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Lawyers set agenda for Kekere-Ekun

By Kunle Awosiyan

As she steps in as the 23rd Chief Justice of Nigeria, Hon. Justice Kudirat Motonmori Olatokunbo Kekere-Ekun is expected to revamp the confidence in the judicial system of the country.

This was the summary of the views of senior lawyers who spoke to Echonews shortly after President Bola Ahmed Tinubu swore in the CJN on Friday.

A Senior Advocate of Nigeria, Roland Otaru said that he would expect the new CJN to quickly address the issue of conflicting judgments in the judiciary.

He said "We are counting on her to reform the judiciary.

The body of benchers on which I'm a member organised a seminar sometime, headed by former CJN, Walter Onnoge in which we want the CJN to look at issues of conflicting judgements. We are going to get a robust report on this especially with the character of the new CJN, which it is unimpeachable. I want to say without any equivocation that honourable Justice Kekere-Ekun is very cerebral. She has what it takes to be the CJN. She started from magistracy up to the apex court. There is no doubt that she is going to address many of the problems in the Judiciary because she has garnered experience over time and looking at her judicial trajectory you will agree with me

that she is indeed a round peg in a round hole. She knows his onions and any time he presides over matter, she is always fair and on top of her game."



Hon. Justice Kudirat Motonmori Olatokunbo Kekere-Ekun

To Mr. Jiti Ogunye, a Lagos constitutional lawyer and public affairs commentator, Hon. Justice Kekere-Ekun is coming at a time a lot needs to be done in the judiciary. "Though there were some initiatives by the retired CJN Olukayode Ariwoola regarding the adjustment of salaries and emolument of the judicial officers and the increase in the retirement age of the justices of the high court from 65 to 70 years. Kekere-Ekun is coming at a time the judiciary is suffering

the crisis of confidence not because the judicial officers are not doing their best but because of combinations of inconsistencies and cynicism by a great number of the public. For example, the seeming cronyism and nepotism in the appointments of judicial officers. We are now having jurists having their biological children recommended by the National Judicial Commission in succession to take position. Of course, it is not in the constitution that family members cannot occupy such position but there is a clause in the Code of Conduct that kicks against this, which the

current NJC must activate to stop this. He explained that the way things are going, there is possibility of dynasty in judicial appointment. "I will expect justice Kekere-Ekun to deal with all these issues. She should also address the issue of delay and congestion at the supreme court," Ogunye posited. Speaking, a popular lawyer, Chetam Nwala condemned the infiltration of judiciary by politicians, which to him the CJN must stop to restore the hope of the common man on the street. In his view, a director at the Abuja School of Social and Political Thought, Dr. Sam Amadi, described Kekere-Ekun as a

thoroughbred professional who did not just go to school but very familiar with judicial craft. "Apart from the fact that she had quality legal education. She also learnt the ropes. If nobody was fit in terms of profile, I think she is very fit, however she had come at a time the credibility of the judiciary has nosedived. She has to whip into line, erring judges. She has to revamp public trust in the judiciary and turn around the jurisprudence to be more democratic. She should stop the co-mingling of the judicial officers with politicians. To Lagos State Governor, Mr. Babajide Sanwo-Olu, where Kekere-Ekun

had hailed from, Lagos State is proud to produce the second female Chief Justice of Nigeria. He said the uncompromising jurist is a good ambassador of Lagos State, particularly the State judiciary, where she served passionately for over two decades in different capacities before her elevation to the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court in 2004 and 2013 respectively. Governor Sanwo-Olu urged Justice Kekere-Ekun to uphold the highest standards of integrity, fairness, and justice, which she had been known for in the discharge of her duties and make the judiciary to remain the true hope for the common man.

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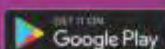
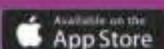
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Lawyers set agenda for Kekere-Ekun

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"On behalf of my family, the government, and the people of Lagos State, I congratulate our Amazon, Justice Kudirat Kekere-Ekun, on her appointment as the Acting Chief Justice of Nigeria. The emergence of a Lagos indigene, Justice Kudirat Kekere-Ekun, as the second female Chief Justice of Nigeria is a thing of joy to us, and we are happy to associate with her. Justice Kudirat Kekere-Ekun's appointment is well deserved, and going by her antecedents as a seasoned jurist with over 30 years in the bar and bench as legal practitioner and Justice of the High Court, Court of Appeal, and Supreme Court, she will not disappoint Nigeria."

President Bola Tinubu on Friday administered oath of office on Justice Kudirat Kekere-Ekun as the acting Chief Justice of Nigeria (CJN), pending her confirmation by the Senate. At the swearing-in ceremony, President Tinubu urged the acting Chief Justice of Nigeria to defend the independence of the judiciary and promote the cause of justice.

The President emphasized the importance of strengthening mechanisms that will uphold and enhance integrity, discipline, and transparency in the judiciary.

"Undoubtedly, the position of the Chief Justice of Nigeria comes with enormous responsibilities as the head of all judicial institutions in the country. It is a position of considerable influence that demands temperance and sobriety. The occupant of the office must exude the highest level of integrity in the discharge of their duties. This is more so because of the finality of the Supreme Court's judgments. I, therefore, urge your Lordship to be



Ogunye

faithful and loyal to the constitution when discharging your duty as the acting Chief Justice of Nigeria. I also encourage you to defend the

judiciary's independence and always promote the cause of justice. It is vital that you strengthen all mechanisms for integrity, discipline, and

transparency in the judicial sector, and pursue other reforms or initiatives to sustain and build public confidence in the judiciary," the President stated.

Speaking to the media after the swearing-in, the acting Chief Justice of Nigeria pledged to elevate the judiciary to new heights, improve its reputation, and sustain public confidence in the judicial system.

"We will make sure that people have more confidence in the judiciary, and I believe that it is not a one-man job. We all have to be on board because we all see the areas that are in need of improvement. I believe that there will be maximum cooperation because we all want to see a better judiciary. A better

judiciary is for the benefit of the entire nation. Whatever the shortcomings that we see today are, we are all members of the society so, if we want to see a better society, if we want to see improvement, let the improvement start with each and every one of us and our approach to justice. Let us all have faith in the system and then also be particular about the process of appointment, I know it is a source of a lot of concern; the issue of discipline on the bench and at the bar as well."

All of these things are aspects that we will look into and I believe that by the grace of God, at the end of my tenure, we should be able to have a judiciary that we will all be proud of," she said.



Otaru

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Kekere-Ekun: A Trajectory From Magistrate To Supreme Court

Kunle Awosiyani

Having passed through legal education like many others, the current Acting Chief Justice of Nigeria, Hon. Justice Kudirat Motonmori Olatokunbo Kekere-Ekun began her career as a senior magistrate Grade II, Lagos, in December 1989 and rose to become a high court judge in July 1996.

With over 30 years in the judicial service, Kekere-Ekun rose through the system, building capacity through every phase

of her career to what would become her zenith in the Nigerian judicial space on Friday August 23, 2024 when she was sworn in as the 23rd Chief Justice of Nigeria.

As a high court judge, she served as chairperson of the Robbery and Firearms Tribunal, Zone II, Ikeja, from November 1996 to May 1999. (Daudu) She was then promoted to the court of appeals in September 2004 and served as a member of its ICT committee between 2011 and

2013.

In 2013, Kekere-Ekun, fondly called Young Toks, was appointed a Supreme Court justice. She is the fifth and youngest female to be appointed as a justice of the Supreme Court of Nigeria.

Kekere-Ekun is the second female to emerge as CJN in Nigeria after Aloma Mukhtar, who held the position between July 2012 and November 2014. Interestingly, it was Mukhtar who swore in Kekere-Ekun as a supreme court justice in 2013.



Hon. Justice Kudirat Motonmori Olatokunbo Kekere-Ekun

Kekere-Ekun read the ruling in the controversial case between Emeka Ihedioha and Hope Uzodinma in the Imo State governorship election in 2020.

Most observers have described as the most controversial judgement in Nigeria's post-independence history, however, trails Kekere-Ekun's profile.

The Imo state governorship election case, a watershed moment in Nigerian politics, saw her deliver a verdict that would put the legal system to the test and set precedence for future rulings.

Kekere-Ekun read the supreme court judgement in the January 2020 verdict that sacked Emeka Ihedioha and proclaimed Hope Uzodinma as lawful Imo state governor, based on claims that results from 388 polling units where Uzodinma led were not included in the original results.

Uzodinma, who came a distant fourth position in the result announced by the Independent National Electoral Commission

Kekere-Ekun Landmark Judgment

(INEC), was declared winner of the poll in a unanimous decision by a seven-person panel which Kekere-Ekun was a part of.

She was also among the judges who sat on the hijab (head cover) controversy between the Lagos state government & others v. Asiyat Abdulkareem. The apex court overruled Lagos on its restriction of the use of hijab by female Muslim students of public schools in the state.

Speaking about her quality, a senior advocate, Josph Daudu said that Kekere-Ekun is eminently trained and has occupied great positions that only a few female had occupied, which shows that gender was never her barrier.

He said, "Going by her track records and leadership in the administration of magistrate, high court, appeal court and supreme court and now in the big shoes as the CJN, we can always pray for her to succeed."

To another senior advocate, Mr. Kunle Adegoke, Justice Kudirat Kekere-Ekun is a disciplinarian. She is disciplined in every respect. She is not frivolous in any way. She is apolitical. In other words, she is not a politician. She is free of political encumbrance or baggage. Because she is free of that political garbage, she is going to be very professional. I can assure you. She will be

very professional,"

Hon. Justice Kudirat Motonmori Olatokunbo Kekere-Ekun was born on May 7, 1958 in London, United Kingdom. she is the eldest of eleven siblings in a polygamous home. Her father, Hassan Adisa Babatunde Fasinro, was also a lawyer and politician, while her mother, Winifred Layiwola Ogundimu (née Savage), is a UK-trained nurse.

Fasinro, popularly called

HAB, was a senator representing Lagos in the second republic and the first clerk of the Lagos City Council. Having a father who is a lawyer may have influenced Kekere-Ekun's passion for the legal profession.

She commenced her secondary education in 1970 at Queens College, Lagos, and studied law at the University of Lagos from 1977 to 1980. She then proceeded to the Nigerian Law School and

was called to the bar in July 1981. After that, she underwent the compulsory National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) from 1981-82 at the ministry of justice in Benin City, Edo (then Bendel state).

Upon completing her service year, she proceeded to the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), obtaining a master's degree in law in 1983.



Daudu

The "Every Home a Garden" National Competition under the Renewed Hope Initiative (RHI) Agriculture of the First Lady of Nigeria and Chairman RHI, Senator Oluremi Tinubu, CON, received a boost as Lagos First Lady, Dr. (Mrs.) Claudiana Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu promised to support all 250 Lagos participants in the ongoing National Competition. The First Lady of Lagos State, Dr. (Mrs.) Claudiana Ibijoke Sanwo-Olu who made the pledge at a Press Conference for Lagos State Participants of the "Every Home a Garden" National Competition held at the Banquet Hall, Lagos House Ikeja, noted that aside from the 20 million star prize for the overall winner across the country, the female first-time farmer in Lagos State with the most impressive garden will receive a special prize, with additional prizes for the second and third best gardens respectively. Dr. Sanwo-Olu explained that after a very rigorous selection process for participants in Lagos State, only

RHI AgricultureE: Lagos Set To Win N20m Prize

... As Lagos First Lady Trains 250 Female Farmers

200 successful participants were shortlisted from over 1,000 applicants across all the Five IBILE Divisions of the State, under the First Timer Farmers category. She stated that the committee overseeing the initiative from her office employed various elimination strategies, including digital and manual raffles and these efforts were geared to ensure the selection process was fair, unbiased and transparent. She noted that the First Lady of Nigeria and Chairman RHI, Senator Oluremi Tinubu, CON, rightly believes that embracing home farming will bring much-needed relief to many Nigerians at this crucial time in the Nation, stressing that in line with Mr. President's Renewed

Hope Initiative, the First Lady of Nigeria has launched several programmes such as economic empowerment, social investment, health and education aimed at improving the standard of living and addressing poverty. While briefing the press, she outlined the various criteria for participation mandated by the Office of the First Lady of Nigeria, which includes only women are eligible to participate, interested participants must be first-time farmers, the farm garden must be located within the residence of the applicant, Lagos residents must have LASRRA Identification Number and a 30-second video recording of the garden must be submitted. The First Lady revealed that for Lagos State,

her office embarked on a sensitisation process, where radio jingles were produced and aired in Pidgin, Yoruba, English, and Egun languages on various radio stations, emphasising that rigorous social media campaign was also adopted to reach a broader audience. According to her, "It is worth noting that the level of interest expressed by applicants through the application process, reflects the strong interest of women in Lagos State in the competition, despite the challenge of limited land space". While charging the participants to maximise the training seminar organised by her office to support them through the competition, she enthused that constituted monitoring

teams would visit their gardens periodically to ascertain the progression process of their crops. Earlier in his remarks, the Commissioner for Information and Strategy, Mr. Gbenga Omotoso lauded the initiative as he opined that it will encourage residents to embrace home gardens. Omotoso revealed that some participants were disqualified due to their inability to provide their LASRRA Identification Number, which calls for residents yet to register to do the needful. While enlightening the participants on the importance of the LASRRA registration and all-purpose card, Omotoso pointed out that the Government, through this registration, acquired comprehensive data of residents across the

State, in a bid to provide various amenities for citizens. In his words, "Lagos is free for all, and if all residents comply to register for LASRRA, it enables the government to plan adequately for the people". The Press Conference and Seminar for Lagos Participants also had in attendance the Commissioner for Agriculture, Ms. Abisola Olusanya; the Commissioner for Women Affairs and Poverty Alleviation, Mrs. Cecelia Dada and the Commissioner for Basic and Secondary Education, Mr. Jamiu Alli-Balogun. The participants had insightful training sessions after the Press Briefing on the Home Gardening process and its benefits in a bid to have ardent knowledge for maximum results.



New Engagement Channels Record High Feedback-Afolabi

The Special Adviser to the Lagos State Governor on Political, Legislative and Civic Engagement, Dr. Tajudeen Abiodun Afolabi has revealed that the recently launched new engagement channels by the present administration, aimed at enhancing communication between the State Government and Residents, are recording a significant volume of feedback from Lagosians. Dr. Afolabi disclosed this recently during an interview session with the crew of "Eko n Sanjo", an Indigenous programme on Traffic Radio 96.1fm, in his

Office at the Secretariat, Alausa-Ikeja.

The Special Adviser said that this Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu administration remains committed to fostering an open dialogue with the public towards building a more responsive and accountable government. He added that the feedback received so far will be instrumental in shaping the state government ongoing policy decisions.

Dr. Afolabi recalled that after the recent protest, Mr. Governor, in demonstration of his Administration's commitment to continuously engage the youths, directed

that a wider channel of engagement should be opened through the Ministry of Youth and Social Development, Ministry of Information and Strategy as well as the Office of Civic Engagement.

In his words, "Our Office happens to be one of the three Agencies directed by Mr. Governor to engage the youths, and I must tell you that we have received several feedbacks from across the state; it is clear that our people are eager to share their views and engage more directly with the government".

"We are carefully reviewing every comment and suggestion. This input is very valuable as it will

help us to further understand the issues that matter most to our citizens and how we can address them effectively", he added.

Speaking on other activities of the Office, the Special Adviser said that the state government has rolled out several social security initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life of Lagosians. These initiatives include expanded healthcare services, skills acquisition programmes, distribution of food boxes and targeted support for vulnerable Lagosians.

Dr. Afolabi emphasised that these efforts are not just about providing



immediate relief but also about creating sustainable pathways for economic empowerment and social security which is one of the T.H.E.M.E.S Plus Agenda of this Administration.

He, therefore, urged all Lagosians to continually support the Government as it will not relent in its efforts and commitments to delivering dividends of good governance to the citizenry.

As part of a strategy to enhance the capacity of officers in the State Civil Service, the Ministry of Establishments and Training has commenced a two-day training programme for Environmental and Agricultural officers. The training programme, with the theme: "Food Security and Climate Change" commenced today at the Lagos Chambers of Commerce and Industry complex will end tomorrow. While declaring the training programme open, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Establishments and Training, Mrs. Olubusola Abidakun noted that the training was apt and timely due to climate change as one of the factors causing food shortage in Nigeria. According to her, the training was meant to equip officers with the knowledge and skills needed to develop and implement effective strategies that will

Lagos Govt Trains Officers on Food Security, Climate Change

protect the State's food security systems and ensure a sustainable future.

Abidakun urged participants to embrace subsistence farming and be its advocate. This

practice, she said, would help participants to have access to fresh farm produce thereby enabling a healthy lifestyle and ensuring an increase in supply of food in the state.

The importance of the training was exemplified by the presence of the facilitator, the Commissioner for Environment in Ogun State, Mr. Ola Oresanya, a former General

Manager of Lagos State Waste Management Authority (LAWMA), whose knowledge and expertise in the field of climate change would be a valuable advantage to the participants.

100 participants drawn from the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment and Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency are attending the programme.



Lagos Resumes "Alaafia Eko" Medical Outreach

... As Sanwo-Olu's Free Health Initiative Receives Praise from Beneficiaries

The Lagos State Government has successfully resumed the second phase of its free medical outreach, known as "Alaafia Eko", across 12 designated centres spread over the six health districts of the state. The initiative, which was temporarily halted due to the cholera outbreak that has now been contained, witnessed an overwhelming turnout of elated residents eager to access a wide range of medical services.

The outreach aims to provide free healthcare to residents, offering services such as blood pressure and blood sugar checks, HIV counselling and testing, eye examinations, and distributing free medications and eyeglasses. Additionally, attendees received free consultations, treatment for basic ailments, and registration for the Ilera Eko health insurance scheme. The second phase of the programme was officially flagged off at the Old Nursing School Complex in Ikoyi-Obalende LCDA and the Surulere Local Government Secretariat. Dignitaries present at the ceremony included the Special Adviser to the Governor on Health, Dr. (Mrs) Kemi Ogunyemi, and the Permanent Secretary of the Lagos State Ministry of Health, Dr. Olusegun Ogboye.

They were accompanied on the tour of the Ikoyi-Obalende site by the Permanent Secretary, Lagos State Health District III, Dr. Monsurat Adeleke and the Permanent Secretary of the Lagos State Health Management Agency (LASHMA), Dr. Emmanuella Zamba. Meanwhile, the tour of the Surulere site saw the presence of the Permanent Secretary of Lagos State Health District IV, Dr. Abimbola Bowale and the Chairman of Surulere Local Government Hon.



Sulaiman Yusuf.

Speaking during the visit, Dr. Ogunyemi highlighted the economic challenges faced by residents, which have made healthcare increasingly unaffordable. She emphasised that the "Alaafia Eko" initiative, under the state's "Eko Cares" programme, was designed to address these challenges by providing free healthcare services to all residents. "We believe prevention is better than cure to underscore the importance of early detection and treatment", she said.

According to her, the outreach is strategically spread across all six health districts to ensure maximum reach, stressing the importance of residents registering for the Ilera Eko health insurance scheme, which is crucial for continued access to affordable healthcare services beyond the outreach.

At the Surulere site, Dr. Ogunyemi expressed her satisfaction with the turnout, noting that over 700 people had already registered by the time of their arrival. She

commended the local government for its proactive efforts in adding Tuberculosis (TB) and Human Papillomavirus (HPV) screenings to the services offered, further enhancing the outreach's impact.

Dr. Ogboye, in his remarks at the Ikoyi-Obalende site, added that the outreach serves as a vital opportunity to enrol more residents in the Ilera Eko scheme. He praised the logistical efforts involved in organising such a large-scale programme, noting that the first phase had successfully reached over 24,000 residents, and the second phase aims to reach an additional 12,000.

Permanent Secretary of Health District III, Dr. Monsurat Adeleke emphasised the outreach's role in promoting health-seeking behaviour among Lagos residents. She pointed out that despite the state having 329 Primary Health Centres (PHCs), many residents still prefer visiting General Hospitals. The "Alaafia Eko" initiative aims to reverse this trend by bringing healthcare

closer to the people.

The Permanent Secretary of Health District IV, Dr. Abimbola Bowale echoed similar sentiments during his visit to the Surulere site. He noted that the overwhelming response from residents demonstrated the importance of the outreach and the need for continued government support in healthcare provision.

Chairman of Surulere Local Government, Hon. Sulaiman Yusuf expressed his gratitude to the state government, noting that the initiative had greatly benefited the people of Surulere. He highlighted the importance of health to the well-being of the community and expressed hope that the outreach would continue to be a regular feature in the state's healthcare agenda.

Meanwhile, Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu, has been lauded by residents for this free medical outreach initiative. At the Ikoyi-Obalende screening site, several beneficiaries expressed their gratitude and satisfaction with the services received.

The testimonials from the beneficiaries highlight the positive impact of the free medical screening initiative, underscoring the state government's commitment to providing quality healthcare services to all Lagosians, especially those in economically disadvantaged areas.

As the second phase of the "Alaafia Eko" outreach draws to a close, the state government is already considering future rounds, based on the data collected and the feedback received from residents. The initiative is poised to remain a critical component of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's THEMES Plus Agenda, particularly in ensuring that no resident is left behind in the quest for accessible and affordable healthcare.

The outreach addresses immediate healthcare needs and serves as a platform for educating residents on the importance of health insurance and regular medical check-ups. With the success of the first and second phases, the "Alaafia Eko" initiative is set to become a cornerstone of the state's public health

Sanwo-Olu Lights Up LNSC 57 Commands With Solar Energy

The Lagos State Government has provided solar power for the Command Offices of the Lagos State Neighbourhood Safety Agency (LNSA) across the 57 Local Governments and Local Development Council Authorities.

The solar panels and their accessories were fitted to ensure uninterrupted power supply round the clock to enhance efficiency in service delivery. The various commands were also provided with additional scooters for mobility and more protective gear to boost their morale.

Speaking at the commissioning of the equipment, the General Manager of LNSA, Prince (Dr.) Ifalade Oyekan said the purpose of these solar systems is to enhance the work output of operatives and reduce their delivery time which often used to be longer due to power outages.

Oyekan admonished the officers to take ownership and handle the solar equipment like all government properties under their purview with care and use them like their personal properties. Prince Ifalade Oyekan thanked Mr. Governor for his visionary leadership and constant provision of conducive working environments for the Agency and its various structures.

"This equipment, like your salaries, is provided with the taxpayers' money and requires your utmost devotion at all times. Your service delivery must show your appreciation for Mr. Governor's unwavering dedication to the safety and security of Lagos residents", Ifalade advised.

Engr. Adebola Anofi, Lead Consultant of the Company that supplied the technology trained the Corps officers on the proper handling of the solar panels and accessories to ensure they last long and serve at optimal levels.

Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency (DSVA) has reiterated its commitment to minimise Gender-Based Violence through timely, strategic and behavioural mindset programmes, campaigns and training of all relevant stakeholders as it held its "Men wey sabi" for traders and residents of Jakande Market in Isolo recently.

DSVA Organises Fiesta at Jakande Market, Isolo

The Executive Secretary of DSVA, Mrs. Titilola Vivour-Adeniyi, represented by the Head of Community Engagement, Mr. Damilare Adewusi, stated that the Agency's awareness programme was fashioned to educate people on Gender stereotypes in Lagos. Re-echoing the importance of collectively taking responsibility for women's empowerment, the Executive Secretary enjoined the market

leaders and market traders of the Jakande Market to champion gender equality. According to her, the sensitisation is designed to address men's pivotal roles in ending domestic and sexual violence in the State and promoting partnership in marriages. The campaign's high point was the cooking competition, sponsored by Power Oil Nigeria Limited, to showcase men's culinary skills. The primary objective of the competition is to continually spread the SGBV message in a spirited manner, challenging stereotypes regarding men's involvement in childcare and the essence of marriage partnership.



The winner of the cooking competition, Mr. Emmanuel Osho, appreciated the Agency for bringing the initiative to the Jakande Market, Isolo, adding that the campaign is a huge call to men to partner with their

spouses. Other Participants who competed in the cooking competition were Mr. Sanni

Adekunle, Mr. Emmanuel Osho, Mr. Akinyele Oluwaseun, Mr. Saidi Adisa and Mr. Olaniyi Animasaun.

LSETF, USADF Sign MOU To Improve Lives of Vulnerable People

The Lagos State Employment Trust Fund (LSETF) and the United States African Development Foundation (USADF), today, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to uplift the lives of citizens, especially those in vulnerable and underserved communities. Speaking at the ceremony, Commissioner for Wealth Creation and Employment Hon. Akinyemi Ajigbotafe emphasised that the event aims to forge a powerful partnership symbolising collective commitment to uplifting the lives of the citizens. Ajigbotafe underscored the remarkable achievements in



previous collaborations, including engagement with 41 Government-approved training institutions and the training of over 105,000 beneficiaries across various sectors and trades. The Commissioner reaffirmed the Ministry's unwavering

commitment to job creation, economic empowerment, and providing hope for countless individuals aspiring to build better futures for themselves and their families. He urged all stakeholders to remain steadfast in the mission of inspiring, empowering, and

creating a Lagos where opportunity knows no bounds, expressing deepest gratitude to USADF for their unwavering support and commitment to the vision of a #Greater Lagos for all. Present at the event were the President and CEO of USADF, Mr. Travis Adkins, and team members from LSETF.

DSVA Takes SGBV Sensitisation To All Saints Anglican Church, Yaba

The Lagos State Domestic and Sexual Violence Agency (DSVA) has continued to extend its awareness campaign among residents to fight against all forms of abuse within the State. The Agency, which is statutorily established to enhance victim safety and reduce the incidence of Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) in the State, has sensitised parents and children of the All Saint Anglican Church Yaba (The Diocese of Lagos Mainland) during their Sunday School and Children's day Themed "God's Heritage". The enlightenment session, handled by the Agency's Head of Community Engagement, Mr. Damilare Adewusi, was on the vulnerability

of children to sexual abuse, the prevention and most importantly the protection and rescue of any child where necessary. He delivered a comprehensive presentation on child vulnerability to sexual abuse, prevention strategies, and protection measures, using the acronym PENS (Physical, Emotional, Neglect and Sexual) to describe the forms of abuse. The Parents at the service were also educated on how to respond to child abuse disclosures and the appropriate actions to take. An intensive question and answer session followed and the toll-free number to report cases of gender-based violence (0800-333-333) was shared among the congregation.

Lagos Is Working Hard To Strengthen Cooperative Society-Commissioner

Lagos State Commissioner for Commerce, Cooperatives, Trade & Investment, Folashade Ambrose-Medebem has described cooperative movement as a strong tool for empowering the people, alleviating poverty and achieving inclusive governance. The Commissioner made the remark at the 8th National Cooperative Summit, Exhibition & Awards organised by the Cooperative Federation of Nigeria (CFN) at LASCOFED Secretariat, Ogba recently with theme: "Fostering Cooperative Businesses for Future Generations." Speaking at the event, Ambrose-Medebem stated that the administration of Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu placed a high premium on fostering an enabling environment for

cooperative societies to flourish as they make invaluable contribution to the socio-economic development of our State. She said: "We have been working with the Lagos State Cooperative Federation, the umbrella body of the State's Cooperative Movement, to facilitate resources to strengthen the cooperative sector. We have initiated various strategies that have allowed them to expand their businesses and improve the livelihoods of members. The Commissioner emphasised that these efforts and more have streamlined operations, improved transparency, and enhanced the governance structures



within cooperative societies, as she charged cooperatives to evolve, innovate, and thrive while retaining its foundational principles

of mutual aid and solidarity. President, Cooperative Federation of Nigeria, Oriyomi Ayeola appreciated the Lagos

State Government for "providing an enabling environment for cooperatives to thrive and continue to grow in the State, and for which

Lagos State Cooperative Movement remains the pacesetter in cooperative matters in Nigeria and beyond."

Lagos Organises Awareness Walk For 2024 Youth Day



In commemoration of Y2024 International Youth Day, the youths in Lagos, in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth and

Social Development, have embarked on an Awareness Walk aimed at sensitising the citizens on their week-long activities. Led by the Permanent

Secretary in the Ministry, Pharm (Mrs.) Toyin Oke-Osanyintolu and Chairman, National Youth Council Of Nigeria (Lagos State

(Mrs.) Oke-Osanyintolu seized the occasion to advise the youths on the need to participate effectively in every segment of the activities

Chapter), Engr Ibrahim Olalekan Adigun, the walk, which took place today started from Ikeja and ended at Alausa Secretariat. Pharm lined up for the Youth Day Celebration, adding that they would be better off at the end being equipped with more knowledge and skills necessary to perform well in their fields of endeavours. On his part, Engr. Ibrahim Olalekan Adigun implored the youths to take full advantage of the opportunities being made available to them through the youth-oriented policies and programmes of the State Government through the Ministry of Youth and Social Development. He said, "We, the youths in Lagos State, are solidly behind the

administration of Governor Babajide Olusola Sanwo-Olu and will do everything in our power to complement his efforts. His success is our success and we will not let him down. That is why we embarked on a peaceful walk in solidarity with him a few days ago". Staff of the Ministry and youths from both the informal and formal sectors like members of Ibile Youth Academy, Lagos Youth Parliament, National Youth Council Of Nigeria, Faith Based Organisations, National Youth Service Corps and Community-Based Organisations, amongst others, participated in the Walk.

Global Fund Boosts Lagos Healthcare With Five MICU Ambulances

... As LASG Restates Commitment to Swift Medical Emergency Response



The Lagos State Government has received five brand new state-of-the-art Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) ambulances from the international donor organisation, Global Fund, to enhance swift medical emergency response in the state.

The multi-million naira MICU Ambulances, donated to the Lagos State Ambulance Service (LASAMBUS), are equipped with essential medical and emergency equipment, including a main ambulance stretcher, trauma kit, patient monitor, automated external defibrillator, respiratory kit, dressing equipment, wheelchair,

among other items required to stabilise and support patients before further medical intervention.

The Ambulances were received on behalf of the Lagos State Government by the Special Adviser to the Governor on Health, Dr. (Mrs.) Kemi Ogunyemi, the Permanent Secretary, Lagos State Ministry of Health, Dr. Olusegun Ogboye, and the Director of LASAMBUS, Mrs. Wuraola Makinde. The handover was conducted by the Coordinator of the Global Fund Grant Management Unit, Mr. Abiodun Omolaja. After receiving the Ambulances, the

Special Adviser to the Governor on Health, Dr. (Mrs.) Ogunyemi appreciated Global Fund for its productive partnership with the state government in providing effective emergency services and sustaining healthcare delivery in the state.

She explained that the five new ambulances would expand the coverage area of LASAMBUS, supporting the State Government's efforts to overhaul and strengthen trauma and medical emergency response systems.

According to her, the overarching goal is to transform LASAMBUS to meet global benchmark standards, with more staff, equipment,

ambulance bases, and points to reduce emergency response time in the state.

"We are training more doctors and nurses and acquiring more equipment because we believe that emergency services represent the critical point between life and death. When accidents or emergencies occur, we need fully equipped, skilled professionals on-site", she said.

Reiterating the government's commitment to providing prompt emergency services, Dr. Ogunyemi assured that the newly donated ambulances would be utilised effectively for service delivery.

Echoing her sentiments, the Permanent Secretary, Lagos State Ministry of Health, Dr. Olusegun Ogboye emphasised LASAMBUS's dedication to providing swift and professional emergency services, ensuring that residents can rely on prompt care when needed.

"We are committed to ensuring that we provide emergency services with a dedicated team of highly trained professionals. All of them are certified for ACLS, and these MICUs allow pre-hospital interventions, ensuring that patients receive excellent care while being transported", he said.

Dr. Ogboye also revealed

plans to build ambulance bases across all Local Government Areas in the State, hinting that the Ministry of Health is currently in negotiations with Local Government Chairmen to secure spaces for these bases. "The aim is to ensure that Ambulance and Emergency services are accessible within the shortest possible time", he stated.

Earlier, Head of the Global Fund Grant Management Unit in Lagos, Mr. Abiodun Omolaja highlighted Global Fund's commitment to defeating HIV, Tuberculosis (TB), and Malaria, while also ensuring a healthier, safer and more equitable future for all. While noting that the donation of the Ambulances is part of the Global Fund's initiative to strengthen health systems in Lagos State, Omolaja disclosed that the five MICU Ambulances are in addition to the eight MICU Ambulances earlier donated to the Lagos State Ambulance Service in 2022, bringing the total number of MICU Ambulances donated by the Global Fund to 13.

Omolaja explained that the Global Fund saw the need to further strengthen LASAMBUS' emergency response by providing additional ambulances, particularly because of the excellent management of the eight Ambulances earlier donated.

"These donations align with Mr. Governor's THEMES Plus agenda, supporting the provision of high-quality pre-hospital and medical emergency services. The expanded LASAMBUS fleet will enhance operational coverage, contributing to significant improvements in the State's health indices", he said.

Establishment Ministry Trains Officers on Geographical Information System

The Ministry of Establishments and Training has commenced a two-day training programme for Town Planners, Land Officers, Surveyors and Engineers in the State Civil Service.

The training programme with the theme: "Incorporating Key Concepts and Techniques in Geographical Information System (GIS) Towards Making Lagos 21st Century City", commenced today at Citi Height Luxury Hotel, Ikeja and is slated to end on Tuesday.

Declaring the training programme open, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Establishments and Training, Mrs. Olubusola Abidakun stated that the objective of the training was to empower officers on the GIS with skills needed to contribute to the transformation of Lagos into a smart,



sustainable and resilient city.

Abidakun commended participants for being professional in their various fields, adding that the THEMES PLUS Agenda of the current administration would be best achieved when all the

professionals in the State Public Service give their utmost best. She emphasised the importance of self-development, stating that it helps Officers to have an edge and stay relevant. "Train and re-train yourselves",

Abidakun Added. She further urged participants to cascade what they have learnt at the training to their downlines in their various Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

Earlier in her opening

remarks, the Director of Training, Mr. Abisola Dokunmu-Adegbite admonished the participants to maximise and utilise the capacity building opportunity for growth and personal development that would be beneficial to them and

those around them.

About 100 Participants who are drawn from the Ministry of Physical Planning, Office of Surveyor-General of Lagos State, Lands Bureau and Ministry of Works and Infrastructure are attending the programme.

AGEGE

NIEE Honours Orile-Agege LCDA Chairman

In recognition of his outstanding commitment to community development and his notable accomplishments in Orile-Agege LCDA, the Nigerian Institution of Environmental Engineers honored Mr. J.S. Babatunde,

Chairman of Orile-Agege, with a prestigious award.

The accolade was conferred upon Mr. Babatunde in honor of his contributions, which included the construction of schools, roads, drainages, event centers, primary

health care centers, mosques, and other landmark structures, all of which have played a pivotal role in the economic growth and prosperity of the community.

Upon receiving the award, Babatunde expressed his heartfelt appreciation to the

Nigerian Institution of Environmental Engineers for the recognition, acknowledging that such accolades serve as motivation to further his efforts and commitment.

In his acceptance speech, Babatunde

affirmed his unwavering dedication to his duties, expressing his intent to continue working with renewed energy and enthusiasm until the completion of his tenure. He extended his gratitude to the key members of his administration,

acknowledging their invaluable contributions to the success of the projects that have significantly impacted the community.

He also expressed his sincere appreciation to his executive team, legislative team, management team, and the staff, as well as the entire residence of Orile-Agege LCDA, recognizing that their support has been instrumental in enabling the significant milestones achieved by his administration.

Lagos SHIP Set To Sail, Promises Enhanced Care, Efficiency

... As Lagos, Interswitch Group Continue to Revolutionise Healthcare

Following the recent signing concession agreement to launch the Lagos State Health Information Platform (Lagos SHIP), the Lagos State Government and Interswitch Group have organised a stakeholders' engagement forum to onboard stakeholders in the health sector on the concept of the Lagos SHIP, marking another milestone in the journey towards providing unrestricted healthcare access for Lagos State residents.

Lagos SHIP is a digital healthcare platform designed to boost healthcare services by leveraging Interswitch's robust technology infrastructure. The platform aims to create a comprehensive health information system that bridges the gap between patients and healthcare providers, offering a seamless and efficient way to access a wide range of healthcare services. Lagos residents will be able to book appointments, pay for consultations, access medical records, and purchase medications with ease using the platform.

In his keynote address, the Lagos State Commissioner for Health, Prof. Akin Abayomi emphasised the transformative potential of data-driven healthcare solutions, stating that the Lagos SHIP initiative will create enhanced experiences for all healthcare stakeholders and enable residents to access quality healthcare services.

The Commissioner disclosed that stakeholders and partners in the Lagos SHIP include the Lagos State Government, eClat Interswitch, medical providers and



practitioners in the private and public sector, health insurers and management organizations (HMOs), policy makers, economic planners for resource allocation, researchers, the international community, digital service providers and innovators, residents of Lagos State and medical tourists or users from outside Lagos.

"The Lagos SHIP allows us to imagine together into the future, the speed of patient data migration and connectivity, data mining and trend analysis for policy and research, early warning systems and emergency management, training, virtual clinics, robotics and AI solutions, the global hub of virtual connectivity, international collaborations, multiple opportunities for digital innovative solutions, cost efficiencies, regulation and clinical governance", he said.

The Managing Director of Interswitch eClat, Dr. Wallace Ogufere stated that Interswitch, through its healthcare subsidiary Interswitch eClat, is working with the Lagos State Government to improve health outcomes in the state. As a development

partner and supporter of the government's developmental agenda, Dr. Ogufere envisages a future where the Lagos State health sector will serve as a model not only for other states in Nigeria but across the continent and beyond. His words, "Through Lagos SHIP, we will support the Lagos State Government in unlocking the potential of electronic medical records, securely leveraging data from public and private hospitals and allied locations. This will facilitate improved experiences for stakeholders across the board, from healthcare administrators to medical professionals and patients".

By leveraging advanced technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI), machine learning, virtual care, wearables, data analytics, and the Internet of Medical Things (IoMT), Lagos SHIP will redefine the way healthcare is delivered, accessed, and experienced", Dr. Ogufere added.

The Lagos SHIP Engagement Forum was organized to raise awareness for SHIP and its benefits, educate stakeholders on its functionalities, secure stakeholders'

buy-in and support for SHIP adoption, and address concerns related to data security and privacy in the Lagos healthcare ecosystem.

Earlier, the Special Adviser to the Governor on Health, Dr. (Mrs.) Kemi Ogunyemi highlighted the transformative potential of the SHIP, stressing that it can enhance healthcare delivery through improved data management, streamlined operations, and better patient engagement.

She added that the Lagos SHIP is set to address critical challenges in the health sector by managing, analysing, and utilising health information more effectively. According to Dr. Ogunyemi, the platform's advanced technology will not only enhance data management and patient care but also foster greater collaboration between healthcare providers and government agencies.

Adding to the discourse, the Permanent Secretary of the Lagos State Ministry of Health, Dr. Olusegun Ogboye elaborated on the platform's patient-focused approach. "SHIP is going to allow us to be more patient-focused. We are already patient-focused, but SHIP gives us that extra incentive, that extra step towards individualised

care, leading to better outcomes for patients", Dr. Ogboye remarked.

He explained how SHIP will empower healthcare professionals to work at their best, reducing errors, improving diagnosis and fostering global collaboration, noting that SHIP will also help mitigate the "Japa Syndrome" by creating a more conducive environment for healthcare workers, enhancing job satisfaction, and encouraging professional development.

"On the patient side, SHIP is designed to provide individuals with greater access to their health information, enabling them to make informed decisions and take control of their health. SHIP will allow a positive, effective, and efficient interaction between the healthcare provider and the patient, underscoring the platform's potential to transform patient engagement", Dr. Ogboye stated.

The PS also highlighted the strategic role of SHIP in achieving the state's long-term healthcare objectives, aligning with the Governor's THEMES Plus Agenda. He emphasised that SHIP will facilitate faster and more efficient contact during health crises, improve data analytics, and enhance decision-making processes within the healthcare sector.

Managing Director,

Digital Health Platform, Interswitch, Mr. Olufemi Olapegba provided key insights into the technological backbone of the SHIP initiative. Highlighting the platform's design, Olapegba explained that SHIP is fundamentally a health information exchange platform that seamlessly connects the demand and supply sides of healthcare.

Olapegba outlined several key services that SHIP will offer, including the Patient Demography Service, which will uniquely identify and index every patient presenting at health facilities. This service allows for seamless tracking of patients as they move across different healthcare providers, ensuring continuity of care. The platform will also empower patients to own and manage their personal health information.

Another critical feature of SHIP is the Summary Care Records API, which facilitates the exchange of clinical data, ensuring that vital details required for continuous care are easily accessible to healthcare providers. Additionally, the platform will offer an e-prescription service, enabling patients to receive prescription services beyond the confines of the health facilities they visit. "For example, a patient could visit a hospital in Ikoyi and pick up their medication in Epe if it's not available at the original location", Olapegba noted.

The launch of Lagos SHIP underscores Interswitch's commitment to driving positive change and enhancing healthcare delivery across Lagos State and beyond. Both Interswitch and the Lagos State Government are confident that Lagos SHIP will catalyse positive transformation within the healthcare sector, ultimately improving the well-being of millions of residents.



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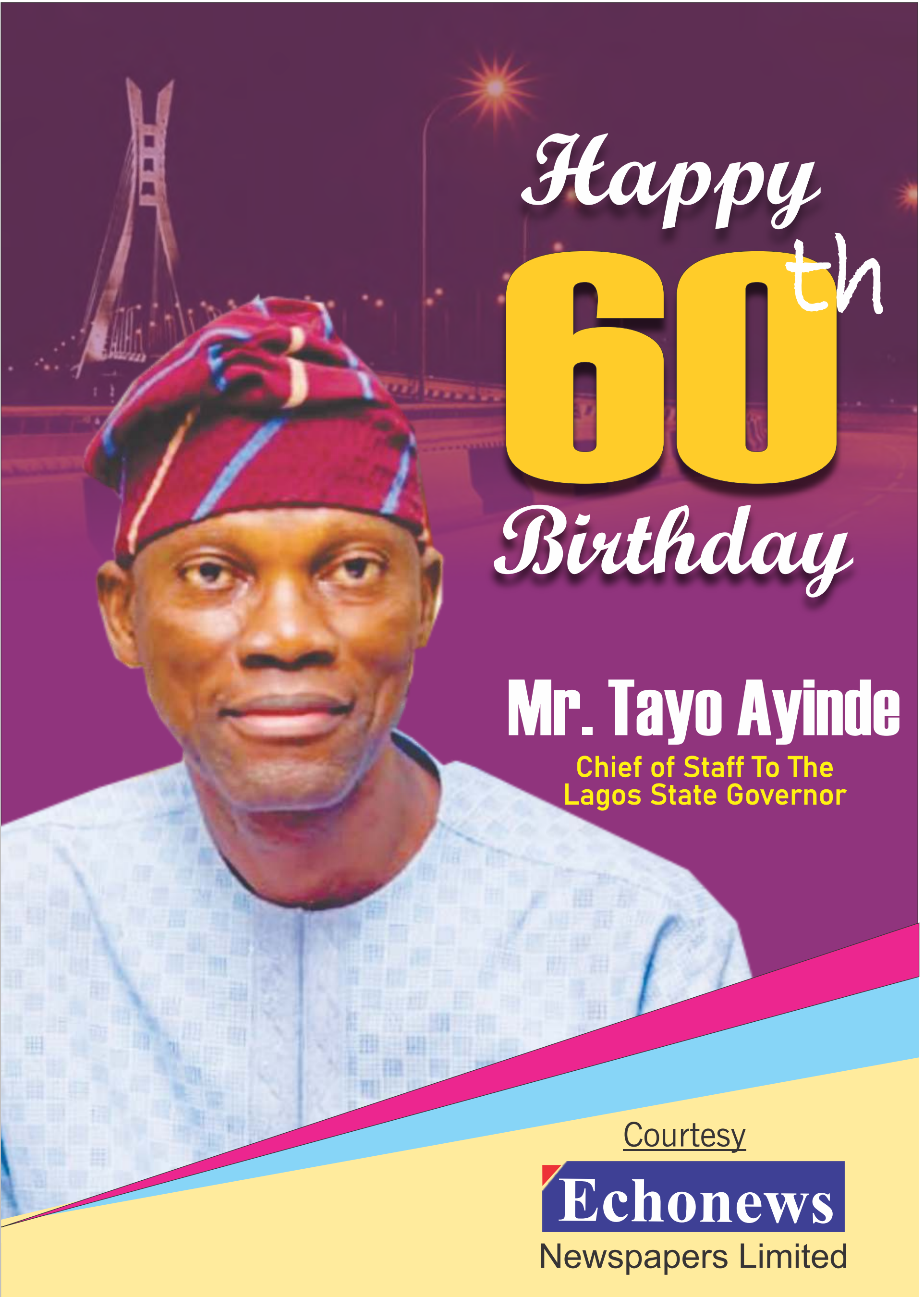


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Mr. Tayo Ayinde

Chief of Staff To The
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Magistrate Remands 65-Year-Old For Raping One-Year-Old Baby

By Felix Kuyinu



A suspect identified as Idris Danladi has been remanded in prison over allegations of rape on a one-year-old baby. Danladi was arraigned by the police at the Badagry Magistrates' Court in Lagos. Magistrate Patrick

Adekomaiya, having listened to the Police Prosecutor, Inspector Ayodele Adeosun, ordered the suspect's remand at the Awarijigoh Correctional Centre in Badagry. He subsequently adjourned the case till

October 9. Adeosun stated that Danladi, who pleaded not guilty to one count charge of defilement, committed the offence on August 9 near Customs Quarters in Seme Border, Badagry, Lagos. The prosecutor added

that the offence contravenes the provisions of sections 261 and 263 of the Criminal Laws of Lagos State, 2015. The Magistrate adjourned the case in expectation of legal advice from the office of the Director of Public Prosecution, DPP.



Woman Faces Prosecution For Biting Housekeeper

By Felix Kuyinu

A female suspect is on trial over an alleged act of biting her 15-year old housekeeper in Shasha area, Lagos.

The accused, Oluchi Okoye, 51, inflicted severe body injury on the victim, as told by the Police Prosecutor, Inspector John Iberedem, at Ikeja Magistrates' Court on Thursday.

Iberedem stated that Okoye, a resident of Olukosi Street in Shasha is facing trial on a two-count charge of assault and threat to life.

The Prosecutor also uttered that the defendant committed the offences on July 15, at 8:00 a.m at her residence.

He said, "The defendant bit the housekeeper on her shoulder and inflicted injuries on her body.

"She also threatened to stab the victim with a kitchen knife during the altercation.

"The offences contravened

Section 10(a) of the Child's Right Law of Lagos State, 2015 and Section 56(2) of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015."

The accused pleaded not guilty.

Thereafter, the Presiding Magistrate, Ejiro Kubeinje, granted her bail in the sum of N100, 000 with two reliable sureties in like sum.

Kubeinje ordered that the sureties must be gainfully employed and should be residents within the court's jurisdiction.

In addition, the Magistrate also ordered that the sureties must show proof of two years tax payment to the Lagos State Government.

The matter was adjourned till August 28.

Man Arraigned For Attempted Sexual Assault On Step Daughter

A suspect, Nunayon Abiona, has been held for prosecution over an alleged attempt of sexual assault on his 15-year-old stepdaughter. At the Badagry Magistrates' Court, the defendant was remanded at the Awarijigoh Correctional Centre, Badagry, after he pleaded not guilty to a count of attempted defilement. The court also ordered that the case file be forwarded to the office

of the Director for Public Prosecutions for legal advice. Thereafter, the case was adjourned till October 29. Earlier, the prosecutor, A S P Clement Okuoimose, informed that Abiona committed the offence on August 11, at No. 25, Jegba Quarters, Soglo Road, Badagry. Okuoimose stated that the accused tried to have canal knowledge of the teenager, thus, violating Section 262 of the Criminal Law of

Lagos State, 2015. Reports garnered

states that Section 262 stipulates 14 years imprisonment for anybody found guilty of such offence.

Judge Frees ENDSARS Protesters After Four Years



Justice Bola Osunsanmi has discharged six men apprehended during the #ENDSARS protest in the year 2020. Justice Osunsanmi pardoned the sextet at a

proceeding held at the Magistrate's court in Ikeja on Thursday.

The defendants are Daniel Joyinbo, 31, Adigun Sodiq, 28, Kehinde Shola, 32, Salaudeen Kamilu, 29, Sodiq Usseni, 33 and Azeez Isiaka, 34.

The defendants, who were on trial on a count charge of breach of public peace preferred against them by the Lagos State Government, had pleaded guilty to the charge and sent to prison in the year 2020.

However, the judge gave them a pardon, cautioning them to desist from lawless act which could hamper peaceful atmosphere in the state.

The pardoned protesters committed the offence on November 23, 2020 at Ebutte Metta, Lagos.

The offence contravened Section 168(d) of the Criminal Law of Lagos State, 2015.

Why I Live Quiet Life - Wizkid

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Nigerian music star Ayodeji Balogun, widely known as Wizkid, has shed light on why he prefers to live a quiet life and keeps his achievements off social media.

In a recent podcast interview, the Grammy-winning artist opened up about his personal reasons for maintaining a low profile, attributing it to his humble beginnings and the lessons he learned from his family.

Wizkid recounted his childhood, growing up in a large family of 11 children, with four siblings from his mother. He shared how he and his siblings often went without meals, a struggle that has deeply influenced his perspective on life and fame. "I came from the bottom, I know what it feels like not to have anything. There was a time in my life when I had never even had breakfast; it was just lunch or maybe dinner," he revealed during the interview.

The singer explained that these early experiences have kept him grounded, shaping his decision to avoid flaunting his wealth and success online.

For Wizkid, these hardships have made him appreciate his journey without the need to showcase it publicly.

The interview sparked

mixed reactions from netizens, with some expressing skepticism about his claims of a difficult upbringing. Twitter user @ugo_shib commented, "And you called that from the bottom? when lunch was sure for him and maybe dinner."

Others, however, defended Wizkid, acknowledging the hard

work that has brought him to where he is today. @Justvibes31 stated, "Man really worked hard for what he's enjoying now. He will always remain my favorite ever."

Some users contrasted Wizkid's story with other artists who have publicly discussed their challenging backgrounds.

@TygaOfLagos wrote, "Wizkid didn't come from the bottom sha!! Ppl wey fit talk dah tin na Olamide," while @Jeroski0 added, "Wizkid never came from the bottom, even if his father was not as rich as Davido's father, they were comfortable and his father was 100% capable to provide for them. If any artiste

wants to talk about coming from the bottom, that should be Olamide."

Despite the differing opinions, Wizkid's decision to live quietly and avoid the trappings of celebrity culture continues to resonate with many, solidifying his reputation as a grounded and focused artist.



Whizkid

Renowned Nollywood actor and reality TV star Tobi Bakre has celebrated his third wedding anniversary with a touching tribute to his wife, Anu.

The couple marked the milestone with a series of heartwarming family photos shared on Tobi's Instagram page, featuring their two children.

Reflecting on their journey together, Tobi expressed his deep love and admiration for Anu, highlighting the incredible growth they've experienced in just three years, including the joy of welcoming two beautiful children.

In his heartfelt message, Tobi pledged his everlasting love to his wife, writing: "From one day at a time to 3 years, 2 babies, and a lifetime of memories already! We doing the thing my girl! Love you forever and a day more! Happy wedding Anniversary my love @anu.bakre. Till the wheels fall off

Nollywood Star Tobi Bakre Celebrates Third Wedding Anniversary

By Nurudeen Adebayo

"The post quickly garnered an outpouring of congratulations and well-wishes from fans and celebrities alike. Instagram user oluwateene commented, "God bless you and yours! Happy anniversary, beautiful people of God," while debbie.the.creator added, "Happy wedding anniversary Your home is forever blessed." Captdemuren chimed in with, "Happy Anniversary guys!!," and abimbolacraig wrote, "Happy

anniversary my loves, God bless you all." Other fans also shared their excitement, with kan noting, "This wheel no fit fall off" and tamiflamez celebrating her own anniversary alongside the couple, saying, "Congratulations and Happy anniversary, more blissful years ahead It's my wedding anniversary too." The Bakres' anniversary celebration has been met with widespread admiration, as the couple continues to inspire many with their love and commitment to each other.



Laycon Calls Out DJ Neptune Over Alleged Unpaid Royalties

By Nurudeen Adebayo

Nigerian rapper and reality TV star Laycon has taken to social media to publicly call out popular disc jockey, DJ Neptune, over an alleged unpaid debt related to their collaboration on the "Nobody (Icons Remix)." The remix, which also featured Joeboy and Mr Eazi, was released shortly after Laycon won Big Brother Naija's "Lock Down" edition. In a recent post on the social media platform X (formerly Twitter), Laycon expressed frustration over the lack of updates on the agreement and his share of the profits from the song, which was released four years ago.

He tweeted: "Abeg o... @deejayneptune how far my agreement and split for the 'Nobody (Icons Remix)' song though. Is it not still ready? Haba it's been 4 years o Cc @emPawaAfrica." The post quickly gained traction, sparking reactions from fans. One user, MALIK, commented, "4 years gbese?? Awa fears," while another, Valking, noted, "Be like twitter go sweet this evening oh." PB humorously suggested that Laycon's financial needs might have prompted the reminder, saying, "Laycon don need money. He come



remember say he get share for Neptune hand." Other fans expressed their disappointment at the situation, with The Sirius stating, "Nooo Nobody iCONs remix ?? We put our blood on that P! They better not do shiiiiit!!!!!!" Another user, Hashtag LFC, commented, "Omo music business cr*zyyyy," while KING DAVID EMPIRE added, "If you don talk since like portable he for don pay you." As of now, DJ Neptune has not publicly responded to Laycon's claims. Fans are eagerly awaiting further developments as the story unfolds on social media.

Health Committee Commends Epe General Hospital For Quality Services

By Mohammed Adekola

The House Committee on Health from the Lagos State House of Assembly commends Epe General Hospital for its exceptional service delivery and diligent maintenance of health facilities within the hospital.

The delegation, led by its Chairman, Hon. Lawal Aina Musbau, expressed satisfaction with the hospital's efforts in providing quality healthcare services to the people of Epe and its environs during a recent inspection visit to the health facility.

The lawmakers praised the hospital staff for their commitment to maintain the standards of health care in the state, acknowledged the



hospital's consistent focus on patient care and the upkeep of its facilities.

Hon. Musbau emphasised the importance of sustaining high standards in

healthcare delivery and urged the hospital to continue its efforts in ensuring the well-being

of patients.

He commends the hospital for its proactive approach to facility management, which he noted as a key factor in delivering efficient and effective healthcare services.

He averred that the visit was part of ongoing effort to assess the state of healthcare facilities across Lagos and ensure that they meet the standards set by the government in providing accessible and quality health care for all citizens.

The Deputy Medical Director, Dr Jolaoso, expressed gratitude to the committee for their visit and assured them of the hospital's continued dedication to excellence in healthcare service delivery and facility management.

He assured that Epe

General Hospital remains committed to serve the people of Lagos, with a focus on improving healthcare services and infrastructure.

He made reference to the recently commissioned new Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) oxygen plant at the hospital, stressing that the PSA Plant has further enhanced the hospital's capacity to provide quality healthcare.

The Deputy Medical Director stated that the oxygen plant donated by Global Fund and Iplus Solutions represents a collaborative effort that will strengthen the healthcare infrastructure in Lagos State.

Princess Animashaun Gives Out 100 GCE Forms To Epe Students

By Mohammed Adekola

The Chairman of Epe Local Government, (Princess) Surah Animashaun FHTI gives out free 100 GCE forms to students in a programme named "Nurture Them To Success" Program. The beneficiaries cut across communities in the Local Government. The initiative is borne out of the unwavering commitment to complement the efforts of the State Government in terms of educational development. Animashaun said "You are the future of our dear Local Government, the

State and the Nation at large and we will keep doing everything that will help actualize and advance your dreams, visions and goals that will adequately equip you to become successful individuals in your various academic pursuits. "I believe that it is through education and knowledge, youths can help grow and develop our society while also proffering innovative ideas to solve societal problems." Princess Surah urged the beneficiaries to study hard and not get

distracted but work towards academic excellence to encourage and motivate her administration to do more. On their part, the excited beneficiaries promised to score high marks to show their appreciation to the Chairman's kind gesture and for re-igniting their educational dreams. Animashaun added to that this will not be one-time program as other educational packages and other programs for students will soon be rolled out.



LASUSTECH Students Consultative Assembly (LSCA) Hosts VC's Cup

By Nurudeen Adebayo



The Lagos State University of Science and Technology Students Consultative Assembly (LSCA) recently concluded a highly successful VC's Cup, a multifaceted sporting event that brought together the university's brightest talents. The competition featured football, chess, scrabble, and tennis, with students from various faculties vying for top honours. The football final, held on Thursday, was a nail-biting affair that saw the College of Engineering clinch victory against the College of Basic

Science after a tense penalty shootout. This thrilling match was a highlight of the event, showcasing the skills and determination of the student-athletes. In addition to football, the VC's Cup also celebrated the achievements of students in other sports. The chess competition crowned Ehondor Micheal Ojo and Marvelous Enjo Emmanuel as the male champions, while Agbabiaka Martha took the top spot in the female category. In scrabble, Francis

Aro, Samson Hassan, and Ola Odeyemi Sogo emerged victorious among the male competitors, with Agboola Munirat and Ndubisi Jennifer Oyindamola excelling in the female division. The tennis event saw impressive performances from Adeniji Samuel, Saka Daniel, and Oseni Jamiu. Dr. Aderogba Ademola, Dean of Student Affairs, praised the students' exceptional display of talent and underscored the importance of co-curricular activities in fostering a well-rounded student experience at

LASUSTECH. "This event is a testament to the brand we are building here at LASUSTECH. Our students have shown not only academic excellence but also outstanding co-curricular abilities, which are crucial in today's world," he remarked. Dr. Ademola further encouraged students to channel their energy into productive activities, emphasizing that these experiences can benefit both the individuals and the institution as a whole. "Students should focus on co-curricular

activities that will positively impact their future, rather than engaging in unproductive social activities," he added. Omolola Emmanuel Oluwadamilare, the SCA Sports Director, expressed his satisfaction with the event's success, while also calling attention to the need for better sports facilities and improved officiating. "I am amazed by the level of participation and talent displayed across all sports. However, there is room for improvement in our sports facilities and officiating standards," he said.

Coach Idrees Abdul Lateef of the Engineering team echoed these sentiments, advising his players to maintain their hard work and calling for enhanced support from the university's sports administration. "We need better officials and facilities to ensure a safer and more competitive environment for our athletes," he noted. The VC's Cup was not just a showcase of athletic prowess but also a celebration of the spirit of unity and excellence that defines LASUSTECH.

Ikorodu North LCDA Partners Lagos State for Medical Outreach Programme

By Nurudeen Adebayo



School, Odogunyan. The initiative aimed to provide vital healthcare services to residents and promote overall well-being within the community. The outreach offered an array of free health services, including blood sugar and blood pressure checks, HIV counseling and testing, eye examinations with the provision of free glasses, health insurance registration, LASRRA registration, and the treatment of minor ailments with medication. Additionally, participants received food aid through the distribution of "Ounje Eko," further addressing the community's basic needs. Dr. Dayo Lajide, Permanent Secretary of Health District 2, urged residents to take full advantage of these health services provided by the Lagos State Government. She highlighted Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu's ongoing initiatives to support citizens' health and well-being, and commended the Ikorodu North LCDA for its collaboration in making the outreach a success. Representing the Ikorodu North LCDA Executive Chairman, Builder Deola Banjo, Hon. Adewusi Sulaimon, Supervisor for Information, expressed sincere gratitude to Governor Sanwo-Olu for his continued healthcare support and the provision of food aid to

the residents. He praised the Governor's initiative, which has not only delivered essential healthcare services but also addressed "stomach infrastructure" by distributing food supplies to the community. "This gesture is a testament to the Governor's commitment to the well-being of Ikorodu North LCDA residents, ensuring they have access to both critical healthcare services and basic necessities," Hon. Sulaimon remarked, emphasizing the alignment between the Governor's efforts and the council's dedication to improving residents' lives. The event was attended by several dignitaries, including Dr. Wajero Kehinde, Medical Officer of Health for Ikorodu North LCDA; Mrs. Adewuyi, Apex Nurse for Ikorodu North; Pharmacist Ajani Gbemisola; Hon. Salau Abiodun, Supervisor for Health; and Hon. Adaramola Bola, Councillor for Ward E1, Odogunyan. The "Alaafia Eko" medical outreach has been widely appreciated as a significant step toward enhancing the health and quality of life for the people of Ikorodu North LCDA.

The Ikorodu North Area (LCDA), in collaboration with Lagos State Health District 2, hosted a comprehensive medical outreach programme titled "Alaafia Eko" at the Farm Settlement, Community Primary

LASUSTECH Opens Post-UTME/DE Registration for 2024/2025 Academic Session

By Nurudeen Adebayo

The Lagos State University of Science and Technology (LASUSTECH) has officially announced the commencement of its Post-UTME and Direct Entry (DE) registration

for the 2024/2025 academic session. The registration portal is scheduled to open on Monday, with a minimum cut-off mark set at 180. Prospective candidates are encouraged to stay

informed and prepare for the upcoming registration process. Further details, including comprehensive guidelines, will be made available on the university's official

website and social media platforms in the coming days. Students are advised to regularly check these channels for the latest updates on LASUSTECH's admission procedures and requirements.

Mainland LG Chairman Enforces Sanitation At Oyingbo Market

In line with this, the Executive Chairman of Lagos Mainland Local Government, Hon. Mrs. Omolola Rashidat Essien launched a zero-tolerance mission against dirt and unhygienic practices at Oyingbo Market. This initiative, which coincided with International Youth Day, was themed: "Transforming Food Systems: Youth Innovation for Human and Planetary Health" and took place on Thursday, August 22, 2024.

The Council Boss expressed deep concern over the behaviour of the market vendors, criticizing the filthy state of the market. She emphasized that the environment where daily business is conducted should be kept clean at all times, not just on the designated sanitation day, which is Thursday. Mrs. Essien further stated that strict monitoring by the Sanitation Law Enforcement on Environment and Health would be carried out regularly to ensure compliance.

Director of Environmental Healthservices, A.O. Pedro reiterated the importance of maintaining hygiene and a clean environment. He stressed that the market, being a source of livelihood, should be a priority for the vendors. He also reminded them that the placement of goods should not obstruct walkways or vehicle movement. Additionally, HOD



Environmental pointed out that the Sanitation Corps could conduct inspections at any time without prior notice, urging vendors to be law-abiding citizens by keeping their environment clean and healthy.

A member of the market committee reassured the local government that the issues of hygiene and cleanliness would be thoroughly addressed. A representative from the Lagos State Waste Management Agency

(LAWMA) explained the agency's role in waste management and advised marketers to dispose of their waste properly to avoid littering the environment. Mrs. Mariam, representing the Kick

Against Indiscipline (KAI) initiative, emphasized that orderliness should be maintained not only in the market but also in homes and business places, especially concerning cleanliness

and hygiene. The event was attended by executive members, the legislative arm, the management team, the chairman of revenue, the Market Master, market representatives, and others.

NANS (JCC) Honours Moyo Ogunlewe With Distinction Award

In a momentous occasion orchestrated by the National Association of Nigerian Students (NANS) , Campus Council (JCC) Lagos Axis ,Barr. Moyo Ogunlewe, the Executive Chairman,Kosofe Local Government was bestowed with an Award of Distinction in recognition of his exceptional contributions to grassroots development, youth empowerment, and educational initiatives.

This feat was achieved at the impeccably organized Inter Campus Debate and Security Summit hosted by the NANS Lagos State

chapter at the prestigious Lagos State University of Technology Auditorium in Ikorodu: the Council Boss commended the organizers of the Summit and Award ceremony for deeming him deserving of such recognition.

Barrister Ogunlewe in his remark underscored the imperative for Nigerian youth to actively engage in the nation building by bringing up new ideas to its general growth, urging them to pave the way for future generations. As the saying goes, "Cleanliness is next to godliness."

In line with this, the

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Apapa LG Takes Bold Step Against Flooding



In a proactive measure to address the perennial flooding issues within the council premises, the Executive Chairman of Apapa Local Government, Hon. Idowu Adejumoke Senbanjo, has initiated the construction of a robust drainage system within the council's secretariat. This project is part of the administration's commitment to creating a safer and more conducive working environment for staff and visitors. The drainage system, which is designed to effectively channel rainwater and prevent waterlogging, reflects Hon. Senbanjo's dedication to infrastructure development and the well-being of the Apapa community. With this initiative, the risk of flooding within the secretariat is expected to be significantly reduced, thereby enhancing the overall functionality and accessibility of the council. The project is in line with the broader environmental and infrastructural goals set by the Apapa Local Government under the leadership of Hon. Senbanjo, aimed at improving the standard of living for all residents.

IFAKO

Diabetes Association Collaborates With Ifako-Ijaiye General Hospital

The Diabetes Association of Nigeria (DAN) in collaboration with General Hospital Ifako-Ijaiye (GHII) hosted a strategic meeting recently towards the preparation for World Diabetes Day. The joint meeting aimed was to align efforts and discuss comprehensive plans for the global awareness day, thereby focusing on enhancing diabetes education, advocacy, and support for individuals living with diabetes. Hence, the partnership underscores the shared commitment of DAN and GHII to improving diabetes care and management in Nigeria.



Akinrogun Of Ibeju-Lekki Denies Land Grabbing Allegation

Akinrogun of Ibeju Lekki Kingdom, Chief Jelili Jimoh Akande, popularly known as Jejelaye, denied an allegation of being involved in notorious activities like grabbing, threat to life, kidnapping or fraud, adding that as a businessman, he has built an age-long reputation as a credible and by law-abiding citizen and cannot keep quiet while his reputation is being torn apart. He made the denial while reacting to allegations that he was grilled for several hours by the Zone 2 Command of the Nigeria

By Mohammed Adekola

Police Force, Onikakan, Lagos, over alleged involvement in land grabbing, threat to life, kidnapping, and fraudulent activities on Abereoje family land, along Lagos - Epe Expressway, Oreki village, in Ibeju-Lekki Local Government Area of the state. The report had alleged that the Akinrogun of Ibeju Lekki Kingdom had taken advantage of the trust bestowed on him and fraudulently sold almost the entire land he was meant to



secure and converted the proceeds to his personal use and the alleged activities had led to the revocation of the power of attorney earlier granted to him by the

family. "I'm not a fraudulent person, neither am not a land grabber nor threatening the life of anyone. I am a man of honour with such a commendable

reputation, and in addition, I don't have any criminal records anywhere, both at home and abroad. "I remain committed to upholding integrity and

transparency in all dealings and will continue to address these allegations through the appropriate legal channels," he added.

Oladunjoye Commends Olowa On Grassroots Development

By Mohammed Adekola

The Federal Commissioner of the National Population Commission (NPC), Hon (Barr.) Saidat Olayinka Oladunjoye, paid a courtesy visit to the Chairman of Ibeju Lekki Local Government, Egnr. Abdullahi Sesan Olowa in his office. The Federal Commissioner who was accompanied by the former Sole Administrator of Eredo LCDA, Hon. Muyiwa Okesanya, praised Olowa for his giant strides in the Council Area. In her word, "I came to visit the

Chairman and to felicitate with him particularly on his innovative leadership style. I am immensely proud of his achievements as I say kudos to him". Olayinka was led by the Chairman to see some of the ongoing projects which include, the legislative chambers, the ongoing Council Secretariat complex, as she also laud the Keke Jaja scheme which is aimed at giving the Local Government a facelift in environmental sustainability.



Traders Benefit from Mushin LG Free Medical Outreach

By Saheed Afolabi

Mushin traders were the recipients of a much-needed healthcare boost as the Mushin Local Government's Medical Mission Team descended upon the newly constructed Mushin Main Market, offering a range of free medical services. Traders flocked to the market, eager to take advantage of the opportunity. The medical team, equipped with medication, test kits,

vaccines, free eyeglasses, and other medical supplies, was ready to provide care. A variety of diagnostic procedures were conducted, including screenings for common health conditions. Traders received prescriptions, which were filled by council pharmacists, and those with vision problems were fitted with free eyeglasses. The traders expressed their gratitude to Emmanuel Bamigboye, Chairman of Mushin Local Government, for organizing the medical

outreach. They praised his efforts in constructing the long-awaited market.

While many traders left with medications and eyeglasses, those with serious health

concerns, such as high blood pressure, chest infections, or elevated blood sugar levels, were

referred to the General Hospital for further evaluation and treatment.



Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu has officially opened the Ogunmokun/Kayode access bridge in Mushin, marking a significant milestone in the state's infrastructure development. The bridge, which connects Mushin to Onipanu, is the fifth overpass bridge to be commissioned by his administration. The bridge is expected to alleviate traffic congestion, reduce travel time, and improve connectivity between Mushin and neighboring areas. Governor Sanwo-Olu highlighted the economic benefits of the project, noting that it would enhance the efficiency of transportation in the region and boost local businesses. Addressing a crowd of residents, local leaders, and government officials, Governor Sanwo-Olu emphasized the importance of infrastructure development in Lagos State. He stated that his administration was committed to investing in projects that would improve the quality of

Newly Commissioned Mushin Overpass To Ease Traffic Congestion-Sanwo-Olu

By Saheed Afolabi



life for citizens and enhance the state's economic

competitiveness. The governor also praised the efforts of the

local government officials and community leaders

involved in the project. He commended their dedication and hard work in ensuring the successful completion of the bridge. The event was attended by a number of dignitaries, including Senator Ganiyu Olanrewaju Solomon, Mr Emmanuel Bamigboye (Chairman of Mushin LG), Mr Rasaan Ajala (Chairman of Odi Olowo/Ojuwoye LCDA), and other political leaders. Following the official commissioning ceremony, Governor Sanwo-Olu took a tour of the bridge, inspecting its construction and design. He expressed satisfaction with the quality of the work and noted that the bridge would serve as a model for future infrastructure projects in the state.

The Ogunmokun/Kayode access bridge is expected to have a significant impact on the lives of residents in Mushin and surrounding areas. By reducing traffic congestion and improving connectivity, the bridge will make it easier for people to get to work, school, and other destinations. It will also boost economic activity by facilitating trade and commerce. As Lagos State continues to grow and develop, infrastructure projects like the Ogunmokun/Kayode access bridge will be essential for ensuring the city's long-term prosperity. Governor Sanwo-Olu's commitment to investing in infrastructure is a testament to his administration's vision for a modern and sustainable Lagos.

Somolu LG Chairman Empowers Petty Traders With N50 Million Grant

By Saheed Afolabi



In a significant move to revitalize the local economy, Somolu Local Government Chairman, Mr Abdulhamed Salawu has distributed N50 million in business grants to 1,000 petty traders in the area. The grant disbursement, which took place at the old Somolu LG Secretariat, was part of the Chairman's ongoing efforts to uplift residents and support

small-scale businesses. Each beneficiary received N50,000, a much-needed boost to their livelihoods. The council boss accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Florence Salawu, personally handed out the grants. He expressed his gratitude to Governor Babajide Sanwo-Olu and President Bola Tinubu for their unwavering support of his administration's initiatives. The grant distribution was managed by the Human Rights Monitoring Agenda (HURMA), led by Comrade Isiak Buna. This marks the

second phase of the Chairman's relief efforts, following an earlier disbursement of N60 million to 3,000 residents. The initiative has been met with widespread praise from community leaders, religious figures, and political stakeholders. Notable attendees at the event included Chief (Mrs.) Modupe Olufojude, APC Apex leader Alhaji Fatai Bakare, and other dignitaries.

SURULERE

Apatira Inspects Progress on Itire-Ikate Vocational Training Centre

By Saheed Afolabi



Chairman Itire-Ikate Local Council Development Area (LCDA), Mr Ahmed Apatira has inspected the ongoing reconstruction of the Itire-Ikate Vocational Skills Acquisition Training Center. The visit underscores his commitment to empowering the community through education and skills development.

During the inspection, Apatira assessed the progress of the construction, ensuring it meets high standards. He also engaged with contractors and stakeholders to address challenges and provide guidance. The reconstruction of the center is a key initiative aimed at equipping residents with valuable skills to enhance their

employability and entrepreneurial prospects. Apatira's leadership and dedication to vocational training have been instrumental in driving progress in the community. By investing in vocational training infrastructure, the council aims to unlock the potential of its residents and create a brighter future for generations to come.

Future Pillars Football Academy Counts Successes In Nurturing Exceptional Talents

By Saheed Afolabi

Future Pillars Football Academy, a cornerstone of grassroots football development celebrated its fifth anniversary in 2024. Established in 2019, the academy has consistently strived to provide a conducive environment for young players to hone their skills and develop a passion for the sport. Under the visionary leadership of Director Moses Matswamgbe, Future Pillars has evolved into a premier football academy, renowned for its commitment to excellence and holistic player development. The academy's philosophy centers around nurturing not only football talent but also character, instilling

values such as discipline, teamwork, and perseverance.

Future Pillars has achieved remarkable success, both on and off the field. The academy has produced numerous talented players who have gone on to represent their communities, states, and even the country at various levels. Several Future Pillars alumni have secured scholarships to prestigious football academies and professional clubs, showcasing the academy's effectiveness in producing top-tier athletes.

One of the most significant milestones in the academy's history was its participation in the National Youth Football League in 2024. Future Pillars' U17 team made a remarkable run,



reaching the semifinals and earning widespread recognition for their exceptional performance. This achievement solidified the academy's position as a leading force in

youth football development nationwide.

Beyond competitive success, Future Pillars has also made a significant impact on the local community.

The academy has organized numerous football clinics and tournaments, providing opportunities for young players from underserved areas to participate in the sport.

Additionally, Future Pillars has partnered with schools and community organizations to promote education and social development among its players.

Ghetto Tigers Ladies kicked off their debut campaign in the Ikeja DFA/HRA Women's League with an impressive 3-1 win against Fackson Next Pro Ladies.

It was a fascinating display of women's football artillery from both sides as the young girls showed promising future with their amazing display on the pitch.

Chairman of Odi-olowo Ojuwoye LCD, Mr Rasaan Ajala did the ceremonial kickoff of the tournament to signal the start of the noble women's football championship.

Rokibat Egberongbe broke the deadlock in the game with a fantastic finish to give Ghetto Tigers Ladies the lead from open play.

Jude Ebube and Jessica Ebube scored in quick succession to extend the Pride of Odi-olowo lead to

3-0 in the first 45 minutes. While Fackson pulled a goal back which wasn't enough to salvage a point in the game.

Ghetto Tigers Ladies star, Oluwatomisin Oluwafemi impressive all round display won her the player of the match.

Notable personalities and sport administrators in attendance are, vice chairman of Odi-olowo Ojuwoye LCD, Mr Seyi Jakande, chairman of Ikeja DFA, Evangelist Rafiu Taiwo Alagbe and Ikeja DFA board member, Chief Mrs Olajumoke Duroshola

Others are, Leader of Ikeja Football Coaches Council (IFCC), Coach Adeshina Babatunde and the director of Unification Ladies, Oluwatobi Oyekan.

Ghetto Tigers Thrash Fackson Next Pro Ladies





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