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Lagos insists Parks Ad-Hoc Committee Legal

Stories by Kunle Awoshiyan

No doubt, the Lagos state government is not happy with the verdict of the National Industrial Court that nullified a purported caretaker committee from managing the garages and parks in the state and reinstated the operations of the Road Transport Employers Association of Nigeria (RTEAN). The government described the caretaker committee as purported because, as it claimed, at no time did it inaugurate a body with such name and that the only committee it created was the Garages and Park Administrators Ad-hoc Committee to oversee its garages and parks. It has therefore dissociated its own committee from the one addressed in the judgment given in the case brought against the Lagos State Government by RTEAN insisting that both are not the same. It said the Garages and Parks Administrators Ad-Hoc Committee has not been nullified by the Court. This is the kernel of the case that the Lagos State Government will argue when the appeal comes up soon. Recall that RTEAN instituted a suit with ID number: NICN/LA/381/2022, in October 2022 to challenge the Lagos State government for allegedly dissolving the elected executive committee of its union in the state and appointing a caretaker body, known as the Parks and Garages Administrators. The defendants in the case are the Governor, the Attorney-General of the state, and Sola Giwa, who is the Special Adviser to the state governor on

transportation. In her judgement, Justice Maureen Esowe held that the act of the Lagos State government in suspending the national union operations in the state and setting up a caretaker committee is illegal and against the provisions of Sections 4 (1), (2)& (3), and 5 (1) &(3), read along with item 34 of the exclusive legislative list, of the 1999 Constitution, as amended. However the counsel to the state, Adebayo Haroun held that government did not violate the law nor dissolve any union national body's operations in the state but had sought to maintain law and order by creating an ad-hoc committee when violence ensued between the unions. He said, "The government issued a document to ensure public safety and order. And since the ad-hoc committee was set up, there has been peace," Giving her verdict, Justice Esowe however held that the government and the Police should have intervened by arresting and prosecuting those behind the fracas and not to set up a committee to usurp the union executive. Disturbed by the judgement, the state has begun a process to appeal the judgement as the Ministry of Justice has requested for a copy of the judgment to enable it study and raise more counter-arguments on why the verdict of the Lower Court should not stand In a statement by the Director of Public Affairs, Mrs. Grace Alo, Lagos Ministry of Justice, the state government said it has applied for the copy

of the judgement and would be filing an appeal. The statement reads in part, "Our attention has been drawn to reports on various media about a Judgment delivered by Honourable Justice Maureen Esowe in respect of Suit No NICN/LA/381/2022 between Road Transport Employers Association of Nigeria and the Executive Governor of Lagos State and 36 others. The statement argued that It is on record that what the Lagos State Government set up is known as the Lagos State Park Administrators Ad-Hoc Committee on the Operations of Commercial Road Transport Workers Activities within Garages and Motor Parks and not a Caretaker Committee. It stated that the Ad-hoc committee was not set up to run the affairs of the Road Transport Employers Association of Nigeria (RTEAN) in Lagos State as being interpreted by the association. With this argument, the statement said that the reliefs sought from the court by the claimant, which includes a declaration that the purported dissolution of the Elected Executive Committee of the claimant operating in Lagos State and appointment of a Caretaker Committee to run its affairs in Lagos State had nothing to do with the Lagos State Park Administrators Ad-Hoc Committee and its functions. It stated that several of the reports in the media had mistakenly attributed to the Judgement that the Lagos State Park Management Committee (Committee) has been dissolved. "The validity of the Lagos



Alhaji Musiliu Akinsanya (MC Oluomo)

State Park Management Committee was not an issue before the Court and the Committee was not a party to the suit. The dissolution of the Committee is totally unrelated to the issues before the Court", it stated.

However, the statement said that the Lagos State Government had applied for the Certified True Copy of the Judgement and intends to file an appeal in respect of same. "All affected parties are enjoined to remain calm and be law abiding," it

said. There has been renewed hostilities in the transport sector following the verdict as loyalists of RTEAN and Garages and Parks trade words over the orders of the courts. No date has been fixed to hear the appeal.





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Stories By Kunle Awosiyan

Ministry of Tourism Trains Staff on Communication and Writing Skills

The Permanent Secretary, Lagos State Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture, Mrs. Oyinade Nathan-Marsh has underscored the need for the staff of the Ministry to be eloquent in speaking and prolific in writing, saying that the place of effective communication in the public service cannot be overemphasised.

Nathan-Marsh stated this on Thursday during the closing ceremony of a three-day in-house training organised for staff of the Ministry on “Communication Skills and Effective Writing Workshop”, held at STO Resource, Alausa Ikeja. She said that the training session was designed to expose some of the newly recruited Tourism and Cultural Officers to acceptable writing patterns and styles within the Civil Service and also hone the communication skills of other staff who are also participants in the training workshop.

According to her, the nature and schedule of duties of the officials of the Ministry, require everyday interpersonal and intra-personal communication and interaction with both local and international tourists, hence the need for the officers to sharpen their skills both in speaking and writing.

She added that the Ministry can only deliver on its mandates of promoting and marketing the State's tourism assets, potentials and tourism products if the officers are skillful in effective communication through the writing of convincing submissions and justifiable proposals that give credence to the

Ministry's plans, programmes and Policies. The Permanent Secretary emphasised the fact that writing for the government is different from other forms of writing, and as such, government officials, especially newly employed staff, require special training sessions, workshops and on-the-job learning processes to be able to communicate effectively within the public sector.

In her words: “The Public Service thrives on communication. Whether inter-service or with external stakeholders, the effectiveness of Public Service communication is a critical factor in the measurement of Government activities. Public Servants must therefore possess excellent writing skills if the intentions of the Government must be communicated

effectively”.

Nathan-Marsh, who expressed confidence in the capacity of facilitators for the training workshop based on their impeccable track records, urged the trainees to be prepared to bring to practice all they have learnt such that there will be a noticeable improvement in their

various work schedules going forward.

One of the facilitators, Kemisola Jiboye, told the trainees not to be complacent with the knowledge acquired during the workshop but be deliberate about self-improvement through learning, relearning and unlearning, stressing that

learning is a continuous process and a journey that has no destination.

The training consultant, who is also a retired Director from Lagos State Public Service Staff Development Centre, Magodo, explained that during the three days programme, the participants were

exposed to “Effective Speech Writing”, “Effective Report Writing”, “Effective Writing Skills”, “Essentials of Public Service Writing” and “Writing Submissions, Memos”, in addition to several practice sessions and group presentations.



National Theatre Iganmu

Education District IV Holds Ramadan Lecture

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Cross section of dignitaries at Ramdan lecture by Education District IV



Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu inspecting the Eko Bridge

FG May Open Rehabilitated Eko Bridge on May 31

Story By Kunle Awosiyan

Works on the rehabilitation of Eko Bridge may have been completed before end of May and the road open to motoring activities by May 31.

This Federal Controller of Works in Lagos State, Engr. Umar Bakare said this a few days ago while briefing journalists on the cooperation of the federal and state governments to manage the traffic gridlock on Lagos-Ibadan Expressway.

He said, "On Eko Bridge, the rehabilitation works of

the bridge are ongoing, especially at the fire-damaged section of Apongbon. Work is being concentrated on the restoration of the structural defect caused by the inferno, and once it is completed, the bridge will be opened to traffic by the 31st of May, 2023 while work will continue on the other sections of the rehabilitated bridge.

On the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway, Bakare solicited the cooperation of the motoring public in terms of compliance with traffic rules and regulations which will further improve

movement around the construction zones.

Umar Bakare explained that the three existing lanes which the contractor usually worked with had to be reduced to two at each of the construction sections, thereby resulting in traffic buildup. He, however, assured that the FRSC, LASTMA, and TRACE officers are usually on site to control traffic.

He said the contractor is rounding up work around Opic and with the completion of the Asphalt works, the section will be open to traffic by Monday while the Berger axis too will

be completed by the end of April.

The Controller of Works further explained that the contractor has increased the number of working gangs to four in order to increase the pace of work towards meeting up with the deadline of April.

The Lagos State Government has reiterated its commitment to continue consultation with the Federal Ministry of Works and Housing on Traffic Management of the construction corridor of the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway even as the work is ramping up to

completion.

The Lagos State Commissioner for Transportation, Dr. Frederic Oladeinde, who disclosed this during his working tour of the construction zones at Opic, Kara, and Berger axis, assured the motoring public that he will continue to hold strategic meetings with the Federal Ministry of Works and its project Engineers to review the mode of works and proffer solutions that can ease the strain of traffic impact faced by road users.

Reiterating that the Federal Government is expediting actions to

complete the project at record time as announced by the Minister of Works and Housing, the Commissioner stated that the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) and its Ogun State counterpart, TRACE, are working in collaboration with the Federal Road Safety Commission, (FRSC) to ease the gridlock on the corridor.

Oladeinde expressed sympathy on the plight of motorists plying the corridor, appealing for calm as the construction works will soon be completed.

Stories By Kunle Awosiyan

Office of Civic Engagement Calls For Greater Commitment of Citizens Resolver

The Permanent Secretary, Office of Civic Engagement, Engr. Abiola Kosegbe has called for dedication from the resolvers toward the utmost performance of the Citizens Gate 2.0 platform. She made the call during the training of resolvers held at the Secretariat, Alausa, encouraging the participants at the programme to show great commitment while putting in their best. According to her, the optimal performance of the Citizens Gate 2.0 platform solely depends on the total commitment to the duty that has been handed to them. She said, "The training is important because we want you to be in tune with the activities of the MDAs. The Consultants are here to put you through, if there are any difficulties, we want you to know that what you do from here on as a resolver will allow the citizens gate to perform optimally while bridging the communication gap between the Government and its citizens". Kosegbe further encouraged the resolver to use the opportunity of the training programme to improve their wealth of experience and acquire more knowledge for self-development and growth.



The Permanent Secretary, Office of Civic Engagement, Engr. Abiola Kosegbe

Ijegan-Ijagemo Road: Lagos Govt Urges Affected Property Owners To Tidy up Documents For Compensation

The Lagos State Lands Bureau has urged those whose property would be affected by the construction of Ijegan-Ijagemo road construction to tidy their documents and submit to the Permanent Secretary, Lagos State Lands Bureau to allow the State Government perfect their compensation.

The representative of the Permanent Secretary of the Land Bureau, Mr. Deji Ige made this call at a stakeholders meeting to sensitise the beneficiaries. Meanwhile the traditional leaders of the community, the Onijegan of Ijegan Kingdom, Oba Nureni Akinremi Olomitutu and Baale Ijagemo, Chief Jimoh Balogun thanked the Lagos State Government for bringing the project to their domains, whilst pleading for the execution of its second phase.

Speaking at the meeting, the state Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban Development, Engr. Tayo Bamgbose-Martins said that the construction of Ijegan-Ijagemo Road in Alimosho Local



Construction works going on at Ijegan-Ijagemo Road

Government Area, like similar projects, would be preceded by preliminary activities such as the delivery of Right of Way (RoW) and assessment of affected properties for compensation purposes. He said that the essence of engaging beneficiaries of the proposed road project was to pass correct and adequate information on the modalities for the establishment the Right of Way and other connected issues. His words: "Part of the process of establishing the

RoW is the serving of statutory notices and marking of affected properties by the staff of the Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development, and assessment visit by the Lands Bureau towards the payment of compensation". The Commissioner, who spoke through the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development, Engr. Oluwale Sotire stated that information about the

process leading to the construction of the road had been published in the national dailies, in line with regulations guiding the delivery of RoW. He said that the proposed road construction, which is in furtherance of the T.H.E.M.E.S Agenda of the Lagos State Government, would be instrumental to the socio-economic development of host communities by improving accessibility and the environment. "It is inspiring that the administration of Mr.

Babajide Sanwo-Olu is setting the direction for the State's development with iconic projects such as the lite rail, tagged the Lagos Red and Blue Lines, the Imota Rice mill and the Dangote Fertilizer plant and Eleko-Epe road among others, including the new fire station in Ijegan corridor. The construction of Ijegan-Ijagemo Road, no doubt, adds to the retinue of roads that the administration has either completed or embarked upon across the length and

breadth of Lagos State to take development to the next logical level of attaining a world-class city-state", he said.

The Special Adviser, Works and Infrastructure, Engr. Aramide Adeyoye, who was represented by the Director of Road Construction and Rehabilitation, Engr. Tokunbo Oyenuga said that the Lagos State Government was determined to deliver a durable 5km dual carriageway in the Ijegan-Ijagemo corridor through the ongoing project and enjoined the people to give their support to realise this aim within the stipulated time.

She urged them to assume ownership of the project and protect it for posterity. The General Manager, Lagos State Planning and Environmental Monitoring Agency (LASPEMA), Tpl. Daisi Oso said that members of the project host communities should discourage all forms of encroachment on road setbacks, adding that setbacks serve the purpose of protecting the road.

Stories By Kunle Awosiyan

Domestic And Sexual Violence: Lagos Secures 12 Restraining Orders Against Abusive Spouses

The Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency (DSVA) has provided services for 797 survivors, secured 12 restraining orders against abusive spouses, and published details of six sex convicts in the first quarter of this year alone.

the Executive Secretary of DSVA, Titilola Vivour-Adeniyi disclosed this when the State Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice, Moyosore Onigbanjo (SAN) paid an official visit to the Agency. Vivour-Adeniyi further revealed that the Agency had continued to collaborate with the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Youth and Social Welfare, Office of Education Quality



Abusive husband, scene from a movie

Assurance, and other relevant Agencies to engage over 1000 School Children on Child Rights, just as it has engaged over

2000 parents through the Teachers Parents Forum (PTF) from the six Education Districts. While revealing that 143

beneficiaries graduated from the Lagos DSVA Trust Fund Skills Acquisition training, startup grants, accommodation and

school fees, she lauded the state government for the provision of office space for the Agency, describing it as a holistic response to ensure that cases are done whilst upholding the tenets of confidentiality.

"We will continue to strengthen our partnership with critical stakeholders, embark on training, build the capacity of service and responder agencies and step up community and awareness creation as we remain committed to reducing gender-based violence to the barest minimum", Vivour-Adeniyi pledged

Speaking during the visit, Onigbanjo commended the leadership and staff of the Agency for their unwavering passion and commitment to the

discharge of duties and expressed satisfaction with the achievements of the Agency within the short time it became operational.

The Commissioner, however, called on the staff to keep raising the bar as the Agency plays a strategic role in actualising a gender-based violence-free society in line with the T.H.E.M.E.S. Agenda of the present administration for a safe State.

In her response, the Executive Secretary of DSVA, Titilola Vivour-Adeniyi commended the Attorney-General and Commissioner for Justice, the Solicitor-General and Permanent Secretary, Ms. Titilayo Shitta-Bey, and other officials of its parent Ministry for the visit.

NILDS Trains Lagos Assembly Legal Officials On Effective Legislative Management

For increased effectiveness and efficiency, the National Institute for Legislative and Democratic Studies (NILDS) has trained the legal officials of the Lagos state House of Assembly. The legal officials were led to the training Institute by the Deputy Clerk, Legal Services, Mrs Osinowo. The two-day training program which was held in Abuja, focused on advance legislative drafting and management. The objective of the workshop was to equip the participants with the necessary skills and knowledge to improve their performance by increasing their effectiveness and efficiency.

One of the newly appointed Permanent Secretaries in Lagos, Mr. Akinbode Obadina has said that he plans to operate an open-door policy but all protocols must be duly observed. Obadina who had since deployed to oversee the Local Government Service Commission said this when the staff of the commission received him to the office recently. Obadina thanked the former Permanent Secretary for a job well done and promised to carry on the good work to make the Commission a better place. Leading the welcome party, the Former Permanent Secretary of the Local Government Service Commission, Engr.

I'll Operate Open-Door-Policy, Says Obadina, New PS of LGSC

Mrs. Abiola Kosegbe noted that members of the Local Government staff are wonderful people to work with and that in the little time she has spent at the Commission, she has

learnt a lot and enjoyed her stay. She also admonished all members of staff to cooperate with the new Permanent Secretary to continue the good work in the Commission.

In attendance at the welcome ceremony were Directors and Members of Staff of the Local Government Service Commission and the Public Service Office (PSO).

Until his appointment as Permanent Secretary, Obadina was the Principal Private Secretary to the Lagos State Head of Service (HOS), Mr. Hakeem Muri-Okunola



Permanent Secretary, Mr. Akinbode Obadina of Local Government Service Commission

Stories By Kunle Awosiyan

Lagos To Plant 1000 Coconut Seedlings In Schools and Beaches

The Lagos State Government is set to plant 1000 seedlings of coconut as parts of its plans to promote coconut production, processing, commercial and utilization. The General Manager of the Lagos State Coconut Development Authority, (LASCODA), Dapo Olakulehin disclosed this at a stakeholders meeting held recently at Oniru Beach on Victoria Island, Lagos. According to him, in order to meet the needs of the public at large, LASCODA has partnered with the Rotary Club of Eko Atlantic

to distribute and plant coconut seedlings in public schools, coastal areas and communities across the state. Olakulehin explained that the project extends beyond environmental benefits to the entire coconut value chain actors and stakeholders whose livelihoods depend on the coconut crop. He said, “This project is an offshoot of the Coconut Development and Growth Project which aims to plant 1,000 coconut seedlings in public schools, coastal areas and communities”. “The proposal is to promote coconut production, processing,

commercial and utilisation of Coconut to ensure it meets the needs of the public at large. The General Manager noted It also aims to rebuild the Atlantic green wall in order to save Lagos land from the vagaries of the ocean. On his part, the President, the Rotary Club of Eko Atlantic, Gboyega Bada, said, “We are partnering with the state government to restore the beauty of the coastal lines, combat rising sea levels, curb erosion, and break torsional winds by planting trees, particularly coconut trees which is the tree of life due to its enormous benefits to mankind”.



Cross section of LASCODA Executive during the partnership with Rotary Club on coconut planting

He presented a Certificate of Partnership to the General Manager of LASCODA in recognition of his effort and achievement in the value chain sector, promising that the Rotary Club would work hand in

hand with the state government to build a better Lagos. Similarly, the Oniru of Iruland, Oba Gbolahan Lawal, who was represented by the Chief of Ituri community, Baale

Wasiu Okoya, commended the initiative and implored the agency to ensure the coconut is properly distributed to all communities in the State to enhance the value of coconut.

Lagos Loses \$7bn Annually To Circular Economy-Study By World Bank

A study by World Bank has shown that Lagos State loses \$7 billion annually for not recycling its waste, especially the plastic wastes generated cross the metropolis. This was revealed by the General Manager, Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA), Dr. Dolapo Fasawe at a one-day workshop on circular economy organised by the Agency, in collaboration with United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO, the Federal government and other organised private sectors. Circular economy is the type of economy in which waste are recycled and turned to wealth. According to Fasawe, Nigeria by 2025 will be the largest producer of plastic waste, therefore, there is an urgent need to step up our activities in recycling and practicing a circular economy. Once the plastic is used, it should not just be

deposited anywhere. It can be reused, recycled, rethought and reduced to something else because plastic is not degradable”. She said “And when we say economic and plastic, it means that there's a lot of money that can be made out of plastic waste. A study done by the World Bank a few years ago shows that the cost of not practicing a circular economy in plastic waste is about 7 billion dollars just for Lagos State. We are losing 7 billion dollars annually; and the essence of this workshop is to invite investors to join us in this advocacy for recycling, reusing and creating industries, job opportunities and more importantly a cleaner environment. You will not see these plastics on the road again if we put this approach of the circular economy on plastic waste”. In the light of this, Fasawe announced that the state would be partnering with the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) to



Plastic Waste Recycling Plant

advocate and deepen the value chain in the circular economy. She stated that the workshop was designed to broaden the knowledge of the participants and stakeholders about the economic benefits of adopting friendly lifestyles as well as a holistic approach towards achieving the goals of a circular economy. The UNIDO National Programme Coordinator, Mr. Oluyomi Banjo, disclosed

that UNIDO was pleased to work and achieve a circular economy in Lagos, adding that this would set the stage for other states in Nigeria as well as other regions in Africa. He declared that to achieve the aim of the project, Lagos state would be developing its action plan on the circular economy of plastics in Nigeria and also embark on some activities with UNIDO and other relevant stakeholders. “We will bring everybody

together to sensitise them on what circular economy is about; the benefits of a circular economy for the environment, socially and economically. The private sector would be encouraged to be more productive and efficient to make more profit. We will also look at the informal sector to see how we can incorporate them in achieving this, knowing that we cannot achieve this without the informal sector”, Banjo said.

Also speaking at the event, the Managing Director/Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of LAWMA, Mr. Ibrahim Odumboni, reaffirmed the commitment of the government to promoting the reuse and recycling of plastics in the State. Odumboni said that LAWMA was partnering with Polysmart, one of the largest plastic recyclers in Africa on converting many tonnes of plastic waste in the state to reusable products. According to him, the authority is enforcing its adopt-a-bin policy to inculcate the value of waste separation at the source. He also hinted that LASEPA, LAWMA and some other agencies of government had banned the use of single-use plastics in their offices to lead by example. Earlier, the Commissioner for the Environment and Water Resources, Mr. Tunji Bello, expressed gratitude to the UNIDO delegation for partnering with the state government on the circular economy.

Stories By Kunle Awosiyan

Operatives of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA) and Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Lagos Sector Command have agreed to form a Joint Task Force with other professional traffic managers on accident reduction, particularly truck crashes, on Lagos Roads. The General Manager of LASTMA, Mr. Bolaji Oreagba revealed this during a courtesy call by the new Sector Commander of FRSC Lagos, Corps Commander Babatunde Farinloye and his team to his office at the Agency Headquarters at Oshodi, Lagos. Oreagba disclosed that LASTMA as a first responder at any emergency/accident scene across the State has been rescuing accident victims particularly those involving truck crashes in collaboration with other emergency responders like Lagos State Ambulance Services (LASMBUS), Lagos State Emergency Management Agency (LASEMA), National Emergency Management Authority (NEMA), Lagos Fire & Rescue Service and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC).

“Sequel to the need to prevent further loss of lives and properties through truck crashes on Ojuelegba Bridge, LASTMA had deployed trained officers to be redirecting heavy-duty trucks/tankers from Ojuelegba Bridge at Ikorodu Road”, Oreagba said. He maintained that for fairness, equity and quick dispensation of justice on all traffic violators including truck drivers, the Lagos State Mobile will be part of the

Truck Accident: LASTMA, FRSC To Form Joint Task Force

LASTMA – FRSC joint Task Force on Accident Reduction. According to him “The love, collaboration and brotherliness between the two government Agencies will continue to ensure the safety of road users for stimulation of growth and development in the State”. The General Manager stressed that innocent motorists including other road users who are mostly victims of road accidents would be beneficiaries of this joint task force. Earlier in his remark, the new Sector Commander of FRSC Lagos, Corps Commander Babatunde Farinloye said the FRSC was primarily established to maintain safety on highways across the Country. Corps Farinloye maintained that FRSC has been collaborating with individual State Traffic Management Agencies in maintaining standards on road safety management across the country. His words: “FRSC and LASTMA must work together as a team for peace, safety and free flow of traffic on the highways as this will lead to a paradigm shift from the usual way of operation to an exceptional and outstanding method”. He called for more public education and enlightenment for recalcitrant motorists disobeying traffic regulations particularly those driving against traffic (one-way) in Lagos State. While thanking the management of LASTMA for their maximum cooperation with FRSC personnel on traffic management around the construction site by 'Kara Bridge' on the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway, Farinloye, however, advised motorists to have their valid driver's license whenever they are driving in the State and

LASU Seeks LSHA's Support In Accreditation of New Programmes

The Lagos State University is seeking the support of the Lagos State House of Assembly in the pursuit of its resource verification and accreditation of new and existing programmes in the university. The Vice Chancellor of the institution, Professor Ibiyemi Olatunji-Bello called for this support when the house committee on education visited the varsity on oversight function. She commended the house of assembly for promptly approving the budget for the institution as she sought more cooperation to enable her to succeed in the accreditation of more programmes. Led by its chairman, Lagos State House of Assembly Committee on Education, Hon. Ajani Owolabi, the team commended the vice chancellor and promised to give its maximum support to the development of the university. Earlier in their interaction at the vice chancellor's office, professor Olatunji-Bello appreciated the Committee for its constant support to the University, especially with regard to the timely approval of her budgets. She assured the Chairman that the University's books and facilities are open for the Committee's assessment and went further to seek its support for the University in her pursuit of the resource verification and subsequent accreditation of new and existing programmes. She reiterated her vision to make LASU the best University in West Africa and listed her administration's six strategic goals through which, she said, the administration measures her performance. The Chairman, in his response, said the Committee's aim is to assist institutions under its purview to achieve their visions and that is the reason for visiting the campus." He praised the Vice Chancellor for her passion for the greatness of the University. He added thus "...Having worked closely with you for a while, I can attest to your passion for this university." The team eventually left on a physical assessment visit to the facilities in the University including offices in the Babatunde Raji Fashola Senate Building, the Students' hostels under construction and the Information, Communication Technology (ICT) Complex. Overall, the Chairman gave a thumbs up to the University for the progress it has made in the last two years and assured that the House Committee on Education would continue to support the institution. It is expected that the visit will yield positive results for the University in the months ahead.



Chairman, Lagos State House of Assembly Committee on Education, Hon. Ajani Owolabi with other members during the visit to LASU

Story By Kunle Awosiyan

Lagos Inaugurates Technical Committee On Banana Island Collapsed Building

The Lagos State Government has inaugurated a 7-man technical committee to probe the recent collapse of a building under construction in Banana Island.

The inauguration was conducted by the Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban Development, Engr. Tayo Bamgbose-Martins in Ikeja on Thursday with the Special Adviser, e-GIS and Planning Matters, Dr. Olajide Babatunde, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Physical Planning and Urban Development, Engr. Oluwole Sotire and General Manager, Lagos State Materials Testing Laboratory, Engr. Funso Elulade, in attendance.

The Committee, headed by a reputable Engineer and retired Permanent Secretary, Engineer Wasiu Olokunola, has the mandate to determine within two weeks, the immediate and remote causes of the collapse, the appropriateness of the construction work on the site and the culpable parties about the collapse of the 7-floor structure.

The committee is also expected to make recommendations on the remaining three structures under construction within the same vicinity and proffer solutions to building collapse in the state.

Other members of the Committee are Tpl. Ayo Adediran, a reputable town planning consultant; Engr. Aileme Unuigbe, a structural engineer; Arc. Oludayo Uhansohia; Akogun Kola Onadipe, a builder and project management consultant; Mr. Kuyebi Ayo Olanrewaju, a developer and Oluyemi Shonubi, a



Rubble of the collapsed building at Banana Island

renowned project manager, while Akinyemi Olajunwon Rasaq Martin will serve as the Committee Secretary. Bamgbose-Martins said

members of the technical committee were appointed based on their good reputations and urged them to provide insights into how such

ugly occurrence could be prevented in the state by unraveling the cause of the Banana Island building collapse.

Speaking on behalf of the

Committee, Engr. Wasiu Olokunola appreciated Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu for their appointment to the committee and assured

that the members would justify the honour by doing their utmost best to execute the assignment diligently within the stipulated time.

Lagos Staff Development Centre Seeks Synergy With Agric Ministry

Director-General of the Lagos State Service Staff Development Centre (PSSDC), Mr. Adekunmilola Adio-Moses has sought a strong and sustainable synergy with the Lagos State Ministry of Agriculture.

Adio-Moses made the call during a courtesy visit to the Ministry of Agriculture, adding that food security is very important in any state since 80 per cent of vices such as crime and unemployment can be solved through it in society.

The DG further stressed that Lagos State is blessed to have recorded a lot of successes through the Agricultural sector of the



A palm Farmer

State and thus the PSSDC is therefore seeking to help move in that direction by identifying

more areas in which capacity-building will sustain the successes achieved so far.

He went on to say that food security starts from the grassroots which is the Local Government Areas where distribution and sustenance can be put in place.

Adio-Moses disclosed that PSSDC is interested in helping Local Government build capacity to have synergy with the agric sector in terms of the type of staff training, which would not only be theoretical but very practical.

In addition, he mentioned that proper documentation is highly necessary to record the successes achieved by the agric sector of the State for future training of Agricultural officers as well as providing case

studies for posterity.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Mrs. Olatokunbo Emokpae, while welcoming the PSSDC team to the Ministry, informed that there are various departments and units in the Ministry ranging from the Fishery to Agric Service, Veterinary, Training Institute, and Policy departments which were created to cater to sundry levels of the agricultural value chain. Emokpae assured the delegation of the readiness of the Ministry to collaborate with the Centre and bring to actualisation a strong capacity-building system.

Story By Kunle Awosiyan

Lagos Court Arraigns Bishop Over Alleged raping two members

The Lagos State Government has arraigned the founder of I Reign Christian Ministry, Bishop Oluwafeyiropo Daniel for allegedly raping two of his church members (names withheld).

He was arraigned before Justice Rahman Oshodi of the Lagos State Sexual Offences and Domestic Violence Court sitting in Ikeja.

According to the prosecution, the defendant allegedly committed the offences sometime in June 2020 in Ikota Villa Estate, Lekki, Lagos, and the offences contravene Sections 260 (2) of the Criminal Laws of Lagos State, 2015.

The clergyman pleaded not guilty to the charge against him and his counsel, Olukunle Oyewole subsequently asked the court to grant him bail.

While moving the arguments for bail, the defence counsel urged the court to grant bail to the defendant on liberal terms.

Oyewole argued that the defendant had been on police administrative bail since May 20, 2022, and had made himself available to the police.

"My lord, the defendant was not informed on the day the matter came up for the first time before this court.

"The defendant is a well-known religious leader and he has shown by his actions that he will not jump bail.

"The offence for which he is charged is a

bailable offence and he has credible sureties that can stand for him," the lawyer said.

The lead prosecution counsel for the state, Babajide Boye, had however urged the court to refuse the bail application of the defendant.

Boye argued that the offence was a serious one and that the likelihood of conviction might put the defendant at flight risk. "There is also the possibility of the defendant interfering with the prosecution witnesses.

He is a bishop of so many branches and if granted bail, he may use his position to influence the prosecution witnesses as he is regarded as a man of authority who has the possibility of committing the same crime.

"We urge the court to deny the defendant bail

because he has failed to provide the court exceptional circumstances to grant him bail," the prosecutor submitted. After listening to both parties, Justice Oshodi admitted the clergyman to bail in the sum of N20 million with two sureties in like sum.

He said one of the sureties must be the owner of a landed property in Lagos State and the property must be enough to cover the bail sum.

"The original document of the landed property must also be submitted to the chief registrar of Lagos State," the court held.

Other conditions of bail include that the sureties must reside within the court's jurisdiction and must have paid three years' tax payment to the Lagos State Government.

The judge also ordered the defendant to deposit his international passport with the chief registrar of the court while ordering an accelerated hearing of the case.

Pending the perfection of these bail conditions, the court ordered the remand of a clergyman at the Kirikiri Correctional Centre.

Justice Rahman then adjourned till ninth May for trial.

Before Monday's arraignment, legal advice issued by the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), Dr. Babajide Martins disclosed that, "after a consideration of the facts available in the duplicate case file, the office of the DPP is of the view that there exists prima facie, offence of Rape under Section 260 of the Criminal Law, Ch C17,

Vol.3, Laws of Lagos State, 2015 against the Suspect Oluwafeyiropo Daniel." Excerpts of the legal advice also said, "Facts from the duplicate case file reveal that the suspect – Oluwafeyiropo Daniel is a pastor and the Founder of I Reign Christian Ministry, that he had a church branch in Akungba Akoko where he had young people as Pastors and Assistant Pastors.

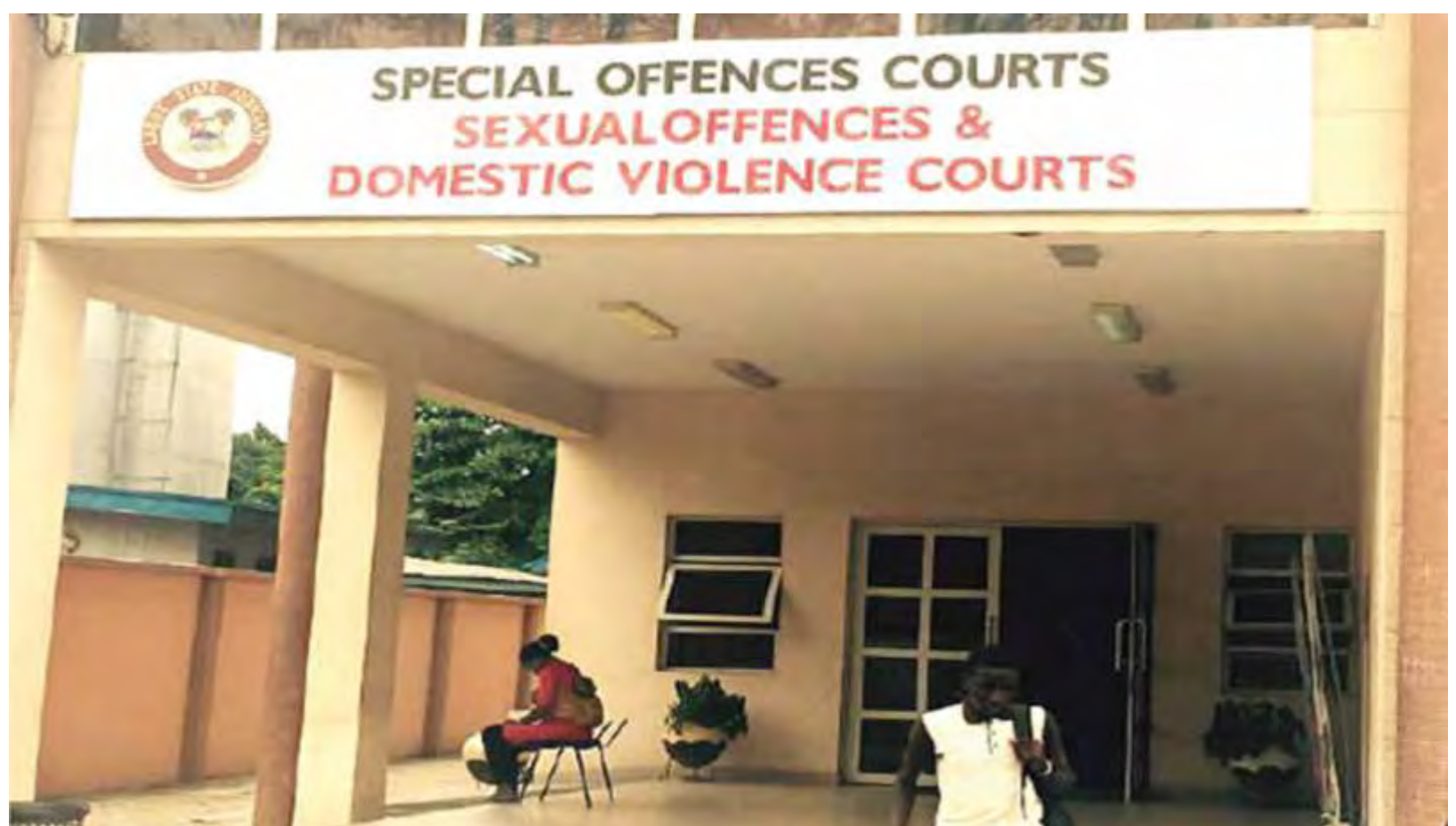
"It is also revealed that Oluwafeyiropo Daniel invites the branch pastors and assistants to his house from time for one reason or the other.

"The Complainant was an assistant Pastor at the Akungba branch who Oluwafeyiropo Daniel took advantage of whenever she visits his Ikota residence. It is revealed that Oluwafeyiropo Daniel

having presented himself as his victim's spiritual father whom they must be loyal to and must never hide anything from him including their body lures the complainant and his other victims into having sexual intercourse with him.

"Although Oluwafeyiropo Daniel denied all allegations and states that he had never at any time assaulted the complainant or any of his other victims, the evidence of the victims in the duplicate case file is cogent, direct and unequivocal and is sufficient evidence against Oluwafeyiropo Daniel.

"In the light of the foregoing, this office shall prosecute Oluwafeyiropo Daniel for the offence of Rape under Sections 260 of the Criminal Law, Cap C17, Vol.3, Laws of Lagos State, 2015."



Stop Land Grabbers' Activities, Group Urges Sanwo-Olu

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Human rights activists under the platform of the Centre for Human and Socio-Economic Rights have urged Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu and security agents to put an end to the menace of land grabbing across in Eti-

Osa LG and Lagos State as a whole.

The activists, who highlighted the threats to public peace by land grabbers in Ojumu communities (Ajiranland) in Eti-Osa, called for government's intervention to stop incessant harassment,

criminal trespass and violent activities by land grabbers.

Speaking on the menace, the President of CHSR, Mr. Alex Omotehinse, said the security and welfare of the people should be more paramount to the governor.

Omotehinse said: "We are deeply concerned by the continuous threats to public peace as a result of the unlawful activities of land grabbers in Ojumu community otherwise referred to as AJIRAN LAND, in the Eti-Osa Local Government Area of Lagos State.

"Activities of land grabbers should be curtailed. The governor of Lagos State must rise up to the occasion to secure the people of the state and their property; that is the primary responsibility of a government.



Gov Sanwo-Olu

"There is land grabbing all over Lagos, in Ikorodu, Epe, Lekki, Eti-Ota, Lekki, and Badagry axis. Government and law enforcement

agencies are not acting as expected. For land grabbing to be a lucrative business in Lagos State, some state actors are involved."

Council Chairman Reiterates Commitment To Health Sector

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The chairman of Eti-Osa Local Government, Hon. Saheed Bankole has reiterated his commitment towards upgrading the primary healthcare sector in the council area.

He emphasised his commitment on health when the members of the Lagos State House of Assembly Committee on Health Services visited the council last week.

The committee which was led by its chairman, Hon. Noheem Adams, was on an inspection visitation with his team comprising Hon. Femi Saheed of Kosofe Constituency II, and Hon. Tijanni of Ojo Constituency to inspect the health facilities in Eti-Osa LG.

The Secretary to the Local Government (SLG), Hon. Idowu Badru who was standing in for the council chairman, accompanied by members of the legislative arm of Eti-Osa LG, the executive members, head of Human Resources, Mr. Rafiu Alabi and medical officer of health, Dr. Adenike Oguntuwase, led the team in inspection of the health facilities in the council area.

Badru expressed his gratitude to the committee for the visit and the support shown



Hon Saheed Adesegun Bankole

to the people of Eti-Osa in the past.

He also reaffirmed the administration's commitment to improving the quality and standard of service delivery in all primary healthcare facilities in Eti-Osa.

The Medical Officer of Health also expressed appreciation to the committee for the visit as she prayed for the continued support of God and the Lagos State government.

She expressed hope that with the visit, the public primary health centers in Eti-Osa would be ushered into

a new era of excellence.

"The visit of the Lagos State House of Assembly Committee on Health Services to Etiosa Local Government has certainly stirred up excitement and anticipation for positive changes in the local healthcare facilities.

"The people of Etiosa are eagerly looking forward to the future with renewed optimism and confidence in their local government's commitment to their health and well-being.)," she said.

Maintain Good Deeds After Ramadan, Council Boss Urges Muslims

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The chairman of Eti-Osa Local Government, Hon. Saheed Adesegun Bankole, has urged the Muslims to maintain the good deeds they imbibed during the holy month of Ramadan after the month has ended.

According to him, the month is just a learning period when everyone learn how to live a decent and loving life, which must be sustained round the year.

He said this why congratulating the Islamic faithful for the completion of the 2023 Ramadan as he felicitated with them in the occasion of Eid-el-Fitr.

He congratulated all Muslims on the completion of the month long Ramadan fast and prayed that the noble lessons of the past days would be imbibed, as they grow



stronger spiritually and draw closer to Allah.

He admonished all to be steadfast and re-evaluate how they can be better in their stewardship to man and their creator.

The council boss said there could be no better time for reflection than this season, with ethnic uprisings and sectarian violence threatening to tear the country apart.

He, therefore, urged everyone to examine their hearts, take individual responsibility for their failings and misdeeds, and pray for the courage and determination to be better citizens and change for the collective good of the country.

He prayed for Allah's mercies, bountiful blessings and peaceful coexistence in Eti-Osa community, Nigeria and the world at large.

Data Hub, Rack Centre Expands Services In Lagos

Rack Centre, a Tier III Carrier and Cloud-neutral data centre in West Africa, a local data hub domiciled in Lagos has embarked on construction of a new 12MW IT data centre at the Ikeja area of Lagos as part of its expansion plan. According to the management, the new building will expand the company's capacity in ten folds and consolidate its leadership as a major

digital infrastructure hub in West Africa.

It disclosed that the new building known as Rack Centre LGS 2 data centre is being constructed on a 20,000 square metres green field site and sits at over 30 meters above sea level.

Speaking to journalists media parley recently, the Chief Operating Officer, Ezekiel Egboye, stated that the company is delighted to be a part

of the ongoing digital transformation on the continent, especially as more African businesses need more internet capacity to support their operations, ascertaining the company's readiness to enable digital infrastructure by hosting a large number of Hyperscalers, content and cloud delivery networks, internet service providers at its facility.

"The Lagos Campus data centre has grown to be the largest carrier and cloud neutral digital infrastructure hub in West Africa, and with this expansion, we aim at growing our thriving ecosystem further.

"Rack Centre's rich ecosystem includes 60+ telecommunication carriers, Internet Service Providers (ISPs), global Tier 1 networks, and pan

Africa international carriers, including direct interconnections to all five undersea cables serving the South Atlantic Coast of Africa including Equiano and in the foreseeable future 2Africa and every country on the Atlantic coast of Africa.

"Rack Centre became the first International Finance Corporation (IFC) EDGE-certified data centre in Europe,

the Middle East and Africa. Officially making this the first Green Certified Data Centre in Africa and the most connected facility in the region, according to its Peering DB ranking.

"With this expansion, Rack Centre would have a net lettable space of 3240 sqm and IT load of 13.5MW as against the current data centre, LGS1, which has an IT load of 1.5MW and a net lettable space of 1094 sqm," he explained.

Airtel Launches Digital Health Insurance For Customers In Lagos



Telecommunications network provider, Airtel Nigeria, has partnered with AXA Mansard, an Insurance company, to launch a digital health insurance plan that provides access to basic healthcare consultation and minor treatment for customers on the Airtel network.

The Airtel AXA Mansard health bundle allows Airtel customers to approach low-cost healthcare consultation and treatment for minor illnesses.

The bundle plan is said to provide three forms of healthcare services, including telemedicine, pharmacy, and hospitalization reimbursement, and

Airtel customers can subscribe by dialing *141*44# to select the service.

Speaking at the launch, Chief Commercial Officer, Airtel Nigeria, Femi Oshinlaja described the bundle as an innovative product that has been particularly designed to make a significant difference.

"In line with Airtel's core value, which is to deliver solutions that enrich the lives of our customers, we are pleased to partner with AXA Mansard, to launch a cutting-edge health bundle that will add value to our customers. This partnership aims to provide easy and pocket-friendly health insurance access to

Airtel users, through mobile data service," he said.

He added that the health bundle will shorten the distance between Airtel customers and healthcare providers such as hospitals and pharmacies.

"With this simple cover, users may now have access to the medication of up to N60,000 and hospitalization cover of N550,000 per year."

Also speaking during the launch, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, AXA Mansard, Tope Adeniyi hailed the partnership between the two companies for deploying technology to make a far-reaching impact in healthcare.

"We are delighted to

collaborate with Airtel to make health insurance accessible through mobile services, and we believe that this is currently one of the most innovative and relevant solutions that will empower more Nigerians to conveniently access best-in-class health insurance value offerings," he said.

Some of the other interventions made by Airtel as part of its continuing commitment to health and wellness in Nigeria include the N200 million investment in the refurbishment and outfitting of the infectious disease center at the Lagos University Teaching Hospital (LUTH) in addition to a donation of N20 million from personal contributions by Airtel employees which was described by the Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, as the first of its kind, and many several other projects under Airtel's award-winning corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, Airtel Touching Lives.

9mobile CEO, Peschel To Speak At Fintech Cybersecurity & Fraud Summit At VI



The Chief Executive Officer of 9mobile, Juergen Peschel, is among the personalities to speak at the Fintech Cybersecurity & Fraud Summit 2023 scheduled to hold on April 27, 2023, at the Civic Center Lagos.

Peschel will deliver a keynote address titled 'The Role of Cybersecurity in a FinTech Regulatory Digital Economy'.

Other discussants at the forum include Kashifu Inuwa Abdullah, DG/CEO, National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA), Chika Nwosu CEO, Palmpay, Niyi Toluwalope, MD/Chief Executive Officer, eTRANZACT Int'l Plc, Ade Bajomo, President, Fintech Association of Nigeria among others.

The Summit would examine, amongst

other topics: The future of Financial Fraud and Digital Security.

According to the Economic Forum Series (EFS), the summit organizers, "This event will converge industry stakeholders to discuss cybersecurity challenges and Risk Management Systems to mitigate attacks especially in the financial sector and beyond.

"The Summit will also create opportunities for stakeholders to examine cyber security policies and regulatory interventions needed to protect individuals and institutions to function efficiently and effectively."

Juergen is a senior international executive with an exceptional track record within the Digital, IT, & Telecommunications Industry, including expertise in a wide variety of industry verticals and markets.

St. Patrick's School Benefits From Ipaja Lion's Club Project

By Edith Igbokwe

President of Ipaja Central Lions Club, District 404 B3, Lion Lucy Olaniyi has commended Ayobo-Ipaja Local Council Development Area (LCDA) chairman, Hon. Mrs. Bola Shobowale, for approving her letter of permission to create zebra-crossing for St. Patrick Nursery and Primary School, Ipaja



St Patrick's school zebra crossing

She recently commissioned the project in the Ayobo-Ipaja. According to Olaniyi, the zebra crossing was created opposite the school to save human

lives, especially the school children and their parents who take the route daily to drop their wards in school. "I observe, with fear, the risk school children take every day crossing the road to their school premises.

"St. Patrick's Primary School pupils and aged people are mostly exposed to the danger of accident within the axis. We need to preserve its sanctity through accident prevention – road signs caution."

She also disclosed that her organisation is in dialogue with the Federal Road Safety Commission to spread the installation of Zebra-Crossings at various school locations in Ayobo-Ipaja and its environment within Lagos.

Shobowale Charges JAMB Form Beneficiaries To Make Good Grades

By Edith Igbokwe



Mrs. Shobowale, Ayobo- Ipaja LCDA chairman

No fewer than 150 beneficiaries got free JAMB forms from the chairman of Ayobo-Ipaja Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Mrs. Bola Shobowale to support their educational pursuit. Shobowale enjoined the beneficiaries to study hard to ensure they pass their examination.

While congratulating the beneficiaries for scaling through the process, the chairman enjoined them to take advantage of the exam postponement to study ahead of the rescheduled date. All the registered beneficiaries and their parents were present at the presentation of the JAMB/UTME E-PIN Forms to round up the 2023 JAMB/Unified

Tertiary Matriculation Examinations, (JAMB/UTME) programme sponsored by her administration. The Council-Manager, Mrs. Mojisola Ogabi, admonished the beneficiaries on the need to be more prepared for the examinations and be focused. "just as the Chairman had earlier advised, they can all come out with good results, highly expected of them to secure their admissions for their courses in higher learning." According to the Joint Admission and Matriculation Board (JAMB), the examination proper will commence on April 25 and will run until May 2, 2023. Meanwhile, the candidates have been advised to reprint their examination slip some days to the exam to know their exam day.

Council boss reiterates commitment to development, inspects ongoing projects

By Edith Igbokwe

The chairman of Agbado Oke-Odo Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Oladapo Famuyiwa, has reiterated his commitment to the development of the council area, promising to provide more infrastructure.

He made the promise while inspecting the ongoing road construction at Lawal Street, Oki, and Iyana Ipaja, seeking speedy completion of the projects by the contractor. He also inspected the ongoing construction of a block of classrooms at

Oki Alaguntan Primary School facilitated by Senator Solomon Olamilekan Adeola (YAYI).

Also rehabilitation and fencing of Ajasa Area office, fencing and completion of Ajasa Primary Health Centre, and completed Temidire Primary Health Centre.

The council boss assured residents that dividends of democracy would be delivered to make life meaningful to all.

Present at the inspection site were the Vice-Chairman, Hon. Ajoke Obe, Secretary to the Local Government, Chief Akinwumi Odeyemi.

Other cabinet members, include the HoD, Works and Infrastructure, Mr. Oluwatosin Akeju and his team.



Famuyiwa on project inspection

Igando-Ikotun LCDA Boss Dedicates Award To Residents

By Edith Igbokwe

The chairman of Igando-Ikotun Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Lasisi Akinsanya has dedicated his outstanding chairmanship award to the people for further motivation to continue to deliver the dividends of democracy to his constituents.

He got the award as the year 2022 Outstanding Chairman in Infrastructural Development in Lagos State from Nigerian Landmark Achiever



Akinsanya with his outstanding chairmanship award

Merit Award.

Akinsanya noted that the award was in recognition of the productive efforts put

together by his team.

He assured his determination with his team to do more for his people.

19-Year Old Jailed For Attempting To Escape From Police Custody

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Rep Raji

An Ikeja Magistrate court has sentenced a teenager, Abass Enitan, to nine months imprisonment without an option of fine for damaging a police station cell toilet window in a bid to escape.

The News Agency of Nigeria reported that Magistrate M. C Ayinde

sentenced Enitan, 19, without an option of fine after he pleaded guilty to the offence.

"This will serve as a deterrent to others," she held.

Enitan, whose address was not known, was charged with unlawful attempt to escape from police custody

and wilful damage.

According to the charge signed by Inspector Segun Oke, the offense is punishable under the provisions of Sections 339 and 406 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015.

Oke said the defendant stole a ram worth N150,000 belonging

to one Mr. Bisola Olusanya and was arrested.

The prosecutor said the complainant later asked for the case to be withdrawn since he had recovered his ram.

Oke said the defendant, who was locked up at the police station, broke the toilet window in a bid to escape.

Tecno Hosts Fireboy, Preuzzi, Others To Celebrate Spark 10 Festival

By Nurudeen Adebayo



Tecno Mobile, on Saturday, marked the launching of Spark 10, at the Ikeja City Mall while featuring Dmws' fireboy, Peruzzi, and various stars in the music industry.

The Festival was filled with energy and excitement. The atmosphere was unbeatable, with a crowd that was ready to party.

The features of the phone include a 13.0 operating system, 6.6 display inches, and 5000mAh.

One of the audience said: "The Tecno Spark Festival is the best Festival I have attended this year, I am enjoying the outstanding performances from

some of the best artists around. If you're not here, you're missing an extraordinary experience.

Another participant commented: "The Tecno Spark 10 Festival is the place to be tonight! The performances are blowing my mind, and the vibe is unbeatable. Don't miss out on all the fun."

Present at the event were Ice Prince, Tolani Baj, Eni, and others.

Meanwhile, MTN has stated that any mobile user using the newly launched Tecno Spark 10 series will enjoy 5GB of free data on its 5G network on activation and an additional 11GB on select data bundle purchases for three months.

The network provider said it partnered with Tecno Spark 10 due to its features and affordability to expand the 5G network across the country.

"With the availability of MTN's 5G network in Nigeria, users of the ultramodern phone will experience the lightning speed of the 5G network. A bonus for MTN customers who purchase the device is the special offer of 5GB of free data on activation and an additional 11GB on select data bundle purchases for three months.

"Apart from its camera and 5G connectivity, the Tecno Spark 10's performance is great, considering its budget price point. Its Helio G70

CPU and 3GB of RAM ensure that the phone can handle most tasks, such as web browsing, social media usage, video streaming, and gaming.

"The Tecno Spark 10 comes with a 6.5-inch display, 3GB of RAM, and is powered by Helio G70 CPU. Two of the phone's standout features are its impressive camera system and the 5G-enabled network technology system it packs.

"For its camera system, the Tecno Spark 10 offers a 32MP front-facing camera and a 50MP quad-camera system on the back that guarantees users high-quality photos and videos. It also offers customizable camera settings, including portrait mode and night mode, making it excellent for taking nighttime photos and videos," it stated, adding that the phone "also offers a long-lasting battery life, which is perfect for those who need it to last throughout the day without frequent charges. It also comes with an 18W charger that supports fast charging.

"Overall, the Tecno Spark 10 is a high-performance smartphone. If you are in the market for a budget-friendly smartphone with a great camera and long-lasting battery life, the Tecno Spark 10 is worth considering. And with the exciting data plans from MTN Nigeria for the 5G-enabled phone, there is a lot more incentive to make that purchasing decision."

Lagos Industry Commissioner, Akande Bags Jewel Of Honor Award

By Rasag Adebayo



The Commissioner for Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives, Hon. (Dr.) Mrs. Lola Akande was presented with an Award of A Jewel of Honour by Celebrology International, a global think-tank group at the Ministry recently. Receiving the award on her behalf, the Permanent Secretary, Mrs. Adetutu Oluremi Osoanya, acknowledged the

award as another feather to the cap of the Commissioner for her exemplary leadership in the public service.

The Chief Executive Officer of Celebrology International, Mr. Sola Odumosu stated that the organisation carried out deep research on potential awardees before conferment of honour and one of the virtues considered is human dignity.

In attendance were Directors and Staff of the Ministry.

Residents Count Losses To Fire Incident

By Nurudeen Adebayo



The residents of Epe have continued to count their losses to the fire incident that engulfed the

community last week. ECHONEWS reported that a tanker conveying Petroleum Motor Spirit (PMS) fell across the road at T-Junction area of Epe on Monday morning, resulting in a fire outbreak. The fire wreaked havoc on several buildings, destroying properties worth millions of naira in Temu community though the Lagos State Fire and Rescue Service later put out the fire. However, no life was reportedly lost to the inferno. Meanwhile, the chairman of Ikosi-Ejinrin

Local Council Development Area, Akogun Wale Raji Anomo, has commiserated with the victims in Temu community when he visited the scene of the incident in company of the Special Adviser on Budget, Ikosi-Ejinrin LCDA, Hon. Shakiru

Bello. Anomo was said to have played a vital role in making sure that first responders arrived at the scene early and also preventing people who were trying to steal fuel leaking from the tanker from doing so. "We commend the efforts of all first

responders who assisted in arresting the situation and specially we appreciate Governor Babajide Sanwoolu for establishing an efficient fire service and an Emergency Response centre in Epe, which made it possible to stop the inferno from causing more damages," he said.

I Spend N1.4m Monthly To Elderly Residents In Epe - Rep Raji

Nurudeen Adebayo

With N10,000 each to 140 people, the House of Representatives member representing Epe Federal Constituency, Hon. Wale Raji spends N1.4 million naira every month to aid the less privileged especially the elderly ones.

The lawmaker said he gives out payment of N10,000 to 140 senior citizens under the Wale Raji Elders Welfare Scheme monthly. He said this while dishing out a cumulative payment of N39,000 covering January to March to each of the beneficiaries as they could not be paid during the period due to cash crisis.

According to him, the gesture is in fulfillment of his promise to provide a sustenance allowance to his constituents.

He reiterated his commitment to delivering the dividend of democracy to his constituency, particularly the population marked by gray hair and ancient wisdom.

"The elderly hold a special place in my heart, and we will continue to prioritize



Rep Raji

them, appreciate them for their contributions during their productive years, and make their lives more meaningful," he said.

Raji explained that January, February, and March payments were missed due to the cash crunch occasioned by the CBN's policy on cashless hence, the reason for the cumulative payments representing the commutative months.

He expressed his gratitude for the understanding displayed by his constituents.

"Wale Raji's compassionate approach to governance highlights the transformative power of public service and reinforces the importance of putting

people first,"

Senior Legislative Aide to Rep. Wale Raji on General Administration, Mr. Bashiru Hassan, provided more insights about the programme.

The figure, he said, represents a backlog of 10,000 each for all the 140 beneficiaries for January, February, and March 2023, which were not paid due to the cash crunch occasioned by the CBN's Cashless Policy.

He said the disbursement would be done from door to door of the beneficiaries till the last beneficiary is reached.

He expressed his heartfelt appreciation to the beneficiaries for their understanding and perseverance throughout the period.

'Prof. Esther Okubena-Dipeolu's Demise, A Great Loss To Epe Division'

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The death of Prof. Okubena-Dipeolu, who died on Tuesday, April 18, 2023 has been described as a colossus loss to the entire Epe town and Lagos State as a whole.

The late don was a professor of Soil Science in the Faculty of Agriculture at the Lagos State University and a strong member of the Epe Community.

In a tribute to the deceased, a chieftain in Epe, Otunba TJ Abass described her as a great asset to the Epe community and Lagos State.

He listed one of her contributions to Epe development as serving on the Scholarship Committee of the 20th ascension anniversary of HRM Oba Babatunde Ogunlaja.

"There is a time to live, and there is a time to leave. Somewhere between the cradle and the grave, divinity offers humanity the



Prof. Esther Okubena-Dipeolu's Demise

greatest treasure, which is time. Our merit in the hereafter is predicated on what we each do with our time on this side of eternity," Otunba Abass said.

He prayed for the repose of the soul of the late Prof. Okubena-Dipeolu, adding that the Almighty God will console those that she left behind.

Meanwhile, the remains of the deceased have been deposited at the Epe General Hospital.

Before her demise, Prof. Okubena-Dipeolu was an accomplished

academic who specialised in Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition.

Born on September 9, 1964, she joined the services of LASU in 2004 as an Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Botany, Faculty of Science where she rose to become a Professor on October 1, 2018.

She was appointed Director, Institute of Organic Agriculture and Green Economy, Epe Campus, and served between May 10, 2021, and November 23, 2021.

11 Years after: Agbowo-Ikosi gets ready to Install New Abowa

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Settling 11 years old tussle between two ruling houses, a new traditional ruler has been finally picked to be installed in Agbowo-Ikosi, a community in Ikosi-Ejirin Local Council Development Area. The community has been existing without a traditional ruler for the last 11 years owing to legal tussle between two ruling houses in the community. The two families in dispute over the traditional stool are the Mabudeje-Aduloju and Mabudeje-Tugbobo ruling houses. After the demise of Oba Akinlolu Bolaji Joseph Odumeru in 2012, the Kingmakers swung into action the following year upon

receipt of notice from the Local Council Development Area. This prompted the nomination of Prince Owolabi Saheed Momson of the Mabudeje-Aduloju family as the Abowa-Elect. The process was protested against by the Mabudeje-Tugbobo ruling house who claimed to be the rightful ruling house to produce the next king and not Prince Owolabi Saheed Momson's Mabudeje-Aduloju ruling house. Amidst these protests, in 2015 the claimants, Mabudeje-Tugbobo ruling house approached the court to seek redress. In defence of the suit, the Mabudeje-Aduloju ruling house came up with a counter-claim against the claimants.

The matter was initiated at Ikorodu High Court, but in the course of prosecuting the matter, it moved from Ikorodu to a Lagos High Court sitting at Tafawa Balewa Square (TBS) Lagos Island, back to Ikorodu and later Ikeja High Court. The matter commenced before Hon. Justice Salvade who granted the claimants interlocutory injunction restraining the state Governor and all other defendants in the matter from installing a king in the community. However, all efforts to speak with the regent, High Chief Odufowora Shakirudeen proved abortive after several visits to his residence at Odusanya close, beside victory house, off Ikosi beach road, Agbowo Ikosi.

It was confirmed that Oba Edward Alausa Thomas Olufuwa was the first king of Agbowo-Ikosi, he

ruled from 1956 to 1972 and was succeeded by Oba Ahmed Kolawole Hassan who ruled

from 1973 to 2006 and the late Oba Akinlolu Bolaji Joseph Odumeru ruled from 2007 to 2012.

Be Conscious Of Your Waste Management, LAWMA Counsels Residents



Ibrahim Odumboni

The Lagos Waste Management Agency (LAWMA) has urged residents of Ikorodu to be cautious of the waste management to keep their environment healthy. In a statement, LAWMA Managing Director/CEO, Ibrahim Odumboni, said waste management is an essential service designed to enhance the well-being of the people and their environment. He assured residents of the agency's capability to handle increased waste generation across the state, urging them to

properly bag their wastes and put them in covered bins, to avoid loose waste on the road median and setbacks. The LAWMA helmsman stated that PSP operators had been directed to discharge their duties effectively with the agency offering backup services to fill in any gaps. "We understand that there is increase in waste generation across the state, but we want to assure Lagosians that LAWMA is prepared to handle it. We have intensified our waste management efforts and are providing backup trucks for our

PSP operators to ensure that waste is promptly collected and disposed of," he said. Odumboni also implored the residents to refrain from activities that could damage the environment and endanger the lives of people, but to support efforts of LAWMA to make the metropolis livable for all. He said: "We want to appeal to residents to desist from acts capable of making life miserable for the environment and its inhabitants. We want to ensure that everyone enjoys a clean and healthy environment during and after the Eid-il-Fitr celebrations."

Traders lament over demolition of shops at Odogunyan

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Traders and shop owners at Odogunyan, Ikorodu have lamented over the destruction of shops and containers by government agencies. The shops were said to have been effected on roadsides, barring free movement. Affected structures include kiosks, extensions, tables,

and chairs used in various trading spots. One of the community leaders, Alhaji Oyekola, said the affected traders had earlier been warned that the government could restructure the place at any time. According to him, what the government did is for the benefit of the citizen, "the government even allowed them to park there loads, goods

before the demolition." He said they are looking forward to the government to construct new shops without delaying the project to ease traffic at Odogunyan bus stop. One of the traders while reacting to the development, expressed sadness over the exercise, claiming that the traders were not given enough time to tidy up.

LG Partners Online Business Platform To Empower 1000 Artisans

By Saheed Afolabi



Dignitaries at the event

Surulere Local Government and **R í s é . n g** empowered 1,000 artisans and vendors in the area by funding their registration on **R í s é . n g** online business platform to ensure easy access to

customers. **R í s é . n g** is an innovative online marketplace platform that connects artisans and vendors to clients and customers with ease.

R í s é, is a word of Yoruba origin that

means to "Find Work." Founder and Chief Executive Officer, **R í s é . n g**, Mrs. Olawunmi Akalusi, said the platform was created to bridge the gap between vendors, artisans, service providers and Micro,

Small and Medium Enterprises(MSMEs) and their end-users, clients or customers. She revealed that the Chairman, Surulere Local Government, Mr Bamidele Yusuf, and the Speaker of the H o u s e o f

Representatives, Mr Femi Gbajabiamila, had paid N6,000 for each vendor for the year, covering insurance and the verification process.

"As an entrepreneur, all you need to do is download the app, register your products and services on **R í s é . n g**, fill in the know-your-customer (KYC) and ensure you are verified.

"The good thing for traders and artisans in Surulere is that the chairman has paid for the verification and insurance for the whole year for 1,000 artisans.

"The verification costs N3,000 while the insurance costs N3,000.

"The verification ensures security for both parties, (the artisans and customers) while the insurance ensures that if anything happens to them when delivering goods or services, they

are covered to an extent.

"We are still working on a general life insurance in cases of accidents," she said.

Akalusi said they had put measures in place on the app to ensure artisans delivered quality goods and services to customers.

"We have a rating system where artisans are rated by their customers based on their service delivery.

"If a vendor or an artisan gets three strikes based on negative ratings, we will automatically remove the person from the system. This is to ensure that customers get quality services and products," she said.

Gbajabiamila, who was represented by his Chief of Staff, Mr Olarenwaju Smart, said the platform was one of the safety nets that artisans in the constituency needed to increase the portfolio of their businesses.

He said that partnering with the local government was to ensure that artisans in the area migrate to e-commerce platforms like **R í s é . n g** to increase their market access.

"It is an electronic platform that enables them to interface with customers online and provide services to them seamlessly.

"There is no doubt that this will add to the income of artisans in Surulere.

"This programme will be extended to Itire-Ikate, Coker Aguda and other local government areas in the state," he said.

The chairman, Surulere Local Government, Mr. Sulaimon Yusuf, said the partnership was in line with his quest for the development in all areas of the community.

Yusuf, represented by the Vice Chairman, Mr. Adewale Dosumu, said he would continue to fund businesses' registration on the platform to enable them have unhindered access to customers and conduct their business activities with ease.

NYSC Coordinator commends Corp members for leadership qualities

By Saheed Afolabi

State Coordinator of National Youth Service Corps (NYSC), Lagos, Mrs. Yetunde Baderinwa has commended the corps members who were made Corps Liaison Officers of the Local Government Areas at the NYSC Lagos State Secretariat, Surulere. Commending the corps members for their leadership qualities which necessitated their selection for the role, the State Coordinator, said the role of CLO is meant to be a link between corps members at the various Local Government

Areas and NYSC officials.

According to her, they are to give the NYSC feedback and aid them in being knowledgeable about the issues affecting the Local Government. She urged them to justify the confidence reposed in them through diligence and integrity.

Also speaking at the meeting, Assistant Director, Corps Inspection and Monitoring branch, Mrs Itohan Ehimwema, stated that the Corps Liaison Officer is the

highest ranking corps member at any Local Government, who helps to build and maintain a mutually beneficial relationship between the Local Government and the NYSC.

She listed out some core functions of the role; such as assisting the Local Government Inspectors in carrying out their duties, coordinating CDS meetings, assisting with the registration of new corps members, monitoring and reporting activities of corps members.

She also outlined some benefits of the role, such as more recognition, networking opportunities and development of new skills.

She stressed the need for Liaison officers to maintain neutrality in their

dealings and to stay away from all forms of corrupt practices which are inimical to the image of the scheme. Liaison officers are to drop any behaviour or habits that would reflect badly upon themselves and the NYSC.



Lagos State NYSC state coordinator, Mrs Yetunde Baderinwa speaking at the meeting with corp members at Surulere

Do away with praise singers, scholar advises political leaders

By Saheed Afolabi

The Chief Imam of Yarosalam Central Mosque, Agboyi-Ketu, Alhaji Suleiman Idris, has advised political leaders in the country to do away with and praise singers who

adopt the 'YES' trademark in all their opinions and thoughts and appoint individuals that would tell them the truth.

He said this while delivering a lecture titled "Expectations of Citizens from their

Leaders" at a forum recently, urging leaders to strengthen feedback in ensuring the populace take complete ownership of their operations.

Idris described patience as the greatest leader to emerge successful in his administrative

The chairman of Agboyi-Ketu LCDA, Hon. Dele Oshinowo, urged the residents to adopt a culture of tolerance and selflessness in order to improve the community.

He also appealed to the

Nigerians to be kind to one another and abstain from impolite behaviour.

He noted that lack of love has continued to breed increase crimes and criminal activities in the society.

Meanwhile, the

Chairman, League of Imams, Agboyi-Ketu LCDA, Alhaji Daud Abdulsalam, commended the council chairman for his good administrative approach in ensuring that all angles of governance are touched.

Okanlawon celebrates Muslims at sallah

By Saheed Afolabi

The member representing Kosofe constituency 01 at the Lagos State House of Assembly and chairman House Committee on Education (Ministry/Agencies), Hon. Sanni

Okanlawon has rejoiced with the Muslims who just concluded their fasting last week.

In a message, the lawmaker said he felicitated with his family members, Muslim friends, colleagues, community's leaders,

and political leaders on the occasion of Eid-el-Fitr celebration.

"May the blessings of Allah fill your life with happiness and open all the doors of success now and always.

"Ramadan teaches us that the Muslim Ummah is the community of piety

and devotion to Allah and its members derive their strength from each other in deeds of piety and virtue.

"The bonds that are based on piety and virtue are the strongest bonds and it is these bonds that prove good for mankind," he said.



OSHODHISOLO NEWS

Ejigbo LCDA boss assures new DPO of total support to curb crime

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Ejigbo Local Council Development Area, Alhaji Monsurudeen Bello (OBE), has welcomed the newly posted DPO to the



CSP Mariam Shonubi

Local Council's Divisional Police Headquarter.

The newly posted DPO, CSP Mariam Shonubi, took over from Barr. Funsho Gabriel, who has now been promoted to the rank of Assistant Commissioner of Police.

OBE assures CSP Shonubi of his administration's commitment, support and cooperation in ensuring that the Police deliver a top-

notch service to the people.

He further charged her to put in her best and ensure that the local council area becomes more secure and crime-free.

Ejigbo CDC to get new office

By Saheed Afolabi

In an effort to fulfill some of his promises to the people of Ejigbo Local Council Development Area, the council chairman, Alhaji Monsurudeen Bello (OBE) has begun the construction of a conducive set of offices for the Community

Development Committee (CDC), and the Iyana-Ejigbo Area Office.

The ongoing construction is situated at Dauda Ilo. The land which is being used for the one-storey building construction, was donated by the community, hence it's being put to good use for the benefit of the

people.

The CDC previously had an office at the Ejigbo Multipurpose Building, Otasunmi, but the said venue has been converted to the Council's temporary secretariat since the reconstruction of the permanent secretariat started.

Also, the Iyana-Ejigbo Area office was

destroyed during the End SARS crisis, hence the staff members have to manage in an uncondusive environment since.

Upon completion, the one storey building would have offices allocated to both the CDC and the Area Office.



Ejigbo CDC + secretariat & Area office in progress!

Pictorial collage of the construction of the Ejigbo CDC office

Dr Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu PHC Bags Neatest Award

By Saheed Afolabi

The Hon. Abdul Hamed Salawu, the elected administration of Somolu Local Government has received accolade as Lagos State Government honoured Somolu Local

Government's Dr. Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu Primary Healthcare Center as the neatest PHC in Lagos State. The awards event was organized by Dr. Tunji Bello (Commissioner) led Lagos State Ministry of

Environments and Water Resources to honour local governments and Primary Healthcare Center facilities as part of the effort of Lagos State Government to ensure Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu Health and Environment

are well pronounced in the T.H.E.M.E.S. project.

The award was received by representatives of the Council Chairman, including Hon. Ayo Hector Coker (Supervisor for Agric, youth and Community Services), Dr. Abidemi Agboola (Medical Officer of Health, Somolu LG), Owolabi 'Ajimomuya' Oseni (Chief Press Secretary to the Chairman), Mr. Olusegun Elliot (Ward Health Committee Chairman) and Mrs. Omolola Sodiq (Officer-in-Charge of the PHC) at magnificent Adeyemi Bero Auditorium in Alausa, Ikeja.

Recall that the Dr. Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu Primary Healthcare Center was constructed and commissioned by the Hon. Abdul Hamed Salawu led administration of

Somolu Local Government after the dilapidated PHC was engulfed by year long flood which was earlier tamed by Hon. Abdul Hamed Salawu's administration.



The representatives of Somolu LG receiving the award on behalf of the council

LAHA Commends Somolu LG On Healthcare Delivery

By Saheed Afolabi

Lagos State House of Assembly has commended Somolu Local Government authority over healthcare delivery, stating that the local government has done well in primary healthcare sector. As part of the oversight function of Lagos State House of Assembly, the House Committee on Health, paid a visit to Somolu Local Government and the Primary Healthcare Centers in company of the Council chairman, Hon. Abdul Hamed Salawu.

The council chairman, who received the Hon. Femi Saheed led-House Committee on Health, spearheaded the tour to all the Primary Health Centres in the

community, including Dr. Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu PHC, Akoka PHC, Akinwunmi Ambode PHC, Wright Memorial PHC, Bajulaye PHC, including Oyekenu PHC.

Salawu reiterated his commitment to always ensure the Local Government cater for the needs of all PHCs where need be.

He also briefed the committee on his developmental plan to rejuvenate most of the aged PHCs and assured of adequate process to begin with.

While lauding the strides of the council chairman on healthcare and other sectors, Hon. Femi Saheed (Honourable Member, LAHA, Kosofe Constituency II) was enthused to have met an encouraging status of all the visited PHCs earlier today, most especially on environmental hygiene. He commended the

effective and inexorable contributions of all the staffs and required from them, daily/continuous efforts of their respective duties, in tandem with the need of their patients.

On tour with both parties include Hon. Yomi Osunkoya led Somolu Legislative Arms, Mrs Aarinola Shodipo (Council Manager), Mr. Abayomi Odusanya (Council Treasurer), Dr. Agboola Bidemi (Medical of Health), Hon. Williams Bamidele Lawanson (Erstwhile Sole Administrator, Somolu LG), Hon. Koya Olayinka-Sodiye (SA on Health), Hon. Femi Taiwo (SSA on Environment), Engr. (Council Engineer), and Mr Tito Bakare (HOD, Agric & Social Services) and many other council chiefs and APC party chieftains.



LAHA members during the oversight function visit to Somolu LG

Local Council Political Office Holders Visit Lawmaker-Elect

Political office holders in Kosofe Constituency II have paid a congratulatory visit to the lawmaker-elect, Hon. Femi Saheed, following his successful re-election in the just concluded Lagos State House of Assembly election. The group was led by the Vice Chairman of Ikosi-Isheri LCDA, Hon. Olayinka Ogunlewe, and comprised the council leader, councilors, supervisors, and other political stakeholders. The delegate visited the lawmaker-elect at his Agiliti-Madan residence, where they deliberated in

various matters concerning the development of the constituency.

During the meeting, Hon. Saheed expressed his appreciation to the political stakeholders for their invaluable support and hard work during the last election, which saw the candidates of All Progressive Congress emerge victorious in Kosofe, Lagos State, and Nigeria at large. Saheed, who was elected in 2020 through a bye-election to serve the remaining tenure of the late Hon. Tunde Braimoh, reassured the delegation of his commitment to better performance, engagements, and

inclusiveness in this coming dispensation. He also expressed his readiness to work closely with the political stakeholders in delivering dividends of democracy to the people of Kosofe Constituency II.

He promised to work tirelessly towards achieving the goals and aspirations of the people of Kosofe Constituency II.

The visit by the political office holders has been seen as a gesture of unity and support for the lawmaker, and a demonstration of their commitment to the growth and development of the constituency.

Bamigboye urges FG agency to ensure equality in employment

By Saheed Afolabi

The chairman of Mushin Local Government Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye, has appealed to the federal government to make sure there is equality in

employment opportunities for all across the country.

He said this while receiving the team from National Directorate of Employment (NDE), who came to register

unemployed youths in Mushin.

The registration took place at the 774 Local Government Areas across the country.

The council boss advised the team to ensure that

their registration reflects the true identity and status of unemployed youths in Mushin Local Government.

He expressed appreciation to the APC led federal

government for the giant initiative which is aimed at providing adequate data for the government to know the true status of the unemployed youths in the country and in each local government rather than speculative

analysis.

He, therefore, encouraged youths across Mushin Local Government to come out and get registered to help the government make adequate plans for their engagement and empowerment.

Butchers Assure LG Of Total Compliance After Reopening Of Market

By Saheed Afolabi



Sitting in the middle is Hon Emmanuel Bamigboye, chairman of Mushin LG

The chairman of Mushin Local Government, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye has ordered

the reopening of Itire Abattoir, which was earlier shut.

The abattoir was shut over alleged

environmental default and failure to remit obligatory fees to the local government.

The chairman said the

market was shut following the refusal of the executive members of butchers association of the market to honour invitations from the local government.

"During a meeting held at the council secretariat between the stakeholders and the government, we briefed the parties in attendance that the market was closed down following report of poor and unhealthy sanitary conditions at the abattoir.

"The report was issued by the Committee on Environmental Sanitation under the supervision of its Vice Chairman, Mr Tunbodun Aruwe.

"The council auditors also complained about the refusal by the butchers' association to remit their obligatory dues to the council since January 2023," he said.

Bamigboye said the concessionaire managing the market had the statutory right

over the market and should not be deprived of its rightful dues.

He advised the concessionaire to liaise with the revenue team of the council and work out modalities for smooth operations that would facilitate mutual understanding among the three parties.

However, Mr Kazeem Alabi, the State Chairman, Lagos State Butchers Association has assured the Mushin LG that the butchers will comply with the directives.

AMUWO-ODOFIN NEWS

12 Schools To Participate In Commonwealth Games

By Edith Igbokwe

No fewer than 12 schools in Amuwo-Odofin will participate in the Commonwealth Games Nigeria (CGN) planned to organize a Community Grassroots Sports programme for secondary schools in the Amuwo-Odofin Area of Lagos.



Commonwealth Games for Amuwo Odofin schools

Participating schools are expected to have six students and a Games' Master each to represent them at the game.

The event has been scheduled to be held on the May 3, 2023, at the Nigeria Olympic Committee (NOC) Grounds, "Olympafrica.

Prizes will be awarded to the three best students from each sport category

which include Volleyball, Netball and Cultural Dance.

All participating students will receive certificates of participation.

The objective of the event is to provide an opportunity for students in Amuwo Odofin to understand the importance of Sports and Education to youth development.

The game is to promote social interaction among the students as they get to meet other school students and engage in healthy competition.

Participants are expected to dress in their cultural dance attires.

Tony Neziyanya, the Public Relations Officer of the NOC noted that the game would also enable students to know more about the activities carried out by Commonwealth Games Nigeria.

Amuwo-Odofin LG Loses Sanitation Competition Race

By Edith Igbokwe

Amuwo-Odofin Local Government lost out in the first three winners of community sanitation competition to Yaba, Epe, and Eredo respectively.

In the previous year, Amuwo-Odofin was listed among those to receive the award, but did not make it to the final.

The three winners of the cleanest Local Governments in Lagos

State, Yaba, Epe, and Eredo were presented with plaques and a Nissan Frontier pickup trucks each.

They were also recognized for having the cleanest Markets, Primary Healthcare Centres, and MDAs.

The sanitation competition was aimed at encouraging communities in participating in cleanliness, and to build synergy among ministries, departments, public institutions,

sectorial leaders, agencies of the government, private sectors, and youths towards practicing the best hygiene.

At the Awards presentation ceremony held at Alausa, the First Lady, Dr. (Mrs.) Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu, who was represented by Mrs. Modupe Akewusola, urged all residents to join the quest to address the problem of poor waste handling, self-inflicted

flooding, overgrown vegetation, open defecation and indiscriminate waste dumping.

She said there is a clear nexus between health and the environment, stating that poor sanitation conditions are contributory factors to diseases and other health-related problems.

"The exercise henceforth won't be just an event but rather a continuous campaign to ensure all

communities' cleanliness for the environment to remain livable,

healthy, and clean."

It was recorded that Lagos State Government rewarded Local Government areas that distinguished themselves last year in cleanliness.



Cleaner Lagos to all communities

Eil-el-Fitr: Muslims Reflect On Ramadan Teachings

By Edith Igbokwe



Muslims on Ramadan lecture

Islamic faithful in Ifako-Ijaiye Muslim Community, Alh. Abdul-Lateef Sunmonu assembled at the residence of the President of Ifako-

Ijaiye Muslim Community, Alh. Abdul-Lateef Sunmonu to share the teachings inherent in the holy



Month of Ramadan as they celebrates to round off 2023 Ramadan.

The Guest Lecturer in his presentation titled 'Obedience to the Authorities' harped on good leadership and

followership qualities. In line with the provisions of the Qur'an and the Sunnah of the Prophet (SAW), all positions of authority are temporal and would be accounted for on the

day of Judgement. He stated that anyone entrusted with any leadership position should tread with caution and lead by example. He cited that leadership and position of authority are trust from Allah and as much as the leaders are expected to be just and steadfast, the followers must be faithful to their leaders. Following the laid down instructions of Allah, he said would lead to building a virile society with a sound

pre-requisite to responsible leadership and followership. Sunmonu appreciated Allah for His Benevolence since the beginning of Ramadan and prayed Allah grant everyone the opportunity of witnessing the eid prayers. He commended the Council of Chief Imams for their unwavering support throughout the month of Ramadan and to executives and members of the Muslim Community for their commitments so far.

Councillor Fêtes Muslims With Relief Package

By Edith Igbokwe

To show love and support to all Muslims that have denied themselves necessity of life through fasting, the councillor representing ward B, Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government, Hon. Oluwole Okito, packaged some palliatives for the Muslim faithful to celebrate the festival. Okito shared the food items amongst Muslims in his ward to encourage those that observed Ramadan and also celebrated the last days.

He said: "It is evident that Ramadan is a month of forgiveness and answers to prayers, It is also a period to

show love and support, most especially to those that are fasted, denied themselves the daily necessities of life."

He encouraged them to continue in good faith as the holy night of Lailatul Qadri brought blessing.

He reminded them not fail to pray for the peace of the nation, as Peace and love is essentially needed to have a wonderful society.

He urged everyone to build on the teachings of the holy month to have a sane environment.

Okito prayed that Allah accept all the prayers, fast, duas & forgive all sins.



Okito and the relief package for Muslims

Councillor, Engineer Dialogue With Community Leaders Over Road Rehabilitation

By Edith Igbokwe



Adenekan dialogues with Mojisola community

Councillor Awoshile and his team representing to dialogue with the Ward C2 in community leaders Ifako-Ijaiye, who doubles as chairman, House Committee on Works, Housing, Infrastructure and Business Rules, Hon. Ibrahim Adenekan has met with Community Leaders of Mojisola Street in respect to the commencement of renovation of the road. Adenekan invited the Engineer in charge of the project, Engr. Kayode



lines to differentiate ongoing, incoming vehicles lane. He explained other necessary things that need be known for the road construction and he requested for corporation from the community. Adenekan appealed to residents for maximum support to the contractor all through their stay. He appreciated every community leader and stakeholder from the

local government for their support at all times with the zeal to bring an unprecedented development to the good people of the community. He also inspected Ajenifuja Street alongside with the department of Environment from the Local Government to complete the carting away of refuse from the drainage.

Learn From Ramadan, Abiru Charges Residents

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Senator representing Lagos East Senatorial District, Senator Mukhail Abiru has charged the residents especially the Muslims to draw enduring lessons from Ramadan and show love to one another and promote harmony, peaceful coexistence, and leverage the diversity for national development. In a statement by his media aide, Mr. Enitan Olukotun, Abiru extolled

the Muslim community for their sacrifice, steadfastness, and perseverance in the month of Ramadan, in obedience to the injunction of Almighty Allah. In a bid to commit Muslims to eschew vices they enabled during the Holy month, Senator Abiru urged them and all other Nigerians not to relent in their prayers for Nigeria, particularly, as the President-Elect of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Asiwaju Bola

Ahmed Tinubu, is set to take the mantle of leadership of the country. "I admonish fellow Muslim brothers and sisters to continue on the glorious path of godly living we all lived during the Holy month of Ramadan. Eid el-Fitr festival symbolizes sacrifice, selflessness, love, and obedience to the tenets of Islam. I, therefore, enjoin us to draw enduring lessons from Ramadan and show love to one another as well as promote harmony,

peaceful coexistence, and leverage our diversity for national development. "I also use this season to implore all Nigerians to continue to pray for our dear nation and also support and cooperate with the incoming administration of Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu. The enormous task of nation-building requires the support of all well-meaning and patriotic citizens. Therefore, we should collectively join hands to rebuild our nation."



Senator Mukhail Abiru

LASG Partners Ikorodu LG To Enlighten Residents On Ibeshe Water Project

The Lagos State Government has met with the Ikorodu Local Government officials to partner on awareness creation on water terminal project. The information and public exposure programme was set in motion by the Lagos State Ministry of Environment and Water Resources. The government officials were gathered to create awareness on environmental impact, enlightening Ikorodu residents and the Ibeshe community on the proposed construction of the ESSLIBRA Barge Terminal. Projected to located at the Ibeshe axis of the division is the landing where containers and heavy trucks can be offloaded without hindering movements of the general public or community activities.

Speaking at the event, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Water Resources, Dr. Gaji Omobolanle, represented by Mrs. F. Olapade, said the project was initiated by the Federal Government to the State, which prompted the need to alert stakeholders at the grassroots level. Explaining further, she said the programme is positioned to draw the attention of neighbouring communities and its stakeholders to the eventual operational actions of the wharf. "With this sensitisation, councils, stakeholders, and traditional rulers would be able to coordinate their wards and give adequate information as regards the functions of the anchorage. "It also presents

numerous advantages and economic boosting tendencies of this project," she said. Meanwhile, the chairman of Ikorodu LG, Hon. Wasiu Adesina, who received the delegates, appreciated Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu for his timely efforts and work standards. Adesina equally congratulated the Governor on his 2nd term electoral victory at the just concluded gubernatorial elections. The council boss, represented by the Secretary to the Local Government, Hon. Lateef Afinni in his speech emphasized the benefits of the proposed project at Ibeshe community. He said the project is a great development that will project the community to the spotlight, not only in Ikorodu but the whole of Lagos State.

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Ighalo delighted with win against Al Nassr

By Saheed Afolabi

Jude Ighalo is delighted with Al-Hilal win over Al Nassr in the Al Riyadh derby. Ighalo found the back of the net twice in the game as Al-Hilal defeated Al Nassr 2-0 despite Cristiano Ronaldo presence in the game for A I - A I a m i (Worldwide).

Ighalo played down individual glory but admitted that the most important thing is the three points Al-Hilal grabbed because of some bad games in the past. The former Watford forward said Al-Hilal knew the game will be a very tough one and was happy with the win. "The most important thing is three points,

because we have had some bad games in the past," he said. "So we knew the derby will be tough as well and I'm happy we won and too the three points." The Nigeria forward tops the goal poachers chart in the Saudi Pro League with 18 goals and two assists. The 33 year old forward have had an impressive record in front of goal since he joined Al-Hilal



Jude Ighalo

from Al Shabab as he has found the back of the net 47 times in 50

appearances with seven assists. The Blue Waves will

face Al-Ittihad in their next encounter on the 22nd of March 2023.

Players don't know the value of Olympics - Victor Ikpeba

By Saheed Afolabi

Former Nigeria international, Victor Ikpeba has lashed out to the players of Nigeria U23 side for not giving their best to qualify Nigeria to the prestigious Olympic games. The Olympic Eagles failed to qualify for the Paris 2024 Olympic games after they were eliminated by Guinea in the final qualifying game. This however didn't go down well with The Prince of Monaco, Ikpeba who believes the players are not taking the Olympics Football event seriously as he said that the Olympics have given Nigeria glory and accolades. "We are no longer taking the Olympics football tournament seriously back home and I don't know why, he said. "Olympics football has given Nigeria glory and so much respect,

it has given a lot of joy to Nigerians and Africans. "It is something we need to take very seriously together with the World Cup and the AFCON." Ikpeba appealed to the Nigeria government, NFF to put more emphasis on the qualification to the Olympics and the players must be inspired to qualify and win the showpiece. "I will appeal to the Federal government, the Federal Ministry of Sports and the NFF to put more emphasis on the Olympics, so the boys that go out there to compete must know

the importance of the Olympics, because it is neither the Ministry nor NFF that will play. "The players must know the importance of going out there and competing and qualify. "They must be inspired to win a medal, it is a global event. The Olympic games is not just about football, there are all sports involved, so it makes it very unique. We need to educate our players too, whenever they have the opportunity to compete; to qualify for the Olympics, they should take it seriously, they can make a name for themselves with it, it is really sad (how the Country has struggled)."



Victor Ikpeba

Extra Quality Ramadan Cup: Original FC Emerges Champions

By Saheed Afolabi



Extra Quality Ramadan Cup, Invited guests presents trophy to the captain of the champions, Original FC

The third edition of the Extra Quality Ramadan Cup ended in style as debutants Original FC emerged champions after defeating Jumez International in the penalty shootout. Worthy of a keenly contested final, Jumez took the lead before Original FC equalized on the stroke of halftime to draw parity in the game. The game started

bright for both sides in the game as Chibuzor Daniel broke the deadlock of the game in the 30th minute to give Jumez International the lead. Original FC weren't deterred of conceding first in the encounter as they kept pushing and pegged their opponent to their half and they were rewarded on the stroke of halftime as Hassan Ibrahim draws level for

Original FC.

The second half didn't produce any goal as the game went straight to penalty shootout which was won by Original FC 5-4. Speaking to the organizer, Musbau Oseni, he said, he's happy that the tournament was hitch free as no violence was recorded.

Oseni further commended the sponsor of the program Alhaji Yusuf Ayinla, the participating teams and all the other supporters.