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# Council Chairmen in dilemma over July 31 demolition deadline

Kunle Awosiyon

Chairmen of Local Government and Local Council Development Areas in Lagos have called on Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu for mutual understanding on the demolition of illegal shops across the state. Sanwo-Olu threatened to embark on the demolition early January when he advised the local authorities to stop breaking the state's infrastructural law with their indiscriminate building of shops and allowing extension of stores without lawful building process. Echonews gathers that one of the ways the local governments generate internal revenue is through building and renting out shops and space for traders but many of these do not follow due process. Following the enactment of the Land Use Act, the local government is limited to tenement as

one of its main sources of revenue, which to many of the local authorities is not enough to run their domains.

Investigation revealed that many of them did not want the state government to demolish the shops, the extensions, the kiosks and containerized makeshift stores in their local government areas because they derive revenue from them.

While the chairmen will not want to hinder the state government from carrying out the demolition exercise, they have a reservation about how the state officials had been going about it in the past.

The Chairman of Surulere Local Government, Hon. Sulaiman Yusuf and his counterpart in Orile Agege LCDA, Hon Babatunde called for mutual partnership and respect between the state government, LGA and LCDA.

To them, the state

government agencies cannot just visit local government to demolish structures without carrying the local authority along.

"The State Government officials cannot work in isolation and therefore Local Government officials should be carried along in their activities at the local level.

However, the Lagos State Government, through the State Building Control Agency (LASBCA), has charged government at the grassroots level across the state to adhere strictly to building codes and approval processes in the built environment.

The Special Adviser to the Lagos State Governor on e-GIS and Urban Development, Dr. Olajide Babatunde gave the charge, saying most of the chairmen had refused to adhere with building codes and approval processes.

Babatunde noted that Local Governments are closest to the people and are in a better position to



educate and enlighten the masses at the grassroots on the best ways and manners to utilize the environment. He called on Local Government Chairmen to obey building code regulations and shun the

practice of jumping approval processes in constructing shops and offices in their locality. "We must go back to the basics and as the government closest to the grassroots, you are to ensure that basic minimal standards are maintained to mitigate the effect of building indiscriminately on the environment", the Special Adviser stated. He further disclosed that constitutionally, the management of all land in the urban space is vested in the State Government and therefore Local Government should ensure that approval process to utilize the land and spaces within their domain are granted by agents of the State Government for proper planning and progressive society.

In the same vein, the the General Manager of Lagos State Building Control Authority, LASBCA, Arc. Gbolahan Oki lamented the indiscriminate extension of market stalls in the State by traders and

builders while local authorities had failed to stem the culture.

Oki stressed the importance of looking into planning which starts from the grassroots level and harped on the need to change the present narrative where Local Government grants approvals to build lock-up shops indiscriminately without recourse to state building approval processes.

He expressed the government's concern about the indiscriminate and unplanned erection of buildings and shops at the local level by developers in connivance with some local government officials without following laid-down regulations and approval processes.

Oki called on the Local Government Chairmen to implore owners of shops and market stalls in their localities to remove all illegal extensions and makeshift attachments built on their shops as LASBCA is ready to carry out the directives of Mr. Governor on the removal of attachments and extensions to buildings.





# Council Chairmen in dilemma over July 31 demolition deadline

*Continued from page 2*

Sanwo-Olu had earlier given the illegal shop owners across the state till May to remove the structures after LASBCA had met with the affected local government areas. While some of the chairmen sensitized their residents on the need to remove some structures, a few of the chairmen had been adamant, a source told Echonews, adding that they were not ready to let go the money they make from the illegal structures.

Sensing that some local government authorities are not ready to yield, the state government through the Lagos State Building Control Agency, LASBCA, has extended the deadline for the demolition of illegal structures in some parts of Lagos market to July 31.

LASBCA boss Oki said that the exercise would begin at Oshodi Market, Oshodi-Isolo Local Council Development Area as the government is ready to bring environmental sanity to all nooks and crannies of the Lagos markets by checking the illegal activities of shops and plaza owners who violate the physical planning laws of the State.

He said no amount of resistance and intimidation by miscreants or ethnic colouration put in blackmailing the state from doing the needful can make the State Government go back on its resolve to clean up the entire Lagos market of extensions and attachments.

He decried the nuisance constituted by shop owners who are in the habit of constructing attachments and extensions to display their wares and goods on walkways and roads thereby obstructing the smooth flow of vehicular

and human traffic especially during emergencies.

Oki reiterated the administration's unwavering commitment to clearing the right of way in all markets across the state, noting, "Clearing of the right of way is a standing order by the Governor and there's no going back until the right of way is clear in all markets across the state."

However, when Echonews visited some of the traders, they described the state government's plan as a political move to send some of them out of the shops. "I pay to the local government people everyday but now the local government who had been collecting my money could not save me from losing my shop," one of the traders who was afraid to mention his name said. Asked why she had not removed her store, which is clearly blocking the walkway, another trader within Oshodi said that only her landlord could do such and that she had alerted him of the government's threat but he had refused to take action.

"I think he knows people at the local government who are still backing him to relax. But the chairman himself has visited us that some extensions and buildings may go down," she said.

Reacting, the Chairman of Oshodi/Isolo LCDA, Otunba Kehinde Almaroof Oloyede, said that he had warned those with illegal extension to remove it to avoid forceful removal.

Speaking, the Iyaloja of Oshodi Market, Alhaja Risikat, said that she had held several meetings with the traders as she expressed her appreciation for the grace period provided by the government assuring that the traders would adhere to the deadline and remove the extensions

and attachments by themselves.

Recall that the Lagos State Building Control Agency removed shops built on roads and setbacks within the Lagos Island Business District a few months ago. The Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban Development, Dr Oluyinka Olumide, said the removal of illegal shops built on access points leading to high-rise buildings, was in line with the mega city status as envisaged by Mr. Governor.

He said, "Makeshift shops have no place in the THEMES+ agenda of Mr Governor and therefore are not allowed anymore in markets as the government has provided designated markets, shops, and outlets for traders to do their business instead of coming onto the roads. All corridors leading to commercial and residential high-rise buildings across the state have to be cleared to allow for emergency services at all times".



According to Physical Planning Permit Laws and Regulations of Lagos State 2019 as amended it prescribes the revocation of a Planning Permit, to which the Developer has developed more than the approval granted and has modified, altered, or added to the development without obtaining statutory documentation

from the approving office. The State Physical Planning Permit Regulations, 2019, under the Lagos State Urban and Regional Planning and Development Law, Cap U2 of 2015, it is illegal to carry out renovation without a permit. Specifically, Section 5 (A.1) of the regulations clearly states, "No

building shall be renovated in the State without a renovation permit granted by the Authority." To provide further clarity, here is how the Lagos State Physical Planning Permit Regulations, 2019, defines renovation: "Renovation" means any act done to cause an improvement to a building's beauty, and shall include changing of windows and doors, re-plastering, reroofing, replacements of floor coverings, recladding, retiling, kitchen or bathroom remodelling, plumbing works, electrical works, and does not include carrying out of structural improvement or changes to the building." This means that Lagos residents must obtain a renovation permit from LASPPPA before re-plastering their buildings, changing windows and doors, reroofing, remodelling kitchens or bathrooms, or carrying out plumbing and electrical works on existing structures. Failing to do so would contravene the Lagos State Physical Planning Permit Regulations, 2019.





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# LASODA Celebrates Winners of X-Star Music Contest For Persons With Disabilities

The Lagos State Office for Disability Affairs (LASODA) has said it will continue to celebrate the uniqueness of Persons With Disabilities (PWDs) in the State.

The General Manager of Lagos State Office for Disability Affairs (LASODA), Mrs. Adenike Oyetunde-Lawal stated this during the presentation of cash gifts to the winners of the X-Star Online Musical Contest Award.

Speaking at the presentation which took place recently at Alausa, Mrs. Oyetunde-Lawal stated that LASODA, apart from ensuring the welfare of PWDs, also has the mandate to celebrate the uniqueness and the inherent talents of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).

She commended the organisers of the talents hunt programme, X-Factor Productions for their dedication to empower and showcase the talents and creativity of Persons with Disabilities.

Mrs. Oyetunde Lawal also urged the winners to

continue to strive for excellence and give in their utmost best in their musical careers, adding that there is nothing that dedication and commitment cannot achieve.

In her words, "I congratulate the winners of this competition and urge you all not to relent in your efforts to live your

dreams, please maintain your unique talents and focus on your goals. I know it is not easy but with consistency and dedication you will excel". She restated the readiness of LASODA to work with any organization that aligns with the objectives of the Lagos State Government's THEMES Plus Agenda.

"I am glad to see all that you are doing to provide a platform for PWDS to recognize their potential in the entertainment industry. This initiative is in line with the all-inclusive policy and programmes designed to promote the participation of PWDS and I am elated to be part of this event", she added.

Also speaking the Director of the X-Factor Production, Mr. Godwin Abulele said the outfit will henceforth manage the talents of the 1st - 3rd winners including all those who performed excellently at the competition. He added that the organisation is committed towards developing the

artistic potential of PWDS across various entertainment disciplines by equipping PWDs with the necessary tools to thrive in the entertainment industry, and beyond.

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd winners of the competition are Jesse John Goyit, Chimaobi Paul and Fredrick Osagie.



To further curtail the spread of cholera, the Lagos State Consumer Protection Agency (LASCOPA) has issued a directive aimed at safeguarding public health.

The General Manager of the Agency, Mr. Afolabi Solebo has advised that all consumable products sold in supermarkets and stores across the state must prominently display essential information. He emphasised the importance of displaying the NAFDAC Registration Number of all products to ascertain that the products have undergone

## Curtailing Cholera: LASCOPA Urges Supermarkets To Comply With Essential Product Information

regulatory approval, adding that manufacturing and expiration dates must be conspicuously displayed on every product to provide transparency on product shelf life.

Solebo informed that the Manufacturer's Address must also be included on products at all supermarkets in the State to facilitate traceability and accountability. He warned that failure to comply with these regulations will result in immediate closure of the affected supermarkets or

stores.

The General Manager maintained that the proactive measure is crucial in preventing the spread of cholera and ensuring consumers have access to safe and regulated products. He restated the Agency's commitment to protecting consumers' rights and ensuring adherence to health standards during this critical period.

Solebo also urged all consumers as part of their responsibilities and rights to remain vigilant and report

any instance of non-compliance to LASCOPA for prompt

action. "LASCOPA remains dedicated to upholding consumer

welfare and safety across Lagos State", he stated.





# LASEPA Warns Residents Against Contaminated Water

As part of the measures to contain the rising cases of communicable cholera disease in the State, the Lagos State Government has warned the public against drinking contaminated or untreated water in their neighbourhood while ensuring that foods are prepared with proper hygiene. General Manager, Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA), Dr. Tunde Ajayi, who gave the warning while updating Lagosians on the efforts made by the agency to contain a further spread of the disease, added that a team of experts from the LASEPA's ISO certified laboratory have been working with other relevant government agencies like the Ministry of Health, Environment, Public Health Emergency Operation Centre, NGOs and other bodies to bring the situation to normal.

Ajayi disclosed further that the result of the laboratory analysis for the sampled waters in some areas visited by LASEPA laboratory team including Odi-Olowo, Mushin Kosofe and Lagos Island LG areas indicated that most water in those areas are contaminated, as they contained substances that made them not safe to drink.

In the laboratory analysis presented by Ajayi, who is also a professional Medical Doctor, revealed that three households and one Community borehole were sampled in Odi-Olowo and Kosofe LG areas of the State on the 13th June, but the results were not satisfactory.

According to him, the

four borehole water sampled in the areas have low PH, high nitrates and cadmium, rendering their water unsafe for human health. Ajayi stated further that two of the tested borehole water had high salinity while one of them was considered unsafe due to high presence of microbial count and coliforms. Speaking further, the General Manager, who disclosed that the team visited Kosofe LG area again on the 19th June for more water sampling because of the increasing cases of the outbreak, noted that out of the seven water samples collected including ino sachet water, three household boreholes, one cart pusher's keg and one treated borehole water belonging to the agency, four out of the seven sampled water were not satisfactory due to high presence of microbial count and coliforms.

He added that only the two sachet water and the agency's borehole water

sampled as control were tested satisfactory and good to drink.

During the visit of the team to Lagos Island LG area on the 14th June, the LASEPA boss disclosed that all the four households and one treated boreholes sampled were unsafe for drink, due to low PH values, there is also a presence of cadmium and high hardness.

He added that three of the sampled water from the area, also had high alkalinity and chloride, while two other samples had high values of nitrates and manganese and one sample had Total Dissolved Solids (TDS).

Ajayi therefore warned those patronizing water cart pushers, supplying water in Jerry cans to households to desist, noting that few of those jerry cans brought to the laboratory for test indicated that some of those kegs have not been washed in recent time, thus rendering them not

safe enough to fetch drinking water.

The General Manager also frowned at unsanitary behaviours of some water retail outlets who sold water to unsuspected members of public under unhygienic conditions and noted that water reservoirs used by many borehole water outlets visited were dirty and unkept, rendering the water stored in them not safe for drinking.

He said, "To prevent residents of the affected areas from continuing drinking contaminated water, Lagos State Government has, in the interim, provided water in Tankers through the Lagos State Water Corporation, while those affected boreholes would be cordoned off for treatment by the State government".

"Once we analyze the samples again and the results are satisfactory, the boreholes will be open for use". Ajayi stated.



## HAJJ 2024: Lagos Pilgrims Remember Late Abibat Mogaji

A special prayer session has been organised by the Lagos State Muslim Pilgrims Welfare Board to commemorate the 11th remembrance anniversary of the late Alhaja Abibatu Mogaji, mother of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR.

The prayer, which was held on Friday at the Mosque of Alsaad Flower Hotel 2, Misfalah, Makkah, was led by the Chairmam of the Ulamah (clerics), Imam Raji Opeyemi while the Amir-ul-Hajj, Hon. Olanrewaju Ibrahim Layode, Board members, pilgrims, and other stakeholders were in attendance.

Speaking on the attribute of the late Abibatu Mogaji, a member of the Muslim Pilgrims Board, Prof. Kabir Paramole described her as a pious, dedicated, committed, and devout Muslim during her lifetime. He explained that her sacrifices and efforts at ensuring that Hajj performance becomes easy for Nigerians were second to none, hence, her nickname, 'Mama Makkah'.

The occasion was also used to remember the late Alh. AbdurRasaq Aremu Gawat and Alhaja Ramota Bankole who died recently in Makkah, as well as other departed souls, praying to Allah to forgive their shortcomings and grant them Aljanat Fridaus.

Prayers were also offered for the success of the administration of Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, GCFR, President and Commander-in-Chief of the Nigerian Armed Forces as well as the administration of Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu and his deputy, Dr. Kadri Obafemi Hamzat.

Meanwhile, the Board has concluded arrangements for the return trips of the 1,869 pilgrims who performed this year's Holy pilgrimage through the State.

The Amir-ul-Hajj and Hon. Commissioner for Home Affairs, Hon. Olanrewaju Ibrahim Layode, disclosed this while speaking at the remembrance prayer session. He said that 188 pilgrims comprising the



elders, those with health issues and the 'Lagos Internationals' i.e. pilgrims from the USA and Europe, would depart on Sunday, June 23, on the same flight as Kebbi State pilgrims.

He stressed further that the full flight of the State would continue on Monday, June 24 with the second batch and this would run on a 'first-in, first-out basis', which means that there won't be preferential treatment for any pilgrims, except if the occasion warrants it. He added that the status quo ante would remain until the last batch of pilgrims are airlifted back home.

While wishing them journey mercies, Layode urged them to guide their new status jealousy, saying that as new Alhajis and Alhajas, they are like newly born babies without any sins. He added that in line with Islamic principles, their new status remains intact for at least 41 days if they can avoid committing sins.

He also admonished them to allow the exemplary conduct they exhibited whilst in the Holy Land to reflect in their dealings with others in every sphere of human endeavours when they return to Nigeria so that people can find them worthy of emulation.

While reiterating his advice that the pilgrims should maintain the 32kg allowed for the main luggage by the airline, Hon. Layode warned them to desist from carrying water and any other liquid items in their luggage. He assured them that five kilograms of ZamZam water had already been transported to Nigeria for each of them.

He appealed to those yet to be airlifted to exercise patience as necessary plans have been put in place to ensure that everyone is airlifted back to Nigeria within the shortest period.



# Albinism Awareness: LASODA Advocates For Skin Cancer Prevention



Lagos State Office for Disability Affairs (LASODA) has charged people with albinism to focus more on preventive tips against skin cancers and other skin diseases by ensuring they protect their skin from the sun and promptly report any skin issues to the hospital for early treatment.

The General Manager of LASODA, Mrs. Adenike Oyetunde-Lawal, made the call on Saturday at the awareness walk organised by the Albinism Association of Nigeria in commemoration of the International Albinism Awareness Day held at Jibowu, Yaba. Oyetunde-Lawal, represented by the Director of Social Development and Integration in the Agency, Mr. Akeem Kilani, said it is important that all necessary steps towards

the protection of people with albinism are taken into consideration to ensure they live a meaningful life.

In her words, "The Lagos State Government has continued to focus on policies and programmes tailored precisely for every member of the society regardless of disability type", stressing that the major function of the Agency is to strengthen an inclusive environment where no one is left behind in line with the THEMES Plus Agenda of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's administration.

"To this effect, the Agency continues in its unwavering commitment to prioritizing the well-being of individuals with disabilities and ensuring their integration into society", she added.

The General Manager further enjoined persons with albinism, their parents, and guardians

to always ensure their skin is covered if they must go out in the sun. "It is extremely important that albinos avoid the sun as much as possible, but where that is impossible, then ensure to always adequately cover up the skin if you must go out in the sun", she said.

The Chairman of the Albinism Association of Nigeria, Mr. Tolani Ojuri affirmed that the best thing that could be done to prevent skin cancers is to always protect the skin and consult a dermatologist every 90 days for skin checks, stressing that early medical intervention saves lives.

In his words: "Please ensure you use your sunscreen lotion, umbrellas, and be adequately clothed to keep your skin away from the sun. It is also important that you seek medical intervention

early enough by keeping your appointment with a dermatologist every 90 days to detect any abnormalities with the skin on time".

He added that the theme for the 2024 Albinism Awareness Day is "10 Years of Albinism Awareness, A Decade of Collective Progress", appreciating the Lagos State Government, the Lagos State Office for Disability Affairs, and other stakeholders for their contributions to the well-being of persons with albinism.

Also present at the event was Dr. Adeife Cole, a Consultant Dermatologist from the Lagos State University Teaching Hospital, who demonstrated the proper way of applying sunscreen lotion to the skin and harped on the need to adequately protect the body from the sun.





**O**ffice of Transformation, Creativity and Innovation (Office of the Head of Service) has organised a Human Resource Management (HRM) Sensitization Exercise for Public Servants in the Health Sector and other agencies of Government in Lagos State to drive performance and enhance service delivery.

In her welcome remarks at the event which took place recently at the Debt Management Resource Centre, Ikeja, Director General of OTCI, Toyin Anjous-Admuyiwa opined that the Health sector within the public sector plays a critical role in providing quality healthcare services to the community while facing unique challenges in terms of HR Management.

She noted that these challenges directly impact performance and patient outcomes, adding that it's imperative that these challenges and the five divisions of HR need to be revitalized to drive

# OTCI Sensitises HR Leaders In Health Sector, Parastatals

performance and enhance the overall healthcare experience.

"We can create a workforce that is motivated, skilled, and committed to delivering exceptional results and encourage all participants to collectively work together to transform the HR landscape in the Lagos State Public Service and pave the way for a brighter future", she said.

She reiterated that the theme: "Driving Exceptional Performance Through Revitalizing the 5 Divisions of HR - Transforming the A&HR Cadre", was an opportunity that brought together HR Officers in the Health sector and other Government Agencies across the State to discuss and address key challenges and opportunities in the Human Resource



Management.

Different papers were presented on HR best practices and participants took full advantage of the opportunity provided by the platform to interact, exchange views and share experiences to

create synergies for a collectively beneficial future in Public Service.

The goal of the sensitization is to enhance employee productivity and job satisfaction; improve service delivery and citizen engagement;

increase transparency and accountability and strengthen the position as a model Public Service.

Speakers at the event include Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government Establishment, Mrs.

Bibilomo Olayide Olushekun; Director of Service Matters, Public Service Office, Princess Bopo Oyekan Ismaila and a Senior Advocate of Growth Mindset, Mrs. Oluwalanke Omowunmi.

## LJLA Organises Third Edition of Quarterly Seminar With ALIWA

**T**o effectively cultivate their leadership skills and insights, Fellows of the Lateef Jakande Leadership Academy (LJLA) have completed the third edition of their quarterly high-impact leadership seminar series in collaboration with the African Leadership Initiative – West Africa (ALIWA), a premier leadership institution affiliated with the Aspen Institute in the USA.

The seminar, themed: "Leading in an Era of Globalisation", aims to provide Fellows with practical knowledge and discussions focused

on a paradigm shift transforming them into lifelong learners, who consistently adapt to new technologies, trends, and market dynamics to remain relevant and effective in building a progressive society.

One of the Facilitators of the Seminar series, Mrs. Habiba Balogun underscored the seminar's emphasis on fostering leaders who can spark positive change, while highlighting the importance of collaboration for effective growth.

"Leaders must understand that achieving greater accomplishments

often requires working together. This seminar series continues to empower Fellows, preparing them to lead effectively and cultivate a mindset that embraces growth and innovation on an international scale", she added.

Executive Secretary of LJLA, Mrs. Ayisat Agbaje-Okunade highlighted the seminar's role as a catalyst for both personal and professional growth. She stated that it equips Fellows with the skills and mindset necessary to drive positive change in their Society.

"The seminar

provides a distinctive platform for Fellows to engage in profound discussions, analyse case studies, and extract valuable

lessons applicable to their leadership journeys", Agbaje-Okunade added.

Additionally, the Fellows embarked on

a historical tour of the National Museum to deepen their understanding of their rich culture and history of Nigeria. This experience aims to ignite the appreciation of their heritage and its relevance to their leadership development.





# We Remain Resolute In Our Quest For Flood Free State- Lagos Govt

## ... As Commissioner Inspects Contravention Sites

The Lagos State Government has reiterated that the present administration remains resolute in the quest to make Lagos and the metropolis flood free.

The Commissioner for the Environment and Water Resources, Mr. Tokunbo Wahab made the statement in an interview after an extensive inspection tour to various contravention sites, adding that government would continue to enforce the law while reclaiming drainage setbacks.

Wahab said the inspection team, led by him, was out for the normal routine to ascertain the state of some drainage channels with the hindsight that most flooding issues are majorly caused by negative human activity.

The Commissioner, accompanied by the Permanent Secretary Office of Environmental Services Gaji Omobolaji and the Permanent Secretary, Office of Drainage Services Engr Mahamood Adegbite, visited Aladelola Street in Ikosi – Ketu where some criminally-minded individuals had cut the supporting iron under the Culvert which caused the collapse of the channel, adding that the state public works office will cordon the road off and repairs will commence immediately. The team also visited Victory Estate collector, Ago Palace Way, where some upscrupulous individuals blocked water paths and canals and engaged in illegal sandfilling and Selling, the Commissioner mentioned that an enforcement team had earlier been sent, noting that the visit was to check enforcement and compliance level.

“We are here as a result of a written petition by residents complaining about several distortions;

there had been a lot of distortion on these canals and roads by some individuals which has been causing flooding in the area”, he said.

During the team's visit to Sangotedo by Lagos Business School (LBS), the Commissioner said there is a natural stream that is supposed to discharge into System 63 and from there to Omu Creek which has been blocked and reduced by illegal structures built along the channel, adding that a 48 hours contravention notice has been served to owners of buildings lying within the channels.

While explaining the process of serving contravention notices, Wahab said property owners whose buildings and fences fall within drainage channels will first

be served a 48 hours notice followed by another 14 days notice before the commencement of enforcement. He added that the government would commence full enforcement after the expiration of all notices with an the option of

voluntary compliance.

The team was also at Ajiran Primary Channel, Chevron Drive to ascertain the level of the ongoing dredging while at Ilabere Collector at old Ikoyi, the team observed that there is encroachment on the alignment and the fences

will be removed in the next few days. He explained that the government is fixing a major infrastructure around Ilabere and if the collector is not properly handled, the infrastructure will be destroyed.

“Lagos, despite its

peculiarities as a coastal state with low-lying terrains and a high population density among others, has remained afloat because of various measures put in place by the past and present governments”, he said.



In a decisive move to restore order and ensure the free flow of traffic, the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) has impounded about 25 commercial and 15 private vehicles operating illegal garages and causing road obstructions around Oyingbo, Ijora, and Idumota areas of Lagos.

The operation, led by LASTMA Head of Enforcement, Mr. Kayode Odunuga under the directives of the Special Adviser to the Governor on Transportation, Hon. Sola Giwa, specifically targeted illegal garages that have been a persistent source of congestion and inconvenience for residents and commuters. Speaking on the exercise, the Special Adviser confirmed that the operation, which began in recent weeks, is part of a broader initiative by the Lagos State Government to enhance the efficiency of the city's transportation network.

## LASTMA Impounds 40 Vehicles at Oyingbo, Ijora, Idumota

Hon. Giwa emphasised the government's commitment to maintaining law and order on the roads and ensuring that all traffic regulations are strictly enforced.

In his words, “Illegal garages have been a significant challenge in our quest to maintain a seamless traffic flow in Lagos. These impoundments send a strong message to all

offenders that the state will not tolerate activities that disrupt public order and endanger the lives of our citizens.

“Our goal is to create a safe and orderly environment for all road users and this action is a crucial step in that direction. The targeted areas, Oyingbo, Ijora, and Idumota, are known hotspots for traffic congestion due to unauthorized parking and

the establishment of makeshift garages.

“These activities not only obstruct the free movement of vehicles but also pose safety risks to pedestrians. The Government's intervention aims to clear these bottlenecks and enhance the overall traffic situation in these critical areas”, he added.

He disclosed that residents and business owners have expressed their support for

the government's action in view of the positive impact it will have on their daily activities, assuring the public that the operation will be sustained and extended to other parts of the city where illegal garages and related activities are prevalent.

Hon. Giwa urged all vehicle owners and operators to adhere to the state's traffic regulations and cooperate with authorities to avoid sanctions. He reiterated that the government's primary objective is to create a better and more livable Lagos for everyone. The Special Adviser also implored motorists to take ownership of the roads and to promptly inform LASTMA of any broken down or abandoned trailers or trucks via the Agency's hotlines: 08100565860 / 08129928503.







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# Lagos Launches “Operation Payers Activation” on Land Use Charge

The Lagos State Ministry of Finance has launched “Operation Payers Activation” campaign on Land Use Charge (LUC), an initiative aimed at increasing compliance and creating public awareness on the significance of prompt payment of Land Use Charge amongst Residents and Property Owners in Lagos State. While addressing the Media at the flag-off of the sensitization campaign and awareness on Land Use Charges on Monday at Iru-Victoria Island Local Council Development Area, Victoria Island, Lagos, the Commissioner for Finance, Mr. Abayomi Oluyomi said the campaign is geared towards enlightening and educating Lagos residents on the imperatives of Land Use Charge payment, fostering a sense of civic responsibility amongst the residents and improving the Revenue Generation of the State.

He emphasised that the revenue generated from the payment is used to provide social amenities like good roads, schools and hospitals in line with international best practices.

In his words “Today marks a watershed in tax generation and Land Use Charge Activation in Lagos State, we are not just laying a solid foundation but also ensuring that property owners are carried along in understanding the importance of compliance. The



administration under Mr. Governor, Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu has continued to make remarkable strides in transforming our State, from advancing infrastructure to improving public services, his leadership has brought significant progress that benefits all residents”. “However, to sustain this thrust and ensure the continued development of our dear state, it is vital that we support the Lagos State Government because the contributions are vital in maintaining and expanding the infrastructural projects, which are essential for our growth and prosperity of the Centre of Excellence”, he added.

Oluyomi noted that the responses so far have not been very encouraging particularly in some parts of Lagos, stating that it will be unfair on those who have been

supporting the government in discharging their civil responsibility while others, are yet to understand the significance. He appreciated a good number of Lagosians who have been very consistent in making payments, saying “We extend our appreciation to those who are discharging their civic responsibilities promptly and we want to implore others to join the train of a #Greater Lagos by supporting this initiative to avoid any penalty as enforcement begins immediately after the campaign”, he added.

While taking the lead in the distribution of bills around Victoria Island, Oluyomi maintained that although the Y2024 Land Use Charge Bills have been served early in the year, but during the Operation Payers Activation Campaign, a reminder Notice will

also be served to those who are yet to make payment. He, therefore, encouraged property owners and business entities to take advantage of the ongoing 15% discount on bills paid within 30 days of receiving their bills. “We have over 500 of our officials who have been trained and will be working tirelessly in the distribution of Reminder Notices to those who are yet to comply, and also identify properties that are yet to be enumerated. I want to specially appeal to Lagosians to kindly avail these officials as much cooperation as possible to ensure a smooth distribution of the bills. I also want to advise those seeking more clarity on their bills to contact the Land Use Charge help desk or visit the Land Use Charge Appeal, Assessment and Tribunal for any unresolved issues”, he said.

The Commissioner emphasised that Lagos, the fourth largest Economy in Africa, is one of the most secure places in Nigeria, and that is why many individuals come to live in our dear State because it is safe and secure making Lagos one of the most populated States in the Country. He, therefore, sought the understanding and cooperation of Lagosians, adding that the State's consistent unequalled performance not only in the area of infrastructure but also in the provision of relief materials like the Ounjeko, Ilera-Eko amongst others is attributable to the State's formidable Internally Generated Revenue (IGR). He also solicited the support and understanding of Stakeholders to continue to join forces with the State Government in building a #Greater Lagos that we can be proud of.

The Governor on Taxation and Revenue, Hon. Opeyemi Ogungbo encouraged all property owners in the state not to renege on the payment of taxes and sundry duties like Land Use Charge.

While welcoming the officials to the Launch, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Mr. Sewanu Temitope Hundogan restated that it was when Governor Sanwo-Olu came in 2019 that the penalty regime of Land Use Charge was relaxed. “Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu as a welfarist believes in making life easy for Lagosians and thus introduced a 15% discount on the Land Use Charge. I charge you, our Officials, to give your best in this exercise not only because you are working for the best State in Nigeria but also because your efforts will help the Government to deliver more tangible deliverables”.

The Special Adviser to



# Lagos MCCTI, Woodhall Capital Sign Partnership Agreement

...Conclude Plans on Extraordinary 9th Lagos Corporate Assembly



Lagos State Ministry of Commerce, Cooperatives, Trade & Investment (MCCTI) has signed a partnership agreement with Messrs Woodhall Capital Limited that will see the frontline Financial Advisory Firm collaborate with the Ministry to implement its various initiatives and programmes. Speaking at a signing ceremony held recently

to kick-start the partnership, Commissioner for Commerce, Cooperatives, Trade & Investment, Mrs. Folashade Ambrose-Medebem disclosed that the formalisation of an agreement with Messrs Woodhall Capital Limited will enable the Ministry to work towards achieving its ambitious ministerial mandate. She said: "The thrust of our policy is to Drive

Economic Prosperity and Growth, Focus on Trade and Strengthen the Organised Private Sector through Industrial, MSME and Nanos. The coming of Woodhall will be a great value-addition, as it will bolster our preparedness and planning as we ramp up efforts to attract and sustain viable and vibrant investments and expand commercial, trade/industrial and cooperatives-based

activities in the State. We also have Businessday as a partner on this event". The Commissioner affirmed that the partnership will commence with the Extraordinary Lagos Corporate Assembly (LCA) tagged: "BOS Meets With Lagos Business Community", scheduled to hold on Tuesday, 9th July, 2024 at Eko Hotel and Suites and dovetail to other programmes such as

the Lagos Investment Roundtable at the African Social Impact Summit (ASIS) among others.

"This year's edition of LCA is termed extraordinary because it seeks to create a unique platform to bring together regulators, particularly at the Federal level and business operators to address issues affecting business and product registration, regulation, certification and much more. Expected to grace the events are Captains of Industries, top Entrepreneurs, Executives of Business Membership Organisations and other decision-makers in the corporate world".

"Founder of Woodhall Capital Limited, Mrs. Mojisola Hunponu-Wusu expressed her delight at the agreement which builds on the initial engagement with the Ministry. She expressed the commitment of her organisation to work with the State Government, through the Ministry, to position Lagos as a global city and leading destination for

investments in Africa. "This is indeed the beginning of many great things to come, and it is fascinating for us because it coincides with the 10th anniversary of our organisation – Woodhall, which specialises in raising international funding for large corporates, financial institutions and sovereigns", she said.

The Lagos Corporate Assembly, also called "BOS Meets with Lagos Business Community", is a high-profile policy advocacy platform for Mr. Governor and other government officials to directly discuss, collaborate, exchange ideas and obtain feedback from members of the Organised Private Sector (OPS) on issues relevant to the growth and development of business organisations. This pivotal parley enables the Government to gauge the pulse of the business community, resolve issues raised in previous editions, and create a more business-friendly environment.

# HOS Tasks HR Leaders on Technology, Innovation



Directors of Administration and Human Resources in the State Public Service have been advised to be on top of their games to achieve exceptional

performance in the modern-day administration and human resource practice, by embracing technology and innovation.

Lagos State Head of Service, Mr. Bode Agoro gave this admonition at the HR Sensitization exercise held recently at Alausa and organised by the

State Office of Transformation, Creativity and Innovation (OTCI), adding that the theme for the exercise; "Empowering HR Leaders: Driving Exceptional Performance in the State Public Service", is geared towards addressing one of the most vital areas through which so many Government transformational policies are driven in the State Public Service.

He noted that by revitalising the five divisions of Admin and Human Resource, there will be assurance for employee productivity and job satisfaction, improved service

delivery and citizen engagement, adding that transparency and accountability will strengthen the position as a model Public Service.

Agoro urged HR leaders to cultivate a culture of continuous learning and development, advising that they should align performance management with organization goals and objectives as they ensure competitive compensation and benefits to promote employee relations and engagement.

In her address, the Director-General, Office of Transformation, Creativity and Innovation (OTCI), Toyin

Anjous-Ademuyiwa said that participants are expected to take advantage of the opportunity provided by the platform to interact, exchange views and share experiences while mixing and bonding in a way that would create synergies for a mutually and collectively beneficial future in the public service.

The platform also provided an opportunity for the participants to interact, exchange views and share experiences with a quintessential Public Speaker and a major player in Public Service reform, the erstwhile Permanent Secretary from Lagos State Public Service, Mr. Abiodun Bamgboye.



# Woman In Court For Stealing N5.2m

By Felix Kuyinu

The Magistrates' Court sitting in Ejigbo has prosecuted a woman for allegedly stealing \$5,006 Canadian Dollar (about 5,200,200). The 36-year-old accused, Yetunde Alao, was arraigned on two-count charge of conspiracy and stealing. Police Prosecutor, Benedict Aigbokhan, said that the suspect

alongside other accomplices not yet apprehended stole the sum alongside an international passport all belonging to one Antony Alao. Aigbokhan also submitted that the offence, committed by the gang on June 2, at Akeem Balogun Street, Idimu, Lagos contravened Sections 287 and 411 of the Criminal Law of

Lagos State, 2015. The defendant, however, pleaded not guilty to the charge. The Magistrate, Kofoworola Ariyo, granted him bail in the sum of N500,000 with two sureties in like sum. Ariyo mandated the sureties to show evidence of tax payment to the Lagos State Government as part of the bail conditions. The case is to resume in court on July 2.



## Police Arraign Man For Stealing N1.17m

By Felix Kuyinu

A man identified as Apeh Christian has been arrested by the Police in Lagos for an alleged theft of N1,170,000. The prosecutor, ASP Christian Okonofua, said the 30-year-old suspect committed the act between January 3 and June 13, 2024 at Oasis Hotels situated at Ebute area in Ikorodu. The suspect pleaded not guilty to the one count of stealing charged against him when arraigned at the Ikorodu Magistrates' Court. However, the prosecutor maintained that the suspect's offence



contravened the provisions of Sections 287(7) of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015.

The court admitted the defendant to bail in the sum of N100,000 with two sureties in like sum. The case was adjourned till July 11, for mention.

## Police Arraign Man For Allegedly Stealing Items Worth N999,500

By Felix Kuyinu

A suspect identified as Raymond Mukaila has been arraigned at the Magistrates' Court in Ejigbo for allegedly stealing properties and cash valued at N999,500. The 43-year-old stood in trial on one count of stealing. He pleaded not guilty. Nevertheless, Police Prosecutor, ASP Christian Okonofua, told the sitting that Mukaila committed the offence between February and March 2024, at Oreyo, Igbogbo area in Ikorodu. Okonofua said that the suspect stole an aluminum frame valued at N286,000



and an aluminum window of N210,000. In addition, Mukaila also stole three pieces of flue master valued at N16,000, three seat cover worth N10,500 and pillar of iron pole of N22,000, as submitted by the prosecutor. Furthermore, Mukaila was also accused of stealing a cash sum of N455,000, all belonging to one Kafilat

Adebayo - the complainant. According to the prosecutor, the offence contravened Section 287 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015. The court granted the defendant bail in the sum of N200,000 with two sureties in like sum and adjourned the case until July 11, for mention.



In a demonstration of her unwavering commitment to the wellbeing of her constituents, Princess Samiat Abolanle Bada, the Chairman of Ikosi-Isheri LCDA, engaged with community members on Onibeju and Mutairu streets in Shangisha as she flagged off the construction of the two roads.

The Council Boss reiterated her dedication to infrastructural development in the LCDA, emphasizing that quality roads are essential to improve the lives of residents. She promised to continue delivering projects that meet the needs of the community, ensuring an enhanced quality of life for all.

Princess Samiat Bada, in her speech, placed a strong emphasis on transparency in government, reiterating the need for engagement with the community before commencing any project.

During an engaging and lively community session, residents raised their requests and concerns, which the Chairman promised to address. She announced that two contractors had been appointed to handle the project and pledged that the government would continue to work on various projects for the constituency's benefit.

She added that the project was expected to be completed within six months, but the government would strive to accelerate the process to alleviate any inconvenience to the residents.

The Council Boss reiterated the

# Ikosi-Isheri Council Boss Reiterates Commitment to Infrastructural Developments

Kehinde Adeleye



Government's commitment to the community, stating, "My heart is where my community is. We'll continue to do what it is right, because this is paramount to us in our Community." She noted that community members told her she doesn't need to campaign, but she stressed the significance of campaigning, saying, 'We're a party that thrives on connecting with our people. We'll come to engage with you, and when we do, please vote for us, and by God's grace we'll emerge victorious.'

Engr. Isikalu Abiodun the Council Engineer Ikosi-Isheri LCDA,

praised the council Chairman for her dedication to the project, saying, "Kudos to the Mayoress for taking the initiative to reconstruct these streets. The road has been in a dilapidated state for a long time, but the chairman has shown a commitment to improving the lives of the people of Shangisha and its environs."

The project, which was promised by Princess Bada four months ago, has finally commenced, with renowned contractor OandS handling the construction. The road will feature two side drainages, a 750 by 750 drainage with a covered drain, and interlocking roads, ensuring a durable and efficient

infrastructure. The project is expected to be completed within six months.

Engr. Isikalu Abiodun urged the community to support the project and cooperate with the contractor, emphasizing that the project's success is crucial for the community's benefit. He noted is not as if the Chairman, council engineer, or contractor reside in the area, pleading with them to achieve a common goal.

Engr. Bola Bankole, Project Manager of O and S Nigeria Limited, expressed optimism that the road construction will be completed within three months. Speaking on

site, he stated, "The However, he expressed length of this road is optimism that with the 180 meters, and the Mayoress's intervention, width is 7.5 meters. By the roads and drainage God's grace, we aim to will be completed within a complete the few months, bringing interlocking of the road relief to the community. within three months." Adeshina Ogundero, Engr. Bankole Chairman of the Onibeju emphasized the Community Development importance of Association (CDA), community commended the cooperation, saying, Mayoress for her initiative "We urge the residents to reconstruct the long-neglected Mutairu and to receive us with love Onibeju streets. He need their assistance described the project as from time to time, and "wonderful" and we count on their expressed his gratitude, cooperation to complete saying, "May God the project on Almighty continue to schedule."

strengthen her, comfort Mr. Ganiu Abiodun Oni, her, and protect her."

The CDA Chairman Councillor representing Ward B, Shangisha highlighted the community's struggles with the roads, particularly during rainy seasons, when their communal efforts to maintain the streets were often washed away by the rain. He praised the Mayoress for selecting these streets for reconstruction, bringing relief to the community.

Ogundero assured that the community is fully cooperative and supportive of the project, having engaged with residents, market women, and other stakeholders. He emphasized that the community will work closely with the contractor throughout the project and beyond, ensuring its success.

He emphasized that the community will work closely with the contractor throughout the project and beyond, ensuring its success. He expressed his heartfelt appreciation to Princess Samiat Bada for selecting Onibeju and Mutairu Streets for reconstruction. He applauded the Mayoress for her dedication to the community, stating, "I believe her second term is assured, as she has been performing exceptionally well in this local government, not just in Shangisha, but throughout the entire local government."



# Folawiyo Committed To Increasing Residents Fortune

By Saheed Afolabi

Chairman of Lagos Island East LCDA, Mr Muibi Folawiyo has disclosed that he's committed in ensuring residents fortunes increase during his administration. The council boss said his administration has centered on transparency, accountability, infrastructures, social services and security. "Permit me to put on record some of the promises my administration as Executive Chairman has kept in the last about 3

years in the areas of health, environment, education, Infrastructures, social services, transparency, accountability and security. "I restate my commitment to increasing and improving the fortunes of LIELCDA. Our constituency is blessed with an abundance. My job as the Executive Chairman is to continue to harness these resources for the growth and development of LIELCDA people.

"I have a team to work with and I am confident that together, we can continue to accomplish the task of building LIELCDA. "As usual, I ask for your continued support and prayers." Folawiyo called on investors to invest in the community to grow the economy and residents wealth. "The time to identify with development and prosperity has come. I, therefore, call more on all investors in LIELCDA to come and stamp their footprints in our constituency."



# Folawiyo Speaks on Impact Of Street Lights To Community

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Lagos Island East LCDA, Mr Muibi Folawiyo has revealed the impact of the street lights to the community. The council boss in collaboration with the Senator representing Lagos central, Wasiu Eshinlokun delivered solar powered street lights to Lagos Island East LCDA. Folawiyo said the street lights will further enhance security and ensure seamless operation of security operatives. He added that the street

lights is an instrument which will further ensure safety and chase away criminals who have the intention of causing havoc. "In an effort to enhance safety for residents and foster development in Lagos Island East Local Council Development Area, My LIELCDA Administration in collaboration with Senator Wasiu Eshinlokun Sanni, Chairman, Senate Committee on Marine and Transport representing Lagos Central Senatorial

District has installed Intergrated Solar Power Street Lights at Glover Street Lagos Island. "This state-of-the-art light combines energy-efficient LED technology with an intelligent sensor, ensuring seamless automatic operation from dusk to dawn. "Designed for durability and reliability, it withstands harsh weather conditions, making it ideal for both urban and rural areas. "The 80W Solar Street Light with Sensor will enhance safety and visibility."





# LASUSTECH Elects New overning Council

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Lagos State University of Science and Technology (LASUSTECH) has elected new representatives to its Governing Council and the Senate. The election process was peaceful and transparent, with staff members expressing satisfaction with the outcome. The Academic Staff elected included Mr. Akinrinola Akinfolabi for the teaching staff representative and Mrs. Olubiyi Olatokunbo emerged as the Non-Teaching Staff representative on the governing council. Mr. Akinrinola polled

283 votes, to defeat his closest rival, Dr. Murisiku Onigemo with 206 votes, while Mrs. Olubiyi received 280 vote to defeat Dr. AbdulRakeem Ibrahim who polled 245 votes. Speaking at the event, the Vice-Chancellor of the university, Prof. Olumuyiwa Odusanya urged the staffs to love themselves and shun any form of bitterness or hatred amongst themselves. He emphasized that love should be the watchdog of the institution as the election caused a lot of uproar amongst the staff which is not very encouraging.

He concluded by saying staffs should stop slandering those representing the senate since they are also humans and such actions will have a negative effect on the institution. He supported this by quoting James 3:6 which reads "our mouth is the world of inequity" In an interview, with our reporters, Mr. Akinrinola a computer science expert promised to give a good representation of the academic Staff. He stated, "I will assist in the implementation of policies and represent the staff members when there is challenges. According to him, "the council is an organized body that takes charge of the institution, they

have their policies in place, and as a member of the council, all I need to do is to assist in the implementation of those policies." When asked if he could handle the rigours of the position, Mr. Akinrinola replied, "I have been a unionist and chairman of the academic staff union

before, so I am prepared for the challenges ahead. I have gotten the relationship with the council members, and there is no gain saying to the fact that there will be no challenges." Comrade Olufunmilayo Abosedo Tifashe, the outgoing representative congratulated the winners and urged them to perform up to

expectation. She said, "The election has come and gone, our winners have been announced, so we thank God. They should perform up to the expectation because I am an outgoing executive, and I am the one that handed over power to the newly elected non-teaching staff, so I expect them to at least perform up to expectation."



# LASUSTECH Secures NUC Accreditation for 25 Programmes

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Not less than twenty-five (25) programmes will be accredited by Lagos State University of Science and Technology (LASUSTECH) come October 2024. The programmes include departments in the College of Applied and Social Sciences, College

of Engineering, and College of Agriculture. The Vice Chancellor of the school, Professor Olumuyiwa Odusanya, disclosed this yesterday at the second congregation meeting of the school in Ikorodu, Lagos. He said that preparations were in top gear to meet the requirements of the National University

Commission (NUC), stressing that no stone would be left unturned in ensuring that all the programmes were finally accredited. In his remarks at the occasion, Professor Odusanya said, "The institution has started the construction of an 80-bed student hostel and a 1,500-seat auditorium at the Ikorodu campus of the

school." He affirmed that the projects were facilitated by Tetfund, stressing that the school had not been able to access the fund for the past three years due to the activities of some staff. According to him, "For three years, the polytechnic (Laspotech), now Lasustech, did not receive financial

assistance from Tetfund because of some staff's attitude and failure to retire the funds they collected for training, conferences, and seminars." He also advised staff to work together, stating that the accreditation exercise "is a must-pass exercise." He expressed dismay at the attitude of some members who impersonated their

colleagues' staff identity numbers to vote for congregants in the election. According to him, "We leave those culprits to God for their crude attitude. We know them. There is no perfect system; we must keep moving forward and thinking of the future of our work and the students while working together for a common purpose."



# Ojokoro LCDA Launches Campaign to Eradicate Drug Abuse

*Kehinde Adeleye*

In a decisive effort to combat drug abuse and create a healthier and more prosperous community, Mr. Hammed Idowu D. Tijani, the Chairman of Ojokoro Local Council Development Area (LCDA), has launched a far-reaching campaign to eradicate drug abuse within the constituency. Mrs. Funmilayo Olowosho and Mrs. Tijani Modinat, leading the charge as the dynamic duo of WAPA, have designed a multifaceted campaign to raise awareness about the risks of drug abuse and empower community members with the knowledge and resources to seek help. The campaign utilizes a variety of methods, including educational programs, outreach activities, and community engagement initiatives, to



disseminate vital information about the dangers of drug use and connect people with essential support services.

A key figure in this initiative is HRM Oluwalambe Taiwo, the Oba of Ojokoro Land, who has pledged his full

support for the campaign. His Majesty has made a stern commitment to collaborate with local law enforcement to

ensure that those who persist in drug abuse face the consequences of their actions. "We will not stand by as our community is ravaged by the scourge of drug abuse," declared Oba Taiwo. "If individuals fail to heed the warnings and support provided by HID Tijani and his team, they will face arrest and prosecution."

The campaign will feature a variety of activities designed to reach all segments of the community soonest. These include:

1. Community Workshops and Seminars: Informative sessions led by health professionals and former addicts to educate residents about the dangers of drug abuse and the paths to recovery.

2. Youth Engagement Programs: Activities targeted at young people, providing them with positive

alternatives to drug use and teaching them life skills that promote a healthy lifestyle.

3. Public Service Announcements: A series of announcements across various media platforms to raise awareness and promote the campaign's message.

4. Support Services: Access to counseling and rehabilitation services for individuals struggling with addiction.

Tijani expressed his dedication to the cause, stating, "Our goal is to create a drug-free Ojokoro where every resident can thrive. This campaign is not just about enforcement; it is about education, support, and community solidarity. Together, we can overcome the challenges posed by drug abuse and build a brighter future for all."

The council boss urges all residents to participate actively in the campaign and take advantage of the resources available. By working together, the community can eradicate drug abuse and ensure a safer, healthier environment for everyone.

## ALIMOSHO

# Jelili intensifies Effort to Curtail Maternal Mortality Rate

*Kehinde Adeleye*

The Chairman of Alimosho Local Government, Mr Jelili Sulaimon met with natural healers, including traditional healers and local midwives, to further his interest in the development of medicine and cures for prevalent ailments against maternal death. The meeting was held to examine the prospects in medicine with the use of locally

sourced herbs, as they are used in other countries that are making medical advances.

Participants criticized the mistreatment they have received at the hands of government authorities who are more concerned with how much they must pay than with resolving their issues.

The Council Boss assured them of the local government's flawless plans to make

life easier for them, as well as the council's preparedness to accommodate anything they will need to complete their job.

The Council Chairman also noted that a structure for laboratory usage, patient treatment and monitoring, and mass drug production has been put in place and is awaiting their arrival.

Participants expressed their willingness, adding that they have high hopes for the Council



Chairman and are therefore prepared to provide him their full cooperation.

Mr. Akinpelu Johnson, Council Vice Chairman;

Mr Dare Ogunkoya, Secretary to the Local Government; Mrs Akinola-Yussuf, Council Manager; and the

Supervisors for Health, Works and Agriculture, Youth, and Social Development were also present.



# Epe Club President Pays Heartfelt Tribute to Bankole

By Mohammed Adekola



President of the Epe Ogunmodede Club, Barrister Omodele Ibrahim lamented the heart-wrenching loss of Alhaja Ramota Bankole, former Lagos State All Progressives Congress (APC) Welfare Secretary. The news of her passing, which shook the political landscape of Epe Division and Lagos State on Wednesday June 20, 2024, was met with deep sadness and reflection on her impactful life. Barrister Ibrahim conveyed his deep sorrow, describing the loss as a significant blow to the community. "The passing of Alhaja Ramota Bankole is truly heartbreaking. She was not just a political leader but a socialite and a champion of community development. Her presence brought inspiration to all who knew her," he stated. Reflecting on cherished memories, Ibrahim reminisces about the occasions shared with Bankole, highlights her dedication and vibrant spirit. "Alhaja Bankole's commitment to her community was unparalleled. She was a beacon of hope and a pillar of strength for many. Her contributions to the social and political fabric of Epe Division were immense and will be sorely missed," he added. Ibrahim remarked, "While we are deeply saddened by her passing, we recognize it as the will of Almighty God. Her life was a testament to service and compassion, and we take solace in knowing she has returned to her Creator." Ibrahim expressed solidarity with her family and the broader APC community. "On behalf of the Epe Ogunmodede Club, I extend our deepest condolences to the family of Alhaja Ramota Bankole and the entire APC family. We pray that Almighty Allah grants her eternal rest and gives her loved ones the fortitude to bear this irreparable loss."

Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA is set to embark on street lighting project under the leadership of Akogun Wale Raji Anomo.

Through this initiative, the Chairman, Akogun Wale Anomo aims to enhance safety, security, and the overall quality of life for residents of Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA by ensuring well-lit streets in the Local government Area.

All necessary preparations have been completed to commence the project. The street lighting project is a significant initiative aimed at ensuring well-lit streets in the LCDA, thereby

## Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA set to Launch Street Light

By Mohammed Adekola



reducing crime and improving the overall living

conditions for residents. The pilot phase is to

start in Orugbo-Iddo, Ward G1. Following the

successful implementation in the area, the project

will expand to other wards within the LCDA in due course.



# Ibeju-Lekki LG Warns Residents Against Blocking Drains With Refuse

By Mohammed Adekola

Ibeju-Lekki Local Government has issued a stern warning to members of the public, reminding them that indiscriminate dumping of waste along highways or unauthorized places is a criminal offense punishable under the law.

The Chairman Egnr. Sesan Olowa said his administration is committed to ensure a clean and more sanitized environment for all residents. To



achieve this, the government is urging everyone to cooperate and play their part in maintaining a clean Ibeju-Lekki.

The warning comes as part of the local government's efforts to promote a culture of cleanliness and sustainability, and to ensure that residents take responsibility for their actions and keep the environment free of waste and pollution.

He advised residents to sort waste properly before disposal and use

the PAKAM APP to request the pickup of recyclables.

He added that Effective waste management in your community can help prevent the spread of diseases such as cholera, typhoid, Lassa fever e.t.c. in your environment, hence, the need to have a bin in your homes, to shut out rodents getting in contact with your waste, and also to aid easy evacuation by PSP operators".

# HURMA Petitions Lagos Attorney General Over Land Grabbing In Otara

By Mohammed Adekola

The Human Rights Monitoring Agenda (HURMA Global Resource Initiative) has petitioned the Lagos State Attorney General and Commissioner For Justice to take urgent action to curb the activities of Area boys/ Land Grabbers in Otara, Igboye town of Epe.

The Human Rights office visited the disputed Adesada Oganjugbe family land at Otara in Epe to investigate for proper documentation, the recent acclaimed state intervention on the land, but some members of the Right Monitors were attacked by Area boys stationed on the land.

The petition signed by HURMA Executive Director, Comrade Buna Olaitan Isiak and addressed to the Attorney General and Commissioner for



Justice titled: "Destruction of State Signpost Erected By Office of Lagos State Special Taskforce on Land Grabbers By Area Boys/Land Grabbers in Epe.

An Urgent Call To Arrest and Prosecute Perpetrators to Enforce Respect to Authorities, Law & Order," reads in parts:

"We write to bring the attention of your office to the present

lawlessness and an act insubordination and complete disregard to state authorities that is presently ongoing in Eredo, Epe, Lagos State by a known group of Areaboys/ Landgrabbers whose case already pending in your office with Petition No. 6761, among other public offices.

"Please be informed that our office have been monitoring

general development on the Otara Land dispute at Igboye town, Epe. We have received several petitions and as well written petitions to appeal for state urgent intervention to prevent communal clash. This has been as well severally related on our weekly Human Rights program on Radio Nigeria.

"HURMA recently received a report on visitation by the Lagos

State office of Special Taskforce on Land Grabbers to the disputed land and erection of Signpost.

"Our office is aware that the signposts by the State Taskforce were erected after several invitations to the Land-Grabbers, but turned down with impunity.

"The Human Rights Monitoring Agenda (HURMA) vehemently condemns this egregious act of recklessness and impunity as lately displayed by these boys that claim to be above the law.

We however demand from the honourable office of the Attorney General as follows:

Immediate arrest and trial of all the area boys involved in harassing our office Reporters.

Immediate arrest and prosecution of all those involved in destruction of State Taskforce erected signposts on Otara Land, Igboye Town, Epe. This

should be done in accordance with the stipulated penalties outlined in law against such affront and act of impunity against state constituted authorities.

"Please note that our call for urgent arrest and prosecution of these identified land grabbers and their sponsors is to serve as a deterrent to other citizens in the State.

"Moreso, this is inline with the provisions of the Lagos State Property Protection Law, 2016 and in particular, Section 2(1) of the Law, which prohibits the use of force or self-help by anyone to take over any landed property or engaging in any act inconsistent with the proprietary rights of the owner of any landed property in Lagos".



# Bankole Speaks on Acting Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti

By Nurudeen Adebayo

**R**enowned actress Kehinde Bankole has opened up about her momentous role as Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti, the legendary activist and Afrobeat matriarch, in a recent interview with business day. Bankole, who won the Best Lead Actress award at the Africa Magic Viewers Choice Awards (AMVCA) and landed the role of Moremi in Disney's animated anthology series "Kizazi Moto," reflected on the significance of her portrayal. "Playing this role is more than just acting. It's a chance to truly understand the struggles and triumphs of a woman who paved the way for so many. History



will remember me for this," Bankole said. "The impact the film has had since its

release has been incredible. Hearing stories of women inspired by Funmilayo's story, of the fight for

justice being rekindled in people, that's what makes this project so special." Bankole emphasized the enduring legacy of Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti and the personal impact it had on her. "It reminds me that I have to write my own history. I'm simply grateful to have been a part of sharing it with the world alongside the Producer and Director, Bolanle Austen-Peters." Known for her captivating performances in films like "Sista," Bankole is no stranger to challenging roles. However, embodying Funmilayo presented a unique opportunity. "Funmilayo Ransome-Kuti was a force of nature. Her strength, resilience, and unwavering commitment to justice are an inspiration. I

know through this film, audiences will not only be entertained but also learn about the incredible legacy she left behind and our history as a people," she stated. Bankole also revealed that playing the role influenced the direction of her own NGO, The Kehinde Bankole Foundation 'What About The People' (WATP). "Funmilayo's relentless pursuit of a better Nigeria ignited a fire within me. It challenged me to not just be a displeased observer, but to become an active participant in creating positive change. This profound shift led to the creation of WATP – What About The People? – a non-profit organization dedicated to reorienting and empowering communities and advocating for social and behavioral change," she explained.



## Osas Laments High Cost of Living

By Nurudeen Adebayo

**N**ollywood actress, Osas Ighodaro has expressed concern over the country's high rate of inflation which has affected commodities in the market. During a question and answer session with

Pulse, the actress revealed that N1 million won't last her more than a day due to inflation. Actress Osas Ighodaro is not the only celebrity who lamented about the high expenditure and inflation in the country. The likes of Mofe Duncan, Comedian Layi

Wasabi, and many others have sung the same song recently. The host asked: "How long will it take you to spend N1 million in this economy?" Ighodaro replied: "How many seconds? You said seconds? Things are expensive. Maybe a day depending on what I am getting."



# Onilude Assures Residents Of Timely Availability Of Medical Personnel

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Badagry LG, Olusegun Onilude has assured residents of availability of medical personnel across all the Primary Health Centers (PHC).

In furtherance of the Onilude led administration's commitment to provision of quality and accessible healthcare to citizens, he paid unscheduled facility inspection of primary healthcare centers in the community.

While inspecting the primary health centers at Ajara-Topa, Ajara-Luda, Marina, and



Mogotho-Ajido, he said his visit to the health centres across the local

government is to assess facilities, the standard of patient care services,

timely availability of medical personnel, availability of drugs

and diagnostics and to provide interventions where it is lacking.

He said that because of Badagry local government's proximity to the border and large water bodies his administration is poised to work with health officials alongside critical stakeholders to devise epidemiological methods and measures to safeguard and enlighten the citizens especially at this time when there is cholera outbreak.

Onilude also assured citizens that the Primary Health Centers in Ajara-Topa, Ajara-Torikoh and Mogotho will become fully operational and accessible to the citizens before the end of the year.

# Education Loan: Whingan Displeased With Low Turnout From Badagry

By Saheed Afolabi

The Member of the House of Representatives (MHR) for Badagry, Honorable Sesi Whingan, has voiced his concerns over the notably low number of applications from Badagry students for the Federal Government's education loan scheme. During a recent engagement session with some constituents at his residence in Ibereko Badagry, Whingan highlighted the critical importance of this financial aid in advancing educational opportunities for the region's youth.

Whingan, who has



been a vocal advocate for educational development in Badagry, stressed that the federal

education loan is a crucial resource for students aspiring to

pursue higher education but who are constrained by financial limitations. He noted that despite the availability of the loan, many eligible students in Badagry have not taken advantage of the opportunity, raising questions about awareness and accessibility.

"Education is the cornerstone of our future, and it is disheartening to see that our students are not making use of the educational loan provided by the Federal Government. This loan is designed to support those who are in need, and it's crucial for our students to leverage it to further their studies and career prospects."

He attributed the low

application rate to several potential factors, including a lack of awareness about the loan program, difficulties in the application process, and possibly the perception of loans as a financial burden. To address these issues, Whingan called for an urgent awareness campaign to educate students and their families about the benefits and procedures of the loan scheme.

"Collaboration is key. I urge local educational institutions, community leaders, and parents to join hands with me in spreading the word about this loan. We must ensure that every eligible student understands how to apply and the long-term benefits it offers." Whingan added.

Whingan also said he might consider setting up a support center through his foundation, the Sesi Whingan Foundation, to assist students with their applications and to navigate any bureaucratic hurdles. The federal education loan program aims to provide financial support to students from low-income families, enabling them to access higher education and improve their socio-economic standing. Whingan's proactive stance is expected to boost the number of applicants from Badagry, ultimately contributing to the educational and economic growth of the region.



# Cholera: Agege LG Council Intercepts Man Hawking Adulterated Table Water

Kehinde Adeleye

In accordance with the direction of Agege Local Government council chairman Mr. Ganiyu Kola Egunjobi, the council's staff environment department apprehended a man peddling contaminated table water to the general public.

Echoneews reports that the man, Hassan Yusuf, was apprehended by environment department personnel following a report from a trader in Agege market, Funmilola Adebambo. It was gathered that during questioning by a council official, Hassan

Yusuf revealed that he purchased bottled water, obtained an empty plastic bottle, filled it with contaminated water, and sold it to the public at Agege Market.

Council authorities handed over Hassan Yusuf to the police at Pencinema Police Division for further investigation and prosecution.

The council chairman, therefore, admonished residents the general public to be wary of what they consume to prevent the spread of Cholera disease.

In other news, Agege Local Government has taken decisive actions

to prevent the spread of cholera, including suspending food vendors from schools in the Local Government. This initiative aims to guarantee the safety of pupils and students by encouraging them to bring their own meals to school.

The council's Chairman, Alhaji Ganiyu Egunjobi, confirmed this in an interview with the News Agency of Nigeria. Egunjobi emphasized the council's efforts to raise awareness among market stakeholders and schools through radio ads to prevent cholera from spreading throughout the community.

He emphasized the need

for early detection and prevention efforts to combat the disease. To protect children's safety, schools were inspected to verify they meet health and environmental standards. Market sellers were also taught the importance of environmental hygiene in preventing the spread of cholera.

Egunjobi asked households to prioritise hygiene during food preparation and eating. He emphasized the importance of coordination among all stakeholders, particularly landlord organisations, in preventing the spread of the disease.



## ASSEMBLY

### INSIDE THE LAGOS HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

# CORNER - KNOW YOUR LAWMAKER

FOCUS (Hon. Temitope Adewale, Member representing Ifako-Ijaiye Constituency 01)

By Felix Kuyinu



**H**onourable Temitope Adewale is a lawmaker at the existing 10th Lagos State Assembly which began in 2023. He hails from Lagos State and was born in the state on May 3, 1983. He is a two-time legislator at the Assembly Complex having initially won for the constituency seat in 2019 to join the 9th Legislative Assembly which spanned till 2023.

#### EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

The married politician attended Chrisland Nursery and Primary School in Lagos. He proceeded for his

secondary school education as a student of Government College Junior Secondary School in Epe where he studied from 1993 to 1996.

He completed his West African Senior Secondary School Certificate Examination as a student of Ifako International Secondary School from 1996-1999.

He furthermore attended the University of Lagos, UNILAG, for his tertiary institution program where he bagged a Bachelor's Degree Certificate in Estate Management from 2000 to 2006.

He proceeded for Master's Degree in Facility Management in

UNILAG and got certified in 2016.

#### WORK EXPERIENCE

The legislator, in 2012, became an employee at Titan and Tulips Resource Limited where he designated as the Managing Director.

#### POLITICAL CAREER

Before being voted in as a lawmaker, Honourable Adewale became a Senior Special Adviser, SSA, on Transport in Lagos State from year 2012 to 2013. Later on, he served as the SSA on Budget Deliverable from 2013 to 2014 also work at the same designation on Works and Infrastructure from 2014 to 2015.

He revealed Traveling, Swimming and Reading as his hobbies.



# Salawu Charges NYCN To Foster Community Growth

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Somolu LG, Abdulhamed Salawu has tasked the members of the National Youth Council of Nigeria (NYCN) to promote the growth of the community.

Salawu made this known upon receiving the new executives of the NYCN in Somolu. In addition, he empowered two youth with LAGRIDE, the Lagos state innovative online taxi service platform.

The Head of Agric, social, and community services Department, Mr Olatito Bakare, presented the youths



executives, led by Comrade Ihsan-Ahmad Olumide Sodeko, to the council chairman.

Salawu encouraged the NYCN executives to unite Somolu's youth through innovative development and progressive solutions. He emphasized the importance of their role in fostering community growth and addressing youth challenges.

Sodeko assured the Chairman that his team would work diligently to bring more youth together, combat social issues, and promote individual and professional development.

Present at the event

were NYCN exco members Adesanya Adebisi (General Secretary), Obayomi Damilola (Assistant General Secretary), Siyaka Asuku Ogembe (Treasurer), Barrister Adeola Balogun (Legal Adviser), and Adeolu Adesanya (Auditor).

The LAGRIDE beneficiaries are Oluwaseun Lawanson and Taiwo Olobayo. They were advised to serve diligently as ambassadors of Somolu. Their success could lead to more youth benefiting from the state-owned taxi service, which aims to enhance transportation and provide employment opportunities.

## OSHODI

# Oshodi Central Primary School Pupils Enjoy Oloyede's Free Meal

Kehinde Adeleye

The Chairman of Oshodi-Isolo Local Government, Otunba Kehinde Almaroof Oloyede has resumed his school feeding efforts for special needs students at Oshodi Central Primary School.

The council chairman's feeding programme, which began with the reopening of the second term of the 2023/2024 academic session, is intended to supplement the state government's assistance and compensate for the deficiency in pupil nutrition.

Oloyede stated that because of the unique nature of certain of the school's students, special attention is required to bring out the best in them.

The council chairman's

feeding initiative will encourage more students to attend school while also lessening the financial strain on their parents.

Observing the ideal sharing of the yummy dinner, the school's Head Teacher, Mrs. Odesola, thanked the council chairman for his continuing interventions and support for the school.

In her words; "I want to appreciate our chairman, Hon. Kendoo for his love for the children and support for the school. He has really helped us by feeding the children since the beginning of last term.

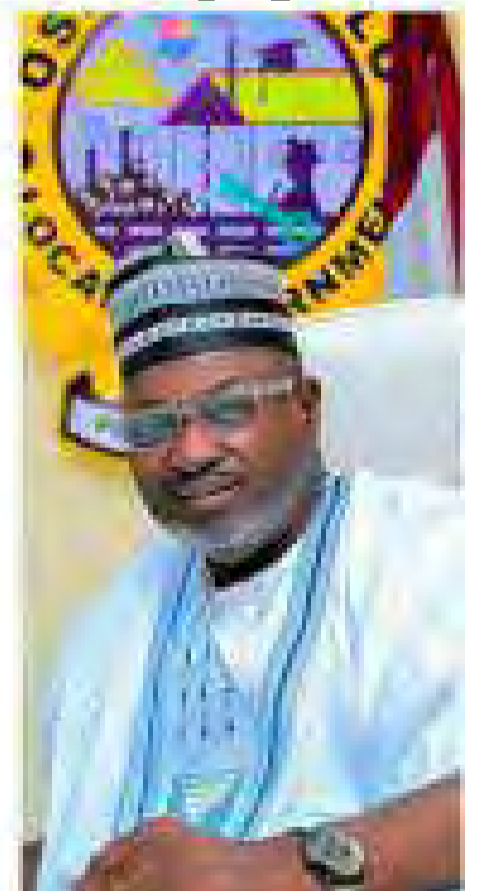
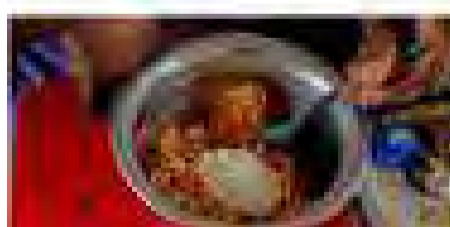
The children are always looking forward to the meal and on behalf of the children and the staff, we say a big thank you to him."

Echonews reports that the feeding program of Oshodi Central primary school is yet another

initiative of the Oloyede administration towards supporting the educational system in the local government.

The council chairman has distributed personalised school bags to schools in the local government's seven wards, as well as acquired a vehicle that picks up and puts off pupils for free. He has provided educational resources to various schools and placed some poor kids on scholarships. Oloyede urged the primary school students to see abilities in their impairments.

He emphasized that they should not let anything or anyone hold them back or convince them that they can't achieve greatness. He referenced Albert Einstein as a famous example, pointing out that despite his autism,



he went on to become one of the greatest physicists. He also acknowledged the work of their teachers, while encouraging them to continue demonstrating comprehension in the course of their duty. The council boss

reiterated that as a government and a father, he will continue giving education the needed priority.

He said; "My message to our pupils at Oshodi Central primary school is short. They are beautiful boys and girls with greatness in them. They

should not allow anything, not even their health status, to hold them down.

I am routing for them and as a government, we shall continue to support our educational sector and support our children for a greater tomorrow."



# Bamigboye Completes Amodu, Fadairo, Ebenezer Streets

Kehinde Adeleye

**W**ith only one year remaining in his second term, Mr. Emmanuel Bamigboye, the Chairman of Mushin Local Government, is executing a wave of road construction projects throughout the length and breadth of Mushin.

The chairman has already completed three road projects in the Itire area, including Amodu street, Ebenezer Onitiri street, and Fadairo street. He is now shifting his focus to

the bustling Atewolara Ward, where he has kicked off the construction of Omodigbo street and Balogun streets, stretching from Palm Avenue to Agege motor road.

In a show of ambition and resolve, Mr. Emmanuel Bamigboye, the Chairman of Mushin Local Government, has flagged off yet another momentous road construction project in the bustling Atewolara

Ward.

Echonews reports that Engr. Badejo Olalekan, the site engineer for the construction company handling the project, has revealed the details of this 71-meter-long road. The project will feature covered drainage on both sides of the road, interlock paving stones on the surface, and solar-powered streetlights to provide illumination for road users and residents in the area.

The Bamigboye led government has just completed the

construction of additional three roads in Itire area namely; Fadairo street, Ebenezer Onitiri street and Amodu, with covered drainage on both sides, interlock paving stones on the surface and solar panel street lights along the three streets.

Two other streets are still under construction in Mushin with the commencement of Laying of interlock paving stones along Smith street (Itire) with street lights to be

installed after completion of the interlock laying and Yusuf street (Papa Ajao), which is also at drainage construction stage.

It was gathered by our correspondent that the chairman is also planning to commence the construction of Oluwole street (Beside AP filling Station) leading to the palace of Olu of Mushin, HRM. Oba Fatai Aileru and linking Agege motor road to Ladipo street.

The project will commence any moment from now, as planned during the commencement of Ladipo



road rehabilitation and construction when the Chairman - Mr. Emmanuel Bamigboye, with his members of cabinet and Councillors, paid a courtesy call to the palace for the Royal blessings of the King, during the flag off of Ladipo street project.

**T**he Chairman of Mushin Local Government, Mr.

Emmanuel Bamigboye, has compensated those who sustained various injuries and the families of the two victims who died at the Mosjidil Mutmainah Mosque, which collapsed on May 26th, on Yusuf Street in the Papa Ajao area of Mushin Local Government, with the presentation of cheques to all those involved in the incident, as well as a donation of five million naira to the Mosque's management.

The presentation, held in the council secretariat of Local Government on Palm Avenue, was attended by all those affected by the terrible tragedy, as well as leaders from the Papa Ajao community, the contractor for the Yusuf Street Road Project, and Mushin Local Government management.

The official presentation took place after the Chairman's committee investigated the reason of the collapse and made

## Mushin Council Compensate Victims of Collapsed Mosque in Papa Ajao

Kehinde Adeleye

recommendations. The committee, led by Vice Chairman Mr. Tunbosun Aruwe, filed its findings after visiting all of the involved parties and the location of the incident.

In a show of sympathy and kindness, the Chairman, Mr. Bamigboye, who had previously provided some of the victims with financial assistance of five hundred thousand naira each for the burial arrangements of those who died and payment of hospital bills for those who were injured, finally presented cheques to all of the victims at the council secretariat on Monday, June 24, 2024.

In the wake of a tragic incident that resulted in two fatalities and the injury of a 12-year-old girl, the Apex Leader of Mushin and Odi Olowo, Senator Ganiyu Olanrewaju Solomon, Federal Representative, Mr. Toyin Fayinka, and State Assembly Member, Mr. Yinka Esho Kazeem, visited the affected area of Papa Ajao in Mushin to assess the situation. Echonews reports that all the Sixteen victims who were affected during the collapse were compensated with the presentation of cheques ranging from N100,000 - N1,000,000.

The Deputy Governor of Lagos State, Dr. Obafemi Hazmat, subsequently visited the site to gain a firsthand understanding of the incident following

widespread speculation.

Before the presentation, the Vice Chairman, who led the committee in its findings, appealed to the victims and their families, to accept what the council authority would be presenting to them as an expression of sympathetic gesture. He confirmed that the chairman in his human nature is a kind of hearted leader who is always delighted in putting smiles on the faces of people whenever they visit his office for financial assistance. He described the incident as an act of God which was destined to happen on that particular day.

Overcome with emotion, the council chairman handed the cheques to the victims, expressing his deep sympathy and offering prayers for divine comfort and strength during their time of grief. Mr. Bamigboye seized the opportunity to extend gratitude to political leaders, government agencies, healthcare workers, security personnel, professional organizations, the contractor, members of the Papa Ajao community, his cabinet and management team, the Councillor of Ward B, Mr. Dele Abioye, and Supervisor for Works, Mrs. Funmi Peters, for their unwavering support throughout the ordeal.

The Chief Imam, Alhaji

Kazeem Lukman Olokuta, spoke on behalf of the victims, conveying heartfelt gratitude to the chairman for his exemplary leadership and compassion towards all those affected by the incident. He commended Mr. Bamigboye for displaying not only the characteristics of a good leader but also the virtues of a dedicated servant of God.

Mr. Babatunde Ige, who Represented Mr. Toyin Fayinka at the official presentation, expressed appreciation to the council leadership for the kind gesture, as he delivered the message of the lawmaker who couldn't attend the event.



# Odi-olowo Chairman's Cup: Ajala Assures Participants Of Equal Treatment

By Saheed Afolabi

**C**hairman of Odi-olowo Ojuwoye LCDA, Mr Rasaq Ajala has promised all the participating clubs at the annual Odi-olowo Chairman's Cup (OCC) of equal treatment.

The OCC is in its fourth edition as previous editions have seen Ghetto Tigers, Unification Ladies emerged champions.

Ajala said the OCC is dear to his heart because it has contributed in keeping the youths busy and giving a glamorous look to the community.

The council boss stated that, top class referees will be used for the tournament and no biased officiating will be welcomed.

He outlined the impact of the competition to the youths and community



as previous players have gone professional outside the shores of Nigeria.

"We won't use quack referees, we will use

standard and qualified referees. We don't have interest in any of the team. We expect the officiating officials to be fair and just in their assessment of matches.

"The issue of referees having preferences for any team would not be welcomed.

"The competition is highly impactful. Which have attracted so many teams from different parts of

Lagos.

"Most of the players that played at the previous edition have moved to Europe and that shows the impact the competition have on the youths and community at large."

Ajala revealed the plans of his administration to build two World class stadiums before the end of his tenure.

"By the grace of God, we are going to deliver two stadiums before the end of my tenure."

The vice chairman of Odi-olowo Ojuwoye LCDA, Seyi Jakande said the essence of the competition is to foster unity among the residents and also promote the positivity of the community to the World.

## Courteville emerges champions of Chidinma Okeke Cup

By Saheed Afolabi



**C**ourteville FC emerged the champions of the maiden edition of the Chidinma Okeke Cup in Lagos.

The final which was held in Isolo, Lagos witnessed the convergence of football stakeholders,

enthusiasts, and fans.

Courteville defeated Golden Planners 3-0 in the final while Fabrepass Academy crushed Muab FC 6-1 in the third place game.

Courteville FC broke the deadlock with a well executed finish to draw the first blood of the encounter.

Two quick goals further condemned Golden Planners to a defeat in the final as Courteville took home the ultimate prize.

In the third place game, Fabrepass Academy had a swell time over their opponent with a 6-1 smashing win.

## Odi-olowo Chairman's Cup: Azeez Mustapha Eyes Competitive Atmosphere

**T**he secretary of LOC of the Odi-olowo Chairman's Cup (OCC), Azeez Mustapha is optimistic of a competitive atmosphere when the competition kicks off in earnest.

Mustapha said the successful completion of the screening of players have ignited rivalries among clubs in the neighborhood.

He admitted that the success of past editions attracted interests from other clubs in Lagos state where over 50 clubs applied to participate when the portal was opened.

"Teams have started setting themselves up for rivalry after we had the successful screening. Competition have started from the venue of the draws. So drawing Ajibade FA, Ghetto Tigers together in group A of the U10 category will witness an Odi-olowo derby.

"The star packed girls category will see Ghetto Tigers going up against Heroes Queens, FC Phoenix Queens, and CATS Ladies. It's going to be a very competitive competition.

"Last season, we had very few teams. The turnout this year is massive and the first two minutes of opening the portal for registration, we already have 50 teams complete, so we couldn't extend

because we have to play 120 matches in seven weeks and we wouldn't want to compromise our standard.



"It's going to be a very interesting competition and the kids are going to enjoy their holiday, Odi-olowo is going to be a Mecca for football and everybody is going to enjoy the football, youths will be engaged and the level of crime is going to be reduced."







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