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There are indications that the National Agency for Drug and Food Administration and Control may ban the Tigernut drink following the results of investigations of the Lagos State Government which traced recent cholera outbreak to its consumption.

A source at the Lagos NAFDAC office told Echoneews that the agency swung into action following its indictment in the preliminary report of the outbreak by the Lagos State Government. He said the agency was taking drastic steps to unravel the truth.

"In the meantime, the agency may ban the sales of any kind of tigernut drink to establish the report by the Lagos government, which the source said might not be completely true," the source said.

The special adviser to the Lagos state governor on health, Dr. Kemi Ogunyemi on Saturday attributed the Cholera outbreak to drinking of tigernut by some of the affected persons.

She mentioned that upon noticing a rise in suspected cholera cases in Eti-Osa LGA, the government conducted a direct assessment of the area.

Ogunyemi revealed that a survey indicated a common factor was a tigernut drink being sold, while noting it was not registered with the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC).

She mentioned that authorities were then sent out to locate the drink in order to test samples for cholera.

Her words: "We found empty bottles with a name on them, but we discovered that it wasn't even registered with the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC), the regulatory body that ensures the safety of consumables. "There was a phone number and a name on the bottle, and we started tracing. We did contact tracing, similar to what we did with COVID-19.

"We combed the area to asked people where they

Cholera: NAFDAC May Ban Tigernut Drink

Kunle Awosiyan

got the drinks from. We couldn't find any full bottles. We only found empty ones, which were of no use because we could not test them. The phone number on the bottle was not reachable.

"It could be anything else. We found out that it was confirmed cholera, specifically *Vibrio cholera* subtype O1, which is the most infectious and aggressive type.

"There are different types, but we identified this one. In Lagos Island, Eti-osa, and Kosofe, we recorded the highest number of cases that went to the hospital.

"I'm not talking about reported cases. These are the people who did the right thing by going to the hospital to complain of symptoms, and they were treated. That's when we were alerted."



Lagos State Government is doing all within its capacity to stop the increasing number of deaths from Cholera. At least three persons die everyday from

Cholera since its outbreak a week ago.

Echoneews correspondent who monitored the development observed that as at Saturday, the death toll had risen to 24 out of the 417 suspected cases across across the 20 Local Government and 37 Local Council Development Areas.

Meanwhile, the Chief Medical Director of the Lagos State Teaching Hospital, LASUTH, Professor Adetokunbo Fabamwo, told our correspondent that five cholera patients admitted at the hospital had been discharged.

He said "We had only five cases in LASUTH last week We do not have fresh cases and they have all gone home. As you know the trend is that even across the state the number is reducing. There is no cause for panic anymore."

However, the Lagos State Commissioner for Health, Prof Akin Abayomi said there were only 35 confirmed cases out of which 24 of them had died.



To stem the rising death toll, the commissioner said that the government had rolled out various hygiene regulations as he advised residents to ensure personal and environmental hygiene.

The cases were reported from Agege, Badagry, Ikeja, Mushin, Ajeromi-Ifelodun, Epe, Ikorodu, Ojo, Alimosho, and Eti-Osa.

Others were Kosofe, Oshodi-Isolo, Amuwo-Odofin, Ibeju-Lekki, Lagos Island, Shomolu, Apapa, Ifako-Ijaiye, Lagos mainland, and Surulere. Because Cholera is a food

and water-borne disease caused by ingesting the bacteria— *Vibrio cholerae* — in contaminated water and food, the state Water Corporation has raised the alarm in a statement calling on residents to be wary of untreated water in circulation, even as it initiated comprehensive measures to safeguard public health and ensure access to safe drinking water across the state.

The corporation said it had commenced an extensive water sampling and quality monitoring campaign throughout the state.



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Residents were encouraged to bring water samples from their homes or public spaces for testing by the qualified teams at LWC Headquarters, Ijora.

The statement added that the LWC water quality monitoring team would be monitoring water consumption across the state to identify and control the outbreak.

"According to the Lagos State Ministry of Health, the primary cause of the cholera outbreak has been linked to the consumption of contaminated water and inadequate sanitation.

As part of its efforts, the state government also directed assigned Private Sector Participant, PSP, operators in the waste management sector to ensure a 24-hour seamless evacuation of wastes as part of measures to prevent further spread of cholera outbreak in the state.

The Managing Director of the Lagos Waste Management Authority, LAWMA, Dr. Muyiwa Gbadegesin, who stated this, however, called on residents to observe the best personal and domestic hygiene, as well as proper waste management practices to curb the spread.

Cholera: NAFDAC May Ban Tiger nut Drink

Gbadegesin said the measure had become necessary, following the increasing rate of deaths, leaving many hospitalised.

The LAWMA boss suggested several precautionary measures, including: proper waste disposal; ensuring safe drinking water; frequent hand-washing with soap; food safety practices and use of proper sanitation facilities, among others.

Gbadegesin admonished residents to shun indiscriminate refuse disposal and imbibe the practice of bagging and disposing off their waste using covered bins to prevent the possible spread of the diseases by vectors, and to ensure seamless evacuation by assigned PSP operators.

"LAWMA will continue to intensify efforts at making sure that waste generated across the state is promptly and efficiently managed, with PSP service providers who are working round the clock to clean up blackspots.

"We are fully



committed to the health and safety of every Lagosian. Our teams are on the ground, ensuring that waste is properly collected and disposed off to minimise health risks. However, we need the co-operation of all residents to maintain a clean and safe environment," he said.

The World Health Organisation on Thursday announced a spike in cholera in several regions of the world, with almost 195,000 cases and over 1,900 deaths reported in 24

countries since the start of 2024.

WHO said the Eastern Mediterranean Region reported the highest number of cases, followed by the African Region, the Region of the Americas, the Southeast Asia Region, and the European Region.

The global health body, however, noted that there are no reported cases in the Western Region, according to its bulletin released on Wednesday.

Sadly, Lagos Island, Kosofe, Ikorodu and Eti Osa have recorded

the highest numbers of cases so far, according to Dr. Kemi Ogunyemi.

She said: "The rise in cases was anticipated, following the Ileya festivities, during which large gatherings occurred." She, however, noted that suspected cases were subsiding across LGAs, particularly previously affected LGAs, due to the state government's interventions and surveillance efforts.

Ogunyemi said the Lagos State government, through the Ministry of Health and other sister agencies, was maintaining rigorous surveillance and monitoring of the situation and implementing planned programs and activities to curb the spread.

"The Ministry of Health, in collaboration with the state Ministry of environment and its agency, the Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency, LASEPA, continues to collect samples of water sources, food, and beverages to

identify the source of contamination.

"We have also intensified our surveillance activities in communities, particularly in affected local government areas, to address the situation head-on.

"We are also working with the Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education as well as the Ministry of Tertiary Education to ensure all precautions are taken in our schools to protect children and scholars as they return.

"Residents must, however, remain vigilant, practice good hand hygiene, and participate in community sanitation activities to stop the spread of cholera," the special adviser stated.

Ogunyemi urged citizens to seek medical attention immediately after they experienced symptoms, such as watery diarrhoea, vomiting, abdominal pain, general malaise, and fever, stressing that cholera treatment was provided free of charge at all public health facilities.



Lagos Agency Organises Workshop on Procurement Processes, Procedures For SMES

The Lagos State Public Procurement Agency, in collaboration with the European Union Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption (ROLAC) programme, has organised a one-day workshop on procurement processes and procedures for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to enable them participate and benefit from procurement opportunities in the State. Speaking at the event, the Director-General of the Agency, Mr. Fatai Idowu Onafowote noted that as major contributors to socio-economic growth and development particularly in Lagos State and Nigeria, Small Scale Enterprises must understand and comply with the processes and procedures guiding public procurement in the State. The Director-General, however, pointed out that quite a number of Small and Medium Enterprises lacked adequate knowledge and understanding of the processes and procedures required for participating

and benefitting from public procurement opportunities that are available in the State from time to time at the various MDAs of the State, adding that many SMEs are still showing apathy towards public procurement system despite the efforts of the State Government and the Agency.

Mr. Onafowote pointed out that the Babajide Sanwo-Olu administration in the State is passionate about empowering Small and Medium Enterprises and giving them opportunities in public procurement of the State. He added that this informed the decision to bring down the cost of registration and renewal of certain categories of service providers to as low as #10,000.00. and make registration and renewal requirements as simple and flexible as possible.

He disclosed that the workshop was, therefore, organised to equip SMEs with the knowledge they require to participate and benefit from procurement opportunities in the State. He expressed the hope

that participants at the event would make use of the opportunity offered by the workshop to improve their digital skills, adding that with the deployment of technology to the public procurement system of the State, service providers, including SMEs must adapt to the technological innovation if they do not want to be left behind.

Mr. Onafowote commended the European Union Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption (ROLAC) programme for partnering with the Agency in organising the workshop, pointing out that ROLAC is "A worthy partner for many of the programmes of the Agency aimed at strengthening public procurement in the State". He also expressed appreciation to Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu for the continuous support the Agency has been receiving from the State Government, pledging that the Agency would redouble its efforts towards enhancing the public procurement system of the State.

In her remarks, the Lagos State Coordinator of ROLAC, Mrs. Ajibola Ijimakinwa stated that her organisation's partnership with the Lagos State Public Procurement Agency in organising the workshop was aimed at equipping SMEs with practical knowledge and skills essential for effective participation in the public procurement processes of Lagos State.

Mrs. Ijimakinwa also pointed out that ROLAC expected participants and SMEs to be able to acquire necessary skills for navigating the registration and renewal process, bid for contracts and prepare bids effectively and also understand the regulatory framework which would help them to comply with standards, thereby enhancing the credibility and competitiveness of the public procurement system of the State.

Operators of Small and Medium Enterprises participated physically and virtually at the one-day workshop, held recently at Sheraton Hotels, Ikeja, Lagos.

LASTVEB Holds Skill Enhancement Programme For Counsellors of Technical Colleges



In its effort to empower Technical Colleges Counsellors with improved strategies and digital competency to excel in their profession, Lagos State Technical and Vocational Education Board (LASTVEB) has organised a Capacity Building and Skills Enhancement Programme for Colleges.

The programme, which is the second edition, was held recently at the Skills for Work Centre, Government Technical College, Agidingbi, themed: "Enhancing Strategies to carry out Key Counseling Functions Without Border".

Declaring the programme open, the Executive Secretary of LASTVEB, Ms. Moronke Azeez reiterated that the programme is part of the commitment to improving the quality of technical and vocational education in the state.

She expressed the belief that equipping College Counsellors with the right skills and knowledge will go a long way in helping the students make informed decisions and good career choices to achieve their full potential.

Ms. Azeez revealed that the programme would have presentations delivered in three broad areas, namely; Identifying and Managing Students with Mental Health Issues, Enhancing Strategies to Carry out Key Functions on Counselling, and Empowering Counsellors with Essential Digital Competencies to Excel in their Profession.

Earlier in her welcome address, the Director Counselling Unit, LASTVEB, Mrs. Blessing Okusanya stated that the workshop was necessitated by the need to improve counsellors' skills in Technical Colleges to withstand international best standards.

She emphasised that the support strategies were on how to curb students' involvement in unruly behaviour and also equip Counsellors with necessary skills and techniques to guide the students to make informed decisions about their future career path.

In his presentation, Dr. Bamidele Odeyemi, an education psychologist, stated that counsellors must ensure that marginalized and under-represented groups receive equitable access to mental health support services in the colleges.

He also reiterated that some effective strategies must be in place for teachers to collaborate with parents to provide holistic support in case of mental health issues.

On his part, the Marketing Manager, Nigeria Internet Registration Association (NIRA), Mr. Olumide Coker emphasised that Counsellors must understand the Internet languages to ease their functions, if they wish to work without border.

According to him, they must equip themselves with the knowledge and tools needed to navigate emerging technologies effectively.



Cyber Threat: LASCOPA Calls For Innovative Solutions To Protect Consumers

... Harps on Building Consumer Confidence in Bank Transactions

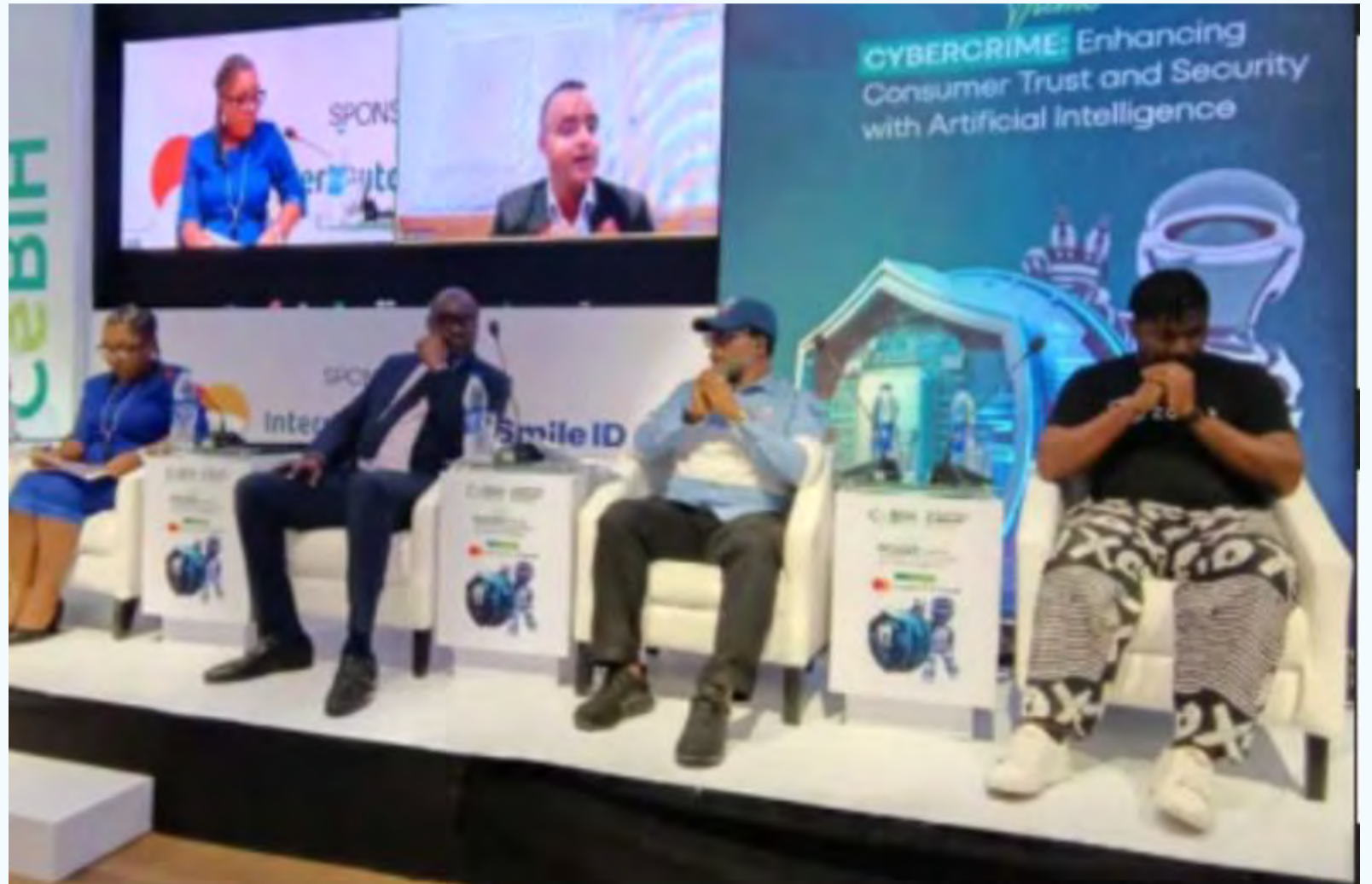
The General Manager, Lagos State Consumer Protection Agency (LASCOPA), Afolabi Solebo Solebo highlighted the increasing sophistication of cyber threats and called for innovative solutions to protect and enhance consumers' confidence in bank transactions.

Solebo made the call in a Panel Discussion at the 2024 Quarter II Industry forum organised by the Committee of E-Business Industry Heads (CeBIH), themed: "Cybercrime: Enhancing Consumer Trust and Security with Artificial Intelligence", held recently at Radisson Blu Anchorage Hotel, Victoria Island Lagos.

He noted the growing concerns surrounding cybercrime and emphasised the critical role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in enhancing consumer trust, particularly in the realm of digital banking.

"Cybercrime is evolving at an unprecedented rate, posing significant risks to consumers, especially in the digital banking sector. To effectively combat these threats, we must leverage advanced technologies like AI to safeguard consumer interests".

Solebo stressed the importance of transparency and education in



building consumer confidence in AI-driven security solutions. "Consumers need to understand how AI works to protect their data. This involves clear communication from financial institutions about the benefits and safeguards associated with AI technologies".

"By demystifying AI and demonstrating its effectiveness, we can foster a higher level of trust among users. This proactive approach is essential for maintaining the integrity of digital banking services and ensuring consumer trust", he added.

Solebo also called for increased collaboration between financial institutions, technology providers, and

regulatory bodies to create a robust cybersecurity framework, adding that they must work together to develop and implement standards that ensure the safe and ethical use of AI in digital banking. "Our collective efforts will not only protect consumers but also enhance the overall resilience of our financial systems", he stated.

The General Manager also highlighted successful case studies where AI has been deployed to protect consumers in digital banking, citing reduced fraud incidents and improved user experiences. These success stories, according to him, underscore the potential of AI to transform cyber security. However, we must remain

vigilant and continuously improve our technologies to stay ahead of cybercriminals".

Mr. Solebo reaffirmed the agency's commitment to protecting consumers and promoting trust in digital banking. "Our mission is to ensure that every Nigerian can bank online with confidence, knowing their data is secure. AI is a powerful tool in this mission, and we will continue to champion its responsible and effective use", he said.

Earlier in her opening remarks, the Chairman, Committee of E-Business Industry Heads (CeBIH), Mrs. Celestina Appeal said the forum was constituted to bring

together the upper echelon of electronic industry practitioners in all Nigerian banks and stakeholders alike to discuss crucial topics relating to the industry to provide safety in the digital payment system for consumers both online and physical. Mrs. Appeal noted that the increasing rate of cybercrime which could be life-threatening as it cuts across all through phishing, data breaches, ransomware, identity amongst others, hence the need for all parties concerned to come together towards ensuring that the integrity of the financial space is protected by leveraging on tools available.

Also, in his presentation, Mr. Obi Ebuka, Chief Executive Officer,

Autogon AI outlined how AI can revolutionize cyber security practices, offering real-time threat detection and adaptive security measures that traditional methods can not match. "AI-driven systems can analyze vast amounts of data quickly, identifying unusual patterns and potential threats before they can cause harm".

Ebuka stressed that the panel discussion further underscored the importance of innovation and collaboration in addressing the challenges of cybercrime. As digital banking continues to grow, the integration of AI in cyber security practices promises a safer and more trustworthy digital environment for all consumers.

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Lagos Approves N1bn Take Off Grant For Research, Innovation Council

... Inaugurates Cybersecurity Advisory Board

In its quest to advance scientific innovations in Lagos State, the Governor, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu, on Friday inaugurated the newly constituted Lagos State Science, Research and Innovation Council (LASRIC) and Cybersecurity Advisory Board.

The event, which took place at the Banquet Hall, Lagos House in Ikeja, was presided over by the Deputy Governor, Dr. Kadri Obafemi Hamzat, who announced the take-off grant of N1 Billion, for the effective commencement of the activities by the Board.

Sanwo-Olu stated that his administration is committed to increasing the success metrics with the provision of the LASRIC Seed fund. He added that "with the provision of LASRIC Seed fund to the tune of N1,000,000,000 (One Billion Naira) in the first tranche payment to the council. We believe this fund would continue to catalyze development in our dear State".

The Governor noted that the sustenance of the development of the State is the central focus of the present administration's THEMES Plus Agenda, adding that to drive deeper positive economic outcomes, it was essential to establish an Innovation, Science, and Technology body to manage and propel Lagos State's engagement with the science and technology ecosystem.

He noted that within the Research and Development, LASRIC has supported more than 70 initiatives, ranging from projects in biomass and biodiesel to artificial intelligence for medical imaging, adding that their efforts have increased innovation activity within the state by over 250%.

The Governor listed the key areas of responsibilities of the Government to the newly recommissioned LASRIC board to include: Increased Funding and Support, Collaboration and Partnerships, Capacity Building, Focus on Local Challenges, Promotion of a Culture of Innovation, and LASRIC SEED FUND, adding that all these areas will increase the ecosystem science, innovation, and technology of the state.

Sanwo-Olu noted that the board is composed of experts from industry, academia, and the public sector, with the mission to deepen and expand innovation activities in Lagos.

While congratulating the newly constituted council, the Governor

stated that "It is my expectation that the new LASRIC being inaugurated today will work assiduously towards ensuring the realization of our collective goal and aspiration, as such I must congratulate the Chairman and members of the Board for heeding the call to serve. I have no doubt in my mind that you will bring to bear on your new assignment your experience and expertise which informed your selection to serve the government and the people of Lagos State".

In an earlier event, the Governor, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu had inaugurated the state cybersecurity council, charging them with the mandate to establish a robust protection ecosystem that will

ultimately safeguard the quality of life for all its citizens, stating that the inauguration of the State's Cybersecurity Advisory Board marks a significant step in its commitment to enhancing digital security and advancing the development agenda in the state.

"Given these escalating threats, it is imperative for Lagos to implement a comprehensive cybersecurity protection strategy. The growing use of digital tools offers both opportunities and real-world risks to our development. Today's inauguration aligns with our goal of transforming Lagos into a smart, livable, and cyber-protected city", said the Governor.

Earlier in his welcome address, Commissioner

for Innovation, Science and Technology, Mr. Tobosun Alake stated that the Sanwo-Olu administration has continued to enhance technology and digital solutions which will increase the quality of livelihood of its citizens.

The Commissioner stated that the inauguration of both the Lagos State Science, Research and Innovation Council (LASRIC) Board and the State's Cybersecurity Advisory Board is a testament to the Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu/Kadri Obafemi Hamzat administration's commitment to innovation science and technology and protecting the state ecosystem.

Also, in their address, both Chairmen of the newly inaugurated

boards, LASRIC, Professor Olumuyiwa Odusanya and Cybersecurity, Dr. Osakwe Fene assured the government of their commitments to the mandate of the council, to protect and promote cybersecurity, science and technology towards the development of the ecosystem of the state and its citizens.

The duo added that technology and cybersecurity are pivotal to the development of any country, especially in achieving the making Lagos a 21st-century economy goal, stressing that the present administration is open to different innovative ideas that will continue to enhance the economy of the state and as the 5th largest economy in Africa.



Lagos Govt Trains Middle-Level Management Officers On Resilience

... Harps On Imbibing Resilience Thinking In Statewide Service

Lagos State Resilience Office (LASRO) has organised a workshop for Middle Management Officers selected from different Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) across the Lagos State Public Service. The training programme was designed to educate them on the implementation of the Lagos Resilience Strategy. Speaking at the event held recently at the State Treasury Office (STO) Resource Centre, Alausa, Ikeja, Dr. Folayinka Dania, the Lagos State Chief Resilience Officer encouraged participants to take resilience thinking very seriously and embrace it in discharging their various duties in the

State Public Service. She noted that Lagos has always managed the ever-increasing population and urbanization due to rural-urban migration into Lagos State, saying "Lagos State has always undergone constant and unprecedented population growth occasioned by ever-increasing migration, rapid urbanisation and so on. The high population in Lagos State is because of quality leadership, which attracts more migrants from other parts of the country". She further noted that despite the resilience of Lagos State, officers in the public service need to do more, noting that the city has continued to encounter numerous

socio-economic and environmental challenges due to its rapid population growth and other attending phenomena despite the inherent resilience of the average citizens of Lagos State. "Although the established Lagos Resilience Strategy by the State Government is already yielding results, there is still a need to do more", Dr. Dania stated. One of the facilitators, Engr. Yaya Ogidan, while taking participants through his lecture on "Developing Resilient Mindset for Growth in Workplace", noted that one should not expect perfect situations always because there are some life challenges that are bound to happen, however, individual's



response to them matters most.

A participant, Mr. Abiodun Olaniyi from the Lagos State Primary Healthcare Board appreciated the Lagos State Resilience Office for the workshop, stating that

it has broadened his resilience thinking and everything learnt will assist him and his colleagues in imbibing resilience in their various MDAs.

Mrs. Oluwatoyin Bamigboye, another

participant, commended Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu, Lagos State Governor, for providing necessary leadership and demonstration of commitment to the implementation of the Lagos Resilience Strategy.

Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu has reiterated the commitment of his administration to the well-being of Lagos residents by providing comprehensive health insurance that ensures access to quality healthcare services. Speaking as the special guest of honour at the launch of the Police Officers' Wives Association (POWA) Health Insurance Scheme and the presentation of scholarships to children of Police Officers, the Governor, represented by the Special Adviser, Office of Internal Audit, Dr. Mrs. Oyeyemi Ayoola, commended the Lagos State Chapter of POWA under the leadership of Mrs. Adekemi Fayoadé. He praised the initiative's alignment

Sanwo-Olu Reaffirms Commitment To Health Insurance, Education Initiative

with his administration's Health Insurance policy, which seeks to achieve universal health coverage for the teeming population of Lagos State.

He added that the provision of scholarships to deserving children of police officers aligns with the Lagos State Scholarship Board's mission to encourage educational growth among deserving students through prompt financial assistance, fostering self-reliance and socio-economic development of the state.

Sanwo-Olu further stated that both initiatives are steps in the right direction. He, however, emphasized that

more needs to be done to ensure that police officers and their families can thrive and prosper,

given their dedication to duty and the personal sacrifices they make.

The Governor,

therefore, thanked the Police Officers' Wives Association for their incredible work and dedication,

which will significantly advance the association and set a benchmark for others.



Lagos Govt Pays N353M To Families of Deceased Staff



In line with the Lagos State Government's commitment to continually ensure the well-being and welfare of its workforce, Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu has approved the disbursement of N353,000,000.00 as insurance benefits to 128 beneficiaries of deceased Local Government and SUBEB Staff.

The State Commissioner for Local Government, Chieftaincy Affairs and Rural Development, Mr. Bolaji Kayode Robert disclosed this during the recent presentation of cheques to beneficiaries of the insurance benefits of deceased staff at the Ministry's Conference Room in Alausa-Ikeja. He affirmed that the disbursement is one of the many ways Mr. Governor has proven to

all that he prioritises the welfare of the Lagos State Government workforce, hence the disbursement to beneficiaries as appreciation for the quality of service to the State. Speaking further at the event, the Commissioner confirmed that the payment of insurance benefits to families of deceased staff was one of several welfare packages of the State Government for its workforce.

According to him, in the past year, the Ministry has disbursed N391,226,636.5 to 264 beneficiaries of deceased employees of SUBEB and Local Government Staff, adding that the State Government is also set to present insurance benefits to an additional 128 beneficiaries of deceased SUBEB and LG Staff.

While charging Desk-Officers to ensure that due diligence is done towards ensuring proper documentation of Death Certificates for the deceased, Robert urged beneficiaries to appreciate the State Government by ensuring that the benefits they receive on behalf of the deceased are judiciously expended on legacies that honour their lives and not on frivolities.

In the same vein, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government, Chieftaincy, Mrs. Kikelomo Bolarinwa, earlier in her welcome address, hinted that Mr. Governor's approval for the disbursement of the insurance benefit is borne out of his humane nature to honour the deceased members of Staff in the Lagos State Civil Service who have

served the good people of Lagos State and deserving of their rewards in life and death.

She added that the disbursement re-affirms the commitment of the State Government to the welfare of every citizen in Lagos State, especially to the dearly departed colleagues who during their active service to the government of Lagos State made invaluable contributions to the development in the State.

Mrs. Bolarinwa also commended LASACO Assurance and Haggai Insurance for being assiduously accountable and for working tirelessly to ensure that the insurance benefits seamlessly reach the beneficiaries. She also appealed to all the beneficiaries to ensure they put the money to

good use in honour of the deceased.

The Chairman of SUBEB, Dr. Hakeem Babatunde Shittu, who was represented by the Director, the Teachers Pension Department, Mrs. Tohibat Olona reiterated that the presentation was meant to honour the deceased who worked tirelessly to build the dream of a Greater Lagos, hence the need for the beneficiaries to use and invest the money wisely.

Similarly, the Managing Director, LASACO Assurance PLC, Mr. Rasaq Abiodun also commended Mr. Governor for the consistent payment of insurance benefits to its employees, adding that the gesture has helped in actualising the aspirations of the families and dependants of some government officials

who died in the course of their career in the State Public Service.

The Managing Director of Haggai Insurance, Mr. Segun Amure commended the State Government for its prompt payment and consistency in the payment of premium benefits to families of deceased LG and SUBEB staff, noting that the consistency in payment by the State Government has ensured that dependants do not suffer because of the demise of their loved ones.

Responding on behalf of the beneficiaries, Mrs. Matilda Mnakwe assured that beneficiaries would heed the advice and put the funds to good use. She promised that they would all use the payment for the dependants' welfare and progress in life.



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Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu has stated that his administration would continue to be at the forefront of the Climate Change campaign, promoting policies and initiatives towards climate action.

Governor Sanwo-Olu gave the assurance today at the Closing Ceremony of the 10th Lagos International Climate Change Summit with the theme: "Accelerating Climate Finance and Championing Local Adaptation Initiatives", held at the Lagos Continental Hotel, Victoria Island, Lagos.

The Governor, who was represented at the event by the Deputy Governor, Dr. Kadri Obafemi Hamzat, added that the government must also continue to strengthen policy frameworks and regulatory environments to support climate action and remain steadfast in our commitment to inclusivity and equity.

He added that climate action must be inclusive, ensuring that marginalized and vulnerable groups are not left behind. Women, youth, indigenous peoples, and other underrepresented communities must have a voice in the decision-making processes that

Climate Change: Sanwo-Olu Emphasises Need For Policy Framework

affect their lives and livelihoods.

In his words "We must also continue to strengthen policy frameworks and regulatory environments to support climate action and remain steadfast in our commitment to inclusivity and equity. Climate action must be inclusive, ensuring that marginalized and vulnerable groups are not left behind. Women, youth, Indigenous peoples, and other underrepresented communities must have a voice in the decision-making processes that affect their lives and livelihoods".

Speaking further, the Governor stated the government must prioritize capacity building and knowledge sharing by empowering local communities with the skills, tools and knowledge they need to develop and implement adaptation strategies, noting that the skills involve not only technical training but also

fostering a culture of innovation and collaboration.

Speaking on the impact of climate change which has not been uniform and that local contexts matter, Sanwo-Olu noted that the effects of climate change are felt most acutely at the Local level, and it is at the level that adaptation strategies must be tailored and implemented. He said the theme of the summit explored the multifaceted dimensions of climate finance and local adaptation, recognizing that both are crucial to building resilient communities and sustainable futures.

"We have heard from experts who have highlighted innovative financing mechanisms, from green bonds to climate insurance, and the importance of leveraging both public and private sector investments. These discussions have underscored the necessity of a systemic shift in how

we perceive and deploy financial resources for climate action", he pointed out.

Reflecting on the key takeaways and the path forward of the summit, Sanwo-Olu emphasized that the government must continue to advocate for increased and sustained climate finance. He emphasized that governments, financial institutions, and international organizations must work collaboratively to bridge the financing gap and ensure that resources are directed toward projects that yield tangible benefits for communities and ecosystems.

Sanwo-Olu urged participants at the summit to leave with renewed determination, emphasizing that the work they do today will shape the future of the planet, saying "Together we can accelerate climate finance, champion local adaptation initiatives, and create a world that is more

resilient, sustainable, and just".

Earlier in his welcome address, the Commissioner for Environment and Water Resources, Mr. Tokunbo Wahab stated that the summit serves as a clarion call to action for all stakeholders in the state to think creatively, out of the box and take proactive measures in protecting the lives and properties of Lagos residents.

The Commissioner added that the summit focused on the different challenges of climate change in the state, stating the unique geography of the state as it is surrounded by water, waste management, among other challenges as all this presents both opportunities and challenges.

"Lagos as a state has its challenges, it is a coaster place surrounded by water, such as the Atlantic Ocean, which means we have to think differently and we have to change our destiny by taking proactive actions", he added.



Education Not Only About Teaching, Learning But Positively Impacting Human Life - Commissioner

Commissioner for Basic and Secondary Education in Lagos State, Mr. Jamiu Tolani Alli-Balogun has opined that education is not just about teaching and learning in the classroom, but about positively impacting the totality of human life. Alli-Balogun stated this while speaking at the opening ceremony of a two-day capacity building seminar organised for Year Tutors, Heads of Schools and Stakeholders in Lagos State, held at Government Girls' College, Agege, Lagos on Tuesday.

He noted that the seminar was organised by the State Examinations Board to sensitise participants on the conduct of the school based and non-school based examinations, such as Basic Education Certificate Examination (BECE), Placement Test by Continuous Assessment Scores (CAS), Public Service Examinations (PSE), Screening Test into Model Colleges and Upgraded Junior Secondary Schools and Trade Test.

While answering questions from participants on the hours spent in the school, the Commissioner said that the extra one hour added to the normal closing time is meant for reading and extra-curricular activities by students.

He further stated that the school is not for teaching and learning in the classroom alone, but also for moulding the totality of the lives

of students for a better tomorrow. The Commissioner emphasised that teachers should take cognizance of the three domains of education including the Cognitive, the Affective and the Psychomotor, noting that these are a variety of methods in professional development aimed at promoting mindsets and behaviours that enhance the learning process and create a culture of career and life readiness for every student.

Alli-Balogun also stressed the importance of having a mutual and friendly relationship between the teachers and students, adding that such a relationship would give the students a sense of belonging. He, therefore, urged the teachers to apply what they had learnt in relation to Guidance and Counseling for the students to discover and develop their educational, vocational and psychological potentials to attain optimal level of social usefulness.

He also charged the teachers to improve on their attitudinal and behavioural conduct, pointing out that teachers must be friendly with members of their immediate communities. Stressing that teaching is not about coming to the classroom alone, the Commissioner pointed out that the approach of teachers to members of their communities could add value to the teaching profession.

Alli-Balogun expressed appreciation to the



present Sanwo-Olu for its administration in the State led by Mr. Babajide Olusola commitment to ensuring quality education in Lagos State.

About 500 participants the two-day seminar drawn from the Six organised by the Lagos Education Districts of State Examinations the State participated in Board.

Physical Planning Commissioner Takes “Build Right Advocacy” To UNILAG

The Lagos State Commissioner for Physical Planning and Urban Development, Dr. Oluyinka Olumide has engaged engineering students of the University of Lagos on the imperatives of building right. The Commissioner, who spoke recently at the Faculty of Engineering Auditorium, University of Lagos, stated that students of Engineering and other relevant disciplines were the hope of the built environment that is beset with many challenges, including building collapse. He said that students must appreciate the challenges facing professional practice, especially in the physical planning sector, and devise

workable solutions for the benefit of society. He averred that engineering failures, often erroneously called accidents, were actually due to human factors, hence the need for engineering students to avoid them as professionals under tutelage. “Engineering failure or building collapse is usually due to the acts of omission or commission of professionals who have duties to ensure that the right thing is done during the building construction process”, he said. He urged the students to take ethical practices in their chosen profession seriously and to always refuse to compromise on

standards and ethics, adding that they should always shun the idea of cutting corners as it could only lead to destruction. The



Commissioner appreciated the Commissioner's endeavoured, said that the session had not only added to the Students' exposure but had also helped in projecting the role of the Ministry in the built environment and the need to maintain high professional standards by all concern.

The Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Prof. Obanishola Sadiq, who

Tourism Commissioner Marks Birthday With Widows Empowerment Programme



In a heartfelt expression of gratitude to God, the Honorable Commissioner for Tourism, Arts, and Culture, Mrs. Toké Benson-Awoyinka chose to celebrate her birthday anniversary by spending it with widows at a Widows Empowerment Programme. The event, organized by the International Women's Society,

took place at the Society Skills Acquisition Centre in Lekki. Mrs. Benson-Awoyinka's participation underscores her commitment to community service and her dedication to empowering vulnerable groups within society. During the programme, the Honourable Commissioner engaged with the widows, offering words of encouragement and support. She also participated in various activities designed to empower the women, including skills training sessions aimed at enhancing their economic

opportunities. Mrs. Benson-Awoyinka's decision to celebrate her birthday in this manner highlights her deep sense of compassion and her unwavering commitment to uplifting the lives of those in need. Also, speaking at the event the President of the Society, Dame Olabisi Alokolaro admonished the women to be strong and to see themselves as brilliant, stylish, beautiful and unique. She also urged them to

make themselves useful and constantly learn something new to enhance their earning powers. The Chairperson, Widows Trust Fund, Mrs. Banke Adeola remarked that the organisation is dedicated to empowering Widows and improving their quality of life and that their events celebrate their strength and resilience. The empowerment tools distributed at the event include sewing machines, hair dryers, cake mixers, industrial cooking gas and freezers, amongst others.

KOSOFE

Kosofe LG Boss Honours Royal Fathers With Three SUV Cars

Kehinde Adeleye

The Chairman of Kosofe Local Government, Mr. Moyosore Adedoyin Ogunlewe has donated three SUV cars to the royal fathers within the local government area. Echonews gathered that the beneficiaries are the Oloworo of Oworonsoki, Oba Babatunde Saliu who got a Mercedes GLE 450, the Ologudu of Ogudu, Oba Nojimu Akinwumi Fashola and the Olojota of Ojota, Oba Jimoh Olawale-Cole who got a Toyota Highlander 2014 model each. The royal fathers expressed profound gratitude for the chairman's thoughtful gesture, commending his outstanding leadership and developmental strides within the first three years of his tenure. They showered encomiums on



Ogunlewe for his remarkable achievements in office, which have positively impacted the lives of Kosofe residents. In a show of support, the traditional rulers offered prayers for the chairman's success in the forthcoming local government elections, where he will be seeking a well-deserved second term. Their endorsement underscores the widespread appreciation for his people-oriented administration and his unwavering commitment to the progress of Kosofe.

IKEJA

Onigbongbo LCDA Presents Official Cars To Religious Leaders

Kehinde Adeleye

The Chairman Onigbongbo LCDA, Mr. Oladotun Olakanle presented official vehicles to Muslim Association Onigbongbo Branch and Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) Onigbongbo Branch last week at the Council Secretariat. Echonews gathered that it was in line with fulfilling a pledge as well as actualization of part of his responsibilities to equip our religious leader in the delivery of their responsibilities as servants of God to the good people of Onigbongbo LCDA. Speaking to stakeholders present, the Chairman mentioned that, his relationship with religious leaders is very vital to him, "I am a grassroot politician; I've been in this for years, so, I know how to relate with my people, our needs and development of our community is always at the top of my mind; said the council



chairman. The vehicles were presented to the beneficiaries by the party chairperson, Alhaja Iyabo Akerele and the Council Leader, Mr. Kayode Opayemi while former Party Chairman, Alhaji Kehinde Onifade accompanied the council chairman. The Muslim community representative, Chief Imam Oregun and the CAN chairman, Rev. Oyelesan, appreciate the Council Chairman for the wonderful gift given to them, while

praying for long life and good health to him. It was a prayer laden day as the Muslim clerics and CAN endorse the Council Chairman, Hon. Oladotun Olakanle for a second term. The presentation session was graced with, our deputy leader, Mr. Rashid Isiaka, Majority Leader, Mr. Azeez Daudu, Mr. Gbenga Adedeji, Mr. Shamusideen Oloyede, Mr. Francis Nkwo, Mr. Rahman Adebisi, Mr. Folu Omotosho, Mr. Glory Igbafe and other official members of Onigbongbo LCDA.

Man Arraigned For Stealing Employer's Properties Worth N1.7m

By Felix Kuyinu

A man identified as Dauda Tijani has been apprehended for allegedly stealing his employer's properties valued at N1,710,000 million. At the Ikeja Magistrates' Court where the 33 year-old suspect was arraigned, the police stated that the offence was committed on April 9, at house number 9, Daddy Oniyide Street, Orile-Agege, Lagos. The defendant, a plumber, who resides at Meiran, Lagos, is on trial on charges of conspiracy and stealing according to the prosecutor, Inspector Felicia Okwori. Okwori said that the complainant, one Alex

Goodness, employed the defendant as a house man and gave him his house keys. The prosecutor said that the defendant and one another at large opened his employer's door while he was away and stole a laptop, gold necklace and cash of N370,000 all valued at N1,710,000 million. The offences according to the prosecutor contravened Sections 287 and 411 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015. The defendant, however, pleaded not guilty to the charges. The court granted the defendant bail of N500,000 with two sureties in like sum and adjourned the case until July 2.



Manager On Trial For Stealing Company's N6.1m

By Felix Kuyinu

A company manager is facing prosecution for allegedly stealing the sum of N6,100,000 from the firm at Abule Egba, Lagos. 46 year-old suspect, Jide Agbeluyi, a resident at Abule Egba was arraigned by the police before the Ikeja Magistrates' Court. He pleaded not guilty. However, the Prosecutor, DSP Clara Olagbaya, told the court that Agbeluyi committed the offence in May at Total Filling Station, Lagos-Abeokuta Expressway, Abule Egba. Olagbaya said that the theft act was discovered after the filling station's

account was audited. The prosecutor said it was also discovered that the defendant transferred the money into another account through the company's Point of Sale machine. Olagbaya told the court that the offence contravened Section 287(7) of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015. The section stipulates seven years jail term for stealing from one's employer. The Magistrate, Olufunmilayo Odubayo, granted the defendant bail in the sum of one million naira with one surety in like sum. Odubayo adjourned the case until June 28.

The Police have arrested a 29-year-old trader, Ayomide Abraham, for allegedly stealing plumbing materials worth N1.3 million. According to the Police Prosecutor, DSP Clara Olagbaya, the suspect, a resident at Aboru, Ipaja, Lagos, is facing one charge of stealing. He pleaded not guilty. DSP Olagbaya told the court that the defendant committed the offence on April 9 at Baba Ijesha area of Aboru-Ipaja, Lagos. She submitted that the defendant collected plumbing materials from the complainant, Adedele Adeoye, to sell, but failed to remit the money. Olagbaya informed that the defendant sold the materials and converted the money to his personal use while all attempts by the complainant to reach him proved abortive.

Police Arraign Trader For Stealing Plumbing Materials

The Prosecutor further revealed that the offence contravenes Section 287 of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015.

The section provides three years jail term for stealing. The Magistrate, Olufunmilayo Odubayo, granted the

defendant bail in the sum of N200,000, with two sureties in like sum. She adjourned the case till June 28.



Philanthropist, Osolana, Empowers 100 Agege Residents with N5million

Kehinde Adeleye

Mrs Sola Osolana, a philanthropist in Agege and a candidate of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) in the last House of Representatives election has empowered resident in Agege Local Government with N5 million in celebration of his birthday. Osolana through his foundation Sola Osolana foundation gives #50,000 each to

100 residents. Echonews report that Osolana who is known to be a philanthropist with class and a lover of Agege had decided to use his resources to put smile on the faces of Agege Local Government and Orile Agege LCDA residents. While speaking the PDP Chieftain said "The kind gesture is a way of appreciating God's faithfulness and Grace over my life and that of my family, as i celebrate my birthday today." "This is just a tip of the

Ice-berg, the good people of Agege and Orile-Agege should expect more in the nearest future" It might also interest you to know that today's program is not politically motivated. My concern is about the people. Infact we have people who belong to different political party here today." "So, at #SolaOsolanaFoundation the People comes first. We are about Impacting lives," Osolana Concluded.



Sorunke Reconciles Aggrieved Party ExcOs And Leaders in Orile Agege

Kehinde Adeleye



Rejecting rumours of animosity between political leaders and executives at the Ward level in Ward B, Orile-Agege LCDA area of Lagos, the Councillor representing the Ward, Mr. Oluwakoye Olukayode Olumayowa Sorunke, gathered all Ward Executives for a meeting to discuss issues related to the advancement, unity, and progress of the Political Ward, as well as their well-being. At the meeting, Sorunke encouraged the politicians to view each other as a unified family regardless of their political affiliations,

ethnicity, religion, or gender. He urged all the Executives present to transcend the barriers of partisanship, tribalism, religious biases, and differences in political loyalties, and instead focus on commonalities that unite them as a community. "As Politicians, we should be seen as good Ambassadors in Society and to ourselves. We have a lot to gain and so much to benefit if we can all come together as one and collectively chart a new and same cause" "I belong to a School of

thought that teaches love, unity, togetherness, peace and harmony" It's important that we promote peaceful coexistence amongst ourselves, Sorunke said. "Politics should be an opportunity for us all to come together as one united family and give our best to the electorates who gave us their mandate to

serve and lead them, therefore we must turn deaf ears to those voices preaching hate and discord amongst us. "Again I want to ask us to rise above our differences, which, in reality, are fewer than the valued strings that bind us together as a people, irrespective of the circumstances of our birth and wherever we may find ourselves"

"There is so much strength in our diversity and togetherness. I want us to imbibe the spirit of inclusiveness so that together we can attain our full potential in Ward B, Orile-Agege Lcda" "As grassroots politicians, we must have a large heart for tolerance and respect for the greater interest of our Community and Local Government at large, Orile-Agege Local Council Development

Area." Sorunke also seized the opportunity to appreciate all the Ward ExcOs for their support, votes, and love in the past election and other political activities which earned him his Present political office, as Councillor representing Orile-Agege Ward B. The attendees were presented with cash gifts and food items to celebrate EID.

Skill Acquisition Programme: Ahmed Empowers Graduands In Orile-Agege

Kehinde Adeleye

Graduands of the free four-week empowerment and skills acquisition Program in Agege and Orile-Agege LCDA of Lagos state have been empowered for self-reliance. The project which was conducted by the federal legislator, representing Agege Federal Constituency at the House of Representatives, Hon Dr Wale Ahmed was targeted at Agege Constituents. Echonews reports that the participants underwent a 4-week training program covering a variety of topics, including event

decorations, hairdressing, beauty and aesthetics, technology, and information/communication. As the Committee chairman, Deacon Olabisi Julius, addressed the media ahead of the convocation, he explained that the goal of the vocational training was to give the Agege people a reliable source of income. With daily stipends of \$1,000 for transportation, participants received professional training. He noted that Dr. Wale Ahmed is not making the program a one-off activity and that he intends to make it a



continuous engagement. He sort for the cooperation of the Agege community media practitioners in publicizing the event. While commending the local media for the effort towards prompt information dissemination to the Agege residents. Amongst the Committee Members present are the Education Secretary, Agege Local Government

Education Authority, Mrs. Catherine Ogunyomi; Mr. Omotosho Ajala, Hon Abiodun Ogedengbe, Taiwo Muritala Olat, Others include, Mr. Agbonghale Lucky Samuel JP Alhaja Rabi Mudi, Omo'ba Shobande Oluwafemi, a community Media Practitioners and Comrade Ayobami Joseph, Orile Agege National Youth Council of Nigeria.

Aladeshonyin Kicks Against Monarchs Uncovering Their Heads In Public

By Mohammed Adekola



Oba Babatunde Ogunlaja, the Aladeshonyin of Odo-Noforija, has reiterated the importance of adhering to traditional customs,

particularly the taboo against a king uncovering his head in public.

The revered monarch emphasized that such actions undermine the

sanctity and respect associated with traditional leadership.

Oba Ogunlaja, a staunch advocate for preserving cultural heritage, pointed out that the act

of a king exposing his head in public is not merely a breach of protocol but a significant cultural violation.

"It is a taboo for a king to open his head in public," he asserted, highlighting the deep-seated traditions that govern the conduct of traditional rulers.

While he chose not to elaborate on the specific consequences of such actions, Oba Ogunlaja offered a stern warning to his peers.

"I advise all kings and traditional rulers to be conscious of their actions in public, especially regarding traditional

practices.

"They should not bring modernity into our traditions where it does not belong," the Aladeshonyin of Odo-Noforija stated.

Oba Ogunlaja's stance is clear the integrity of traditional practices must be upheld to preserve cultural identity and respect.

He urged his fellow monarchs to lead by example, maintaining the decorum and reverence that their positions demand.

"Our roles are not just ceremonial; they are the custodians of our people's history and

culture. We must ensure that our actions reflect the values we stand for," the Aladeshonyin of Odo-Noforija emphasized.

Oba Ogunlaja's comments have sparked a broader conversation within the community about the role of traditional rulers in a rapidly changing world.

Many elders and cultural enthusiasts have expressed support for the views, advocating for a careful balance that honors both heritage and progress.

EPWA Urges High Hygiene Standards Amid Cholera Outbreak

By Mohammed Adekola

President of the Epe Professional Women Association (EPWA), Mrs. Opeoluwa Balogun, along with the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration) of Lagos State University of Science and Technology, Professor Basirat Oladipupo, and community leader Alhaja Risikat Tobun, are calling on women to uphold strict hygiene practices to combat the deadly cholera outbreak in Lagos State.

The influential Amazons emphasized the critical role of women in maintaining household hygiene and safeguarding their families' health during the festival.

"With the festive activities of Eid-il-Adha, it is imperative that we, as women, take proactive steps to ensure cleanliness and prevent the spread of cholera," Mrs. Balogun stated. "Simple measures such as boiling water before use, properly washing hands with soap, and ensuring the cleanliness of food and cooking utensils can save lives."

Professor Oladipupo

echoed the sentiments, highlights the importance of education and awareness in combating the outbreak. "Knowledge is our most powerful tool in this fight against cholera. We must educate our communities about the symptoms and prevention methods. It is our collective responsibility to ensure that the celebration does not turn into a tragedy."

The recent cholera outbreak in Lagos has raised alarms, with health officials reporting numerous cases across the state. Contaminated water and food are the primary sources of infection, making hygiene practices more crucial than ever.

Alhaja Tobun added a

personal appeal to women in the community, urging them to lead by example. "As mothers, sisters, and daughters, we have the power to influence those around us. Let us use this influence to promote hygiene and protect our loved ones. By staying vigilant,

"Cholera is a preventable disease," Mrs. Balogun reiterated. "This time, let us commit to the highest standards of cleanliness to protect ourselves and our families. Together, we can overcome this challenge and celebrate with joy and health."

LAGOS ISLAND

Council Boss Warns Residents On Dangers Of Food Poisoning

The chairman of Lagos Island East LCDA, Dr Muibi Folawiyo has warned residents on the Dangers of food poisoning while also urging them to abide by the advice of the National Agency for Food Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC).

Recently, the Director General (DG) of NAFDAC Prof Moji Adeyeye warned residents on dangers of eating food stored in the refrigerator for more than three days which may be susceptible to contamination by disease-causing pathogens, key agents of foodborne diseases that can lead to death.

"This is to notify the Lagos Island East LCDA residents with the Food borne disease spreading all over the communities in different Local Government. The NAFDAC has warned Nigerians against the storage of cooked food in refrigerator for more than



three days.

"Emphatically, the potential risk of storing cooked food for a long period could lead to disease causing pathogens a key agent resulting in food illnesses and even death. I, Dr Muibi Alade Folawiyo also want to

urge you all to continue with this awareness on this unsafe food practices.

"According to global health

statistics from World Health Organization (WHO) nearly 600million people world wide fall ill each year due to consuming contaminated food.

"I pray we are not going to have illness that will lead to an untimely death of any member of our families.

"Please heed to this warnings and let's not take every piece of information for levity."



Epe and Ibeju-Lekki Hotels Experience Boost During Eid el-Kabir Celebration

By Mohammed Adekola

The Nigeria Hotel Association, Epe Branch, says hotel business in Epe and Ibeju-Lekki axis received a boost, recording good sales in the just concluded Eid el-Kabir. Hundreds of visitors and Muslim faithful were on tour of the area for the festival.

Deji Alade, the president of the association, Epe Branch, said that hundreds of visitors and Muslim faithful were on tour of the area for the festival. He explained that members of the association had a busy time as patronage of their hotels peaked during the period. "Virtually, all our

hotels which experienced low patronage before Eid el-Kabir, were booked," he said. He added, some visitors and guests had booked their accommodation two days before the Eid el-Kabir while others checked in on the day. Alade described Lekki-Epe as the state's tourist destination, noting

that Gov. Babajide Sanwo-Olu's administration in Lagos State had transformed the coastal city of Epe with good roads. He also noted that industries that "are springing up in the area, such as Dangote's refinery, the Fourth Mainland Bridge, seaports and the coastal Lagos Lagoon has raised the

tourism potential of the area". A member of the association, Tunde Allison, also confirmed that hotels in the area enjoyed high patronage. According to him, many intending lodgers did not get rooms as the hotel rooms were fully booked. Segun Balogun, a hotelier, said there

was a boost in the sector. "I never believe we will record good sales because of the economic hardship but in spite of that, the patronage during the celebration was overwhelming. "All our rooms were booked since two days before the celebration until after it. It was a huge success," he added.



Barrister Omodele Ibrahim, President of the Lagos Epe Ogunmodede Club, highlighted the profound significance of unity, equity, and justice towards community development, drawing inspiration from the teachings of the holy Quran. Speaking in an interview at his Epe residence, Barrister Ibrahim conveyed his heartfelt greetings to the Muslim faithful in Epe and beyond. He underscored

President of Epe Ogunmodede Club Emphasizes on Unity, Equity, and Justice

By Mohammed Adekola

the essence of Eid-il-Kabir, a time for reflection, sacrifice, and communal harmony, urging everyone to embody the principles of unity and fairness in their daily lives. It is a time to come together, to support one another, and to ensure that the values of equity

and justice are at the forefront of our community's development," Ibrahim stated. Reflecting on the teachings of the holy Quran, Barrister Ibrahim emphasized the importance of fostering an inclusive society where every individual is treated with respect and fairness.

"The Quran teaches us that justice and equality are the cornerstones of a prosperous society. We must strive to uphold these principles in our interactions, ensuring that no one is left behind," he said. He elaborates on the role of unity in achieving community development, noting that collective

efforts and mutual support are crucial for progress. "When we stand united, we can overcome any challenge. Our strength lies in our ability to work together towards common goals, to uplift each other, and to build a community where everyone can thrive," Ibrahim remarked. The President of the Epe

Ogunmodede Club called on leaders and members of the community to lead by example, demonstrating fairness and integrity in all their endeavours. "As leaders, we have a responsibility to model the values of equity and justice. Our actions should inspire trust and confidence, fostering a culture of inclusivity and respect," he urged.

Agbado-Oke Odo Council Boss Empowers Constituents With N10m

Kehinde Adeleye

The Chairman of Agbado/Oke-Odo Local Council Development Area, Mr. David Famuyiwa, has once again provided financial empowerment to Five Hundred residents of the council area, each receiving Twenty Thousand Naira (#20,000).

Echonews reports that this marks the 8th Empowerment Programme under his administration aimed at improving the economic status of beneficiaries amidst the current challenges in the country.



He assured those yet to benefit that their time will come, advising recipients to use the money wisely. The

initiative included a wide range of community members such as religious groups, artisans, community

development associations, market traders, and party supporters.

Grateful beneficiaries expressed appreciation for

the Chairman's Moromoke Aminat Obe, generosity, Leader of the fifth Legislative Council, Mr. Olatunji Ogunyemi and other Councillors, during these difficult times. Secretary to the Local Dignitaries at the Government, Chief Akinwumi James Odeyemi and other Chairman's initiative, by Mr. Tajudeen Alimi-Shittu, CAN Chairman, developmental programmes and projects done by his administration. Comrade Ernest Kasunmu, CDC Council Secretariat last week had in attendance, Vice-Chairmen, Party Chairman, Mr. Ajoke Stalwarts, and many others.

ASSEMBLY



Honourable Jimoh Orelope, lawmaker at the Lagos State House of Assembly was born on 12th August, 1972 into a noble family of Alhaji

Jimoh Akanbi Orelope. While representing Alimosho Constituency 01 Constituency, he also doubles as the Chairman House

Committee On Civic Engagement. He is an indigene of Idimu/Egbeda (Awori) in Lagos State.

EDUCATIONAL

Inside the Lagos House of Assembly Corner - KNOW YOUR LAWMAKER

Focus - Hon. Jimoh Orelope (Member Representing Alimosho Constituency 01)

BACKGROUND

Honourable Orelope started his educational career as a student of Ore-Ofe Primary School in Dopemu-Agege. He was accredited with a First School Leaving Certificate at the school in a duration which spanned from 1978 till 1984.

He was a student at the Oniwaya High School, Agege, Lagos. He completed his tasks at the school and obtained his West African Senior Secondary School Certificate Examination, WASSCE, in the year 1989, having started studying at the school in 1984.

From 2011 to 2016, Orelope studied Public

Administration at the University of Lagos and obtained a Bachelor's Degree Certificate at the institution. He proceeded in the same institution for his Master's Degree program in Public Administration and International Affairs where he excelled and bagged his Master's of Science certificate.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Sequel to becoming holder of the M.Sc certificate, the lawmaker had spells at the Alimosho Local Government Council as a worker. From 2004 to 2006, he became the Chairman, Committee on Transportation.

There was a change in his designation at the

Local Government from 2011 to 2014 as he worked as the Secretary. He also took reigns as Chairman Executive Committee on PSP waste disposal agency.

From 2023, Orelope joined the 10th edition of Lagos State House of Assembly representing the Alimosho Constituency 01 Constituency and acts as Chairman House Committee on Civic Engagement.

According to him, his hobbies include : playing and watching soccer, listening to music and traveling. In addition, the lawmaker also enjoys reading and plays board games.

Ikorodu Students Association Hosts Landmark Summit

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Ikorodu Students Association marked a significant milestone in students engagement and community development with its inaugural Students Summit. Held at the Ikorodu Local Government Secretariat Hall, opposite Ikorodu General Hospital, the event was themed "Future of Ikorodu: Unleashing Potentials, Shaping Tomorrow." Designed to foster academic excellence, grassroots collaboration, and leadership among the youth of Ikorodu, the summit featured a range of activities,

including panel sessions, business pitches, and the launch of the first union anthem in Ikorodu. Hon. Wasiu Adesina, Executive Chairman of Ikorodu Local Government, served as the Chief Host, delivering an inspiring opening address. The summit also boasted an impressive lineup of speakers, such as Emmanuel Agida, ECOWAS Youth Ambassador; Moremi Ojudu, Senior Special Assistant to the President on Community Engagement; Hon. Samuel Soyiga, Deputy Speaker of the Lagos State Youth Parliament; Mr. Azeez Lamina, CEO

of Waves Media; and Bukola Jaiyeola, Executive Director of

Next Big Deal. Special guests included Hon. Toyin Aremu, Senior

Special Assistant on State; Rt. Hon. Maria Transportation to the Governor of Lagos

Soniregun, Speaker of the Lagos Youth Parliament; and Dr. Fanimokun Oladipo, Executive Director of Nigeria Children Cultural Heritage, among other distinguished attendees. The summit underscored the administration's mantra, "Changing the Status Quo, For A Greater Ikorodu," emphasizing a commitment to unlocking the potentials of young people and shaping a brighter future for the community. The event was a resounding success, showcasing the talents and aspirations of Ikorodu's students and setting a new standard for student-led initiatives in the region.



Lagos Launches CMPDSR Program in Ikorodu

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Lagos State Primary Health Care Board has officially launched the Community Maternal Perinatal Death Surveillance Response (CMPDSR) program at an event held at Aquila Events Hall in Ikorodu. This significant initiative aims to reduce preventable maternal and perinatal deaths through systematic data collection and analysis, ensuring targeted interventions across the community. Health experts and stakeholders from across the Ikorodu division gathered to discuss the CMPDSR program's objectives and its critical role in improving maternal and newborn health outcomes. The event marked a pivotal step towards enhancing maternal and perinatal health in Ikorodu, setting a precedent for other regions in Lagos State to follow.

Mrs. Veronica Iwayemi, a key speaker at the event, emphasized the importance of community collaboration in advocating for and spreading awareness about the CMPDSR initiative. "With the inauguration of CMPDSR in Ikorodu, we expect to synergize with communities on effective advocacy and awareness creation," she stated. Mrs. Iwayemi highlighted plans to establish the CMPDSR initiative across the 30 wards in Ikorodu division and train committee members on conducting verbal autopsies. "Collected data will be analyzed and submitted to health districts, which will then forward it to the state to assess maternal pregnancy outcomes," she added. Mr. Jemilade Longe, representing the

Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) Nigeria, commended Hon. Wasiu Adesina for his proactive support of the CMPDSR program. As a consultant for CMPDSR, Mr. Longe underscored the initiative's goal to reduce maternal and perinatal deaths through systematic identification, reporting, and analysis, thereby enabling the implementation of preventive measures. "The CMPDSR initiative, launched in Ikorodu, will prioritize interventions at the local level, including task assignment, establishing timelines, and conducting follow-ups to ensure comprehensive implementation," he explained. Mr. Amodu Razaq, representing the Honourable Commissioner for Local Government & Chieftaincy Affairs and



Rural Development, Mr. Bolaji Kayode Robert, highlighted the program's critical role in addressing maternal and perinatal mortality. "Data speaks volumes," he stated. "In Nigeria, 145 women of reproductive age die daily from preventable causes, which is equivalent to a fully loaded plane crashing every day. These stark realities underscore the urgency of our mission." He elaborated on the CMPDSR program's goals, including guiding decision-making at both community and state levels, identifying

health system barriers, and inspiring local solutions to prevent future deaths. "This initiative is a lifeline for our communities. By tracking and monitoring maternal and newborn deaths, we gain insights into the determinants of health specific to each ward," Mr. Razaq said. The Executive Chairman of Ikorodu Local Government, Hon. Wasiu Adesina, praised the program's potential to save lives and commended the organizers for raising community awareness on the importance of data collection to address

maternal and perinatal mortality. He also thanked the Lagos State Government and the Clinton Health Access Initiative for selecting Ikorodu as the starting point for this laudable endeavor. In his closing remarks, Mr. Razaq called on stakeholders and community members to actively participate in the CMPDSR initiative. "Together, we will forge a path toward preventing avoidable deaths and honor the lives of our mothers and newborns," he concluded.

Wizkid Shares Insights Ahead of Louis Vuitton Debut, Morayo Album

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Nigerian music sensation Wizkid (known for hits like "Essence," "Ginger," and "Energy [Stay Far Away]") shared his thoughts on positivity and cultural pride as he prepares to attend his first Louis Vuitton runway show. The motivational speaker and hitmaker

infused the conversation with uplifting statements reminiscent of motivational quotes: "Nothing is too far out of reach," "If you can dream it, you can achieve it," and "There's nothing you can't do in life." This focus on positive manifestation mirrors the philosophy of Pharrell Williams, Louis Vuitton's Men's

Creative Director. Williams' influence is evident in the title of the LV Men's SS25 collection, "Le Monde Est À Vous" (The World is Yours), which will be showcased at UNESCO HQ to underscore the message.

Wizkid, who is gearing up to release a new album dedicated to his mother, revealed that he named the album

"Morayo" – a Yoruba word meaning "I see joy." "It's very important for people to know where the source of my magic comes from. I'm African,

I'm Nigerian; that's my blood, that's my DNA. So, it's important for me to push [Yoruba] out there – let people know about my culture," he

explained. "I like to know about everyone else's culture, their way of life, and this is mine." Listening to his unreleased record while preparing for the show, Wizkid described the album as "very, very personal." He expressed his hope that it will "lift spirits and spread positive energy." When asked about potential collaborations on the album, Wizkid hinted at his belief in the power of human connection: "We're meant to collaborate – that's the essence of humans. We're here to work together."

As he steps into the world of high fashion with Louis Vuitton, Wizkid continues to champion his roots and spread a message of positivity and unity.



Davido Drags Momodu To Court Over Custody of Imade

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Nigerian music star, David Adeleke, popularly known as Davido, has dragged Sophia Momodu to the Lagos State High Court over the custody of their daughter, Aurora Imade Adeleke.

The suit marked LD/1587PMC/2024 and dated April 17, 2024, has Mr David Adedeji Adeleke as applicant, while Ms Sophia Momodu was listed as the sole respondent. The entertainer, via the suit, urged the court to give an order granting joint custody of Imade.

Davido also urged the court to give an order that will grant him unfettered and unrestricted access to Imade. The entertainer

noted that despite that his relationship with Momodu that led to the birth of Imade had ended some years ago, he has continued to provide all necessary payment for the wellbeing of the child. Davido listed that he has been responsible for the payment of all the school fees of Imade and he also has been providing money for the rent of the apartment where Momodu resides with their daughter. He, however, accused Momodu of making outlandish demands to frustrate him.

The singer noted that Momodu turned down his offer of a N200m worth apartment in a condominium gated

community with a swimming pool and 24-hour power and water supply at Oniru, Victoria Island, Lagos. He said, "The respondent rejected the offer to stay and live at the above-described secured Oniru apartment, which had been purchased already, but demanded that I continue to pay N5,000,000 annually for a rented facility as my own contribution towards my daughter's accommodation."

Davido also noted that he bought a Range Rover Sport Utility Vehicle for the use of the child and the respondent to meet the transport needs, including transportation of the child to and from school, yet his efforts were frustrated.



Aremu Afolayan Gifts Comedian Woli Arole a Sleek SUV

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Nigerian actor Aremu Afolayan has gifted comedian and prophet Bayegun Oluwatoyin, popularly known as Woli Arole, a brand-new Audi Q7 SUV. Afolayan shared a video of the moment on social media, highlighting his generosity and emphasizing that his gifts come without any conditions.

In the video, Afolayan humorously introduced a man he called John the Baptist, who was accompanied by Woli Arole, showcasing his playful side. The actor also requested prayers for new customers for his business from the prophet.

The generous act has garnered widespread admiration on social media, with many users praising Afolayan's kindness.



jewelleriesworld_ng: "John the Baptist is cute oo."

debolalovelabo: "The Lord has done it finally, finally, finally." christianabolu wade: "I have been waiting for the epe that always turns to prayer."

christianabolu wade: "Congratulations M O G @officialarole."

chinkotiger: "I'm coming to

get my own car, but I'm about to eat an elephant head." sagacious_dj_xprince: "This egbon has too much vibes. So painful I'm not from your family." abimbola_abekeade: "Such a nice and kind-hearted person."

Adewale Ayuba May Leave Music For Lecturing

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Veteran Fuji singer Adewale

Ayuba has opened up about his near departure from music to pursue a career as a lecturer in the United States. During a recent conversation with Teju Babyface, Ayuba recounted the turbulent period in 1995 when threats from the late military leader, Sani Abacha, nearly ended his musical journey. Ayuba and his band embarked on a three-month summer tour in the U.S. in 1995 but were forced to stay due to threats from the military regime following the release of an album advocating for the liberation of political prisoners, including the late MKO Abiola. The threats left Ayuba and his band unable to return to Nigeria until Abacha's death in 1998. Reflecting on his three-year stay in the U.S., Ayuba shared, "I left for America with my full band members in 1995 for a summer show and others. We came to America for



about three months and then returned to Nigeria. I returned to Nigeria in 1998 when Abacha died. The three years I stayed in America were by the grace of God because he is a good planner." During his time in the U.S., Ayuba enrolled in classes, obtained U.S.

citizenship, and seriously considered a career shift. "When I was in America, I realized that I could only perform shows on weekends. My Mondays to Fridays were free. So, I enrolled in school. That was where I met my wife," he explained. "After that, I took part in a lot of

activities. Doing so was like building another foundation in America. That was not easy. From there, I completed my documentation and became an American citizen." Ayuba revealed that he had begun to lose interest in Fuji music and was drawn to education. "True,

true, true, particularly the kind of genre that I met myself singing Fuji. I've started developing a kind of interest in my education. From day one, if anybody asked me what I wanted to become in life, I would love to become a lecturer or teacher. I can't lie to you." He continued, "I was

thinking if I finished my bachelor's degree, I would go for my master's, and Ph.D. to be a lecturer. I don't want the level of being a Fuji musician, I believe I've done well, and I'm OK. This is America, let me choose another line."

Sesi Facilitates Installation of Street Lights In Badagry

By Saheed Afolabi

To enhance the quality of life in communities and promote sustainability, safe commuting of people in Badagry and enhance economic prosperity, the Honourable Member representing Badagry Federal Constituency, Sesi Oluwaseun Whingan, has facilitated the installation of 119

street lights across the three councils in his constituency by the Federal Government.

According to information obtained from his constituency office in Ibereko, Olorunda, Badagry, the office has taken delivery of a total of 119 solar street lights, poles, and other accessories to be distributed and installed in strategic areas in various towns,

villages, and communities across Badagry Local Government, Badagry West, and Olorunda Local Council Development areas.

The MHR for Badagry, Hon Sesi, facilitated the Federal Government's project through the Federal College of Horticulture, Dadin-Kowa, Gombe State.



Ajose Calls For Unity In Badagry

By Saheed Afolabi

Dr Sunny Ajose (OON), Member Governor's Advisory Council, Lagos State from Badagry and the Apex Leader, Badagry held a special leadership meeting with the newly appointed top fifteen apex leaders in Badagry.

The meeting, which was held at his Ikeja residence, had in attendance notable and quality leaders who have been carefully selected across the three local government to form a special think-tank for the party, APC in the area.

According to Ajose, there is a big task ahead of us as a party, reason you have been carefully selected as one of those who is capable of guiding the people and ensuring effective communication with the apex, core and other leaders of APC.

While giving his address, Sunny Ajose said that the purpose of the meeting

bothers on the progress and the development of the division and Badagry, especially and what is likely to happen in the course of this administration at the federal level, and its effect on the state government and Badagry.

"We must work in tandem with uplifting the lives and generality of our people in such a manner that our leadership must show clearly that we are not self-centred, but rather, we are interested in the good and development of the people. Take off nepotism, tribalism, and greed.

"Politics should not be a do or die affair if we love ourselves, if we don't backbite ourselves, if we don't destroy the image of ourselves."

Ajose orientated the leadership on some of the recent strategic decisions and moves by Nigeria President, Bola Ahmed Tinubu saying they are deliberate actions

for future benefits.

"The change in our National Anthem and the regional system is for a purpose. We are going somewhere.

"Development can not be on one side. It has to be a collective one," He said

Ajose emphasized the need to carry all party members along, including the general public in the distribution of resources available, projects, and programs of the government of the day noting that they are the people that voted us into power along.

"The power belongs to the people, not the political appointees or elected politicians. You are just a trustee. Hence, we must recognise that and ensure the people benefit from our leadership."

The intensive four hours meeting with the GAC member, had several inputs from leaders present after which the meeting was adjourned.

Desist from violence, Bamgbose warns Badagry aspirants

By Saheed Afolabi



Badagry West Apex Leader, Bamgbose Hontonyon Joseph has advised all chairmanship aspirants from the local government to be peaceful during the period of their campaign activities and avoid issues that could lead to disruption in the communities.

Bamgbose said this during the Apex Leaders meeting held at his residence in Badagry, while receiving some members of the All Progressives Congress (APC) who have indicated interest in

contesting for the 2025 local government elections as Chairman.

"Our party, APC, is known to be a modest party with responsible members. The leadership will not hesitate to take drastic action with appropriate sanction on whoever causes Hullabaloo during his/her campaign.

"We are happy that we now have many chairmanship aspirants showing interest in contesting for positions in the party, especially at the grassroots. This tends to send a positive signal about our viability as a local government."

Some of the aspirants

who came for official declaration of interest include Dominic Dansu Omotayo, Former Party LGA Chairman, Sovi Gusanu, Incumbent Secretary to the Local Government, Rauf Ibrahim Kayode, Incumbent Vice Chairman of the LG.

Other notable leaders in attendance include, Hon. Abu Oriyemi, APC State Exco, Alh. Bashir Yusuf, Sec. Leaders Forum, Mr. Peter Metome, APC LGA Chairman, Alh. Osenatu Okejale, Apex Woman Leader Badagry West, Chief Frederick Ajaneson.



The Lagos State Sports Commission (LSSC), in partnership with ACAN International, Aloysius Anagonye, on Saturday, organised a one-day basketball clinic at Mobolaji Johnson Sports Centre, Rowe Park, Yaba, Lagos. The event was designed to provide a platform for Lagos basketball players and coaches to be part of the mentorship and thoughtful programme aimed at improving their skills, and capacity as well as to acquire the latest tactics in the dunking game. While addressing the participants, Lekan Fatodu, the Director-General of LSSC emphasized the significance of the clinic to participants' personal development as it would also motivate them to

LSSC, ACAN International Organise Basketball Clinic



increase the level of their performance, learning from the experiences of someone that have played the game to the world level. He acknowledged the role of the Executive Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu for his effort in ensuring

that the state remains at the centre of conversation around sports development in Nigeria. He further stated that the state values the partnership with the ex-basketball player in the areas of development and capacity building as

the government would continuously consider any initiative that tends to contribute positively to the development of sports. "We need to consistently stretch our hands of fellowship to organisations like ACAN and individuals like Mr. Aloysius so that they can be able to help in the

areas we think there are gaps. It's is very important we keep that kind of engagement going forward", said Fatodu.

The Senior Special Assistant to the Governor on Sports, Damilare Orimoloye pointed out that it is an initiative and meaningful collaboration that's not going to stop with basketball.

He also enjoined the participants to avail themselves of the opportunity to stay focused and intensify their training to reach maximum potential.

Ex-basketball international, Aloysius Anagonye engaged the participants on the fundamental practice of basketball and his intention to contribute to the growth of the

players in Nigeria.

He said as a Nigerian, it is a dream come true for him to contribute and give back to the young players in Nigeria and it is not going to be the last initiative.

In his words, "It's been a long time dream of mine to do things in Nigeria. My purpose right now is to make interested people understand the fundamental skills in the game of basketball".

Part of his discussions also centred on the areas of personal experiences, fitness, training, facilities and equipment as well as development of trainers and players.

Recall that Anagonye represented Nigeria in international basketball competitions such as the 2006 FIBA World Championship and the 2007 FIBA Africa Championship.

Lagos To Host Milo Basketball Championship

By Felix Kuyinu

Twelve schools nationwide have made it through to the final round of the Milo Basketball Championship to be held in Lagos. No fewer than 12 schools will fight for glory in the competition billed to kick off in Lagos on Saturday. On Wednesday at the Nestle Office, Ilupeju, Lagos, the draws for the round of the competition - it's 12th edition, were made ensuring that the participating teams get to know their immediate oppositions. During the draws, the teams were divided into four groups in both the male and

female categories. The schools, which scaled through the preliminaries stages in both the Northern and Southern conferences include Father O'Connell Science College, Bishop Dimieri Grammar School, Bayelsa and Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria Secondary School in Cross River in Group A under the male category. In Group, Ijaiye Housing Estate Senior Grammar School, Lagos; Rumfa College, Kano and Government Day Secondary School, Gombe were paired together to complete the make category pairings. Group A1 has the

female category pairings with teams like Topfield College, Lagos; Dom Domigos College, Delta and Queen Amina College, Kaduna making up the list. Group B1 comprises of Government Secondary School, Abuja; Onireke High School, Oyo and Zarumai Model School, Minna. Managing Director, Nestlé Nigeria Plc, Wassim El-Husseini, expressed delight in providing a platform for young ones to showcase their talents. "We are proud to leave a legacy where people's lives are not only transformed but they are set up for a future that changes everything for them.


Since its inception, served as a powerful platform for helping children imbibe values

that pave the way for success in life," he said.





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