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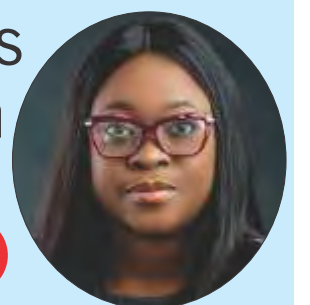
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Thursday BRT accident: Lagos bans LAGBUS from BRT Lane, deploys 2,050 new buses soon

Kunle Awosiyan

Lagos State Government has banned red vehicles belonging to the state Bus Service, LAGBUS from plying BRT lane.

LAGBUS are the Red buses owned by private individuals and companies regulated by the state in conjunction with the NURTW.

A source at the state Ministry of Transportation (Names withheld) told Echonews that the government is doing a lot to regulate the mass transit scheme. He said, "Only the Primero BRT vehicles and LBSL buses use the BRT Lane. We have banned the LAGBUS red buses from using the BRT corridor. That is why many of them now pass through Third Mainland Bridge.

Primero is the sole operator of the Ikorodu to TBS corridor, with additional routes to Ikeja, Oshodi and Yaba.

They also operate along the Oshodi to Abule-Egba BRT corridor.

Last Thursday, about 60 passengers escaped death when a vehicle belonging to the Lagos Bus Service, LAGBUS rammed into a rail on the Third Mainland Bridge a few days ago.

The bus veered the road and was heading into the Lagoon but was stopped by the barricade.

The State Government has been silent for too long over the deteriorating operation of its Mass Transit scheme.

The state Mass Transit comprises three operators; the Bus Rapid Transit, (BRT) the Lagos Bus Service, (LAGBUS) and the Lagos Bus Service Limited, (LBSL.) While the Lagos Bus Services Limited (LBSL), which was set up by the administration of Governor Akinwumi Ambode is being highly regulated and

maintained, the other two, BRT and LAGBUS are facing serious challenges as most of their vehicles had been damaged without adequate repair or replacement. BRT is a subsidiary of the Primero Transport Services Limited, a privately owned bus operating company under the Lagos state Mass

Transit Scheme while the LAGBUS are the Red buses owned by private individuals and companies regulated by the state also in conjunction with the NURTW.

On Thursday, one of the degenerated vehicles of the LAGBUS slipped off the Third Mainland Bridge and was heading

into the lagoon but the metal rail barricade stopped it from throwing about 60 passengers into the water.

According to an eyewitness, a fully loaded BRT bus with people standing, heading from Mainland to the Island swerved and climbed the pavement and almost dashed into the lagoon, but miraculously the iron rail pierced through the engine and pushed the big bus back to the bridge.

"I was not told, I was an eye witness. Over 60 souls would have been dumped into the sea," the eyewitness, who took the video of the incident wrote.

In October 2023, no fewer than 14 persons were injured in a crash that happened around 10am on the Bus Rapid Transport corridor at the Cement Bus Stop, Valley Estate, inward Ile Zik on the Lagos-Abeokuta Expressway.

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Thursday BRT accident: Lagos bans LAGBUS from BRT Lane, deploys 2,050 new buses soon

As he put it, "I always board the bus from Iyana Ipaja and I can tell you that the vehicles are no more in good condition. It seems government is no more in control of the LAGBUS. They pack us like sardine fish, in this terrible heat from the mainland to the Island."

In January 2024, workers of the Primero went on strike over unpaid December 2023 salary. Though the crisis was resolved within two days, a driver (Names withheld) told our correspondent that Primero might stop operation due to high cost of diesel.

Primero started its operations on the 12th of November 2015 with 434 Yutong high-capacity buses bought through bank loans. Primero operates some of the Millennium BRT buses under the Lagos state public partnership arrangement.

Our correspondent gathered that Primero, the operator of the BRT had not replaced many of its old vehicles since it was incorporated on 1 August 2016 as a transport asset acquisition, operations, and advisory services company on Lagos dedicated road. Many of the vehicles are now in bad shape and prone to accident.

Passengers complained about the bad condition of the buses in the BRT corridor while the regulator, the Lagos

Metropolitan Area Transport Authority and the state Ministry of Transportation are keeping mum over the bad services.

Even though it has become a popular misconception for Lagos commuters to describe all the operators of the mass transit scheme as BRT, the silence of the government has not helped matters.

When our correspondent called the Director of Public Relations, Lagos State Ministry of Transportation, Mrs. Bolanle Ogunlola for her response to bad condition of many BRT and LAGBUS vehicles, she failed to pick her call.

A video of the the incident on the Third Mainland Bridge was also sent to her whatsapp line, she viewed the video and read the information but did not revert.

However, a worker at the ministry (Names withheld) told Echonews that the government is doing a lot to regulate the mass transit scheme.

He said, "Only the Primero BRT vehicles and LBSL buses use the BRT Lane. We have banned the LAGBUS red buses from using the BRT corridor. That is why many of them now pass through Third Mainland Bridge.

Primero is the sole operator of the Ikorodu to TBS corridor, with additional routes to Ikeja, Oshodi and Yaba. They also operate along the Oshodi to

Abule-Egba BRT corridor.

While LAGBUS Red and Primero BRT vehicles are falling apart, the LBSL buses are gaining more capacity with the deployment of Brazilian-built Marcopolo buses and Ashok buses.

According to the Lagos State Commissioner for Transportation, Oluwaseun Osiyem, the state government is planning to buy

no fewer than 2,050 vehicles to ease movement across the state.

Osiyemi said that the procurement of the vehicles for mass transit would further address queues at bus stations. He said the buses would also be provided with the support of an oil company, adding, "We're aware of the long queues in all our stations, especially on Mondays. We're working better

to serve the good people of Lagos State. "We're almost done with the procurement of 2,000 BRT buses to ease the queues in the stations.

"You know Lagos State believes in public and private partnership, therefore, an oil company is giving us 50 electric buses in addition to the ones the state government is procuring. "So, residents of Lagos State will no longer have to suffer the long queues," he said.



Permanent Secretary of Lands Bureau Advocates Teamwork

Staff members of the Lands Bureau have been urged to show commitment and foster teamwork among themselves, in a bid to turn the operational activities of Lagos State Lands Bureau around to enhance productivity and ensure efficient and effective Service delivery.

The Permanent Secretary, Lands Bureau, Mr. Kamar Olowoshago gave the charge at a three-day Team Bonding and Work-Life balance



exercise organised for the staff of the Bureau, held recently at Jubilee Chalet Epe, urging the participants to promote synergy and commitment among themselves

Mr. Olowoshago, while

advocating for cooperation among staff regardless of levels and cadres, stressed that the success of the Bureau's mission to establish a culture of excellence and efficient delivery depends on the unity

and teamwork of everyone.

According to him, with team effort, greater impact can be achieved in the Bureau's vision of "Making Lagos a 21st Century Economy" in line with the THEMES Plus Agenda of Mr. Governor. Outlining some benefits of teamwork, the Permanent Secretary encouraged all members of staff to collaborate across Departments and Units, emphasising that fostering teamwork builds trust, improves communication and

increases innovations.

Participants were taken through a series of knowledge-sharing sessions with presentations from facilitators who stressed the significance of communication, teamwork and taking responsibility.

The highlights of the programme include the engagement of staff members in games, physical exercise, intellectual brainwork and various recreational activities.

Dignitaries in attendance

include Permanent Secretaries from the State Treasury Office, Dr. Abiodun Muritala; Office of Environmental Services, Dr. Omobolaji Gaji; Ministry of Local Government, Chieftaincy and Rural Development, Mrs. Kikelomo Bolarinwa; Ministry of Home Affairs, Mrs. Ololade Aina as well as General Manager, New Towns Development Authority, TPL. Olakunle Aboyeji and the General Manager, Lagos State Parks and Garages Agency, Mrs. Adebisi Adelabu.

API Integration: Lagos Reiterates Commitment To Compliance

The Lagos State Ministry of Transportation has noted with dismay the misinformation on various Social Media channels on the data-sharing agreement between the government and the e-hailing platforms operating in the State.

For the avoidance of doubt, all the e-hailing companies agreed to the importance of the venture which is to ensure the security and safety of drivers and passengers in the State. Each company has independently committed to the full implementation of the agreement.

Therefore, we affirm our unwavering commitment to ensuring complete compliance with these measures.

The API integration was instituted to establish a reliable driver and passenger verification platform which will enable the government to ensure that the e-hailing services comply with necessary background checks, vehicle inspections and driver licensing requirements.

This will significantly reduce the risk of unauthorised or unqualified individuals operating as drivers, enhancing the overall

safety and trustworthiness of the e-hailing platforms.

By prioritising the safety and security of drivers and passengers, this collaboration will play a vital role in transforming Lagos into a city with a more reliable and trusted transportation network.

We wish to state that APIs are not new, and there should be no fears about real-time tracking of users, considering the existing practices of digital platforms such as Google, Instagram, Facebook, and even Netflix. With their tracking practices, these social media channels already track users' real-time locations through their various services, enabling them to push location-specific content to users.

Therefore, the introduction of an API with e-hailing services for real-time tracking in Lagos should be seen as a positive step towards ensuring the safety and security of drivers and passengers. The API will also enable the government to react promptly in emergencies, providing an additional layer of protection to users of this service.

It is important to state that notable countries and states in America, Asia, and Europe have adopted API integration given its vital role in enabling real-time data sharing, monitoring, and accountability during active trips.

Accordingly, the promptness of Lagos State in aligning with the API in accordance with international best practices should be applauded as it emphasises the State's special status as a pacesetter in Nigeria, of which the API integration is a shining example.

We express our gratitude to all e-hailing companies that have voluntarily adhered to the data-sharing agreement. We also take this opportunity to call on Uber, the only company yet to fully comply, to promptly seek a resolution within the established regulatory framework.

It is imperative to state that non-compliance will lead to stringent sanctions in strict accordance with State laws and regulations. We emphasise that the decision to enforce sanctions is a measure of last resort, undertaken in the best interest of all stakeholders.

LSPHCB, CIHP Collaborate on Maternal, Adolescent Healthcare

The Lagos State Primary Health Care Board (LSPHCB) has partnered with the Centre for Integrated Health Programmes (CIHP) to enhance healthcare services for mothers and adolescents in the State

Speaking at two-day workshop focused on revising the expanded Group Antenatal Care (G-ANC) and Post Natal Care (PNC) model, the Permanent Secretary of the Lagos State Primary Health Care Board, Dr. Ibrahim Akinwunmi Mustafa informed that the Group Antenatal Care (G-ANC) is a well tested model designed to improve the experience of Antenatal care in health facilities.

The Permanent Secretary, who was represented by Dr. Veronica Iwayemi, the Programme Manager for State Emergency Maternal and Child Health Intervention Centre (SEMCHIC-RN) further noted that the collaboration which is all inclusive will further strengthen the health care system and improve delivery of high impact reproductive health interventions.

He explained that the G-ANC is a client-centred approach grouping pregnant women with

similar needs for joint care. The model has been linked to better attendance, satisfaction, and health outcomes for mothers and newborns amongst other numerous benefits.

He highlighted educating expectant fathers on the importance of antenatal care and their role in supporting mothers. Additionally, the G-ANC Manual will cater to teen mothers' hospitals.

In her welcome address, the CEO, Centre for Integrated Health Programmes, Dr. Bola Oyeledun noted that the G-ANC project is not new in Lagos State since it actually kicked off in the State in 2022, however, there was a need to upgrade and upscale the programme for a more beneficial outcome hence the

need for the review of the manual.

Whilst appreciating the State Government for a respectful partnership, Dr. Oyeledun said that the Centre would continue to offer technical support and assistance in other areas of health such as RMNCAH+N, prevention of mother to child transmission for HIV, Capacity building for human resources for health workers amongst others.

This programme is planned for implementation in 240 Primary Healthcare Centres and 20 secondary centres across all 20 Local Government Areas in Lagos State and areas of expansion including Group Post Natal Care (PNC), Adolescent Healthcare Services and Inclusion of men in supporting maternal health



Lagos Govt Embarks on State-Wide Mapping of Informal Urban Spaces

Lagos State Government, through the Lagos State Planning and Environmental Monitoring Authority (LASPEMA), has embarked on drone mapping of Informal Urban Spaces (IUS) in the State with the aim of sanitising the critical landed areas.

The exercise is expected to tackle misuse of Informal Urban Spaces, which are lands emerging from the execution and delivery of public infrastructure in the State such as the Abule-Egba Jubilee Bridge, and the Blue and Red rail lines projects among others.

This initiative underscores the Babajide Sanwo-Olu Administration's T.H.E.M.E.S Plus Agenda and



commitment to proactive and inclusive Urban Management, and Sustainable Development practices that are in tandem with Making Lagos a 21st Century Economy, in line with the SDG Goal 11, which is about making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

LASPEMA, an agency under the supervision of the Ministry of

Physical Planning and Urban Development - Office of Physical Planning, has the mandate to coordinate the sustainable use of all informal urban spaces, most of which emerged as a result of the execution and delivery of infrastructure projects by the government

Speaking to the media on the mapping exercise, the General Manager, Lagos State Planning and Environmental

Monitoring Authority (LASPEMA), Tpl. Daisi Oso said: "The State has, over the years, witnessed the unguided use of these spaces and contended with their unauthorised governance by non-state actors whose activities hinder the growth of Informal Business and impinge on the effectiveness of physical development plans".

Tpl Oso stated that the problem, if not addressed and tackled headlong, will result in a serious crisis that will adversely affect the State's critical infrastructure and by extension, the economy of the Centre of Excellence as the Informal Economy is quite huge, dynamic and must be subjected to proper regulation, coordination and monitoring to breed orderliness, aesthetics

and sustainability of the Urban face of Lagos.

One of the Local Government Areas and Local Council Development Areas, where the LASPEMA team carried out the mapping exercise was Agbado-Oke Odo LCDA, where the Chairman, Hon. David Famuyiwa, who was eager to receive the team, expressed confidence in LASPEMA's effort as a sign of the deep commitment of Lagos State Government to addressing challenges facing the Abule Egba Jubilee Bridge area.

The Drone Mapping exercise, spearheaded by the GM of LASPEMA, was with the collaboration of both the Office of Physical Planning, under the leadership of the Commissioner for

Physical Planning and Urban Development, Dr. Oluyinka Olumide, and the Office of Urban Development, under the headship of the Special Adviser to the Governor on e-GIS and Urban Development, Dr. Olajide Babatunde.

LASPEMA has been able to seize the opportunity to leverage and harness the power of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) to create detailed and accurate maps of emerging lands in urban spaces of the State to deploy sustainable planning strategies that will enhance inclusivity.

The Drone Mapping Initiative underscores the Agency's commitment to embracing innovation and technology as catalysts for positive change.

OEQA Meets Stakeholders on Y2024/2025 Academic Calendar

To continue to foster fruitful collaboration and dialogue between government and school owners, the Lagos State Office of Education Quality Assurance (OEQA), on Friday, met with education stakeholders in the State's basic and secondary schools on the Y2024/2025 Academic Calendar.

The stakeholder engagement that is held periodically to ensure that both government and private school owners are on the same page, has proven to be vital in addressing some critical issues surrounding schools' academic calendars.

Addressing participants at the stakeholders' engagement held at the Lagos State Universal Basic Education Board (LASUBEB) premises, Maryland, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education, Mr. Abayomi Abolaji applauded the synergy that exists between the state government and school owners over the years.

He said that the smooth operation of the State's annual academic

calendar is a testament to the cordial relationship established by the Ministry with the stakeholders, stressing that this development has endeared Lagos to other States across the country.

Revealing that all laid down rules that guide the operations of Basic and Secondary Education in the State are jointly agreed upon by the education stakeholders, the Permanent Secretary

appealed to the school owners to continue to adhere to the dictates of the various laws guiding schools operating in the State.

He urged the participants to use the avenue of engagement to make valuable contributions based on facts and figures and devoid of personal sentiments to collectively improve the standard of education in the State and beyond.

The Director, Private Education Special Programmes of OEQA, Mrs. Fabambi Falayi, during her presentation, informed that the stakeholders are expected to



brainstorm on the adoption of a new Harmonized Lagos State School Calendar to ensure seamless and qualitative learning for the year 2024/2025 academic session.

Falayi explained that the essence of the engagement is to ensure that all schools below the tertiary level in the State are on the same page with respect to the school academic calendar. She later took the participants through the plenary session and guided the groups in drafting a calendar each.

The Director also highlighted some salient points and guidelines that would help develop the new Academic Calendar. These include: Midterm breaks which must be one week as well 1st

term, 2nd term and 3rd term holidays which must be 15 days, 10 Days and seven weeks respectively.

According to her, "Resumption for 2nd term must not be within the first week of January; Public holidays that are less than a week to Midterm break or end of term holiday should be embedded in the break; The Minimum number of learning days is 180 while the window for application for flexibility should be submitted at least three weeks to the resumption of the new session".

Earlier, the Director of Planning, Research and Statistics, OEQA, Mr. Remi Abdul stated that the coming together of

stakeholders will make it possible for the school owners to collectively drive positive change and innovation in the way the academic year is structured and managed.

While appreciating the stakeholders on behalf of the State Government for their level of compliance and adherence to Academic Calendars over the years, Abdul solicited the support and cooperation of all Stakeholders for a practicable and harmonious academic calendar for all schools in Lagos State.

The Director, Research Unit, OEQA, Mrs. Evelyn Pelemo took the stakeholders through the historical background of the development of a harmonized academic calendar in the State.

In his goodwill message, the Nigeria Union of Teachers (NUT), Lagos Chapter Chairman, Mr. Akintoye Hassan stated that the Academic Calendar serves as the framework upon which educational activities are

structured, guiding students, teachers, and administrators alike in their pursuit of knowledge and excellence.

He advised the stakeholders to focus on ensuring optimal learning outcomes for students while also accommodating the diverse needs of the education community.

The stakeholders engagement was also attended by officials of LASUBEB, Teaching Service Commission (TESCOM), the six Education Districts in the State, Lagos State Technical And Vocational Education Board (LASTVEB), Nigerian Union of Teachers (NUT), All Nigerian Conference of Principals of Secondary Schools (ANCOSS) representatives of Conference of Private Schools Associations in Lagos State (COPSAIL), Association of Primary Schools Head Teachers of Nigeria (AOPSHON), World Organisation for Early Childhood Education (OMEP), National Examination Council (NECO) and West African Examinations Council (WAEC), among others.

LSBTS Moves To Ensure Safe Blood Practices

... Trains 340 Healthcare Workers On Safe Blood Practices

In a bid to enhance safe blood practices and ensure quality blood banking services in health facilities, the Lagos State Blood Transfusion Service (LSBTS) recently concluded a comprehensive training exercise on safe blood practices for 340 healthcare workers, including medical doctors and laboratory scientists drawn from both public and private health facilities.

In his address at the seven-day event held at the LCCI Conference and Exhibition Centre in Ikeja, Lagos, the Executive Secretary of the LSBTS, Dr. Bodunrin Osikomaiya said the training focused on various critical aspects of safe blood practices.



According to her, the participants were specifically trained on

mobilisation and conversion of blood donors, appropriate

clinical use of blood and products, haemovigilance, and the

role of laboratories in ensuring blood safety.

“With 200 medical doctors from Surgery, Internal Medicine, Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Paediatrics, and Emergency departments, alongside 140 medical laboratory scientists from private blood banks, the training aimed to equip healthcare providers with the necessary skills and knowledge to improve service delivery”, she explained.

Dr. Osikomaiya emphasised the importance of the training which is in line with international best standards and highlighted its role as a major activity evaluated during regulatory visits by the State Blood

Monitoring and Enforcement sub-committee.

In her words, “The LSBTS, established to ensure the safety of blood from collection to transfusion, remains dedicated to recruiting and retaining voluntary blood donors, screening all donated blood for transfusion-transmissible infections, and promoting efficient blood processing.

“This successful training underscores the LSBTS's commitment to providing safe and quality blood banking services to meet the needs of the community. It serves as a testament to the ongoing efforts to uphold its highest standards of patient care and safety”, Osikomaiya stated.

ARFH, USAID Organise Mental Health Training For LASODA



The Association and Family Health United States Agency Development for (ARFH), in for International (USAID), recently Reproductive collaboration with the

organised a two-day “Training of Trainers” programme on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support for the staff of the Lagos State Office for Disability Affairs (LASODA). The training, which was held on March 19 and 20, 2024 focused on the fundamental principles of mental health, its iThe Association for Reproductive and

Family Health (ARFH), in collaboration with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), recently organised a two-day “Training of Trainers” programme on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support for the staff of the Lagos State Office for Disability Affairs (LASODA). The training, which was held on March 19 and 20, 2024 focused on the fundamental principles of mental health, its i

Ibeju-Lekki Local Government Economic Relief Program

Empowering the citizens of Ibeju-Lekki to Overcome the current economic challenges while fostering economic growth in Nigeria through collaboration with state and federal authorities.



OVERVIEW

The Ibeju-Lekki Local Government Economic Relief Program aims to alleviate the impact of the current challenges in the economy on its citizens by providing targeted support in key areas.

Through this program, the local government will offer relief measures to ease the burden on households, ensuring a positive impact on the well-being of its residents, particularly the needy, while continuing to collaborate with state and federal authorities to foster overall economic growth in Nigeria.



FOCUS SECTORS



HEALTH

- Free basic drugs at our Public Health Centres.
- Free medical tests for blood pressure and blood sugar.
- Medical Financial Assistant for vulnerable families through a new fund called Medical Support Fund.



EDUCATION

- #50,000 Bursary for Students of higher institutions of learning.
- School Fees Support for newly admitted students into higher institutions of learning.
- Free forms for students writing WAEC and GCE.

FOCUS SECTORS



HOUSEHOLD

- Community Market to subsidize one of food items.



AGRICULTURE

- Ibeju Lekki Out-grower Scheme for Cassava and Plantain farming to boost food production.



MSME

- \$30 million Traders Loans to be disbursed over a period of 6 months.

OBJECTIVES OF THE INITIATIVE

01

Provide support to cushion the effect of economic hardships.

02

To provide emergency support.

03

Support to help families with basic household needs.

04

Support SMEs through credit.

05

Provide medical Relief.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The Ibeju Lekki Local Government Economic Relief Program is a strategic and compassionate response to the current economic challenges in our country. This initiative not only strengthens our local economy and improves public perception but also positions Ibeju Lekki as a beacon of resilience and sustainable development.

Through this, we seize the opportunity to uplift people, reduce poverty, and create a stronger, more stable environment. Together, we can embrace a future where citizens thrive, the community flourishes, and Ibeju Lekki becomes a model of progress for the nation.

THANK YOU



Sanwo-Olu Salutes Lagosians' Calmness At Sunday Market



Lagos State Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu has noted the smooth conduct at the Ounjè Eko Sunday markets. For the third Sunday, residents trooped out to buy various items at 25% less than the usual market prices. Many praised the government for the initiative, which they suggested should go on. Mr. Sanwo-Olu received reports of calmness and orderliness at the markets despite the huge turnout of residents.

He said, "It is all about assuring Lagosians that our administration will continue to stand by them. We will continue to find and deploy creative ways of easing their burden." Governor Sanwo-Olu praised the Special Dispensation Advisory Committee on Social Interventions (SPEDAC), an eleven-man, non-partisan body set up to advise the government on various interventions, for its support on all the initiatives, which will soon be fully rolled out.

The "Ounjè Eko" Market pilot scheme, which opened on Sunday, March 17th in 57 centres across the five divisions of the State, is part of multi-sectoral measures rolled out by Governor Sanwo-Olu to cushion the effects of the economic hardship on Lagosians. All the measures come under the umbrella of EKO CARES. The others are in the health, transportation, and education sectors. The market at its debut last week had some hitches, but most of the

identified inadequacies have since been corrected. Today, the situation was calm as prospective buyers were orderly. Payment points ran smoothly at the cashless markets. Reports gathered at various markets show that sales started earlier than last week, as local food vendors arrived early - to the delight of customers. Although the prices of the products varied according to area, residents were full of praise for the idea.

To prevent reselling, double-buying and ensure that all buyers were served, children who came with their parents were not allowed to purchase food items while preference was given to the aged, expectant women and people living with disabilities. On sale were rice, beans, pepper, bread, eggs, gari and others. A resident, Mr. Babalola Onitire, who visited Ounjè Eko Grammar school market in Ikorodu, said he could not

access any product last week due to the rowdiness that characterised the process, but "I have come back today and I have had what I wanted for my family at low prices." The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Mr. Emmanuel Fatai Audu, who engaged market leaders at some of the markets, appreciated the vendors and buyers for their peaceful conduct. The initiative continues next Sunday.

Lagos Govt Promises Support For Brazillian Descendants Association

... Outlines Activities to Celebrate Third Popo Aguda Easter Arts, Music Concert

In a reaffirmation of its dedication to cultural diversity and preservation, the Lagos State Government has pledged unwavering support for the Brazilian Descendants Arts and Culture Association through its annual Popo Aguda Easter Arts and Music Extravaganza.

The Special Adviser to the Governor on Tourism, Arts and Culture, Mr. Idris Aregbe gave the pledge at a Press Briefing held on Friday at the Secretariat, Alausa to announce activities slated for the celebration of the Third Annual Popo Aguda Easter Arts and Music Extravaganza slated for Friday, 29th and Sunday, 31st March, 2024 respectively.

While promising to sustain its partnership and support for the

event, Aregbe outlined a vibrant array of activities slated for the two-day celebration spanning culture, cuisine, music, dance, cultural performances and tourism, among others.

He informed that the annual event, known for its vibrant showcase of Brazilian heritage and its fusion with Nigerian culture, has become a cornerstone of Lagos's cultural calendar during the Easter period.

He added that the Lagos State Government's involvement in the event is in recognition of the significance of preserving and celebrating cultural identities within the state.

The two-day extravaganza, according to the Special Adviser,

promises an immersive experience for attendees, offering a glimpse into the rich tapestry of Brazilian and Nigerian traditions, stressing that from mesmerising dance performances to tantalising culinary delights, the event aims to captivate audiences and foster cross-cultural exchange.

His words, "The event exemplifies the spirit of unity and diversity that defines Lagos. We are committed to nurturing and promoting such initiatives that celebrate our collective heritage."

"The celebration apart from featuring a diverse lineup of activities, including live music performances, and traditional dance showcases, will additionally allow attendees to indulge in a culinary journey,

sampling a delectable array of Brazilian and Nigerian delicacies.

"Beyond its cultural significance, the event holds immense potential to boost tourism and economic development within Lagos. With its vibrant atmosphere and diverse offerings, it serves as a beacon for both local and international visitors, enticing them to explore the unique cultural landscape of the State", he added.

On her part, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Mrs. Oloruntoyin Atekoja commended the organiser of the Popo Aguda Easter Arts and Music Concert Extravaganza for the periodic innovations injected into the event.

Giving an overview of the event, the Chairman, Planning Committee for the event, Rear Admiral

Anthony Okanlawon Oni (Rtd.), disclosed that Friday, 29th of March, 2024 the Day One of the celebration will witness the Frejon food festival at Pavillion Cultural Centre, Igboere, while the Day Two of the event, which is Sunday, March 31st, 2024, is for Musical Concerts scheduled for Campos Mini Stadium.

He noted that the event was initiated by the Brazilian Descendants' Arts and Cultural Association (BDACA) in 2019, under the Coordinator-in-Chief, Asiwaju Bolaji Mendis, to serve as a platform for fostering unity, social interaction, and cultural preservation through music, arts and tourism.

He stated that the event has grown in stature and significance since its inception at Oil Mill Street, Lagos Island, to its triumphant return at the Campos Mini

Stadium, Lagos, in partnership with the Lagos State Government.

In his words, "In addition to our musical and artistic offerings, we have also embraced our culinary heritage with the introduction of a food festival, thereby showcasing the iconic Frejon del.

"This traditional dish, prepared on

Good Friday to commemorate the Easter season in Popo Aguda, not only symbolises communal love but also reflects the intergenerational

transmission of culinary knowledge within our community", he noted.

The Press Conference was attended by the Asiwaju of Popo Aguda, Asiwaju Bolaji Mendis, Ms. Atinuke Harper, Dotun Atilade, and Folake Koyi, among others.

Lagos To Collaborate With Meta To Deepen Digital Space

Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, on Friday expressed his administration's readiness to collaborate with a technology company, Meta Platform Inc. (formerly Facebook) to deepen the digital space in the State. Governor Sanwo-Olu spoke during a courtesy visit by the President, Global Affairs, Meta Platforms Inc. (Facebook), Sir. Nick Clegg at the Lagos House, Marina.

The areas of mutual interest between Lagos State and Meta Platform will include digital marketing scholarships for Lagosians, open source technology for training of young innovators in Artificial Intelligence, tools for local businesses to help develop their businesses among several other areas of partnership.



Speaking during the courtesy visit, Governor Sanwo-Olu reiterated his administration's commitment to ease of doing business, saying the State Government would continue to leverage its rules and regulations for businesses to do well.

Governor Sanwo-Olu said the State sees

technology as an enabler for the country to catch up with the first world economy.

He promised that Lagos would, in years to come, become human capital centre of the world.

He said: "We see a huge opportunity in the future of work and growth. One of the things we want

Lagos to be remembered for in the next 10, 15 years, is to be the human capital of the world. If Facebook needs 500,000 to one million people, you can come to Lagos. If Microsoft needs a million people for the next 10 years, we can help with that.

"We are creating an enabling environment for the likes of Meta Platform to come in. We are developing the system and an economy where we don't want to starve businesses but we want to create a platform where your businesses can thrive and grow.

"With the very energetic population of young people who are very creative, innovative, audacious and willing to learn, explore and innovate, we believe Lagos should be one of the resource partners that Meta Platform should be speaking to."

Speaking earlier, Sir. Nick Clegg pledged Meta Platform's readiness to work in close collaboration with the Lagos State Government to deepen the digital space.

Clegg commended Governor Sanwo-Olu's administration for creating the enabling environment for growth of technology and innovation for the people of Lagos State.

He said Meta Platform, which is also into investment in physical infrastructure to help connect people and communities, is ready to work with Lagos State and the nation as a whole.

Clegg said his organisation would help young Nigerians and Lagosians in particular who want to earn a living online by monetising their creative efforts.

"We are ready to work with your team. We are looking for partnership with Nigerians, developers, creators and entrepreneurs who can use technology to develop their own businesses, research and applications," he said.

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We Arrested 2,329 Suspected Criminals With in My 100 Days - CP

By Felix Kuyinu

The Lagos State Commissioner of Police, CP, Adegoke Fayoadé has said that no fewer than 2,329 suspects have been arrested since his appointment as the Police head in the state. In a duration which has spanned through 100 days, Fayoadé disclosed that a total of 2,253 of the arrestees have been prosecuted while others are on the brink of facing prosecution. Revealing that the suspects were apprehended during raids at black spots in the state, the CP noted that those arrested include suspected cultists, armed

robbers, and kidnappers, to mention few. While speaking with journalists on Wednesday, the Commissioner said that in the past month, the police command arrested 64 suspects, some for unlawful possession of firearms and illicit drugs. "We recovered a total of 20 firearms," Fayoadé told the journo. "We caught them with four toy guns, 120 rounds of toy ammunition, 28 live ammunition, 15 live cartridges, three expended cartridges, four vehicles, seven POS machines, cutlasses, illicit drugs and various charms. "A total of 4,502



motorcycles have so far been impounded on banned routes and have been handed over to the Lagos State Government for crushing. Fayoadé, who stated that all suspects would be charged to court at the conclusion of investigations explained

that he had piloted the affairs of the command with all sense of professionalism, charging his men to show commitment and not spare any erring officer. The Commissioner uttered that the security architecture of the command was reorganized

by intensifying patrols, paying special attention to high-risk areas at peak periods which has helped reduce traffic robberies. Fayoadé gave kudos to the media and sister security agencies for their support during the period, calling for more collaboration in making Lagos a crime free

habitat. The commissioner also lauded the efforts put in by the Navy and JTF for showing commitment alongside the police command in the security of lives and properties on the waterways. He affirmed that the command will continue to engage with the communities to build trust, gather information and collaborate to address safety concerns. Fayoadé also noted that his team will leverage on technology like surveillance, GPS tracking and data analysis for better monitoring and response to distress calls made by the residents in Lagos.

Man Remanded For Allegedly Stealing Employer's N54m Property

By Felix Kuyinu

The Police have arrested a man identified as David Ojonugwa for allegedly stealing items worth N54,142,000 from his employer. Ojonugwa was arraigned at the Ebute-Metta Magistrates' Court on Wednesday and remanded to the Kirikiri Correctional Centre by the Presiding

Magistrate, Adedayo Tella pending the review of facts and sentencing. The suspect, 25-year-old, is facing three counts bordering on conspiracy, unlawful interference with property, and stealing preferred against him by the police. Disclosing that the suspect committed the act at Lorange Water Factory, located at 3, Olajubu Street, Ilupeju in

January 2024, the prosecutor, Inspector Francisca Job, told the court that Ojonugwa unlawfully disconnected and removed one 10KVA generator valued at N250,000, a 12 HP submersible pump machine valued at N200,000, an electric motor for a water line, N1.8m, and bottled water machine, N1m all stolen by the defendant. Others items stolen include : one injection

machine module valued at N12m, injection machine module worth N14m, one set of four cavity module bottles (150CL) at N9m, one set of four cavity module bottles (75CL), valued at N8m, one set of four cavity module bottles (25CL) worth N5m, one electric for motor shrink wrapper (75KW) of N110,000. The alleged offender also carted away with two floating switches for

the bottled water line valued at N20,000, 200 stainless bolts and nuts for installation disclosed to be N92,000, six stainless rods for the installation of the water line valued at N200,000 and 1,000 pieces of medium-sized catfishes believed to be of N40,000. Inspector Job said that the total value of the items stolen was N 5 4 , 1 4 2 , 0 0 0 ,

properties of the employer, Teju Adeleke. According to the prosecutor, the offences committed contravened Sections 411, 340, and 287 (7) of the Criminal Law of Lagos State 2015. However, Ojonugwa pleaded guilty to the charges against him. Consequently, Magistrate Tella remanded Ojonugwa at the Correctional Centre and adjourned the case till April 24, 2024, for facts and sentencing.

Members of the Nigerian Bar Association will today, Monday January 16, 2023 pay tributes to honour their female colleague, Mrs Omobolanle Raheem, shot dead on Christmas Day by a cop in Lagos.

It was reported that Raheem was allegedly shot dead on Christmas Day by an assistant superintendent of police attached to the Ajiwe Police Station, Ajah, Lagos State.

The statement was signed by NBA's Assistant National Publicity Secretary, Mr Charles Ajiboye.

According to NBA, the tributes are to be paid at the Lagos Campus of the Nigerian Law School.

Lagos Lawyers Honours Slain Colleague, Raheem

"With the directive of the NBA President, Mr Yakubu Maikyau (SAN), a befitting day of tributes will be organised by the NBA in honour of the deceased, Mrs Bolanle Raheem.

"The event tagged: "Auroral tributes to Mrs Bolanle Raheem by the NBA," is to be held at the Dining Hall of the Nigerian Law School, Lagos Campus, on January 16, from 1pm to 4pm. The Nigerian Bar Association, through its Lagos Branch, humbly requests for tributes

to honour our late colleague, who was slain on December 25, 2022," the NBA said.

According to NBA, Raheem's family has slated her funeral service for January 17 at the Olive Tree Parish of the Redeemed Christian Church of God, Banana Island, Lagos State.

It said that a service of songs in her honour would take place on January 16 at 5pm. at the same venue.

It encouraged lawyers to actively participate in the ceremonies.



Court dismisses PDP suit against Tinubu's Candidacy

The Federal High Court sitting in Abuja has dismissed a suit filed by The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) was shamed as the Abuja Federal High Court dismissed its charge against the presidential candidacy of the All Progressives Congress (APC) flag bearer, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu.

The court, presided over by Justice Inyang Ekwo, said the case was incompetent and lacked in merit.

PDP on July 28, last year had instituted a suit against his rival Party, Presidential Candidates, his Vice, Shettima and the Independent National Electoral Commission, INEC in Suit No: FHC/ABJ/CS/ 1734/2022, prayed to the Court for the following reliefs;

a. A DECLARATION that having regard to the clear, unambiguous and express provisions, spirit and tenor of Section 31 and 35 of the Electoral Act, 2022, the nomination of the 4th Defendant was unlawful having being nominated in two constituencies contrary to the provisions of the Electoral Act 2022.

b. A DECLARATION that the Nomination of the 4th Defendant was unlawful and in breach of the provisions of section 31

and 35 of the Electoral Act 2022 having allowed himself to be nominated in two constituencies contrary to the provisions of the Electoral Act.

c. A DECLARATION that the 2nd Defendant does not have a valid Candidate in the forthcoming Presidential Elections billed for 25th February, 2023.

d. AN ORDER DIRECTING the 1st Defendant to expunge the names of the 3rd and 4th Defendants from the list of candidates published for the 2023 Presidential Election.

In a counter reaction, Defence Counsel, Babatunde Ogala (SAN), filed its' Memorandum of Conditional Appearance, a Notice of Preliminary Objection and a Counter-Affidavit with Written Addresses.

The Preliminary objection was premised on the following grounds:

a. That the Plaintiffs lacked the Locus standi to institute and maintain the suit against the 2nd Defendant not being Aspirants in the Primaries election of the 2nd Defendant.

b. The action was barred by the statute of Limitation.

c. And the suit constituted

an abuse of Court Process.

On the 16th December, 2022 when the matter came up for hearing, Gbenga Benson Esq, counsel in the Law Firm of Babatunde Ogala SAN & Co on behalf of the All-Progressives Congress adopted the Notice of Preliminary objection filed and prayed the Court to dismiss/strike out the suit for want of jurisdiction.

He also adopted the Counter-Affidavit and written Address in

opposition to the Originating Summons.

Counsel to the Plaintiff in reaction to the Notice of Preliminary Objection filed a Reply on points of law seeking to dismiss the Preliminary objection, adopted same in urging the Court to dismiss the objections filed and proceed to determine the suit on its merit.

Justice Inyang Ekwo delivering his judgment on the 13th of January, 2023 while upholding the

Preliminary objection of the 2nd Defendant ruled that the Plaintiff lacked the Locus standi to question the Primaries of the 2nd Defendant not being aspirants who participated in the Primaries election of the 2nd Defendant.

The court also ruled that the Plaintiff's case was an abuse of Court Process having filed same before Justice Okorowo of the Federal High Court, on same issues.

Justice Ekwo noted that

the issues have been decided by Justice Okorowo therefore the suit of the Plaintiff was barred by the doctrine of estoppel.

"On the whole, the Plaintiffs have failed to reach a threshold worthy of judicial adjudication as the Plaintiff lacks the locus standi to institute the action thereby rendering the suit incompetent

"The suit was accordingly dismissed as incompetent and lacking in merit," the judge ruled.

Ikeja NBA holds 19th Gani Fawehinmi Annual Lecture

As part of efforts to preserve his legacies, the Nigerian Bar Association (NBA), Ikeja branch, Lagos State, on Sunday, held the 19th edition of the Gani Fawehinmi Annual Lecture.

In a statement by the Publicity Secretary, NBA (IKEJA BRANCH), Patrick Agboola Esq, Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu of Lagos State and his Rivers State counterpart, Governor Nyesom Wike are among the prominent Nigerians expected to grace the occasion to be chaired by the former Vice Chancellor of University of Ado-Ekiti, Professor Akin Oyebo.

Renowned lawyer, activist, writer, publisher,

philanthropist and social critic who is the United Nations' International Elections Commissioner, Mrs. Charlotte Kesson-Smith Osei, was scheduled to speak on the theme of the Lecture "Free, Fair and Credible Election as Indispensable Tool for National Development".

According to the statement, the focus of the programme is on how to ensure free, fair and credible elections in Nigeria, this could not have come at a better time. The guest speaker is experienced in the conduct of elections in Africa and beyond and is better placed to share her wealth of experience with Nigeria.

The organisers said they intended to engage

rapporteurs who would help out during the programme so it would be easy to transmit the helpful points that would be raised to the Nigerian local electoral body (Independent National Electoral Commission) INEC.

"This gesture will be part of NBA Ikeja's modest contribution to finding lasting solutions to our country's electoral challenges."

The statement added:

"The Ikeja Branch of the Nigerian Bar Association, has almost for two decades rolled out the drums yearly to celebrate the greatness of Fawehinmi and his contribution to the development of law, legal

profession and human rights protection.

"With Mr. Mike Igini, a colleague and former Resident Electoral Commissioner, Akwa Ibom State and Commodore Kunle Olawunmi, a Public Affairs Analyst & Commentator, as the discussants of the topic of the day.

"Governor Sanwo-Olu will be the Chief host, the President of the NBA, while Mr. Yakubu Chonoko Maikyau, OON, SAN, will be the Host.

"The Special guests of the day are the Lagos State Chief Judge, Hon. Justice Kazeem Alogba, Chief Judge of Lagos State and Governor Nyesom Wike, (Life Bencher) of River State."



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Yemi Alade Opens Up On Award Snubs

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Nigerian musician Yemi Alade has shed light on the challenges she faces in winning awards within the industry, attributing her lack of recognition to her refusal to comply with organizers' requests for sexual favour. The acclaimed 'Johnny' singer spoke candidly about her experiences during an interview with WithinNigeria.

According to Alade, she has encountered numerous instances where entertainment executives have attempted to solicit sex from her, promising her better opportunities, deals, and awards in return. However, she remains steadfast in her refusal to compromise her principles and dignity, despite the potential benefits.

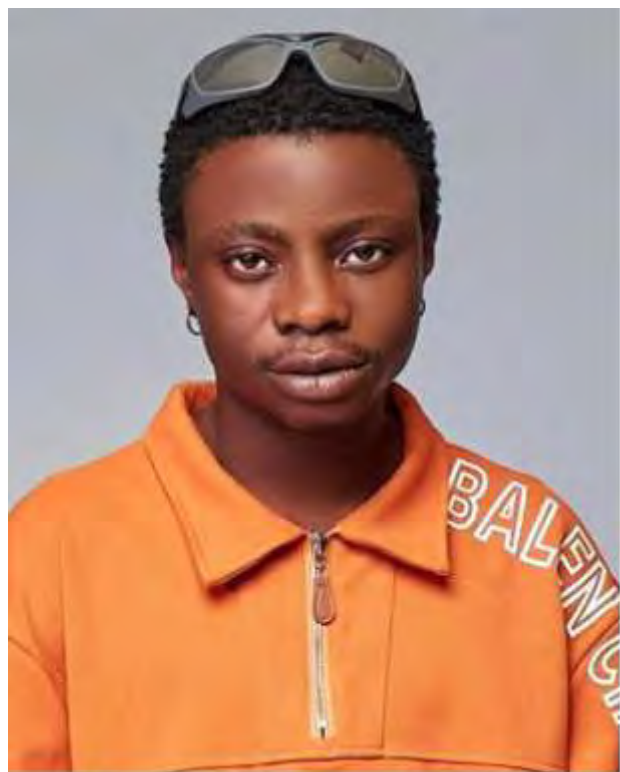
Alade expressed no remorse about declining such offers, emphasizing that she values her integrity and the support of her devoted fans above all else. She recalled a time when the industry pressure to engage in sexual activities for career advancement was pervasive, stating, "There was a time in the industry when everyone wanted to sleep with me, and it was like, 'Yemi, if you



missed opportunities and closed doors within the industry. She described the act of refusing to compromise her values as a significant barrier to accessing certain platforms, securing deals, and even winning awards. Alade's revelations shed light on the darker side of the Nigerian music industry, where sexual exploitation and coercion continue to be persistent challenges faced by female artists.

Young Duu Accuses Skit Maker, Carter Efe

By Nurudeen Adebayo



The feud between popular singer Young Duu and skit maker Carter Efe has escalated, with Young Duu alleging that Carter Efe withheld proceeds from their collaborative song. Previously, Carter Efe claimed he ceased promoting Young Duu's song due to the singer's character and eagerness for monetary gain.

In response, Young Duu has leveled serious accusations against Carter Efe, asserting that the skit maker failed to honor their financial agreement. According to Young

Duu, Carter Efe had promised him a 30% share of the song's earnings, equating to 30 million naira. However, Young Duu alleges that Carter Efe only paid him a fraction of the agreed-upon sum, providing him with a mere N500,000 instead of the promised 30 million naira. This revelation has sparked further controversy and raised questions about the integrity of their collaboration and financial dealings.

The ongoing dispute underscores the complexities of partnerships within the entertainment industry and highlights the importance of clear agreements and fair compensation for all parties involved.

Skit-Maker, Bro Bouche, Reveals Journey from Law to Entertainment

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Popular skit-maker and content creator, Ogunleye Oluwatosin, popularly known as Bro Bouche, has opened up about his transition from studying law to pursuing a career in content creation.

In a recent interview, he shared insights into his journey, highlighting his early involvement in theatre arts during his undergraduate years. Bro Bouche revealed that his foray into content creation began in 2015, although he initially explored theatre arts during his time at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife, Osun State.

After completing his law degree and even trying his hand in Nollywood, he found the film industry to be both challenging and demanding, leading him to focus more on content creation.

Reflecting on his experience, Bro Bouche expressed his passion for acting and his willingness to immerse himself fully in his performances. Despite facing financial strains and the demanding nature of the film industry, he remained committed to his craft, leveraging his skills in dialogue and character portrayal to set himself apart in content creation.

He emphasized his approach to content creation, likening it to embodying a character in a movie and highlighting his unique style that distinguishes him from others in the field.



Environmental Hazards: Residents of Ora Estate Cry Out

By Mohammed Adekola

Executive members of Ora Community Development Association (CDA) in Eredo LCDA, Epe Division of Lagos State, have appealed to the Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA) over environmental degradation and health hazards in the area. The call for urgent intervention came after a recent visit by the Environmental Services Team of Eredo LCDA to MAG Protein Company in the area. As a precautionary measure, residents in Phases 6, 7, 8, and beyond have been advised against consuming or using borehole water until a thorough water analysis is conducted.

The company has been officially sealed pending further investigations.

Accusations of environmental degradation, including the channelling of waste to main roads and the emission of toxic substances such as ammonia, have heightened concerns among residents. Some even attributed mysterious deaths in the community to these alleged hazards.

Expressing their fears, a resident emphasized the need for immediate action from regulatory agencies, questioning the impact assessment and suitability of an industrial facility in a residential area. Another resident lamented about constant illnesses, highlighting the deteriorating health conditions within the community.



"They can not be making their money and killing our people in this community. You need to see how much we spend on the treatment of health, enough is enough. LASEPA, or all agencies responsible for health, must come and visit this place now unless they want to wipe out the whole Ora community.

"Anybody sponsoring this company should come and stay in this place for 1 or 2 hours and see if they will not die if they do not spend a huge amount on their health. This is just terrible, terribly bad, and wickedness of the highest order.

"We want to see evidence of the Environmental Impact

Assessment (EIA) before they approve this company here. This is a residential and not an industrial area, why must they pollute the environment for us all the time," one of the residents questioned. Findings show that MAG Protein Nigeria Limited, identified as the manufacturer of NatMeal, NatPop, and NatSoil made from

Black Soldier Fly (*Hermetia illucens*), has touted its achievements and growth in recent years. Managing Director George C. Thorpe, in one of the posts found on their LinkedIn profile, showcased the company's milestones in larvae production and expansion into various markets, emphasizing the potential of insects as an alternative ingredient in the global food and feed value chain.

The outcry from the Ora community underscores the urgent need for regulatory bodies to investigate and address the alleged environmental and health hazards posed by MAG Protein Company. Failure to intervene promptly could escalate tensions and jeopardize the well-being of residents, highlighting the critical importance of ensuring strict adherence to environmental regulations and safety standards in industrial operations.

Bursary Award: Students Of Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA Commend Anomo

By Mohammed Adekola

Indigent students across Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA have commended the Chairman Akogun Wale Raji Anomo's groundbreaking 10 million naira annual bursary program. The significance of the bursary program cannot be overstated, as it provides crucial financial support to students facing economic challenges, enabling them to continue their studies without the burden of financial constraints. This initiative not only alleviates the immediate

financial burdens of students but also empowers them to focus on their academic goals and aspirations, ultimately contributing to a more educated and empowered community. Prince Ademola Adetola, Chairman of the Ejinrin Youth Organization, praised the Chairman for his visionary leadership, stating, "This is a wonderful initiative by the Council boss, and it is highly commendable. Building a better community, one step at a time." He further expressed gratitude to



the chairman on behalf of the three indigent beneficiaries from his domain. Comrade Adesanya Ibrahim, President of the Federation of Epe Division Students Association (FEDSA)

National Body, echoed these sentiments, highlighting the chairman's commitment to ongoing support for students' academic pursuits. "The generous gesture by

the chairman truly exemplifies the spirit of magnanimity and demonstrates his commitment to the betterment of education in the community," stated Comrade Ibrahim.

He urged other leaders to emulate this exemplary conduct and prioritize educational assistance for indigent students, emphasizing the importance of creating a more inclusive and empowered society through education. Akogun Wale Raji Anomo's bursary program stands as a shining example of visionary leadership and commitment to educational empowerment. The gratitude expressed by youth and student bodies reflects the immense impact of this initiative on the lives of students and underscores the importance of continued support for educational initiatives.

Ibeju Lekki Environmental Taskforce Arrests 23 Offenders

By Mohammed Adekola

Ibeju-Lekki Local Government Chairman, Hon. Sesan Olowa, spearheaded two significant strides that underscored the commitment to environmental sustainability and infrastructural development. The members of the Ibeju Lekki Environmental Task Force executed a targeted operation, apprehending 21 individuals dumping waste along the Lekki-Epe Expressway at Abijo, Awoyaya, and Lakowe. The swift action resulted in fines for the offenders, with those unable to pay contributing to community services.

This robust enforcement strategy aims to deter future violations and foster a culture of environmental responsibility among residents. In a statement regarding his involvement in enforcing environmental regulations, Olowa emphasized the paramount importance of ensuring a clean and safe environment for all residents. His proactive approach, which includes personally confronting offenders, demonstrates a deep-rooted dedication to upholding environmental standards and



promoting cleanliness within the local government. This initiative, he said, also aligns with and supports the Cleaner Lagos Initiative of the Lagos State Ministry of Environment, reinforcing collaborative efforts towards a cleaner and healthier environment for all. Earlier in the week,

Hon. Abdullahi Sesan Olowa engaged with community leaders and residents of Ayeteju, Onidogbo, Ofiran, Igando Oloja, and neighbouring communities, promising accelerated infrastructural development. The palpable excitement among residents reflects the anticipation of

imminent progress, especially with the imminent completion of two culverts and the anticipated state government intervention in drainage systems. Olowa's comprehensive engagement with communities and his administration's proactive stance on environmental

enforcement and infrastructural development signals a promising future for Ibeju-Lekki Local Government. The strides made under his leadership are poised to enhance the quality of life for residents while contributing to the broader vision of sustainable growth and development in Lagos State.

Ibeju-Lekki LG Signs MOU With Lagos State Employment Trust Fund

By Mohammed Adekola

The Chairman of Ibeju-Lekki Local Government, Engr. Abdullahi Sesan Olowa, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Lagos State Employment Trust Fund (LSETF) set to disburse 30 million Naira in loans to Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

Olowa's partnership aims to provide economic relief and support to the people of Ibeju-Lekki. The funds will be distributed among 300 beneficiaries, ensuring that the loans reach a wide range of businesses in the community.



Speaking about the initiative, Sesan Olowa expressed his

commitment to alleviating the economic hardships faced by the people of Ibeju-Lekki.

The Ibeju-Lekki economic relief program was

developed with the aim of providing opportunities for businesses to thrive and improve the livelihoods of the residents.

Feyisayo Alayande, the Secretary of the LSETF, highlighted the LSETF mandate to create job opportunities for Lagosians. The partnership with Ibeju-Lekki Local Government is a prime example of their commitment to fostering economic growth and supporting local businesses.

The collaboration between Ibeju-Lekki Local Government and the LSETF is a

significant step towards empowering MSMEs in Ibeju-Lekki LG. By providing access to financial resources, the partnership aims to stimulate business growth, create employment opportunities, and contribute to the overall development of Ibeju-Lekki.

Entrepreneurs and business owners in Ibeju-Lekki are encouraged to seize this opportunity and apply for the 30 million Naira MSMEs loans. The funds will be disbursed based on the eligibility criteria set by the LSETF, ensuring that those who can benefit the most receive the necessary support.

Ifako-Ijaiye Holds Late Oba Hamzat 4th Memorial Ramadan Lecture

Kehinde Adeleye

The 4th Annual Ramadan Lecture was recently organized by the central mosques, Islamic organizations, and Muslims in Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government, in memory of the late respected figure Oba Muftau Olatunji Hamzat.

The event took place at the family house on Sunday, 14th Ramadan, 1445AH (24th March 2024). During the welcome speech, the President of the Muslim Community, Alhaji Abdul-Lateef Sunmonu, emphasized the significance of Ramadan as a time for self-reflection and spiritual growth through fasting and prayer.

"It is a time to unite for the purpose of renewing our faith,

strengthening our bond, and seeking forgiveness from Allah."

He stated that the annual Ramadan lecture aims to revive and spread the profound legacy of the late monarch, Oba Olatunji Hamzat, whose exemplary life continues to be celebrated even after his passing. Oba Olatunji Hamzat was not just a leader but a symbol of hope and unity in society.

His dedication to serving others, regardless of their background or beliefs, has left a lasting impact. His legacy of selfless service, dedication, and good leadership serves as an inspiration to many.

During the lecture, Sheikh Kamaldeen Adebisi Yesiri discussed the roles and responsibilities of



leaders and followers in addressing societal issues. He emphasized the importance of the family unit in shaping society and highlighted that the government is a reflection of the people it serves.

He advocated for a shared responsibility between leaders and the populace, stressing that governance extends beyond the

government to the people. He also encouraged women to play a significant role in reducing societal immorality by nurturing strong households.

Following the enlightening lecture, Deputy Governor Dr. Obafemi Kadri Hamzat shared his message of goodwill.

In a charismatic

manner, Dr. Femi Hamzat, the Deputy Governor of the state, expressed appreciation to the Muslim Community for upholding the legacy of their late father and promoting his virtues.

He thanked government officials, family members, and all attendees of the Ramadan lecture. He commended the guest

lecturer and emphasized the importance of everyone playing a role in improving society.

He requested Nigerians to continue praying for President Bola Tinubu as he works tirelessly to bring about positive change.

Dr. Hamzat highlighted the benefits of subsidy removal and stressed the significance of parental guidance, particularly from mothers, in shaping children for a better society.

Chief Missioner Sheikh Shuaib Muhammad Awwal Atata then offered a special prayer for the Deputy Governor, his family, and the nation.

Finally, Prince Usman Akanbi Hamzat, the Chairman of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government, expressed gratitude to the Muslim Community for commemorating their late father annually. He thanked all attendees and participants for their presence.

Nigerite Trains Ifako-Ijaiye Professional Carpenters

Kehinde Adeleye

Nigerite Limited is a well-known company in Nigeria that specializes in manufacturing, marketing, and installing innovative building materials like cement fibre roofing and ceiling sheets, sandcrete roofing tiles, and drywall solutions.

It is considered a leader in the Nigerian construction industry for its commitment to offering comprehensive building solutions including roofing, ceiling, walling, cladding, flooring, and integrated building services.

Nigerite is unmatched in providing full installation and maintenance services in Nigeria.

For more than fifty years, Nigerite has been

dedicated to delivering high-quality products, services, and innovation to meet the varied needs of its customers.

As part of its social responsibility, the company regularly conducts training programs for artisans and carpenters across the country, focusing on teaching them modern installation techniques and best safety practices to enhance their professional skills.

The Professional Carpenters and Furniture Association (PCFA) in Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government recently took part in a seminar conducted by Nigerite Limited.

The seminar focused on



with safety measures, product knowledge, and welfare tips to keep them informed about industry standards and advancements.

During the session led by Mr. Adeyemi Ilesanmi from Nigerite, common challenges faced by carpenters during installations of roofing/ceiling materials

were discussed, along with practical solutions.

The importance of following safety precautions for better job performance and well-being was emphasized.

The seminar was incredibly useful, offering real solutions to the everyday hurdles carpenters

face in their professions.

The association's Governor, Mr. Akeem Olatunji, and his team praised Nigerite for their dedication to training and supporting their members.

Participants were thankful for Nigerite's assistance in their professional growth

and valued the insights shared by facilitators Mr. Adeyemi and Mr. Thomas.

They appreciated the company's generosity in distributing souvenirs like face caps and saws, showing Nigerite's commitment to improving their members' welfare.

Furthermore, attendees praised the quality and reliability of Nigerite's products such as Solo Xtra, Lite Span, Kalsi, KalsiKraft, and KalsiCeil, confirming their excellence in the market. The Public Relations Officer of the association thanked Nigerite during a press briefing at the seminar for their valuable support in improving the professional skills of carpenters in the community.

Ikorodu Peculiar Lions Club Launches Plastic Recycle Project

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Ikorodu Peculiar Lions Club initiated a Plastic Recycle Project at the Oshodi Art Gallery. Key members of the club, including the project coordinator Lion Aluko Kayode, former president Lion Akinosho David, and other esteemed members, convened to kickstart the vital initiative. The Plastic Recycle Project aims to tackle the pressing issue of plastic waste pollution by actively engaging in the production and utilization of recycling bins. Inspired by the example set by PDG Anu Anyanwu PMJF, NLCF, during the

2022/23 term, the club wholeheartedly embraced the cause. Lion Aluko Kayode, the project coordinator, emphasized the significance of such initiatives in combating plastic pollution's detrimental effects on the environment. He reiterated the club's commitment to promoting sustainable practices and cultivating a sense of environmental responsibility within the community. "Our goal is to make a tangible difference in safeguarding our environment for future generations," stated Lion Aluko Kayode. The event served as a platform to showcase



the club's ongoing efforts in recycling plastic waste. With the production of three recycling bins, the Ikorodu Peculiar Lions Club has been actively serving the community and involved in collecting making a positive impact and recycling plastic on the environment

materials, thus reducing the environmental impact of non-biodegradable waste. Former club president Lion Akinosho David commended the dedication and commitment of the members towards promoting environmental sustainability. He stressed the importance of collective action in addressing environmental challenges and urged other organizations and community stakeholders to join hands in similar endeavors. The Plastic Recycle Project exemplifies the Ikorodu Peculiar Lions Club's unwavering dedication to

Amidst cheers and heartfelt tributes, the O'clean Event Centre in Ikorodu local government played host to a jubilant retirement get-together. The event honoured two distinguished civil servants: Mr. Olabode Adebola, the Human Resources (HR) head, and Engr. Martins Odupitan. The Chairman of Ikorodu local government, Hon. Wasiu Adesina, was there to celebrate the retirees' years of dedicated service and lasting impact on the community. Hon. Adebowale Adebola, the council

By Nurudeen Adebayo
leader, praised the retirees for their exceptional service, expressing gratitude for their commitment and wishing them continued success in their future endeavors. Alhaji Lateef Afinni, the secretary to the local government, congratulated the retirees and hinted at further honors after the Ramadan season, emphasizing the significance of acknowledging their contributions. Hon. (Dr.) Princess

Folashade Olabanji-Oba, the council's Vice Chairman, urged officials to emulate the leadership qualities of the retirees, highlighting their personal and professional impact. In his speech, Hon. Wasiu Adesina extolled the virtues of Engr. Martin Odupitan and Mr. Olabode Adebola, emphasizing their contributions to the local government's integrity and dedication. Adesina applauded Odupitan for his commitment to

transparency and accountability, promising to keep him involved in key initiatives despite his retirement. He also praised Adebola for his inclusive governance approach and respect for every individual, affirming his status as a cherished asset to the local government. Offering prayers, Adesina encouraged both retirees to embrace new opportunities while acknowledging their enduring legacies within the community.



Expressing gratitude, Martins Odupitan Mr. Olabode Adebola struggled to find words amidst the outpouring of praise and birthday wishes.

Qualitative Education to Citizens is Government's Responsibility --- Ajala

By Edith Igbokwe

At the recently concluded Ramadan Lecture of Education District VI, the chairman, Odi-OlowoOjuwoye Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Abdurasaq Ajala disclosed to Echonews that lack of engagement gave rise to banditry, kidnapping and other social vices in the country. "It is Lack of engagement in the lives of the perpetrators of evil menace." "As a government, to curb the menace, we are to ensure that the citizens have a

functional and qualitative education for the citizens to become responsible. "And lack of quality education to the less privileged might have the tendency of becoming another menace to the society." According to him, the young ones have to understand that the era of national cake has gone, they must learn to bake by themselves. He noted that going to school is just a means to an end, the end is to ensure that the young ones have the right skills and tools to possess economic independent.



Apart from education, skills acquisition programmes should be given to young ones for independence purpose and the right tools to carry out the skills acquired. Ajala recalled that last year December, he embarked on a programme called N 100 million zero interest rate loan in Odi-OlowoOjuwoye LCDA for the residents. He explained that the person asking for the loan just need a five peers group that can vouch for his character before the loan is given. He believe that with the quality education, skills acquisition and loan giving, the menace will be cured to a minimal amount.

Mushin Local Government Unveils Drivers Dress Code

Kehinde Adeleye

The Chairman of Mushin Local Government, Mr. Emmanuel Bamigboye has revealed a new dress code initiative for the council drivers, which was intended for all drivers within the Mushin Local Government area. The council drivers are required to wear navy

blue and carton coloured clothing from Monday to Thursday as part of the dress code. The Chairman unveiled this outfit initiative at his office for proper drivers' compliance. The Chairman admonished drivers to be hardworking, diligent and punctual

as these three keys are souls of business. At the unveiling point are the Mushin Local Government Human Resources Officer, Mr. Osineye Abiodun, Mushin Local Government Chief Driver, Alhaji Koleoso Adedotun and the entire drivers of the Local Government.



The first vice chairman of Muslim Ummah of South West Nigeria (MUSWEN) and Pro-chancellor, Summit University Offa, Alhaji Rafiu Ebiti has charged parents to give their wards proper training for the benefit of all. He made the stated at the Education District VI Ramadan Lecture that he featured as the special guest of honor. He noted that the youths are the future and everything possible has to be

Rekindle Home Base Trainings, Ebiti charges parents

By Edith Igbokwe

done to encourage them for the greater task ahead of them. He stressed that the family structure is gradually breaking down and parents need to rekindle home base trainings to the young ones before they turn into adulthood. He stated that the country is at big risk if



nothing is done to put the youths in the right path of life. "Technology is fast overtaking our world and in some part, it's negatively affecting the young ones and there should be a curb to the bad views eroding the minds of the young ones through technology." However, he stated that there is nothing wrong being

technological wise but, it should be channeled to right use for good values to be reinstated. He urged the government to play a role of sense censorship especially with the Information Technology (IT) facilities such that dangerous contents that influences the youths negatively are censored.

2025 Lagos LG Election: Alakija Mobilises For Oloyede

Kehinde Adeleye

In preparation for the upcoming election campaigns in Lagos state, the Education Secretary of Oshodi-Isolo local government Education Authority, Mr. Mayowa Alakija, conducted a meeting to sensitize parents and teachers. The meeting allowed the participants to share their thoughts on governance and praised the council chairman for his significant achievements in the local government. Alakija emphasized that the meeting was organized to support the positive changes brought by the council chairman and to make a difference in the community. He said; "we are driven by



the desire to make impact in the governance of our community. This movement will not stop in Oshodi alone, we will move to other LCDAs. It is a way of contributing our qouta to the development of the society.

The council chairman is working hard to improve the primary schools in our area and implementing various educational initiatives. Additionally, he has repaired over 40 roads and taught numerous young people valuable skills.

He has also distributed food assistance to many residents. It is important for us to show our support and help him succeed in his current term and reelection efforts. The LGEA will soon start training young people in different skills

at multiple locations within Oshodi. He said; "we will open youth training centres to cater for the skills gap need of our youths." Other speakers at the event, including Mrs. Aderemi Florence Titilayo, the Head of Session Social Mobilization of the Committee Mobilizing Parents, Teachers, and non-teaching staff for the second term of Kendoo, praised and promised full effort in mobilizing for the cause. Participants at the event also included executives of various groups such as Parents Forum (PF), School Based Management Committee (SBMC),

National Union of Teachers (NUT), Association of Primary school head teachers (AOPSHON), National Association of Non-Teaching Staff Union (NASU), and All Progressives Congress (APC) Youth leaders from all seven wards of the local government. During the gathering, Mr. Gideon Balogun, speaking on behalf of the youth leaders, urged parents to support the council chairman and listed various infrastructure projects completed under his leadership. He expressed gratitude for their presence, which he interpreted as a display of commitment and trust in the Kendoo administration.



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Music for me is a Calling: 83 Year Old Veteran Saxophonist Prince Eji Oyewole

By Bimbo Esho

Prince Eji Oyewole's music career spans over 60 years. Having trained, performed and live in Ibadan, London, Germany and France. He has distinguished himself as a unique, disciplined and exceptional musician.

At 83 years of age Prince Eji Oyewole remains one of Nigeria's greatest Saxophonists having played with big bands like Bob Marley, Fela Kuti, Miles Davies, Adeolu Akisanya and Jimmy Cliff whom he worked together with in Island Records. He was famous for arranging the horns in Bob Marley's Buffalo Soldier and also played the Saxophone interlude of Adeolu Akisanya's Rosena.

Oyewole released his first album in 1977 and titled it Charity Begins at home. According to him he said "many of us dream of a better safer and more caring world without recognizing that it all begins with creating and maintaining a deeper love in our own home. The seeds of world peace should be planted in our own

backyard.

The song Charity begins at home according to him was recorded when he came to Nigeria to perform during Festac 77. Another song he recorded within this period was Unity in Africa which was directed to African Leaders to embrace peace and harmony rather than conflict and misunderstanding.

According to Prince Eji Oyewole he said music to him is more of a calling and that no matter the frustration that comes with it one must never give up. He believes that people shouldn't play music for stupid reasons but rather music should come with passion.

When asked what he thinks about today's musicians? He said they play music according to their knowledge and capacity. He said most of the younger generation love to watch him perform as they are always able to take home one or two things.

His band Afrobars Band is still very active today and they play Jazz, Highlife, etc Prince Eji Oyewole who is a double Prince is a native of Ibadan in Oyo State.



Prince Eji Oyewole

Ejigbo Council Boss Engages Stakeholders Over Ongoing Road Construction

Kehinde Adeleye

The Chairman of Ejigbo Local Council Development Area, Mr. Monsurudeen Oloyede Bello has said that the council is not responsible for the financial contributions being solicited for the FALANA construction project.

He clarified this during a meeting with stakeholders, following a viral video over the issue a few days ago.

"I have never for once requested anyone to solicit funds for government projects neither did anyone from the community intimate us (government) on the development, until I started getting feelers from the social media,

of which the sum in question could not take the project to anywhere, given the budget size of the project, and if truly there's a development as touching contribution in the community, that could as well be channelled to other community projects such as electricity and the likes, and not to the ongoing construction of FALANA that I have already planned and budgeted for". He asserted

The council leader provided more information to the people about the quality and style of the current construction work.

He mentioned that the road will be made with



paving stones and the drainages will be collector drains that gather water from surrounding streets like omiyale and other streets linked to Falana street. The executive chairman emphasized the importance of maintaining or enhancing the current

standards.

"A project of such magnitude, he emphasized, is statutorily a state government encumbrance, however we can not wait endlessly to address our challenges when we are in government, after realizing it's such a salient need that is economically viable to our people".

He then strongly emphasized that if anyone has been contributing money for the road project, it is not on behalf of Ejigbo LCDA but for the community.

The council boss urged people to stop any contributions needed for the road. Bello reassured the people of Falana that he initiated the road project and will see it

through to completion by the end of April.

He mentioned that the sand from the road will not be sold but used to improve other nearby roads. He also warned shop owners on Falana road to stop displaying products on the walkways and directed the Department of Environment to enforce a two-meter clearance from the walkways.

Community leaders expressed their appreciation for the council boss' dedication to serving the people and completing various projects in the LCDA.

Legislative members, Cabinet members, Management members, CDC Executives, woman Leader, notable elders, community stakeholders, and spectators are all in attendance at the stakeholders meeting.

Education District VI Ramadan Lecture Focuses On Youths Rejuvenation

By Edith Igbokwe

The 20th Annual Ramadan Lecture of Education District VI has encouraged all stakeholders especially religion bodies to inculcate more moral values in the lives of the young ones for a better tomorrow.

The District that comprise of Oshodi-Isolo, Ikeja and Mushin junior and senior secondary schools gathered their Muslim students, teachers and nurtured them in Holy Quran precepts for the growth of self, family and the community at large. According to the theme of the lecture,



'Rejuvenating the Youths For A Better Nigeria' was well delivered by the lecturer, Dr. Siddiq Kadara. Kadara admonition centered on moral values, respect, dignity in labour and other

qualities makes a complete being.

The Tutor General Permanent Secretary (TG/PS) of Education District VI, Dr. Mrs. Shareefah Yusuf charged all religion leaders to use their

platforms to teach the youths to become responsible as they have the larger say in the lives of their followers.

She further implored all faithful leaders to use their positions as an avenue to present

good virtues to the young to help them focus in life.

To buttress the point, the chairman of the occasion, Odi- Olowo / Ojuwoye Local Council Development Area (LCDA) chairman, Hon. Abudrasaq Ajala

encouraged all leaders , teachers, parents to formulate right policies that will regulate and inculcate greater sense into the young ones.

He further craved the indulgence of all stakeholders never to lose hope but to continue in doing their best for the future leaders.

He also implored private organizations to use all platforms to remold, reshape , redirect the focus of the youths on the need to see the good side of the Country, Nigeria so as to reposition and promote the country in the outside world.

He summed up stating that if the youth could development a greater sense of patriotism, it will go a long way to correct the negative things happening the country

Onilude Charges Security Operatives To Intensify Surveillance Across Badagry

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Badagry LG, Olusegun Onilude has charged the security operatives to intensify surveillance across the communities in the coastal area. The council boss commended security agencies for their collaborative efforts in ensuring peace, law, and order as well as

their prompt response to crises. The council boss also appreciated the efforts of Traditional Rulers and Community leaders in conflict resolution among other measures in maintaining peaceful coexistence in the local government. Onilude assured the heads of the security agencies and other stakeholder at the meeting of his administration's

commitment and support to security agencies to maintain peace and order in the locale charged security agencies to continue to synergize as well as intensify surveillance and patrol activities across the nooks and crannies of Badagry local government. The security operatives at the meeting reiterated their commitment to



sustaining the deliberated on momentum. The measures to be taken in gathering further tackling cultism, drug

abuse, women, and child trafficking amongst others. Other areas of synergizing and strategic periodic enlightenment of citizens on the essence of security and information sharing were also deliberated. The meeting was attended by heads of security agencies, community leaders, and youth representatives among others.

ASSEMBLY NEWS

Lagos Assembly Kicks Off Inspection of Government Schools

By Felix Kuyinu



The Lagos State House of Assembly Committee on Basic Education has commenced inspection of public schools in the state to ensure an acceptable level of educational welfare for pupils and teachers. Leading the House delegate, Hon. Mosunmola Sangodara said the visitation to the schools in the six educational district is a directive by the Ministry of Education alongside Speaker of the House, Hon. Mudashiru Obasa, who is keen on improving educational welfare in the state.

Hon. Sangodara said that the motive behind the ongoing visitation is to note ways in improving the level of basic facilities, noting the challenges encountered by pupils and teachers as well as making reckoning on how budgets are being implemented in the schools for checks and balances. The team visited Oga Comprehensive College, Methodist College, Ayangburen Nursery and Primary Schools, all in Ikorodu area of the state and noted that the anomalies when examining the schools

will be reported back at the Assembly to see ways to alleviate such occurrence.

During a walk around the schools premises alongside interaction with the teachers and pupils, the Committee noted issues ranging from security issues, poor laboratory facilities, some classes without fans for ventilation among others.

The Chief Whip of the House, Hon. Fatai Mojeed stated that such occurrences would deprive the students from enjoying a conducive learning environment but assured that the House will look into the matter and make corrections. The Committee retreated that the state government under the administration of the Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu is keen in improving the welfare in the educational sector, promising that all hands are on deck to help the students thrive in their academics.

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Badagry LG, Olusegun Onilude has revealed how he chooses the beneficiaries of the monthly food palliatives distribution in Badagry. Onilude who monitored the disbursement process of another batch of the palliative at the council premises disclosed that his administration will continue to provide relief and succour to the vulnerable through the provision of food items, cash support to individuals, and petty traders to cushion the effect of subsidy removal. "The Onilude subsidy palliative aligns with the Renewed Hope Agenda of President, Bola Ahmed

Tinubu. Under this phase of the distribution, we are bringing the items closer to 1,000 people ensuring direct outreach to the vulnerable groups of 100 people each from the 10 wards in Badagry local government. My administration acknowledges that economic hardship does not recognize partisan leanings and that is why beneficiaries were chosen in consultation with CDC/CDAs, clerics, traditional rulers, and other relevant stakeholders."

Speaking further, the council boss reiterated his administration's commitment to ensure

the food palliatives distribution will but done monthly to ease the present high cost of commodities in the country.

"Let me inform you that this exercise will be done monthly henceforth. You will recall that I went around some areas in the local government some months ago to oversee the distribution of these materials to those who need them most. The feedback we received from that exercise was incredibly encouraging, which is why we are expanding the distribution and we will continue to appraise the distribution process and ensure that regardless of your location or status, we will get to you."



2024 Olympic: Elis Unveils Final 24 Players For Super Falcons

As the South African senior women's national team prepares to land in Nigeria for the first leg of the Paris 2024 Olympics Qualifiers on Monday, coach Desiree Ellis has released her final squad for the game.

The initial 29-player provisional squad was cut down to 24 for the two-legged final round of the Qualifiers.

Three goalkeepers, eight defenders, seven midfielders, and six forwards made up the final roster.

The Banyana Banyana take a two-match winning streak over the Super Falcons to Abuja for the first leg next Friday.



Xabi Alonso: Boniface Returns In Wednesday's DFB Pokal Game



Bayer Leverkusen boss, Xabi Alonso has confirmed that Super Eagles fit-again striker Victor

Boniface should be in the squad on Wednesday. The Bundesliga kings will be meeting with 'giant-killers' Fortuna

Düsseldorf in the DFB Pokal (German Cup). Boniface's return to action against Hoffenheim on Saturday in the

Bundesliga was delayed due to reasons best known to the club, despite his full recovery from injury.

NBA:- Vincent Set For Brooklyn Nets Return

D 'Tigers guard, Gabe Vincent, looks set to play against the Brooklyn Nets at the Barclays Center on Sunday after over three months on the sidelines. Los Angeles Lakers star has been out of action since December 20, 2023,

and had to undergo knee surgery. The former Miami Heat guard according to NBA insider Shams Chanaria was on the road trip with the Lakers and watched the game against the Pacers on Good Friday but was not be a part of it.



Gabe Vincent



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