noted that Ifako Ijaye LGA which, according to him, delivered in the last election to the success of the governorship did not get a nomination in the list.

However, the Speaker of the House, Mudashiru Obasa, implored his colleagues to see reasons with then governor over his choice of individuals in the list.

Following the criticism of the nominees and in response to the directives issued by the House of Assembly, the Governor unveiled the local government areas of the nominees for the contentious Commissioner positions. In a letter dated August 7 and addressed to the Clerk of the House, which was obtained by ECHONEWS, the Governor's office presented the revised list of nominees and their respective local government areas.

However, the new list has still generated controversy as it revealed that an overwhelming 12 out of the total 39 commissioner designates hail from Eti-Osa Local Government alone.

Some local government areas have two nominees while others do have only one each.

The decision to disclose the nominees' local government areas was initiated by the Speaker,

who emphasised the importance of transparency and public awareness by mandating that the nominees' local government affiliations be included in the list for the benefit of the state and its citizens.

Subsequently, the Clerk was tasked with formally requesting the local government area details from the Governor's office. Many stakeholders were still not at peace with the list, calling for its rejection.

For instance, the Joint Muslim Forum frowned at the list, claiming that Muslims are not well represented in the list.

According to the Forum, there is no equity and fairness in the choice of the governor's cabinet members.

In a statement jointly signed by the member organisations of the Forum, the Muslims called for equity in the list. The Forum comprises some Islamic organisations such as Ansar-Ud-Deen Society of Nigeria, Adangba Central Mosque, Nawair-Ud-Deen Society of Nigeria, Rahmatuj Islamiyyah Society of Nigeria, Conference of Islamic Organisation (CIO), Association of Muslim Professionals, Omitoro Central Mosque, Ikorodu, Lagos Mainland Muslim Community, Dawah Front of Nigeria, The Criterion (Al-furqan), Zumratul Muhmineenh Society of Nigeria, NACOMYO, BAT Ambassadors, MPAC, MICA, The Companion, Muslim Students Society of Nigeria (MSSN) Lagos, The Muslimsh Congress, MUSWEN, and MURIC.

The statement titled 'Governor Babajide Unjust List of Commissioners - Designate' read: "In line



Mr. Sam Egube;



Prof. Akin Abayomi



Aramide Adeyooye

with the dictates of our Islamic faith which consistently emphasizes fairness even in relating with non-Muslims, Muslims in Lagos State at the last gubernatorial election defied all odds and resisted all temptations to massively vote Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu and to also protect their votes. "This was at a time a significant number of

Governor Sanwo-Olu's brothers and sisters in faith were vehemently campaigning, even in churches, against his second term bid and demarketing his party. "Alhamdulillah, Allah answered our prayers and also blessed our efforts "We noted, to our utter dismay, that Governor Sanwo-Olu's list exhibits callous insensitivity to

equity, fairness, and diversity, Muslims make up less than 20% of the list, even though they constitute over 60% of not just the state's population but her voting public. We noted that out of 39 nominees, only 8 are Muslims.

"We see this as a paradoxical reprisal from Governor Sanwo-Olu, against Muslims, on the Muslim-Muslim ticket fielded at the national level by his party. How Lagos should now be a guinea pig is to us an ill-thought affront by Governor Sanwo-Olu to the peaceful and accommodating Muslim Community of the State. Why must Muslims in Lagos State always be denied their constitutional rights under Sanwo-Olu?

". All these are in clear violation of Section 14(4) of the 1999 Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria which stipulates that:

"The composition of the Government of the Federation, a State, a local government council, or any of the agencies of such Government or

council, and the conduct of the affairs of the Government or council or such agencies shall be carried out in such manner as to recognize the diversity of the people within its area of authority and the need to promote a sense of belonging and loyalty. among all the people of the Federation!! "For the umpteenth time, the entire leadership of the Muslim Community of Lagos State representing various Muslim organizations, unequivocally and unanimously reject the list of commissioners-designated by Governor Sanwo-Olu. Meanwhile, the House established a screening committee, led by Chief Whip Fatai Mojeed, which was responsible for vetting the nominees and reporting back to the Assembly.

However, it was gathered that the new list with the local government areas of the nominees has affected the planned screening exercise, making the committee postpone the exercise till August 15, 2023.



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Lagos Ministry of Justice Offers Iba Residents Free Legal Services

The Lagos State Ministry of Justice has once again extended its Joint Free Legal Clinic to residents of Iba on Tuesday at the Iba Local Council Development Area of the State.

The Solicitor-General and Permanent Secretary of the Ministry, Mrs. Titilayo Shitta-Bey-Jeje, in her welcome address at the programme, stated that the Joint Free Legal Clinic is aimed at bringing awareness and also empowering the residents of Lagos State to seek and demand legal services offered by the State.

The Solicitor-General, represented by the Coordinator Restorative Justice Centre, Mrs. Adenike Oluwafemi, noted that access to justice is a basic fundamental human right and a principle of the rule of law. In the absence of access to justice, people are unable to exercise their rights or have their voices heard.

"Having access to the right legal advice at the earliest point possible is crucial for residents who have complaints, to ensure they have the support and help they need", she said.

Shitta-Bey-Jeje stressed that the State Ministry of Justice and its Agencies are present to educate and deliver legal services to Iba residents at no cost which is in accordance with Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's T.H.E.M.E.S PLUS Agenda to promote and ensure free access to justice by residents of the State.

She, however, urged Iba residents to support the State Government's effort of building a crime-free Lagos with respect for the rule of law and fundamental human

rights.

On his part, the Chairman of Iba Local Council Development Area, Hon. Isa Abiola Jubril, appreciated the laudable free legal clinic initiative.

He said, "Access to advice and support as early as possible is necessary in helping people navigate the legal system at a time of immense stress and difficulty. Alongside this, we welcome the State Government's commitment to provide free access to justice for the people of Iba".

Hon. Jubril, therefore, extended his appreciation towards Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu, Lagos State Ministry of Justice and its agencies for not only initiating the exercise but also for its bold steps in taking the legal clinic to the nooks and crannies of the State. He also urged Iba residents to take full advantage of the legal services that will be



Justice Ministry officers offering legal counsel to Iba resident

provided by the Ministry of Justice and its agencies to ensure seamless alternative resolutions and easy dispensation of justice for a peaceful co-existence among the people of Iba. In her remark, the Deputy Director, Directorate of Public Prosecutions, Mrs.

Banke Ogunode, expressed immense gratitude to the State Government, Solicitor-General and Permanent Secretary, lawyers, State Counsel and other members of staff for their support in ensuring a speedy dispensation of justice across the State.

Agencies present at the event to offer free legal services include Citizens Mediation Centre, Directorate for Citizens Rights, Administrator General and Public Trustee, Office of the Public Defender, Community Service Unit, Directorate of Public

Prosecution (Plea Bargain and Restorative Justice)

Attendees at the event include Lawyers and Staff of Lagos State Ministry of Justice, Local Government Officials, Police Officers, Market leaders and numerous Iba residents.

International Trade; Lagos To Collaborate With Poland

Lagos State Government has expressed its readiness to collaborate with the Polish Government on ways to enhance the economic activities and development of the state in particular and that of the nation in general.

The State Governor, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu stated this today during a courtesy visit by the Ambassador of the Republic of Poland, Her Excellency, Joanna Tarnawaska at the Round House, Alausa-Ikeja.

Speaking through the Deputy Governor, Dr. Kadri Obafemi Hamzat who received the

Ambassador and her team on behalf of the governor said the State is ready to partner with the Polish government through its Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Cooperative to work with various companies in Poland for the overall development of both Lagos state and Nigeria as a whole.

He assured that the partnership between the two tiers of government and the Polish government will be very good as there is at the federal level, a government that is ready to listen and work on moving the country forward economically and financially and in all sectors of the economy.

Sanwo-Olu said, "We are happy to work with you. Your Head of Trade Office is here in Lagos. We will see what we can do. May be interacting through our Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives, to see how we can partner with various companies in Poland. I was reading that you are producing things that are of similar qualities with Germany but the prices are lower, which makes sense for us to work with you. In this case, we will make sure that we elevate our economic activities and of course Nigeria".

Speaking further, the governor emphasised that Lagos is the centre of all actions in the

country and if the state government and the Polish government can partner, it will help uplift the country as there is no single ethnic group that is not in Lagos. "Lagos is the capital of Nigeria economically and financially, where business is and 48 percent of banks transactions in the country occur in Lagos with bank headquarters therein", said the Governor.

Speaking earlier, the Polish Ambassador to Nigeria, Joanna Tarnawaska said the Republic of Poland has enjoyed a very good diplomatic relationship with the State

Government and hopes to extend the relationship to bilateral trade.

She noted that, with the visit, they look forward to new opportunities and cooperation between Poland and Lagos State, noting that the President of the Country last year signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Polish Government.

"With the Head of the Foreign Trade, Ms. Justyna Sitarska and together we will look for a new opportunity for cooperation between Poland and the Lagos State Government", the Ambassador added.

Lagos Permanent Secretary, Ososanya, Advises MAN On Innovative Finance

By Kunle Awosiyun

Lagos State Government has described innovative finance options as crucial to the State and the nation's goal to achieve sustainable industrial growth and position manufacturers to benefit from the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA).

Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives, Mrs. Adetutu Ososanya, FCA, made the remarks at the 52nd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN), Apapa Branch with the theme: "Financing Nigeria's Manufacturing Sector for Economic Growth", with focus on "Financing Options for Competitiveness of Nigeria Under AfCFTA".

According to Ososanya, indigenous manufacturers can attain and maintain competitiveness under AfCFTA if we foster an environment that facilitates seamless access to financing options tailored to their unique needs.

Her words: "With the advent of AfCFTA, Nigeria stands at the threshold of unprecedented opportunities. AfCFTA is a game-changer, providing us with a broader platform to expand our reach and establish ourselves as a formidable force in the global market. However, to harness the full potential of this historic trade agreement, we must be equipped with robust financing options that will enhance the competitiveness of our manufacturers".

"We must address the crucial issue of financing and equip our manufacturers with the necessary resources to thrive on this larger stage because financing is the lifeblood of any thriving manufacturing industry. It is the innovation, robust production capabilities, and enables businesses to stay ahead in the dynamic global

market", she added.

While assuring MAN that the administration of Mr. Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu shall continue to improve the business environment through the provision and application of factors that are within its means, Ososanya commended the tenacity and sacrifices of members of the Association in the face of the challenging operating environment.

She also commended the leadership for sustaining the organisation of the event which she described as a platform for exploring issues that affect manufacturers and for engaging stakeholders, particularly the government on business-friendly policy issues that would favour the real sector.

National President of MAN, Otunba Francis Meshioye, in commending Lagos State Government for its investment-friendly policies and recognition always given to the Association, called for more support for the manufacturing sector and urged the Branch to sustain its engagement with government in the interest of members.

Meshioye said further in the address read on his behalf by the Vice President, Lagos Zone of MAN, Prince Phillip Oba-Okojie, that MAN will support the Sanwo-Olu administration and continues its contribution to the industrial growth of the State.

The Guest Lecturer and Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer, Bank of Industry (BOI), Mr. Olukayode Pitan, who was represented by Dr. Isa Omabo, stated that accessing finance can be very difficult and advised manufacturers to embrace open innovation, factoring, digitisation, capacity building and co-creating with other businesses to make their business bankable.

State, Dr. Mrs. Claudiana Ibiyoke Sanwo-Olu with winner of Immediate Past Chairman, MAN Apapa Branch, Engr. Frank Onyebu affirmed that the Branch will always



support and collaborate with the State, just as he requested the Government to assist in mitigating the

challenges confronting manufacturers in Lagos State. Awards for commitment, contribution

and support to the growth of the manufacturing sector were presented to Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu and

the Permanent Secretary, Mrs Adetutu Ososanya, FCA.

Lagos DSVVA Holds Seminar on SGBV at Badagry West LCDA

The Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency (DSVA) has extended its Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) advocacy to the Badagry West Local Government Development Area (LCDA) of the State.

Titilola Vivour-Adeniyi, Executive Secretary of DSVVA, in her remarks at the Seminar, emphasised the need for mandated reporting and partnership at all strata of society, reiterating that kicking out the menace of SGBV in the State is a collective responsibility.

The Executive Secretary, represented by the Community Engagement Officer in the Agency, Adetoun Odunmba, told the residents of the community that all forms of abuse, domestic and sexual



Participants at the training

violence are crimes against the State and is punishable by law. She lamented that the reports being received by the Lagos DSVVA of such crimes have been on a steady increase and called for the collaborative efforts of all to nip the menace in the bud.

She urged the residents to break the culture of silence by calling the Toll-Free Line 0800-333-333 to report cases without delay.

The representatives of the Agency, Ms. Adetoun Odunmba and Mr. Tobiloba Ikudaisi later sensitised the residents on SGBV and the free support services available at the DSVVA for them to access regarding issues of SGBV.

Also speaking at the event the Chairman, Badagry West LCDA, Hon. Gbenu Henugbe Joseph appreciated the Lagos State Government for bringing the

sensitization programme to his jurisdiction.

He assured that the people of his constituency would cascade whatever they learn from the programme to other residents of their different communities, noting that the programme was designed to protect and ensure the safety of residents and an enabling environment for peace.

Lagos First Lady Counsels Spelling Bee Winner, AbdulAzeez AbdulRahmon

Winners of the last Spelling Bee Competition where a one-day Governor emerged alongside members of the executive council were hosted by the wife of the Governor of Lagos State, Dr. Mrs. Claudiana Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu on Monday at the Lagos House Ikeja and Marina respectively. The Spelling Bee winners were led to the Office and Residence of the First Lady by the Tutor-General/Permanent Secretary (TG/PS), Education District II, Mrs. Anike Adekanye and the Director-General Office of Education Quality Assurance (OEQA), Mrs. Abiola Seriki-Ayeni. Dr. Sanwo-Olu, who warmly received the Spelling Bee winners, their principals, teachers, friends and family members at Marina, said that the visit to her office and official residence was a way of encouraging and exposing the students to governance and also accord them the privileges of interacting with her directly. She advised the Spelling Bee winners to see the visit as a learning opportunity that should be cherished by them for a long time, just as she also presented gift items to the students. While counselling the winners to aim for greater heights in life, the First Lady told them to truly aspire to become future Governors and influential personalities in the society that can help bring about the much-

needed changes that the country deserves. In her words, "I am very convinced that you will all become great personalities in the nearest future, I urge you to replicate good governance better than what you have experienced and still experiencing here in Lagos. Provide more platforms for those coming behind you the same way this idea of the one-day governor was institutionalised some years back". Also speaking during the visit, the TG/PS of Education District II, Mrs. Adekanye applauded the First Lady for her special interest in the academic excellence of school pupils and for sustaining the vision of the One-Day Governor and even improving on it. According to her, the First Lady was the first wife of the State Governor that initiated educational projects for Lagos schools through the intervention of the Committee of Wives of Lagos State Officials (COWLSO) where some Laboratory equipment and Boreholes were donated to schools across the State. Adekanye, on behalf of the entire family of Basic Education in the State, promised continuous support for the realisation of the vision of the State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu for the education sector from primary and secondary schools. On her part, the Director-General of OEQA, Mrs. Abiola Seriki-Ayeni

described the consistency in the hosting of the one-day governor event over the years as a result of commitment to an ecosystem by successive administrations in the State. She particularly acknowledged the present First Lady of Lagos State, Mrs. Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu, for initiating the idea of celebrating the Spelling Bee winners alongside their family members and friends. The Director-General also noted that the Spelling Bee competition remains the longest-standing and most consistent event of the Ministry of Basic Education in Lagos State that everyone is proud of and that had impacted the lives of students from different States in the country. The Senior Special Assistant to the Governor on Domestic Affairs, Mrs. Motolani Ladipo appreciated the present First Lady of Nigeria, Her Excellency, Senator Mrs. Oluremi Tinubu for the vision of the one-day governor during her tenure as the First Lady of Lagos State. The Governor's Aide expressed the hope that the one-day governor concept would be replicated at the Federal level such that more school pupils across the country can benefit from it. Recall that AbdulAzeez AbdulRahmon of Oriwu Senior Model College won the 2022 edition of the Spelling Bee Competition, thereby earning the honour to become the one-day Governor this year.



Lagos maternity leave Has Improved Breastfeeding Data - Dr. Lajide

The Permanent Secretary of the newly created Lagos State Health District II (superintending over primary health facilities in Shomolu, Kosofe and Ikorodu LGAs), Dr. Dayo Lajide has said that proper and exclusive breastfeeding practice, especially during the first six months of a baby's life can help prevent malnutrition in children. She also said that the six months of maternity leave for mothers, and two weeks of paternity leave has contributed tremendously to the exclusive Breastfeeding data as she encouraged women of child-bearing age, especially pregnant women and nursing mothers, to subscribe to proper breastfeeding practice. Speaking at the flag-off ceremony of the Y2023 World Breastfeeding Week commemoration championed by the First Lady of Lagos State, Dr. (Mrs.) Claudiana Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu at the Ogudu Primary Healthcare Centre in Kosofe LGA and Ita-Elewa PHC in Ikorodu LGA, Lajide noted that the fight against malnutrition in children can only be won through the collective efforts of citizens by ensuring that all children are exclusively breastfed for the first six months of life, followed by adequate complementary feeding with continued Breastfeeding for up to two years of age. She disclosed that about 60 percent of under-five mortalities are largely due to malnutrition, caused by poor breastfeeding practices and inadequate complementary feeding. While noting that breastfeeding still remains the most cost-effective strategy to address malnutrition and improve child health indices, Lajide averred that Breastfeeding prevents hunger and malnutrition in all its forms and ensures food security for babies.



Breastfeeding

"Breast milk is readily available, pure, safe, and in the right mixture and adequate for babies. Breast milk adds no economic burden on households' income because it is freely given by nature. It is important to reiterate that breastfeeding is the key to sustainable development goals", she added. Addressing the theme of the Y 2 0 2 3 W B W commemoration, which is "Enabling Breastfeeding: Making a Difference for Working Parents", the Permanent Secretary explained that the theme explores the importance of the need to protect, promote and provide support for a breastfeeding-friendly environment for all, especially working parents. Lajide, who recounted her Breastfeeding experience as a working parent, urged employers of labour and employees to create and sustain a breastfeeding-friendly environment for working mothers, adding that the benefits and importance of proper and exclusive breastfeeding cannot be overemphasised. "Breastfeeding is the right of every baby, and an enabling environment remains the exclusive right of both the mother and the child", she said. Lajide stated that the Lagos State Government has approved six months of maternity leave for mothers, and two weeks of paternity leave for the first two pregnancies for fathers as part of efforts to support

proper and exclusive breastfeeding practice. While noting that the initiative has contributed tremendously to the exclusive Breastfeeding data, the Permanent Secretary encouraged women of child-bearing age, especially pregnant women and nursing mothers, to subscribe to proper breastfeeding practice. "The survival of our children is our collective responsibility, and so this is a clarion call to action. All hands must be on deck to ensure that our nursing mothers are supported to give the meal nature has provided to our children", Lajide said. She also seized the opportunity of the breastfeeding week flag-off at Ogudu and Ita-Elewa PHCs to tour the facilities of the health centres, noting and proffering on-the-spot solutions to challenges. She also engaged management and staff of the health facilities, intimating them of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's Lagos Government Free Health directive for PHCs to offer free ante-natal services and delivery as part of the Lagos State Government palliative rollout to cushion the effect of the fuel subsidy removal. Lajide also paid a courtesy visit to the Chairman of Ikorodu LGA, extending hands of partnership and collaboration between the Local Government and the newly established Health District II.



HEROES & HEROINES OF LAGOS

Dr. Oguntola Sapara

Early life and education

Oguntola Sapara was born in Freetown, Sierra Leone, on 9 June 1861 and named Alexander Johnson Williams. His father was a liberated slave from Ilesa in Western Nigeria, and his mother was from Egbaland. While in London, Sapara put himself at the disposal of Ida B. Wells during her second anti-lynching campaign in the UK (1894), and joined with her at the home of Mrs P. W. Clayden (wife to editor of The Daily News) to mail out copies of English press coverage of Ida's tour to the US President, statesmen, churchmen and newspaper men of the US.

Moving to Scotland, in 1895 Sapara obtained the LRCP and LRCS of the University of Edinburgh, the LFPS of the University of Glasgow and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Institute of Public Health.

Medical career

Sapara returned to the Lagos colony. In January 1896 he was appointed an Assistant Colonial Surgeon. He served continuously in different stations for the next 32 years. He made many contributions to improving public health. He fought for slum clearance, organised a society for scientifically training midwives, organised the first public dispensary in 1901, and identified causes of an epidemic of tuberculosis in 1918, which included overcrowding, poor ventilation and public ignorance about hygiene.

He was Chairman of the Health Week Committee, leading the successful fight against bubonic plague, which struck Lagos in

1924.

In Nigeria at that time, numerous secret societies, such as the "Sopona" cult of the Yoruba people, had power. Sometimes they tried to blackmail people, threatening that if an individual did not pay money, the society would make him become ill and die.

When a victim refused, a member would infect him with smallpox through applying scrapings of the skin rash of smallpox cases. To keep their powers, the societies resisted public health efforts for vaccination. Sapara joined the cult incognito, at considerable personal risk. When he had learned the secret of their power, he helped the government prepare legislation to ban the societies.

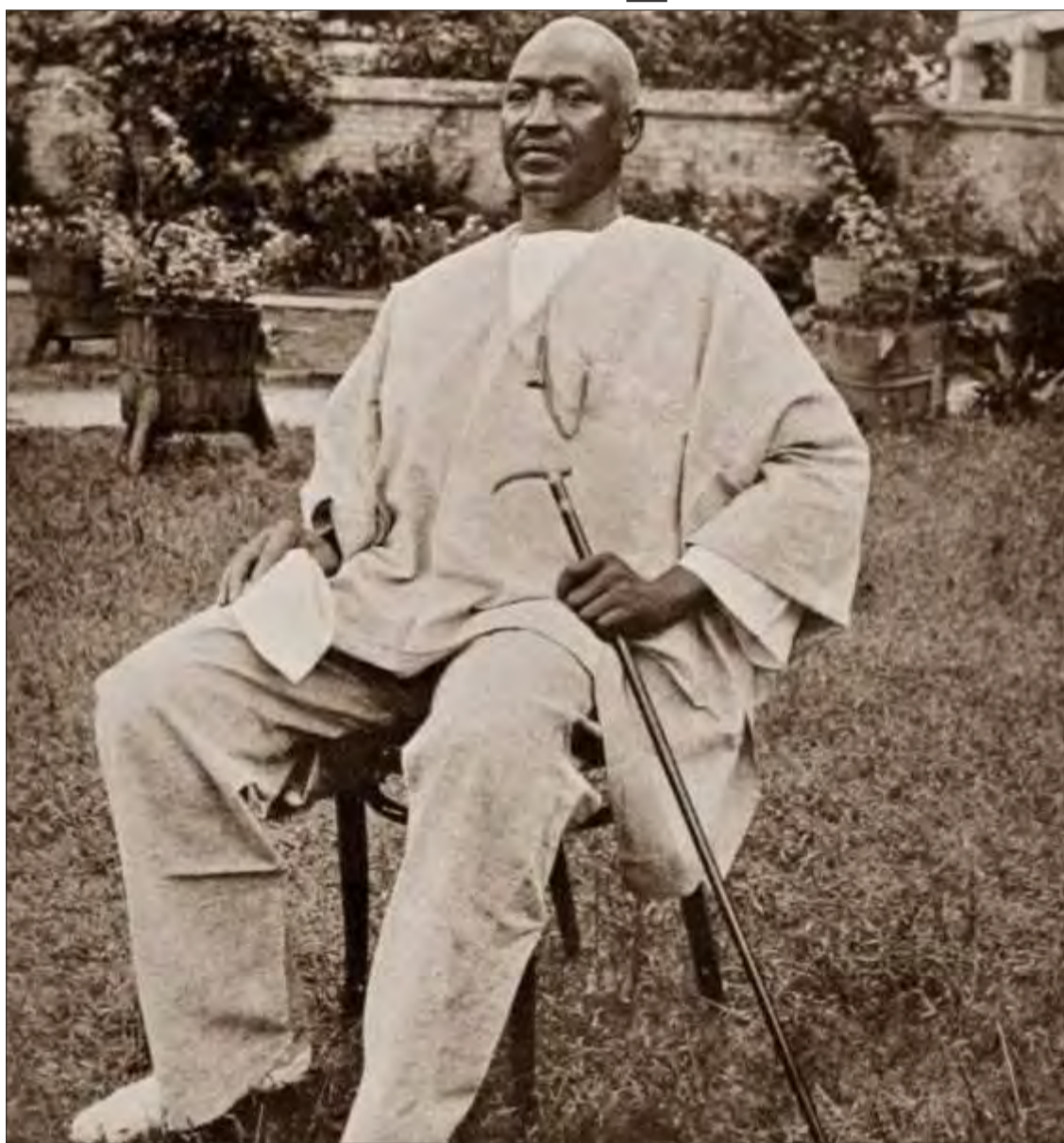
In the later part of his career, Sapara ran the Massey Street dispensary, serving most of Lagos. He persuaded the government to convert the dispensary into the Massey Street Hospital, opened by Governor Graeme Thomson in 1926.

Sapara took a special interest in traditional herbal medicines, and spent much time in scientific investigation of their effects. His efforts against some of the cults notwithstanding, he was a keen student of traditional Yoruba culture. He defended it at just about every opportunity.

Sapara retired in 1928. He died in Lagos in June 1935. The famous Jùjú musician Tunde King played at his wake.

Discrimination and politics

As an African, Sapara faced some discrimination. In a



report to the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines' Protection Society, Sapara noted that European medical officers were uncomfortable when ranked below African doctors, and in a 1901 conference some had described this as an "indignity".[8] African medical officers were also paid less than their European colleagues.[9] When W. H. Langley, principal medical officer in Nigeria, was asked about expanding the scope of work for African doctors, he responded by attacking their professionalism; in Sapara's case, he brought up the fact that Sapara had allowed clerks to take longer sick leaves than was allowed by government

policy.

While visiting London in 1912, Sapara gave financial assistance to the struggling Pan-Africanist African Times and Orient Review published by Duse Mohamed Ali

Sapara was on the list of invitees from West Africa to the 4th Pan-African Congress, held in New York in 1924, although he may not have attended.

Recognition and legacy

Sapara received numerous accolades for his great contributions over a 32-year period of service, the longest of any Nigerian colonial surgeon of his time.

King George V of the United Kingdom awarded Sapara the Imperial Service Order with special reference to his

smallpox activities in June 1923.

Early in 1924, the Owa of Ijeshaland decorated Sapara with the insignia of Bashemi, a chieftaincy title, in recognition of his contributions to medicine.

The road behind the hospital was named Sapara Avenue in his memory.

James Churchill Vaughan attempted with little success to organise the fragmentary records of Sapara's work on traditional medicines. He patented some of his discoveries in herbal medicines, which are still marketed today.

A portrait of the Oloye Sapara by Aina Onabolu hangs in the National Gallery of Modern Art in Lagos.

NASFAT Trains Youths On Entrepreneurial Skills, Urges Parents To Support Beneficiaries

By Edith Igbokwe

An Islamic Organisation, NASFAT, has urged the parents of the beneficiaries of its just concluded skill acquisition training programme to support them with funds to start on their own, asking them to pick up from where the organisation stopped.

The Chairman of the branch, Mahruf Babalola advised parents to make sure the knowledge and skills acquired by their children through the training are not wasted.

The organisation, during the two-week programme, trained the participants in makeup and gele tying, turban making, and catering.

The programme was powered by the Ejigbo NASFAT committee, through the secretary, Alhaja Kudirat Olaopoola with more than 80 participants.

Babalola urged the parents of the beneficiaries to further equip them to get grounded in the skills learned.

He noted that the number of students received exceeded

their budget, but the committee was happy about the response.

Alhaja Olaopoola who doubles as President of Ewutuntun Rotary Club believed that the best gift ever is the one given to humanitarian service.

She advised all beneficiaries to explore various areas of their skills acquired for advancement.

One of the beneficiaries of the training, Uthman Alao, who majored in Makeup and Gele tying, confirmed that he gained a lot from the two weeks of training.



Babalola charges parents to support wards in skill acquisition

He explained that his love for drawing and aesthetics drew him to the makeup skill department.

He stated that his challenges are cutting off eyebrows and some mistakes in tying of gele which he believed would be perfected with constant practice.

A mother of some of the beneficiaries, TPL,

Mrs. Temitope Fadare, who has two female children in the catering and handcraft department, said the training has transformed them greatly.

Fadare explained that her daughters woke up every morning to approach the day with a beam of joy to attend the training classes.

"The training has helped my children with more knowledge and willingness to practice at home the assignments given to them at the training centre, and this really kept them busy."

The Public Relations Secretary (PRS) of Ejigbo NASFAT, Olumegbon Ganiyu advised the beneficiaries to find avenues of maximising the skills acquired.

Adegoke Wins Isolo NULGE Chairmanship

By Edith Igbokwe



Isolo NULGE executives inauguration

Come. Ayinuola Adegoke has taken the National Union of Local Government Employees (NULGE) Chairmanship mantle position from Alamu Ogboriefon in Isolo Local Council Development Area (LCDA) after the recently concluded election.

Adegoke assured that the union under his leadership will not only strive to protect and project the interest of its teeming members but

also promote the relationship between the council staff and the council management.

After taking the oath of office the new executive members were presented a certificate of office as they were inaugurated to commence administration of the union.

The state president of the union, Comr. Ogunfowora Sewanu urged the new 17-Man executive committee to

ensure that its acts and activities are geared towards fostering the goals of the union.

He notified the newly elected members to always remember that they are the face of the union everywhere they go.

He applauded the outgoing NULGE chairman, Alamu Ogboriefon-led executives for sustaining the credibility and sanctity of the union hitherto.

Isolo LCDA Chairman, Hon. Adevayo Olosoju gave a reward of N500,000 to the immediate past chairman of the union for his selfless service and a hitch-free transition process.

He congratulated the Council Treasurer, Alhaja Sherifat Omotara on her appointment as NULGE State ambassador.

He urged the new chairman to lead by example and be deliberate about promoting work ethic, morality, and discipline.

He charged the body to come up with plans that will complement his welfare package for the staff.

The council boss reassured the union of his unwavering commitment to staff welfare as he promised to continually reward excellence.

Kendoo Plans Palliative Disbursement For Oshodi Residents

By Edith Igbokwe

The Chairman of Oshodi-isolo Local Government, Otunba Kehinde Oloyede (Kendoo) has commenced a plan to disburse palliative to cushion the adverse effect of subsidy removal on the residents of the local government area.

The plan was made known by the chairman via a press release through his media office.

The council chairman said he empathized with the residents on the current economic situation, assuring them that plans are in top gear towards intervention for them, urging them to have faith in the government.

He noted that the current hardship is only a pathway to a prosperous Nigeria.



Kendoo

He said: "I want to associate with our people and empathize with them on the current economic situation we are all facing. The current pains are a pathway to a prosperous Nigeria and the Federal, State, and Local Governments are working towards bringing an end to it as soon as possible.

"As a responsive

government, efforts are on top gear towards a palliative intervention that will go across within our local government area.

"We are currently perfecting our plans and in the coming weeks, we will unveil the programme and the modalities. I want to implore our people to remain calm, this phase will surely pass and our dear country will be better."

Abila reaffirms Commitment To Staff welfare

By Edith Igbokwe



Iba LCDA staff Check-up

The Chairman of Iba Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Yisa Jubril (Abila) has reaffirmed and assured the staff members of his commitment towards their welfare. He reassured them of his government's commitment to their well-being, saying it would make them discharge their duties efficiently. Abila said this while making a round check-up on offices in the secretariat alongside the council Manager, Mr. Olufemi Babalola, and other principal officers. The council boss, who identified the challenges faced by the workers in the course of discharging their duties in the current situation of the country, said he would make sure they get the best from his government to enhance their productivity for the development of the local council. He said he would continually check on the offices to know their challenges from time to time and proffer solutions to them.

Iba Council Boss, Jubril Cautions Residents On Civil Matters

By Edith Igbokwe

The Chairman of Iba Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Yisa Jubril (Abila) has urged members of the community to take the right approach in dealing with cases involving civil matters such as misunderstandings and disagreements, telling them to allow the justice system to mediate on matters between parties, individuals and business matters at no cost.

Last week, the Lagos State Ministry of Justice, and Citizen's Mediation Centre as they held a free Legal Clinic, Sensitisation & Awareness programme for residents of Iba LCDA to intimate them the free legal issues and free public services were made available to people



The sensitisation and awareness centered on how citizens could access justice in civil matters, the right channels and units to consult when involved in a civil case especially domestic and sexual abuse, civil disputes, and disagreements. They offer free consultation by units

such as the Citizens' Mediation Centre, Domestic and Sexual Violence Unit, Public Advice Centre, and Restorative Justice Setter. Others include Administrator General and Public Trustee, Victim-Offender Mediation, Pleas & Sentence bargain, and Office of Public Defender.

Iba LCDA Security Post Marked For Renovation

By Edith Igbokwe



The demolished Iba LCDA security post

After being abandoned for a long time, the old security post of Iba Local Council Development Area (LCDA) has been marked for renovation as the site has been demolished to be reconstructed.

The site is prepared for a new construction process to give the LCDA security officials a befitting post.

The Council Chairman, Hon. Yisa Jubril said the process was to fulfil his promise made to renovate the council secretariat security post.

He disclosed that there are more projects to be unveiled soon in the council area.

NEWS

By Rasaan Adebayo

Entrepreneurship advocacy organisation, Reli Group has commenced the second edition of its entrepreneurship skill acquisition programme for the youths in Lagos State.

No fewer than 500 youths are being targeted to be trained in Information Technology, Digital Marketing, and others to become entrepreneurs in their chosen careers.

Sponsored by Grooming Centre, a financial institution in Ejigbo Lagos, the 8-week programme, which commenced on Saturday, August 12, 2023, will be on till

October, 2023.

According to the organiser of the programme, the participants will be trained in different aspects of entrepreneurship including Information Technology, Digital Marketing, Hair Styling, Bead Making, Shoe Making, and others.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the programme yesterday, the CEO of Reli Entrepreneurship Advocacy, Mr. Emmanuel Anyagwa, said the programme is targeted at reducing unemployment among the youths in the country.

He said about 500 participants are to be trained in the aspects they have the capacity to master and that will be of use for them to develop small-scale businesses.

"We are interested in promoting entrepreneurship in Nigeria. We want to create jobs for the youths, we want to reduce unemployment, we want to reduce poverty and the best way we can do this is to train the youths in various skills so that they can have the foundational knowledge of business acumen. We target students and every other person so that they don't depend on the government to look for unavailable jobs after their graduation."

"After the training, the participants will be taught business management so that they know how to set up a small business and how to manage their businesses. We also have partnered with some financial institutions where our trainees can get loans to start their businesses

after they might have acquired the relevant skill and that is why we are also training them in the aspect of business management."

"The programme is designed so that the beneficiaries will be able to learn during the period with practicals."

Anyagwa, therefore, appealed to the government and other individuals to support such initiatives to eradicate unemployment in the country.

Also speaking, the CEO of Grooming Centre, Dr. Godwin Nwabunka said there are various loan schemes that the would-be entrepreneurs can tap from his company to start and or develop their businesses.

Nwabunka, who was represented by the Head of Business Sustainability, Louis Orioha, urged the participant to excel in whatever they learn in order to provide distinct products and or services for the Nigerian market.

He said though the economy is tough, Nigeria has a wider market for any local product or service if they are unique.

"Make sure you create a unique product or service, there is a huge market for whatever you produce and the financial institutions are ready to support those SMEs that are unique with reasonable loans," he said.

Rev. Fr. Moses Ojubo of SS Peter and Paul Catholics Church, Ejigbo, where the training is taking place, said the church is

partnering with the organizer to make sure the youths in the community benefit from the programme.

He said the church will also monitor the participants after the training and provide whatever it can to make sure the trainees make use of the skills acquired to their advantage.

He, therefore, urged them to learn with all their hearts and make sure they master every aspect of the training, telling them to see the programme as a golden opportunity that must not be compromised.

"We shouldn't sit down and expect the opportunity to come, we have to go for it. I sincerely want to thank the Reli Group for this opportunity for the Paris community to benefit from the programme."



LASUSTECH PRO, Kuye Bags NAPS Award

By Rasag Adebayo



LASUSTECH PRO, Lanre Kuye receiving the Award of Honour from NANS representatives

In recognition of his support towards the development of students in Lagos State and the entire South West, the National

Association of Polytechnic Students (NAPS), South West Zone has given the Director of Information and Public Relations of

the Lagos State University of Science and Technology (LASUSTECH), Mr. Olanrewaju Kuye an Award of Honour. While presenting the

award to him in his office on Tuesday, the Vice President, NAPS South West Zone, Comr. Lawrence Iwalokun said the

university information manager deserved the award considering his role in the students' affairs and his fatherly support and advice. "Apart from being our patron, Mr. Kuye has been a father to us in the association, guiding us in all our steps and giving us advice whenever need be. He played a great role during our just concluded NAPS EDU SOCIAL SUMMIT theme 'Identifying Opportunities in the New Dispensation'. His support and dedication toward the success of the programme could not be quantified. We have come to honour him with this award to

show our appreciation as we expect more from him," Iwalokun said. Responding while accepting the award, Kuye appreciated the association for the award as he advised the executive members of the association in the South West region to be more proactive at this challenging time of the nation. He said the leadership post is not for the weak, encouraging them to be ready to serve and face any situation coming their way as leaders. "But don't forget the reason and purpose for your being in school, you have to be successful in your academics as well," he added.

Lagos CP Assures NANS Of Students' Security

By Rasag Adebayo

The Lagos State Commissioner of Police, CP Idowu Olohunwa has assured the students in the State of their security and optimum safety. The Police boss pledged during a courtesy visit by the newly elected chairman of the National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS), Lagos State chapter, Comr. Alimi Olamilekan Idris. Idris had visited the CP in his office at the

Police Command HQ Ikeja on Monday 7th of August, 2023 to familiarize himself with the police boss and seek his support in the security of the students across the state. While appreciating the police for their effort concerning student safety in the state, Idris requested enhanced safety of the students across the state, urging the CP for a robust partnership with student leadership. Responding, the police boss, while

congratulating the newly elected NANS executive members, promised to implement their request regarding student security and also provide a smooth communication line between the state police force and the students. "Creating a conducive environment for student's growth, development, and well-being to ensure a peaceful environment for them is a joint action and the students will have to be involved in the action," he said.



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Bamigboye Charges NOA To Intensify Public Awareness

By Saheed Afolabi



The NOA Mr Oluyemo Olatunde presenting the NOA publication to the chairman of Mushin LG, Hon Emmanuel Bamigboye

The Chairman of Mushin Local Government, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye has charged the National Orientation Agency (NOA) to intensify its effort on public awareness of its activities.

He appealed while hosting the Acting State Director of NOA, Dr. Mustafa Adedeji Tukor, and members of his management team in his office.

The State Director had visited the council chairman to seek further partnership as he appreciated the accommodation he has extended to the agency in Mushin Local Government.

He informed the council boss of their ongoing orientation campaign on the fuel subsidy removal and the advantage of the policy to Nigeria as a country.

In his response, the chairman expressed appreciation to the agency for the role played during the electioneering period in which the agency

carried out orientation and voter education on election violence and its implication during and after the election. He encouraged the agency to intensify its campaign for public enlightenment about government policies targeted at providing solutions to problems affecting the nation's economy.

He advised that people should be patient enough to assess and understand the direction of President Bola Tinubu's administration. He commended the President's plan to put an end to the excessive borrowing which has put the country into serious debt.

Bamigboye commended the agency's representative in Mushin, Asst. Director of Orientation and Mobilisation, Mrs. Oyebisi Andu, for her commitment and dedication to service.

While giving his vote of thanks, the Council Manager, Comr. Sogo Osikoya assured the representatives from

NOA of support from the Mushin Local council chairman, and Government in any of the management of their programmes.

The meeting also had in attendance, the Vice Chairman, Hon.

Tunbosun Aruwe; Council Leader, Hon. Olamide Williams; SLG, Mrs. Olubunmi Gbadamosi; Council Treasurer, Mrs. Olaide Badmus, and Supervisor for Special Duties, Mr. Hafisu Talabi. The State Director of the National Orientation Agency was accompanied by Mr. Oluyemo Olatunde (Asst. Dir - Planning, Research, and Statistics), Mrs. Oyeyemi Ogunnaike (Deputy Dir - Special Duties and Local Government Operation), and Mr. Sunday Aimiwu (Executive Officer - Programmes).

The publication of the agency was later presented to the council chairman by the Lagos State Director of National Orientation Agency.

Bamigboye Organises 3-Week Skill Acquisition Programme For Youths

By Saheed Afolabi

The 3-week skill acquisition programme organised by the Chairman of Mushin LG, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye, for the empowerment of the youths and women in the council area, has commenced.

The beneficiaries are being trained in five different courses including Catering (Snacks, Small Chops, and Cakes), Make-Up & Gele, and Home Essentials (Insecticide, liquid Soap, Izal, and Soap). Hairdressing & Weave On Making) Decoration/Event Planning.

According to the organiser, the

programme is targeted at providing alternative sources of income for the youths and women in the Mushin community.

The programme which commenced on Monday, August 7, has been scheduled to end on Sunday, August 27, 2023. It captures 200 participants who are expected to complete the training and use the skills acquired to their advantage especially to ease the current economic situation.

Commenting, the participants who spoke to ECHONEWS confirmed that they have gained a lot from the training in the first week of the programme, noting that the facilitators are



Hon. Bamigboye

resourceful. The training, held at the New Primary School centre, is supervised by the Supervisor for Women Affairs, Mrs. Funmilayo Abosede, and the Head of the

Department of Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, Mrs. Morenike Poroku.

They said they would make sure the participants are well guided to monitor every aspect of the training.

Igbogbo-Baiyeku LCDA To Sponsor 100 Students For GCE Exam

By Nurudeen Adebayo

As part of his educational initiative, the Chairman of Igbogbo/Baiyeku LCDA, Hon. Susan Daini has made provision for the allocation of 100 free GCE forms for students in the local council area. The council boss encouraged all the beneficiaries to be at

their best and emulate Miss Romoke Ogunlaja, an indigene of Igbogbo who graduated with first class this year at the Lagos State University. His words: "Educational growth in our council area is a priority for our administration, which is why we are



Screening exercise



dedicated to sponsoring indigent students within our area to benefit from our educational programmes. I want to enjoin all the beneficiaries to do well during the GCE examination and make us as well as their parents proud." Daini declared that the Managing Director of Darz Global Resources in the United States of America will sponsor the student with the best result and second-best

result on a scholarship to any public university of their choice respectively. In addition, the chairman said: "In the course to make our beneficiaries do well in their examination, the council will engage them in a qualitative one-month tutorial to help them prepare very well before the examination in October. The students expressed their gratitude to the chairman for the free GCE sponsorship.

Ikorodu Lions Club, Unique Nelly Academy Collaborate To Empower Youths

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Training exercise

In a collaboration scheme, Ikorodu Lions Club and Unique Nelly Academy have organised training to empower 50 youths in the Ikorodu area. The programme, organised to

commemorate International Youth Day, is aimed at upgrading the skills of young individuals in the community in artisanal professions especially Make-up

and tying of gele. The organisers said certificates of participation and other supportive incentives will be presented to participants on the final day of graduation.

Council Chairman Gifts LASU First Class Graduate, Rufai N1m

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Miss Azzizat Rufai, who emerged as one of the first-class graduates from the Lagos State University (LASU), was presented with a cash reward of N1 million by the council chairman Hon. Motunrayo Gbadebo. The presentation was made at the chairman's office in the Ijede LCDA secretariat. With a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 4.74, Rufai is evaluated as the overall best student in Ikorodu Division that graduated from the institution. The chairman said Miss Rufai's



Azeezat Rufai holding the Cheque

performance is a feat worth emulating, urging other students in Ijede LCDA to see her kind gesture as a form of motivation. She continued: "Azzizat's success should be recognized as a yardstick, and funding her is a statement to other learners, substantiating our agenda to benefit them

if they make this region proud academically. "Consider this support as a heartwarming gesture, and we wish Miss Azzizat more educational attainment ahead. "We pray she continues to be a basis of light and inspiration to other students, and we hope that she'll proceed to be a source of pride to Ijede LCDA." Conveying her delight,

Agura Primary Health Centre'll be Completed in 30 days - Ikorodu Chairman

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Chairman of Ikorodu Local Government, Hon. Wasiu Adesina has disclosed that the historical Agura Primary Health Centre will be refurbished in 30 days. With plans to provide comprehensive healthcare for the residents in the area, Adesina made the statement during his inspection of the dilapidated healthcare centre.

According to the council boss, the primary health centre, which is over 30 years old is much due for an extensive upgrade to cater to the well-being of dwellers in the neighbourhood. He stated: "When we're done with this rehabilitation, the council will hand over the PHC to the Ward Health Committee (WHC) because they are responsible for managing the facilities. "Coming here today can be seen as the official flag-off of the

restoration of this health centre. Not only we're taking off to renovate it, but we're also procuring water and enhancing their soakaway system. "It should also be noted that we're going to build a laboratory centre in Agura, to ensure that lives are protected within this axis on a medical level," he stated. The chairman also used the medium to appreciate the Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, for keeping his promise in the ongoing construction of roads leading to the Gberigbe-Agura axis.



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4x2 inches	10,000	4x2 inches	9,600
5x2 inches	12,000	5x2 inches	5,600
6x2/ 4x2 inches	15,000	6x2/ 4x2 inches	12,000
6x3 inches	22,000	6x3 inches	17,000
6.5x3 inches	24,000	6.5x3 inches	19,000
7x2 inches	17,000	7x2 inches	13,600
7x3 inches	28,000	7x3 inches	22,400
7x4 inches	34,000	7x4 inches	27,200
8x2 inches	20,000	8x2 inches	16,000
8x3 inches	30,000	8x3 inches	24,000
8x4 inches	39,000	8x4 inches	31,200
8x5 inches	49,000	8x5 inches	39,200
9x2 inches	22,000	9x2 inches	17,600
9x3 inches	33,000	9x3 inches	26,400
9x4 inches	44,000	9x4 inches	35,200
9x5 inches	66,000	9x5 inches	52,800
9x6 inches	80,000	9x6 inches	64,000
10x3 inches	37,000	10x3 inches	29,600
10x4 inches	49,000	10x4 inches	39,200
10x5 inches	77,000	10x5 inches	61,600
10x6 inches	92,000	10x6 inches	73,600
11x5 inches	85,000	11x5 inches	68,000
11x6 inches	97,000	11x6 inches	77,600
14.5x3 inches	53,000	14.5x3 inches	42,400
14.5x4 inches	86,000	14.5x4 inches	68,800
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Over 800 Candidates Apply For LASCOHET Admission

Over 800 applicants that applied for admission into Diploma and Certificate courses with Lagos State College of Health Technology (LASCOHET) took part in the entrance examination organised by the College at Yaba, Lagos.

The Acting Provost of the College, Mrs. Oyeronke Uthman-Izobo, said that the exercise was the next stage after the completion of the sale of forms for admission, which lasted over three months between April and July 2023. She said only applicants that meet the set requirements for

admission would be admitted into the College, stressing that LASCOHET will not compromise its educational standard of several decades.

According to her, the large number of applicants for admission into the College shows that LASCOHET has over the years consistently produced competent health workers that are positively contributing to quality health delivery in Lagos State.

She stated that the entrance examination cover English, Mathematics, Biology, Physics, Chemistry, General Knowledge and Current Affairs for



prospective students in Environmental Health, Community Health, Complementary Health Sciences, Medical Laboratory, Health

Information Management, Morbid Sciences, Pharmacy Technician and Biomedical Technology. While wishing the

applicants success in the entrance examination, Mrs. Uthman-Izobo told the prospective students to have confidence in the

College to conduct a transparent admission process that will be fair to all applicants based on their competencies and academic performances.

No Room For Mediocrity Among Procurement Officers- LASG

The Director-General, Lagos State Public Procurement Agency, Mr. Fatai Idowu Onafowote, has pointed out that the Agency has no room for complacency and mediocrity among Procurement Officers in the Public Service of the State.

Mr. Onafowote made this known while speaking at the opening ceremony of a three-day technical capacity-building programme organised by the Agency in collaboration with Danik Ventures for Procurement Officers in the Lagos State Public Service, held at the Green Legacy Resort, Abeokuta, Ogun State. The Director-General stated that the programme was organised to bridge the

observed knowledge gaps, particularly in areas dealing with the principles and technicalities of public procurement in which professionals are supposed to be versed, knowledgeable and up-to-date to boost their capacity for efficient service delivery.

He added that the State Government and members of the public, particularly stakeholders in public procurement, expect so much from procurement professionals in the Public Service of the State, adding that this is the reason why the State Government has continued to invest heavily in the training and retraining of Procurement Officers

in the State and also providing them with the equipment they require for the discharge of their duties.

Mr. Onafowote explained that the objectives envisaged by the State Government in its Year 2023 Budget, tagged; "Budget of Continuity", would be better achieved when Procurement Officers in the various MDAs of the State demonstrate capacity and competence in the discharge of their professional duties.

He, therefore, enjoined Procurement Officers in the State to brace up and rededicate themselves to duty and provide the required support to the State Government to facilitate more effective and efficient service delivery to residents of the State.



Procurement officers at a training

The Director-General expressed appreciation to the State Governor, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu, for his unrelenting support of the Agency. He pledged the renewed commitment of the Agency and Procurement Officers in the State towards the successful implementation of the

annual budgets of the State.

Some of the participants who spoke at the end of the programme, expressed appreciation to the State Government and the Agency for the opportunity given to them to participate in the programme, noting that the training they received would serve as an impetus for them to

be more resourceful, more productive and more professional in the performance of their duties as Procurement Officers in the State.

Participants at the three-day capacity building programme were drawn from Ministries, Departments and Agencies of the State as well as from the Unified Local Government Service of the State.



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Community Policing: Lagos Neighbourhood Set For Exchange Programme With Gambia

The Lagos State Neighbourhood Safety Agency (LNSA) is set for an International Exchange programme on Community Policing with the Gambia. Prince (Dr.) Ifalade Oyekan, FISN, the General Manager of LNSA disclosed after he met with a delegation from Gambia led by a Security Consultant and son of the former President of the country, Mr. Omar Jawara at the Headquarters of the Agency at Bolade Oshodi. Welcoming the delegation to the Agency, Oyekan said that the visit is a sign that Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu is doing something unique and

commendable in Lagos State. He said, "This is why our brothers across borders are here to exchange ideas with us. I can assure you that Mr. Governor will graciously do anything to make Lagos the cynosure of all eyes by providing a safe environment for residents and a conducive atmosphere for business and leisure". The General Manager said the exchange programme will benefit the two entities as they share experiences, while assuring Lagosians of the Governor's commitment to a safer and more secure Lagos State.

In his remark, Mr. Jawara expressed delight in the Agency's pioneer work in Community Policing in Africa, just as he commended the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu's effort at making Lagos safer and more secured. He said, Gambia as a West African country, has a lot in common with Nigeria and is interested in establishing a symbiotic relationships with the State to tap into the affinity to make the country more prosperous. "Nigeria and Gambia will be the better for it if we collaborate," he said.



(Prince (Dr.) Ifalade Oyekan, FISN, the General Manager of LNSA with Mr. Omar Jawara)

Lagos Govt Completes Modern Floating Jetty at CMS-Marina

The Lagos State Government (LASG) has completed the construction of a modern floating jetty at CMS-Marina to enhance safe and comfortable commuting for residents and visitors. It is also designed to serve as a strategic connection point to the recently commissioned CMS-Marina Blue Line Rail System. According to the Managing Director of LAGFERRY, Hon. Abdoulbaq Ladi Balogun, the project is in tandem with the T.H.E.M.E.S PLUS Agenda of the Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's administration well as the State Government's commitment to improving facilities for a safe water transportation system aimed at the provision of reliable alternative mode of transportation and improved

productivity of the residents. "The new floating jetty will enable our boats to anchor easily, provide easier access to different parts of the city, boost economic activities along the Lagos waterways and make passenger disembarkment more comfortable and safer", he stated. While assuring that the present administration is fully committed to achieving the multimodal transport system of connectivity between the road, rail and water, Balogun informed that the Floating Pontoon Jetty is made from strong, durable materials and safe choice for all weather conditions and can ride out a storm without resistance from the water and will not cause damage to boats due to the changing



tides, being too high or too low. The floating jetty constructed for the Lagos Ferry Services (LAGFERRY) and other Boat Operators, is built to international standards with all safety features such as a fire extinguisher compartment, safety lifebuoys, an inbuilt fender on the side of the

fingers, gangway for disembarkation and boarding. The CMS-MARINA corridor, apart from being one of two major points with a seamless connection between Bus Rapid Transport (BRT), the Blue Line Rail Transport and Water Transport, is the waterways hub with huge ridership in

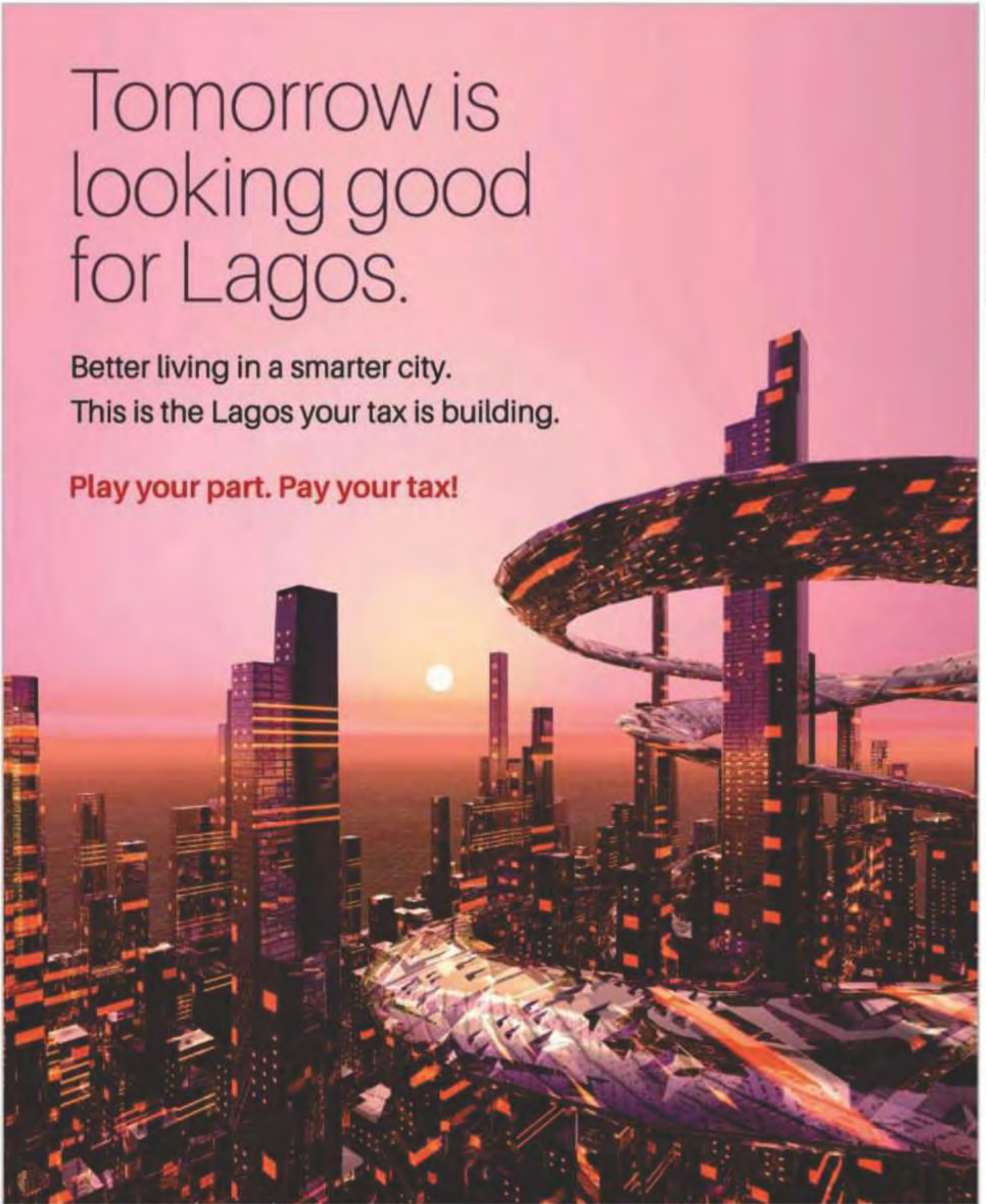
thousands on a daily basis; linking several coastal areas such as Badore-Ajah in Eti Osa Local Government; Ipakodo, Ibeshe, Ijede in Ikorodu Local Government; Ilaje Bariga Waterfront in Somolu / Bariga Local government; Liverpool, Ajegunle and TinCan Island in Apapa / Ajeromi Ifelodun Local

Government; Mile 2, Sabonkoji, Ilashe, Ibeshe, Ikare, Ijegun Egba in Amuwo-Odofin / Oriade Local Government; Ebute Ojo, Ijanikin / Oto-Awori / Agbara in Ojo Local Government and Apa, Topo, Iworo-Ajido and Ebute Miller Marina in Badagry Local Government, among others.

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Lagos Govt Extends “Use the Toilet Campaign” To Surulere LGA

The Lagos State Government on Tuesday charged residents to become ambassadors of positive change to the environment towards making the Year 2025 Open Defecation free target realisable.

Speaking at the “Use the Toilet” campaign in Surulere, the Permanent Secretary, Office of Environmental Services, Mr. Omobolaji Tajudeen Gaji noted that the journey to a clean Nigeria starts with each resident making a personal commitment to embracing change.

The Permanent Secretary, who spoke through a Director in the Sanitation Department of the Ministry, Mrs. Omoyeni Balogun said that the 2025 target can be achieved by promoting the construction and use of



toilets in homes and public places in Nigeria as a whole.

He said the lack of proper sanitation and the practice of open defecation has been a significant challenge in the country and it is time for all to address the issue head-on.

He said it is disheartening to know that some citizens lack access to basic

sanitation services and this has led to severe consequences for public health, the environment, and the overall socio-economic development of the State.

Gaji explained that access to proper sanitation facilities is a fundamental human right and a crucial aspect of any developed society, stressing that

the government would ensure that every individual has access to clean and safe sanitation facilities.

He said the State is determined to improve public health, reduce the spread of diseases, protect the water sources and enhance the overall quality of life for all Nigerians.

“This is not just a campaign but a

movement that seeks to transform Lagos and Nigeria for the better. We must all play our part as policymakers, civil society, corporate entities or ordinary citizens to make this campaign a success. Together, let us usher in a new era of cleanliness and improved sanitation in Surulere Local Government Area and its environs”, he said.

The Permanent Secretary added that the campaign starts with raising awareness about the importance of using toilets and proper sanitation practices in communities; governments at all levels prioritising and investing in sanitation infrastructure and all businesses joining hands with the government to support

the noble cause.

In his welcome address, the Chairman Surulere Local Government Area, Hon. Suleiman Bamidele lauded the giant strides of the State Government in the Sanitation and Hygiene Sector of the State.

He said the act of Open Defecation must be eradicated because of its significant health challenges such as diarrhoea and cholera amongst others that could result in eventual death.

Hon Bamidele implored members of his community to collaborate with the State Government and be Ambassadors against open defecation and ensure that they cascade the message to everyone in the Local Government and Local Council Development Areas.

Lagos' Training For Young Entrepreneurs Excites National Youth Council

The Chairman, National Youth Council of Nigeria (Lagos State Chapter), Comrade Biliaminu Oba has commended the Lagos State Ministry of Youth and Social Development for organising training for selected young entrepreneurs across the state.

He described the initiative as historic with the responsibility of helping the youth maximise their potentials. He urged the youth to be advocates of the message of peace and see Nigeria as their fatherland.

Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Youth and Social Development, Pharm (Mrs.) Toyin Oke-Osanyintolu declared open an Entrepreneurship Training programme tagged “Business

Amplifier Clinic”, a three-day training for selected young entrepreneurs as part of the activities to mark Y2023 International Youth Day.

Oke-Osanyintolu said, “The Ministry of Youth and Social Development has organised this Young Entrepreneurs Training to build young people's business skills and capacity. This will encourage young entrepreneurial startups, mentorship and acquisition of skills that will help participants adjust their products, services and processes to support climate change and the related environmental requirement”.

She added: “The THEMES Plus Agenda of the present administration is aimed

at ensuring that no one is left behind. Therefore, the Government has invested greatly in the enhancement of soft skills/vocational training programmes as a strong tool in solving the escalating problem of youth unemployment in the State. This training will help to promote the spirit of entrepreneurship and make the youth self-reliant thereby generating employment, reducing poverty, crime, and youth restiveness”.

In his remark, Lagos Central Representative, National Youth Parliament, Abdulmumun Edidi charged the youths not to give up but to strive to become job creators by taking advantage of the numerous opportunities made available for the youth by the Lagos State



Employment Trust Fund Similarly, Managing Partner, PELSE Consulting, Boboye Adeniji Oluwafemi, shedding light on the essence of the Business Amplifier Clinic said that it was to help participants acquire the fundamental knowledge required to take their

businesses to the next level by adding more value to society.

The three-day business training programme is expected to expose participants to the basic knowledge of business forecasting, product branding and personal growth development and also has a business pitch contest at the end

of the training where the best five winners will receive handsome rewards.

This year's International Youth Day themed: “Green Skills for Youth: Towards a Sustainable World” is being celebrated by the Ministry with a week-long set of activities and will end on Saturday, 12th August, 2023..

Henugbe Urges Sexual, Domestic Violence Victims To Speak Up

By Saheed Afolabi

The Chairman of Badagry West LCDA, Hon. Gbenu Henugbe Joseph has urged the victims of sexual and domestic violence to always speak out for help. He charged them during the sensitisation programme on sex and gender violence he recently organised for selected community leaders in the area. The programme was held in collaboration with the Lagos State



Hon. Gbenu Henugbe Joseph

Domestic and Violence Agency under the leadership of Mrs. Titilola Vivour at Suntan Beach Hall. Henugbe said the theme of the programme "End Sexual and Gender Violence" was carefully considered owing to the high rate of domestic violence and sexual harassment in society, leading to cases of rape and unwanted death. The council boss advised that the victims of such circumstances should

always speak out rather than die in silence. A staff of the Lagos State Domestic and Violence Agency, Mrs. Odunbo Detoun, while sensitising participants, said the Lagos State Government through the agency has pragmatically put in place a coordinated response to domestic violence which includes medical assistance, rescue operations, legal assistance, law enforcement, psychosocial support, emergency assistance, and empowerment, hence she advised that

victims should always reach out to the agency. Mr. Ikudaisi Oluwatobi, a community engagement officer with the agency, said over 6000 cases of sex, gender, and domestic violence have been handled this year alone. He, however, urged participants to ensure they sensitise the people at home as feedback from the seminar. The seminar was interactive with questions and answers from participants who commended the Chairman on the initiative.

How Groups Promoted Badagry Cultural Heritage At Headies Awards

By Saheed Afolabi



Badagry Cultural Group

Badagry traditional and cultural troupe comprising of the Ajara Vetho Sato Drummers and the Gogoke Troupe from Igbogbele Badagry West showcased the peculiarity of their content to the world during a reception hosted by the United States Consulate in honour of 16th edition of the Headies Award held at the US Consulate, Lagos recently as part of the programmes lined up for the main event to be announced by the organisers soon.

The Badagry team, which was led by Solomon Zosu, stated

that the Headies Awards have always been dedicated to recognising and celebrating outstanding achievements in the Nigerian music industry across different genres and artistry.

"It was indeed a true show of the beauty and rich cultural contents from Badagry as the hit of the Sato drum and syncopation movement of the dancers left every guest amazed while they walked into the event centre.

"Another captivating feature was the magical display by the Gogoke Troupe where we

showed to the world, the originality in our undiluted traditional power and synergy," Zosu said.

The young tourism expert, Zosu affirmed that Badagry needs to continue to showcase and harness its tourism potentials, saying they remain a veritable tool towards economic development in Badagry and Lagos State at large.

He, however, appreciated Alh. Idris Aregbe, the Director and Creative Lead of CULTURATI has also been nominated by the Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, as

a cabinet member for the invite and opportunity given to the cultural troupe.

Notable names present at the event include; The US Consul General, Will Stevens; PRO US Consulate Lagos, Joseph Kruzich; Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, represented by the Secretary to the State

Government, Bimbo Salu-Hundeyi; Consul General of Nigeria in Atlanta, Ambassador Amina Amira Smaila, Chairman/CEO of Nigerians in Diaspora Commission, Abike Dabiri; CEO of Nedcomoak Limited, Dr. Kenedy Okonkwo, former NFF President and Fifa FIFA Council Member, Amaju Pinnick Chairman of

Cubana Group, Dr. Obinna Iyiegbe, popularly called Obi Cubana; CEO Five Star Music Emeka Okonkwo, popularly known as E-Money; Music Executives Obi Asika and Efe Omoregbe, music artists and 16th Headies nominees Pheelz, Spyro, Blaqbonez, Praiz, Wizard Clan, to name a few.

LAGOS ISLAND

Lagos Island APC Party Chairman, Sadiq Applauds Sanni's Appointment

By Edith Igbokwe

All Progressive Congress (APC) party chairman, Lagos Island Local Government, Alhaji A. Sadiq has congratulated the Senator, representing Lagos Central Senatorial District, Eshinlokun Sanni on his appointment as the Chairman, House Committee on and Transportation.

In a congratulatory letter written to the Senator, Sadiq said the position is well deserved based on Sanni's performances

at the local and state levels.

He noted that Sanni did well when he served as chairman of Lagos Island Local Government and Deputy Speaker of the Lagos State House of Assembly.

He assured that the lawmaker will perform excellently in the capacity.

The letter read: "On behalf of myself, members of the exco, and the entire party members in Lagos Island Local

Government, I wish to congratulate you on your appointment as the Chairman, Senate Committee on Marine Transportation.

"Your past performances as Executive Chairman of Lagos Island Local Government, and as Deputy Speaker, Lagos State House of Assembly, assure us that you are going to perform excellently and also put up qualitative representation.

"We wish you a more blessed and good tenure!" Maritime

Kosofe Council Chairman Lists Achievements In Two Years

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Chairman of Kosofe LG, Hon. Moyosore Ogunlewe has listed his achievements in health, infrastructure, education, security fathers within his two years in office.

In commemoration of his second anniversaries the chairman of the local government, Ogunlewe boasted that he has been able to record tremendous feats in the local government administration.

According to him, his government has prioritised procurement of infrastructure and the welfare of the worker as well as the security and health of the residents.

Enumerating his achievements so far, the council boss said his administration in the last



Ogunlewe

two years has initiated the procurement of brand new ambulance vehicle for Primary Healthcare Centres, Fueled power generators for all PHC's in 24 hours

He added that his

administration has also enabled the deworming exercise of all public primary school pupils in Kosofe Local Government, provided 1,900 free glasses and eyes screening test which revolved round

comprehensive diagnosis of ailments associated with sight such as cataract, glaucoma and other sight infectious diseases, with prescription of free medication and lenses for the people of the local government area in collaboration with Precious Sight Foundation, a non-governmental organisation (NGO).

Also on works and infrastructure, he said his administration has demonstrated single-minded commitment to upgrading and developing the road networks in every ward across the community.

The streets, according to him, include Awanatu, Oworonshoki, Aran Orin, Ifako, Adebayo Mokuolu, Anthony, Abioye, Mende,

Abayomi Odubela, Idowu Dada, Ogudu, Araromi, Ogudu and Musa Adewokun Streets.

On staff welfare, Ogunlewe said he initiated the provision of 44 workstations with 88 chairs for the Local Government, increment of non-pensionable staff salaries, yearly worker forum and send forth programme for retirees in Kosofe Local Government, financial assistance to staff on monthly basis, special package for staff during festive period, provision of 36 HP 200 G4 series, all in one desktop, with blue gate and 1.230VA UPS, 2 sharp digital copies printer MX-2310u, and 5 HP laserjet MFP M130FW printer for effective operation in

the local government.

On education, he said there have been distribution of free GCE e-pins and complete registration for 150 beneficiaries with first edition held in 2021, distribution of free 300 GCE e-pin and complete registration for 300 beneficiaries for the second edition in 2022, distribution of free 1000 JAMB/UTME e-pin and complete registration for beneficiaries in 2022, free tutorial class for all beneficiaries of free GCE registration (2021/2022) edition,

procurement of adult literacy materials and resuscitation of free adult literacy classes to eliminate illiteracy in Kosofe Local Government Area as well as renovation of schools across the local government area.

Varsity Lecturer To Sponsor CAC Registration of 5 Students' Businesses

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Mass Communication lecturer at the Lagos State University of Science and Technology, Mr. Ibrahim Fatoyinbo, has pledged to cover the expenses for registering the businesses of five promising student entrepreneurs with the Corporate Affairs Commission (CAC).

The lecturer made the promise to the graduating students of the department at a seminar organised for them by the Mass Communication Student Association (MACSA).

Fatoyinbo, who captivated the audience with his enlightening discourse on "Emotional Intelligence and its Relevance in Navigating Post-Graduation Life," shared his commitment to empower the next generation of business owners.

To qualify for the generous opportunity, interested students must not only possess a well-structured business plan but also demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the step-by-step procedures required for successful business operations.

"I will be extending my assistance to five diligent students who have not only cultivated innovative business concepts but have also meticulously outlined their business plans, thereby facilitating a seamless CAC registration process," he said.

He expressed his desire to give back to society and inspire young, enterprising minds to fervently pursue their entrepreneurial aspirations.

The philanthropic



Ibrahim Fatoyinbo

endeavour not only underscores his dedication to fostering a culture of innovation and enterprise but also reinforces the

invaluable role that educators play in shaping the future success of their students.

As Fatoyinbo's

impactful endeavour continued to garner attention and accolades, it stood as a testament to the enduring partnership

between academics and business, forging a path towards a brighter and more empowered entrepreneurial landscape for aspiring young visionaries.

Shobowale Commends NGOs Selfless Service To Community

By Edith Igbokwe

The Chairman, Ayobo-Ipaja Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Mrs. Bola Shobowale has commended a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) - Amida Foundation for the execution of some projects in the community.

The projects include a block of classrooms, a solar powerhouse, and a borehole. The NGO constructed two classrooms and a library, well equipped with relevant books,

modern shelves, and solar energy to power the fans for proper ventilation of the office.

Shobowale enjoined other wealthy individuals and organisations to emulate such positive gestures to add value to the education and other aspirations of the children.

She made the appeal during the hand-over ceremony of the projects sponsored by the Azeez Amida Foundation at Anglican Primary School, Olorunnisola.

She applauded the provision of teaching aid to complement the teachers at the Anglican Primary School, Olorunnisola.

She expressed her joy to have been part of the ceremony that offered developmental projects to the Community.

The CEO of the Azeez Amida Foundation, Mr. Azeez, appreciated the community for its cooperation towards the success of the project.

He appealed to the residents to make good use of the facilities, adding that they should expect more



NGO" project commissioning

developmental projects in the community.

A block of classrooms

at Anglican Pry School Olorunnisola was handed over to State



Universal Basic Education Board (SUBEB).

Youths, LNSC Collaborate To Fight Insecurity In Community

By Edith Igbokwe



Youths with new LNSC commander

Youths in Agbado Oke-Odo Local Council Development Area (LCDA) have declared their support to work with the Lagos Neighborhood Safety Corps (LNSC) to tackle insecurity in the

community.

The community youths made the promise with the newly deployed Commanding Officer of the Corps, CS Olawale Erinjobi during their courtesy visit to his office, reiterating their promise to work with

him to safeguard the community from crime and other vices.

The youths stated that the community members can be of help to neighbourhood policing to secure life and property by working together to report and prevent crimes.

Welcoming the youths, Erinjobi appreciated their helping hands towards the security of the community, promising to make sure the community is free of crimes.

He urged the youths to be vigilant and always alert the security personnel of any suspect in the community, saying communication is vital in fighting crimes.

Rep Ayuba Congratulates Adeshina On Being Re-elected As NULGE Chairman

By Edith Igbokwe

A Member of the Federal House of Representatives representing Alimosho Federal Constituency, Hon. Ganiyu Ayuba has congratulated Comr. Arowosafe Adeshina for winning the chairmanship position of the Nigerian Union of Local Government Employees (NULGE) in Igando-Ikotun Local Council Development Area (LCDA) for the second term.

He said: "On behalf of my family and the great people of Alimosho Federal Constituency, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Comr. Arowosafe Adeshina was elected NULGE chairman for a second term in Igando-Ikotun (LCDA).

"I am confident that



Igando Ikotun NULGE chairman, Arowosafe

your leadership qualities, capabilities, and knowledge will be put to good use in meeting the expectations of the workforce and for the benefit of LCDA, Lagos State, and Nigeria.

"I also congratulate other elected officials in Igando-Ikotun Local Council Development

Area. You have worked hard to achieve your respective roles, and I encourage you to continue contributing positively to the council.

"I wish you the best of luck in your new positions. May Almighty God provide you with the ability, wisdom, and understanding to excel in your new roles."

Experts Orientate LASPOTECH Graduating Students On Challenges After School

By Rasaq Adebayo

Educationists have urged the graduating Mass Communication students of the Lagos State Polytechnic, Ikorodu to prepare for the challenges ahead after completing their education in the school.

The experts gave the ambition at a seminar

tagged "Life After School: Sustainability of Values in your Skills, Life and Career" organised by the department on Wednesday, last week at 700 Seater Auditorium, Ikorodu Campus.

Speaking, the Dean, College of Applied Social Sciences, Prof. Olamide Olumuyiwa

charged the student to brace up for life after school. He commended the Department for organising such a seminar, saying it is an eye-opener for the students to know the reality of life outside the school.

The Lead Speaker, Barr. Jide Ologun in his presentation spelled out the components of the

future as it will guide and enhance the students to make a difference in life after their academics, saying their future is loaded with more opportunities.

Meanwhile, the Head of Department Mass Communication Department, Dr. Zannu Prosper, in his remark, appreciated the lead

speaker while reminding the students of the need to prepare for the future to be able to secure a favourable life after school "because it determines the growth and development after the graduation from school."

Others who spoke at the event included HOD, Business

Administration, Dr. Adeyeye; a Mass Communication lecturer, Mr. Ibrahim Fatoyinbo; Ex-SUG Vice President, Miss Azezat Ideraoluwa Yusuf; Ex-NULASS President, Mr. Adewale Smart Kasali; Mr. Biolatiri Victor Adedamola Ex-Speaker(20/21), and Mr. Steven Loya an education analyst.



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Ministry Of LG Affairs Commends Johnson On Developmental Projects



Orile Agege recommendation letter presentation

Lagos State Ministry of Local Government and Community Affairs has issued a commendation letter to Orile-Agege Local Council Development Area (LCDA) Chairman, Hon. Babatunde Johnson for developing his community with developmental projects. The letter of

commendation was delivered by the Director of Local Government Project Monitoring, Mr. Raymond Ogunjobi. He applauded Johnson for his achievements and efforts toward grassroots development. Ogunjobi said the Ministry observed that Orile-Agege LCDA executed many projects ranging from road, education, human/infrastructural development, social,

and healthcare among others. He noted that the projects executed have helped to improve the quality of life of the residents. He enjoined the council boss to keep up the good work and to continue to deliver the dividends of democracy. Responding, Johnson appreciated the Ministry for the recognition, adding that the letter is an encouragement for him to work harder.

He promised not to rest on his oars, saying the reward for hard work is more work. He raised the need for the federal government to continue to empower the local government to foster more development at the grassroots level. He appreciated his team for their commitment and support, saying the applause is for all. The council chairman received the letter at the conference room of the council secretariat with great joy.

Orile-Agege GH Organises Free Medical Outreach for 2000 Children

By Rasaaq Adebayo



Kids health check-up for resumption

In a bid to ensure children are medically fit for the 2023/2024 Academic session, Orile Agege General Hospital has organised its second annual edition of the school health outreach programme tagged "Back to School: Resume Healthy".

Grassroots Times reported that large numbers of children between the ages of 5-15 were seen trooping into the premises of the Hospital to participate in the various activities. In his welcome address, the Chief Medical Director of the Hospital, Dr. Sola Pitan stated that the outreach was aimed at addressing health challenges amongst the children and to instill confidence in them.

He stressed that the initiative would help the children to see the hospital as a friendly place to come when there are health issues. "The Back to School Health Outreach Programme is a health promotion avenue targeted at meeting the school health needs of at least 2000 children within the community as they began the 2023/2024 academic session, to ensure a healthy life that enhances their learning during the year.

"The beneficiaries have access to full pediatric evaluation, eye, ear, and dental checks, and Nutrition/Dietetics and social welfare services free for all beneficiaries," he started.

He disclosed that Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu has announced free antenatal service through delivery and CS.

Dr. Pitan affirmed the commitment of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu-led administration on the T.H.E.M.E.S PLUS agenda towards expanding access and bridging the gap between the orthodox and healthcare system and the people in various communities.

While delivering his keynote address, the Commissioner in health service commission, Dr.

Mobolaji Olukoya urged that the initiative should be cascaded down to all hospitals in Lagos State for all children to benefit.

He reiterated that the initiative is catching them young and nipping the health challenges that may affect children's academic performance in the bud.

He commended the hospital management for their innovative programmes, saying that Orile Agege General Hospital is a known community-friendly hospital.

It would be recalled that Orile-Agege General Hospital had engaged in various community health promotion activities and outreach which include free glaucoma screening, free school, and oral Programmes, Screening, and treatment, subsidised mammography screening, community health education campaigns in the media among others.

Council Chair Empower Youths With POS Machines, Cash



Beneficiaries of POS in Orile Agege

No fewer than 50 youths across Orile Agege Local Council Development Area (LCDA) have been empowered with Point of Sale (POS) machines and N100,000 cash support each. The machines were distributed by the council chairman, Hon. Babatunde Johnson as palliative to cushion the effect of subsidy removal among the youths in the community. According to the council boss, the beneficiaries of the POS empowerment scheme were strategically selected

by the National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN), Orile Agege chapter to ensure that the most vulnerable in the community benefitted from the programme. The recipients of the machines were saddled with the responsibility of receiving the payments and generating receipts for the purchase of the foodstuffs at a central point of the foodstuffs sale exercise in the council. He implored the beneficiaries to be disciplined and dedicated to making

the best use of the opportunity given to them.

Johnson appreciated Wema Bank for keying into the council's initiative by providing POS machines, customised tables and chairs, umbrellas, and other items for the business.

He reiterated his administration's commitment to the welfare of his people and the development of the youths.

He said he planned to provide foodstuffs to 10,000 households at a highly subsidised price. The beneficiaries of the subsidised foodstuffs included residents, police officers, NURTW members, private and public school teachers, council workers, and others.

He promised that the exercise will not be a one-off sale, but would be a continuous one to ease the economic hardship.



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SUG Cup Football Match Showcases Intense Rivalry, Controversial Calls

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Group	Match	Score
Group A	MACSA vs NAPES	0-0
	NAPASS vs NAAS	1-1
Group B	MABUSSA vs NATS	0-0

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SUG CUP

The recent clash at the SUG Cup between the two student teams from Lagos State University of Science and Technology (LASUSTECH), formerly LASPOTECH, brought forth a riveting display of skill and determination.

The event witnessed an array of emotions from jubilation to frustration as players, coaches, and spectators came together for an unforgettable contest.

In a game that left spectators on the edge of their seats, Mass Communication locked

horns with the Faculty of Engineering, culminating in a tight 1-0 victory for Mass Communication. The intensity of the match was palpable from the opening whistle, as both teams fought valiantly for the upper hand.

The contest, held at a buzzing campus stadium, was notable for its roller-coaster of sentiments.

Adekunle Adejuwon Emmanuel, fondly referred to as "Ronaldo," stood tall on the field for Mass Communication.

Expressing his views, he stated: "The match was tough, but with special grace from above, we secured victory. I've played tougher games, and this is just one step towards greater achievements. I promise

to contribute to Mass Communication's journey towards the ultimate award."

The sidelines were equally buzzing with voices, as coaches and players shared their thoughts on the intense face-off.

Adebayo Nurudeen, the astute coach of Mass Communication, hailed the team's performance, acknowledging that expectations were met despite the challenges posed by the Faculty of Engineering. Nurudeen affirmed his commitment to enhancing the team's strengths before the next match.

However, the game was not without its share of controversies. Asafa Jimoh Sodiq, the resolute captain of the Faculty of Engineering, voiced his frustration, saying, "The game was

painful, and we need more training to improve. Refereeing decisions need improvement too, as the communication between officials appeared flawed."

Sulaimon, a defender for the Faculty of Engineering, echoed similar sentiments, urging referees to focus on the game and avoid favoring any side.

The referee's decisions drew pointed comments from players.

Adedoyin Tunde, a member of the Faculty of Engineering's defense, expressed disappointment over a potentially game-changing penalty that wasn't awarded.

The sentiment was echoed by Tobi, who underlined the importance of fair

officiating and called for medical support for players.

Despite the contentious calls, the event concluded with a reminder of sportsmanship and hope for the future. Habeeb Anjorin, a determined winger, acknowledged the need to stay vigilant on the field and maintain a high level of sportsmanlike conduct.

The SUG Cup match between LASUSTECH's Mass Communication and Faculty of Engineering teams proved to be a microcosm of the passion and challenges often associated with collegiate sports.

As both teams regroup for upcoming matches, the echoes of this intense encounter are sure to resonate throughout the campus, serving as a testament to the enduring spirit of competition and camaraderie.

Eko Tour: NULASS Inter-Campus Football Match Ends in Thrilling Turnaround

By Nurudeen Adebayo

In an exhilarating display of skill and determination, the National Union of Lagos State Students (NULASS) tour took an unexpected twist as NULASS LASUED staged a stunning comeback in a football match against NULASS LASUSTECH.

The match, held at Lagos State University of Education's (LASUED) stadium on its Epe campus, kept spectators on the edge of their seats with an unforgettable turn of events.

The game kicked off with NULASS LASUSTECH asserting their dominance early in the first half, securing a two-goal lead thanks to Adjovi Victor and Olowo Samuel. The LASUSTECH team showcased remarkable teamwork and precision, sending shockwaves through the crowd.

As the first half drew to a close, NULASS LASUED showed their

resilience, and Ibrahim Olatunji's spectacular free-kick found the back of the net, narrowing the deficit to 1-2. The halftime whistle sounded, leaving fans eager to witness the unfolding drama in the second half.

NULASS LASUED's determination and unwavering spirit came to the forefront in the second half. The team orchestrated an impressive turnaround, overcoming the early setback to secure a remarkable 3-2 victory. Ogundeko Temitayo emerged as the hero of the match, netting two crucial goals, and sealing their triumph with a well-executed penalty.

Post-match, Prince Adeyemi Ogunlari, the Student Affairs Officer and staff adviser to NULASS LASUED, took center stage to commend the remarkable display of sportsmanship and talent demonstrated by both teams. He



Nulass Lasued and Nulass Lasustech

assured the visiting LASUSTECH players that they would be well cared for during their stay in Epe. Prince Ogunlari's words were accompanied by heartfelt praise for the players, underlining the camaraderie and unity that characterize the NULASS community.

Meanwhile, the Lagos State Polytechnic Students Union President, Comrade Muftaudeen Surakat, expressed his delight at the thrilling match and extended his gratitude to Prince Adeyemi Ogunlari for the warm hospitality extended to the LASUSTECH team.

Comrade Surakat emphasized the importance of such inter-campus events in fostering strong bonds among students and promoting healthy competition.

The NULASS inter-campus football match at LASUED's Epe campus will undoubtedly be remembered as a testament to the unbreakable spirit of student unity, sportsmanship, and passion for the game. As the cheers from the spectators echoed throughout the stadium, it was clear that this event would remain etched in the memories of all who attended.

NAAS Concedes Late Goal

By Saheed Afolabi

In an opening fixture clash which was subject to a late kick-off, Agricultural Technology (NAAS) suffered a setback as they conceded a late goal to the Pure and Applied Science Department, leading to a 2-1 defeat and placing them at the bottom of group B. The victorious side, NAPASS, secured their win through goals from Emmanuel Owolana and Adekunle Wale.

Despite a promising start in the second half of the contest with a goal by Ajaguna Micheal from NAAS, frustration loomed as victory slipped away. Ajaguna

expressed disappointment, stating, "We needed a win, we are all unhappy, and hopefully, we get our win in the next match." In contrast, Emmanuel Owolayo, one of the contributors to NAPASS's triumph, exuded delight and offered valuable advice to his teammates. He emphasized the significance of teamwork, stating, "My advice for the team members is to train hard. About teamwork, it is really good. When you work together, you achieve something better. Without working together, we can't win, so teamwork is the best."

Cyriel Dessers Reacts To First Rangers Goal

By Saheed Afolabi



Cyriel Dessers

Glasgow Rangers forward, Cyriel Dessers has reacted to scoring his

first goal for the club. The Nigeria international described his first goal

for the club as an unbelievable moment and was glad it happened in front of the home fans.

The Super Eagles forward admitted it was a great moment defeating Servette at Ibrox stadium.

"That moment was unbelievable. Of course, you dream of scoring at Ibrox in front of this crowd, and to feel the emotion it's amazing and it is an amazing feeling," Dessers was quoted by Rangers TV.

"I am happy that it was an important goal that we got the win out of.

"Saturday was a tough loss, but that didn't make us a bad team suddenly. We know

what our qualities are and we wanted to show it in front of our crowd and get a good start and get the energy and get the energy in the stadium as well."

"We got it, the fans were a m a z i n g t o d a y, especially in the first half Ibrox was on fire and that was a nice feeling. I think we played a good game, especially in the first half. Of course, you want to score more but football is like that sometimes."

The ex-Cremonese striker said the club is

ready to take on their opponents in the European qualifiers.

"This will keep us on our toes for next week – it will be a hard game, but I think that is good and I think we need that. We are still growing as a team so this will be a new step we have to make.

"In European qualifiers, you don't get anything for free so we will have to fight for it and we know it will be a tough game, but we will be ready for it."

The Light Blues are the defending champions of the Scottish Premiership and have won the title for a record 55 times.

Carabao Cup: Kelechi Iheanacho Wins Player Of The Match Award

By Saheed Afolabi



Kelechi Iheanacho

Nigeria forward, Kelechi Iheanacho, won the Player of the Match award in Leicester City's 2-0 win over Burton Albion in the first round of the Carabao Cup. Iheanacho scored a good goal and provided the assist for Leicester City's second goal of the

game to wrap up an impressive performance.

The Super Eagles striker put the Foxes ahead with a sublime backheel finish in the sixth minute.

At the stroke of halftime, Iheanacho popped up to provide

an assist for Wilfred Ndidi to blast home the second goal of the game.

Leicester City will square up against Tranmere Rovers in the next round of the Carabao Cup.

The Foxes will begin their Championship life against Huddersfield.

We Focused On Tactical Approach Against Enyimba - Fatai Osho

By Saheed Afolabi

The Technical Adviser of Akwa United, Fatai Osho has disclosed that the club focused on the tactical approach of the game against Enyimba and not the result.

The People's Elephant defeated the Promise Keepers 3-1 in a preseason friendly game as they geared up for the new Nigeria Premier League (NPL) season.

Osho seemed unperturbed about the result of the game as he targeted the players' adaptability to the tactical approach of the game, believing that Akwa United made mistakes in the game and was not aggressive enough against their opponent.

"We are not necessarily looking at the outcome of this preseason game but we were more interested in our tactical approach and the performance of our players against a team like Enyimba.

"From my assessment, we made some mistakes in the first half, my players were

not aggressive enough, we created paradise for Enyimba and we paid for it.

"In the second half, we made some changes and took control of the game, created lots of scoring chances but we couldn't overturn the first-half result," Osho said.

The experienced tactician said the technical crew will work on the finishing touches of the players because that's a critical area that was exposed during the clash with Enyimba International. He added: "Our

finishing was not good and that is the most important lesson we have learned from this game I'm happy that we are already working on our finishing which we are going to continue and hopefully we will sort that out in some friendly games before the commencement of the new season."

Akwa United misses out on a place in the CAF Continental tournaments as Enyimba will tackle Al-Ahly Benghazi in the CAF Champions League with the first leg coming up in Libya on 20 August and the return leg at Aba on August 25.



Fatai Osho