

Echoneews

LAGOS COMMUNITIES EDITION

A publication of Echoneews Newspapers Limited

Monday 19th September - Sunday 25th September 2022

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I'm the best man for NFF President - Akinwunmi

Why Ejigbo is building new school

Despite the growing population of school age children in Lagos State, no new public primary school has been built by the local governments across the state in the last 12 months, hence there is pressure on the limited public schools available.

The only new primary school in Ejigbo was built by the incumbent chairman of Ejigbo LCDA, Alhaji Monsuru Bello Obe during his first administration, though the school is yet to be commissioned for use.

In the school calendar year 2018/2019, there were about 117,000 elementary schools in Nigeria. Lagos State accounted for almost 15,000 primary schools, 14,647 to be specific, the largest number nationwide. Oyo and Ogun followed with over 6,000 each.

As gathered by ECHONEWS, as of 2019, there were 62,399 pupils in classes 1 to 3 in public primary schools in the state. The figures of the other levels are kindergarten/nursery, 65,133; primary 4 to 6, 84,916; Junior Secondary Schools, 101,897; Senior Secondary Schools, 46,676.

These pupils use 10,085 classrooms in 350 junior and 322 senior secondary schools to receive knowledge. The result is that there are not enough classrooms to accommodate them.

Yet new schools are not being established to cope. Between 2015 and 2019, data sourced from the Annual Public Schools Census 2019 indicate that only one school was added as the state began with 1,014 schools in 2015 and closed with 1,015 schools in 2019.

Ejigbo LCDA has built another primary school which is yet to be commissioned. With the new school, the total will be 1,016 public primary schools in Lagos State.



Hon. Monsurudeen Obe

According to the council chairman, the newly built school is the first public primary school in the Ilamose Ward, noting that the children in the community suffer to go to primary school since there was no single public primary school in the community.

He promised that the first primary school in Aigbaka Ward will also be built by his administration before the end of his second term in office.

According to him, a public primary school in the Aigbaka Ward will enable his administration to achieve the feat of ensuring that there is no Ward in Ejigbo LCDA without a primary school.

"This will empower poor parents who have to put their children in private schools where they pay high fees and the ability to reduce their budget by patronizing the free public schools. The children will be able to go to school near their homes."

Recalling that the land to be used for the primary school was previously planned for a

cemetery, he said his administration bowed to the wishes of the residents by replacing the project with a public primary school.

Obe said the remaining three plots will be donated to the Lagos State Ministry of Education to build a secondary school beside the council's proposed public primary school.

Explaining the rationale and expected impact, Obe said: "The number of secondary schools in Ejigbo LCDA, including Ejigbo and Oke Afa/Jakande Estate is just two. They cannot accommodate the number of pupils that graduate from primary to secondary school. So, we are determined that, in our next approach, we will donate about three plots of land out of the one-acre that we have just purchased to the state government for the construction of another secondary school in Aigbaka.

"That will make it three. And with that alone, I know that taking our pupils to Okota, to Idimu, after graduating from

primary school will reduce because the new school will accommodate more. So these are the little surprises that we pray that God gives us the capacity to deliver as we have said."

Apart from insufficient primary schools, some of the existing ones are not in good condition as observed by ECHONEWS. Our correspondent visited some public primary schools in Oshodi-Isolo LG and other local government areas in the State. It was an eyesore.

Meanwhile, Education Secretary, Oshodi-Isolo, Local Government Education Authority, Barrister Femi Ogunwusi, hinted in a telephone chat with our correspondent that the member representing Oshodi-Isolo Constituency I at the Federal House of Representatives, Hon. Bashiru Dawodu, has facilitated the rehabilitation of some schools in Oshodi, Isolo and Ejigbo.

He informed that the rehabilitation which includes building of a new 12-

classrooms in one of the schools in Ejigbo may commence today, Monday, September 19, 2022.

Apart from this, Hon. Dawodu has also facilitated the building of a new and the only secondary school in Shogunle area of Oshodi-Isolo LG.

It was gathered that the project has been completed but yet to be opened for the use by the students.

Top officials in local governments told ECHONEWS that many local governments do not embark on building new schools due to the huge funds involved.

They said many of them only try to maintain the existing ones by re-building dilapidated ones and or expanding the schools by adding more classrooms.

"Building new schools involved many things, part of which is a huge fund. There is also a need for approval which does not also come easy. I think these are some of the reasons many local government chairmen do not embark on establishing new schools. It is true we need more schools considering the increase in the population of children who need to go to school, but the local governments may not be able to build new schools as they have other projects to execute," one of the local government officials who spoke to ECHONEWS stated.

Meanwhile, many children have been denied opportunities to be educated due to insufficient infrastructure and lack of public schools in their immediate community.

It was gathered that the infrastructure is too small to accommodate the large number of students who seek admission.

This has continued to restrict admission in the public schools in Lagos, while many parents cannot afford to take their children to private schools



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Agege LG inaugurates Idimangoro Youth Movement

By Motola AbdulGafar

Agege Local Government has inaugurated Idimangoro Youth Movement, a forum for the youths to express their needs and contribute to governance.

The council said that the youth body was inaugurated due to their credibility and responsiveness among their peers in the community, though the body had been in

existence since 2016. The council chairman, Hon. Ganiyu Egunjobi, represented by Hon. Gbenga Abiola, hinted that the council has fulfilled the vision and mission set for the rebranding of movement in 2016.

He said they aimed at creating a medium for the youths where their voice would be heard and a direct connection would be created between the youths and the government.

He urged youths to continue to be resilient

and be committed as they have always been, saying the council is ready to engage more youths within the community.

Abiola said the Egunjobi-led administration was using the medium to create a friendly environment for them to be skillful and be useful to themselves and the society.

He also charged them to be role model for other youths and the upcoming children in the community.



Hon. Gbenga Abiola inaugurating Idimangoro Youth Movement in Agege

Egunjobi procures school buses for pupils

By Motola AbdulGafar

As schools resume new academic session in Lagos State, the Chairman of Agege Local Government, Hon. Ganiyu Egunjobi has funded the provision of school buses in the area.

The buses were said to have been provided to aid the transportation movement of pupils and parents as they visit their education centres.

He urged pupils to be focused on their studies and hoped that the tutorial session organized in the council would be beneficial as their memories would still be fresh in class.

Egunjobi said the provision was also to add value to the education sector and encouraged the users and drivers to maintain the buses as the durability of the buses would prolong their usage.

By Motola AbdulGafar

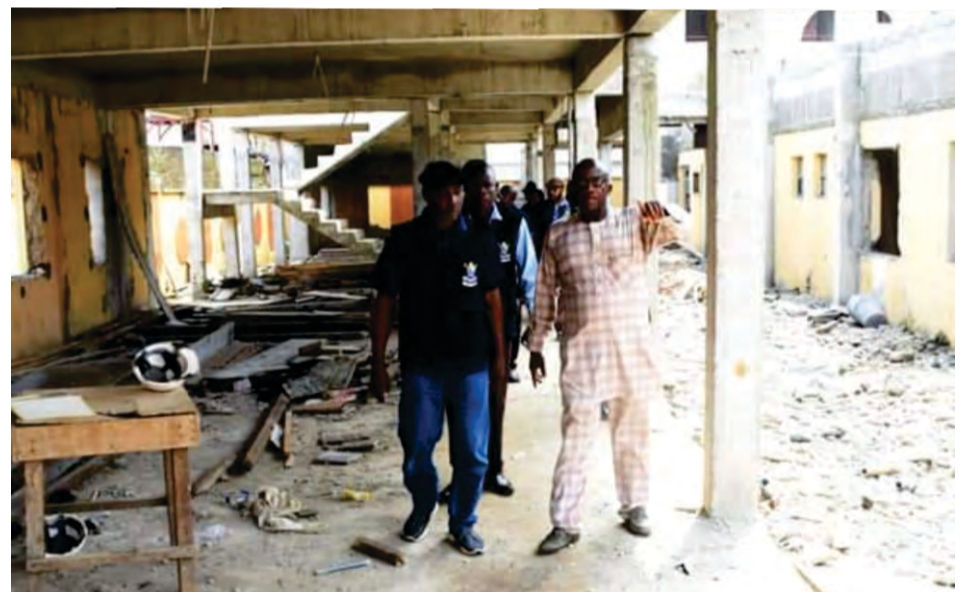
Ejigbo LCDA has been urged to structure a work plan and procurement plan committee for project execution.

The structuring is said to be a guide for the council for established projects to be in line with the state's requirements and guidelines.

Delegates from the Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs while on a monitoring tour headed by the team leader, Mr Seriki, commended the council Chairman, Hon. Monsurudeen Bello (Obe) for restructuring the council secretariat, roads, primary health centres and other projects in the council. In addition, the Council Manager, Princess Iyabode Ogunyemi appealed to the government to provide a lasting solution to the

tussle of gridlock and potholes issue encountered at the NNPC road as commuters and vehicle operators are having a hard time as the road state worsens.

She assured that the council will continue to put more effort into community development while hoping that they will get more backing from the state as the interest of the community is their priority.



Representatives of Lagos State Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs touring Ejigbo reconstruction sites

Follow state govt on work plan, local council urged

Council constructs culverts to abate flooding

By Motola AbdulGafar

Orile-Agege LCDA has constructed four new box culverts at Aiyegbami Street, Yomi Oyenuga Street, Musiliu Street and Akintunde Street in the council area.

The culverts were constructed to abate the excessive damaging flood often experienced in the

communities.

The council chairman, Hon. Johnson Babatunde stated that the council was trying its possible best to reduce the menace of flood experienced recently.

He said aside from flooding issues, the culverts are also meant to aid vehicular and pedestrian movement in the area.

He appealed to the



Picture of one of the ongoing culverts construction

residents to cooperate with the government in its efforts to curb the excessive flood.

He promised to continue to execute community-needed projects that are pressing at the moment.



Community appreciates govt for intervention in environmental decency

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Residents of Ibeshe community in Amuwo-Odofin Local Government have appreciated the intervention of the Lagos State Ministry

of Environment and Water Resources over environmental hygiene within the community. They noted that the sensitization exercise held within the community has been an eye opener as residents both locals

and elites are set to maintain community hygiene. The Community Development Association Chairman of Ibeshe Community, Mr Francis Abiodun-Gbemu, noted that they are now better

informed and enlightened about proper management of their wastes for recycling purposes, especially for the free healthcare access for vulnerable members of the society. During the advocacy, Lagos State

Government representatives exchanged trash for money and eco-friendly goods like cooking gas, reusable mugs, and food which made them realize the economic value of waste.

Being a community surrounded by water ways, Abiodun-Gbemu promised that the community would ensure strict supervision of all residents for a healthy environment to be attained.

Buraimoh charges councillors on legislative functions

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The chairman of Amuwo-Odofin Local Government, Hon. Valentine Buraimoh has charged the councillors to ensure they execute their legislative functions as at when due, saying their utmost participation helps in community development. While admonishing them, he urged the House Leader, Hon. Emmanuel Kiki to ensure a submissive attitude among

members in the house as their uniformity will help a lot. Buraimoh said he expects them to give expression on public opinion, educate and inform the populace at large. He said he expects them to be the voice of each ward they represent as councilors. In a related development, Buraimoh donated official vehicles to the legislators to aid their statutory legislative concerns and assignment.



Hon. Valentine Buraimoh while awarding official vehicles

Afenifere National Youth Council, Amuwo-Odofin chapter, has hailed the chairman of the council, Hon. Valentine Buraimoh over his adequate representative actions of the Yoruba tribe. The youth council said that as a man with ethnic values, Buraimoh has so far fulfilled the majority of proposed projects which shows reliability and enigmatic behaviour inherent in him as a son of the Yoruba tribe. The council appreciated him saying he has so far not disappointed them since he assumed leadership. The Secretary to the group, noted that the organization believes that likely traits in an

Afenifere hails Buraimoh, calls him worthy ambassador

By Motolani AbdulGafar

efficient leader regardless of affiliation portray excellence in leadership which is the key factor they have observed in Buraimoh. He said the chairman has demonstrated excellence in the performance of his statutory responsibilities and the group is proud of his achievements as a worthy ambassador of the Yoruba race. Fehintola encouraged him to continue to be a performing administrator while urging him to continue to do his best in the interest of the people.



Representatives of Afenifere National Youth Council while awarding Hon. Valentine Buraimoh



Apapa-Iganmu Council chairman emerges Best Performing Female Chairman

By Edith Igbokwe

National Open University of Nigeria (Noun) has awarded Apapa-Iganmu Local Council Development Area (LCDA) chairman, Dr. Mrs. Funmilayo Muhammed the best Performing Female Chairman In Lagos State in year 2022.

Appreciating the award, Muhammed assured that Apapa-Iganmu will continue to be on the front burner of infrastructural development and people oriented

programmes to take residents out of poverty and boost the economy for Small and Medium-size enterprises (SMEs).

"I am grateful for this level of recognition. Thank you for encouraging me not to rest on my laurel. I am incredibly thankful for the level of support shown. I have worked very hard for this raise, and I am so pleased that you recognized that my performance earned me the award."

She described the award as a challenge to do more and appreciated the

management and council members of the great institution for counting her worthy of honour.

She, therefore, encourage those seeking higher degrees such as B.Sc, M.Sc, MBA and PhD to consider NOUN University as their first choice due to their fast-paced and seamless educational standards. She further stated that the institution has brought education and learning closer to the people at every nook and cranny of the country.



Hon. Funmilayo Muhammed

Beneficiaries of free General Certificate Examination (GCE) forms in Apapa-Iganmu Local Council Development Area (LCDA) facilitated by the council's chairman, Mrs. Funmilayo Muhammed, have commended the council chairman, saying the kind gesture received from her has saved their parents huge expenses. With words of prayers and praises, they appreciated the council boss for encouraging academic pursuit by the youths in the community.

They promised to put in all their best to achieve success in the forthcoming examination.

To further support them, Muhammed said she has also organized free tutorials on compulsory subjects for the beneficiaries of the forms and other candidates living within Apapa Iganmu LCDA who are ready for a fast-paced learning exercise. The free tutorial classes

GCE beneficiaries applaud Apapa-Iganmu LCDA chairman, Mrs. Muhammed

By Edith Igbokwe



is slated to last for six weeks starting from September 5 at Orile Primary School, Iganmu, every Monday to Friday from 3pm to

6pm. According to her, the gesture is to ensure that all beneficiaries of the free GCE forms are properly groomed

academically before the examination commences to perform excellently well during their exams and make the council proud as

well as their parents. She maintained that those who are not part of the beneficiaries of the free GCE forms but are committed to

learning should abide by the rules and regulations binding the programme and visit the tutorial center to get enrolled.



Council trains youths on farming

By Edith Igbokwe

Ojodu Local Council Development Area (LCDA), in conjunction with the Lagos State Ministry of Agriculture, has commenced farm training for young people, retirees, entrepreneurs, graduates and secondary school leavers in the community.

The four-week training which has already commenced is scheduled to hold between September and October, this year at the Farm Service Centre, Agege, Lagos.

The council chairman, Mr. David Odunmbaku, inducted the council

participants for Agricultural training as one of his periodically farming training lined up by his administration.

The training includes crop planting and animal rearing such as cassava, yam, pig, fish, cattle, snail, rabbit, grass-cutter among others.

The council boss, who was represented at the inauguration by the vice chairman, Hon. Bunmi Oluyadi, assured the participants of total support throughout the training period.

He disclosed that the council has taken care of the participants' training fees and has also provided stipends for the participants throughout the training.



Participants at the Agricultural training

APC'll be successful in 2023, Kokumo assures

By Edith Igbokwe

The All Progressives Congress (APC) party chairman in Ojodu Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Alhaja Olusola Kokumo has assured the council chairman, Hon. David Odunmbaku, that he and other party executive members will work harder to make sure the party is successful in the 2023 general elections.

Kokumo made the pledge when the council chairman handed over the renovated party secretariat to the executives in Ogba.

Kokumo appreciated Odunmbaku for the face lifting of the party secretariat, saying it would aid the party executives in discharging their duties effectively.

“On behalf of the party executives and our members, we are grateful, I want to assure you that we'll deliver in 2023 on Asiwaju for President, Governor Sanwo-Olu's re-election, our own

Honourables James Abiodun Faleke and Richard Kasumu re-election bids," she pledged.

Speaking, the council boss disclosed that the renovation was done to aid the party

executive members in carrying out their job in a more conducive environment ahead of the 2023 general elections and beyond.

He said: "I have come here today, alongside members of my

Executive Council to hand over this property we renovated on behalf of our great party, APC and we implore you to make good use of it."

He reminded the party leaders, executives

and members to work assiduously, saying the tasks ahead of them are enormous, most especially for the success of the party presidential candidate, Asiwaju Bola Tinubu.

NSCDC seeks council's support to function effectively

By Edith Igbokwe

The newly deployed Divisional Officer of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps (NSCDC) to Ojodu Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Ikeja Division, Chief Superintendent of Corps (CSC) Ibrahim Omideyi, has solicited the support of the council authority to be able to deliver his duties effectively.

He made the appeal during his courtesy visit to the council chairman, Hon. David Odunmbaku.

He said the corps needs the council's support to execute its roles more efficiently within Ojodu



Odunmbaku welcomes NSCDC boss

and its environs.

Omideyi and the Deputy Superintendent of Corps (DSC), Peace Okpanachi, deliberated with the chairman on

how best to carry out duties towards maintaining law and order amidst tackling other security issues within Ikeja division.

Odunmbaku promised to meet the immediate needs of the security outfit, reinstating their importance in creating a safer environment for

everyone and further pledged to strengthen the already existing relationship with the NSCDC.



Oba Ranodu awards Best Students to celebrate 72nd birthday

Motolani AgbudGafar

In commemorating his 72nd birthday, the Ranodu of Imota, HRM, Oba Mudashir Ajibade Bakare Agoro, has honoured the students with Best WAEC results in the community with awards.

Nine students were beneficiaries of the Oba Ranodu Best WAEC results Prize and Award presented at Imota Youth Centre. They were given N50,000 cash prize.

Explaining the significance of the programme, the president of Imota Students Union, Comrade Ogunbowale Bodunrin remarked that every individual is living for a purpose seeking guidance towards achieving their goals in life.

He said it was part of efforts towards contributing to the academic uplift of students and youths in Imota LCDA, that the Oba Ranodu Best

WAEC Prize and Award Presentation was birthed, which is the first of its kind.

Ogunbowale continued: "This event is sponsored by His Royal Majesty, Oba Mudashir Ajibade Bakare Agoro to promote literary prominence among pupils prevailing a route to career success and community development as the theme of the occasion noted.

"Oba Mudashir Ajibade Bakare Agoro, a chartered accountant, is a foremost enlightened, indigenous, community crusader, progressive like mind and futuristic crowned king among kings in the division and the state at large.

"His reign has attracted great expansion to Imota LCDA, Hence, the need to propel his personality became pertinent to us and the instituted students body of the community.

"Positioned to celebrate scholars and encourage

students in the 4 wards of the town, we have meticulously scrutinized nine (9) students, emerging as the awardees of this occasion".

Explaining how the nine students were selected, Ogunbowale explained that there were three categories, the first category requested entry results across the schools in the LCDA both public and private while the second and third categories sought entry results from students of Ansar-ud-deen Grammar School, Imota and Community Senior Grammar School, Imota respectively.

"We have three students with the best results selected from each category to make up the nine. The sacrificial effort rendered on the students to ensure they all come out in flying colours in their respective examinations cannot be taken away from the



Oba Mudashiru Agoro giving out the educational grant

teachers and school administrators.

"Let me finish up this speech by saluting everyone for the milestone success, your decision to stay focused on securing an outstanding feat gave importance to this gesture" Ogunbowale added.

Before the prize and award presentation, His Royal Majesty, Oba Mudashir Ajibade Agoro, in his remarks praised the student union for deeming it fit

to use his birthday in extolling the academic performance of students in the community, adding that such an idea will spur young minds to take their education more seriously.

"I cannot overemphasize the role education played in my successful career which also lead me to become the paramount ruler of this Imota-land, my tendency to learn brought me to the spotlight.

"This is a clarion call to all Imota indigenes to create a better atmosphere for the children to grow academically, it will go a long way to aid our community shortly.

"Let me at this juncture, congratulate all the awardees and for the accountants on the list, they should meet with me by the end of the month, so I can further support them with a foundational guide as they progress academically."

Adeshina donates chairs, tables to Ikorodu APC party secretariat

Motolani AgbudGafar

The chairman of Ikorodu Local Government, Hon. Wasiu Adesina has donated new office tables and chairs to the All Progressives Congress (APC) party secretariat in Ikorodu Local Government Area.

Adesina said it became necessary to acquire office equipment for the secretariat to enhance its performance.

"With politics and crusades about to kick

off, it is only right for the secretariat to be effectively equipped and up to speed in meeting up with every demand.

"We'll continue to show our support and incentive to our All Progressives Congress party in our capacities," he said.

Receiving the materials, the APC LGA party chairman, Hon. Waheed Animashaun, applauded the council boss, noting that he has always been providing for the party.





Agbooyi- Ketu begins ICT hub invention

By Fidi Oshinowo

The chairman of Agbooyi Ketu Local Council Development Area (LCDA) Hon. Dele Oshinowo, has commenced the process of setting up of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tagged: 'We-lift Co-Creation ICT Hub'.

The We-lift Co-Creation ICT Hub is a place for technologists, social entrepreneurs, government, tech gurus and impact investors to be assembled within the council area for the benefits of stakeholders.

The innovation would be the first its kind in Kosofe area when completed.

The invention promised to accelerate the application of science and technology in delivering high-tech outcomes that will improve access to greater creativity, expertise, passion and the economic fortunes of council areas.

According to Oshinowo, the administration has put machinery in place to realize the “We-Lift Co-Creation ICT Hub.”

“The 3D design of the innovation centre has been made available as It would be constructed at Agbooyi-Ketu Area Office, Mascara, Ketu.”



Oshinowo ICT hub



CDA, CDC okay govt planning permit before building construction

By Fidi Oshinowo

The Community Development Associations (CDAs) and Community Development Committees (CDCs) of Agbooyi-Ketu and Ikosi-Isheri Local Council Development Area (LCDA) have deliberated in a stakeholders forum with the Lagos State Physical Planning Permit Authority (LASPPPA) on planning permit before building construction.

The forum was held at Ikosi/Isheri LCDA Secretariat, Ketu with the General Manager of LASPPPA, Tpl. Kehinde Osinaike who informed the participants of the mandate to ensure orderly planning of physical structures in every part of the state.

Osinaike reiterated that proper physical planning remains a tool for functional communities. He stated that obtaining necessary permits before any construction work and adhering to the rules and regulations involved in building construction will bring about a serene

environment that is safe and endearing to work and play for residents.

He, however, noted that it is part of LASPPPA's duties to ensure that an individual or organization embarking on erecting any structure gets a planning permit, and follows the rules guiding building constructions.

Osinaike warned that anyone who failed to get the approval of relevant government agencies in charge of physical development will face the wrath of the law.

The General Manager averred that the state government has further simplified the processes of obtaining physical planning approval promptly without any bureaucracy.

“The process has been simplified and made seamless as LASPPPA has ensured that processing and obtaining building approval is within 10 working days without delay”.

He, therefore, urged the leadership of the CDAs, CDC and residents of Agbooyi and Ikosi/Ketu area of the state to support the

government's mission of a sustainable environment by strictly complying with its regulations and equally reporting anyone found building without a permit.

Responding, the Chairman, CDA Magodo Phase I, Prince Tangbaju Benson appreciated the state government for the

enlightenment session on the benefits of planning permits and for putting in place a regulatory agency that will maintain standardization in construction works across the state and urged the government to organise more enlightenment programmes to keep the

public informed about necessary steps before embarking on building projects.

Benson noted that the benefits of getting planning permits will encourage application for the document to checkmate and regulate the activities of greedy

developers who try to cut corners in executing projects.

He, however, enjoined the residents to give the government their full support to actualize the dreams of delivering a functional and safe environment for the benefit of all.

Bamigboye welcomes Tinubu/Shetima Youth Movement in Mushin

The chairman of Mushin Local Government, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye has welcomed Bola Ahmed Tinubu Kashim Shetima (BATKASHET) Youth Movement in Mushin Local Government.

Bamigboye promised to support the group towards the success of Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu's presidential ambition in 2023.

The group is said to have been formed to mobilize voters for Tinubu in 2023.

Bamigboye commended the dignitaries at the event including the former Minister of Telecommunication,



BATKASHET EXCO with Hon, Bamigboye

Dr. Adebayo Shittu, for his presence, Senator Ganiu Solomon, Apex leader of Mushin Local Government represented by Alhaji

Odunsi, Hon. Mrs. Fausat Hassan Olajoku and others.

He stated that Asiwaju's template could not be

downplayed in all the 20 Local Governments and 37 Local Council Development Areas (LCDAs) across the State.



Council commiserates with deceased Fashola family

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Chairman of Iba LCDA, Hon. Yisa Jubril (Abila) has described the demise of the former party chairman of All Progressives Congress (APC), Iba LCDA chapter, Hon. Moses Fashola as a big blow to the party especially in this trial period they are experiencing. He said with Fashola's cordial leadership so far, the party has been able to excel among its peers as it has with a good strategist. Abila described Fashola as a model who

upcoming leaders look up to in the party.

He said his demise will be forever felt as he contributed greatly to Iba and Ojo Local govts as a whole.

He empathized with the family and close associates of the deceased over the demise while encouraging them to be prayerful as Fashola deserved their utmost recognition.

He urged youths in the party to emulate the leader's philosophy and legacy as those are the principles he used in directing the party during his tenure.



Council appreciates impact of CDC

As Community Leaders under the Umbrella of Community Development Advisory Council converged on Ojo Local Government to discuss a way forward for the development of the State, the council chairman, Hon. Rasulu Idowu has commended the impact of the Community Development Committee in guiding their community leaders into paving way for development in each

community.

He said their coming together to deliberate on more ideas to develop the community is a prove that aside from the stakeholders' meetings being held at the council level, each Local Government still carry itself along with leaders at the State level which shows their unification.

He promised that his administration would continue to support them as they have helped the

government in contributing to the success of some community projects.

Idowu appealed to them to ensure they avoid stringent modes of communication in their community to avoid delay in growth.

He echoed that they hope they meet up with their expectation of mobilizing residents en mass to vote on election dates as they are closer to the residents which are more convincing.

Party charges APC candidates to keep promises

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The All Progressives Congress (APC), Oto-Awori LCDA chapter has charged the party's flag bearers for the Federal House of Representatives and Lagos House of Assembly candidates not to disappoint the community, noting that they were

elected based on their score cards.

The representative, Hon. Tijani Suraju and Comr. Adebisi Ege was reported to have met the standard set for the primary election in the party.

The party chairman said he hoped that they will not drift apart from their primary duty after winning the election.

He said the propagation of the election of all APC flag bearers is to ensure a government of continuity in all spheres as the party has been hard working in developing the nation.

Meanwhile, both flag bearers assured residents of Ojo of their reliability and accessibility after the election.



CMS Old Students Association honours council chairman

By Saheed Afolabi

The Old Students Association of CMS Grammar school (1989 set) has honoured the President of ALGON/Chairman of Bariga Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Kolade Alabi among other distinguished personalities with merit awards for his support towards the growth and development of the oldest secondary school in Nigeria.

The event which was held at the Venerable S. A. Adelaja Hall, CMS Grammar School Bariga, had in attendance, the President of CMS Grammar School Old Students Association worldwide, Mr. Olu Vincent, High Chief Abayomi Onipe (Baale Ayetoro), High Chief Lopez (Baale Ifelodun) and other eminent personalities.

Hon Alabi was given a special merit award at the event which was received on his behalf by Hon. Saheed Ashiru.

Hon Ashiru appreciated the CMS President for deeming Alabi worthy of an award from the school.



CMS alumni with Hon. Alabi

He assured the old students association that Alabi will continue to be a shining example to the state and Nigeria in general.

According to Mr. Vincent, Alabi deserves honour,

recognition, and appreciation from the school for being a noble ambassador who has fascinatingly put Bariga and Lagos on the National and international map.

He, however, reiterated

that Alabi's relentless contribution and support to the development of CMS Grammar School and its Alumni Association has made a great mark.

"Alabi is a very important man not only in Bariga but

also in Lagos, as he has always been a pillar of support for CMS Grammar School anytime he's called upon".

He cited one of his compassionate act of Alabi who suspended his

journey, to visit students who suffered an ugly incident that happened in 2020, sorted their medical bills as well as repaired the broken rail that caused the incident in the school.

No fewer than 5,000 pupils of Ladilak Primary School, Bariga benefited from this year's Back-To-School' Programme of LiRA Foundation.

This year's is the season 3 of the annual programme organized by the convener of the Foundation, Ruth Ayomide.

According to her, the gesture is to give back to society and to ease the burden parents carry during resumption period. Ayomide, who hailed from Bariga Local Council, recounted that the NGO's previous encounter necessitated the further

Foundation distributes sch materials to 5000 pupils

By Saheed Afolabi

essential support of her dedicated team to reach out to pupils.

"The journey so far hasn't been an easy one to come by, but we solely believed in the mantra 'Never Give Up. The 2019 edition was superb, 2021 was indeed a success story.

"The synergy of our vibrant, diligent, intelligent, and result-oriented team, rejigged their individual responsibilities to make this 3rd edition a reality.

I'm so much proud of our sponsors, collaborators, parents, and future leaders. God bless you all," she stated.

In no order of preference, pupils and students who thronged the venue were provided with back-to-school kits such as school bags, food flasks, pairs of unisex sandals, exercise books and text books, 1000ml Reusable Water-Bottles and Nourishments.

However, randomly selected pupils were engaged in Spelling Bee &



School kits

Quiz Competitions and those born in September were celebrated at intervals.

Likewise, the beneficiaries of the 2022

Information and Communications Technology (ICT) training, received their certificates in the midst of their guardians, having been

up-skilled intensively more than a month at Ruthowen Nigeria Limited 7, Albert Street Palm Grove, Somolu.



The coast is getting clearer now as the first vice president of NFF and the chairman of Lagos State Football Association (LSFA), Barrister Seyi Akinwunmi obtained his form and successfully got screened to run for the president of the Nigeria Football Federation NFF).

After having started his football administrative career from the bottom and rose to the top, most football lovers believed Akinwunmi is the best man to be the next NFF President. Akinwunmi said he shares the view of the people that called on him to run for the position of the President of NFF, adding that he has the pedigree and what other candidates have individually.

The legal luminary was a one-time lawyer to the LSFA before rising to the top as chairman of LSFA and first vice president of NFF.

In this exclusive interview with ECHONEWS, the well-respected football

I'm the best man for NFF President - Akinwunmi

By Saheed Afolabi

administrator spoke about his plans for Nigeria football if elected as NFF President.

"I'm very happy for people who called on me to run for the position of the NFF President and I shared their views.

"I have the pedigree to aspire for the position of President of NFF and what other candidates have individually, I have them together in me.

"I started as a lawyer to the Lagos State Football Association (LSFA), then, I became the football adviser to the minister of sport. I was appointed into the presidential committee of football development by former President Goodluck Jonathan. I became the

Lagos State Football Association (LSFA) chairman; I was the chairman of the CAF beach soccer tournament in Lagos.

"Thereafter, I became the chairman of the Western Nigeria football forum and I've been the chairman of the Nigeria National League (NNL) and during my time as the chairman of NNL, the clubs stopped paying match indemnities; I have been the founding member of the League Management Company (LMC) committee and I have also done grassroots football as you know, I'm also the present first vice president of NFF, I started from the bottom to the top.

"On the other hand, I have been the chairman of the NFF reform committee



Barrister Seyi Akinwunmi

and also a member of the football ten years master plan committee.

"You can also see that I have interacted with the

change that the people want for our football and if you juxtapose all of this together, I think I'm better equipped to be the president of NFF.

"My mantra for my campaign is called 'Football First' and Football First rest on four pillars, that's Football infrastructure, football technology and Business of football.

"What I intend to do is to reinvent the way we run football; presently, we run the bottom to top approach and the NFF says you do this, you do that but the NFF doesn't have the budget for the states FA who are its affiliates.

"So I intend to run the top to bottom approach, that I intend to lead a team that will draw a horizontal line across Nigeria football and above that line is the NFF doing what he does the national teams, national trainings, national courses, doing business trying to get sponsors, interfacing with the government, interfacing with CAF and FIFA.

"Below that line, we have the local government councils, that's the State FA, the regionals (they will be the interface between the NFF and the States FA), what will happen is that, every year, the NFF will provide an allocation for each state FA and pay them quarterly, at the end of each quarter, the NFF will audit what each state FA chairman have done based on the purpose that the money is meant for. Then you are entitled to get the next tranche of allocation and this helps the FA grow.

"Then we have tournaments at the state FA level and I should be able to do it, as long as I meet the minimum requirements, there are various levels of tournaments that we can have. The requirements of some tournaments might just be four teams and they would build their own stadium of maybe 1 or 2 thousand capacity and with that, you can develop football across board and that makes state FA proud of itself and people will start to invest in the states FA."

80 players in NAFA U18 camp

The Nigeria American Football Association (NAFA), the organizer of the Nigeria Secondary School Flag Football League, has opened the U-18 camp for boys and girls in Lagos.

The camp registered 80 young players aspiring to become among the 25 boys/25 girls national team players for international championships around the globe.

The camp, which opened on Wednesday, will round off on Friday where the players that eventually meet the standard, would be selected after much training and screenings.

The screening is ongoing at the Kings College, Lagos Island.

Tyler Adetona, the Athlete Director, NAFA, told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) that the camp was

essential to choose, train and drill quality players for national assignments.

He said that the players were selected from those who took part in the last edition of the season.

According to Adetona, the aim of the camp is to prepare the team that will represent Nigeria at the International Federation of American Football (IFAF) tournament in 2023 in Ireland.

"I have seen a lot of talents at the camp so far and during the league games, I saw abundant talents and so far I'm proud with what we have in camp.

"At the end, it may be so hard for me to choose because there are very good players who have embraced the game and are so passionate to make something out of it," Adetona said.

He added that with the mandate given to him, he

would build a national U-18 team that would push the players in the right direction.

"We have to drill them in stability, speed and mental alertness and most importantly, give them the opportunity that we have to make them excel," Adetona said.

Similarly, Olufunmilayo Akintomi, the Head Coach, Stadium Junior High School, said the players were excited to be in camp and would work hard to make the national team.

She said that the opportunity was a good one as the players had the chance to exhibit their skills and learn new more things as the game was relatively new in Nigeria.

She said personally, she had been exposed as she had also learnt so much from the technical inputs from the organizers of the

league.

"This is a great development for sports in Nigeria as it seeks to give young people a chance to prove themselves in a sport that is relatively new in Nigeria.

"The last league that ended in June produced so much scholarships for these youths and further inspired them to work harder to be their best at school and on the field.

"Being a non-contact sport, it inspires them to play well because it reduces the risks of injuries and makes them happy to exhibit their skills.

"With the international coaches on ground that trained us as well, we feel good as the youths would be given the nitty-gritty of the game that they can apply easily," Akintomu said.



Robo Queens emerge champions of Betsy Obaseki Women Football Tournament

By Saheed Afolabi

FC Robo Queens from Lagos emerged the winner of the 2nd edition of the Betsy Obaseki Women Football Tournament after defeating Edo Queens 1-0 at the Samuel Ogbemudia Stadium, Benin, Edo State.

The lone goal of the game through FC Robo Queens box to box midfielder, Rukayat Oladiti, who in the 24th minute, lashed on to a loose ball in the 18 meters box.

The match was a pulsating one and energy soaking encounter as it drew the best from the players.

It was a difficult game for both sides as both teams were equal to each other in the early stages of the game.

Rukayat Oladiti grabbed her 4th goal of the tournament as she scored in the 24th minute to give FC Robo



FC Robo Queens emerged champions of the Betsy Obaseki Women Football Tournament

Queens a deserved lead in the game.

The goal conceded by Edo Queens spur them to come out of their shell as they pushed

FC Robo Queens to their own half in the latter stage of the first half.

Favour Nkwocha hit the crossbar with a

waving strike from 25 meters out.

The second half saw Edo Queens dominating possession and had lots of set

piece in the half of FC Robo Queens but they couldn't convert them. Edo Queens couldn't find the back of the net despite their ball

possession as FC Robo Queens became the champion of the 2nd edition of the Betsy Obaseki Women Football Tournament.

The ten years football master plan developed by the Minister of Youth and Sport, Sunday Dare was recently endorsed by President Muhammadu Buhari.

Speaking to ECHONEWS, the chairperson of Delta Queens and NWFL Club Owners Association (NWFLCOA), Henrietta Ehiabor said the Football Masterplan is a fantastic welcome into football in Nigeria and will go a long way in treating every aspect of football in the country.

She said: "The Football Master Plan is a fantastic welcome into football in Nigeria, the Football Master Plan will go a long

Football Master Plan'll treat every aspect of football in Nigeria positively - Ehiabor

way in treating every aspect of football in the country.

It's a ten year master plan, everything is a gradual process, if every process is met bit by bit along the line, we will surely get there.

"I took my time to go through the master plan, it's bringing both the club owners, the board and the players together. It's a collective thing, it's a full package for football for both the men and women's league and the national team."



Mrs Henrietta Ehiabor, chairperson NWFL Club Owners Association



Chief Mrs. Oluremi Tinubu (OON)
Senator, Federal Republic of Nigeria , Lagos Central



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Published by Echonews Newspapers Limited

21, Ona Iwa Mimo Street, Ori Oke Bus Stop, Ejigbo, Lagos. www.echonews.ng Email: echonews1111@yahoo.co.uk

Managing Editor: Obe Rasheed Tel, 08025378799 Editor: Abolaji Adebayo, Tel: 07061193610. Circulation: Opeyemi Akinlade; Marketing executive: Tope Yussuf 07010496879