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LAGOS COMMUNITIES EDITION

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OPEN DEFECATION:

LAGOS NEEDS 190,000 TOILETS

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Open Defecation: Lagos needs 190,000 toilets

By Abolaji Adebayo

Lagos needs not less than 190,000 public toilets to eradicate open defecation due to the huge daily influx of migrants into the city.

Sanitation experts told Echonews that over 10 million persons need to use the facilities daily across the 20 local government areas (LGs) and 37 local council development areas (LCDAs).

Approximately, each local council area needs about 3,000 standard toilets to cater for the increasing population.

As gathered by ECHONEWS, out of the needed estimated toilets, the state already has 1,200 built public toilets. The local governments and private sector have provided 2,000 mobile toilets.

However, Echonews gathered that only 618 out of the 1,200 built toilets are certified and registered by the government.

Lagos State government owns 40 public toilets as intervention support to the state while the local governments own 300 public toilets being their primary duty.

With 9,425,622 population, there are approximately 900 toilets in London registered as part of the National Key Scheme run by the disability charity RADAR.

In 2018 there were 4,486 toilets run by major councils in the UK, down from 5,159 in 2010. In 37 areas, major councils no longer run any public conveniences. Highland Council maintains most public toilets (92), followed by Gwynedd (73) and Pembrokeshire (73).

In New York City with population of 8.82 million, there are 1,103 public bathrooms around New York City. However, only two of these facilities are open 24/7, creating a serious problem for anyone looking for a bathroom late at night.

With its current number of public toilets, Lagos State is at par with other international destinations.

The Chief Operating Officer of A-mobile Group, Mrs Damilola Oloruntade, who noted the menace of persistent open defecation in Lagos State, said there is need for urgent action from both the government and private sector.

Being the commercial hub of the country with inflow of immigrants, Lagos State is one of the states with higher level of open defecation in Nigeria.

If the figure proposed by Oloruntade is attained, it is believed that the menace would be eradicated and Lagos would be competing better with international counterparts.

Japan is leading the way among the countries with highest number of public toilets, followed by The United Kingdom, Switzerland.,

Scandinavia, Germany, America, and China.

Oloruntade said there are about 2,000 mobile toilets in Lagos presently, emphasising that the state still has greater deficit of mobile toilets.

She noted that the attitude of the residents greatly affects the deployment of mobile toilets in different locations across the state.

She said the government needs to enforce its policy on open defecation.

Narrating her experience while deploying mobile toilets at Obalende, Oloruntade said her effort was frustrated by some area boys demanding N200,000 before the toilet could be placed in the area.

She stated that most of the toilets are not used by some residents who prefer defecating in their potty and throw into the gutter, adding that at times, instead of using the toilet they would defecate on open ground beside the toilets.

According to the United Nations, World Health Organization (WHO) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the extent of open defecation in Nigeria varies from as low as 1.2% of households in Abia to as high as 65.8% in Kogi. Other States that show higher than the national average (37%) with regard to open defecation practices are Ekiti (60.8%), Plateau (56.2%), Oyo (54.0%), Cross River (53.6), Benue (52.9%), Taraba (52.5%), Nasarawa (50.8%), Kwara (50.5%), Enugu (48.6%), Jigawa (48.1%), Ondo (47.6%), Niger (47.5%), Ebonyi (45.5%), Osun (39.2%) and Kebbi (37.6%).

In 2016, Nigeria launched an action plan of its own, aiming to end open defecation by 2025. The plan involves providing equitable access to water, sanitation, and hygiene services and strengthening tailored community approaches.

But with the government yet to release substantial funding for the initiative, advocates say progress is at a snail's pace.

In November 2018, as parts of the country struggled with high levels of water-borne diseases, Nigeria's President Muhammadu Buhari declared a state of emergency in the water, sanitation, and hygiene sector.

Nigeria needs an estimated NGN 1.11 trillion (\$2.7 billion) to end open defecation by 2025. Of that, the government is expected to provide around 25%, or NGN280 billion — justified on the grounds that the country loses NGN455 billion annually to poor sanitation.

An environmentalist, Olalekan Odutola said the best way to go about achieving open defecation



Open defecation

free society in Nigeria is through public/private partnerships.

According to him, it has worked reasonably well in Lagos and can be replicated in the rest of the country.

"Once people can make money out of a public good, they are motivated to go all the way to invest in such ventures," he said. Nigeria was ranked highest with open defecation. In October 2019, Nigeria became the number one open defecation nation globally, passing India.

Nigeria is among the nations in the world with the highest number of people practicing open defecation, estimated that 50 million Nigerians (or 10 million households) defecate in the open.

The practice has had a negative effect on the populace, especially children, in the areas of health and education and had contributed to the country's failure to meet the MDG target.

The sanitation situation in the country prompted the National Council on Water Resources in 2014 to prioritize the development of a roadmap towards eliminating open defecation in the country, in line with the United Nations global campaign for ending open defecation.

This initiative tagged "Making Nigeria Open Defecation Free by 2025: A National Roadmap" was developed by the Federal Ministry of Water Resources with invaluable support from UNICEF and other key sector players across Nigeria. In 2016, the National Council on Water Resources endorsed this road map to eliminate open defecation in Nigeria.

The Roadmap provides a guide

towards achieving an open defecation free country using different approaches such as capacity development; promotion of improved technology options through sanitation marketing; provision of sanitation facilities in public places; Community-Led Total Sanitation; promotional and media campaigns; creating enabling environment and coordination mechanism.

In this strategy document an indicative investment required for achieving the roadmap is estimated, showing the cost by government at all levels and the private sector, especially for construction of sanitation facilities in public places and the cost by households for construction of household sanitation facilities.

The Roadmap also provides a basis for the development of the Partnership for Expanded Water Supply and Sanitation (PEWASH) programme which aims to establish a multi-sectoral partnership between government, development partners and the private sector to support the empowerment of rural dwellers in Nigeria through the provision of adequate water supply and sanitation services.

The Federal Ministry of Water Resources will provide the enabling environment, leadership and coordination required in achieving this target by working together with communities, civil society, development agencies, private sector and government at sub-national levels.

Meanwhile, the Director, Sanitation Service Department, Lagos State Ministry of Environment, Dr. Sanuth Hassan,

told ECHONEWS that the state has keyed into the Federal Government policy to make the state open defecation free.

According to him, Lagos State Government has continued to warn people against open defecation to avoid arrest and punishment liable to offence committed.

To be free from open defecation, Hassan said Lagos State deployed three strategies among which is continuous and regular advocacy to sensitise community members and the market men and women for more public awareness.

He said the state government also engaged in infrastructure by building more public toilets and rehabilitating the moribund ones.

Hassan said the government has partnered with private sector which constructed 10 toilets last year and planning to build at least another six this year commencing next week while refurbishing the existing ones to put them in proper use for the general public to serve the growing population of the state. He said the problem in Lagos is not the infrastructure but the growing population of people coming into the state daily, many of whom have no home.

Those, according to him, are the ones who defecate openly since majority of them could not even afford to pay for the use of public toilets.

He explained that the third strategy deployed by the state government is enforcement.

According to him, a Taskforce - Anti-Open Defecation Squad was inaugurated last year to tackle those who engage in open defecation, arrest and charge the offenders to a court.

He noted that lack of moral ethics is the major cause of open defecation, saying many of those who involve in the act are not ready to pay to use public toilets since they live in the market, garage and even on their bikes.

He said through the government's efforts, open defecation has reduced drastically in Lagos citing example of Ilubirin and other areas in the Island where offenders were arrested and punished.

However, he admitted that people still defecate in some open places particularly on railways.

He said that is the focus of the taskforce now, to get rid of the perpetrators from the places.

He said it is the duty of the government to issue permit to individuals and private sectors before they can embark on the operation of public toilet business with topmost monitoring of the existing public toilets and the operators for a healthy environment.

He disclosed that a Community Development Association (CDA) in Lagos Island also participated in the exercise by building their own public toilets, adding that the funds realised from those toilets are used to maintain it.

He called other CDAs to join the race to eradicate open defecation in the state.

Similar to that, he revealed that an organisation, JC-Decaux promised to construct 10 public toilets in Lagos State, noting that five have been built - three at Berger, two at Oyingbo - while the remaining five are to be completed soon.

To meet the target of eradicating open defecation in Lagos State, he enjoined individuals and corporate bodies to increase public toilets construction as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to the community.

He explained that the existing public toilets are not enough to serve the ever increasing population of Lagos State.

"All an investor need is to have fund and government will provide enabling environment, the space to erect public toilet which the investor will run with good maintenance.

"Afterwards, yearly operational fee will be paid to the government, either state or local based on where it is acquired."

He rated the impact of the regulations put in place by the government to be relatively improving by the day as he advised community members to take care of health issues which, he said, begins from the immediate environment.

"Healthy environment result to healthy human being that is conscious of good hygiene," he said.

Make us more accountable, Olasoju urges residents

By Abolaji Adebayo

The Chairman of Isolo LCDA, Otunba Adebayo Olasoju, has charged traditional leaders and residents in Isolo LCDA to always task their political leaders for their contributions towards human and community development. The council chairman called for the setting up of a strong contact committee of accomplished leaders who will be deploying their influence to source for jobs from federal and state ministries for the graduates in the council area as he charged the traditional body to hold every public office holder by their "testicles" to get them performing at utmost level. He said this to Osolo of Isolo,

Oba Kabiru Agbabiaka and his chiefs-in-council as he confirmed teaching appointment slots for two employable graduates in the council area.

Olasoju promised support for the next year's Egungun festival and Osolo Day Celebrations.

He also promised to rehabilitate Osolo's palace to the standard obtainable in other first-class obas' palaces by December 2021 with a Hummer bus for Osolo's chiefs before his one year in office.

He made other promises include motor vehicles for Baales loyal to Osolo as he discussed his welfare plans for Osolo's chiefs and workforce.

The council boss said in

addition to the ongoing massive roads rehabilitation ongoing in the council area, attention will be paid to flood control measures on Iyewa/Oba Goloba axis as well as the construction of culverts on Ilesanmi and Mustapha Streets among others.

Responding, the monarch commended the council boss for his giant strides since he assumed office, promising traditional support for his administration.

Meanwhile, Chief Alimi Dorishamu whose son, Musbau Dorishamu was appointed as protocol officer and Chief Wasiu Arowoye who was appointed to serve in the recently inaugurated street naming/revalidation committee appreciated Olasoju for the gesture.



Hon. Adebayo Olasoju

Community happy, LASG desilts drains along Chivita

By Edith Igbokwe

Residents of Isolo have heaved sigh of relief as Lagos State Emergency Flood Abatement (EFA) evacuated drains in industrial axis of the council area, along Chivita Avenue, Ajao Estate.

It was earlier believed that the drains were blocked with refuse caused flood in the area.

However, the agency discovered that the drains were not blocked by refuse but sand.

According to the EFA coordinator in Oshodi-Isolo, Mr. Adeniyi Dairo, the drains were blocked with heaps of sand, hindering free flow of water whenever it rains.

He emphasised that no refuse was found in the

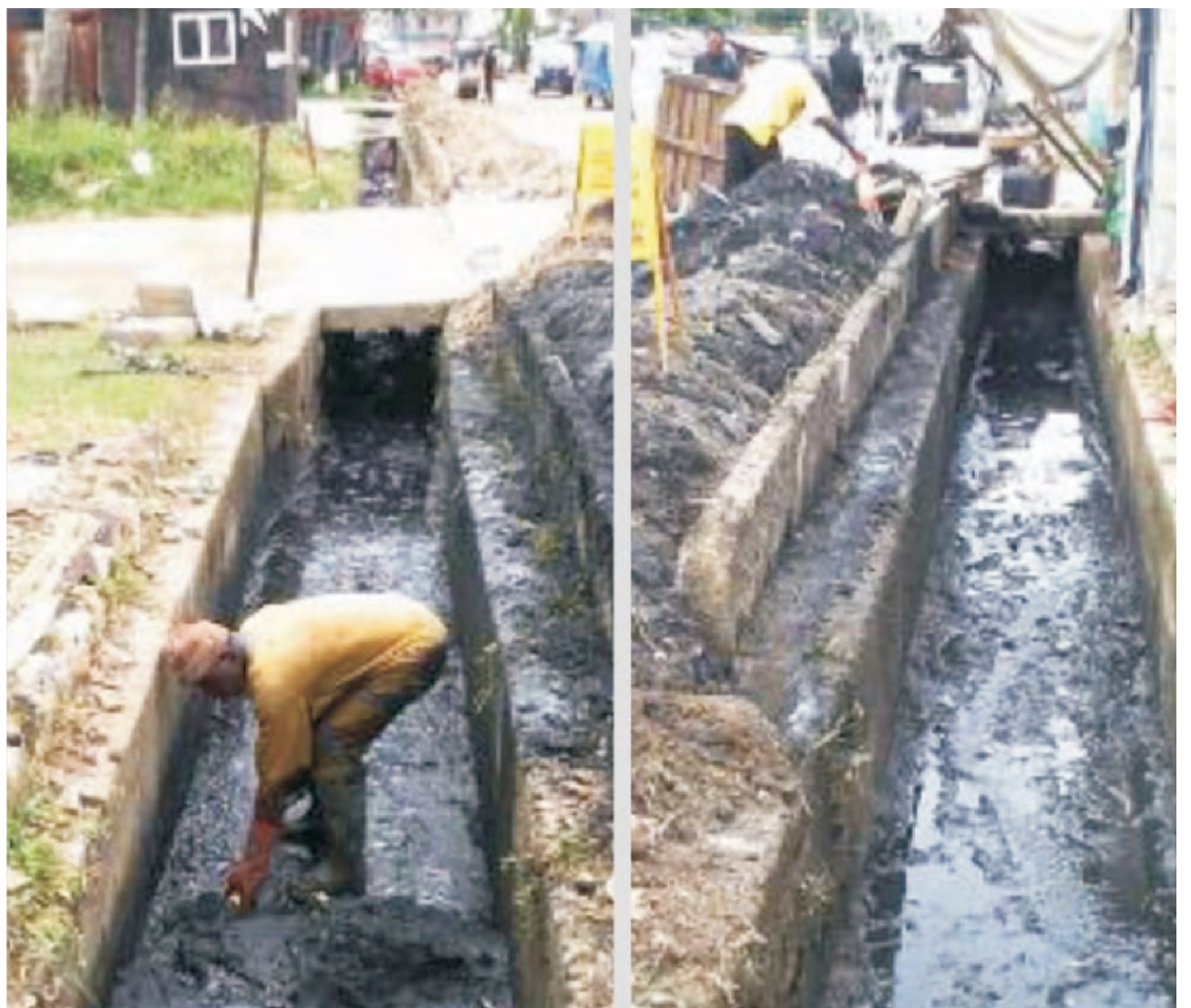
drains while evacuating them but heaps of sand.

He noted that the ongoing road construction works in the community also contributed to the deposition of sand in the drains.

Dairo promised that would do thorough evacuation starting from the canal side of the road down to canoe junction of Chivita Avenue axis to abet incessant flood ravaging the community.

Some of the residents who spoke to ECHONEWS said it was the first time the drains in the community would be desilted.

They stated that ever since the drains were constructed, they had never been opened for evacuation, noting that at any slight rainfall, the drains would fill up and eventually flood the community.



Before and after evacuation exercise

Real Madrid, Bayern Munich chase Rudiger

By Saheed Afolabi

Real Madrid and Bayern Munich are among the top European clubs growing increasingly confident of being able to secure a deal for Antonio Rudiger as his contract stalemate continues at Chelsea.

Rudiger, 28, is in the final year of his deal at Stamford Bridge but talks over an extension have reached an impasse. Rudiger is open to staying and Chelsea are keen on retaining his services but the two parties are some way apart in their valuations of a new deal. The

centre-back wants to more than double his £100,000-a-week wage but Chelsea have so

far shown no willingness to increase his salary beyond £150,000-a-week. The situation is complicated further by huge wages potent

ially on offer elsewhere given clubs will be able to sign Rudiger without paying a transfer fee

next summer.

Reports elsewhere have suggested several overseas sides are willing to offer Rudiger more than £300,000-a-week to leave Chelsea.

Sources claim Real, Bayern, Juventus and Paris Saint-Germain are among a number of sides closely monitoring the Germany international, who has been in fine form for Thomas Tuchel's side since the start of the season.

He will be free to talk to overseas clubs directly from Jan. 1 and although there is a deadlock, Rudiger said during the recent international break that he is relaxed about his future.

"The interest honours me, that shows that I've done a few things right recently but I don't let myself be distracted. I have an obligation to my club to perform well.

"I have to prove myself every game and not let myself be distracted by rumours. I make my decisions for myself. They don't depend on anyone. I feel good where I am" Rudiger said.



I was sexually abused as a teenager, Patrice Evra says

By Saheed Afolabi

Former Manchester United defender Patrice Evra says he was sexually assaulted by a school teacher as a teenager. Evra, 40, spoke openly before the release of his new book. He explained why he has never spoken out about it until now. "When I first did the book, I didn't tell the whole story because I was still ashamed and scared about what people would think," Evra said. "Now I want to say it because I don't want kids to be in my situation and they are ashamed of

themselves, thinking they are not brave because it's not about being brave, it's about being mentally ready to talk about it.

"So I just want to make sure kids out there have the courage and do not blame themselves, because I always blamed myself. "I'm not shy to say I felt like a coward for many years because I never speak up. It was something heavy in my chest. But I don't do it for me, I do it for other children."

Evra, who grew up in Les Ulis near Paris, says the abuse took place in the teacher's house, where he stayed in order to reduce commuting time between his home and school.

He only told his mother two weeks ago, and says he defied her pleas not to discuss what happened in his book.

"Only now when I am 40 years old do I tell her," he said. "It was a big shock for her. A lot of anger. She said she was sorry. She said, 'You must not put it in your book, it's private Patrice'.

"But that's when I say, 'Mum, it's not about me, it's about other kids', then she says OK, she understands."

Evra, who won five Premier League titles during eight years at Old Trafford, says he denied the abuse when he received a call from the police about it while playing for



Evra

Monaco aged 24.

"Living with that was one of my biggest regrets because I could have helped so many people," he added.

Lagos City League: Six teams qualify for super 6

By Saheed Afolabi

The first edition of the Lagos City League (LCL) has reached the super 6 stage where six clubs that made it to the stage would be competing for champions of the league to emerge.

The final six include MS Success FC, EL Tkwon FC, Rechabite FA, FC Bethel, Surulere Warriors and TCN FC.

The six clubs made it to the super 6 after meeting the requirements of the league. The winner of the league will go home with a trophy, medal

and FA cup slot. This had been described as a good offer for the clubs to battle hard for it.

Speaking to ECHONEWS, the chairman of LCL, Kingsley Mba, expressed gratitude to God for the success of the first stage of the league season, describing the super 6 stage as an avenue for clubs to test their strength and playing skills to emerge champions.

Mba noted that it was not an easy first stage of the league campaign but he is determined to finish the tournament and set a standard to be envied.

Bruce treatment putting managers off - Arteta

By Saheed Afolabi

Arsenal boss, Mikel Arteta, said managers are being put off taking jobs because of the sort of abuse suffered by Steve Bruce at Newcastle.

Arteta says current and prospective coaches have told him they are thinking twice about becoming managers.

"Yes, a lot of people think like that," he said.

Arteta, 39, added: "I heard a lot and I have a lot of friends who are doing the courses, who doubted whether they want to take the hot seat or whether it is better to be an assistant or something else.

"For me, this cannot be the barrier, because you have fear about the treatment you are going to receive. I think the enjoyment as well is that big, that it should not stop you.

"But it is important that we take care a little bit of the environment and putting things in the right place. If not, I don't think it will get better. I think it will get worse if we don't do anything about it."

Bruce's final game at Newcastle, a 3-2 defeat by Tottenham on Sunday, was his 1,000th as a manager, but the 60-year-old says that could be his last job.

Arteta, who is at the other end of his managerial career, was asked whether prospective coaches have called him

personally with their concerns. "Yes," he said. "And people who have been managers already, experienced managers, and they are thinking about not doing it again.

"You cannot lose the focus, the passion and the love - the reason why you made the decision in the first place to do that.

"If you are affected by every single opinion in life nowadays, with how easy you can read stuff about yourself, you are not going to be happy with whatever you do."

Arteta said bosses have to deal with criticism but, after Bruce said he was called "useless, a fat waste of space, a stupid, tactically-inept cabbage-head", improvements must be made.

"I was really sad after reading that statement from Steve," said the Spaniard. "First of all, because I know him personally, and secondly, because of what he transmitted in his words.

"You're talking about somebody who has been in the game for over 40 years as a player and as a manager.

"He's managed over 1,000 games and he's telling you, with that experience, with that level of expertise that he has, that he struggles with that kind of situation, with that kind of abuse.

"I think we have to reflect. We can't take for granted and accept certain things because they are how they are."

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Council applauds farmers for emerging first at World Food Day

By Motolani AbdulGafar

For emerging the Best Farmers of the Year at the 2021 World Food Day celebration organised by the Lagos State Government, Ejigbo Council authority has commended the farmers in the council area.

Commending the farmers on behalf of the council, the Head of Department, Agriculture and Social Services, Ejigbo LCDA, Mrs Olayinka Adeko, said the farmers have really made the local council area proud, saying they deserve outstanding commendation.

Ejigbo farmers were awarded Best Farmers of the Year based on their farm produce showcased at the ceremony. Adeko explained that the annual

celebration has helped in arousing interest of many people in agriculture, showcasing farmers' efforts to combat hunger and encouraging them to do more.

She added that the celebration has also enlightened many youths that farming can be practiced in every part of their residence while also disabusing them of the mentality that only people living in the rural areas are agricultural experts.

According to her, Ejigbo LCDA presented big healthy cooks, rams, cows, cat fish, veggies, and many other produce that were all reared and cultivated in Ejigbo.

She explained that the farm produce indicated that the soil of Ejigbo land and climate are good for farming.

Explaining this year's theme "Our Actions are our Future", she



Ejigbo famers in group photograph

said: "The food we choose to eat and the way we consume it affect our health and that of our planet as it has an impact on the way agri-food systems work

which explains the reason all residents have to be part of the change for a healthy farm produce."

She commended the chairman

of famers in Ejigbo, Mr Tajudeen Thanni, for properly coordinating his colleagues and taking note of important details as an expert to emerge winners at the event.

She also appreciated the support of the council chairman, Hon. Monsurudeen Bello (Obe) and the Council Manager (CM), Princess Iyabode Ogunyemi.

CDC warns transformer vandals

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The Community Development Committee (CDC), Ejigbo LCDA has warned hoodlums who vandalise transformers in the council area, urging all residents and security agents to strengthen protective measures in every part of the community.

The CDC Ad Hoc chief security officer, Prince Jelili Atiku, made the call following the continuous vandalism of transformers in different parts of Ejigbo.

He said the most worrisome act is the stealing of cables from the transformers, saying the perpetrators must be

apprehended.

He noted that although the CDC security committee, police officers, neighbourhood corps, among other security officials are re-strategising to find a lasting solution to transformer vandalism in Ejigbo, he urged other individuals in the community to be vigilant and support the security agents by reporting any suspect.

A resident of an affected community at Alafia Avenue, Elder Johnson Amos, told ECHONEWS how two transformers were vandalised within a month in Ifoshi ward.

He said the case was reported to

Ikeja Electricity Distribution Company (IKEDC) but the residents were asked to buy new cables, explaining that the company told them to safeguard the transformer, claiming that it has been put in their care the moment it was been installed in the community.

His words: "Within a month, Alhaji Adams substation transformer and that of Alafia Avenue substation were vandalised while their cables were stolen. We wrote letter to IKEDC but we were asked to buy the missing cables. So far, at Alhaji Adams, we spent N300,000 to fix the cable and N200,000 to build a standard protector over the transformer to avoid reoccurrence.

As for Alafia Avenue, they spent about N350,000 to repair the cables.

"What we observed is that the location of both transformers are at the junction of the streets which has secluded them from the intrinsic observance of our officials, but presently, we have allocated more security experts to watch over both affected and unaffected transformers because this issue is becoming more worrisome as this is not the first reported case in Ejigbo."

Meanwhile, Elder Amos tasked IKEDC to also contribute towards figuring out lasting solution to the outrageous act in Ejigbo.

Organiser promises new intellectual courses in next edition digital training

By Motolani AbdulGafar

The organiser of the just completed Girl Child Empowerment Animation programme at Ejigbo Digital Art Library has hinted that there will be more intellectual courses in the next edition of the programme.

The next edition has been scheduled to come up by November 1, this year.

The founder of the organisation, Mr Adetunwase Adenle, revealed that students will learn photography, video editing, user interface and user experience to make the training more lively empowerment programme.

He noted that the major challenge they encountered during the first edition is the uninterested attitude students portrayed, saying many of them are looking for quick money through internet fraud.

He, however, said the organisation intends to disabuse their minds from the fraud act and groom more role models in the ICT sector to convince others that hardworking really pays.

Adenle hinted that the organisation is interested in establishing centres in other LGAs due to the success of Ejigbo centre but is a bit incapacitated to do so, saying they would be glad if the government can give it full support.

Medical expert cautions residents on Sepsis

By Motolani AbdulGafar

A medical expert in Ejigbo, Dr Wasiu Adelodun, has warned the residents to be cautious of Sepsis, saying it is a life-threatening infection.

According to him, the infection is a health complication common among the younger and older people.

He noted that it degenerates into critical stage due to negligence, personal constraints and

unforeseen circumstances.

He said Sepsis is a life-threatening complication of an infection that arises when chemicals released in the bloodstream to fight an infection triggers inflammation throughout the body.

According to him, the emergence of this can cause changes that can possibly damage multiple organ systems which could lead to their failure.

He noted that cases of Sepsis mostly begin from the lungs,

urinary tract, skin or gastrointestinal tract which will lead to tissue damage and organ failure if not properly attended to. He advised residents to watch over both the young and old ones and take advantage of the medical facilities made available at the primary health centers in Ejigbo, saying elders from 65 and above, pregnant women or younger lads are mostly liable to it.

Moreover, he mentioned that patients with pre-existing infections or medical conditions

such as kidney disease, cancer, lung disease, diabetes and more are not left out.

Adelodun advised residents to always complain to medical expert and avoid treating themselves with the hope that their illness is minor, stating that it could unexpectedly lead to a severe one. He explained that antibiotics, intravenous fluids and vasopressors can be used to treat the infection only if an expert is involved.

Ogbunna hints residents on gas safety measures

An informal trader, Chief Monday Ogbunna, has hinted residents on safety tips they ought to be familiar with while handling cooking gas. With the pervasive rate of gas explosion in homes, Ogbunna urged users to avoid storing cylinders in lockers, saying a leakage could result to dangerous gas buildup without notice.

According to him, continuous use

of water to clean the gas cylinder and other decays the metallic cylinder should be avoided as it may cause havoc uninformed.

He also advised that anybody employed to sell gas or handle gas business must be properly trained to avoid cylinder exposure to sunlight, avoid poor installation and ensure persistent inspection of equipment.

Residents commend Dawodu for new school in Shogunle

By Edith Igbokwe

The residents of Shogunle in Oshodi-Isolo Local Government have expressed joy over the new secondary school being built in the community.

It is the first secondary school to be built in the community.

The school, of which foundation was laid last week, is facilitated by the Member representing Oshodi-Isolo Constituency I at the Federal House of Representatives, Dr. Bashiru Dawodu.

Commending Dawodu for the gesture, the Baale of Shogunle, Alhaji Rafiu Ajisegiri, said he has made a landmark towards educational development not only in Shogunle but Oshodi-Isolo LG as a whole.

He appealed for the quick completion of the project while urging other political leaders for more supports.

The chairman, Oshodi-Isolo Community Development Committee (CDC), Alhaji Adisa Olawoyin, while also appreciating Dawodu for facilitating the school in Shogunle area, explained that the community has been disadvantaged of secondary school.

He stated that the situation has affected the children in the community, saying many of them could not proceed to secondary school after their primary education.

He noted how their children were uncomfortable crossing over to Mafoluku or Oshodi to attend secondary school.

Olawoyin, who expressed the happiness mode of the entire community over the



Political and community leaders at the foundation laying of junior secondary school in Shogunle

foundation of Junior Secondary School laid by Dawodu in the premises of Ago-Owu Primary School, reiterated that the community members are filled with gratitude to the facilitator.

children would soon be over. Our dream of having a secondary school in Shogunle has become a reality." The CDC boss urged the political leaders in Oshodi to continue the good works that will eventually turn Oshodi-Isolo to a mega city.

I am not afraid of any political gimmick – Animashaun

By Edith Igbokwe

Following the emergence of another Oshodi-Isolo Local Government All Progressives Congress (APC) party Chairman, Adewale Adelana, the initial elected party chairman, Hon. Saheed Animashaun, has said he is not afraid of the gimmicks behind the politics.

Animashaun was earlier elected the party chairman during the local government APC Congress held in September, this year.

However, during the state congress held on October 16, Hon. Wale Adelana was announced as the new APC chairman in Oshodi-Isolo LG.

The new development nearly caused chaos in the local government area as Animashaun's loyalists protested over the issue, urging the council chairman, Otunba

Kehinde Oloyede to intervene.

Meanwhile, Animashaun has insisted that he remains the authentic elected party chairman in Oshodi-Isolo and that no force could deny him of the position.

"The authenticity of my position as the Oshodi-Isolo LGA party chairman is not questionable because the procedure was open to all at the election day," he said.

According to him, by the virtue of the state Congress Committee chairman, Hon. Wahab Akere and all the party leaders, he was adjudged Oshodi-Isolo LGA party chairman during the election conducted on Saturday, September 4.

He stated that he has the support of the three council chairmen under Oshodi-Isolo LGA, Otunba Kehinde Oloyede (Kendoo) of Oshodi, Otunba Adebayo Olosoju of Isolo and Hon. Monsurudeen



Animashaun

Bello (Obe) of Ejigbo.

He added that Oshodi Apex leader, Pa Joseph Olabitan, Chief Henry Ajomale, ward chairmen and party members also contributed to his victory at the election held at Abibatu Mogaji

hall, Oshodi Secretariat.

Meanwhile, Animashaun told ECHONEWS that the process of restoring his name back as the LGA Chairman is ongoing, assuring that the issue would soon be settled.

Oshodi-Isolo LG prepares to win District Inter-School Debate

By Edith Igbokwe

The National Youth Council Of Nigeria (NYCN), Oshodi branch said it has been preparing the representatives of Oshodi-Isolo Local Government Area for the grand finale of the Lagos West Senatorial District Inter-Secondary School Debate Competition.

According to the body, it aims at the Trophy in the competition, believing the local government would emerge the overall winner. Ridwan Ayodele and Ali Sulaiman, both SS2 Arts and Commercial students of Mafoluku Grammar School would be representing the local government in the grand finale after winning the preliminary stage of the competition.

The debate, with the topic "Masses But Not Government Should Be Held Responsible For The State Of Insecurity In Nigeria", was held at Ajeromi-Ifeolodun Local Government secretariat.

Out of 28 schools that participated in the competition,

only 10 emerged victorious at the preliminary stage with Oshodi-Isolo LGA coming first with 98 per cent marks.

The grand finale has been scheduled to hold on Thursday, October 28, 2021.

Speaking to ECHONEWS, the NYCN PRO, Olaide Idowu, said the body has been making frantic effort to make sure Oshodi-Isolo LG wins the competition.

He said they have been providing the needed information, skills, points and others for their students to lift the trophy at the final competition.

He noted that the finalists will also debate on the same topic but with more in-depth information and convincing facts.

He further hinted that the winner would get an undisclosed huge cash prize, mentorship and ambassadorial opportunities.

Idowu reiterated that the students representing Oshodi-Isolo LG are brilliantly endowed, assuring that with more commitment and hard work, they will win the competition.



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