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My act not deliberate, father pleads after killing own daughter

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LAGOS COMMUNITIES EDITION

A publication of Echoneews Newspapers Limited

Monday 25th April - Sunday May 1st 2022

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2023: Fayinka, Oyerinde, others to resign from Sanwo-Olu's cabinet this week

By Abolaji Adebayo

Special Adviser to Governor Sanwo-Olu on Transportation, Mr. Oluwatoyin Fayinka; Special Adviser to the Governor on Central Business District, Mr. Olugbenga Oyerinde; Special Adviser to the Governor on Commerce and Industry, Oladele Ajayi and his counterpart for Tourism, Arts and Culture, Mr. Solomon Saanu Bonu are some of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's cabinet members expected to tender their resignation letters this week to pursue their political ambitions.

The concerned cabinet members would resign in accordance with the directive by the governor that any cabinet member seeking elective position should resign his/her appointment. The Governor also directed appointees seeking to be among delegates for political parties' primaries for elective offices in 2023, to tender their resignation letters to the Secretary to the State Government (SSG).

Governor Sanwo-Olu's directives were contained in a circular issued by the Head of Service, Hakeem Muri-Okunola.

The e-document with Ref No: CIR/HOS/22/Vol.1/017 stated that the Governor's directive complied with the Electoral Act 2022.

It would be recalled that Section 84 (12) of the Electoral Act 2022, signed by President Muhammadu Buhari, provides that political appointees aspiring to contest elections must resign their positions before the conduct of political party primaries.

"No political appointees at any level shall be a voting delegate or be voted for at the Convention or Congress of any political party for the nomination of candidates



Lagos State EXCO

for any election," the section states.

It was gathered that barring any last minutes change of mind, some Governor Sanwo-Olu's aides will tender their resignation latests this week to pursue their political ambitions.

While some have already declared their intentions to run for House of

Representatives and Lagos State House of Assembly seats, some appointees are aspiring to run for political offices or serve as delegates during the All Progressives Congress (APC) primary elections.

It is not clear whether more members of the cabinet would join the race this week.

So far, at least four of the cabinet members have declared their intentions to contest.

Among members of the Lagos State Executive Council, who have already declared their intention to contest are Special Adviser on Transportation, Mr. Oluwatoyin Fayinka; Special Adviser on Central Business

District, Mr. Olugbenga Oyerinde; Special Adviser on Commerce and Industry, Oladele Ajayi and his counterpart for Tourism, Arts and Culture, Mr. Solomon Saanu Bonu.

Fayinka, Oyerinde and Ajayi are contesting for House of Representatives seats in Mushin II, Amuwo-Odofin and Ibeju-Lekki Federal

Constituencies respectively while Bonu is contesting for Badagry I State Constituency.

Last week, Fayinka was at a Ramadan lecture and prayer organised in his honour soliciting the support of his constituents to win both party's primary and general election.

The newly elected party chairman of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in Iba LCDA, Hon. Jamiu Oyefolu has promised that there will be fair deal and equal opportunity during his administration.

Iba LCDA APC chairman promises better deal

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Oyefolu, who is the outgoing Vice Chairman, noted that serving with the outgoing

party Chairman, Barr. Tunde Lawal has moulded him on strategic means of administering the party.

He said he will be humble,

loyal, respectful and diligent in the course of his administration as Barr. Lawal also portrayed while in service.

He assured all party loyalists that his administration would continue to keep up with the oneness that exists among them.

The Vice Chancellor of Lagos State University, Prof. Ibiyemi Olatunji-Bello, has charged the students of the institution on discipline, hard work and academic excellence.

According to her, pursuing academic excellence requires hard work at studies and beyond.

She reiterated that the institution has zero tolerance for indiscipline, saying they are expected to behave decently within and outside the campus

VC charges students on discipline, academic excellence

while resisting the urge to partake in unwholesome acts that are capable of terminating their studentship untimely.

Olatunji-Bello emphasized that her administration is determined to give students conducive learning atmosphere to bring out the best in them as she listed the purchase and installation of 40 KVA Generator, appointment of substantive director,

rehabilitation of water system at the hostel, overhauling of electrical installation at the hostels and capacity building for the tutors as some of the interventions put in place by her administration within the last six months in the popular LASU Foundation (JUPEB) annex.

She added that the institution would continue to favour excellent



Prof. Ibiyemi Olatunji-Bello while addressing students of LASU Foundation



Why we need KOK as our rep - Isolo, Ejigbo residents

By Abolaji Adebayo

The residents of Isolo and Ejigbo under Oshodi-Isolo Constituency II have expressed confidence in the candidature of the former Lagos State Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Hon. Kehinde Bamigbetan popularly known as KOK. They said the constituency is in safe hand with Bamigbetan as their representative at the green chamber, based on his experience and ability to get what they need for them. Following his declaration to run for the post of a rep, Bamigbetan's supporters across the constituency have kept increasing, canvassing for his victory right from the party primary to the general election. "It is high time we put a stop to trials and try-out. A prepared and ready mind like KOK should be given the baton," one of the

residents in Isolo, Alabi declared. Alabi said that Bamigbetan has proved himself to be a good leader which is evident in his achievements as former council chairman. Another resident, Akinola Ajibade said: "He is undoubtedly the most experienced (in public and private services) amongst the aspirants. He is exposed, mature and responsible, most of us 'online and offline' can attest to these qualities and attributes of him. Ajibade said that the constituency needs someone who is younger and have the ability to navigate, saying the post is not supposed to be for elderly people. A group of supporters who are canvassing for Bamigbetan both online and offline in Ejigbo said: "Let us refine and revamp the representation of



Hon. Kehinde Bamigbetan

Oshodi + Isolo Federal Constituency II by ensuring the emergence of KOK as our party's (APC) candidate for the Green Chamber of the National Assembly Elections '23." The group known as KOK For MHR We Shall Overcome added in a statement: "Kehinde Oladapo Kolade Bamigbetan truly worth the catch-phrase, Asojú Rere Fún Agbegbe OSHODI ISOLO FEDERAL CONSTITUENCY II."

We'll complete Ayo Shonubi Street soon - Olasoju

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Chairman, Isolo LCDA, Otunba Adebayo Olasoju has said the rain is not disturbing the ongoing project, assuring that the construction of Ayo Shonubi Street, Okota will soon be completed. "We are in the rainy season already but we'll ensure that the project and others, particularly the 1.05km-long Kogberegbe Street are delivered on time and also continue our developmental efforts which we hope to extend to other areas if the weather permits. "Weather-daring construction workers are on ground working tirelessly to have the job satisfactorily executed to the delight of the residents. "Not even the Easter holidays were enough to debar the management of the construction company handling the project - Bengabod Nigeria Limited from mobilising their men to the site as they were seen working assiduously when the media team went on visitation earlier today apparently to ensure that the job is delivered not later than the four-

week duration originally set," he said. The drains on both sides of the about 200-meters-long street were rehabilitated while the stone-basing of the road surface had also commenced earnestly. An official of Bengabod Nigeria Limited who spoke on condition of anonymity said the management of his employer-company has been very motivating to the construction workers, particularly throughout Easter holidays reason they have remained dedicated to completing the project on time. He commended the residents for their cooperation and sought their continued understanding as he assured that the job will be delivered as scheduled. Mr. Rauf Ayinde, a resident, showered encomium on the council boss for the developmental work. He said the road construction will not only ease vehicular movement but also boost business activities on the street and the adjoining ones. Another resident, Mrs. Joy Udoh, said: "The council chairman is fond of dishing out pleasant surprises as far as development is

concerned and one is what we are experiencing in our street; this ongoing construction. The pace of the project has been impressive because even during this Easter holidays the contractors were working. We are happy about this development, it will put a lasting end to the stress we go through while using the road daily. Kudos to Mr. Chairman."



Hon. Bayo Olasoju

Key into MICHHD initiative, Olasoju encourages pregnant women, nursing mothers

By Edith Igbokwe

The Chairman of Isolo LCDA, Otunba Adebayo Olasoju has encouraged pregnant women and nursing mothers in the council area to key into the Mother, Infant and Child Development (MICHHD) initiative by the state government, to ensure balanced nutritional diet and growth for themselves and their children. This advice was part of the remarks of the council boss at the formal launching of the

health programme in the council area at Ilasamaja Primary Healthcare Centre (PHC). The programme is an initiative of the Lagos State Government through the Ministry of Health and Office of Civic Engagement to address the nutritional needs of indigent pregnant women in the state. According to the Special Adviser, Office of Civic Engagement, Hon. Princess Aderemi Adebolwale who was represented by a top official in the ministry, Mrs. Ayodele, the initiative is one of the major

Alakija seeks support on political ambition

By Edith Igbokwe

An aspirant for Lagos State House of Assembly in Oshodi-Isolo Constituency I, Comrade Moyowa Alakija has continued to lobby for support to ensure he's victorious at poll. Alakija, who is contesting on the platform of the All Progressives Congress (APC), has visited APC Apex leader, Pa, Joseph Olabintan and other residents. Alakija described his emergence in the race as a sign to encourage the youths and assure a better tomorrow for Oshodi people. He disclosed that necessary measures will be taken to ensure that there won't be division among political office holders for effective governance to be achieved. He explained further that

the synergy will bring genuine dividends of democracy to the doorsteps of Oshodi people. Alakija stated that lack of state projects in Oshodi and lack of rapid execution of few projects available will become a thing of the past. He emphatically stated that projects such as road constructions, schools, hospital and water projects will take a new dimension. "Oshodi will have its shares in the Lagos State employment opportunities. I will facilitate jobs for the people of Oshodi and transparency will be the center point of my representation. "My priority will include holding quarterly town-hall meetings to engage all in deliberation of actions plans that would be of benefit to the grassroots."



Alakija with the elders of Oshodi

the state, it has become expedient to further domesticate it in 20 LGAs and 37 LCDAs in the state in order to bring it closer to the people and ensure strict compliance. One of the beneficiaries, Mrs. Abosede Ogunbawale commended the state government for the health initiative particularly as it has to do with the nutritional packs. "I can't express how happy I am about this health programme especially the nutritional packs we were given. I'm grateful to the state government," she said.



Council chair empowers 100 people with N10m

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Chairman of Orile-Agege LCDA, Hon. Johnson Babatunde has empowered 100 residents with N10 million and donated palliatives to widows and widowers in the council.

Babatunde, while doling out cheques of N100,000 each to widows, widowers and other vulnerable residents to start businesses for wealth creation, warned them against using the fund for frivolities.

He noted that his administration was always touched by the struggling of some residents, especially women, saying he could have used the fund for other things but for his love for the poor.

"We just doled out N10 million to our people to start a business to fend for themselves. We want to better the lots of the people.

"This is a promise that is being fulfilled today. It is a promise that is dear to my heart.

"We have to do it to better their lives. I don't know many of them from Adams but I am touched by their struggles," Babatunde said.

The council boss, who noted that beneficiaries' selection was not political, said he met some of the traders and artisans in the cause of their struggles.

He said that the beneficiaries cut across indigent market men and women, artisans, youths, Igbo and Hausa community, physically-challenged people among others.

"I met some of them in the course of hawking or trading and we called them to empower them.

"It is not about favouritism. It is about helping people. We are not doing it to boost our ego or politics, we just want to touch lives and better the society.

"It gives me joy to give these people money to improve their petty trades," he added.

Babatunde urged the beneficiaries not to use the money for partying, eating and



Hon. Johnson Babatunde while awarding beneficiaries of issued palliatives

buying of body cream and cloth. One of the beneficiaries, Mrs Victoria Victor, who deals in kunnu and sobo, commended the

council boss for his generosity and kind-heartedness. "The chairman is a good man. He helps people he knows and those

he does not know. May he and his children continue to find help," Victor said. Also, Mr. Yusuf Abass, who

operates a barbing saloon, said: "This gesture is a nice one. I am sure that this empowerment will improve my business."

The Permanent Secretary Local Government Service Commission, Mr. Abiodun Bamgboye, has warned the management of Orile-Agege LCDA against covering up for absconders, cautioning those involved to desist or face the law when caught.

He stated that the commission will refrain from attending to submitted letters that are not properly routed.

Bamgboye, who spoke through the Director, Administration and Human Resources, Mrs. Omobola Ajayi, cautioned those who are fond of forging and using fake documents to desist from such act, as they would be dealt with accordingly when caught.

Similarly, the Permanent Secretary, Establishment, Training and Pension, Mrs. kikelomo Bolarinwa, enlightened the management and members of staff on personnel training and the need for them to be present at every training organized so as not to waste government resources.

She cited different occasions

LGSC cautions council staff against indolence

when the commission has paid for a capacity building and a good number of staff didn't show up adding that absenteeism from training sessions will attract punishment.

Bolarinwa added that, this year's training has been paid for and will commence in

earnest. She advised all members of staff to go to their duty post whenever they are redeployed and that every member of staff should be familiar with the civil service rule, particularly, on discipline, appointment, misconduct amongst others.



LGSC officials orientating Orile-Agege council staff

Residents express gratitude as LASG upgrades Amoo/Adalemo road

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Residents of Amoo/Adalemo in Orile-Agege LCDA have expressed gratitude over the commencement of the upgrading of the road in their community.

They showed the appreciation at a stakeholders meeting held at Adeyemi Bero Auditorium, Alausa where they commended the Sanwo-Olu Administration for bringing the infrastructural development to their area.

The Special Adviser to the Governor on Urban Development, Ganiyu Ayuba, said the stakeholders engagement was in line with the administration's bottom-up approach to developmental issues, adding that Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu had mandated that

every infrastructural development project began with the engagement of beneficiaries.

He explained that the aim of involving the people was to acquaint them with government intentions concerning the project and seek their understanding and input.

He said the governor was doggedly executing the THEMES Agenda of his administration as progress recorded in the infrastructural renewal of the state, just as in other pillars of the blueprint, was remarkable.

Ayuba called for the cooperation of the people at every stage of the project, including the establishment of the Right of Way and actual construction of the road, while urging them to own and protect the facility.

Member, Lagos State House of Assembly, Oluyinka Ogundimu appreciated the

State Government for the life-impacting project in the axis and pledged the cooperation of his people.

The Permanent Secretary, Office of Infrastructure, Engr. Olufemi Daramola, while speaking about the scope of the job, said the construction would span 12 months and involve the relocation of services, delivery of Right of Way, provision of service ducts, crushed stone base course and paving stones as well as street lights among others.

The Chairman, Orile Agege Local Council Development Area, Hon. Johnson Babatunde, also commended the administration of the governor, Sanwo-Olu for the acclaimed efforts in infrastructural development, while making a case for such laudable projects in other parts of the council area.



Egbetokun encourages residents to elect reliable representatives

By Motolani AbdulGafar

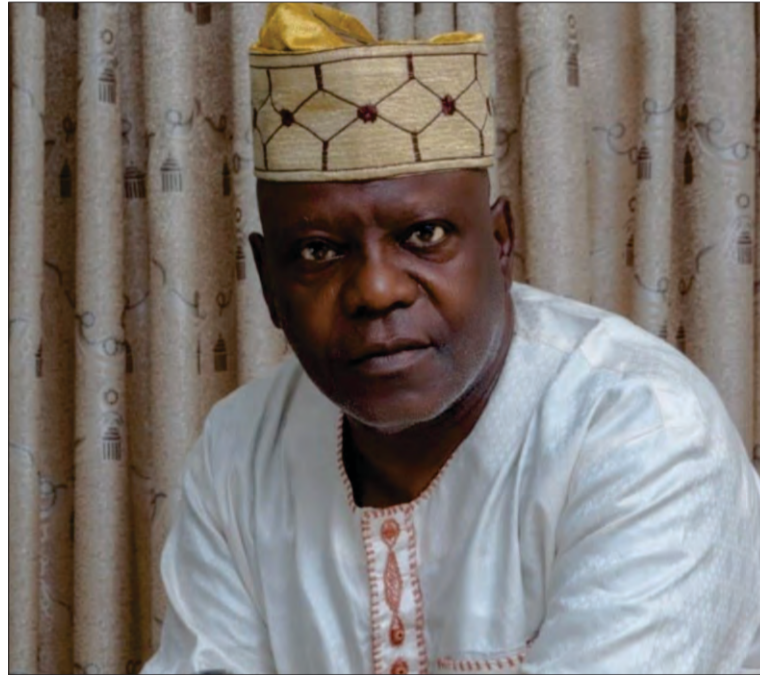
An aspirant of Federal House of Representatives, Alimosho Constituency, Hon. Adesina Egbetokun, has stated that Alimosho LGA needs credible and viable representatives in the forthcoming general elections. Egbetokun made this claim while speaking through the Director-General (DG) of his Campaign Organization, Hon. Tope Ogungbemi, that the world can be changed if the electorates change their thought. He deduced that a person's inward thought changes ones

outer reality, saying ones ideas shape the course of human history.

He said: "The limits of the possible can only be defined by going beyond into the impossible. We have the capacity; we can create, overcome, endure, transform and be greater than our sufferings."

He also claimed that to achieve a fair and just society, the society needs an enabling leader, humanitarian and a true democrat.

He urged Alimosho residents to wisely vote in the upcoming elections to reshape the constituent into a better one.



Hon. Adesina Egbetokun

37-yr-old man lands in kirikiri or allegedly defiling 3-yr-old pupil

An Ikeja magistrates court has ordered that a 37-year-old primary school driver, Kingsley Okwumbu, be remanded at Kirikiri Correctional Centre for allegedly defiling a three-year-old pupil.

The police charged Okwumbu, who resides in Ikeja, with defilement and sexual assault.

Magistrate Ejiro Kubeinje did not take Okwumbu's plea and ordered that he should be remanded at the Kirikiri Correctional Centre.

He directed the police to send the case file to the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP) and adjourned the case to May 10, 2022.

Earlier, the prosecutor, DSP Kehinde Ajayi, had told the court that Okwumbu committed the offence in March.

He said Okwumbu, being a school bus driver at Beehive Nursery and Primary School, Agidingbi, defiled the three-year-old pupil.

A 29 years old father, Benedict Anieze, has been arrested for smashing his one month-old baby to death during a scuffle with his teenage wife, pleading that it was not a deliberate act.

The suspect, in police custody since April for alleged murder of his daughter, said he slipped while carrying the baby and she fell.

Anieze was also alleged to have set fire on their apartment where his dead baby and wife were after he smashed the newborn's head on the floor.

It was alleged that the suspect was drunk at the time he committed the crime and it took the quick intervention of neighbours to rescue his wife from the inferno.

"I carried my baby, my foot slipped from the ground and my baby dropped and died. I will not deliberately carry my daughter and smash her head on the ground like that. A baby my wife carried in her tummy for nine months. Despite all the health challenges she went through, I was with her till she gave birth," he said.

A source, while condemning Benedict's action, said his wife was a minor.

The source said: "The mother of the baby was jittery because of what happened; she was at home with her husband when he suddenly carried the baby and smashed her on the ground.

"He even set the house on fire after what he did. He wanted to conceal the crime but the

My act not deliberate, father pleads after killing own daughter

neighbours, who saw the fire, quickly intervened and put it out. The mother of the baby is just 17-year-old."

The Lagos State Police Public Relations Officer, Benjamin Hundeyin, noted that the case had been transferred to the State Criminal Investigation Department, Yaba, for further investigation.

Hundeyin said: "There was no argument between him and his

wife. He said he was possessed by evil spirits when he smashed the baby on the ground. He also set the house ablaze and ran away.

"The wife cried out and after putting out the fire, they brought her to the station. The police alongside neighbours tracked him down to the place where he was arrested.

"The corpse has been deposited at the Yaba General Hospital's morgue."



Benedict Anieze, during interrogation

Residents of Ikotun in Alimosho Local Government have called on the Commissioner of Police (CP), Abiodun Alabi to beef up the security in the area.

They cried out following the increase in attacks by armed robbers and hoodlums terrorizing the area.

A resident, Mr. Abel Olubayo reported that although the Police have promised to improve security in Lagos but, there is the need for more surveillance and patrol to ward off the activities of armed robbers in some areas like Ikotun.

"We know the CP to be an experienced officer, who has promised to ensure that people in Lagos are safe. But I want to call on him to focus attention on Alimosho Local Government, especially Ikotun

Residents call for security upgrade

Area."

He revealed that last month, seven unknown gunmen raided an undisclosed house and made away with Mercedes Benz GL450 car with number plate FKJ 387GY, laptops and other valuables.

In addition, a resident, Favour Uche urged the CP to live up to the promise he made when he assumed office, saying this will help to check insecurity in the state.

"CP Alabi had in January assured the residents of Lagos of visibility policing to keep the state safe from criminals. We humbly call on him to fulfil this promise so that residents can sleep well at night," Uche said.

Alabi, who took over from Assistant Inspector General of Police, AIG Hakeem Odumosu, had said that Lagos State is a familiar turf to him having served in the state for many years in different capacities.

"It has become necessary to bring to the fore my template and policing vision. Visibility policing and dominance of security space by ensuring the presence of policemen at all times to deter criminals as a preventive measure.

"We will ensure that the Rapid Response Squad (RRS) is encouraged and strengthened to respond promptly and effectively to citizens' concerns," he said.

He added that his men's conduct while discharging their duties "must conform with our professional ethics especially with issues of corruption and extrajudicial killing and act of incivility to members of the public.

"We will strive to build confidence and trust in members of the public particularly with state actors and non-state actors through intelligence-led community policing.

"Area commanders and Divisional Police Officers will be encouraged to meet regularly with non-state actors to ensure common problems confronting their various areas of responsibilities are collectively addressed," he said.



NIMASA denies obligation over sank \$103.4 boat in Amuwo

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Following the drowning of one of the Gunboats in the fleet of Global West Vessels Specialists (GWVS) called the NIMASA/Barugu on April 2, 2022, the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) has denied being obligated towards Global West. The Gunboat which was parked at the Kirikiri Terminal, behind the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) Resource Center was purchased 10 years ago and was reportedly still under EFCC custody until the incident.

Barugu was seized among the other 24 boats as parts of assets

of the Niger Delta warlord, Mr. Government Ekpemupolo (Tompolo) during the investigation of the militant by the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC).

The seafarers on the boat made a notification to NIMASA on the premise that both NIMASA and Global West had had a maritime security contract which later got sour and trailed by litigation from the Federal Government while the vessel has consequently been in the custody of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC).

With regards to the above, the Assistant Director Public Relations, NIMASA, Osagie

Edward revealed that the boat is one of Global West boats that were in service with the Agency years ago and its name NIMASA-Barugu, has been named right from the days of contract as there are also other boats in this contractual category in Warri which they are not directly accountable for.

"Collectively, the boats and their management have remained a subject of litigation and under the custody of the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) for years.

"For the avoidance of doubt, it is on record that NIMASA recently made concerted efforts towards reactivating a few of the serviceable boats in this fleet but



was constrained by the legal encumbrances due to the nature of the case in court. As a law-abiding entity, we approached the matter under sound legal advisory.

"Finally, it must be stated that this

vessel was not in our jetty and under our management at the time of the incident. The crew onboard does not report to NIMASA but to Global West management, its owners," he said.

Police arrest suspected hoodlum terrorising FESTAC residents

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Lagos State Police Command has arrested a suspected popular land thug who had been on police watch list.

The suspect, Ayo, was alleged to have led a team of hoodlums to the 6th Avenue Festac, Amuwo-Odofin area, to disturb public peace and injured some residents. It was gathered that live ammunition was also recovered from the suspect, while other members of his gang escaped with guns and other dangerous weapons.

The suspect was arrested by policemen from Idimu after they received a distress call that the hoodlums had invaded the area.

Other members of the gang had reportedly been identified by police operatives in the state, who were on their trail.

Ayo was, on Wednesday, arraigned before an Ajegunle Magistrate Court on two count charges, bordering on stealing and illegal possession of ammunition.

Police sources at the Idimu Police Area Command said the suspect claimed to be working for a certain Oluomo and TJ, who have both reportedly gone into hiding.

The police source said: "They are the people disturbing the Fagbile area and 6th Avenue in FESTAC, and we have been on their trail."

"Last Monday, they went there and attacked some labourers and took three of them away, but they had escaped by the time we got there."

The police source added that, "three days after, they invaded the place again and attempted to wreak havoc, but our people were proactive.

"We invaded the area and arrested AY, but other members of his gang escaped.

He has named the people he worked for. We have invited them, but they have gone into hiding. We will get them and charge them to court, too."

Residents raise alarm over increasing rate of robbery

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Residents of Amuwo-Odofin Local Government have raised alarm over the recurrent robbery in the community.

The notification was made having experienced two cases of robbery in seven days in the same area.

The robbery was said to have taken place at 22 Road axis of Festac Town and subsequently at 71 Road axis.

On the second occasion, a fashion wear and accessories store, Zinny's Couture, was emptied which alerted residents as same method same act was

previously experienced seven days ago.

According to the information revealed by Festac Online, residents are appealing to security officials to increase their vigilance among other necessary security measures.

According to the shop owner, things carted away were expensive Turkish wears, jewelries, wristwatches, shoes and more worth more than N10million.

From residents comments, the robbers broke in smoothly by cutting padlocks and clearing out the shop of its contents, leaving only a dummy model.



Lagosians may witness heavy traffic at Mile 2

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Traffic jam on the ever-busy Mile 2 bridge is likely to increase in coming days as construction company handling Apapa/Oshodi expressway has failed to complete some sections of the road on Mile 2 bridge before moving to another section.

ECHONEWS gathered that a serious traffic congestion is likely to return on both sides of the bridge days ahead if the Lagos State authority do not take action in time.

Commuters and motorcycle operators appealed to the government to call the Hi+tech construction company to order.

This is because there has been a

diversion of duty weeks after the initial reconstruction work started on service lane from second Rainbow to Mile 2 bridge, Mobil Road Apapa/Oshodi Expressway while all other vehicles were diverted to main carriageway inbound Otto Wharf, Apapa/Tin-Can.

Without being completed, the first phase section of the inbound Apapa service lane, the construction was moved to other sections of inbound Mile 2 bridge, Cele/Oshodi main carriageway expressway.

From observation, the implications of the diversion is that the existence of two diversions in opposite sides would generate traffic congestion of tailbacks inward and outward Mile 2 bridge without any forms of signage

to indicate C-caution for the motorists on this particular axis.

In coming days, the situation could worsen if the government does not call the attention of the construction company to complete the first phase of the work before moving to another section of the lane.

Some motorists and commuters expressed that the Hi-Tech company does not consider other road users before diverting to another section of the road.

They advised the construction company to engage stakeholders, especially Lagos State Traffic Management to help in the direction of the traffic to avoid gridlock, robbery or accident in the area.



Mile 2, Lagos



Community raises alarm over illegal drilling

By Motolani AbdulGafar

Some representatives of Lagasa community in Ibeju-Lekki have challenged the continuous drilling of sand at the Lagasa Ebute dredging site by Dilly Motors Ltd., a dredging company. The community alleged that Dilly Motors Ltd., did not have any land or landed property in Lagasa Community, and as such, was not a stakeholder in the community. Chief Shamsudeen Amusat, Odofoin of Ibeju Lekki, Mr. Adesina Salisu and Mrs. Kudirat Odofoin, spoke on behalf of the Lagasa community. They said neither the community nor its leadership

gave the company the consent (either verbally or in writing) for the purpose of application for a cadastral licence with the Federal Ministry of Mines or the Nigerian Mining Cadastre Office (NMCO) in Abuja. They said that Dilly Motors had been harassing the community with armed men, stressing that Dilly Motors used its influence to procure an order from the ministry asking the other dredging companies on ground to vacate the dredging site. The Lagasa community was agitating, among others, that Dilly Motors should vacate the community. They urged the Federal Ministry of Mines and the NMCO to investigate the licence of Dilly Motors.

But in a swift reaction, the Chairman, Dilly Motors Ltd., Mr Okwudili Umeniyora, at a news conference at the palace of the Baale of Lagasa community, said that the problem at the dredging site was instigated by a faction of leaders disloyal to the Baale. "All relevant documents and consent given to me to operate at the site were fully signed by the bona-fide ruler of the community, Chief Lamidi Ajoro, the Baale of Lagasa town," Umeniyora said. The chairman noted that there was no overlapping titles in the said land his company was dredging as being insinuated by the community. "So, once the demarcation was done, they found out that the other operators were not

supposed to be dredging on my title because basically, the area in which that title was domiciled was different from the area in which they were dredging. "So the borrow pits and the stockpile where the other dredging companies were extracting that sand were all inside my title. "So based on that conclusion, an officer from the Federal Ministry of Mines, wrote a memo and gave them a stop work order and told them that they should evacuate the Dilly Motors title within 72 hours. "Basically, there's a small problem in the community. That's the truth. The community is divided. "The Baale is old, and the other community leaders are

fighting about it. So they are in court, that's why we could find ourselves in this kind of precarious situation," Umeniyora said. He said that he was surprised at the length the other operators went to paint the Ministry of Mines in a bad light. The chairman said the ministry did due diligence in giving him the title to the land, stressing that all his documents were duly signed by the Baale and the Federal Ministry of Mines. "So, if the consent of other operators was signed by Awoyaya/Dongo of Ibeju Lekki and not the Baale of Lagasa village, then what are they doing in Lagasa? "So, that's basically what I

have to say. "My consent letter which has been cited by newsmen is dully signed by the Baale of Lagasa community, who is still alive. On allegation of terrorising the Lagasa community with armed security men, Umeniyora said that it was not true. "That is totally untrue. You know, when you are given a title, under the mining title and in the mining industry, the laws are very strong. "If the Federal Government gives you a title, and you invest like five million dollars, that is not to say that the community can come up tomorrow and ask you to stop work, requesting 20,000 dollars per week. "That is why those laws are

made stringent like that to protect the title holder. So, I was using enforcement and law, to try and stop the illegal operators that were mining on my title. "And every day, every time I try to use enforcement and law to stop those illegal operators from operating on my title, then the other part of the villages, will come to attack us," he said. On the way forward, Umeniyora said that, the Baale of the community, had appealed to him to go ahead with his legal business. Report has it that the Baale of Lagasa community, Chief Lamidi Ajoro, said that the title land to Dilly Motors was duly signed by him to operate on the said piece of land.

Council appeals to parents to support children's education

By Motolani AbdulGafar

As Ibeju-Lekki Local Government continues to conduct free extra coaching classes for students ahead of the National Common Entrance Examinations (NCEE), the council chairman, Hon. Abdullahi Olowa has urged parents/guardians to help monitor their ward's academic performance while at home. He noted that the teachers are putting in much efforts to instruct and educate the students within their premise but the negligence of the parents to play their part would affect the success of the efforts of the teachers. Olowa solicited that the learning process would need to be continued absolute attention and care is needed from the children both in school and at home. He said the interest of Ibeju-Lekki is to only provide qualitative education to students and they expect a well accountable and productive result on the long run. He, therefore, commended the tutors and education department in the council for investing their time in the future of the council.

Adebambo canvasses unity ahead of general elections

The former Vice Chairman of Ibeju-Agbe APC, Hon. Taiwo Adebambo has sought unity among all members ahead of the 2023 general elections. He said there is need for reconciliation to resolve all internal bickering that could debar the progress of the party. He stated that the reconciliation is to majorly solve the misunderstanding between Dr. Odutola Kasali group and Alhaji Tunde Isiaq

group. Adebambo described the essence of unity as the two faces of a talking drum that accentuates the same ideas and meaning as the method which he wants all members to portray. He noted that both leaders are fearless, brave and selfless in serving the masses which shows that they share the same ideology and common goal in handling their affairs. Adebambo noted that the

deal is aimed at keeping the balance in Ibeju-Lekki where intercommunity tension often flared up as they unanimously chose Hon. Abiola Olowu (OKL) and other aspirants vying for the Lagos State House of Assembly and other political positions. He implored all members to embrace unity and peaceful coexistence regardless of their clash of interests among candidates, saying unity is a major tool for political success.



Members of APC, Ibeju-Agbe group in an ongoing meeting

Council calls for all-inclusive framework on electrification of project

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Chairman of Ibeju-Lekki Local Government, Hon. Abdullahi Olowa has charged council contractors to engage both the council and community stakeholders on the actualisation of the community electrification project to be executed in the community. Olowa stated that while environmental impact is good, the social impact is also necessary as the people need to be intimated before

carrying out projects of such magnitude. He affirmed his commitment towards developing the community while charging the consultants to carry out a good job by ensuring details are well captured. He appealed that a framework of the project should be made available for proper study before project execution. The lead consultant, Professor Joseph Ebigwai on his part, hinted that the aim of the project is to ensure steady electricity as well

as increase the power usage. He assured that bad poles will be replaced with new ones while illegal connections which are causes of shortage in electricity supply will be removed and power transmitted directly from the source. He gave an insight that very soon, there will be a direct impact on the communities as some personnel will be coming around to ask questions and take sample of data ahead of project execution while soliciting for their cooperation.



Hon. Abdullahi Olowa while addressing contractors



LASCOPA shuts down warehouse over sale of contaminated milk

The Lagos State Consumer Protection Agency (LASCOPA) has ordered the closure of a milk distribution warehouse located at Wilmer Street, Isheri-Ojodu due to its offensive smell.

The closure was ordered after the General Manager of LASCOPA, Afolabi Solebo, led an enforcement team to the distribution warehouse for inspection exercise.

The inspection was as a result of a video that surfaced online showing a middle-aged man allegedly selling

hazardous and contaminated milk to unsuspecting members of the public at Ibadun Street in Ojuelegba area.

According to Solebo, the milk seller disclosed during an earlier interrogation by men of the Nigeria Police Force, Area

C Police Station, Surulere, that the products were collected from the warehouse on Wilmer Street in Isheri, Berger.

"We, on our own part, will carry out a forensic investigation, through the Standards Organisation of

Nigeria, (SON) to confirm the actual state of those products, because mere opening the product, we discovered that they smell."

The LASCOPA boss said the actions taken against the warehouse was meant to ensure that further sales of

the hazardous and contaminated milk is stopped and withdrawn from circulation in order to protect the public from consuming milk that is harmful to their health.

He said the warehouse personnel distributing the

unwholesome products to retailers flouted safety regulations of the food and beverage sector, just as he reiterated that the state government has zero tolerance for the sales of hazardous and expired products.

Communities protest over low power supply

By Edith Igbokwe

Residents of the Ogunbare/Agbina-je/ Victor Light Community Development Association (CDA) comprising landlords, tenants and business owners trooped out in their hundreds, carrying various placards with slogans expressing their displeasure with Ikeja electric over low power supply.

They staged a peaceful protest against the Ikeja Electric Company, whom they accused of underserving them with power supply.

They lamented that despite the communities' huge investments in electrical equipment and installations in their area.

The protesters gave accounts of how they were being given outrageous estimated billings ranging from N10,000 to N30,000 per month despite the low current supply of an average of 3 hours per day.

According to the Chairman, Electric Installation Committee for the three communities involved, Olugbile Lukman, Seven years ago, the Ikeja Electric came to the community with the aim of boosting its power supply by installing 13 mini-transformers at various points, but left them unconnected since then.

He noted that the distribution company expected dwellers to buy the metering devices for the transformers to be connected.

"About two years ago, a member of our community was magnanimous enough to purchase a 500KVA transformer which the communities installed, including the purchase of several electric accessories and connection polls, but the Ikeja Electric refused to connect it, asking us to pay for the connection meters." The Secretary to the CDA, Mr. Olanipekun Kassim, said they have written more than 10 different letters to the Chief Executive Officer of Ikeja



Peaceful protest demonstration against Ikeja electric

Electric, Mrs. Soetan Folake with copies to the Sub-Station Manager, Mr. Jide Ikumapayi, expressing their grievances, but no positive response from them for the past seven years. The CDA Chairman, Sunday Ayandele said the greatest injustice meted out to the community was denying them of enjoying the maximum benefit of hosting the Ikeja

Electric Company substation in their community.

"Working on the request of the Ikeja Electric Company, we provided them with a land and electric accessories for free, where they located their step-down sub-station where they supply electricity to all the communities in this area, yet our communities who hosted the station

is being denied of its benefits."

According to a CAC minister in the community, Pastor Ade Ajayi, part of the demands of the protest is to tell the Ikeja Electric to remove its sub-station from the community, stressing that they can no longer bear the attitude of robbing Peter to pay Paul by the Ikeja Electric Company.

Golden Lions Club gifts mosquito nets to Oregon residents

By Edith Igbokwe

Ikeja Golden Lions Club, through its monthly activities gave out treated mosquito nets to Oregon community in Ikeja, to fight malaria parasite in the society.

The club's April programme targeted at the people of the community, where mostly the pregnant women, market women, and adults benefited from the sensitization on eradicating malaria in the environment.

Lioness Esther Benson, the past President of the club, said that malaria is one of the real causes of lots of deaths in Africa and Nigeria in particular and for that, the club is trying to eradicate it through its monthly programmes.

"So we are trying to sensitize the people of Oregon to clean their areas, surroundings, ensure there is no stagnant water. We are giving out treated mosquito nets and teach them how to use it every night, especially the pregnant women because if they are infected with malaria, it would affect their unborn baby."

In the same vein, Lioness Jumoke Adejoke Adebajo, Chairperson of April 2022 project, urged the pregnant women and market women at the event to follow up on signs and symptoms of malaria.

She said: "Any pregnant woman that is sick of malaria should go straight to the health facility close to her house."

Oba Olusesan Olukunmi Akingbola, Oba of Oregon, expressed appreciation to the club for carrying out Roll Back Malaria programme in his domain.

Lagos to increase comprehensive schools to reduce dropouts rate

By Edith Igbokwe

As part of effort to reduce the number of school dropouts in the State, the Lagos State Government has revealed plan to increase the number of comprehensive schools across the state from the initial pilot of 12 to 50 by September as part of efforts to equip secondary school students with technical skills.

The Commissioner for Education, Mrs. Folasade Adefisayo, said that the Comprehensive School Programme is geared towards reducing the rate of dropouts in schools, noting

that some students are disconnected with the usual academic curriculum but prefer to learn technical skills.

She emphasized the importance of integrating the new programme into the curriculum, noting that the Comprehensive Schools are designed to give technically-inclined students the opportunity to explore their interests and get trained to mastery level.

"We discovered and observed that out of every 10 students admitted to JS1, only three make it to SS3, while only one student will eventually excel at the transition exam. This has resulted in an increase in

school dropouts in Lagos State.

"The students, under the programme, will be given a mobile tablet preloaded with their curriculum and starter kits to explore their interests and desired skills. Also, the best three students will be sponsored to Finland for more training and exposure." Adefisayo stated that the present administration has established partnerships with private and international institutions for training, internship opportunities and employment prospects for the students.

She disclosed that a memorandum of understanding (MOU) was

recently signed by the Lagos State Government and the City of Tampere in Finland and some of the teachers would get an opportunity to visit Finland to understudy a similar system.

The Commissioner also commended school principals for the highly impressive results in the last WASSCE, stressing that the performance of students with a minimum of five credits including Mathematics and English has improved from 38.79% in 2020 to 79.64% in 2021.

Earlier, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Mr. Abayomi Abolaji, solicited the support

of participants and stakeholders to ensure the success of the programme, noting that the state government has equipped the Pilot Schools with all necessary facilities to ensure the success of the new Comprehensive School programme.

Abolaji averred that the School Programme has broad subject categories which include skills training in Agriculture, Tech & Digital Skills, Beauty and Events, Building & Construction, Media & Entertainment, Financial Literacy, Entrepreneurship, Communication, Marketing & Sales and Digital Literacy.



2023 House of Reps: KoK's Plan For Lagos 37 LCDAs

By Abolaji Adebayo

Twenty years after their creation by the Alliance for Democracy (AD)-led government of Senator Bola Ahmed Tinubu, the 37 Local Council Development Areas (LCDAs) are still battling with the challenge of being recognised by the federal government and other inherent challenges since they are not authorised to operate as full local governments.

Though there have been agitations by stakeholders to make the LCDAs in Lagos attain LG status, the efforts have not been fruitful due partially to the fact that the case was not well pursued at the National Assembly.

This was noticed by a House of Representatives hopeful in Oshodi-Isolo Constituency II, Hon. Kehinde Bamigbetan, as he made the case the first on his campaign manifesto tagged "KOK 15-Point Agenda".

KOK, as fondly called, prioritised the agendum knowing full well the agonies of LCDAs having once been the Chairman of Ejigbo LCDA for two consecutive terms.

Since it was created on May 27, 1967, by virtue of the States (Creation and Transitional Provisions) Decree No. 14 of 1967, which restructured the federation into 12 states, Lagos State has continued to grow on diverse fronts.

On April 11, 1968, the state began its journey as an administrative entity with Lagos serving the dual role of the state and federal capital respectively. Over the years, Lagos has grown in leaps and bounds as well as attaining different milestones, including a megacity status in 1995 when its population went above 10 million people.

From that global city ranking of 31st in 1985, Lagos population exploded to 13.4 million in 2000 to become the world's sixth mega city and Africa's foremost urban centre and hub of national, regional and global socio-economic and political activities.

In 2003, many of the existing 20 local councils were split into Local Council Development Areas (LDCAs) for administrative purposes.

Some of the 37 LCDAs created in 2003, by the Alliance for Democracy (AD)-led government of Senator Bola Ahmed Tinubu, which are still yet to be recognized by the Federal Government are Agbado/Oke-Odo, Agboyi/Ketu, Agege, Ajeromi, Alimosho, Apapa, Apapa-Iganmu, Ayobo/Ipaja, Badagry West, Badagry, Bariga, Coker Aguda, Egbe Idimu, Ejigbo, Epe, Eti-Osa East, Eti-Osa West, Iba, Odi Olowo/Ojuwoye, Ifako-Ijaiye, Ifelodun, Igando/Ikotun, Igbogbo/Bayeku, Itire Ikte, and Kosofe among others.

Even though the Federal Government still relates with Lagos State based on the original



Hon. Kehinde Bamigbetan

20 local councils, Lagos State has been administering the grassroots through a combination of the 20 local councils and the 37 LCDAs.

An LCDA is an administrative unit created by state governments to pursue state-specific development agenda and administrative convenience.

The former Speaker of the Lagos State House of Assembly, Olurunimbe Mamora, who is now the Minister of State for Health, while speaking after 30 lawmakers voted in support of the 37 LCDAs creation on June 18, 2002, commended his colleagues for taking the step, saying that the newly created entities would bring government and development closer to the grassroots.

Even though their origin became a highly

contentious issue when it first happened in 2003, the Supreme Court ruled in favour of their existence.

To add to the controversy trailing these LCDAs, last year, a group identified as Concerned APC Progressives kicked against conducting election in the 37 LCDAs since the 1999 constitution recognizes only 20 local councils in Lagos state.

Thereafter, the election was successfully conducted.

However, despite the developments brought to the various communities by the LCDAs, there are some challenges identified by stakeholders, making them fighting for the turning of the LCDAs to full local governments.

For instance during a stakeholders meeting sometime last year in Ejigbo LCDA, stakeholders attending the meeting convened

by the member representing Oshodi-Isolo Constituency II comprising Isolo and Ejigbo local council development areas at the Lagos State House of Assembly, Hon. Jude Idimogu charged him to urge the Lagos State House of Assembly to re-present the conversion of Lagos State's 37 LCDAs to bonafide local governments.

Adopting the presentation of former Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Kehinde Bamigbetan during stakeholders' meeting in Ejigbo, they resolved that it would enhance the capacity of the LCDAs to respond to the poverty among youths that triggered the EndSARS crisis.

Bamigbetan had said the huge financial needs of the state and its large population requires that the LCDAs become full Local Governments, noting that some states which were at par with the Lagos State at creation in 1967 have since attracted more revenues through the creation of Local Governments.

His position was endorsed by other speakers including the chairmen of the All Progressives Congress in Ejigbo and Isolo LCDAs, Barrister Gani Bello and Alhaji F. Kasumu.

Equally speaking, the lawmaker, Idimogu noted that the conversion of the LCDAs to full Local Governments had been on the front burner for a very long time, even as leaders of the All Progressives Congress (APC) in the state are worried about the delay in listing the 37 LCDAs in the constitution.

Idimogu, who is Chairman House Committee on Wealth Creation and Employment, said the leaders of the party would undertake a political approach to resolve the issue.

"We will appeal to Lagosians to be hopeful, appeal to the conscience of the leadership of our party at the national level to see the reason the gap should be bridged. From inception, the State was at par with Kano, today Kano has 44 LGA and Jigawa which was created out of Kano has 27 LGAs. It is not fair, so I want to appeal to the President, the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Reps to heed our request."

Meanwhile, while revisiting the issue recently, Bamigbetan said he is making the case a priority to be his first assignment at the House of Representatives if finally elected to represent the constituency.

On his "KOK 15-Point Agenda", Bamigbetan presents the issue of the LCDAs as the first point which read: "To Facilitate the Law Turning 37 LCDAs of Lagos State to 37 LGAs".

With this agendum, stakeholders said the candidature of Kehinde Bamigbetan would benefit not only his constituency but the entire Lagos State.



LAHA 2023: Former Lagos Deputy Governor's son, Ogunleye declares to contest

By Saheed Afolabi

The race for Lagos State House of Assembly in Ikorodu Constituency 1 became hotter as Gbolahan Ogunleye joined the competitive pursuit in a stronger dimension. Gbolahan, son of Prince Abiodun Ogunleye, Apex Leader of the All Progressive Congress (APC) in Ikorodu division and Governor Advisory Council member, has formally declared his intention for the post. The official declaration saw leaders, stakeholders, community influencers including local government/local community development area council chiefs (Hon Wasiu Adesina, Bldr Adeola Adebisi Banjo and Hon Sulaimon Olarewaju) across Ikorodu constituency 1 storming the

residence of the former deputy governor.

Prince Abiodun Ogunleye averred that it was the people who actually convinced him to allow his son enter the race, adding that it was never his decision.

The aspirant promised supporters that he would push for bills that would attract surplus expansion projects to Ikorodu Constituency 1 if given the opportunity to represent them at the Lagos State House of Assembly.

"It is all about establishing progressive relationships. This will in return create effective channel to push laws that will benefit Ikorodu, procuring many undertakings to Ikorodu like never before.

"My campaign is about propelling a greater Ikorodu, a new Ikorodu that will generate frontward transformation to extensively

compliment the ongoing developmental phase in Lagos State," Gbolahan said

The chairman of Ikorodu Local Government, Hon. Wasiu Adesina stated, on behalf of council chiefs in Ikorodu West and Ikorodu North LCDA, that Gbolahan Ogunleye has the support of the councils based on the substantial service of his father towards the growth of the region.

"We cannot quantify the sacrifice and contributions made by our former DG, Prince Abiodun Ogunleye, to develop this entire region. That is why in a bid to repay him for his absolute commitment and devotion, we're standing behind Gbolahan Ogunleye in his purpose to represent Ikorodu Constituency 1 at the Lagos State House of Assembly.

"With the administrative



qualities that we have seen over time from our apex leader, who happens to be his father, we

believe Gbolahan will do better if given the opportunity to represent Ikorodu constituency 1.

That is why we're officially endorsing him as the best aspirant for the job."

It was a bright day in Epe and a day of joy for the people as it could be clearly seen on their facial expression when they all trooped out in their numbers to grace the massive empowerment programme organised by Hon. Sylvester Ogunkelu. Ogunkelu, popularly known as Sketel, is presently representing Epe Constituency II at the Lagos State House Assembly. During the empowerment programme held at the open field of Eredo Local Government Secretariat, in Epe, Ogunkelu blesses about 500 people with N10,000 each. According to him, the programme serves as an avenue to reach out to the less privileged and improve the well-being of people of his community.

He also gave out a long list of items to empower people of the community.

The items he distributed included 20 chest freezers, 25 grinding machine, 30 barbing kits made up of clipper and a generating set, 30 sewing machines, 10 gasoline bush cutters, 25 Air dryers, 20 Vulcanizing machine, 10 wheelbarrows and head pans, and safety headgear with reflective jackets.

Ogunkelu empowers 500 people in Epe

By Saheed Afolabi

The cash and other items were distributed to beneficiaries across the 11 wards that make up the constituency.

As part of the programme, medical outreach was also provided for the elderly ones with health challenges.

Ogunkelu said he had previously carried out quite a number of laudable projects in Epe such as renovation and building of class rooms in four schools, distribution of JAMB forms to about 950 students with coaching as well as full scholarship to 10 students to study at the Lagos State University and another full scholarship to three students at the University of Cyprus.

He explained that his humble beginning got him to understand the plight of his people and saw the need to assuage them by empowering them in his own little way, being just a state lawmaker with little resources at his disposal.

Meanwhile, he has promised to embark on more impactful projects in the future.



Distributed items

First Nigeria woman officer to wear hijab honored

By Saheed Afolabi

First Nigeria female police officer to wear hijab was honoured at the Ramadan Public Lecture of Oriwu Central Mosque, Ikorodu.

According to a statement by the mosque, Inspector Idoko Eucharia Alimat from Enugu State accepted Islam a few

years ago and submitted herself totally to the dictates of the Deen.

Oniwasi Agbaye, Shaykh Muyideen Bello commended her for the feat, congratulated her and prayed for her as he admonished other female Muslims in the force to follow her example as well as her good conduct.

Chief Imam of Oriwu Central



Mosque, Ikorodu, His Eminence Shaykh Yahya Olorunoshebi Oshoala Ajagbemokeferi As-

Samadaani was also lauded for his role in the hijab usage emancipation in the police force.



LAHA 2023: Obasa drums support for Saheed's, Okanlawon's second term

By Edith Igbokwe

The Speaker of the Lagos State House of Assembly, Rt Hon. Mudashiru Obasa, has declared support for Hon. Femi Saheed and Hon. Sanni Ganiu Okanlawon for their reelection to the Lagos State House of Assembly. Both of them are first-timer. He gave his support at a programme he attended in Kosofe recently. Obasa who an incumbent

member of the State Assembly representing Agege Constituency 1, who is also seeking reelection, implored political stakeholders and constituents on the need to return first-term lawmakers for another term.

While describing the duo as palm tree plantation processes, he gave chronological explanations of the differences between a ranking lawmaker and a first-timer.

He stated that the longer a lawmaker stays in the state and federal assembly systems, the more their impact will be felt and the more dividends of democracy they will attract for their constituency members rather than turning into greenhorn representatives every four years.

He cited example of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Hon. Femi Gbajabiamila, and several state and national assembly

men's long stays as ranking members, have provided their respective constituencies with credible voice, development projects, and employment opportunities from government policies.

"Returning first-term lawmakers who have distinguished themselves for another term will surely fast track policies, programmes and projects for the greater good of their constituents," he said.



Obasa's visit to kosofe LG

Former Agboyi-Ketu SLG, Osobu joins Kosofe constituency II race

By Edith Igbokwe

The former Secretary to Agboyi-Ketu Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Hon. Gbenga Osobu, has confirmed his intention to contest for the Kosofe Constituency II seat. Osobu, who is running on the platform of the All Progressives Congress (APC), said he has consulted the party stakeholders before taking his decision and will make a formal declaration after picking up his

nomination and expression of interest form, saying his consultation is still ongoing.

Osobu participated in the 2020 Kosofe Constituency II bye election that was won by the incumbent lawmaker, Hon. Femi Saheed, who is reportedly seeking to return to the House for a fresh mandate.

He also participated in the 2021 Local Government chairmanship race but withdrew for the incumbent Chairman of Agboyi-Ketu (LCDA), Hon. Dele Oshinowo.



Hon. Gbenga Osobu

Son of late PDP ward chairman makes Kosofe LG cabinet

Taiwo Balogun, the son of late Ogudu Ojota Chapter of the People Democratic Party (PDP) Ward Chairman, Alhaja Balogun, was appointed as one of the cabinet members of the Kosofe LG chairman, Hon. Moyo Ogunlewe.

He is one of the 11 appointees sworn in by the council boss.

Balogun, who is popularly known as T-Bag, contested for the Ogudu "Ward G" area of Kosofe Local Government councillorship on the platform of the Labour Party in 2017.

He lost to the immediate past councillor representing Ogudu, Hon. Bolaji Kazeem, who contested on the platform of the All Progressives Congress (APC).

Shortly after the election, he returned back to the PDP and worked tirelessly for the incumbent Kosofe Local Government Chairman, Hon. Moyo Ogunlewe, who clinched the PDP ticket for Kosofe Constituency I for the second term in 2019.

T-Bag decamped to APC shortly after the 2019 general

elections, which he contested with the incumbent Kosofe Local Government Chairman, but lost.

His attempt to clinch the Ogudu Ori Oke councillorship ticket on the platform of APC during the 2021 local government election was also not successful.

He was, therefore, compensated with the new appointment as he was made Supervisor for Works & Infrastructure.

Others in the cabinet include Adedayo Lawal, Supervisor for Education; Elugbindin Abayomi, Supervisor for Health; Kehinde Saka, Supervisor for Agric & Social Service; Olorunfunmi Adekunle, Supervisor for Environment; Odubamise Jonathan, Supervisor for Budget & Planning; Oyebanjo Ganiu, Special Adviser on Revenue; David Gbenga Samuel, Special Adviser on Chieftancy; Alufohai Omokhodu, Special Adviser on Special Duties and Owolabi Funmilayo, Special Adviser on WAPA.

Lions Club Award, impetus to work harder - Ogunlewe

By Edith Igbokwe

Chairman of Kosofe Local Government, Barr. Moyosore Ogunlewe has assured Lions Club that the award given to him will charge him to do more.

The Lions Club International district 404A1 NGCHUCKS, Anthony village gave an "Outstanding Performance Award" to Ogunlewe for the volume and quality of work he embarked on. He said the award and others were a call for more work. Ogunlewe appreciated the club for recognizing his performance and rewarding it.

The club's president, Lion James Uwuseba, stated that the outstanding performance of Ogunlewe was one of the numerous criteria for considering him for the award. He reiterated that Ogunlewe promised to

construct ten roads with drainage and it was fulfilled and listed all the old roads he had given a facelift across the council area in addition to other

infrastructure he had provided to fulfill the promise he made to the people of Kosofe.

The club also gave awards to the Baale of Anthony Village,

Chief Oseni and others in recognition of their contributions to the society. The event held at Presken Hotel and Suites in Maryland, Lagos.

LAHA 2023: I'm ready for the race - Carew

By Edith Igbokwe

The CEO of Farmcity, Hon. Lanre Carew, has said his aspiration to contest for the House of Assembly in Kosofe Constituency I, was aided by his supporters who pressurised him to contest.

According to him, he has to finally join the race to satisfy his numerous supporters.

The Farmcity boss disclosed his intention to contest in the forthcoming Lagos State House of Assembly election on the platform of the All Progressives Congress (APC) shortly after returning from a long business trip to the United Arab Emirates (UAE.)

Carew had participated in the

2019 House Assembly race but did not make head way.

He said he had paid courtesy visit to the Governor's Advisory Council (GAC) leader in the Lagos East Senatorial District, Otunba Bushira Alebiosu and Omoba Olumuyiwa Sosanya, a member of GAC, to seek their blessings, adding that he has also visited the Chairman of Kosofe Local Government, Hon. Moyo Ogunlewe, and several apex leaders in the last few weeks.

Carew will be contesting for the APC ticket with the incumbent House of Assembly member representing Kosofe Constituency I, Hon. Sanni Okanlawon and another aspirant, Gabriel Oluwafemi.



Hon. Carew

He noted that he also participated in the 2021 local government election but was asked to step down during the APC inconclusive primary.

He was defeated by the party's supremacy in the last two APC primary elections in which he participated.



LASTMA boss condemns Lekki attack on officer, recounts incident

By Saheed Afolabi

The management of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority, LASTMA, has denied involvement in an accident involving a commercial bus that trampled upon the foot of a young lady by the roadside at Chisco Bus Stop, Lekki where an innocent LASTMA officer was assaulted and injured in the process.

A video had gone viral on social media where a LASTMA officer was assaulted by mob for allegedly causing injury on a lady in Ajah.

Meanwhile, LASTMA General Manager, Bolaji Oreagba, in a statement, confirmed the incident which he said happened on Wednesday, April 13, 2022.

According to Oreagba, "From

investigation conducted by the agency and information received, the LASTMA officer, Adebajo Adeoye visited the GLO office at Chisco bus stopped at about 9.30am to revalidate his National Identification Number (NIN) for his phone line that was blocked but GLO office was yet to open its doors for customers.

"Adebajo, therefore, decided to go back to his beat around Ajah and crossed the road to get a bus to take him.

"At this time, a commercial bus driver who was picking passengers at an undesignated bus stop must have sighted the officer thinking he was coming after him for the illegality he was committing, drove recklessly and trampled upon the foot of the lady seen in the video while the motorist escaped from the scene.

"The passers-by and bystanders for want of who to vent their anger on falsely accused Adebajo of being the cause of the accident, descended on the innocent officer and thereby seriously injured him despite pleas by other officers at the scene.

"Adebajo was eventually rescued by an armed police officer, while the crowd insisted on reporting the incident at the Ajiwe Police Station where, after initial investigation by the Divisional Police Officer, Adebajo was exonerated while the DPO said his attackers should have poured their energies into apprehending the errant motorist that hit the lady and also that the incident was not within Ajiwe jurisdiction."

Adebajo was subsequently moved to Ilesan Police Station to incident

the attack and thereafter, taken to hospital for medical attention.

Oreagba, therefore, reiterated his warning against attack on government officials or any aggressor should be ready to face the full weight of the law.

He urged members of the public to always channel any grievance against any government official to the appropriate authorities for appropriate action instead of attacking them as they are out to provide public service to the populace.

"Unfortunately, none of Adebajo's attackers has been apprehended, but the Police are out hunting for identified perpetrators of the attack on Adebajo," LASTMA Assistant Director, Public Affairs, Filade Olumide stated.



Oreagba

Baruwa appeals for harmony between LASG, NURTW

By Edith Igbokwe

The leadership of National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW), Mr. Tajudeen Baruwa has appealed to Gov. Babajide Sanwo-Olu to sustain the peaceful coexistence between the union and the state government.

He made the statement recently after the mayhem that occurred in Lagos mainland within the transportation sector, appreciating the governor for the support he has been giving the union over the years.

He disclosed that the union had inaugurated a nine-man caretaker committee to oversee and coordinate operations of the union across



Mr. Tajudeen Baruwa

Lagos State.

"The nine-man caretaker committee will be led by Mr. Fatai Adeshina, a stakeholder in the transportation sector

and the committee will operate for next three months as stipulated in the union's constitution.

"Other members of the

committee are Mr. Sunday Yusuf, Abraham Onifade, Jamiu Erinfolami, Ismaila Ojora, Lekan Ariyibi, Murtala Lawal, Taiwo Azeez while Kayode Agbeyangi would serve as the secretary."

He said the caretaker committee was constituted following the dissolution of the State Administrative Council (SAC), to allow continuity in the administration of the transport activities.

Baruwa reiterated that the move was to ensure that members of the union continued to support the government's master plan for transport development.

"The union knows that they will effectively manage affairs of Lagos chapter after SAC dissolution, which was done to bring sanity to the union's operation across the metropolis."

He appealed that the existing harmonious relationship between NURTW and Lagos State Government should continue and that it will be extended to the newly appointed officers of the union.

He recognized the step taken

by Lagos State government recently in appointing the former chairman of the state's chapter of NURTW, Musiliu Akinsanya popularly called MC Oluomo, as the chairman of its Parks Management

Committee and a former Assistant Inspector General of Police, Mr. Hakeem Odumosu appointed as the Liaison Officer between the government and the committee.

Hoodlums destroy goods worth millions in Ebute-Meta

By Edith Igbokwe

Property worth millions of naira were reportedly destroyed recently in Ebute-Meta during a clash among some hoodlums around the Oko-Oba area.

The violence was said to have occurred between Ogolo and Oko-Oba Boys, who seized the occasion to loot and rob residents scampering for safety.

Although details of what led to the fight could not be ascertained, eyewitnesses said the hoodlums, whose ages were between 17 and 20 years, began the fracas at about 6:00 am looting shops and carting away some properties.

The incident, which took off at Oko-Oba, was said to have degenerated into Ibadan and Kano Streets where shops and vehicles were vandalised. A resident said the hoodlums succeeded in vandalising some

vehicles whose owners were caught up in the violence.

An eyewitness, Musibau Alani, said hoodlums from Oko-Oba usually cross a link bridge to the other side of the road to unleash mayhem on their opponents unknown to them that their opponents were battle-ready for them.

"Oko-Oba Boys usually cross the bridge to challenge Ogolo Boys but it was like Ogolo Boys were waiting for them and it was fire for fire.

"They broke into some shops and vandalised two deep freezers, dairy products and other items in the name of violence".

Unconfirmed reports said two of the hoodlums were gunned down during the violence.

As at press time, there was no official figure of casualties as the spokesperson, Lagos State Police Command, Benjamin Hundeyin, could not be reached.

Killer driver napped while trying to escape

A driver, who crushed an official of the Lagos State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA), Jamiu Issa, to death in the Lekki-Ajah area was eventually arrested while trying to escape.

The motorist was driving

against traffic when Issa tried to apprehend him for the traffic offense but the driver rammed into him.

Issa was rushed to the hospital where he was confirmed dead.

The Sienna driver was chased by witnesses as he

tried to flee the scene.

In the process, he also knocked down another person before he was apprehended.

The driver was taken first to Ilesan police station, and eventually to Ajiwe police station.



Senior residents commend Bamigboye for persistent welfare package

By Saheed Afolabi

The senior citizens of Mushin Local Government have commended the council chairman, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye for unceasing welfare package given to them since 2017. The council boss has commenced the welfare package of cash to the elderly since his assumption of office in 2017 in fulfillment of his campaign promise. Apart from the aged, widows and less privileged also benefit from the largesse given quarterly. The beneficiaries gave the commendation during the second quarter of the year 2022 presentation at the council secretariat last week. According to them, the financial assistance which they have been enjoying since 2017 is marvelous as the chairman never for once failed to dole out the cash. They noted that during the Corona

Virus pandemic, the council boss added food items while he never stopped giving them the cash and food items up till date. They appeal to the subsequent administrations in the council area to sustain the programme. For the sustainability of the programme, Bamigboye urged the senior citizens to vote for the right candidates in the subsequent elections. He charged them to get their PVCs to vote for the ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) party in the 2023 general elections. He emphasized the importance of financial support to elderly people, saying it has great positive impact on their social well-being and health. He said he has continued the programme to make it habit, noting that the last edition was the 17th one since he started it in 2017. He notified the elders that since his assumption of office for the second term he has completed all his first

term projects and three road projects are currently ongoing. Bamigboye therefore assured the residents of his unrelenting effort to sustain his skill acquisition programmes and other empowerment activities targeted at making life comfortable for the people of Mushin community. The chairman highlighted his ongoing projects which include construction of 3 major streets in addition to the 28 he completed in his first tenure. He also mentioned some ongoing roads rehabilitation at Akinwunmi and Kuseyi, printing of over 50,000 exercise books for pupils in Primary schools, clearing of drainage across the community and his efforts to establish a magistrate court in Mushin with the support and approval of Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu. Alhaji Alausa, one of the beneficiaries said: "I have never believed the programme could last up to this time when the Chairman started in 2017 during his first term



Hon Bamigboye making his speech at the event

in office, when he promised us that he will take care of the elderly people in the community as many of us are community leaders who are old, some of us only live on pension while some don't even have a pension but on our grown-up children so when we receive this at a time like this festive period, it goes a long way in solving some of our financial issues." Pa Odesanya, who gave the vote of

thanks on behalf of other beneficiaries, urged the council chairman to make the programme continue after leaving office based on the value it adds to their lives and rejuvenates them by giving them a sense of belonging to the community they have served in various capacities as community leaders. "On behalf of the entire elders and beneficiaries of the social welfare package, we thanked our great

chairman, Hon. Emmanuel Bamigboye and very grateful for always being there for us, you promised and you fulfilled it, I pray that Almighty God will fulfill all that concerns you, you will grow from strength to strength and be elevated more than this post, higher in life will you go. Thank you our chairman and we pray this continues when you leaves office."

2023: Fayinka promises school for Idi-Araba community

By Saheed Afolabi

The Special Adviser to the Lagos State Governor on Transportation, Hon. Toyin Fayinka has pledged to facilitate a school for Idi-Araba community as requested if he is given the mandate to represent them at the Federal House of Representatives. He noted that the only request he has got from the people of Idi-Araba is the construction of a primary school for the community to allow their people easy access to quality education. "Your people do visit my office including the State Arewa Council which consists of all local government representatives and the music has always been they want a primary school in Idi Araba," he said. Fayinka made the promise during a Ramadan Lecture and Prayer organised in his honour by a group known as Concerned Youths of Idi Araba. He informed the gathering that he has begun work on it by informing his principal, Governor Babajide

Sanwo-Olu and a signal has been sent to the Ministry in charge, adding that stakeholders involved in the actualization of the project are working tirelessly to make it happen. The Ramadan lecture held at the Idi-Araba High School open field had in attendance large number of young people including widows and the less privileged.

Fayinka appreciated the convener and his team for deeming it fit to organize such remarkable programme for him. Speaking on his 2023 ambition, Fayinka said he had come to seek the people's spiritual support because he believes God answers prayers and with their prayers, his desire to represent the good people of Mushin Constituency II on the

ruling All Progressives Congress (APC) platform will be granted. The convener of the group, Comrade Olatunde Moruf, applauded Fayinka for extending his kind gesture to the people of Idi-Araba, saying through him, some youths have been empowered by securing job placement for them in LASTMA and other agencies. "We are here to say 'Thank You' in

return of your selfless service to humanity and also to say boldly that we the youths are fully ready for a paradigm shift campaign in Mushin Constituency II" Moruf said. On her part, Hajia Umi Danjaki, said that she is so much pleased with Fayinka's decision to represent the constituents at the Green Chamber in the 2023 election because he has always been accessible to the

people and has engaged large number of young people in the constituency in less than three years in his present position. Another member of the group, Comrade Aliyu Abubakar Bebeji, said the youths are ready to give what it takes to ensure Fayinka's success at both the primaries and general elections.

Obawole bridge'll be completed next month - Contractor

By Edith Igbokwe

The contractor handling the reconstruction of Obawole Bridge has assured the residents and the government authority that the project would be completed next month. He gave the assurance during the inspection of the project by the Chairman of Ifako-Ijaiye Local Government, Prince Usman Hamzat and the Member, House of Representatives (MHR) representing Ifako-Ijaiye Federal Constituency, Hon. James Owolabi. The project was facilitated by the

lawmaker after being consulted by the council chairman, seeking his intervention. Both of them had visited the site for the assessment of the eroded part of the bridge and decided to fix it. Speaking about the project, the council chairman said that his administration has been very committed towards fixing infrastructural deficits across the local government area including the eroding part of Obawole bridge. He said the local government has been collaborating with other political office holders in

the community to bring monumental development to Ifako-Ijaiye. He stated that the council has completed many road projects within his few months in office alongside others which are still ongoing. Prior to the assessment of the eroding part of the bridge, the council boss said he had met the Member, House of Representatives for support to use his influence to talk to relevant government agencies in Abuja on possible ways to address the issue which has become an ecological problem.

He noted that he convinced the lawmaker on the urgency of fixing the Obawole Bridge for safety of the community and overall developmental growth of Ifako-Ijaiye. Meanwhile, the lawmaker assured that he would swing into action towards solving the problem while noting that visible results would be seen in a couple of weeks. "Tackling ecological problems has always been my top priority since I was inaugurated at the National Assembly by your mandate and I will ensure that all necessary government

ministries, agencies and parastatals concerned are informed and a proper lobby for the quick reaction in solving the problem will follow," Owolabi had responded to the council boss. The project was later awarded to contractor. Owolabi also facilitated renovation of the dilapidated Obawole Primary School. While inspecting the projects, the council chairman commended Owolabi for facilitating the project to further develop educational system in the local government area.



Stakeholders preach against tradition affecting women

By Saheed Afolabi

Speakers at a talkshow/seminar on Tuesday in Lagos tagged 'Lere Emerge,' canvassed total change in cultures and traditions that affect women negatively in the society.

The convener of the seminar, Ms Mary-Jane Ejiofor, owner of Aquizilt Cyn 'jaaay Creation, said culture and tradition had done more harm than good for women, especially in marriages.

The talkshow, which doubled as a youth development programme, organised in collaboration with the Surulere Local Government Council, had the theme, "Refanning the old Flames."

"We need to start telling ourselves the truth that culture and tradition have done more harm to women than help them.

"Thus cultures and traditions are laid down rules by men and they were made to subjugate women.

"So it's high time we started breaking away from such cultures and traditions that have kept women bound for centuries, and when that is done we get the change we

need," Ejiofor said.

Speakers at the event spoke on topics such as Domestic Violence, The Girl Child/Abuse, Drug/Addiction and fraud/Cyber crimes.

Mrs Caroline Ibe, a lawyer with the International Federation of Women Lawyers, Badagry branch, who spoke on Domestic Violence advised women to learn how to speak out.

She called on women to be supportive of one another and stop stigmatization during marital challenges.

"Marriage is to be enjoyed not endured. When a woman is ready to leave a marriage please do not persuade her to stay back in an abusive marriage.

"Parents should stop insisting their daughters stay in abusive relationships due to gossips and societal pressure once they see a red flag," said Ibe.

Mr. N Robert Young, an actor, called on parents to desist from petting and having a favourite child in the family, especially boys.

He said boys must be domesticated like the girl child to reduce negative effects from male children.

"Children should be brought up to be responsible to



Women dressed colourfull attire

themselves, the family and the society. Parents should stop the habit of favouring a particular child.

"It sends a negative signal to such child, which may be negative in future. All children should be treated equally.

"The male child should learn

how to cook, help his mother or sisters and should not feel the girl child is meant to do all the chores in the house like slaves," said Young.

The council boss, Mr Yusuf Bamidele, in his remark appreciated all the speakers and called for a positive turn around in families.

He also advised men to desist from domestic violence as it attracted a severe penalty by the government and called for dialogue and understanding by couples to raise better children.

He said parents should create time for their children

and wards and get involved in their daily lives to ensure they had a good future.

He promised to collaborate with the Nollywood industry to ensure youths are taken off the streets by setting up empowerment programmes to assist them in Surulere.

Group agitates for free and fair primaries in Surulere

By Saheed Afolabi

To guide against perceived crises in the Surulere area of Lagos State during the 2023 elections, the Civil Liberty Organization for Democratic Change & Responsive Governance (SDCRG) has urged stakeholders in the ruling party, All Progressives Congress APC, to allow primary elections in constituencies I and II in

order to encourage the electorate.

The group also urged the party not to resort to a consensus candidate which is not only unconstitutional, considering the newly amended Electoral Act but does not reflect the internal democracy that the party projects as enshrined in its constitution.

SDCRG Coordinator in Surulere, Alhaji Komolafe Eshilokun, sought collaboration with the

stakeholders in an effort to deepen internal democracy within the APC family in the constituencies.

According to him, if the party intends to achieve its goals and win the confidence of its members, conducting primary election is the only avenue through which the aforementioned could be entrenched.

The Coordinator frowned at the manner at which selection of candidates took place in the last local

government primaries in Surulere Constituency I and II whereby many members, who had declared interest and bought nomination forms at exorbitant fees, were disenfranchised because tickets were eventually got either through consensus arrangement or godfatherism since the primaries were held skeletally.

"The essence of the parley was to create awareness on the need for the APC to

conduct primary elections towards the forthcoming general elections which will afford every aspirant in Constituencies 1 & 11 an opportunity to follow the selection process of the party, as enshrined in the rubric of the party's constitution.

"This will enable us to ensure that APC adheres to the guidelines for selection of candidates, as stipulated in the newly amended Electoral Act, in order to

deepen the internal democracy of the party, while also forestalling any possible rancour that may arise from it.

Eshilokun also gave credence to the words of Speaker of the Federal House of Representatives, Femi Gbajabamila, who has reiterated the readiness of the Green Chamber to continuously offer a legislative push for a credible political process in Nigeria.



Wafa 2nd Division: Fortress Ladies emerge champion

Notayo's Cup: Oloke FC thrash Lofty Skills SA

By Saheed Afolabi

They say experience counts in big games of this magnitude and the most experienced side Oloke FC thrashed Lofty Skills SA to advance to the round of 16 of the Notayo's Cup Competition.

A sole goal in the first half and the downpour of goals in the second half were what Oloke FC needed as they sent Lofty Skills SA out of the competition in a convincing way.

Both teams did their best in the first half as the match provided an even game but Oloke FC took the lead against the run of play in the first half to send their fans in a wild jubilation mood.

Only one goal separated both sides in the first 45 minutes but the organized play by Oloke FC put them ahead of their opponent.

Oloke FC continued from where they stopped in the first half as they scored another great goal in the 49th minute.

Playmaker, Ugonna Chukwu was the most impressive player on the pitch as he was a thorn in the flesh of Lofty Skills SA defenders as he provided a terrific assist for the 3rd goal of the match for Oloke FC.

Soon after conceding the 3rd goal, Lofty Skills SA didn't muster enough will to fight back and we're demoralized, which made them concede two more goals in the game.

Oloke FC also book a place in the next round of the Notayo's Cup Competition as the boys are gradually been separated from the men.



Oloke FC VS Lofty Skills SA

The inaugural edition of the 2nd division of the Wafa league came with lots of dramas as Fortress Ladies all the way from Edo State defeated all other Lagos based teams to emerge the champion.

Fortress Ladies who only needed to win their last match with a wide margin did their assignment well as they

crushed Daff Ladies 11-0 to inflict the heaviest defeat of the competition on Daff Ladies and got promoted to the elite division of Wafa league.

Makbet Queens on the other hand also got promoted to the Wafa league division one alongside Arising Stars and Young Achiever Queens.

The twist of the league table was between Makbet Queens and Arising Stars as Arising Stars just needed a win to win the league, while Makbet have

to win by a 5 goal margin to win the league but unfortunately both teams played out a 1-1 draw to pave way for Fortress Ladies to emerge champions.

Speaking to ECHONEWS, the coach of the Fortress Ladies side, Jimmy Aimuagbonrie said he was so happy for winning the Wafa division 2 league, saying it was a remarkable day in his career.

He appreciated the Edo State Government for making sport a top priority as he dedicated

the championship win to the Edo State Government.

The captain of Fortress Ladies, Omoruyi Osaiyekemwen, disclosed how happy she was as she showered praises on her teammates and coach for making it possible to win the league.

Also present at the grand finale of the Wafa division 2 league is the chairman of Daff Ibarapa Central Football Association (FA) Alhaji Kareem Isiaka described the

competition as a great one which will help in the development of women football players in Nigeria.

Fortress Ladies emerges champion of the Wafa division 2 league with 14 points and 23 goal difference, Arising Stars came second with 13 points and 11goal difference, Makbet Queens got 12 points and 20 goal difference.

The 4th placed team accumulated 11 points and 18 goal difference.

Eric ten Hag should leave minor cosmetic things - Rangnick

By Saheed Afolabi

Incoming Manchester United manager, Erik ten Hag, must perform an "open heart operation" rather than fixing "minor cosmetic things", says interim boss Ralf Rangnick.

Ten Hag will take charge at the end of a season that has seen United face strong criticism over performances.

Rangnick said it is "vital" they sign the "best possible players" to change the "attitude and energy".

"We need positive energy for the new team and the new manager," he said.

"If he gets that, if the right lessons are being learned, this could be one of the few good things about the season we are going through.

"At least you know which kind of screws we need to turn, things we need to change and if that happens, why should Erik ten Hag not be able to be as successful as he was at Ajax?"

"It's not the manager's quality - it's changing all the other things that

have brought the club into a position we are in right now.

"The good thing - one of the few - is it's crystal clear. You don't even need glasses to see the problems.

"Now it's only about how you can solve them. Not minor cosmetic things. This is an open heart operation. If everyone realizes this has to happen and works together, it doesn't need to take years.

"It can happen within one year. Other clubs have shown it's possible within three transfer windows."



Eric ten Hag

Notayo's Cup: SGH Sports Academy defeat Ambassador FC

By Saheed Afolabi

SGH Sports Academy pulled off a master class performance as they defeated Ambassador FC in the opening game of the second edition of the Notayo's Cup Competition going on at Jalisco mini stadium, Oshodi.

Despite being reduced to ten men at the tail end of the first half, SGH Sports Academy brought their 'A' game to play as they showed their opponent their tactical prowess in the game.

Playing in front of their home fans, Ambassador FC took the lead early in the game to set the fireworks in the match.

The composure of the SGH Sports

Academy team and well articulated play brought them back on level terms in the 20th minute through Opeyemi Ajayi.

The dominance of SGH Sports Academy and silk passing made them double their lead in the 25th minute through Samson Dauda with a cool finish.

When it all seemed everything was all rosy for the 'Godly Boys', a moment of a costly mistake by the center back of SGH Sports

Academy put the goalie in danger with a dangerous back pass, which the goalkeeper could not deal with well as the striker of Ambassador FC made his way past the goalkeeper of SGH Sports Academy.

This made the goalkeeper to hack

down the opposing striker outside his 18 yard box and the center referee did not blink his eye balls before issuing a straight red card to the ambitious goalkeeper and thereby reducing SGH Sports Academy to ten men on the pitch of play.

Ambassador FC with the numerical advantage equalized in the 50th minute before taking the lead once more in the 54th minute.

SGH Sports Academy regrouped and some tactical changes brought the Godly Boys back to their rhythm as they played their hearts out before securing a equalizer in the 60th minute through the outstanding Opeyemi Ajayi.



The mystery behind my name - Hon. Wasiu Adesina ...Celebrates 66 Years

The Chairman of Ikorodu Local Government, Hon. WASIU ADESINA turned 66 on Friday, April 22, 2023. In this interview with ECHONEWS Editor, ABOLAJI ADEBAYO, the sixth and last born of his mother disclosed the mystery behind his name - Ayodeji. He also talked about his growing up, education and political career. Excerpts:

As a birthday boy at 66, how do you feel?

We thank God that I am witnessing another day of my birth. When I was five years, I started my elementary school at Musliudeen Primary School, Ikorodu now Ijogun Primary School. Later I moved to Oriwu College, Ikorodu where I did my West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE). When I passed out, I joined the Lagos State Ministry of Local Government and Chieftaincy Affairs then in 1984. After serving about a year or two there, I proceeded to University of Ibadan to do my Diploma in Adult Education and Community Development. Immediately after that, I contested for councillorship in Ikorodu in Ward A2 now Ward C which I won in 1991 and also appointed immediately to serve as Supervisor for Education. The Military administration that came in 1993 topple that government and sent us packing and I decided to join the service again which I was employed again as Community Development Assistant in the Local Government Service Commission.

I later proceeded to Lagos State University for my First Degree where I obtained a BSc in Political Science. Thereafter I did my Masters in Public Administration and graduated in 2001 at the same institution. I did Nigerian Institute of Management (NIM) to be a member and also Regional Institute of Management II.

I retired from the Lagos State Service as the Head of Human Resources under the Local Government in Victoria Island in Iru LCDA when I wanted to contest for the chairmanship position. But before then, when I was in service in 2015, I was appointed as the Executive Secretary for Ikorodu Local Government. After that I contested as the Executive Chairman and I won and this is my second term running as the Chairman of Ikorodu Local Government.

At this point of your life, can you say you're fulfilled with your aspiration in life to some extent?

Well, I thank God but I'm still looking up to some leaders who have achieved more than what I have. But with that, I thank God because I was given this opportunity to serve my people and I want to commend our National Leader, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu for giving all of us that opportunity to serve. Then my appreciation also goes to the Governor of Lagos State, Mr. Babajide Olushola Sanwo-Olu whom we enjoy from.

Probably when you were born, you would have been told something surrounding your birth. Do you remember any mystery surrounding your birth?

What I was told was that I was named Ayodeji because the day I was born was the day my daddy bought his first car. As they were bringing the car, I was coming out so I became Ayodimeji.

Do you remember your growing up, your peers, your mates from childhood?

Yes, I remember when we were in primary school, there was usual End of the Year programme that we used to do where we would buy broom, basket and everything to the school so that the headmaster will announce the best student in this, the best student in that. So, I know that I used to collect best student in Physics related subjects where you tell the environment and surroundings and I was always very happy when they announced my name as the best student. It was always interesting and that's one of the good things that I remember. I was made one of the leaders of the class. Then, when we entered Secondary School, I remembered that I was made the class captain of our class, Form 1C. Thereafter, some of my friends too were leading in that category. We were also nicknamed but I don't want to mention my nickname because it's always very funny.

Are you still relating with some of primary and secondary school mates?

Yes we used to see but not all of them, just about two. One is Adeolu Aladagbe, he called me sometimes and then we chatted together. Then the other one is Mulika. Most of them that I know have travelled out, like one Saliu Adebayo.

Okay, so your parents, what are their impacts in your life, in your growing up, and your siblings too?

Yes I'm full of happiness about my parents for what they have done in my life especially my mum. Though both of them are late, I remember them always for what they did. If



Hon. Wasiu Adeshina

not for their efforts, I wouldn't be where I am today. I want God to help me bless the place they are, that's my prayer.

Alright sir, your siblings what do you say about them?

We are still very close and cordial.

How do you compare parental care during your childhood and now?

There is no more parental care nowadays. During our own time when we were growing up, our parents would keep checking on us to know what we were doing at all times. I remember that my mum would come to our school in the morning and afternoon even if the gateman would not allow her in, she would stay at the gate and waited for us. And when we returned from school, our food would be ready. Nowadays, most parents do not have time for their children may be due to their nature of jobs. Mother and father would have gone since morning and come back at night.

My advice to the mother parents is that they have to be more caring and be vigilante on their children.

As a local government chairman, what will you want to be remembered for when you leave office?

I will be remembered for the renovation and beautification of the local council secretariat.

The Secretariat has been there over 50 years without roofing. It was when I came as executive chairman that I decided to do the roofing and change the louvers window to the modern sliding one, painting, redesigning of the offices with POP and illumination of the Secretariat. The work still continues as the Secretariat is very big.

We are doing all these with other projects with the meagre we have, we didn't take loan from anywhere. I have embarked on empowerment programme, buying mini buses for youths in the community and I have constructed more than 20 roads and still counting. When I came back for second term, I embarked on more than nine projects and looking forward to more to come.

What is your advice to the youths especially as 2023 general election is approaching?

Well, my advice to them is that they should shun all forms of hooliganism, vandalism and other vices. They should join hands to vote for APC and especially our national leader, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu to become the president of Nigeria.

Alright, during your birthday, what should your people expect from you as birthday gift?

Prayer, I will continue to pray for them. Then they should expect more projects from me as I have some in my plan to execute soon.